



Annual Report 2017-18





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Photo opposite:
Uehiro funded and hosted staff and Scholars



The Year in Numbers

£7.16
Million

in current
externally
funded awards

95
Publications

over 40
International
presentations

over 160
Media
Appearances

“The Centre’s vision is to encourage and support debate and deeper rational reflection in practical ethics. This vision is at the heart of each of our three pillars of activity: research, engagement and training”

Part I. Introduction

Director Julian Savulescu reviews a year that saw Ethics and Applied Ethics at Oxford ranked top in two major international rankings.

The Philosophical Gourmet Report provides graduate students with a ranking of Universities in the English-speaking world by specialty to provide them with an up-to-date guide based on surveys of expert international peers. The 2018 report again listed Applied Ethics at Oxford in the top group, with the highest mark in the group, for the third consecutive reporting period.

The Centre for World University Ranking places Ethics at Oxford top in the world. The Centre for World University Ranking bases its scores on the number of research articles in top-tier journals.

When the Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics was founded in 2002, it was the first ever appointment in Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford. Thanks to The Uehiro Foundation’s generosity and vision in going on to establish the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, we have been able to attract top young scholars to train here, and leading international scholars to visit and spend time here.

This was a unique model in the Faculty of Philosophy when the Centre was founded in 2003, but it has led to others following suit, and there is now a small cluster of themed research centres flourishing within the Faculty. There has been a truly transformative effect on the Faculty of Philosophy and the Humanities Division.

This report contains some of the highlights of the past year, including most notably the first intake of our new MSt in Practical Ethics, led by Associate Professor Guy Kahane, Director of Studies, which received an overwhelming response from applicants with over 50 applicants for 15 places. I would like to thank Guy Kahane for all his work establishing the MSt programme.

Senior Research Fellow, Thomas Douglas, has also taken on additional responsibilities, leading the *Journal of Practical Ethics* into its next phase, with Roger Crisp and I taking an advisory role. Dr Douglas will also lead the mentorship of our junior staff, scholars and visitors. With Hannah Maslen also representing the Centre as



Julian Savulescu
Photographer: Murray Bransgrove

“We are immensely grateful to The Uehiro Foundation for Ethics and Education for their vision and commitment to the Centre which founded practical ethics at the University of Oxford and continues to nurture its development.”

Julian Savulescu

Deputy Director in a range of international and policy fora, and assisting with leadership responsibilities, the Centre's future activities are in safe hands.

Meanwhile, the Centre has continued to lead research, engagement and other activities with highlights including several prizes awarded (see p.17). Congratulations to all the staff and students involved. Our young researchers have excelled in a number of ways this year; it has been a delight to see them achieve book contracts (p.14), engage with the public in major events and in schools (p.28) and make national media appearances (p.26).

As a training Centre, although we are sad to say farewell to staff, it is of course a sign of a job well done. Uehiro staff member Jim Everett left for a postdoctoral fellowship at Leiden University. Hosted researcher Andreas Kappes left for a permanent job at City University, London, and Ilina Singh became a full-time Professor with Oxford's Psychiatry department. We are delighted that we are continuing to collaborate with all of these staff members as part of the international Uehiro network. We were also delighted to be able to retain Katrien Devolder at the Centre following the completion of her European Marie Curie fellowship through the award of a Wellcome Centre Fellowship. She has added enormous value to the Centre through her public engagement projects as well as her research. We also welcomed

a number of new early career scholars as the Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities got underway in October.

The Centre was honoured this year to receive a donation from Professor Janet Radcliffe Richards of her late husband, Professor Derek Parfit's library. This is an incredible resource and archive for scholars for generations to come, and I would like to extend my personal thanks to Professor Radcliffe Richards. We have prepared, and will shortly be releasing, a video remembering Derek, his work, and his legacy to the profession, with contributions from a number of centre members who were taught by Derek, or were enriched by coming to know him as a colleague and friend.

Finally, as is evident throughout this report, everything we have been able to achieve has been built on the ongoing and extraordinarily generous support of The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education, both financial and in terms of the Foundation's vision, support and commitment to the field. The Centre and all its staff are committed to honouring the Foundation's vision for ethics, education and developing young scholars.

We are only able to focus on some selected highlights in this report. Please see www.practicaethics.ox.ac.uk for further information on our activities and events.



Applied Ethics at Oxford was ranked first in this international report

Part II. Selected Highlights Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics

Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics, Julian Savulescu, is trained in both medicine and philosophy. In addition to leading the Centre and its hosted research projects, he maintains a leading research profile. His h-index is 56, and his work was cited 1628 times in 2017, the highest level to date. His work has now been cited 11, 819 times, and 207 of his publications have been cited more than 10 times. As a benchmark, within science, where citations are usually higher than in the humanities, 45 or higher would be considered the level of membership in the United States National Academy of Sciences. He is Editor-in-Chief of *Journal of Medical Ethics*, the highest ranked Medical Ethics journal by Eigenfactor metrics. Some highlights of the past year are discussed below, with more available throughout the report and on our website.

Publications

Practical Ethics is more than ethical theory applied rigidly to real-life situations, and the case of Charlie Gard, the British baby born with a rare genetic disorder, whose parents and doctors clashed over whether treatment was in his best interests was a case where the complexity of the ethical issues was at the forefront of a difficult clinical and legal decision. Yet in these cases there is no option to remain undecided: a decision must be made. Julian Savulescu and Dominic Wilkinson disagreed over the case and debated the ethical issues extensively, but they also used the disagreement to develop a practical pathway (see page 9) to handle deep ethical disagreement in contested case. This was published in major UK medical journal *The Lancet*, as well as a longer discussion on making progress in such cases in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*. They have since completed a manuscript, in press with Elsevier for publication in 2018, giving a book length treatment on this case and on decision making where there is dissensus of opinions. This has led to wide impact in the media, in clinical teaching, and developing policy impact. Details are on p.11.

Savulescu has been in contact with Charlie Gard's parents and they are together proposing legal reform (with Dominic Wilkinson) as a way to prevent these kinds of conflicts occurring again the future. As more experimental treatment becomes available and public health systems cannot provide everything which could possibly benefit patients, such conflicts will become ever more common.

Ethical theories are not only mediated by the complexities of uncertainty and circumstances, but also by our own psychology. Recent high-profile work from Harvard has suggested a link between traits associated with psychopathy (at a sub-clinical level) and utilitarian intuitions. In a publication this year in leading psychology journal *Psychological Review* Savulescu and the team launched the Oxford Utilitarianism Scale. Much research and discussion of utilitarianism has focussed on sacrificial dilemmas as a test of utilitarianism: should one sacrifice one in order to save many? Yet utilitarianism also requires impartial beneficence: maximising wellbeing of others over preferring one's own wellbeing, or the wellbeing of those close to us. The Oxford



Julian Savulescu presents the Fertility Society Australia Annual Meeting keynote

Utilitarianism Scale showed that when dilemmas presented to research participants capture both aspects of utilitarianism, the correlations with psychological traits is more complex. Although the link with sub-clinical psychopathy remained for those who scored most highly utilitarian on the sacrificial dilemmas, it was not present for those that scored highly on the impartial dilemmas. This far more nuanced understanding of how our psychology interacts with moral theories has been called “a breakthrough in moral psychology”. Further details are on p.10.

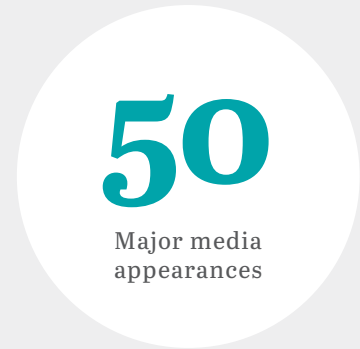
Savulescu has continued to publish widely on the Centre’s research themes, including on neuroethics, responsibility, and collective responsibility, along with additional work in medical ethics and moral psychology.

Selected Major Presentations

Savulescu was keynote speaker at two major clinical conferences, the international Vermont Oxford Network Annual Conference (Chicago), and the national Fertility Society of Australia’s annual meeting where he gave the Ian Johnson Memorial Lecture. Other named lectures included the Inaugural Professor Phillip Walker Lecture in Brisbane, Australia, and other major events

Savulescu spoke at included the annual meeting of the Human Genetic Society Australia. Savulescu also presented his work on the Charlie Gard case widely to a range of international clinical audiences.

An annual highlight is the Uehiro-Carnegie-Oxford Conference, which took place this year in Tokyo, organised by our colleagues at the Centre for iPS Cell Ethics at Kyoto University, and featuring a keynote by Nobel Laureate Professor Shinya Yamanaka. The conference focussed on ethical issues raised by recent developments in iPS cell and genetic research and therapy. Should we progress with technologies that will enable us to grow human organs in animals? Should those organs be used for transplantation? Can the creation of artificial gametes from human iPS cells be justified ethically? The conference proceedings will be published in English and Japanese.



Media

Savulescu was a key figure in the ethical debate in the media over the Charlie Gard case. He appeared on the UK’s *Sky News*, *BBC News* and international *BBC World Service* TV News discussing the case, as well as on *ABC News*, Australia. He also appeared on a range of flagship radio news programmes including the *Today Programme* and *The World Tonight*, both on BBC Radio 4, as well as national radio in Australia. He was quoted widely throughout international media, with longer interviews in Italy’s *La Corriere della Sera*, and opinion pieces on *ABC* and *BMJ online*.

