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## Calendar of Events

### **Genetic Disability: DNA Profiling of Embryos and Fetuses**

**Date: April 8, 2005**

**Boston University School of Law**

**Boston, Massachusetts**

Over the past 25 years screening of fetuses has drastically expanded from chromosomal screening for Down syndrome (for pregnant women over the age of 35) to now include not only routine ultrasound for all pregnant women, but also routine screening for neural tube defects (MSAFP), testing those at risk for a variety of conditions, including fragile X, Tay-Sachs and Cystic Fibrosis, and most recently to research screening for 30 genetic conditions using a “gene chip.” Embryos created in the IVF process can be screened or tested not only for specific conditions for which the couple is at risk, but also for other chromosomal or genetic traits, including gender, that a prospective parent may not prefer, as well as, to determine whether the resulting child can be a stem cell donor to an existing sick child (“savior siblings”). The only “treatment” for these conditions is to terminate the pregnancy or not use the embryo for reproduction.

The goal of this conference is to examine the possible goals of embryo and fetus screening and testing, the meaning of the term “disability” as used by those seeking and providing the screening and testing, the effect of the screening and testing on society, and the legal and public policy options available to influence or channel embryo and fetus screening for “disability.”

### **29th Annual Health Law Teachers Conference**

**Date: June 2 - 4, 2005**

**University of Houston**

**Health Law & Policy Institute**

**Baylor College of Medicine**

**Houston, Texas**

University of Houston Health Law & Policy Institute and Baylor College of Medicine will co-sponsor this

two day conference intended for professionals who teach law or bioethics in schools of law, medicine, public health, health care administration, pharmacy, nursing, and dentistry. The program is designed to provide participants with updates on issues at the forefront of law and medicine and to provide them with the opportunity to share strategies, ideas, and materials.

### **The Public's Health and the Law in the 21st Century Fourth Annual Partnership Conference on Public Health Law**

**Date: June 13 - 15, 2005**

**Atlanta, Georgia**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention will co-sponsor the fourth annual public health law partnership conference, June 13-15, 2005, in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference is for everyone who is active in, or interested in, law as a tool for improved public health.

The 2005 conference program will focus on innovative legal tools and strategies for improved public health and will give special emphasis to information conference participants can use in their day-to-day practice. The conference faculty — selected intentionally to reflect the multidisciplinary composition of the conference participants — will bring a rich spectrum of perspectives to bear, exploring cutting-edge issues at the intersection of public health and the law and presenting case examples of the effective use of law as a public health tool, both domestically and internationally.

**For more information on these  
or other conferences, please  
call 617-262-4990 or visit  
[www.asime.org/conferences](http://www.asime.org/conferences)**