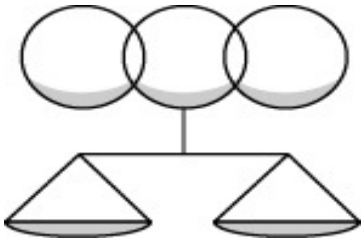
GRUTER INSTITUTE

FOR

LAW AND BEHAVIORAL RESEARCH



Pandemic:
Perspectives from Biology and Interdisciplinary Analysis of Society's Scientific, Behavioral, Institutional, Economic, and Innovative Technological Responses

PlumpJack Inn

Palisades Tahoe (formerly Squaw Valley), California

November 1-4, 2021

Organizers:

Monika Gruter Cheney, J.D.
Gruter Institute for Law & Behavioral Research

Oliver Goodenough, J.D.
Vermont Law School

Andrew Torrance, J.D., Ph.D.
University of Kansas School of Law

Isabel Behncke, Ph.D.
Universidad del Desarrollo
Oxford University

With Support From
Gordon Getty

PlumpJack Inn, Palisades Tahoe, California

Arrival Day (Monday, November 1st)

6:30pm Reception and Dinner

Day 1 (Tuesday, November 2nd)

7:30-9:00 **Breakfast Available in the Conference Room**

9:00-9:30 **Welcome & Introductions**

9:30-12:00 **Session I: Parasites - See What They Can Do! Perspectives from Evolutionary Biologists, Virologists, Infectious Disease**

Morning Chair: Monika Cheney

Speakers: Penny Riggs, Alison Farrell (via Zoom), Pete Richerson, Carl Bergstrom (via Zoom)

Sample Topics:

- Evolution and Parasites
- Persistent Parasites
- Insights re: SARS-CoV-2
- Infectious Disease and the Immune Response in Humans
- Understanding a Novel Virus – Science as a Dynamic System
- Historical Analysis from Past Pandemics

*Breaks taken as needed

12:00-1:00 **Lunch**

1:00-3:30 **Session II: Human Behavior in a Pandemic: Analysis of Cooperation, Altruism, Trust/Distrust, Effects of Isolation**

Afternoon Chair: Andrew Torrance

Speakers: Bill Casebeer, Kate Talbot, Isabel Behncke, Jenny Allen, Cameron Martel, Jevin West, Claire Hill

Sample Topics:

- Cooperation: How Durable is it? Factors that Increase or Decrease Cooperation During a Pandemic
- Altruism: How Durable ? Factors that Increase or Decrease Altruism During a Pandemic
- Trust: Trust in Science, in Governance, in Others, and Effects on Behavior, including relevance to Masking, Social Distancing, Vaccines etc.
- History in Other Pandemics
- Isolation in Humans – Short and Long Term Effects
- Implications of Pandemic in Mental Health (Fear of Illness, Effects of Isolation, Economic Disruption etc)
- Immunity Dearth as Potential Outcome from Prolonged Isolation, Especially in Young Children
- Implications for Families
- Implications for Education
- Implications for Work (Offsite/at Home etc)
- Implications for Cities

*Breaks taken as needed

6:30 **Dinner**

Day 2 (Wednesday, November 3rd)

7:30-9:00 Breakfast Available in Conference Room

9:00 -12:00 Session III: Legal and Institutional Response to a Pandemic

Morning Chair: Isabel Behncke

Speakers: Susan Dudley, Pam Dixon (via Zoom), Andrew Morriss, Oliver Goodenough, Peter Winn, Andrew Torrance, Alison Clarkson (via Zoom), Amedeo Santosuosso (via Zoom)

Sample Topics:

- What is the Proper Model for Risk Regulation? Precautionary Principal? Flatten Curve? Zero Risk? Focused/Targeted Protection for High Risk Groups? How to Incorporate all Costs and Benefits in Decision Making?
- Law of Emergencies: Regulating Physical Freedom, Closing Schools and Businesses, Masks, Vaccine Mandates
- Going Virtual and Future Implications (Zoom School, Virtual Work, Docusign, Zoom Court etc)
- Sharing Intellectual Property and Know How for Innovation in a Pandemic
- Federal vs. State vs. Local Control: Calibrating Regulatory Reach in a World that is Both Geographically Interconnected and also Highly Localized