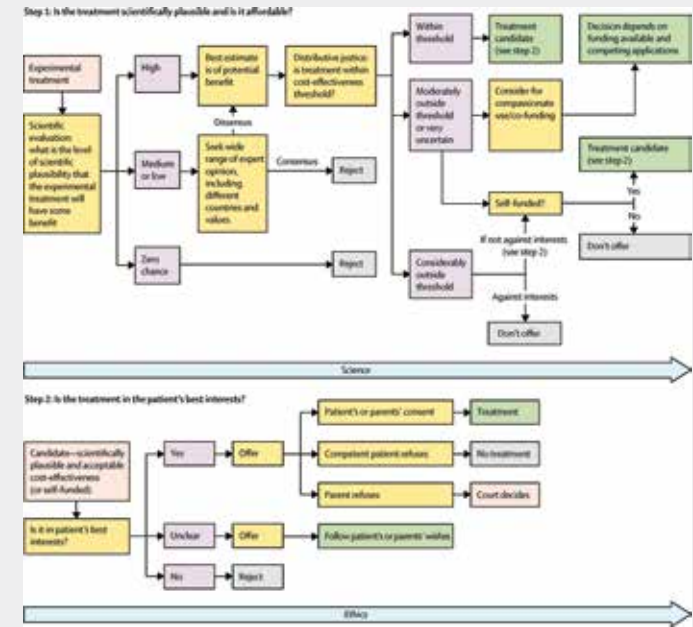
Outside of the discussion on this case, he continued to feature in the international media on a range of topics, with notable appearances including a 3-page feature in *De Ingenieur*, the Netherlands’ largest technology popular publication, and a profile in *Znak*, one of the largest publishers in Poland and in-depth radio interviews about Savulescu’s work on national radio in Canada and New Zealand.

Selected Policy

Savulescu submitted evidence to the *National Health and Medical Research Council* on emerging genetic technologies and the human cloning and reproduction act in Australia, which prohibits certain types of research, of a potential change in the law. He also engaged with policy makers in Australia (the Attorney General’s office, Canberra), Spain (Senior Spanish Policymakers), the UK (Senior Civil Service), and Romania (Ambassador’s office) on a range of issues. He presented a seminar on Enhancement to the World Economic Forum’s *Global Futures Council*.

Selected Engagement

Savulescu presented to public audiences at venues as diverse as a Science Museum, an Art Gallery, and a citizen-run laboratory, *BioInquisitive*, as well as giving major named public lectures such as the Monash annual *SOPHIS lecture* and Melbourne University’s *Sugden Lecture* at Queens College. He continued working with Medipeace delivering teaching to school children in Korea with a group of colleagues from Oxford.



Savulescu and Wilkinson’s Lancet flowchart to aid clinical decision making

“We need to understand and acknowledge the limitations of ourselves and the systems we create. Health care cannot provide every treatment of possible benefit to the patient. We need ethics to decide what ought to be provided.”

Julian Savulescu

Part III.

Selected Research Highlights

Oxford Utilitarianism Scale

Jim Everett, Nadira Faber, Guy Kahane, Julian Savulescu



Much work in moral psychology has relied on trolley type sacrificial moral dilemmas to study utilitarian vs. non-utilitarian modes of moral decision-making. This has generated important insights into people's moral attitudes to *instrumental harm*—i.e. to the sacrifice of one individual in order to save a greater number. But this approach also has serious limitations, and most notably ignores the positive, altruistic core of utilitarianism — *impartial beneficence* — which is characterized by impartial concern for the well-being of everyone, whether near or far.

Julian Savulescu, Guy Kahane, Nadira Faber, Jim Everett and other colleagues developed, refined, and validated a new scale — the Oxford Utilitarianism Scale — to dissociate individual differences in these 'negative' (permissive attitude to instrumental harm) and 'positive' (impartial concern about the greater good) dimensions of utilitarian thinking as manifested in the general population.

Thier paper, published in *Psychological Review*, shows that these are two independent dimensions of utilitarian traits in the lay population, and each exhibits a distinct psychological profile. For example,

empathic concern, identification with the whole of humanity, and concern for future generations are positively associated with Impartial Beneficence but negatively associated with Instrumental Harm. On the other hand, while Instrumental Harm was associated with sub-clinical psychopathy, Impartial Beneficence was associated with higher religiosity.

This is an important nuance to existing research in this area which has found correlations between utilitarianism and anti social traits. This research creates a way to distinguish between different kinds of utilitarian thinking and the different traits that lie behind them.

The paper was selected by *Psychological Review* for inclusion in its *Spotlight* feature, highlighting key articles in the issue. *Psychological Review* is one of the top 5 psychology (multidisciplinary) journals by impact factor. Our blog, featuring an option for readers to take the quiz themselves, reached over 85, 000 readers and participants. Media coverage included *Scientific American*, *Quarz*, and *Quillette*, with *Nintil* calling the paper 'a breakthrough in moral psychology'.

Review Quotes:

“A breakthrough in moral psychology”

Nintil

“We now have a much more complete picture of utilitarianism.”

Erik Parens, *Quillette*

Charlie Gard and Ethical Decisions in cases of Deep Ethical Conflict

Julian Savulescu, Dominic Wilkinson

The tragic case of Charlie Gard, a baby



born in the UK with a rare and fatal mitochondrial disorder — infantile onset encephalomyopathic mitochondrial DNA depletion syndrome — made international headlines when his doctors sought permission from court to withdraw treatment, against the wishes of his parents who argued that he should be allowed to travel to the US for experimental treatment. Charlie eventually died on 28 July 2017, after an agreement was reached that by that stage his condition had become irreversible.

Charlie's doctors, the US doctor offering the experimental treatment, and Charlie's parents differed very little in their

understanding of the medical facts and the prognosis available, but they differed on a matter of ethics: in where Charlie's best interests lay, on what kinds of lives are worth living, and on what harm or suffering could or should be endured in the pursuit of a small chance of survival. Uehiro Chair Julian Savulescu and Head of Medical Ethics, Dominic Wilkinson both worked extensively on this case from the time of the first legal judgement in April 2016, contributing to both academic research and public debate. They published first on the Uehiro centre's blog, *Practical Ethics in the News*, then in the prestigious journal *The Lancet*. Although they disagreed about the case, the aim of the practical ethics program is to contribute to debate about issues that matter to the world — using the tools of analytical philosophy to clarify key questions and arguments and subject them to critical scrutiny. We also aim to move debate forward where possible by proposing practical suggestions that are informed by philosophical understanding.

Together and separately, Savulescu and Wilkinson were interviewed more than 50 times by media outlets in the UK, US, Australia and internationally (including *BBC*, *CNN*, *Sky Television*, *Wall St Journal*,

The Times, *The Economist*). They were quoted in front-page articles in the *New York Times* and had editorials in the two leading medical journals published in the UK – the *Lancet* and the *British Medical Journal*. One of those editorials was quoted by the UK *Guardian* newspaper in their own editorial on the case. Discussion on our *Practical Ethics* blog attracted over 35, 000 views. Editorials, blogs and interviews clarified key elements of the debate, including the limits of parental discretion in decisions for children, concepts of a life worth living and the relevance of limited public health resources to decisions about treatment for children. On the basis of work on this case, Savulescu and Wilkinson have been consulted about a proposal to change the law and invited to speak to judges and health professionals worldwide, including an ESRC seminar (Keele) and a seminar in London on medical mediation.

While such cases are thankfully rare, the underlying issues are fundamental in practical ethics, and reflect society's broader attitudes to disability, uncertainty and decision-making. Savulescu and Wilkinson's manuscript, *Ethics, conflict and medical treatment for children: From disagreement to dissensus*, which discusses

the case and the broader ethical issues arising will be published in the middle of 2018.

“The sad case of Charlie Gard, both heart-wrenching and philosophically complex, promises to become a seminal case in the field of medical ethics. There are certainly no two better scholars than Wilkinson and Savulescu to explore and articulate the lessons we can learn from this tragic story.”

Robert D. Truog, Frances Glessner Lee Professor of Medical Ethics, Harvard Medical School

Major New Initiatives

Masters in Practical Ethics

Leadership: Guy Kahane, Julian Savulescu.
Additional Support: Roger Crisp, Hannah Maslen. All staff will be involved in teaching.

The Centre's flagship Masters in Practical Ethics programme opened for applications in January 2018, and will run four of its six modules in the forthcoming academic year, before reaching full speed the following year.

The response to the course showed that there is a large international need for excellent teaching in practical ethics. The course received 55 applications for the 15 places on the Masters course, with additional candidates applying to join modules as standalone students. The quality was outstanding, and a candidate on the course has been put forward as the University's only candidate for a Wellcome Trust Scholarship after a Division-wide internal competition.

Wellcome Centre

Leadership: Julian Savulescu

The Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities launched in October 2017 following an award from the Wellcome Trust of £3.9 million. The first appointments have been made to the Centre, three of them joint appointments with the Uehiro Centre. These appointments allow us to bring young scholars to the Centre to continue its training mission. The Wellcome Centre scheme is the Wellcome Trust's flagship scheme, with 14 centres established primarily in science. This is the only centre funded in ethics.

The Wellcome Centre's official opening will take place in June, with two days of events. The Centre addresses some of the major developments in science and their impact on our ethical methods and principles. As our understanding of ourselves and the world around us has radically changed, ethics must also adapt. The Centre will take on this challenge to produce ethics which is fit for purpose in today's scientific and medical environment.

Research Fellowship

Katrien Devolder

Kickstarting a major research theme on animal ethics, former Marie Curie Fellow, Katrien Devolder has been awarded a Wellcome Trust Research Fellowship on 'The Ethics of Genome Editing in Livestock'. Further details on p.21.

