

Summer Conversation Series with Dr. Irene Jillson

***Georgetown University-University of Tunisia Engagement in Addressing
Bioethics, Biosafety and Biosecurity: A Story of Science and Public Diplomacy***

Tuesday, July 24, 2012 · 3:00 – 4:00 PM

Georgetown University Law Center

E. B. Williams Library, **Room 358**

600 New Jersey Avenue, NW · Washington, DC 20001

Irene Jillson

Assistant Professor, Georgetown University School of Nursing & Health Studies

Moderated by Tanya Baytor

Director of the Global Health Law LL.M. Program

Biography

Dr. Irene Jillson, Assistant Professor, Georgetown University, School of Nursing and Health Studies, has designed and launched courses in global health ethics, global health systems and politics and global health research. She also teaches medical ethics, graduate and undergraduate health research, and physician role and behavior. Dr. Jillson, who has a PhD in technology policy and management from Westminster University, was founder and President of Policy Research Incorporated, a private research firm that carried out local, national and international health and social policy research studies for more than 25 years. She has conducted extensive policy research and provided technical assistance and policy advice, particularly but not exclusively in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America and the Caribbean. This work has ranged from national strategic planning to community-based participatory research addressing a wide range of health, social policy and other multi-sectoral issues, including for example services and systems integration, information systems, drug abuse and other behavioral health conditions, bioethics, HIV/AIDS (including a study of stigma and HIV/AIDS), disabilities and rehabilitation, gender equity, youth issues generally, maternal and child and adolescent health, systems planning and evaluation. A particular focus of Dr. Jillson's work has been on the MENA region, where she has conducted research or engaged in policy projects in six countries over more than two decades. Dr. Jillson is currently Principal Investigator for a project related to bioethics and biosafety in Yemen, advisor to the American Association for the Advance of Sciences project International Engagement: Responsible Science for a Safe and Secure Society (in the broader MENA region), Co-Principal Investigator for the project, Ensuring Safe, Secure and Ethical Conduct of Biomedical and Behavioral Research in Tunisia, Co-Investigator of an NIH-funded study of youth in Egypt. She has been an advisor to three World Bank-funded studies of youth in the MENA region: Morocco (completed in October 2010 and recently published); Egypt (completed in December 2011 and soon to be published); and Tunisia (data collection is in process). She has been an invited speaker on health, ethics, and other related, from Stockholm to Tehran to McAllen, Texas.