

Annual *report* 2024-25





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Introduction from the *Director and Deputy Director*



UOI DIRECTOR
ROGER CRISP

In the late 1990s, important discussions took place between the University of Oxford and the Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education, at that time led by Chairman Eiji Uehiro. The Foundation was interested in the possibility of supporting the University, in the end deciding to fund the Uehiro Professorship of Practical Ethics, which Julian Savulescu has held with distinction since that time. Julian, wanting to embed discussion of practical ethics more

deeply into the University, persuaded the Foundation to establish the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, which celebrated its twentieth anniversary in June 2023. It soon became recognised as pre-eminent for its scholarship in applied ethics, and its success led to remarkably generous endowment offered by the Foundation, under the chairmanship of Mr Tetsuji Uehiro, for the Uehiro Oxford Institute.

The Institute will continue to uphold the high standards set by the Centre, and though its name no longer includes reference to practical ethics as an area of philosophy, the ultimate question it seeks to answer is both philosophical and practical: how should one live, and, in particular, how should one act? Providing possible answers to that question requires the expertise not only of philosophers, but of experts in many areas of the arts and the sciences. And those answers must make a difference. The Centre did a great deal of work in public engagement, and such work is a key element in the mission of the Institute, the motto of which is 'Thought into Action'.

The most significant event of the last year was of course the official inauguration of the Institute on 1 October 2024. The day began with the unveiling at the Institute of a plaque by the Vice-Chancellor, and speeches by her, Dr Maruyama, and the Head of the Humanities Division. In the evening, one hundred and fifty distinguished guests, colleagues, and friends met to celebrate the start of our journey. We gathered first in the beautiful, recently completed Levine Building at Trinity College to hear a fascinating lecture by Nigel Warburton on how philosophy runs as a thread through the whole fabric of human existence: 'Philosophers do it in armchairs and other myths'. We then adjourned to another attractive addition to Oxford architecture, the dining hall at Reuben College, where the chefs excelled themselves.

There have been many other high points in the first months of the Institute. Our weekly Work-in-Progress Seminars have continued with talks on a remarkable range of topics, from Gandhi's animal ethics, through the measurement of well-being in social policy, to virtue and public health. Our UPELL lecture series has continued to attract large audiences, and our world-leading MSt. programme large numbers of highly qualified applicants. Our Practical Ethics and Responsibility Competition

received a wide range of excellent submissions, the winning video being that from Westminster School on whether one nation has a duty to protect others from attack, while the talks presented at the final of the 11th National Uehiro Oxford Essay Prize were outstanding, the winners speaking on two issues very much of the moment: social media, and assisted dying. Many of our staff have continued to support broader activities and projects in, for example, TORCH, Antitheses, and BioJusPan. The Philosophical Moral Psychology Lab (one of the three 'pillars' of our research) has flourished, with weekly meetings and much else, and DARCA, the ethical decision aid project (and another pillar) is due to launch any day. We have welcomed two outstanding Uehiro-St Cross scholars, as part of our deepening of the 'Anglo-Japanese Alliance' (the third pillar), and strengthened our links with St Cross and other colleges.

The above sketches just some of the results of the hard work of our academic and administrative staff, students, and visitors. Our website contains further details, and I am extremely grateful to all involved for their contributions and support, as well of course to the Uehiro Foundation for making everything possible. In closing, let me thank in particular two long-serving and dedicated members of our administrative staff, Debbie Sheehan and Rocci Wilkinson, who have moved on to other activities. We are deeply in their debt, and shall miss them greatly.



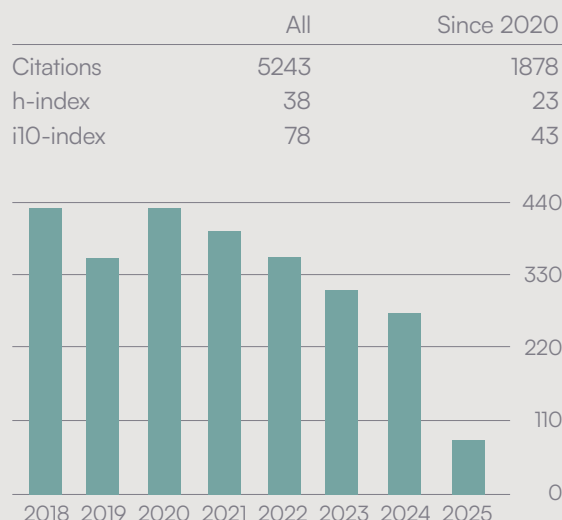
ROGER CRISP
APRIL 2025



PROFESSOR
DOMINIC
WILKINSON

Prof Wilkinson

**9th most read author from
Oxford University published
this year in The Conversation**



At a time of global uncertainty, conflict and division, the research and academic enquiry initiated by the visionary support of the Uehiro Foundation for Ethics and Education twenty years ago, and now supported in perpetuity by the creation of the Uehiro Oxford Institute, seems more important than ever.

As detailed elsewhere in this report, the Institute continues its programmes of topical, rigorous and ground-breaking philosophical research, combined with public engagement with the wider community. The Wellcome-funded collaborative 'Antitheses' project, encapsulates both of these. Conceived during the COVID pandemic, it focuses on questions of radical value disagreement, and how philosophical and ethical approaches might help to heal or bridge the divisions in our communities. For example, during the launch of the project, 'Palaver' - a distinctive African form of dispute resolution, was used to explore disagreements about gender and sporting participation. Other events have aimed to draw on techniques developed at the Uehiro Centre ('Collective Reflective Equilibrium in Practice', and 'Dissensus') and seek to contribute to public understanding of the ethics around assisted dying - relevant to current political debates in the UK. That included articles written for a public audience on the Conversation website (reaching more than 130,000 readers in the last year).

These projects epitomise the focus of the new Institute. Philosophy and allied areas of enquiry are not just for the ivory tower. They must connect with and apply to the most important and pressing questions that face our world.

Selected Highlights:

Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics



PROFESSOR
JULIAN
SAVULESCU

As the Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics at Oxford, and the Chen Su Lan Centennial of Medicine and Director of the Centre of Biomedical Ethics at the National University of Singapore, Professor Savulescu has continued to work to develop strong links between the Universities, furthering opportunities for collaboration and promoting world-class research in both Centres. He continues to lead research projects across both sites and encourages a transfer of ideas between the two. Dr Brian Earp, formerly of the UOI, is now based with Julian in Singapore, and we are delighted that Research Assistant Maryam Khan will be starting her PhD in Singapore next term.

ANTITHESES: Wellcome Discovery Research Platform for Transformative Inclusivity in Ethics and Humanities Research

Prof Julian Savulescu's role: Principal Investigator

Total amount awarded: £5,548,400

The ANTITHESES platform addresses an urgent need for research able to engage meaningfully with the radical value disagreements, polarisation, and informational uncertainty characteristic of

contemporary medical science, practice, and policy. Available approaches to ethics and humanities research lack the concepts, methods, and tools to do this work. They have insufficient diversity of voices, are overly safe and conservative, and overwhelmingly Western. New approaches are needed. To address these challenges, Antitheses brings together expertise, from the UK and internationally, across the fields of history, philosophy, the fine arts, design bioethics, sociology, and global bioethics.

The Platform's activities, which will develop and test tools and methods for achieving this, are organised under six complementary and connected thematic programmes. Bringing together expertise from history, philosophy, the fine arts, design bioethics, sociology, and global bioethics, each programme addresses a different need for new concepts, methods, digital tools, and collaborative partnerships capable of engaging with radical value disagreements in medical science, practice, and policy. To ensure that they work effectively together, and benefit from expertise in other disciplines, our 'connectors' programme will engage with problems arising out of the convergence of these challenges to foster collaboration.

ANTITHESES website is live at www.antitheses.net/



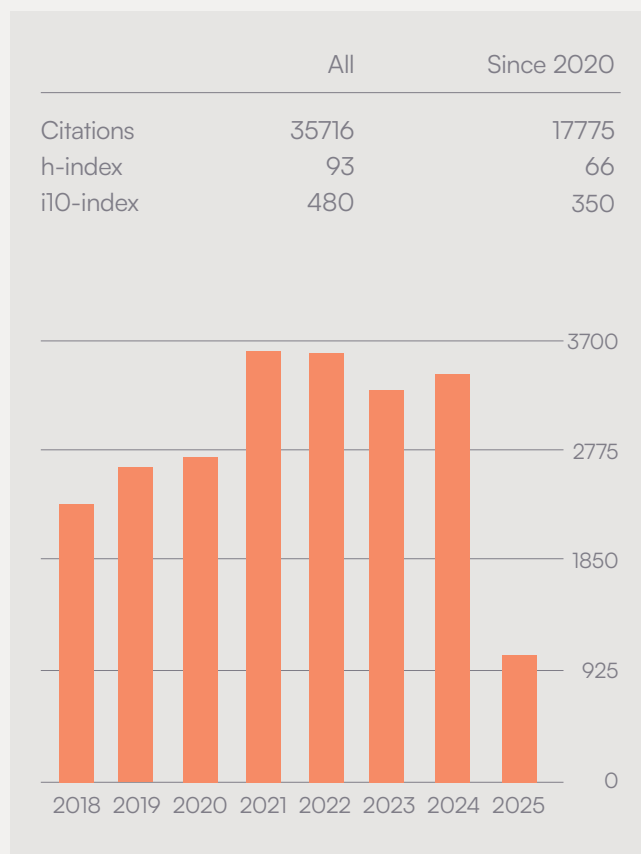
Oxford-NUS Centre for Neuroethics & Society

