



# **Plunkett Centre**

Annual Report 2013







# Plunkett Centre

## Annual Report 2013

## Mission

The Mission of the Centre is to promote the values of compassion and fellowship, intellectual and professional excellence, and fairness and justice. Its primary focus is on the realisation of these values in the provision and allocation of health care. The Centre expresses this commitment through research, teaching and community engagement, as these are informed by the Catholic tradition.

## Objectives

- ◆ To deepen and advance knowledge and understanding of the ethical standards relevant to human health and well-being, and in particular to clinical practice, medical research, business and management practices, and the allocation of healthcare resources.
- ◆ To offer courses in philosophical ethics and in the ethics of healthcare provision, medical research and healthcare resource allocation.
- ◆ To engage and where appropriate to collaborate with local, national and international bodies as they seek to respond to their intellectual and ethical needs.
- ◆ To foster collaboration on ethical matters between Australian Catholic University and St Vincents & Mater Health Sydney, St Vincent's Hospital Sydney, St Vincent's Private Hospital Sydney and Sacred Heart Hospice.

## Functions

- Conducting and promoting research.
- Providing research training and supervision.
- Developing and teaching courses.
- Conducting reviews of professional practice.
- Providing an ethics consultation service.
- Participating in public discussions.



John Hubert Plunkett

## Foreword from the University

As Executive Dean of the Faculty and, as Chair of the Management Committee for the Plunkett Centre for Ethics, I thank the Director of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics, Associate Professor and Reader Bernadette Tobin, for her unwavering dedication to and leadership of the Plunkett Centre for Ethics. I also thank Dr Stephen Matthews for his very valuable contributions to the work of the Centre.



2013 saw very significant developments in the University, under the banner of the University's Futures Project, with significant ramifications for all sections of the University, including the Plunkett Centre for Ethics. The Faculty Realignment Plan, which involved moving from six Faculties to four (Education & Arts, Health Sciences, Law & Business, and Theology & Philosophy), did not directly affect the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy or the Centre. The Research Intensification Plan, however, under the leadership of the Deputy-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Professor Wayne McKenna, effected a major change of strategy for the University, with ramifications for all Faculties and Centres. The various research centres in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy (Centre for Early Christian Studies, Centre for Inter-religious Dialogue, Centre for the Philosophy and Phenomenology of Religion, and the Golding Centre for Women's History, Theology and Spirituality) were to be disbanded and a single larger multi-disciplinary institute for specialised advanced research was to be established in their place, taking effect on 1 January 2014. After considerable discussion, it was determined that the name of the Institute in the Faculty of Theology & Philosophy would be the *Institute for Religion and Critical Inquiry*.

The Institute's aim is to achieve a critical mass of researchers and research output and to raise the quality of research output, including competitive grant income. Thoroughly Catholic in spirit, the Institute will promote interdisciplinary and collaborative research in the areas of philosophy and theology and also of other disciplines that, in different ways, implicitly rely on philosophical and theological positions and which, in turn, enrich the traditional forms of philosophy and theology while challenging them to a new creativity of integration and extension. The programs or areas of focus, strength and investment in the Institute are as follows: Biblical Studies and Early Christianity; Catholic Thought and Practice, including Inter-religious Dialogue; Moral Philosophy and Applied Ethics; Philosophy and Phenomenology of Religion; and Religion and Society.

The earlier plan to establish a national centre for ethics is thus now superseded by the establishment of this institute for advanced research in the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, with moral philosophy and applied ethics constituting one of the research strands therein. The original goal of focusing on applied ethics and its theoretical foundations, with its scope of activity to include (i) health care and bioethics, (ii) social ethics, based in Catholic social teaching, (iii) business and professional ethics, and (iv) perhaps, in the longer term, environmental ethics, remains unchanged.