"The volume of applications we received shows the real hunger for training in practical ethics across a range of professions. We have a really talented first cohort of students and expect the classes to be a challenging and two-way process: as good practical ethics should be."

Julian Savulescu on the MSt in Practical Ethics

£7,167,468

Current Externally
Funded awards

95

publications
2017-18

New Staff



Mackenzie Graham

Mackenzie Graham joined the Uehiro Centre in January 2018, from Western University in London, Canada, with a focus on moral philosophy and neuroethics. His past research has explored the well-being and quality-of-life of patients who are thought to be unconscious, but have been shown by recent research to have 'covert consciousness'.

Graham's work at the Centre will examine ethical issues relating to 'covert consciousness', including how this should shape decision-making, and other ethical issues in neuroimaging, such as the disclosure of incidental findings to research participants. He works across the Uehiro Centre and the Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities.



Doug McConnell

Doug is a research fellow at the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. His research interests include moral psychology, bioethics, neuroethics, and applied philosophy, particularly in relation to addiction and psychiatry.

His PhD (Macquarie University, Sydney) drew on first-hand accounts of addiction to argue that self-narratives have an influence on self-governance, and his previous postdoctoral work focussed on conscience and conscientious objection in healthcare. Doug will lead teaching on the Philosophy of Psychiatry & Mental Health module in the new Masters in Practical Ethics.



Adam Shriver

Adam Shriver received his PhD in the Philosophy-Neuroscience-Psychology programme at Washington University in St. Louis and he has held postdoctoral fellowships at the University of Pennsylvania and the University of British Columbia. His research examines how the neuroscience of affective states can inform ethical theory.

At Oxford, Adam will be working with leading neuroscientists to examine how the neuroscience of pleasure and pain can inform philosophical accounts of well-being and beneficence. He is also continuing his research on the ethics of gene editing, animal ethics, and the political and ethical implications of the development of a neural signature of pain.



Hazem Zohny

Hazem is a Research Fellow in Bioethics and Bioprediction at the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics. His focus is on the bioprediction of behaviour, particularly in the context of crime prevention. He has a PhD in Bioethics from the University of Otago.

Dr Zohny will contribute to ethical analysis of bioprediction in blue and white collar crime and explore the implications of predictive and preventing neurointerventions for moral responsibility. He works cross the Uehiro Centre and Thomas Douglas' New Investigator Award.

Additional New Staff

Stephen Rainey joined Hannah Maslen's project *BrainCom*, and Lisa Forsberg joined the Centre with a British Academy Fellowship mentored by Thomas Douglas. Former student Carissa Veliz was appointed to Julian Savulescu's *Responsibility and Healthcare* grant.

Monographs

Contracts were awarded to the following new books by Uehiro Centre Staff:

Kei Hiruta, *Berlin's Bête Noire: Hannah Arendt and Isaiah Berlin on Freedom, Politics and Humanity*. Princeton University Press

Berlin's Bête Noire is a comparative study of the lives and works of Isaiah Berlin (1909–1997) and Hannah Arendt (1906–1975). It makes the two-fold argument that: 1) major normative differences between the two thinkers are anchored in their conflicting views of the human condition, of what it means to be human; 2) and this point of disagreement is in turn rooted in their dispute over the nature of totalitarian oppression and inhumanity. Challenging the current academic trend to draw a clear-cut distinction between political philosophy and the history of political thought, *Berlin's Bête Noire* highlights select aspects of the protagonists' life-stories, including Berlin's animosity towards Arendt, to illuminate their disagreement. It shows that a set of significant theoretical differences underpinned their rivalry, refuting recent studies that have inflated psychological issues such as Berlin's alleged sexism and his purported academic vanity. It also

criticises the more substantive contention that the two thinkers' mutual dislike ultimately comes down to their conflicting attitudes towards Israeli politics and the Zionist movement. Based on new systematic archival research, *Berlin's Bête Noire* offers the first comprehensive account of all the personal, political and intellectual aspects of the two thinkers' story. It highlights important similarities as well as differences between Berlin and Arendt, whose shared mode of political theorising starkly contrasts with the recent post-Rawlsian standard.

Review Quotes:

“Written with elegance and verve, presenting complex issues with the kind of coherence necessary to guide readers less familiar with Berlin's and Arendt's intellectual trajectories”

“This is an excellent book proposal and project”

Anonymous reviewers

Dominic Wilkinson and Julian Savulescu, *Ethics, conflict and medical treatment for children: from disagreement to dissensus*. Elsevier. In press for publication in 2018

What should happen when doctors and parents disagree about what would be best for a child? When should courts become involved? Should life support be stopped against parents' wishes? The case of Charlie Gard, reached global attention in 2017. It led to widespread debate about the ethics of disagreements between doctors and parents, about the place of the law in such disputes, and about the variation in approach between different parts of the world.

In this book, Dominic Wilkinson and Julian Savulescu critically examine the ethical questions at the heart of disputes about medical treatment for children. They use the Gard case as a springboard to a wider discussion about the rights of parents, the harms of treatment, and the vital issue of limited resources. They discuss

other prominent UK and international cases of disagreement and conflict.

From opposite sides of the debate Wilkinson and Savulescu outline the strongest arguments in favour of and against treatment. They analyse some of the distinctive and challenging features of treatment disputes in the 21st century and argue that disagreement about controversial ethical questions is both inevitable and desirable. They outline a series of lessons from the Gard case and propose a radical new 'dissensus' framework for future cases of disagreement.

Review Quotes:

“A thought-provoking and thorough analysis of disputes about treatment for children...This book has something for general readers...students of bioethics... [and] those working at the cutting edge of medicine. It should stimulate discussions in paediatric and neonatal intensive care units everywhere”

Peter Singer, Ira W. DeCamp Professor of Bioethics, Princeton University

Several of our hosted researchers were also awarded book contracts this year:

Jonathan Pugh, *Autonomy, Rationality and Contemporary Bioethics*. Oxford University Press (under contract)

Dr Pugh provides a new rationalist account of personal autonomy that avoids the philosophical flaws present in theories of autonomy that are often invoked in bioethics, and that can be usefully applied to contemporary bioethical issues. The first half of the book will investigate the philosophical underpinnings of the concept of autonomy and will lay out a rationalist account of autonomy. The second half of the book will apply this rationalist account of autonomy to a number of contemporary bioethical issues, including the use of human enhancement technologies, the nature of informed consent, and the doctor-patient relationship.

Marcela Herdova, Stephen Kearns, and Neil Levy, *Self-Control*. Routledge (under contract)

Self-control in various circumstances can significantly affect our well-being; philosophically, because the notion of self-

control gives rise to difficult and profound philosophical puzzles. The bulk of this book centres around three such puzzles: How is exercising self-control possible? How is losing self-control possible? How can an agent be morally responsible if she does not exercise self-control? After setting out why these questions pose deep philosophical difficulties, the book explores the nature and mechanisms of both exercising and losing self-control, drawing not only on philosophical sources, but also the rich psychological and neuroscientific literature on this topic. Crucial concepts and distinctions concerning self-control are clarified, and various proposed explanations of (losses of) self-control are examined and assessed. The book also addresses underexplored areas of self-control, such as self-control over mental actions, and the links between self-control and extended cognition. This book does not aim to answer all the questions it raises, but rather to describe the advantages and disadvantages of various approaches to this important topic, in the hope of clarifying the debate and shedding light on promising ways of thinking about self-control and agency in general.

Alberto Giubilini, *The Ethics of Vaccination*. Palgrave MacMillan. Under contract

What are our moral obligations as a collective that should aim to realise herd immunity? What are the ethical implications of collective responsibility for attribution of individual obligations to be vaccinated? In particular, is there a moral obligation to be vaccinated based on fairness in the distribution of the burdens of vaccination? This book is focussed on the ethical and philosophical aspects of individual, collective, and institutional responsibilities with regard to vaccination. It addresses the issue of what it means for a collective to be morally responsible for the realisation of herd immunity and what the implications of collective responsibility are for individual and institutional responsibilities. It also addresses the philosophical issues raised by the implementation of coercive vaccination policies: for instance, it discusses what it means to implement the 'least restrictive alternative' among the possible coercive vaccination policies that states have a moral responsibility to implement. The

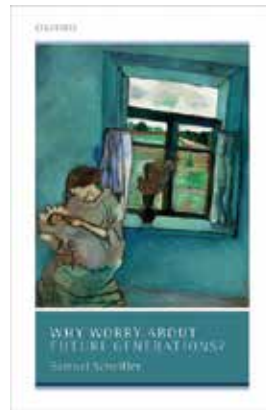
book is informed by a philosophical theory of individual and collective responsibility and its implications for institutional responsibility; and it applies such theories to ground the moral obligations of different actors — individuals, collectives, and institutions — with regard to the realisation of herd immunity. This monograph aims to clarify what individuals, collectives, and institutions may and should do in order to achieve herd immunity from vaccine-preventable infectious diseases in a way that balances individual right to free choice and collective interest in protection from infectious diseases.

Uehiro Series in Practical Ethics

The Uehiro Series in Practical Ethics publishes a book-length treatment of the Uehiro Lectures. Two of the Uehiro Lecture series were released as books this year as part of our Oxford University Press Series. Two further manuscripts, Professor Christine Korsgaard and Professor Shelly Kagan have been submitted to the publisher this year.

Why Worry About Future Generations?