*Breaks taken as needed

12:00-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:30 Session IV: Economic Response

Chair: Oliver Goodenough

Speakers: Kevin McCabe, John Chisholm, Siri Terjesen (via Zoom), Gordon Getty, Brian Mannix

Sample Topics:

- Closing an Economy
- Public vs. Private Goods and Who Pays for These?
- Macro Economic Story of All the Stimulus
- Global Comparisons – Analysis of Different Economic Policy Responses

*Breaks taken as needed

2:30-4:00 **Session V: Innovation in Response to Pandemic: A Silver Lining**

Chair: Susan Dudley

Speakers: Andrew Torrance, Megan Ma, Stephen Caines, Fred Dotzler, Susan Salkind

Sample Topics:

- Example of innovation as disruptor -> humans (via technology) causing "environmental change" back on the pathogen
- Niche construction
- Necessity sure has been the mother of invention
- Extremely high levels of cooperation in community of scientists working on vaccines (compare facts to cooperation analyzing origins)
- What did Project Warp Speed do Right/Wrong? Secret Sauce? Advance pay for manufacturing? Maintaining Competition?

*Breaks Taken As Needed

6:30 **Dinner**

Day 3 (Thursday, November 4th)

7:30-9:00 Breakfast Available in Conference Room

9:00-11:30 Session VI: Interdisciplinary Roundtable Session: Lessons Learned: Science <-->Public Policy Relationship

Speakers: Monika Cheney, Claire Hill, Isabel Behncke, Bill Casebeer, Susan Dudley

Sample Topics:

- Best Practices – Any Consensus on:
- "Science" of Pandemics:
  - -Science as a Dynamic vs. Static System
  - -Single Discipline vs. Multi-disciplinary
  - -The Role of Modeling and Forecasting
- Scientists as Policy Makers? Policy Makers as Scientists?
- Maintaining Scientific Method
- Raw Data vs, Summaries vs. Paternalism
- Maintaining Public Trust in Science in a Political World, from Pandemics to Environmental Issues
- Risk Models, Decision-Making and Communication
- Mapping Jurisdictional Boundaries on to a Global Phenomenon
- What Constitutes an Emergency – When Do They Begin and When Do They End?

11:30 Conference Conclusion - Lunch Boxes Available

Topic Overview:

The COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath underscore the paramount importance of understanding the evolution of pathogens and disease. We live in the age of space travel, driverless vehicles, heart transplants, and the world wide web. And yet, a microscopic viral pathogen - SARS-CoV-2 - brought our global society to a virtual close for over a year. From Charles Darwin to W.D. Hamilton, to corporate innovators like Moderna and BioNTech, biology provides critical insight on how a pathogen such as SARS-CoV-2 could wreak such havoc. What are the most important lessons from evolutionary biology, virology, infectious disease, and public health to be highlighted for human society going forward? Just as important to human society in the face of future pandemics: what lessons can we learn about our responses to a COVID-19? Nearly every domain of society and individual life was uprooted by this pandemic: individuals, families, and institutions, all experienced "environmental change" of the largest scale imaginable. But humans also exerted their own "environmental change" back on the virus in the form of rich innovation, including in law, policy, communication, virtual work and education environments, and especially medical innovation, including vaccines and treatments. How should society make decisions given different risk models and risk preferences? What can we learn about our behavioral, legal, economic, and technological responses to COVID-19 so that we may be better prepared for future pandemics?

The goal of this year's annual conference is to share and refine much-needed interdisciplinary perspectives on the COVID-19 pandemic, from biology and medicine, to society's innovative technological, behavioral, legal, and economic responses. COVID-19 provided an unwanted but natural experiment for many of our disciplines; this is an opportunity to assess what we have learned and sharpen our findings for the future.