Communicating Across Cultures: Why Our Traditional Approaches May Fail to Inform and Empower Patients

April 10th
12:00 - 1:00 PM EDT
4008 Old Clinic Auditorium

Elaine Hsieh, Ph.D., J.D.
Professor and Chair, Communication Studies
University of Minnesota

Western biomedicine and bioethics assume that optimal healthcare delivery is achieved when patients are empowered to be rational thinkers, equipped with all the information needed for decision-making. In her presentation, Dr. Hsieh will examine how this assumption is reflected in healthcare practices and supported by the legal system. She will also explore how it may create tensions in cross-cultural care, compromise the quality of care, and cause unique challenges when communicating with patients with different cultural views.

Please join us for a presentation that aims to provide members of healthcare teams with a cultural framework to recognize the communicative patterns of their patients and themselves, identify tensions for shared decision-making, and provide meaningful solutions to effective and appropriate communication with our patients and colleagues.