

GRAND ROUNDS

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Location: Zoom (please [RSVP](#) for link)

4:30pm- 6:00pm

Flourishing as the Goal of Compassionate Healthcare?

Matthew T. Lee, PhD

Interest in enhancing compassion in healthcare is growing, for patients as well as healthcare workers. As a result, we have learned much about how to respond to the multifaceted nature of suffering in its physical, psychological, social, and spiritual forms, and its relation to disengagement and burnout among physicians, nurses, and others in the healing professions. What if we pushed beyond the reduction of suffering and leaned more towards full flourishing as the goal of compassionate healthcare? This presentation explores how we might organize healthcare differently in order to create a social architecture that encourages more complete forms of well-being for everyone in the healthcare sector. We will discuss the integration of practical tools that support this transition, including new empirical measures of individual and community flourishing, caring climate, and compassion climate.



Matthew T. Lee, Ph.D., is Professor of the Social Sciences and Humanities at the Institute for Studies of Religion at Baylor University and Director of the Flourishing Network at the Human Flourishing Program in the Institute for Quantitative Social Science at Harvard University. He is also a Distinguished Visiting Scholar of Health, Flourishing, and Positive Psychology at Stony Brook University's Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care, and Bioethics and a Visiting Scholar at the Benson-Henry Institute for Mind Body Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. He previously served as Chair of the American Sociological Association's Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity and as President of the North Central Sociological Association. His research explores topics such as flourishing and well-being, benevolent service to others, and the integration of social science and the humanities and has been published in journals such as the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, the *Journal of Positive Psychology*, *Social Science & Medicine*, and the *Journal of Transformative Education*. He is the lead editor of *Measuring Well-Being: Interdisciplinary Perspectives* from the Social Sciences and the Humanities and lead author of *The Heart of Religion: Spiritual Empowerment, Benevolence, and the Experience of God's Love*, both published by Oxford University Press. He is co-editing a book for Routledge titled, *Transcending Crisis: Carework, Emotions, and Human Flourishing*.

Please RSVP [here](#) or to bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu