



JOHN & MARSHA RYAN BIOETHICIST-IN-RESIDENCE

FEBRUARY 26
5 P.M.

SIU School of Law
Lesar Law Building Courtroom
Carbondale, Illinois

Medical Aid in Dying: Assessing the Illinois Patient Choices at End of Life Act

THE LECTURE IS FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

For disability accommodations call 618/453-5738.

Nearly 110,000 Illinoisans die every year. Many of these patients want control over the timing and manner of their death. Indeed, terminally ill patients in Illinois already have and use several legal “exit options.” But they generally do not have access to medical aid in dying (MAID). This may soon change. Across the country, access to MAID has been in a rapid state of flux. Ten years ago, MAID was available in only two U.S. jurisdictions. Today, it is available in ten. This presentation reviews the history, status, and prevalence of MAID in the United States. It also summarizes new points of ethical debate over whether traditional eligibility requirements and safeguards are too permissive or too restrictive.

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2019-2020

**John & Marsha Ryan
Bioethicist-in-Residence
Thaddeus Mason Pope, JD, Ph.D.**



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THADDEUS MASON POPE is a foremost expert on medical law and clinical ethics. He maintains a special focus on patient rights and healthcare decision-making. Pope is Director of the Health Law Institute at Mitchell Hamline School of Law in Saint Paul, Minnesota. While he serves in a range of consulting capacities, Pope has been particularly influential through his extensive, high-impact scholarship. Ranked among the Top 20 most cited health law scholars in the United States, Professor Pope has over 220 publications in leading medical journals, bioethics journals, and law reviews. He coauthors the definitive treatise *The Right to Die: The Law of End-of-Life Decisionmaking*, and he runs the *Medical Futility Blog* (with over four million page-views).

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