The Oxford-NUS Centre for Neuroethics and Society (OCNS) is a joint initiative between the University of Oxford and the National University of Singapore. It was established in 2024 in Oxford's Faculty of Psychiatry, in collaboration with UOI and the NUS Centre for Biomedical Ethics at the National University of Singapore's Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine. It is led by Associate Professor Brian Earp. The Centre aims to build cross-cultural, interdisciplinary links between key Oxford- and NUS-based research groups, to tackle cutting edge philosophical, ethical, and practical problems at the intersection of neuroscience and neuro-technologies, AI, social media, psychopharmacology, medical ethics, mental health, moral development, social cooperation, environmental awareness, and collective flourishing.

OCNS engages in philosophical, experimental, and practical and applied research to make advances in normative theory, empirical modelling of public attitudes, ethical guideline development, and policy frameworks.

Prof Savulescu took part in a number of events on behalf of the UOI. In May 2024, he participated in the Annual Oxford-Bucharest Workshop and the Young Presidents' Organization Reimagining Leadership Programme speaking on 'Hard Choices'. He was the keynote speaker at the Conference "Existential Threats and Other Disasters: How Should We Address Them", in Montenegro, speaking on 'AI as Human Moral

Enhancement'. He was also an opening panelist for the World Congress of Bioethics in June 2024, providing talks on 'Bridging Worlds and Intersecting Pathways: Religion, Culture, Diversity, and Global Bioethics' and 'Navigating Bioethical Frontiers Through Religious Perspectives: the case for and against engaging religious values and traditions in bioethics frameworks'. He also spoke at the European Society of Human Genetics symposium in Berlin on the topic of 'Preimplantation genetic testing for polygenic conditions'.



Other selected events

Uehiro-MCRI-Oxford Conference, 24 September 2024, Polygenic Risk Scores and Reproduction: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues

Ethox Seminar, 7 October 2024, Polygenic Risk Scores and Reproduction: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues

Location: Big Data Institute, Oxford

Talk at University of Bucharest, 16 October 2024, Polygenic Risk Scores and Reproduction: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues. Location: Bucharest, Romania

World Bioethics Day, 18 October 2024, Ethics of Polygenic risk scores for reproduction.

Location: Athens, Greece

BLC meeting, 6 March 2025, The Potential and Ethics of Polygenic Editing. Location: Via Zoom

History, Eugenics, and Human Enhancement: How the Past Can Inform Ethical Debates in the Present

— **Conference, Oxford, 24 March**, Discussion on the Moral Stakes of Germline Genome Editing.

Location: St Anne's College, Oxford



Prof Savulescu

GPS Scholar ranks Prof Savulescu's lifetime work as: No1 Bioethics, No1 Medical ethics No4 Ethics

13th most read University of Oxford author in The Conversation

47 Journal articles published this year

Uehiro Oxford Institute *Inauguration*

On the 1st October 2024 the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Professor Irene Tracey, officially launched the new Uehiro Oxford Institute. Established through a generous benefaction from the Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education, the Institute aims to advance well-being and global harmony by fostering world-leading research on the most important ethical questions, and by research-led assistance in ethical decision-making outside the Institute.

Thought into Action

The ultimate concern of the Institute will be the ethical question of how we should act and live in light of the great challenges faced by humanity. We see this question as ultimately philosophical, and so the Institute will have especially close links with philosophy, and in particular the philosophers and the Faculty of Philosophy at Oxford. But properly to understand these challenges, and to develop solutions to them, requires expertise from many disciplines. The Uehiro Oxford Institute will therefore grow to include experts from a range of relevant disciplines, and will engage closely with researchers in the humanities, including literature, art, and history, as well as medical, natural, and social sciences.