Given that the Plunkett Centre for Ethics is established under a Memorandum of Understanding between Australian Catholic University and St Vincent's Health Australia

(Sydney), it will retain its identity and focus under the terms of the Memorandum and will not formally be part of the Institute. An important goal for the Institute and the moral philosophy and applied ethics program within it is, however, actively to promote strong collaborative and mutually supportive relationships with the Plunkett Centre for Ethics and also with the local diocesan-based Catholic ethics centres in Australia. We look forward now to progressing the Faculty's plans to develop strength and expertise in this very important area

**Professor Anne Hunt OAM**  
**Executive Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, ACU**  
**March 2014**

## **Foreword from the Hospital**

We very much value our collaboration with Australian Catholic University with respect to the Plunkett Centre for Ethics with its rich resource base and ability to respond to the needs of the Hospital. This is highlighted particularly in terms of having a 'consultation service' which is immediate and confidential, assisting healthcare professionals in meeting the challenges of providing effective, compassionate and efficient healthcare in the circumstances of the 21st Century where often the issues are very complex. Being able to 'tap in' to this expertise in ethical and moral review aspects in these circumstances is very important.



A number of sessions have been provided by the Plunkett Centre for our senior and middle level managers on the *Code of Ethical Standards for Catholic Health and Aged Care Services in Australia*. These sessions were particularly useful, not only for our managers at the clinical coalface, but also those in senior management positions in a Catholic healthcare environment where they are faced with issues on a regular basis that are rarely black or white. These sessions are a practical way to test the thought process necessary when addressing issues in relation to the *Code*.

The most recent lecture in the Annual Plunkett Lecture series was an absolute revelation for me. I confess to having been unaware of the amazing benefits of music therapy for people with severe cognitive impairment. Apart from being personally educative, Dr Steve Matthews' lecture made me think about how we could better integrate these therapies into patient care, enabling better access and making a profoundly positive impact on people's lives.

**Robert Cusack**  
**Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent's Private Hospital, Sydney.**  
**March 2014**

## From the Director

The year 2013 was the first of the five further years of collaboration between St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney and Australian Catholic University with respect to the Plunkett Centre. In February, the academic staff of the Centre - Dr Steve Matthews and myself - were joined by Donna Sofinowski, our new Administrative Officer.



In 2013 Matthews taught the first cohort of students enrolled in the University's new Graduate Certificate in Philosophy (Health Care). This course is structured in such a way that students will be able to use it as a stepping stone towards a Graduate Diploma and Masters. This Graduate Certificate is offered to interested professionals in Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane. In 2013 Tobin taught another cohort of students – mostly, professionals working in Catholic hospitals in Australia - in the University's Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture. Matthews and Tobin were again involved in the educational activities of the Clinical School at St Vincent's Hospital, Matthews by supervising the Independent Learning Project of medical students and Tobin by giving occasional lectures in bioethics to medical students in the Clinical School.

Our Annual Plunkett Lecture was given by Matthews who is our Senior Research Fellow. He addressed the subject: Musical memories and the way we were: musical therapy in the care of people with progressive cognitive impairment. He showed how much more can be achieved by musical therapy than by conventional cognitive therapies. Matthews is a valuable member of staff of the Centre: his research, publications, public speaking and consultation work all focus on questions of moral identity and moral agency, philosophical questions which are called into question in the treatment and care of people with mental illness and addiction.

Late in the year we farewelled Mr Mark Hales, a long term member of the Management Committee of the Centre. Over the years, Mark worked assiduously to ensure that the hospital made best use of the resources of the Plunkett Centre and that the staff of the Centre were responsive to the needs of the Hospital. He will be greatly missed.

**Bernadette Tobin**  
**18<sup>th</sup> February 2014**

## Academic Staff

**Steve Matthews** BA (Hons) (Monash), PhD (Monash)  
Senior Research Fellow, Full time  
Senior Lecturer in Philosophy, Australian Catholic University



**Bernadette Tobin** MA MEd (Melb), PhD (Cantab)  
Reader in Philosophy, Australian Catholic University  
Director, Full time



## Honorary Staff

**Gerald Gleeson** STB (CIS), MA (Cantab), PhD (Leuven)  
Associated Professor of Philosophy, Sydney College of Divinity  
Research Associate, Part time.



