

Arthur Frank

Biography:

Arthur W. Frank received his doctorate from Yale in 1975 and spent his entire teaching career at the University of Calgary, where he is professor emeritus. Since 2014 he has been Professor II at VID Specialized University in Norway. He is best known for his memoir of illness, *At the Will of the Body* (Mariner Books, 1991, most recently translated into Korean, 2016) and his work on illness narratives, *The Wounded Storyteller* (University of Chicago Press, 1995, second edition 2013). Recently he has written more generally about how storytelling affects lives (*Letting Stories Breathe*, Chicago, 2010). His recent articles appear in the *Journal of Medical Humanities, Literature and Medicine*, and *Narrative Works*, among other journals. He is an elected fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and 2008 winner of their medal in bioethics. In 2016 he received the lifetime achievement award of the Canadian Bioethics Society.

Title of Plenary Lecture:

What Kind of Generosity Can Be Renewed? Spiritual Care in a Medical-Industrial Age.

Abstract:

My book *The Renewal of Generosity* was published in 2004. This lecture tells several stories, some that instigated that book, and more recent ones that complicate my argument, especially with respect to spiritual care. The main issues include what the word *generosity* seeks to convey compared to other similar words, what I meant at the end of the book when I describe healthcare workers as being *artificial persons*, and how the book's central ideal of *dialogue* gives substance to what makes care actually centred on persons.