Samuel Scheffler, Uehiro Lecturer 2015

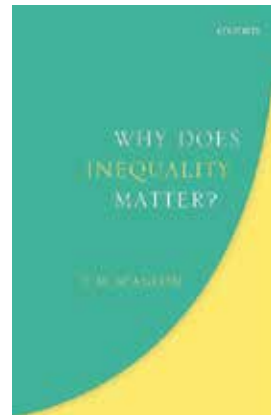


The things we do today may make life worse for future generations. But why should we care what happens to people who won't be born until after all of us are gone? Some philosophers have treated this as a question about our moral responsibilities, and have argued that we have duties of beneficence to promote the well-being of our descendants. Rather than focusing exclusively on issues of moral responsibility, Samuel Scheffler considers the broader question of why and how future generations matter to us. Although we lack a developed set of ideas about the value of human continuity, we are more invested in the fate of our descendants than we may realize. Implicit in our existing values and attachments are a variety of powerful reasons for wanting the chain of human generations to persist into the indefinite future under conditions conducive to

human flourishing. This has implications for the way we think about problems like climate change. And it means that some of our strongest reasons for caring about the future of humanity depend not on our moral duty to promote the good but rather on our existing evaluative attachments and on our conservative disposition to preserve and sustain the things that we value. This form of conservatism supports rather than inhibits a concern for future generations, and it is an important component of the complex stance we take toward the temporal dimension of our lives.

Why Does Inequality Matter?

T.M. Scanlon, Uehiro Lecturer 2013



Inequality is widely regarded as morally objectionable: T. M. Scanlon investigates why it matters to us. Demands for greater equality can seem puzzling, because it can be unclear what reason people have for objecting to the difference between what

they have and what others have, as opposed simply to wanting to be better off. This book examines six such reasons. Inequality can be objectionable because it arises from a failure of some agent to give equal concern to the interests of different parties to whom it is obligated to provide some good. It can be objectionable because it involves or gives rise to objectionable inequalities in status. It can be objectionable because it gives the rich unacceptable forms of control over the lives of those who have less. It can be objectionable because it interferes with the procedural fairness of economic institutions, or because it deprives some people of substantive opportunity to take part in those institutions. Inequality can be objectionable because it interferes with the fairness of political institutions. Finally, inequality in wealth and income can be objectionable because it is unfair: the institutional mechanisms that produce it cannot be justified in the relevant way. Scanlon's aim is to provide a moral anatomy of these six reasons, and the ideas of equality that they involve. He also examines objections to the pursuit of equality on the ground that it involves objectionable interference with individual liberty, and argues that ideas of desert do not provide a basis either for justifying significant economic inequality or for objecting to it.

Additional Books in Preparation:

Roger Crisp, *Morality and Self-interest in British Moral Philosophy (from Hobbes to Bentham)*, supported by British Academy Fellowship

Brian Earp and Julian Savulescu, *Brave New Love: Science, Ethics and the Future of Relationships*, under contract with Stanford University Press

Dave Edmonds (ed), *Ethics and the Contemporary World*, an edited textbook, under contract with Routledge

Kei Hiruta (ed.), *Hannah Arendt on Freedom, Liberation and Revolution*. (Palgrave Macmillan, commissioned)

Rebecca Roache, Will Davies and Julian Savulescu, *Rethinking Biopsychosocial Psychiatry*, under contract with Oxford University Press

Julian Savulescu and Guy Kahane, *Procreative Beneficence*, under contract with Oxford University Press

David Birks and Thomas Douglas, *Treatment for Crime: Philosophical Essays on Neurointerventions in Criminal Justice*, Oxford University Press, accepted and forthcoming in 2018.

Part IV. Awards and Honours



Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Award

Nadira Faber, Andreas Kappes

The *Collective Responsibility* team (Nadira Faber, former hosted researcher Andreas Kappes), were awarded a University level prize for their work on the Museum of the History of Science's exhibition on antibiotic resistance, 'Back from the Dead – Demystifying Antibiotics' exhibition. The exhibition received 50,000

visitors during the period November 2016-May 2017. The project was awarded Oxford's 2017 *Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Award*. This research also informed the dystopian BBC Radio 4 drama "Culture – Dangerous Visions", which was commended at the BBC's 2018 Audio Drama Awards.

Hosted researcher **Andreas Kappes** and collaborator **Claas Kirchhelle** collect the *Vice-Chancellor's Public Engagement with Research Award*

New Generation Thinker, AHRC and BBC Radio 3

Gulzaar Barn



The 2018 AHRC New Generation Thinkers, including Centre Dphil student Gulzaar Barn.

Uehiro Centre doctoral student Gulzaar Barn (supervisors Julian Savulescu and Thomas Douglas) was awarded a national prize run by the BBC and the Arts and Humanities Research Council, aimed at bringing the best young thinkers to a national audience.

The New Generation Thinkers were selected from hundreds of applications from academics at the start of their careers. The final ten were chosen for their ability to demonstrate a passion to communicate their scholarship to a wider audience. After a four-month selection process, involving a series of day-long workshops at the BBC in Salford and London, the final ten were chosen by a panel consisting of AHRC and BBC Radio 3 and BBC Arts producers. They will spend a year being mentored by producers from Radio 3's Free Thinking programme, and their research will be made

into radio and television programmes for BBC Radio 3, BBC Four, and other outlets.

They will be introduced publicly at a free event as part of BBC Radio 3's Free Thinking Festival at Sage Gateshead, with further programmes to be aired on BBC 3 throughout 2018.

"I am delighted to have been chosen as one of the New Generation Thinkers. I look forward to being able to explore the issues behind recent headlines concerning the buying and selling of bodily labour. Intuitively, many of us seem to have an aversion to undertaking this kind of labour, and feel particular concern for those that do. I'm interested in exploring what might be motivating this concern, and how this might make the body out of bounds."

Gulzaar Barn

"This is an outstanding achievement. Gulzaar's work is of great importance to national and international debate. Bodily labour such as donating gametes, surrogacy, clinical research trial participation, and even live organ donation are growing markets worldwide. Gulzaar's work has enormous implications for how we think about whether or how these should be legalised and regulated in a globalised market for these services."

Julian Savulescu

Nine Dots Prize

James Williams



James Williams receives the Nine Dots Prize

Centre hosted DPhil student, James Williams, was the inaugural winner of the US\$100,000 Nine Dots Prize.

James' entry *Stand Out of Our Light: Freedom and Persuasion in the Attention Economy* argued that digital technologies are making all forms of politics worth having impossible as they privilege our impulses over our intentions and are 'designed to exploit our psychological vulnerabilities in order to direct us toward goals that may or may not align with our own'.

James's DPhil focussed on the philosophy and ethics of attention and persuasion as they relate to technology design. In particular, he is interested in advancing user freedom.

James is a co-founder of the *Time Well Spent* campaign, a project that aims to steer technology design towards greater respect for users' attention, goals and values.

Who's Who

Julian Savulescu

Julian Savulescu was awarded the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award, from the publication *Who's Who*.

Wellcome Trust Fellowship

Fellow: Katrien Devolder.

Supervisor: Julian Savulescu.

Dr Katrien Devolder was awarded a 3 year fellowship by the Wellcome Trust for her project "The Ethics of Gene Editing in Livestock".

Documentary Pitching Competition

Katrien Devolder

Hosted Marie Curie Research Fellow Katrien Devolder was one of five winners of a documentary pitching competition organised by Oxford Digital Media, and has been invited to a workshop to help pitch the documentary to major broadcasters in the UK.

Her Marie Curie project was also selected by the European Commission to feature as a success story to be featured on the international scheme's promotional material.

Awards

Thomas Douglas

Dr Tom Douglas is a collaborator on a major Novo Nordisk Foundation Project Grant, *Convergent Ethics And The Ethics Of Controversy* (£1,192,200)

Part V. Research Themes

Medical Ethics

The Future of Bioethics

Julian Savulescu, Mackenzie Graham, Adam Shriver

Hosted researcher: Alberto Giubilini



Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities

Medical ethics made enormous progress over the past century: for example, key concepts such as informed and autonomous consent are now fully embedded into healthcare systems worldwide. But these concepts are being radically challenged by new developments in science and medicine. Increasingly, medical devices are able to interact directly with the brain, including to have influence over disorders of desire such as anorexia and addiction. How should we assess whether informed consent can be given, and continue to be given, in such cases?

The genetic revolution makes similar challenges to our understanding of who we are, who our family are, and how we classify disease. The UK has already

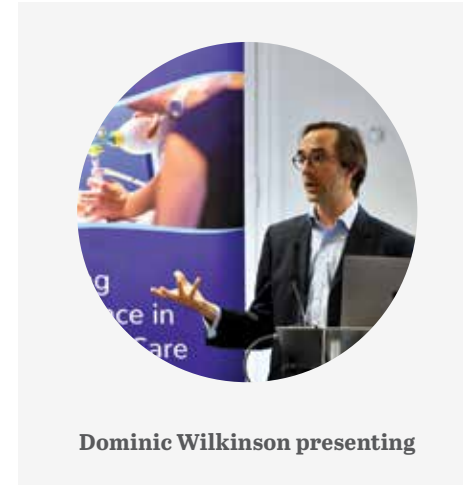
allowed mitochondrial transfer: so-called 3 parent IVF. Gene editing is gathering pace. We need to establish not only what we should do, but also how we understand ourselves in the light of these technologies.

The new Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities addresses these questions with colleagues in Psychiatry, History and Public Health.