**Jonathan Gillis** MB BS, PhD, GradDipPallMed, FRACP, FJFICM, FACHRM  
Director, Commonwealth Organ and Tissue Donation Authority  
Clinical Associate Professor, University of Sydney  
Research Associate, Part time



## Administrative Assistant

Donna Sofinowski



## Management Committee

Professor Anne Hunt, Dean, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy, Australian Catholic University

Mr Mark Hales, Director of Mission, St Vincents & Mater Health Sydney

Mr Robert Cusack, Chief Executive Officer, St Vincent's Health Australia, Sydney

Dr Richard Colledge, Head, School of Philosophy, Faculty of Theology and Philosophy

Dr Bernadette Tobin, Director



# Research

## The Plunkett Centre conducts research in the following areas:

- **Contemporary normative theory**, in particular virtue theory, and its relation to Kant's ethics and consequentialism.
- **Clinical ethics**, in particular the goals of medicine, the canons of therapeutic responsiveness; competence, consent and decision-making about sick children; end-of-life decision-making; advance care planning; assisted reproductive technologies; organ and tissue donation; professional role ethics, the law and clinical ethics; regenerative medicine; public health ethics.
- **Psychiatric ethics**, in particular the threat of psychopathology to moral identity and moral agency, respect for autonomy, competence and coercion, moral responsibility of impaired persons, law and psychiatry, and the ethical challenges posed by developments in neuroscience in this area.
- **Bioethics**, in particular the Catholic Christian contribution and its debates with and relationships to contemporary secular bioethics; the Metaphysics of the Incarnation; Human Sexuality and Procreation; the history of parental involvement at the end of life; word and ideas employed in end of life discussions; the meaning of suffering in the Intensive Care Unit; the history of organ donation; Issues around dead bodies.
- **Research Ethics**, in particular traditional debates about ethical standards with respect to research involving human participants and research involving animals; contemporary debates about genetic technologies, biotechnologies, stem cells, biobanking, etc.
- **Resource allocation**, in particular debates about the roles of the individual, the family, the market and the state in the provision of health care.
- **Computer ethics (in medical contexts)**, in particular the role online therapies play in treatment, reduction in costs, effectiveness, threats it poses to the clinician-patient relationship.

## Research Supervision

Alcohol and drug dependence causes death and disability, and are responsible for immense health, economic, and social costs. Much of this could be prevented or mitigated.

The so-called medical model of addiction views it as a chronic, relapsing brain disease, even though the practices of those who take drugs are often voluntary (despite the negative consequences). Addiction thus links to some key questions in moral psychology concerning addicts' self conceptions and moral character, their capacity for self-control, and their freedom and responsibility.

This research was aimed at clarifying models of addiction by distinguishing two sub groups of addicts by the severity of the negative consequences they face. Under the supervision of Dr Steve Matthews, the research was carried out by Mr Pradeep Widana-Pathiranal, a Phase 2 medical student at the University of New South Wales, as his Independent Learning Project at the Clinical School of St Vincent's Hospital.

## Teaching

- Phil 511 *Philosophy and the Moral Life*, Graduate Certificate in Philosophy (Health Care): Steve Matthews
- HUMA 402 Supervision of Honours Thesis: Steve Matthews
- HUMA 411 *Meta-ethics and moral psychology*, creation of unit content: Steve Matthews
- Phil 506 *Ethics in a faith-based context*, Graduate Certificate in Leadership and Catholic Culture: Bernadette Tobin

## Clinical Ethics

### Children's Hospital at Westmead

- And the judge came to the hospital: Mohammed's case (with Dr Nick Pigott, Dr Stephen Jacobi, Dr Ken Peacock) March (BT)
- Care at the end of a child's life (with Dr Yew Wee Chua) October (BT)

