

HEURE: 10H45 – 11H45

LIEU: Salle Delachaux, Bâtiment Proline
rte de la Corniche 10, 1010 Lausanne
& via WebEx

**MARDI
5 MARS 2024
COLLOQUE**

'IS THERE A CRISIS IN HEALTH POLICY RESEARCH: THE VIEW FROM LEGAL EPIDEMIOLOGY?'

SPEAKER

■ **SCOTT BURRIS**

Scott Burris, J.D. is Professor of Law and Public Health at Temple University, where he directs the Center for Public Health Law Research. His work focuses on how law influences public health, and what interventions can make laws and law enforcement practices healthier in their effects. He is the author of over 200 books, book chapters, articles and reports on issues including urban health, HIV/AIDS, research ethics, and the health effects of criminal law. He founded and directed the Public Health Law Research and Policies for Action programs for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and his work has been supported by organizations including the Open Society Institute, the National Institutes of Health, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the UK Department for International Development, and the CDC. He has served as a consultant to numerous U.S. and international organizations including WHO, UNODC and UNDP. He has been a visiting scholar at RegNet at the Australian National University, the Center for Health Law at the University of Neuchatel, the Department of Transboundary Legal Studies at the Royal University of Groningen, and the University of Amsterdam. He was a Fulbright Fellow at the University of Cape Town Law School. He has been the recipient of the American Public Health Law Association Health Law Section Lifetime Achievement Award and the Jay Healey Health Law Teachers Award from the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics. He is a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and the U.K. Faculty of Public Health (honorary). Professor Burris is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis (A.B.) and Yale Law School (J.D.).

Burris is the premier methodologist in the emerging field of legal epidemiology. He is the co-editor of *Legal Epidemiology: Theory and Methods* (Wiley 2023). The second edition of his public health law textbook, *THE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH LAW: A TRANSDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO PRACTICE AND ADVOCACY*, has just been published by Oxford University Press, and a global edition is in progress.

ABSTRACT

Policy is an important influence on health and should be guided by evidence. Are prevalent methodological problems impairing the scientific validity and social utility of health policy research? This presentation points to chronic public and researcher confusion over what counts as policy evaluation research and the inferences it supports about policy impact. The commentary draws on recent research to highlight serious apparent methodological and reporting lapses in the measurement of policy. It suggests better nomenclature, a broader, theory-informed approach to judging the effects of policies, and the much wider adoption of proper standards in conducting and reporting policy measurements. Policy research is in trouble, but solutions are at hand.

Recommandé par la Société Suisse des Spécialistes en prévention et santé publique (SPHD) pour la reconnaissance de la formation continue. Participer à la réunion WebEx

[Lien WebEx](#)