

The Bernard Becker Medical Library in collaboration with the  
Center for History Of Medicine presents the

## 46<sup>th</sup> *Historia Medica*



### Medical Ethics and Frankenstein's Monster

Two hundred years ago, Mary Shelley's novel, *Frankenstein*, portrayed a dark fantasy – a man who succeeds in creating life. Dr. Frankenstein abandoned his monster only to be destroyed by it, and Shelley's tale vividly foreshadows many of the ethical, medical, and social challenges we confront today. Dr. Kodner addresses issues raised by stem cell research, care for the underserved and underinsured of our country, and the destructive power of prejudice and forced isolation.



Ira J. Kodner, M.D., earned both his bachelor's and medical degrees at Washington University. Following residency in surgery at Jewish Hospital in St. Louis, three years in the Army, and a fellowship in colon and rectal surgery at Cleveland Clinic, he joined the School of Medicine faculty in 1975 as a clinical instructor of surgery and spent 10 years in private practice before joining the full-time faculty and rising to full professor of surgery, where he held the Solon and Bettie Gershan endowed professorship.

Dr. Kodner also directed Washington University's Center for the Study of Ethics and Human Values.

Ira J. Kodner, MD  
Emeritus Professor of Surgery  
Washington University School of  
Medicine

Thursday, September 17, 2015  
4:30 p.m.  
Becker Medical Library, 7<sup>th</sup> floor  
King Center

*Free and open to the public – Refreshments to follow*