### St Vincent's & Mater Health Sydney

- Understanding and application of the *Code of Ethical Standards for Catholic Health and Aged Care Services in Australia*: four sessions for managers of clinical units at St Vincent's Hospital and the Mater Hospital, Sydney.
- Ethical reflections on clinical practice in Palliative Medicine at Sacred Heart Hospice, St Vincent's Hospital and in the community: thirty-two sessions for medical students at the University of New South Wales and the University of Notre Dame Australia.
- Ethical reflections on clinical practice in medicine at St Vincent's Hospital; two sessions for Junior Medical Officers (with Dr Steve Mathews and Prof Kay Wilhelm)
- Ethics Journal Club; eleven sessions for past students of the Graduate Certificate in Health Care who are staff of St Vincent's Hospital and St John of God Hospital Burwood.



Karen Brown is Convenor of the Ethics Journal Club at St Vincent's Hospital in Sydney. Participants, all graduates of Australian Catholic University's Graduate Certificate in Ethics, work in senior positions in the hospital.

# Publications

## Chapters in books

**Matthews, S.** Neuromarketing: What is it, and is it a threat to privacy? *Springer Handbook of Neuroethics*, Neil Levy, Jens Clausen (eds). Forthcoming

**Matthews, S.** Mental time travel, agency and responsibility. Co-author Jeanette Kennett. *Psychiatry as Cognitive Neuroscience: Philosophical Perspectives (Second edition)*. Matthew Broome, Lisa Bortolotti (eds.) Oxford University Press. Second edition, upcoming. (First edition appeared in 2009.)

**Matthews, S.** Memory. *Psychiatry as Cognitive Neuroscience: Philosophical Perspectives*, Vol 2. Matthew Broome, Lisa Bortolotti (eds.) Oxford University Press, under contract.

**Matthews, S.** Bio-technological challenges to autonomy, Jai Gallott, Mianna Lotz (eds). *Super Soldiers: The Ethical, Legal and Social Consequences*. Ashgate, under contract.

**Tobin, B.** Tell him to get a move on! *Essays in honour of Raimond Gaita*, Monash University Press, forthcoming.

**Tobin, B.** I hope I believe in God; some implications for contemporary ethics, *Culture and Christianity in Dialogue*, edited by John Ozolins, Springer, forthcoming,

**Tobin, B.** Just care at the end of life, *Health Care Ethics: from theory to practice*, edited by John Ozolins and Jo Grainger, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming 2015

## Peer-reviewed articles

**Matthews, S.** (With J Kennett and A. Snoek) Pleasure and value in addiction, *Frontiers in psychiatry*. Hanna Pickard (ed), 4 – 117. Doi: 10.3389/fpsy.2013.00117 (2013)

**Matthews, S.** Addiction, competence and coercion, *Journal of Philosophical Research*, forthcoming

**Matthews, S.** The imprudence of the vulnerable, *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, forthcoming 2014.

Gray, K, Isaacs, D. Kilham, H, **Tobin, B.** Spinal Muscular Atrophy type I: Do the benefits of ventilation compensate for its burdens? *Journal of Paediatrics and Child Health*, Vol 49, 2013, 807-812

## Other articles

**Matthews, S.** The role of pleasure in addiction. (With Anke Snoek, Jeanette Kennett), *Bioethics Outlook* (September 2013).

**Tobin, B.** Advance Care Planning, *Health Matters*, Issue 65, Autumn 2013; 22-23

**Tobin, B.** Are donor-conceived people entitled to identifying information about their biological parents? *Bioethics Outlook*, Vol 24, No 1, March 2013, 4-8

**Tobin, B.** Should human genes be patentable? Some ethical issues at stake in recent and forthcoming court decisions. *Bioethics Outlook*, Vol 24, No 1, March 2013, 9-11  
Reprinted in *Mercator Net*, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013: <http://www.mercatornet.com/> accessed 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2013

**Tobin, B.** Care of the dying patient: lessons from an English approach, *Bioethics Outlook*, Vol 24, No 4, December 2013, 9-12

## Consultancies

A selection of ethical issues addressed:

