



UCLA Programs in Medical Classics

2003 - 2004

UCLA Programs in Medical Classics is a series of presentations designed to enhance an appreciation of the links among famous medical writings, clinical practice, basic research, and humanistic scholarship. Six times a year these meetings bring together a convivial group of individuals of scholarly tastes—both from the community and from UCLA faculty, students, and staff—for a lecture and an opportunity to discuss and examine texts and topics that embody the history of advances in medicine, as well as the relations of medicine to broader cultural settings.

<http://www.library.ucla.edu/biomed/his/medicalclassics.html>

Monday, 17 November 2003, 6:00 p.m.

“No One Reached Out to Touch Me”: Responding to Stories of Pain

Arthur W. Frank, Ph.D.

Professor of Sociology, University of Calgary

Introduction by Lonnie Zeltzer, M.D.

Professor in Anesthesiology, Pediatrics, and Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences, and
Director, Pediatric Pain Program, UCLA

Clinicians and academic researchers are investigating the clinical value of attending to patients' stories that are either directly about, or contextualize, their experiences of pain. This research cuts across work in psychology, narratology, humanities in medicine, and bioethics, among other specializations.

This talk will consider two complimentary issues: how the experience of pain can be intensified by the patient's perception that no one recognizes what he or she is living through, and how clinical dialogue can affect the experience of pain. Instead of the conventional “clinician-patient communication” description, Dr. Frank will emphasize dialogue as a relationship based in mutual generosity.

This program will be of interest to clinicians (nursing, medicine, occupational therapy, etc.), medical sociologists and anthropologists, bioethicists, and humanities in medicine scholars.

Dr. Frank is writing a theoretical monograph with the working title, *Taking Rides, Telling Stories: Hype and Promise in Health and Illness*.

The November program is co-sponsored by the UCLA Center for the Interdisciplinary Study and Treatment of Pain (<http://www.pain.ucla.edu>)

An optional dinner with the speakers, at \$22.00 per person, will take place in the Faculty Center about 7:30 pm. A reservation is required for dinner; please call the History & Special Collections Division of the Louise Darling Biomedical Library at (310) 825-6940 to make a reservation.

An abridged form of a classic text related to the evening's lecture will be distributed by snailmail to those persons who request it in advance. To request this related text (the lecture itself is not recorded or transcribed) or more information, please send Teresa Johnson <tgj@library.ucla.edu> an e-mail, including your name and address, with the words “**Medical Classics Program: November 2003 Reading**” in the subject line; or call the History & Special Collections Division at (310) 825-6940.