Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

SISTERS OF CHARITY HEALTH SERVICE
DARLINGHURST REGION
ST VINCENT'S HEALTHCARE CAMPUS
A community or friendship paradigm helps to explain why there is a presumption in favour of keeping confidences, including medical ones, and also why there are exceptions. Rather than consent given by autonomous strangers or rivals to each one borrowing the knowledge of another, friendship suggests that information sharing is good but that there must be limits as required by the friendships.

From the Management Committee

David Hume's pithy statement that "the errors in religion are dangerous; those in philosophy only ridiculous" can readily be challenged if we permit bioethics to be part of philosophy. And few would doubt that it is provided that we can agree that one of the core competencies of bioethics is to improve the provision of health care and its outcome through the identification, analysis, and resolution of ethical issues as they arise in both social policy and clinical cases. The fact that the American National Human Genome Research Institute has set aside five percent of its annual research budget since 1990 for investigation into the social and ethical implications of mapping the human genome provides tangible evidence that bioethics has achieved the status of cynosure in science and society.

The Mission Statement of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care is based on the conviction that in this country of ours we too will need to bridge the gap between material and social progress in the standards and practices of health care and biomedical science. Through its research, teaching and community service the Centre staff are determined to bring to public attention the need to balance the support for material and social well-being with regard to health and health care in Australia.

It is particularly pleasing to note that the Centre now has three full-time doctoral students devoting their time and effort to examining bioethics, more specifically, what it is, where it has come from, where it seems to be headed, and what its intended and unintended consequences are. In so doing they recognise that despite a common core bioethics has various manifestations and repercussions in different institutional, cultural and societal contexts. For this reason they and their supervisors borrow from a wide range of disciplines such as philosophy, sociology, anthropology, medicine, public health, history and law in an effort to shed light on the age-old dilemma of what is and what ought to be in health and health care.

This annual report attests to the seriousness of the Director of the Centre and her staff in spelling out the assumptions, implications and consequences of competing ethics models in health care. I congratulate all of them for their courage and integrity in pursuit of a virtues-based ethics of health care.

Professor Wolfgang L. Grichting
Chair
Management Committee
April, 2000
The concepts which inform constitutional debate in the United States are, for the most part, the same concepts as those which are relevant to the law in this country. However, we have one basic point of departure from the United States: our law makes no distinction between the value of lives.

Sir Gerard Brennan AC KBE in 'Vote of thanks to James Keenan SJ'

Bioethics Outlook, Vol 10, No 2, June 1999
Contents

Mission Statement 1
Director's Report 3
Management 5
Staffing 7
Publications 9
Teaching 11
Consultancies 13
Submissions 15
Presentations 17
Bioethics Outlook 20
Membership of Committees 21
Financial Report 23
Membership 24
First, a declaration of interest. There are three “plunketeers” amongst the contributors to a newly-published volume entitled *Issues for a Catholic Bioethic*: Gerald Gleeson, Anthony Fisher and Bernadette Tobin. Nevertheless, I wish warmly to recommend *Issues for a Catholic Bioethic* to our readers. In my judgement it represents an outstanding contribution to the clarification of the teachings of the Catholic Church in the context of contemporary western culture, and to the exploration of their implications in the face of new ethical issues arising from developments in clinical practice and biomedical research.

*Bioethics Outlook*, Vol 10, No 4, December 1999
Mission Statement

The Mission of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics in Health Care is to examine the ethical aspects of contemporary practices in health care and bioethics and, by research, teaching and community service, to contribute a Catholic perspective to public discussion about what constitutes good conduct and wise decision-making in health care and biomedical science in Australia.

The aims of the Centre are:

- to promote research in the areas of ethics and theology relevant to health care and medical science,
- to apply the techniques of philosophical and theological analysis to professional discussions of issues in clinical practice and medical research, and
- to enrich the standard of discussion about the ethics of health care by contributing a Catholic perspective to public debates about health care and medical research.

