



Babu Gogineni and Louis Appignani (left to right).

IHEU — Appignani Center for Bioethics

Modern Humanism provides a way of understanding the universe in naturalistic rather than in supernatural terms. It offers people a secular code of ethics grounded in human values, guided by reason, compassion, and a sense of human solidarity. The humanist approach to moral decision-making is based on the rational and analytical foundation provided by science and knowledge. Humanists weigh moral alternatives and select the option that maximizes human well-being and minimizes human suffering. While both religious and humanistic morality may have human well-being as a goal, the humanist approach is free to use the best of our science and knowledge without the restraint of tradition or religious doctrine.

Humanism & Bioethics

The IHEU – Appignani Center for Bioethics promotes debates on issues such as human cloning for therapeutic purposes, the responsible use of genetically modified foodstuffs, women’s reproductive rights, family planning, as well as the expansion of effective anti-HIV and anti-AIDS policies worldwide. In advocating for these issues, the Center adopts a rational, pluralistic, human-centered approach intended to preserve and promote the core human values of freedom, self-determination, autonomy, justice, responsibility and solidarity. Policy-makers are beginning to address these major bioethical issues, yet the current political climate has little room for the public airing of the moral implications of these issues. The Center serves to counteract politically expedient and morally inadequate responses to increasingly complex bioscientific issues, by lobbying and advising key policy decision makers, including those at the UN.

IHEU — Appignani Center for Bioethics

Goals:

- To provide members of the international community with timely and accessible analysis of bioethical issues from a perspective guided by reason, evidence, and humanist values.

- To consider the impact of current debates on international bioethical issues and to suggest useful approaches to their resolution.
- To examine, present and make a significant contribution in public forums on the future implications of current trends in bioethics by endorsing humanist position statements developed within the limits of ethical reasonableness.
- To cooperate with all existing humanist organizations and to take part in educating and raising awareness of bioethics issues among specialists, decision-makers, the general public and specific target groups (e.g., students).
- To assist the IHEU in its advocacy campaigns, public education, and service to member organizations with regard to Bioethics matters.
- To represent the IHEU’s bioethics policy positions at the UN.



Rob Buckman, Matt Cherry, and Larry Jones

Activities:

- An advisory board of scientists, physicians, and policy experts consult with Center staff to stimulate research, draft position papers, and network with other kindred individuals and institutions.
- Participation in deliberations at all relevant UN and ECOSOC conferences and meetings.
- Organizing periodic workshops and conferences to facilitate public understanding of current bioethical issues.
- Writing articles in the media and a regular column on bioethics in *International Humanist News*, IHEU’s official publication as well as on IHEU’s Website (www.iheu.org)
- Maintaining a Website with information and updates on activities and interactive webcasts of our current and annual events.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Amounts in US Dollars or equivalent

- \$ 10,000 (and above) . . Sponsor
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- \$ 100 Friend
- \$ 45 Individual member (annual)
- \$ 10 Student

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Make check for USD(\$), UK (£), or Euro (€) payable to IHEU.

*Contributions are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Please return this form along with your payment to the following addresses:

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*Babu Gogineni and Ana Lita
(left to right).*

The International Humanist and Ethical Union (IHEU) is the international organization for Humanism. It is the sole democratic world umbrella organization embracing nearly one hundred humanist, atheist, rationalist, secularist, skeptic, ethical, cultural, free-thought and similar organizations from 40 countries.

IHEU promotes Humanism as a non-theistic life stance throughout the world, and represents humanists at the international institutions and within the global community of organizations. IHEU holds a special NGO consultative status with the United Nations (New York, Geneva and Vienna), a general consultative status with UNICEF (New York) and the Council of Europe (Strasbourg) and also maintains operational relations with UNESCO (Paris).

In 2004, Louis J. Appignani Foundation granted US \$150,000 to establish a Humanist Center for Bioethics at 777 UN Plaza. The Appignani Foundation was set up in 2001 by the Florida-based philanthropist Louis Appignani. The Foundation supports secular activities

for significant, viable and long-term goals and encourages creative approaches to humanistic values and a commitment to the belief that scientific research is the most reliable path to truth.

*Support the IHEU —
Appignani Center
for Bioethics*

Please consider helping us to significantly increase our work and our impact by making a donation. (Please refer to membership application.)

IHEU is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization in the US, and works closely with the Charitable International Humanist Trust in the UK. Your tax-deductible contributions will help to maintain and expand our current and future projects on behalf of the humanist community.



**IHEU-Appignani
Center for Bioethics**

www.iheu.org/bioethics
www.humanistbioethics.org



**IHEU
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*Advancing a human-centered
view of Life-Sciences and
Medicine for human welfare.*