The Center for Medical Humanities, Compassionate Care and Bioethics

GRAND ROUNDS

Monday, August 12, 2019

HSC, Level 3, LH 6 (<u>directions</u>) 4:00pm- 5:30pm

Addressing the Deep Roots of the Opioid Epidemic, Edgework, and Deaths of Despair

Matthew T. Lee, PhD

A popular kid with a bright future steps in front of a fast-moving train, an out-of-work middle aged man being treated for chronic pain with opioids succumbs to overdose, a rock climber suffers a fatal fall after deciding not to use safety ropes. How are these seemingly unrelated deaths actually connected and what might be done to reduce their prevalence? Dr. Matthew Lee, Director of Empirical Research for the Human Flourishing Program at Harvard University, offers insights into the fundamental causes of these examples of selfinjury mortality by drawing on findings from empirical research in dialog with deep wisdom from the humanities.



Dr. Matthew Lee is a sociologist affiliated with Harvard's Institute for Quantitative Social Science. He previously served as Chair of the American Sociological Association's Section on Altruism, Morality, and Social Solidarity and as Vice President of the Center for Restorative Justice of North Central Ohio. His research has focused on benevolent service to others, the relationship of character virtues to adolescent desistance from delinquency and addiction, and the integration of social science and the humanities. He is currently co-editing a book for Oxford University Press on the interdisciplinary measurement of well-being.

Please RSVP <u>here</u> or to <u>bioethics@stonybrookmedicine.edu</u>