These aims will be achieved by:

- conducting and supervising research,
- conducting post-graduate and clinical education,
- providing a consultation service for, and undertaking consultation with, healthcare professionals, and
- participating, through written and oral presentations, in the public forum on ethical issues.
Pictured from left to right: Dr. Gerry Gleeson, Dr. Bernadette Tobin, Dr. Anthony Fisher & Sr. Mary Byrne
Director's Report

The Plunkett Centre was formally established in 1992, with the signing of the first Memorandum of Understanding between Australian Catholic University and St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney (though historians will note its earlier origins in the activities of Professor Muredach Dynan, Brother Brian Grenier and Mr Christopher Rigby at the Centre for Studies in Bioethics at the Catholic College of Education Sydney!). At the suggestion of Fr Edmund Campion, the Centre was named in honour of John Hubert Plunkett, a great friend and supporter of the first Sisters of Charity in Australia and a great Catholic statesman in the young colony of New South Wales.

Over the last ten years, the activities of the Centre have grown and developed. The first fruits of the Centre were a series of seminars on bioethical issues in Catholic healthcare institutions in Sydney, the establishment of a clinical consultation service at St Vincent's, and the introduction of a new, relatively informal quarterly publication called *Bioethics Outlook*. Over the last ten years, the Centre's activities have both widened (to include teaching of clinical ethics, the (sometimes successful) application for competitive grants for university-based research, the supervision of postgraduate degrees (both course-based and research-based) and productive collaboration with peak organisations in the health care field.

The goals of the Centre are set out elsewhere in this Report. They explain the delicate balance we try to achieve between three sorts of activities: activities appropriate to a University (and, more precisely, to a Catholic university in a secular society), activities appropriate to an ethics centre located on the campus of set of health care institutions (a public teaching hospital, a private hospital, a hospice, a medical clinic, a medical research institute, etc), and activities appropriate to a centre which aims to make a direct contribution to informing and deepening the community's reflection on ethical issues in health care and biomedical research.

On the Darlinghurst Campus of St Vincent's, the Plunkett Centre undertakes clinical education, clinical consultation and contributes to the development of procedures and protocols through the Bioethics Consultative Committee. There were significant achievements in each of these areas in 1999. The clinical education program had two arms: one part of the program is offered to medical students, in particular to those in the fourth year of their study, the other to all health care professionals (doctors, nurses, social workers, administrators, ancillary staff) in key clinical areas. Small group tutorials for the medical students covered such topics as the internal goals of medicine and the proper limits to medical endeavour, the withdrawing or withholding of life-sustaining treatment, decision-making and consent to treatment, organ donation and transplantation and the ethics of conducting research on people who are also one's patients. Quarterly clinical ethics sessions were held in Intensive Care, Accident and Emergency, Palliative Care, Mental Health, Social Work: here, discussion was based on a case presented by a member of staff.
As a University centre of Australian Catholic University, the Plunkett Centre contributes to teaching in the University’s Master of Arts in Applied Ethics (Health Care) and supervises students undertaking postgraduate research. In 1999 the Centre collaborated with the Australasian College of Surgeons in the preparation of a grant application for an Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) under the Australian Research Council’s Strategic Partnerships with Industry program. We were delighted to find that we were successful in this application, a third in four years. As the year closed an experienced surgeon had applied to undertake the three year research project with us.

As for our other activities, they are mostly listed in the following pages. However, an Annual Report is an imperfect instrument for conveying the detail and the texture of our various activities. No mention elsewhere in this Report of the fact that, during 1999, the medical sociologist Dr Robert Irvine (of the University of Newcastle) was a visiting scholar at the Centre, spending the year working on his history of Australian bioethics: Rob was a frequent participant in our seminar program. And almost no mention in the following pages of a project that occupied much of our time and energy in 1999: the drafting of a set of Ethical Standards for Australian Catholic Health and Aged Care Facilities. (The work was commissioned by Catholic Health Australia, is overseen by a Steering Committee which is chaired by Bishop Michael Putney, and most of the actual writing is being done by a Drafting Group from the Centre.) So, I am glad to be able to report that the Plunkett Centre now has its own website (http://www.acu.edu.au/plunkett/) which offers another window onto our activities.

During 1999, we farewelled Dr Brian Dwyer, a member of our Management Committee since its inception in 1993. Brian is the retired Head of the Brian Dwyer Department of Anaesthetics at St Vincent’s Hospital. He was, and still is, admired and loved at the Hospital. In his time with us, he was a wonderful source of direction and encouragement. More than anyone else, he always insisted on the critical importance of our making a contribution to the formation of young doctors. We shall miss him greatly.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the hard work of my fellow ‘plunketeers’: Gerry, Mary, John, Helen, Peter and, in particular, Linda. As our Administrative Officer, Linda is often the public face of the Plunkett Centre. I have lost count of the number of times people have complimented me on Linda’s cheerful readiness to assist people who come to us for help. And she makes delicious muffins too!