- Protecting the good name of an institution
- Why respect for 'sanctity' of life does not imply vitalism
- Advance care planning v advance care 'directives'
- Cooperation with other institutions with different values
- The place of 'aesthetic' surgery in a Catholic hospital
- Unexpected morbidity associated with surgery
- Respecting privacy in the multidisciplinary care of people with HIV
- Avoiding pregnancy during a clinical trial

### Summary by source:

Year	St Vincent's Health Australia (Sydney)	Other Institutions	Total
2013	14	16	<b>30</b>
2012	17	44	<b>61</b>
2011	15	18	<b>33</b>
2010	34	20	<b>64</b>
2009	26	38	<b>64</b>
2008	15	22	<b>37</b>
2007	14	13	<b>27</b>
2006	9	19	<b>28</b>
2005	12	20	<b>32</b>
2004	15	12	<b>27</b>

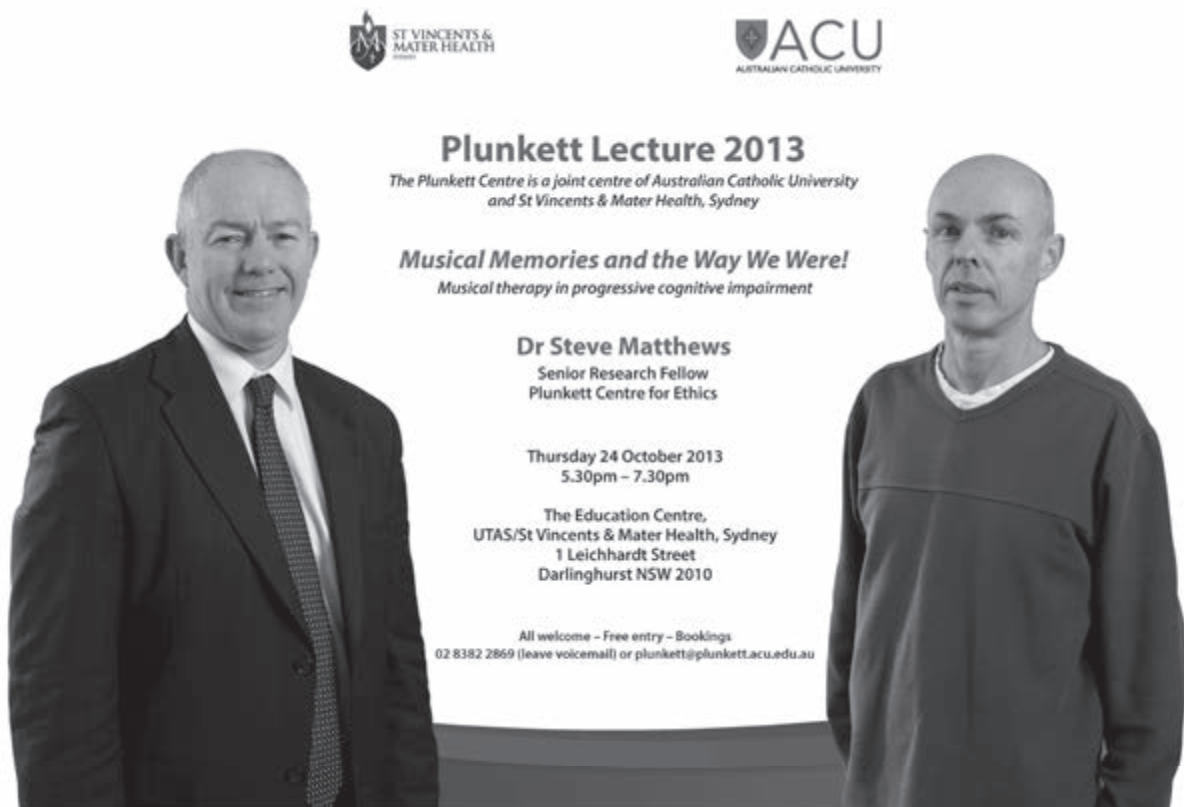
### Summary by profession:

Year	Administrators	Doctors	Nurses	Allied Practitioners	Others	Total
2013	7	12	2	1	8	<b>30</b>
2012	4	11	6	10	30	<b>61</b>
2011	9	11	3	1	9	<b>33</b>
2010	31	7	3	3	10	<b>54</b>
2009	24	17	4	1	18	<b>64</b>
2008	15	7	7	3	5	<b>37</b>
2007	8	8	5	1	5	<b>27</b>
2006	4	7	2	3	12	<b>28</b>
2005	6	6	1	7	12	<b>32</b>
2004	7	7	1	4	8	<b>27</b>



## 2013 Annual Plunkett Lecture

In 2013, the Annual Plunkett Lecture was given by Dr Steve Matthews on the subject Musical Memories and the Way We Were: The Role of Musical Therapy in Progressive Cognitive Impairment.

Dr Matthews is Senior Research Fellow at the Plunkett Centre and Senior Lecturer in Philosophy in the School of Philosophy at Australian Catholic University. The video and text of his lecture can be accessed at:[www.plunkettcentre.acu.edu.au](http://www.plunkettcentre.acu.edu.au)



The poster features two men standing on either side of the text. On the left is Dr Steve Matthews, a man in a dark suit and tie, smiling. On the right is a man in a grey V-neck sweater, looking forward with a neutral expression. The background is white with black text and logos.

 **ST VINCENTS & MATER HEALTH**  
 **ACU**  
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

**Plunkett Lecture 2013**  
*The Plunkett Centre is a joint centre of Australian Catholic University  
and St Vincents & Mater Health, Sydney*

***Musical Memories and the Way We Were!***  
*Musical therapy in progressive cognitive impairment*

**Dr Steve Matthews**  
Senior Research Fellow  
Plunkett Centre for Ethics

Thursday 24 October 2013  
5.30pm – 7.30pm

The Education Centre,  
UTAS/St Vincents & Mater Health, Sydney  
1 Leichhardt Street  
Darlinghurst NSW 2010

All welcome – Free entry – Bookings  
02 8382 2869 (leave voicemail) or [plunkett@plunkett.acu.edu.au](mailto:plunkett@plunkett.acu.edu.au)

# Media

## 19 February

Genetic tests and distributive justice:

[http://www.sydneycatholic.org/news/latest\\_news/2013/2013219\\_964.shtml](http://www.sydneycatholic.org/news/latest_news/2013/2013219_964.shtml),

<http://www.Xt3.com> (BT)

## 10 March

Quoted in Family divided as doctor cleared of misconduct by Eamon Duff, *The Sun-Herald* (BT)

## 13 March

Appeared on the *News* on SBS re Catholic tradition's attitude to organ donation and transplantation (BT)

## 18 April

Interviewed by John Morrison on ABC Statewide Drive Program: re Authorization of blood transfusion for mature minor by NSW Supreme Court (BT)

## 16 May

Interviewed by Jonathan Green on ABC Radio National Evenings: re 'break through' re somatic cell nuclear transfer process being used to produce human embryonic stem cells (BT)

## 1 September

Interviewed by Noel de Bien on ABC Local Radio Sunday Night Program: justice in the allocation of health care resources (with Prof Fran Boyle) (BT)

## 6 November

Interviewed by Fenella Kernebone on ABC Radio National By Design Program: cosmetic surgery and its ethical challenges for doctors and clients (with Dr Anand Deva and Ann Warren) (BT)

## 23 November

Interviewed by Noel de Bien on ABC Radio National Encounter Program re: A Modern Death (BT)