Professor Tracey launched the Institute at a gathering at the UOI offices in St Ebbes, Oxford, including speeches from Julian Savulescu, Roger Crisp and Dr Maruyama. This was followed by a well-attended public lecture on the value of public philosophy, given by esteemed public philosopher Dr Nigel Warburton, and a gala dinner in Reuben College in celebration of the generosity of the Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education, and marking the start of the work of the new Uehiro Oxford Institute.



[Click to watch the video](#)

Prof Roger Crisp
Director, Uehiro Oxford Institute





"Philosophy is difficult, and so of course are the problems currently facing humanity, and those that will emerge in future. But difficulties must be faced, and there are better and worse ways of so doing. The better ways will involve lucidity in argument, imagination, intellectual modesty as well as ambition, readiness to learn from others, and a commitment to excellence. These virtues lie at the heart of the mission of the Uehiro Oxford Institute. We are deeply grateful to the Uehiro Foundation for the opportunity to take that mission forward, and for their faith in us and in Oxford. We shall not disappoint them."

Professor Roger Crisp



"1 October 2024 will be an unforgettable day for all of us at the Uehiro Foundation, as the Uehiro Oxford Institute sets out on its long journey to confront the ethical challenges facing humanity. Throughout our 37-year history, we at the Uehiro Foundation have regarded the University of Oxford with deep respect as one of the best candidates for our patronage. We wish the Institute the greatest success!"

Mr Tetsuji Uehiro, Chairman of the Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education



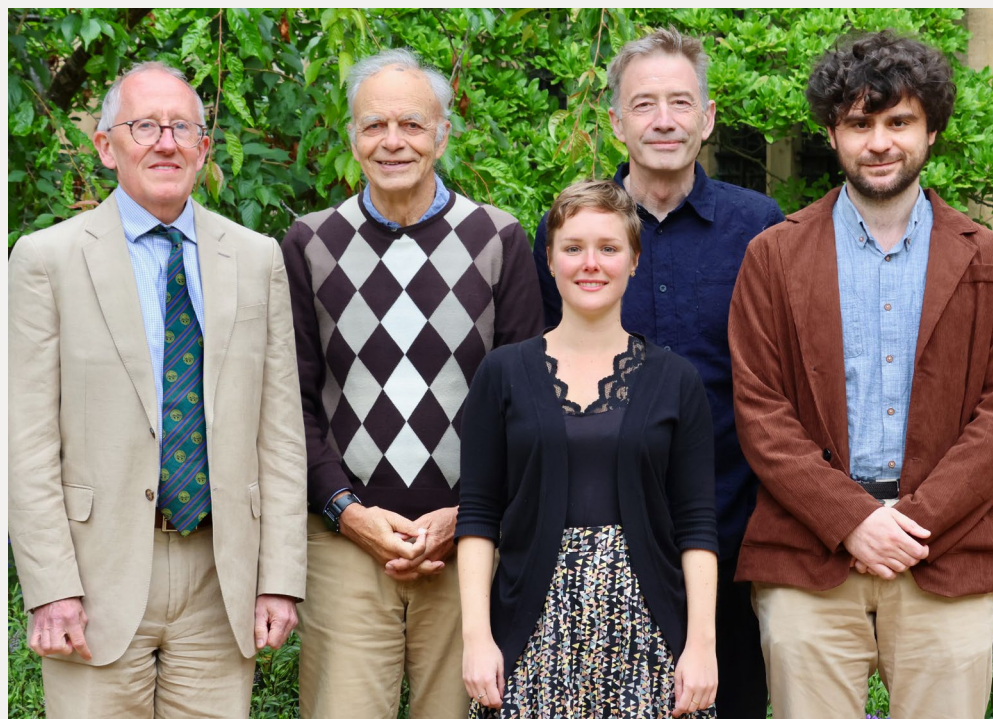
Key Staff *Highlights*

Inaugural Ethox-Uehiro lecture

On 11 June, Professor Peter Singer presented the very first Ethox-Uehiro lecture at St Cross College, Oxford. Organised by Dr Alberto Giubilini, Dr Tess

Johnson and Prof Mike Parker, Prof Singer's lecture was entitled 'Disagreeing on Ethical Questions, Fruitfully and Otherwise'. The lecture theatre was full, and well over 100 people watched the livestream. Prof Singer's lecture was about not the more abstract or a priori epistemic question of how

to respond to disagreement, especially between epistemic peers, but which actual disagreements — in metaethics, normative theory, or applied ethics — he has found fruitful in his long career. Prof Crisp's summary of the lecture can be read on the Practical Ethics blog.