Bernadette Tobin
17th March 2000
Management

Management Committee:

From the University:

Professor Wolfgang Grichting, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Chairman

Professor Elizabeth Cameron-Traub, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences

Dr Laurie Woods, Head, School of Theology

From the Hospital:

Dr Denise Robinson, Executive Director, St. Vincent’s Public Hospital

Mr Adrian Verryt, Director of Mission, St. Vincent’s Public Hospital

Dr Brian Dwyer, Retired Head of the Brian Dwyer Anaesthetics Department

From the Centre:

Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director
Pictured from left to right: Linda Purves, Peter Madden, Helen McCabe
Staffing

Director:

Bernadette Tobin MA MEd (Melb) PhD (Cantab)
    Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, School of Theology
    Australian Catholic University

Academic Staff:

Mary Byrne rsc RN BHSN (ACU) BTheol (MCD)
    BA (Hons) (Melb)

Anthony Fisher op BA LLB (Syd) BTheol (MCD)
    DPhil (Oxon)
    Lecturer in Theology and Philosophy, School of
    Theology, Australian Catholic University

Gerald Gleeson STB (CIS) MA (Cantab) PhD (Leuven)
    Senior Lecturer, Catholic Institute of Sydney

Martin Kelly MB BS (Qld) BA (Macq)

John Quilter BA (Syd) MA (Pitt)
    Lecturer in Philosophy, School of Theology,
    Australian Catholic University

Doctoral Students:

Peter Madden BA (UNSW)

Helen McCabe RN BHA (UNSW) MA (ACU)

Administrative Staff:

Linda Purves JP

Full-time

Part-time .6

Honorary

Part-time .3

Honorary

(Until 30 June)

Honorary

Full-time

Full-time

Full-time
Pictured from left to right: John Quilter, Martin Kelly, Mary Byrne, Linda Purves, Gerry Gleeson, seated, Bernadette Tobin
Publications

Fisher, A

“Moral decision-making in difficult dilemmas”, Ethics Education, 5(1) (Feb 1999), 1-9

“Old paradigms and new dilemmas in medical confidentiality”, Bioethics Outlook 10(1) (Mar 1999), 1-12

“The horror of cloning and farming for organ harvests”, Catholic Leader, 28 March 1999, 9

“Early induction of labor: legal and ethical considerations” with (K. Clark, J. Keown and W. Neville), Linacre Quarterly 66(2), (May 1999), 7-25


“Why some people are uneasy about injecting rooms”, Bioethics Outlook, 10(3) (Sept 1999), 11-16


“The Our Father of Catholic health and aged care”, Health Matters, 2(Oct. 1999), 2-3

“Of Art and Blasphemy” with H Ramsay, Ethical Theory & Moral Practice (in print)

“The Sacred and Sublime” with (H Ramsay and M Casey), Law, Text & Culture (in print)

Byrne, M

“Refusal of Life Sustaining Treatment” in Nursing Monograph, St Vincent’s Health Care Campus: Sydney, 1999, 7-10


Gleeson, G


“May the Church Judge Philosophy?”, Compass Theology Review 33(1) (Autumn 1999) 17-20

“The Scope of the Church’s Moral Teaching: a rejoinder to Frank Mobbs”, The Australasian Catholic Record, LXXVI (1999), 93-95
“An Ethical Reflection on Medically Supervised Injecting Rooms”, *Bioethics Outlook*, 10(3), 7-10

“St. Vincent's withdraws from supervised injecting room”, *Bioethics Outlook*, 10(4) 1-6

“Safer Injecting Room”, *Compass Theology Review*, 33(3) (1999), 41-43


“Pinpointing the ‘Crisis of Faith’”, *National Outlook*, 21(6) (August 1999); 11-13

“The Debate over Ad Tuendum Fidelit”, *Fidelity*, (Autumn, 1999), 27-29

“Ethics and the Advances in Genetic Medicine” in *Proceedings*, St Vincent's Clinic, Sydney, 7(1) (1999), 9-13


Kelly, M


Madden, P


Tobin, B


“Can a patient's refusal of life-prolonging treatment be morally upright when it is motivated neither by the belief that the treatment would be clearly futile nor by the belief that the consequences of treatment would be unduly burdensome?” in *Issues for a Catholic Bioethic*, Luke Gormally (ed), Edinburgh: T & T Clark, 1999, 334-340

“Why the return to a virtues-based ethics of health care?”, Ethics Fatigue: the Fracturing of Medical Ethics, *Proceedings of Conference conducted by the Centre for Values, Ethics and the Law in Medicine*, University of Sydney, 1999

“Deliberately cloning human beings: on the significance of even contemplating it!” *Health Matters*, Issue 2, October 1999, 10-11
Teaching

Byrne, M.