Neonatal Ethics

Julian Savulescu, Dominic Wilkinson

Resource allocation lies at the heart of many of the most difficult cases in medical ethics, though it is often presented as a decision of 'futility'. But if futility is not a statement that the treatment is *certain* not to work, but simply that the *likelihood* of the treatment being a success is too low for the cost to be justifiable, it is simply a form of resource allocation. Head of Medical Ethics' Dominic Wilkinson's research has focussed on resource allocation in neonatal intensive care. Traditional methods of assigning an objective figure to assess what may be a cost effective treatment take the form of Quality Adjusted Life Years, an agreed dollar amount for each additional life is provided by a treatment adjusted for what quality of life may be expected, operate unexpectedly in neonatal medicine. Because the patients are at the very start of life, there is enormous benefit in terms



Dominic Wilkinson presenting

of years which can mean that even very high cost treatments, or very low expected quality of life or very low probabilities of success can produce an apparently cost-effective treatment. Wilkinson's work, informed by his career as a practising neonatal intensivist, explores a range of resource allocation dilemmas, and this year has included researching public attitudes towards such dilemmas, and investigated the ethics of using resources for treatments which were considered sub-optimal by the treating clinicians but preferred by families. In the case of Charlie Gard, these such resource issues were largely avoided through private fundraising. Wilkinson's work with Savulescu sought to find a way forward in high conflict

situations. This research will also feed into the Centre's new MST programme, with a dedicated module on ethical issues at the beginning and end of life.

Neuroethics

Thomas Douglas, Guy Kahane, Hannah Maslen, Ilina Singh

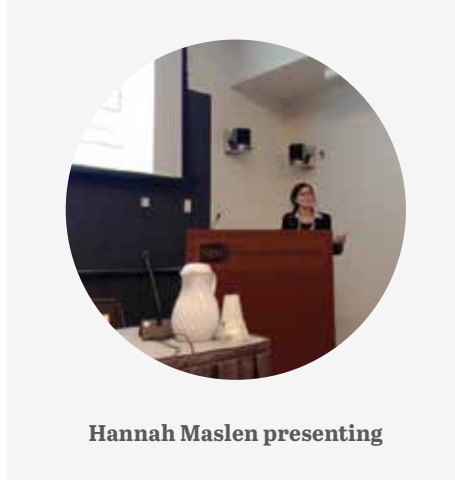
Hosted Researchers: Lisa Forsberg, Neil Levy, Jonathan Pugh, Stephen Rainey

Deep brain stimulation is currently being trialled with initial success for treatments for conditions as diverse as anorexia and chronic pain. Meanwhile, a team of international researchers are working on developing neuroprosthetics (devices that interact directly with the brain) to restore speech. These technologies also have the potential to be used for enhancement, and to influence other forms of behaviour. Neuroethics has been a major strength of the Centre, which was a founding member of the International Neuroethics Society (with Deputy Director Hannah Maslen currently representing the Centre in its executive), and also the first centre in Europe to focus on neuroethics.

The Centre has developed close collaborative relationships with neuroscientists in basic and clinical research, addressing the novel ethical

issues that arise. In one paper Maslen, Pugh and Savulescu worked with a team of neurologists including Professor Tipu Aziz, one of the world's leading pioneers of this kind of intervention. The paper addresses some of the additional risks posed by deep brain stimulation, and puts forward an augmented consent procedure as a practical solution to this problem. The Centre is currently hosting an international European Commission award, *BrainCom*, led by Maslen, as well as Pugh's Fellowship on the ethics of deep brain stimulation, and Douglas' project on neuroenhancements and neurointerventions.

One current use of our increasing knowledge of the brain is risk assessment in criminal justice settings and forensic psychiatry. These tools are already used in criminal justice, including sentencing and parole. Yet they are not yet reliable or accurate in their predictions, and are particularly underperforming in minority groups and amongst extremist populations. A key paper this year addresses some of the reasons for this (including some failures in the academic structure such as publication bias). There are also key ethical decisions behind such tools: should the tools err in favour of protecting the public from those at potential risk of reoffending, or should they err in favour of the rights of prisoners, especially when the accuracy is factored in. There are also questions of discrimination. Including factors such as age, gender, ethnicity and so on may increase predictive accuracy at a population level, but it relies on discrimination and will inevitably



Hannah Maslen presenting

unfairly impact on individuals. The paper was co-authored by Savulescu, Singh, Douglas and Pugh along with Fazel, a practicing psychiatrist, and was selected by the *British Journal of Psychiatry* for discussion in its 'Kaleidoscope' column.

Hosted researcher Stephen Rainey engaged with neuroscientists and industry representatives speaking at an *International Neuroethics Society* event, and with a large public audience at the *Philosophy Now Festival*. *BrainCom*, the EC project led by Hannah Maslen and employing Stephen Rainey was also featured in *The Economist*.

Underpinning all of these projects is a basic question about human psychology, and its drivers. We are a complex blend of biological, social, and psychological influences. The Centre has an ongoing research theme on *Mind Value and Mental Health*. Dr Doug McConnell was appointed this year, and for the initial phase of his

work has been working on biopsychosocial understandings of human psychology and its impact on our understanding and treatment of psychological disorders. He will also lead the relevant portion of the MSt programme. Dr Hannah Maslen also appointed Dr Stephen Rainey to her *BrainCom* programme, and Dr Thomas Douglas and Julian Savulescu appointed Hazem Zohny to this theme. Lisa Forsberg joined the Centre on a British Academy Fellowship on neurointerventions, mentored by Dr Thomas Douglas.

Clinical Ethics

Jonathan Pugh, Julian Savulescu, Dominic Wilkinson

The so-called placebo effect, where patients report improvement simply from the belief they have been treated, is well-known in drug trials, where researchers commonly assign a proportion of participants to a placebo to ensure that the drug tested is having an effect over and above the psychological effect of the patient's beliefs. However, although the same effect is known to apply to surgery, and may indeed be even more significant, trials of surgery using placebo are more controversial. Nevertheless, untested or poorly tested surgeries may mean that every patient is effectively receiving a placebo: that the only benefit they receive from such surgeries is psychological.

Julian Savulescu led the ethics component of a major clinical paper, published in *The Lancet*, 'A Placebo Controlled Randomised Surgical Trial Assessing the Effectiveness Of

Arthroscopic Sub-acromial Decompression For Shoulder Pain (CSAW)'. Working with leading clinical researchers, Professors Andrew Carr, Irene Tracey, Jonathan Rees and others, Savulescu assisted with the development of a method for placebo controlled trials of surgery. This was the culmination of work on the ethics of such trials, with a 2014 *British Medical Journal* systematic review of benefits and harms, and a paper dedicated to the ethics of such trials published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* in 2016.

Incidental findings are findings that a doctor comes to know about through testing for another complaint. This is particularly common in neuroimaging, where incidental findings are common. Whilst this may be important news for affected patients, some may not wish to be informed of diseases, for example, if the disease is untreatable (such as early signs of Alzheimers Disease). Patients have not consented to be tested for these conditions and there is no way to gain consent without informing them in the process. Savulescu developed a research collaboration with neuroscientist Professor Martin Turner, developing a workshop on incidental findings. He was an applicant on a Medical Research Council workshop on the topic which will take place in December, with Jonathan Pugh representing the Centre.

Animal Ethics

Katrien Devolder, Jim Everett, Nadira Faber

Vegetarianism, veganism and farming practices have become major questions in the public consciousness over the past few years. But meanwhile, animal husbandry has been as affected by the developments in science and technology as medicine has. Cloning is widely used in animal husbandry, and gene editing and as it becomes cheaper and more readily available is likely to become more so. This raises deep ethical questions. Would meat reared by an animal genetically engineered to be unable to experience pain, or not to be conscious be more ethical than meat reared traditionally? What is the relative importance of welfare, respect, and avoidance of commodification? Would application of gene editing techniques to improve human and animal welfare entail complicity in maintaining unethical agricultural practices and if so, how could this complicity be reduced or offset? Gene editing also offers the possibility of ameliorating major international issues such as antibiotic resistance and global warming. This project asks how far ethical concerns raised in relation to conventional genetic engineering using previous techniques carry over to gene editing of livestock, and whether the arguments in favour of such techniques are a simple cost-benefit analysis, an obligation to 'arm ourselves for the future', or an obligation to correct past complicity in unethical agricultural practices.

The Centre has also developed initial research into the moral psychology of 'speciesism'. First coined by Peter Singer, 'speciesism' is the foundation of many of our practices towards animals that allow us to accept and perpetuate significantly different treatment of animals than we would of humans, such as factory farming. Peter Singer and others have questioned the validity of this psychological bias, and initial research has investigated correlations between the strength of speciesism in individuals and other psychological traits.

Moral Psychology

Jim Everett, Guy Kahane, Nadira Faber

The Centre has pioneered research into moral psychology, building a team of psychology researchers within the Centre (Social Behaviour and Ethics Laboratory) working closely with philosophers to develop empirical research that is founded on philosophical accuracy, and to in turn provide a deeper understanding of human psychology for ethical research to build on. The primary focus of their work has been on collective responsibility, but they have also produced work on animal ethics, and on the psychology behind utilitarianism (see p.10), which has been hailed as a breakthrough in moral psychology. The team were awarded a prize for their public engagement work on collective responsibility (see p.17).



