JEFFREY KAHN, Ph.D., M.P.H.
PRECISION MEDICINE AND THE ROLES OF BIOETHICS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018
4:00 P.M.
208 LIGHT HALL

Upcoming Discovery Lecture:
MICHAEL W. YOUNG, Ph.D.
Nobel Prize Winner in Physiology or Medicine, 2017
Richard and Joanne Fisher Professor and Vice President for Academic Affairs,
The Rockefeller University
October 11, 2018
208 Light Hall / 4:00 P.M.
Precision medicine promises to usher in an era of individualized and targeted medicine, with therapies, behavioral advice, dosages, and prognoses all tailored to the individual patient. But these promises come with a range of costs, from increasingly expensive “custom” drugs to the collection of increasing amounts and increasingly personal information. Bioethics as a field has roles to play as the health care and public health systems move to adopt aspects of personalization across the services and programs they deliver. These include ethical and policy analysis and research to better understand the ethical issues raised by precision approaches to prevention and care, and empirically-informed policy recommendations for the introduction and use of precision approaches to medical care and public health. This lecture will examine some of the ethical and policy issues arising with the advent of precision medicine, the work that bioethics as a field can do to help address them, and will make some predictions about what the future holds.

Jeffrey Kahn is the Andreas C. Dracopoulos Director of the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics. He is also Levi Professor of Bioethics and Public Policy, and Professor in the Department of Health Policy and Management in the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. His research interests include the ethics of research, ethics and public health, and ethics and emerging biomedical technologies. He speaks widely both in the U.S. and abroad, and has published four books and over 125 articles. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and a Fellow of the Hastings Center, and has chaired or served on committees and panels for the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and the Institute of Medicine/National Academy of Medicine, where he is currently chair of the Board on Health Sciences Policy. His education includes a B.A. in microbiology (UCLA, 1983), M.P.H. (Johns Hopkins, 1988), and Ph.D. in philosophy (Georgetown, 1989).