Presenter, Clinical Ethics for health care professionals (Accident and Emergency, Intensive Care, Outpatients, Division of Nursing at St. Vincent’s Private), St. Vincent’s Hospital

Presenter, Clinical Ethics for medical students (third and fourth years), St. Vincent’s Hospital

Presenter, Intensive Bioethics Course, Sydney, May

Fisher, A.

Lecturer in Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University

Co-supervisor, PhD. Thesis, Social Justice and Asylumdom in Tasmania

Supervisor, PhD. Thesis, A Lutheran Theology of Parenthood and its Implications for Controversies in Genetics

Co-supervisor, PhD. Thesis, Philosophical Issues in Deinstitutionalisation, Benchmarking and Community Care in Allocation of Mental Health Services, with special reference to Treatment of Schizophrenia


Co-supervisor, PhD. Thesis, After Gaudium et Spes: the engagement of “nouvelle orthodoxie” with the Culture of Modernity

Supervisor, M.Phil. Thesis, The ‘Culture of Death’ idea in ‘Evangelium Vitae’


Supervisor, M.Phil. Thesis, The idea of “Playing God” and the New Genetics

Presenter, Intensive Bioethics Course, Sydney, May

Gleeson, G.P.

Presenter, Intensive Bioethics Course, Sydney, May
McCabe, H.

Presenter, Clinical Ethics for medical students (fourth year), St. Vincent’s Hospital

Quilter J.G.

Lecturer, Graduate Certificate in Applied Ethics (Health Care)

Lecturer, Master of Arts in Applied Ethics (Health Care)

Coordinator, Post-graduate programmes in Applied Ethics

Supervisor, M.Phil thesis, Intellectual expertise and ethical wisdom

Supervisor, M.Phil thesis, Self-determination, law and ethics

Supervisor, Honours thesis, Euthanasia and the Law

Tobin, B.M.

Lecturer, Master of Arts in Applied Ethics (Health Care)

Presenter, Clinical Ethics for medical students (fourth and sixth years) St. Vincent’s Hospital

Presenter and tutor, Intensive Bioethics Course, Sydney, May

Presenter, Clinical Ethics for health care professionals (Social Work, Palliative Care, Mental Health, Division of Nursing in St. Vincent’s Private), St. Vincent’s Hospital

Supervisor, PhD. Thesis, Philosophical Issues in Deinstitutionalisation, Benchmarking and Community Care in Allocation of Mental Health Services, with special reference to Treatment of Schizophrenia

Supervisor, PhD. Thesis, Managed Care in Australia: A philosophical inquiry into the ethical issues
Consultancies

Overall number of consultations undertaken by staff of the Centre: 39

from within the Darlinghurst Campus 15
from outside the Darlinghurst Campus 24

Range of people seeking a consultation:

Health care administrators 6
Doctors 9
Nurses 9
Religious 8
Social workers 2
Students 2
Other bioethics centres 2
Other 3

Types of issues on which consultation is sought:

◊ consent for diagnostic procedures for a patient with a phobia about needles
◊ the issues surrounding implementation of a case management model of care
◊ CPR: general principles and protocols
◊ proposal to establish men's health service: ethical principles
◊ withdrawing and withholding treatment: general principles and protocols
◊ the treatment of unborn infants with severe abnormalities
◊ principles for a code of ethics in an aged care facility
◊ confidentiality of a new HIV diagnosis
◊ prophylactic surgery
◊ gender reassignment surgery
◊ ethical issues which arise in obstetrics and gynaecology
◊ treatment of a patient with a brain stem haemorrhage
◊ research project on patients' attitudes to euthanasia
◊ code of ethics in palliative care
◊ ethical principles relating to IVF
◊ organ donation: general principles and protocols
◊ CPR: principles and protocols in palliative care
◊ guardianship and health care plan for patient in hospice care
◊ need for “reflective presence” in acute care
◊ constraints on telling relatives when a person is nearing death
◊ testing of health status of candidates for ordination
◊ publishing policies on palliative care
◊ survey of surgeons’ attitudes to euthanasia
◊ tissue transplantation from an infant to a sibling
◊ re-inserting a feeding tube: ethical issues
◊ advice to research participants who may become pregnant whilst participating in a research project
◊ care and management of patient with AIDS dementia
◊ refusal of radiotherapy treatment
◊ donating organs
◊ dental care for people who are aged or mentally ill in institutional care: ethical issues
◊ trial of new diagnostic tool on terminally ill patients: the ethics of obtaining consent
◊ catholic health professional associations
◊ “material co-operation” in the provision of health care
◊ living wills
◊ providing professional health care to close relatives
◊ a code of ethics for palliative care
To National Health and Medical Research Council: *Draft Guidelines on Familial Aspects of Cancer 1998*
(Mary Byrne)