Responsibility

Rebecca Brown, Thomas Douglas, Nadira Faber, Hannah Maslen, Doug McConnell

Hosted Researchers: Alberto Giubilini, Neil Levy, Seumas Miller, Carissa Veliz, Michael Robillard

The UK recently extended its suite of so-called 'sin taxes', taxes explicitly introduced to discourage or limit unhealthy behaviours such as smoking and drinking alcohol, to introduce a sugar tax on sugar-sweetened drinks. The community has an interest in individual health due to the provision of public health resources, but there are also a range of ways in which individual behaviours affect others. Refusing vaccination reduces herd immunity, and compromises the health of vulnerable populations such as the elderly or immune compromised or babies too young to be vaccinated. Recent research has also shown that changes in behaviour such as travel and

housing density have increased the spread of dengue and other diseases. Finally, as the world faces a heightened terrorist alert, we are increasingly asked to give up personal freedoms to help counteract the threat. This theme of the Centre's research asks how we balance individual and collective rights and duties. If we can tax behaviours to improve individual health, can we do the same to encourage behaviours that promote community health? What level of risk permits infringements on personal liberty?

In addition to a range of academic papers in clinical and bioethics journals, the Centre's researchers have engaged widely with the public on these topics, including a major *New York Times* opinion piece, and an exhibition at Oxford's Museum of the History of Science. We are currently developing a series of podcasts and other resources ahead of launching a schools programme on the topic.

Part VI. Policy

The Centre has taken a leading role in international policy on neuroethics, led by Deputy Director Hannah Maslen.

Medicines & Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (UK) and New and Emerging Technology Working Group (European Commission)

Hannah Maslen

Building on the policy paper *Mind Machines: The regulation of Cognitive Enhancement Devices*, jointly authored by Hannah Maslen, Thomas Douglas, Neil Levy, Julian Savulescu and with psychology collaborator Roi Cohen Kadosh, Maslen has formed a working group with key members of international regulatory bodies, advising on new European regulations for consumer brain stimulation devices.

Human Brain Project



The Human Brain Project is a EUR 1 billion, cutting-edge, ICT-based scientific Research Infrastructure for brain research, cognitive neuroscience and brain-inspired computing funded by the European Union. Hannah Maslen has continued as the Centre's representative on the Ethics Advisory Board, which has responsibility for one of the 6 overarching project objectives,

ensuring that the HBP's work is undertaken responsibly and that it benefits society.

National Institutes of Health, USA

Maslen presented her work on neuroprosthetic devices for speech restoration to the National Institutes of Health, USA, discussing how devices that interact directly with the brain affect existing ethical standards and beliefs such as informed consent.



European Parliament

Deputy Director Hannah Maslen represented the Centre's Collective Responsibility group with two keynote presentations at the European Parliament in Brussels, 'Ethics of AMR Policy: Antibiotics in Farming' and 'Scientific, Human Health, Husbandry, and Socio-Economic Aspects Of Antibacterial Resistance: Time To Act'. We are currently organizing a major policy event to continue the discussion around antibiotics with an international group of policymakers, to be held in Oxford in June 2018.



Deputy Director Hannah Maslen presents at the European Parliament

The Centre's researchers also consulted on a range of issues:

Ministry of Justice, UK

Senior Research Fellow Thomas Douglas and hosted Research Fellow Jonathan Pugh presented on the ethics of neurointerventions, such as chemical castration to the UK Ministry of Justice.

National Health and Medical Research Council, Australia

Julian Savulescu submitted written evidence to the NHMRC on gene editing and other technologies, many of which are currently prohibited as potential research techniques by Australian law.

Hellenic National Bioethics Commission, Greece

Senior Research Fellow Thomas Douglas and Centre DPhil student Areti Thefilopoulou presented on an enhancement to the Hellenic National Bioethics Commission in Athens.

Vatican Commission on the Value of Life

Head of Medical Ethics, Dominic Wilkinson, joined the *Vatican-Lancet-Mario Negri Commission on the Value of Life 2018* as a commissioner representing the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics.

Business Ethics

Hosted researcher Katrien Devolder served as ethical advisor at INSEAD Business School, Fontainebleau, a graduate business school with over 10,000 executives enrolled as students, as part of the Society for Progress' ambition to encourage big businesses to focus on progress as well as performance.

Practice and Policy in Bioethics

Thomas Douglas represented the *Journal of Medical Ethics* editorial team on a statement with the Institute of Medical Ethics, 'Guidelines for confirmation of appointment, promotion and recognition of bioethics researchers', published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics*.



Dominic Wilkinson at the Vatican Commission on the Value of Life

Medical Ethics

Director Julian Savulescu and Head of Medical Ethics Dominic Wilkinson are in communication with a House of Lords political aide for a Liberal Democrat peer considering law reform in light of the Charlie Gard case, and have also engaged with members of the judiciary on the issues involved. Dominic Wilkinson also spoke at a medical mediation seminar in

London (attended by the Health Services Ombudsman, the Medical Director Great Ormond Street and representatives of their legal team as well as a number of clinicians), putting forward the proposals that he and Julian Savulescu developed over the course of their discussions for a way forward when there are deep ethical disagreements.

Part VII. Major Annual Events and Activities

Uehiro Lectures

Professor Larry Temkin's series "*Obligations to the Needy*" explored the philosophy behind the increasingly influential 'Effective Altruism' movement.

Oxford is often considered to be the philosophical home of the philosophy behind effective altruism, and former Uehiro Centre students Toby Ord and Michelle Hutchinson have been instrumental in the Effective Altruism movement. The movement is founded on the belief that not only do we have a duty to do as much as we can to help others, but we also have a duty to do so in the most cost-effective way that we can. The movement is based on broadly utilitarian principles. Larry Temkin's lectures, whilst emphasising his support for the movement, considered a range of factors about the types of obligations that arise, and the interactions between individual and collective actions to argue that one should do in light of that truth is much more complex, and murky, than most people have realised. As expected, this led to large and lively audiences.

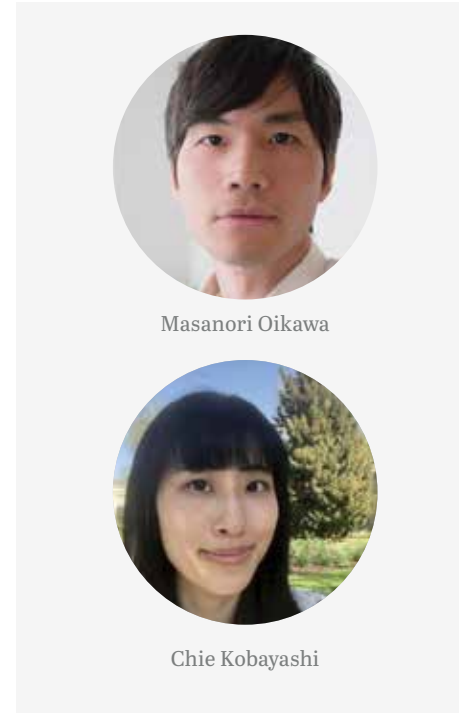
Richard Holton will give the 2018 Uehiro Lectures, with the series title "Illness and the Social Self". It will explore how our understanding of who we are, which is inextricably linked with the social world in which we live, is affected by three mental health problems: dementia, addiction, and psychosomatic illness. The lectures will explore the ways in which others can promote wellbeing, such as by providing a collective memory resource for those with dementia, or can inhibit it, such as by creating an environment that makes it harder for those with addictions. He will also explore some of the stigma around certain types of mental illness and how these are built or diminished by our philosophical understanding of the disease. These lectures will bring together many of the Centre's major current research themes around individual and collective responsibility, neuroethics and mental health.

Oxford-Uehiro- St Cross Scholarship

The Oxford Uehiro St Cross scholarship hosted its 6th annual intake of scholars, Masanori Oikawa (The University of Tokyo) and Chie Kobayashi (Hokkaido University).

Scholar Masanori Oikawa is working on public involvement in biobank research and Chie Kobayashi is working on the responsibility of researchers in situation where dual use issues arise (research that could be used for harmful purposes as well as beneficial ones).

Both of these research projects are well suited to the Centre. *The British Medical Journal*, the parent journal of the *Journal of Medical Ethics* (editorial team includes centre members Savulescu, Wilkinson, Douglas, and hosted researcher Pugh) recently announced it will move to a policy where all clinical research will be required to show that patients, carers or the public were involved in the research design as co-producers. Yet, as Masanori Oikawa



Masanori Oikawa

Chie Kobayashi

points out, there is currently little research on such involvement, what it might mean and how it can most effectively be used in this context. For dual use, Thomas Douglas' DPhil thesis explored this issue, and he completed a parliamentary POST Fellowship on the topic, spending time at the Houses of Parliament preparing a policy briefing on the topic.

Uehiro Exchange



We were delighted that the Uehiro – Kyoto- Oxford Exchange Programme continued for the 4th year. Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics researchers Joshua Shepherd and Carissa Veliz travelled to Kyoto and Tokyo to meet with the students at Kyoto University.

The week of teaching covered a broad range of teaching methods, from lectures, to seminars, to tutorials, and took a broad approach to the syllabus, including advice on professional and career matters as well as on a range of topics and methods in practical ethics.

"Over the week, we saw the students grow in confidence regarding both their philosophy and their English. Spending time with the students outside of the seminar was very rewarding as well, and allowed additional time for discussing issues such as the topics of the seminar, advice about building a career and publishing papers, and so on."

Joshua Shepherd



Uehiro Prize Finalists

Uehiro Prize In Practical Ethics

The 4th Annual Uehiro Prize in Practical Ethics was the most competitive yet, with the highest number of entrants to date. Open to all graduate and undergraduate students across the University. The prize aims to encourage students to think about ethics in the light of their own specialisms or interests, and to experience presenting to an audience of 'critical friends'.

Five students presented, with topics ranging from animal ethics, to theories of injustice. The essays were marked for originality and importance as well as quality of argument. The papers were posted on the blog, leading to a lively debate, and authors were invited to submit a revised version of their essay following comments from the assessors for consideration for a special section of the *Journal of Practical Ethics*.



