"Publishing in Bioethics Journals – What You Need to Know" Unanswered Q&A Question Responses:

1. **What is your "high yield" advice for medical students writing and publishing in bioethics (especially for those with some experience in the field)? Do you recommend a bioethics or philosophy PhD for MDs/MD trainees who want to write/research in bioethics? Thank you!**

Dr. Magnus: My two cents is that a PhD isn't a requirement, even if you want a career doing a lot of grant funded research. You will need to learn from several disciplines and how to carry out empirical research. There are a number of training programs where you can get that background and experience through a post-doc, Fellowship or as part of research that you carry out in your residency. Some medical schools have options to do a substantial amount of research and training that can help prepare someone for a career in bioethics.

2. **What does F1000 mean?**

Dr. Magnus: F1000 started as "Faculty of 1000" to create an alternative option to quality evaluation of research. It gradually morphed into an innovative open publishing platform that has specific platforms for the Welcome Trust, the Gates Foundation and others. F1000 was acquired by Taylor and Francis in the last couple of years.

3. **For people looking to distill a thesis or dissertation in ethics/bioethics into publishable work - in your experience, how have you seen this done in the most successful and constructive way?**

Dr. Magnus: It depends on the thesis. Discipline, what kind of work you are doing. Grad students are often pushed away from interdisciplinary research, so the most likely place to publish is in the home discipline. If you want to reach an interdisciplinary audience (eg. Bioethics, scientists, physicians, etc.) you may need to find a good mentor who can teach you how to write for those audiences. I have had experience with both social scientists and philosophers whose first efforts at publishing their scholarship would never be understood or even looked at by someone who wasn't in their discipline. It takes work to learn how to write for an interdisciplinary audience.

4. **I understand the need for credibility, but this may lead to having the same people publish all the time and these group of publishers become a closed group-- worsening disparity gaps.**

Dr. Magnus: Agree completely. This is the downside of the bias towards folks who are well-known. We are trying to take that into account in our reviewing process, but it is still a source of bias. The more diverse the field becomes, the more the senior people who are known in the field will actually represent diverse perspectives. Working with someone who is well-known and also represents a community that has been under-represented in the field can also be helpful, but this does put a burden on those scholars (we sponsored a session at ASBH last year on the burdens that these scholars often face due to efforts to increase diversity in the field).

5. **Do you have any advice with respect to presenting on research before submitting it for publication? E.g., does it helpfully enhance visibility before publication, are there restrictions on the publication of material that has been publicly presented?**

Dr. Magnus: Giving public talks is great and the feedback can make the article better. As long as the article has not been published elsewhere.

6. **Are there pathways to publishing for people who have left academia? Would they have to have academic co-authors?**

Dr. Magnus: If the scholarship is sound, it doesn't necessarily matter. But using resources like ELSI Hub to build a collaborative network would still be helpful.