To Working Party on National Data Collection in Assisted Reproductive Technology: *Report on National Data Collection on Assisted Reproductive Technology*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To Australian Health Ethics Committee: *Draft Guidelines for Genetic Registers and Associated Genetic Material*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To Australian Health Ethics Committee: *Draft Guidelines for Human Somatic Cell Gene Therapy and Related Technologies*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To Federal Privacy Commissioner: *National Principles for the Fair Handling of Personal Information and their application to personal health information*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To Australian Health Ethics Committee Genetics Working Group: *Draft Guidance on Ethical Aspects of Human Genetic Testing*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To South Eastern Sydney Area Health Service: *Palliative Care Strategic Directions*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To World Medical Association: *Proposed Revision of the Declaration of Helsinki*
(Mary Byrne and Bernadette Tobin)

To House of Representatives Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs: *Review of the Report of the Australian Health Ethics Committee to the Minister on the Scientific, Ethical and Regulatory Considerations relevant to the Cloning of Human Beings*
(Three Submissions prepared by Bernadette Tobin, Mary Byrne and Anthony Fisher)

To South Australian Legislative Council Select Committee: *Voluntary Euthanasia Bill 1996*
(Presentations made by Anthony Fisher and Bernadette Tobin)
This is the basic reason for considering a "medically supervised injecting room" in the context of a wider drugs strategy. The goals are first to keep alive those people most at risk, by having medical assistance close to where they use drugs, and secondly, to connect these people with opportunities for rehabilitation.

Dr. Gerald Gleeson

Australia has barely begun to provide adequate preventative drug education programmes and targeted family support, and has unconscionable waiting lists for access to detoxification.

Dr. Anthony Fisher OP

'Symposium on Supervised Injecting Rooms'
*Bioethics Outlook, Vol 10, No 3, September 1999*
Presentations

Byrne M.

Introduction to Ethics, Senior Staff Forum, St Vincent's Hospital, Launceston

End of Life Issues, Senior Staff Forum, St Vincent's Hospital, Launceston

Institutional Cooperation, Senior Staff Forum, St Vincent's Hospital, Launceston

Ethical Issues in Mental Health Care, General Staff Forum, St Vincent's Hospital, Launceston

Ethical Issues in Refusal of Life Sustaining Treatment, General Staff Forum, St Vincent’s Hospital, Launceston

Ethical Issues in Informed Consent and Organ Donation, General Staff Forum, St Vincent’s Hospital, Launceston

Ethical Basis of Resource Management in Light of the Internal Goals of Nursing, National Conference of the Institute of Nursing Executives of NSW & ACT, Sydney

Fisher A.

Ethical issues in organ transplantation and xenotransplantation, Post-Graduate Course in Bioethics, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas, Catholic University of the Philippines, Manila

Old paradigms and new dilemmas in medical confidentiality, Post-Graduate Course in Bioethics, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas, Catholic University of the Philippines, Manila

Jesus’ healing mission: a theological perspective, Catholic Chaplains’ Association, Mercy Hospital, Melbourne; and Mercy Health and Aged Care Education Programme, Mercy Hospital for Women; St Brigid’s, Fitzroy

Ethical challenges in palliative care, vision workshop, Eastern Palliative Care, Caritas Christi Hospice, Kew

Scientific, Ethical and, Regulatory Issues involved in Human Cloning, Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne, Goold House, Melbourne

An ethical framework for end of life decision making, Medical Care at the End of Life, Catholic Doctors Association of Victoria, Mercy Hospital for Women, Melbourne