Graduate winner Miles Unterreiner



Undergraduate Winner Jonathan Latimer

Undergraduate Category:

Winner:
Jonathan Latimer,
'Why we Should Genetically 'Disenhance' Animals Used in Factory Farms'

Runner Up:
Brian Wong,
'On Relational Injustice: Could Colonialism Have Been Wrong Even if it Had Introduced More Benefits Than Harms?'

Graduate Category:

Winner:
Miles Unterreiner,
'The Paradox of the Benefiting Samaritan'

Runner Up:
James Kirkpatrick ,
'When is Sex With Conjoined Twins Permissible?'

Honorable Mention:
Tena Thau,
'Should Cryonics be Compulsory?'

Part VIII. Engagement

This year:

Over
449,000
sessions on the
blog this year

To date:

Over
2.1 million
readers of
the blog

Over
575,000
engaged with the Centre's
public engagement
programme

Over
40,600
views of our
YouTube channel

On YouTube:

**9 videos this year 31,000 views
this year, 40,600 views to date**

4600
streamed audio of our
lectures this year

12.1% increase
in Journal of Practical Ethics
readership this year

JME Editorship

JME is in the **top 5 of all
BMJ journals** for page
views, and Altmetric score,
with an h-index of 31
and h5 median of 42

**Top ranked journal in medical
ethics** by Eigenfactor

Journal of Practical Ethics

Editor in Chief:
Thomas Douglas

Senior Advisory Editors:
Roger Crisp, Julian Savulescu

Associate Editors: Katrien Devolder,
Kei Hiruta, Guy Kahane, Hannah Maslen,
Jonathan Pugh, Dominic Wilkinson

The *Journal* has continued to attract leading international authors to publish, including Uehiro Lecturer Professor Masaki Ichinose, whose article, 'The Death Penalty Debate: Four Problems and New Philosophical Perspectives', was published in the first issue of volume 5 (June 2017). Other contributors this year include Professor Heather Widdows (Birmingham), Professor Stephen Gardiner (University of Washington), and Professor John McMillan (Otago University).

The *Journal's* readership continued to grow, with an increase of 12.1% on the same period last year.

Senior Research scholar Dr Thomas Douglas has now taken on the *Journal* as Editor-in-Chief, with a remit to develop the *Journal* from its current invitation model towards an open submission model.

Practical Ethics YouTube Channel and Podcast iTunes Albums

YouTube Producer: Katrien Devolder
Podcasts: Dave Edmonds

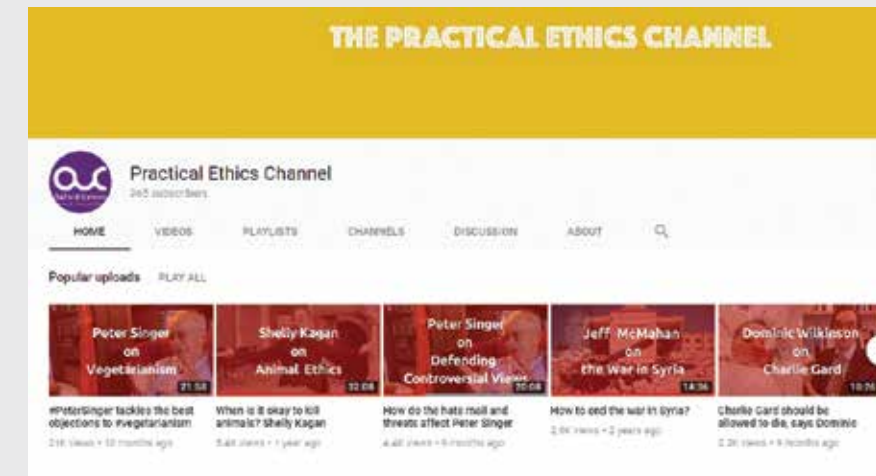
Our YouTube channel, *Practical Ethics*, has gone from strength to strength with increased viewership of 876%, with over 31,000 views on the 9 new videos posted this year. Peter Singer, Larry Temkin, and John Harris all featured in videos, as well as Centre staff Julian Savulescu, Dominic Wilkinson, Rebecca Brown and others.

We continued to offer all lectures for podcast publication via our iTunesU albums, with over 4600 downloaded and streamed this year.

Blog, Aeon, Conversation All Staff

The centre's own *Practical Ethics in the News* blog continues to attract a large audience, with almost half a million sessions this year, and 370,000 individual readers. It has now received over 2.1 million individual readers.

Our partnerships with media organisations *Aeon* and *The Conversation* continued to enhance our ability to reach a wide public audience. The readership of our *Aeon* articles more than doubled over the previous year, reaching 170,000 readers.



The Centre's YouTube channel, The Practical Ethics Channel

Honouring Derek Parfit and the Parfit Library

The Centre will honour the foundational work of Professor Derek Parfit, one of the founding fathers of modern bioethics, through a mini documentary explaining his research and influence on the field for a public audience.

We are delighted that Professor Janet Radcliffe Richards has made a generous donation to the Uehiro Centre of the Parfit Library, a collection of Professor Parfit's books, including his markings. This collection is of great international and historical importance and adds to the University's existing Locke and Mill Libraries. We would like to express our gratitude to Professor Radcliffe Richards



Derek Parfit 1942 - 2017

for entrusting the Centre with this important archive. We plan to open this incredible resource as widely as possible, whilst preserving its integrity for posterity. Roger Crisp is the Parfit Librarian.

“Derek was my supervisor and mentor when I first came to Oxford as a postdoctoral scholar. He has been an inspiration and a friend. My vision of the Centre has always been to provide a rich intellectual environment for young scholars to ‘pay forward’ the opportunities I have had throughout my career through individuals such as Derek.”

Julian Savulescu

Part IX. Teaching

Masters in Practical Ethics

Julian Savulescu, Guy Kahane

The Centre's Masters in Practical Ethics opened applications to its first cohort of students this year, revealing strong international demand.

55 applications were received for a maximum of 15 places, in addition to the first applications to audit the courses without enrolling on the full assessed Masters course.

There was a greater than projected demand for the course, and the admissions process was extremely competitive as a result. We were delighted that one member of the course was selected by the University as its applicant to the Wellcome Trust for Masters funding. The University is only permitted to put forward one application to this scheme, so selection as the institutional applicant is a marker of the quality of the candidates we have been able to attract.

Members from across the Centre will contribute to the teaching, which will take the form of week-long intensives and tutorials on work in progress.

BMedSc Elective Programme

Students: Claudia Brick, Emily Feng-Gu, Lydia di Stefano, Eric Xie, Lauren Yip

Supervisors: Rebecca Brown, Roger Crisp, Guy Kahane, Hannah Maslen, Julian Savulescu,

This year we celebrate 10 years of the BMedSc elective scheme, bringing medical students to Oxford from Monash University, Australia, to prepare a thesis in medical ethics under the supervision of the Centre's staff.

In recognition of the importance of the scheme for clinical training in Australia, a scholarship has been created in Australia to support students with the living and other costs of spending 6 months in Oxford.

The course continues to be heavily oversubscribed, with a two-stage selection process culminating in an interview to select the top candidates. It is run in conjunction with the Monash Bioethics Centre.

Previous cohorts' student successes this year include peer-reviewed publications in *BMC Medical Ethics*, *AJOB Empirical Bioethics*, *Public Health Ethics*, *Developing*

World Bioethics and the *Journal of Medical Ethics*, as well as gaining experience in public engagement through a piece in *Aeon*. These were all based on their work during their time in Oxford, and are outstanding achievements for undergraduate students.

BMedsc alumnus Daniel D'Hotman also established *Effective Altruism Australia* last year, raising \$400,000 in five months.

“The opportunity to spend a year studying bioethics at the Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics at the University of Oxford was a lifechanging experience. I was able to gain unique research skills and immerse myself in a fascinating field I had previously known very little about. My background in bioethics has influenced the way I now practice as a clinician in the field of Paediatrics”

Trung Nguyen, BMedSci (Hons) alumni

Schools

Uehiro Centre Staff: Rebecca Brown, Roger Crisp, Dave Edmonds, Doug McConnell, Julian Savulescu

Hosted Researcher: Jonathan Pugh

The Centre's researchers engaged with an international schools audience. A team of researchers from the Centre travelled to a rural state school, Fitzharry's of Abingdon, to lead a series of interactive



Brown, Pugh and McConnell present at local schools

classes on ethical issues of human genetics to a range of secondary school aged children. In September, Professor Roger Crisp spoke on moral luck to several hundred students at Dr Challoner's School, Amersham, a selective state boys school, and on philosophy and ethics to 100 students from China visiting via the Oxford Prospects Programme. Julian Savulescu continued his association with Medipeace in Seoul, South Korea, teaching a summer school for children aged 11 – 18.

Work progressed on our project to produce a volume to support the A-Level curriculum in Ethics, led by the Centre's Dave Edmonds as the first contributions were received and edited. The book is under contract with Routledge, one of the UK's premier educational publishers.

In the forthcoming year, we plan to consolidate the activities and training undertaken to lead our own schools events.

Police

Uehiro Centre Staff: Hannah Maslen

Deputy Director Hannah Maslen continued to develop our programme of engaging with law enforcement, teaching ethics and leadership for senior police officers on their National Strategic Command Course.