## Submissions to Public Inquiries

- To Legislative Assembly's Committee on Law and Safety re: Inquiry into managing information related to donor conception; February (BT)
- To the Premier of Tasmania re Voluntary Assisted Dying re: a proposal for Tasmania; March (BT)
- To the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services re: Draft *Reproductive Health (Access to Terminations) Bill 2013*; March (BT)
- To NSW Parliament re *Review of ART Act of 2007*; September (BT)
- To Catholic Health Australia re draft of new instrument for 'advance care planning' (with Terry Campbell, Bioethics Committee, St Vincent's Hospital); September (BT)
- To Royal Australasian College of Physicians re 4<sup>th</sup> edition of *Guidelines for ethical relationships between health professionals and industry*; October (BT)
- To NSW Ministry of Health re Draft online resource End of Life Decision, the Law and Clinical Practice; October (BT)



Professor Terry Campbell  
Chair of Bioethics Committee  
St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney

# Presentations

## Gerald Gleeson

A Publically Merciful Church, address to NSW Catholic Education Commission, August.

Ethical Issues for Natural Fertility Teachers, (February and November).

Addiction and Freedom: Philosophical and Theological Issues Australasian Association of Catholic Bioethicists' Conference, January.

From *Gaudium et Spes* to *Humanae Vitae* and beyond, Great Grace Conference, May.

The Incarnation: Debate and Development in Catholic Tradition, Tradition Conference, July and Australasian Catholic Theologians' Conference, July.

## Jonathan Gillis

Challenges for families; challenges for clinicians. Royal Children's Hospital Bioethics Conference, Melbourne, August

Organ Donation in Paediatric Intensive Care. 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference Advance Care Planning and End of Life Care, Melbourne, May

## Steve Matthews

Models of addiction. Australasian Association of Catholic Bioethicists' Conference, Melbourne, 28 January.

Addiction, competence and coercion. ACU Department of Philosophy Seminar Series.

Moral identity and addiction, St Vincent's Bioethics Committee, 6<sup>th</sup> September.

Musical Memories and the Way We Were, Annual Plunkett Centre Lecture, 24<sup>th</sup> October.

Pleasure and Addiction (with Jeanette Kennett), Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics, Charles Sturt University, Canberra, 30<sup>th</sup> October.

Ethics education session for Junior Medical Officers: Consent and refusal to treat (with Prof Kay Wilhelm), 3 October.

## **Bernadette Tobin**

Five features of the Hippocratic tradition: 4<sup>th</sup> Year Medical Students, University of Notre Dame Australia, February.

Introduction to Bioethics, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Medical Students, University of Notre Dame Australia, February.

Elements of good medical practice in end-of-life care, Roundtable for Best Practice in End-of-Life Care, Monash University, Melbourne, February.

The Catholic tradition and organ donation: Donate Life Launch of Community Education Campaign, Sydney, March.

The 'four principles' approach to bioethics: elements, strengths and weaknesses, Calvary Hospital Bethlehem, Kooyong, Melbourne, March.

Catholic teachings on IVF, abortion and 'euthanasia': HSC, St Vincent's School, Potts Point, March.

Mrs Street and her care at the end of her life, Annual Forum, Catholic Health Australia, Sydney, May.

Genes and genetic tests: should they be patentable? Grand Rounds, St Vincent's Hospital (with Prof John Mattick), June.

Genetics and Medicine – some current challenges: a response to Sr Prudence Allen's Gender Reality v Gender Ideology, University of Notre Dame Australia's 'Male and female he created them' Seminar, Sydney. July.

Advance Care Planning - a different approach, Bethlehem Hospital, Kooyong, October.

What is the role of clinical ethics in a modern hospital? Panelist, Calvary Mater Hospital, Newcastle, November.

Catholic. Health. Care. Implications of each for treatment at the end of life. Catholic Healthcare Annual Conference, Sydney. November.

# Appointments

## Gerald Gleeson

Discipline Coordinator, Humanities, Sydney College of Divinity  
Deputy Chair and Acting Chair, Academic Board, Sydney College of Divinity  
Member of Council, St John's College (University of Sydney)  
Reviewer for Journal *Sophia*.  
Director of Mission, CatholicCare Sydney  
Assoc. Prof. Sydney College of Divinity teaching at Catholic Institute of Sydney.