The delineation of research and clinical practice, particularly in relation to freezing oocytes, Epworth Research Ethics Committee, Richmond

The delineation of research and clinical practice, Infertility Treatment Authority Melbourne

Conscience, Introduction to Philosophy Course, Catholic Pastoral Formation Centre, Melbourne

Virtue, Introduction to Philosophy Course, Catholic Pastoral Formation Centre, Melbourne

Conscience, Catholic Youth Ministry, Youth Camp, The Basin

New strategies in preaching the Gospel of Life: an Episcopal Vicar’s view, Right to Life Victoria Annual Conference, Genzzano College, Melbourne
Catholic aged care: do we make a difference? Rice Village, Geelong

Challenges for Catholic Hospital Chaplains in the 21st Century, Catholic Chaplains in Health Care Association, St Brigid’s Primary School, North Fitzroy

The next millennium—respect for life or cyber-slick solutions? Right to Life Federation of Australia Biennial Conference, University of New South Wales, Sydney

Some theological issues in cloning, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference

Consultation on Commonwealth Inquiry into Cloning, Australian Catholic Bishops’ Conference, Canberra

Ethical issues in correctional health, Sisters of Charity Health Service National Conference, Melbourne

Catholic aged care: do we make a difference? Sisters of Nazareth National Conference, Camberwell

Ethical issues in palliative care, Ethics Workshop, Eastern Palliative Care, Burwood Care Centre

The Our Father of Catholic health and aged care, Cabrini Hospital, Malvern

Gleeson G.P.

Human Development and Catholic Moral Theology, Inaugural meeting of Humanita, Sydney

Fides et ratio, Australian Catholic University, Sydney

Ethics, Defence Forces Character Leadership Course, Sydney

Issues of conscience, Natural Family Planning Course, Sydney

Proposals for a National Code of Ethics, Annual Conference of Catholic Health Australia, Melbourne

Germain Grisez and the principles of legitimate cooperation, Catholic Moral Theology Association of Australia & New Zealand, Melbourne

Ethics of a supervised injecting room, Nursing Education Seminar, St. Vincent’s Private Hospital, Sydney

Kelly M.

Nothing left unloved: grace, spirit and embodiment, Inaugural Pastoral Care Conference, Kensington

Euthanasia, Workshop, Star of the Sea School, Melbourne

Models of Pastoral Care, Inaugural Pastoral Care Conference, Kensington

A spirituality for the heart - Grace, Spirit and Prayer” Inaugural Pastoral Care Conference, Kensington

The Catholic Order of Funerals, Inaugural Pastoral Care Conference, Kensington
Quilter, J.G.

Charleworth and religious pluralism, ACU Network of Philosophy, Australian Catholic University

Tobin, B.M.

Procedures for the development of Australian guidelines on xenotransplantation, Seminar on Safety of transplanting pig tissue into humans, Prince of Wales Hospital, Sydney

Science and technology: ethical issues, Discerning the Australian Social Conscience, Jesuit Lenten Series, Melbourne and Sydney

Religious and Cultural Perspectives on Contemporary Genetics, Human Genome Society, Brisbane

South Australia’s investigation of a proposal to legalise euthanasia, Social Development Committee Parliament House, Adelaide

The revival of relativism, Kincoppal-Rose Bay Faculty Meeting, Sydney

Ethical guidelines for withdrawing or withholding life-sustaining treatment, 27th Annual Conference, Renal Society of Australasia, Sydney

Attitudinal changes to dying this century, Catholic Doctors’ Association of Victoria, Melbourne

Principles of ethics relevant to palliative medicine, Mt Olivet Hospital, Brisbane

Ethical issues in hospital practice, Annual General Meeting, Medical Staff, St Vincent’s Private Hospital, Sydney

“Donation” of tissue from infant to sibling, Ethics Forum, New Children’s Hospital, Sydney

Ethical issues in community-based palliative care, Sacred Heart Hospice Community Care Team, Sydney

Ethics and mortality in health care practice, St Vincent’s Hospital, Lismore


Aids Dementia and the just allocation of resources, Aids Dementia and HIV Psychiatry Team, Darlinghurst Community Centre

The ethics of cloning, National Women’s Register, Sydney

The ethics of reproduction, Medical Students, University of New South Wales, Sydney

Evidence-based medicine, Annual Hospital Meeting, New Children’s Hospital, Sydney