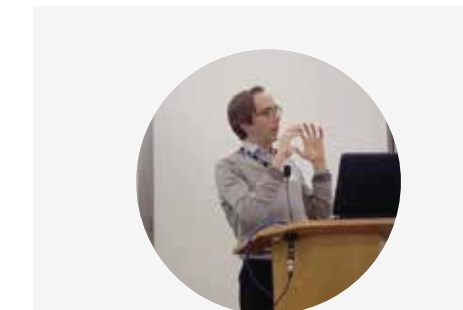
Hannah Maslen with senior police officers

She continued to provide voluntary ethics consultancy and to act as lay member of the Complaints, Ethics and Integrity Panel for the Thames Valley Police force, and is building a collaboration with senior police force members with a view to collaborative research addressing some of the ethical issues arising within active police duty.

Clinicians

Uehiro Centre Staff: Rebecca Brown, Julian Savulescu, Dominic Wilkinson

Head of Medical Ethics Dominic Wilkinson led a programme of clinician ethics outreach, leading sessions at a range of medical conferences, including the Association of Paediatric Palliative Care, the British Association of Perinatal medicine, the Edinburgh Neurological Society and Medicins Sans Frontiers Switzerland. Rebecca Brown also spoke at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 'The Real Cost of IVF', organised by the Progress Educational Trust.



Dominic Wilkinson presents to clinicians

Julian Savulescu and Dominic Wilkinson also engaged widely with international clinical audiences over the case of Charlie Gard.

Dominic Wilkinson provided ethics consultancy for a private IVF provider, to enable a decision to be made over whether IVF should go ahead.

Undergraduate and Graduate Teaching

The Centre continued to teach across all levels at the University, contributing to the undergraduate *Practical Ethics* course established by Distinguished Research Fellow Jeff McMahan, and running a BPhil module in Practical Ethics.

The BPhil is the Faculty of Philosophy's flagship programme in Philosophy. Hannah Maslen, Julian Savulescu, and others from the Centre also teach Masters in Public Policy students from the Blavatnik School of Government. The Centre also runs an Applied Ethics Graduate Discussion Group, which is open to graduate students from across the whole University whose thesis has an applied ethics dimension.

Part X. Service

The Centre works to promote and support excellent scholarship in Practical Ethics internationally through a range of service activities, which include:

University

Director of Graduate Studies, Faculty of Philosophy (Roger Crisp)

Steering Committee, Fiction and Human Rights Network, The Oxford Research Centre in the Humanities (TORCH), Steering Committee (Kei Hiruta)

Journals

Vice- President, Mind Association (Roger Crisp)

Founding Associate Editor, Arendt Studies (Philosophy Documentation Center) (Kei Hiruta)

Editorship, Journal of Medical Ethics (Julian Savulescu, Tom Douglas, Dominic Wilkinson)

Co-editor, Bioethics Column, Journal of Law and Medicine (Hannah Maslen, Julian Savulescu)

Funding Bodies

Membership of Wellcome Trust Society and Ethics Funding Committees and Panels (Julian Savulescu, Thomas Douglas, Iliina Singh)

Special Interest Groups and Working Groups

Membership of Research Committee, Institute for Medical Ethics (Thomas Douglas)

Board Member, Global Applied Ethics Institute, 2016- (Julian Savulescu)

Coordinator, 'Arendt and her Contemporaries' Working Group (Kei Hiruta)

Analysis Committee, Analysis Trust (Guy Kahane)

Member, Executive Board, International Neuroethics Society (Iliina Singh)

Member, International Neuroethics Society Programme Committee (Hannah Maslen)

Member, NHS 10 Year Strategy for Mental Health Working Group (Iliina Singh)

Supporting Research Programmes

Chair, Independent Ethics Advisory Board, EU IMI Autism (Iliina Singh)

Member, Scientific Advisory Board, IMAGEMEND (Imaging Genetics for Mental Disorders) (Iliina Singh)

Internal Ethical Advisory Board, European Research Infrastructures for Poverty Related Diseases (EURIPRED), 2014-

Expert, National Autism Project; Shirley Foundation. Chair: Ian Ragan (Iliina Singh)

Member, Independent Scientific Committee on Drugs (ISCD). Chair: David Nutt (Iliina Singh)

Advisory Board Member, Scattergood Foundation Program in Behavioural Health Ethics (Iliina Singh)

Culture

Philosophy Consultant, BBC Drama 'Ferry hill' (David Edmonds)

Police

Voluntary ethics consultancy and lay member of Complaints, Ethics and Integrity Panel (Hannah Maslen)

Healthcare

General Ethics Sub Committee, Alfred Hospital, Melbourne (Julian Savulescu)

Part XI. Diffusion

Our International Presentations This Year

(Uehiro- funded Staff)

UK

1. London, Hull, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Cardiff, Swansea, Oxford , UK

Europe

2. Amsterdam, Utrecht, Haarlem Holland
3. Granada, Spain
4. Geneva, Switzerland; Salzburg, Austria
5. Rijeka, Croatia; Lake Bled, Slovenia
6. Trondheim, Norway
7. Stockholm, Gothenburg, Sweden
8. Paris

9. Copenhagen, Roskilde, Denmark
10. Brussels, Belgium
11. Dublin, Ireland
12. Tallinn, Estonia
13. Bucharest, Romania
14. Rome, Milan, Italy
15. Athens, Greece

Middle East

16. Jerusalem, Israel
17. Tokyo, Japan
18. Seoul, South Korea

Asia

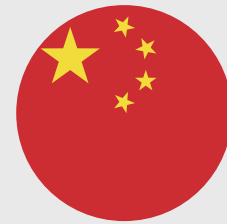
19. Melbourne, Australia
20. Sydney, Australia
21. Brisbane, Australia
22. Adelaide, Australia
23. Bathurst, Australia

US, Canada and South America

24. Knoxville, Tennessee, USA
25. Bethesda, MD, United States,
26. Chicago, USA
27. New York, USA
28. Toronto, London Ontario, Canada
29. Florianopolis, Brazil

Our work has been translated into the following languages to date:

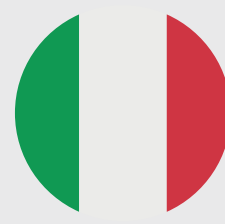
(Uehiro-funded Staff)



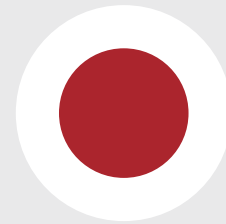
Chinese



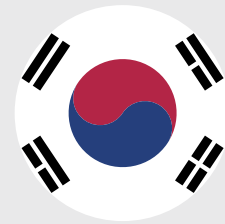
German



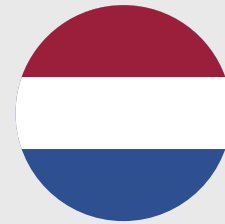
Italian



Japanese



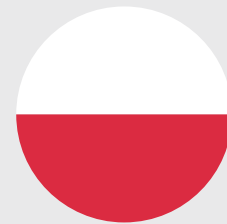
Korean



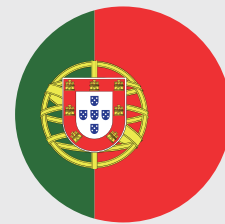
Dutch



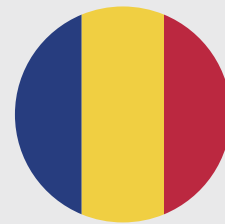
Greek



Polish



Portugese



Romanian



Russian



Serbian



Spanish

Selected media outlets this year:

(Uehiro-funded Staff)



Part XII. Team

Director	Jim Everett (until 31 March 2018)
Julian Savulescu	
Chair of the Management Committee	Jointly Funded Research Staff
Roger Crisp	The following staff receive funding both from core Uehiro Centre funds and from externally funded research programmes held at the Centre.
	Dominic Wilkinson (0.1 FTE Uehiro)
Advisory board	Nadira Faber (0.5 FTE Uehiro)
Emeritus Professor Tony Hope Emeritus Professor Janet Radcliffe Richards	Mackenzie Graham (0.5 FTE Uehiro, since January 2018)
	Doug McConnell (0.5 FTE Uehiro, since October 2017)
Consultants	Adam Shriver (0.5 FTE Uehiro, since February 2018)
Professor Ingmar Persson (11 weeks per year)	Hazem Zohny (0.40 FTE Uehiro, since November 2017)
Dr Dave Edmonds (48 days per year)	
Uehiro-Funded Research Staff	Externally Funded Researchers
Rebecca Brown (Uehiro funded until February 2018, now funded on external research grants)	Katrien Devolder
Thomas Douglas	Lisa Forsberg
Kei Hiruta	Alberto Giubilini
Guy Kahane (0.67 FTE)	Neil Levy
Ilina Singh (0.2 FTE, until 31 March 2018)	Hannah Maslen
	Seumas Miller

Jonathan Pugh
Stephen Rainey
Michael Robilliard
Carissa Veliz
Administrative Staff (2.7 FTE)
Administrative Staff (2.7 FTE)
Rachel Gaminiratne (0.6 FTE)
Deborah Sheehan (0.6 FTE)
Miriam Wood
Rocci Wilkinson (0.5 FTE)

Staff Placement

Professor Ilina Singh has taken up a fulltime professorship position within the psychiatry department, but remains a close collaborator with the Centre, as Co-Director of the Wellcome Centre for Ethics and Humanities. Centre Research Fellow, Jim Everett left to take up a Marie Curie Fellowship at Leiden University, and hosted researcher Andreas Kappes took up a permanent post at City University.

DPhil student Gulzaar Barn has taken up a Lecturership in Philosophy at Birmingham University.



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