## Jonathan Gillis

Deputy Convenor, NSW Child Death Review Team  
Paediatric Assessor NHMRC National Certification Scheme of Ethics Committees  
Member, World Fed of Paediatric Intensive & Critical Care Societies Ethics Task Force  
Director of NSW Organ and Tissue Donation Authority  
Clinical Professor, Centre for Values, Ethics & Law in Medicine, University of Sydney  
Member, Certification Assessor Review Panel of ethical review processes for  
National Health and Medical Research Council 2010-2011  
Consultant on Child Death to NSW Ombudsman's Office

## Steve Matthews

Member, Ethics committee, NSW Institute of Psychiatry  
Member, School of Philosophy committee  
Member, Assessment Review committee, School of Philosophy  
Reader, Australian Research Council  
Referee, *Ethics and Information Technology* and *Neuroethics*  
Member, Organising Committee, Addiction Neuroscience Workshop, Macquarie University

## Bernadette Tobin

Bioethics Committee, St Vincent's & Mater Health Sydney  
Mission, Advocacy and Ethics Sub-Committee, St Vincent's Health Australia  
Reader, Australian Research Council  
Advisory Board, Anatomy Bequest Program, University of Technology Sydney  
Advisory Board, DNA Data Bank, Children's Hospital at Westmead  
Clinical Ethics Advisory Panel, New South Wales Ministry of Health  
Blood Borne Virus Advisory Panel, New South Wales Ministry of Health  
Clinical Advisory Committee, NSW Organ and Tissue Donation Authority  
Editorial Board of *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics*  
Director, Garvan Institute of Medical Research  
Director, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education  
Member, Sydney Archdiocesan Catholic Schools Board  
Director, Scalabrinian Villages  
Member of Council, St John's College Sydney  
Founder, Mary Philippa Brazill Foundation  
Member of Council of Guild St. Luke

## **Bioethics Outlook Volume 24, 2013**

### **No 1**

*On gentleness.* Kevin Hart

*Donor-conceived people: Are they entitled to identifying information about their biological parents?* Bernadette Tobin

*Should human genes be patentable? Some ethical issues at stake in recent and forthcoming court decisions.* Bernadette Tobin

### **No 2**

*The use of sedatives in the care of persons who are seriously ill or dying: Ethical distinctions and practical recommendations.* The Fifth International Association of Catholic Bioethicists.

### **No 3**

*Total Brain Death: Valid Criterion of Death.* Patrick Lee and Germain Grisez.

*Are addicted persons motivated by pleasure?* Anke Snoek, Jeanette Kennett, Steve Mathews

### **No 4**

*Healthcare rationing in Australia: Should the young be favoured over the elderly?* Anthony Fisher O.P.

*Care of the dying patient: lessons from an English approach.* Bernadette Tobin.



Kevin Hart's reflection, entitled 'On gentleness', was prompted by a remark made by a distressed grandfather of a child who lives in Newtown, Connecticut, the site of the massacre of twenty children and their teacher.

## Financial Report 2012/2013

		<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
<b>Carried Forward</b>		230,880	171,687
<b>Income</b>			
	St Vincents & Mater Health	159,939	167,513
	Australian Catholic Univ	159,939	167,513
	Consultancies	20,000	45,000
	Teaching	12,670	2,585
	Other Income	4,570	4,119
<b>Total Income</b>		587,998	558,417
<b>Expenditure</b>			
	<b>Salaries</b>	342,900	357,073
	<b>Non-Salary Items</b>		
	Equipment purchase	8,530	-
	Equipment maintenance	14,472	7,579
	Leasing	4,872	4,872
	Library	3,820	2,462
	Internet	1,024	1,018
	Other	4,221	3,186
	Rent	29,942	31,733
	Stationery	2,535	1,124
	Travel	3,995	8,638
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		416,311	417,685
<b>Carried Forward</b>		171,687	140,732



Plunkett Centre for Ethics  
A joint centre of  
Australian Catholic University and St Vincent's & Mater Health Sydney  
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Web: <http://www.acu.edu.au/plunkettcentre/>