The story of Henrietta Lacks and her family is a story about many things: scientific innovation, remarkable cures, the meaning of body and self, and what our obligations are to one another. Henrietta Lacks’ cells became the HeLa cell line, reproduced many billions of times over. In this talk, Dr. Faden will explore what the experiences of the Lacks family, and the national response to their story, can tell us about indifference and empathy, and about the relationship between the ethics of research and the ethics of health care systems.