



WCB Satellite Workshop Penn Medicine and the Afterlives of Slavery Project (PMAS)

Recently, universities in the United States have begun to acknowledge and critically interrogate their “entanglements” with slavery. These entanglements range from institutions’ ownership of enslaved people, to the use of enslaved people’s bodies for medical pedagogy and research, to wealth accumulation from slaveholding individuals to establishing and propagating stereotypes justifying slavery. Medical schools, in particular, were complicit in enslavement by producing medical knowledge and perfecting practice often upon the bodies of unwilling enslaved people.

Building upon the research of undergraduate researchers involved with [the Penn & Slavery Project \(P&SP\)](#), the “Penn Medicine and the Afterlives of Slavery Project” (PMAS) is a new initiative at the University of Pennsylvania that seeks to research and document the School of Medicine’s involvement in the institution of slavery. Additionally, the project moves beyond the period of enslavement to address how the consequences of enslavement continue to reverberate in medical education, knowledge production, and practice today.

In conjunction with the 2020 World Congress of Bioethics (WCB), PMAS seeks to gauge interest in hosting a Satellite Workshop, preceding the Congress. We seek papers and presentations from individuals or groups that address the “entanglements” of medical institutions with enslavement in the global context. Papers can:

- 1) report findings from similar projects;
- 2) Describe how medical institutions are coming to address their entanglements with enslavement (methodologically as well as procedurally);
- 3) explore the global context of enslavement and its connections to the history of medicine and public health.

We seek to connect those already engaged in similar projects with those facing particular challenges establishing research in this area, and those in the early stages of contemplation. The workshop agenda will be finalized once we have a sense of participants’ interest and contributions.

While we are not able to provide financial support for travel and accommodation, participants whose abstracts are accepted as part of the WCB may be eligible for [bursary support](#).

All abstracts must be submitted via the WCB [abstract submission platform](#): Please submit under in the track “Underrepresented minorities: emerging issues” and the sub-theme “The afterlife of slavery in medicine”. If you would like to participate in both the Satellite workshop and the WCB, you need to submit two distinct proposals.



The symposium organizers will curate those submissions that are most likely to facilitate in-depth focused debate around the priorities of the satellite workshop, and will propose to the WCB planning committee which submissions are more suitable for consideration as part of the WCB. The WCB will also contain a 75 min symposium in which findings from the satellite workshop will be presented to the wider audience of WCB participants.

The deadline for submissions is **November 4, 2019 (11:59 PM EST/Philadelphia time)**.

All questions about the satellite workshop should be directed to Ezelle Sanford III, ezelles@sas.upenn.edu and all questions relating to the WCB to: contact@iab2020.org