Peter Singer’s views on euthanasia and abortion of children expected to have disabilities: a philosopher’s critique, Physical Disability Council of NSW, Sydney

Traditional medical ethics re withdrawing or withholding life-sustaining treatment v euthanasia, The Bellarmine Society, Riverview College, Sydney
Bioethics Outlook

Volume 10

Number 1

Old Paradigms and new dilemmas in medical confidentiality
by Anthony Fisher

Number 2

Euthanasia: comparisons and contrasts in the ethical, political and legal developments in the USA and Australia
by James Keenan, SJ
A Vote of Thanks
by Sir Gerard Breannan

Number 3

Supervised Injecting Rooms: A Symposium
by Bernadette Tobin
Why we accepted this challenge
By Tina Clifton
Why trial a supervised injecting room
by Alex Wodak
An ethical reflection on a medically supervised injecting room
by Gerald Gleeson
Why some people are uneasy about injecting rooms
by Anthony Fisher

Number 4

St. Vincent's withdraws from supervised injecting room
by Gerald Gleeson
Assisted Reproductive Technology and Eugenics
by Jean Kitahara-Frisch

Circulation

Circulation of Bioethics Outlook continues to grow. There are now 445 individuals and organisations subscribing to this quarterly publication of the Centre, an increase of just under one hundred in the last year.
Membership of Committees

Byrne, M.
Research Ethics Committee, St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney
Bioethics Consultative Committee, St Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney (in attendance)
Steering Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia
Drafting Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia

Fisher A.
Editorial Board, Bioethics Pamphlets Series, Catholic Truth Society, London
Bioethics Panel, Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Infertility Treatment Authority of Victoria
Ethics in Clinical Practice Committee, St Vincent’s Hospital, Melbourne
Mission Integration and Ethics Sub-Committee, Sisters of Charity Health Service, Melbourne Region
Ethics of Clinical Practice Committee, St Vincent’s & Mercy Private Hospital
Ethics Committee, Eastern Palliative Care Association
Executive Committee Member, Catholic Health Care Association of Victoria (Chairman)
Management Committee, Eastern Palliative Care Association Inc
Steering Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia
Drafting Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia
Archdiocesan Drugs Task Force, Archdiocese of Melbourne

Gleeson G.
Bioethics Consultative Committee, St. Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney
Ethics Committee, Calvary Hospital, Kogarah
Human Ethics Committee, University of Sydney, Sydney
Research Ethics Committee, St. Vincent’s Hospital, Sydney

National Board, Sisters of Charity Health Service

Garvan Institute of Medical Research (Director)

Steering Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia

Drafting Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia

Kelly, M.

Ethics Committee of Hawkesbury and District Health Services (until June, 1999)

Quilter J.

Ethics Committee, NSW Institute of Psychiatry

School Committee, School of Theology, Australian Catholic University

Faculty of Arts and Sciences Information Committee, Australian Catholic University

Faculty of Arts and Sciences Research and Post-graduate Committee, Australian Catholic University

Philosophy of Network Post-graduate Committee, Australian Catholic University

School of Theology (NSW) Progressions Committee, Australian Catholic University

Tobin B.M.

Australian Health Ethic Committee (NHMRC)

Bioethics Consultative Committee, St. Vincent’s Health Care Campus, Sydney (Chair)

Mary Philippa Brazil Trust (Founder & Trustee)

Guild of St. Luke (Member of Council)

Regional Mission and Values Committee, St. Vincent’s Health Care Campus, Sydney

Steering Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia

Drafting Group, Code of Ethics, Catholic Health Australia
# Financial Report

## Income

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Catholic University</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sisters of Charity Health Service</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Vincent’s: APA (I)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Health Australia: APA (I)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic Health Care Association (NSW)</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Fees</td>
<td>4,283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course Fees</td>
<td>3,216</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commissioned Research</td>
<td>17,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (internal revenue)</td>
<td>5,760</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: **$250,697**

## Expenditure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries</td>
<td>167,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital Expenses</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Studentship</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Acquisitions</td>
<td>10,176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publications (Printing)</td>
<td>4,213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>11,983</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running Expenses</td>
<td>8,858</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Expenses</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultancy Fees</td>
<td>7,438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Expenses</td>
<td>1,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditure</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carried Forward</td>
<td>5,121</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: **$249,514**

Surplus (to be carried forward to 2000): **$1,183**