

Athena McLean is Professor of Anthropology, the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work, Central Michigan University. Dr. McLean is an anthropologist of aging and medicine. Her primary research has focused on the long term care of persons with dementia and dementia care as a moral enterprise. She has also been interested in the social justice activism of marginalized groups and has written about the social empowerment of persons with psychiatric disabilities. Her publications include *The Person in Dementia: A Study of Nursing Home Care in the U.S.* (U Toronto Press, 2007) and "Dementia as a Moral Enterprise: a call for the return of the sanctity of lived time" (*Alzheimer's Care Quarterly/ Today* 2007). Dr. McLean spent 2007-8 conducting ethnographic research in Ireland as part of the TRIL project, at the Irish Centre for Social Gerontology, NUIG. Her current research interests include the cultural bases for contemporary fear of dementia and the considerations that affect how consultants and G.P.s disclose the diagnosis of dementia to patients and their families.