Information security in the health care industry has almost always been viewed as an impediment to productivity. Can we survive without it in an industry where productivity has a direct correlation to human life? Or do we accept it as a cost of doing business? As the lines of distinction between financial, reputational, and health information disappear, and the meaning of “privacy” is ever changing, how can balance be achieved by a “traditionalistic” industry plagued by issues of a “modern” world to provide the service that is at its paramount “human.” Students of today, leaders in the making who will have to answer this question, are not taught about these tensions and workable solutions (when they exist). But the tensions exist, and the problem is getting worse.

A panel of experts in cyber security, medical financial operations, medical privacy law, and developing medical software—including a practicing medical doctor—will discuss information security from their viewpoint and react to their fellow panelists' sometimes conflicting views of information security. They will also look into their own crystal balls to see what challenges the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010, along with miniaturization and advances in electronic systems, will provide in the years ahead.

**Robert Gellman**
Formerly chief counsel to the Subcommittee on Government Information in the House of Representatives, Bob is a privacy and information policy consultant in Washington, D.C., specializing in health confidentiality policy, privacy and data protection, and Internet privacy.

**Sumit Sehgal**
Sumit is the Director of Information Security at GW University Hospital. An active member of ISACA and ISC2, his interest areas range from network access control and mobile device management to virtualizing desktops in a hospital setting.

**Kim Klein**
Kim is the President of mEDhealth advisors, LLC, a health IT consulting firm in the DC metro area. She specializes in strategic planning, privacy and security, and EHR implementation planning. She is a frequent author and guest lecturer at GWU for Privacy and Security in Health Policy graduate courses.

**Mark Smith, M.D.**
Mark Smith is director of the MedStar Institute for Innovation (MI2) and professor and chairman of emergency medicine at the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He has authored numerous journal articles and two textbooks on emergency medicine and used his master’s degree in computer science to co-create the innovative Azzyxi clinical information system (now part of Microsoft’s Amalga family).