From L to R, Roger Crisp, Peter Singer, Tess Johnson, Mike Parker, Alberto Giubilini

"Disagreeing on ethical questions is an important part of philosophical ethics, whether at the level of metaethics, normative theory, or applied ethics. I shall look back over some of the disagreements I have had on ethical questions at each of these levels, and reflect on which kinds of disagreements have been fruitful, and which have not."

Peter Singer

UOI-supported research and teaching visit to Brazil

Interventions and Ethics: Dialogues on Consent
Intervenções e ética: diálogos sobre consentimento

CONVIDADA: **Dra. LISA FORSBERG (OXFORD UNIVERSITY)**

COORDENAÇÃO: Prof. Dr. MARCO AZEVEDO (UNISINOS/BIOJUSPAN)
ORGANIZAÇÃO: Profa. Dra. MARCELLE COELHO DO ROSÁRIO (BIOJUSPAN/ CNPq)

TEMAS ABORDADOS

- 1) Is consent to psychological intervention than consent to bodily intervention?
- 2) Vaccination, purpose, and permissibility?

28 E 29 DE NOVEMBRO
19:00 às 22:00 - Unisinos/S.L.

Link para a inscrição: unisinos.br/lab/cursos/intervencoes-e-etica-dialogos-sobre-consentimento-intervencoes-e-etica-dialogos-on-consent-ex125389-00001-1505



UNISINOS CNPq BIOJUSPAN

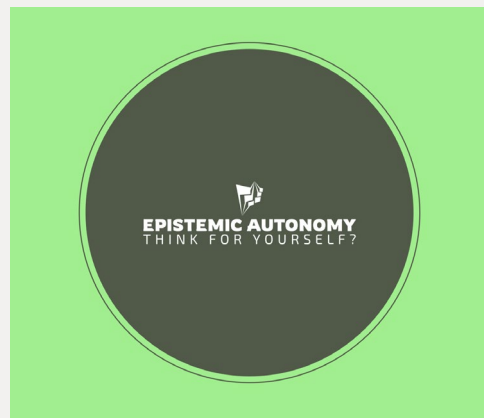
Dr Lisa Forsberg undertook a two-and-a-half month academic research and teaching visit to Brazil, supported by the Uehiro Oxford Institute and the BioJusPan (Bioética, justiça distributiva e pandemias/Bioethics, Distributive Justice and Pandemics) research project. Dr Forsberg gave a series of lectures on her research on public health ethics, consent and non-consensual interventions, and

our rights against bodily and mental interference at five Brazilian universities: Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina; Universidade Federal de Uberlândia; Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro; Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos; Universidade de Caxias do Sul. This was an opportunity to discuss important issues relating to philosophy, law, and public health with students and academics in Brazil, that will hopefully lead to many future opportunities for engagement and collaboration.

Diversity Reading List in Philosophy 10-Year Anniversary Conference 2025

Dr Lisa Forsberg is part of a team of academics based around the UK working on a **project** to diversify the reading list in university philosophy courses, and make available texts in philosophy written by authors from under-represented groups. She has been successful in pulling together funding from various sources to enable a wide range of participants to attend the anniversary conference, which will take place in Manchester in July 2025.

Intellectual Autonomy MOOC



Prof Neil Levy's AHRC-funded project on Epistemic Autonomy has produced a new massive open online course (MOOC) on Intellectual Autonomy. Provided for free on the Coursera platform the programme provides an overview of philosophical questions about intellectual autonomy, i.e. our ability to govern ourselves as thinkers. "Thinking for yourself" is a traditional educational emphasis; but recent history has also dramatized the risks of "doing your own research" instead of trusting experts on topics from climate change to vaccine risks to election outcomes. Meanwhile, the rise of AI tools like ChatGPT illustrates the

possibility of "outsourcing" some of our thinking to technology; and problems of misinformation press us to consider how individuals and governments can permissibly shape people's intellectual behaviour. This **course**, led by Neil's collaborators at the University of Glasgow, brings these topics into perspective by considering how the value of intellectual autonomy relates to our dependence on other people, labour-saving tools, and healthy informational environments.

MedHum Research Hub shortlisted for Vice-Chancellor's Award 2025

Dr Alberto Giubilini, former AfOx Fellow Dr Tolulope Osayomi and colleagues have been shortlisted for the Vice-Chancellor's Award 2025 as part of the Oxford Centre for the Humanities Medical Humanities Research Hub (TORCH). It highlights the contribution of the humanities to a proper understanding of health, disease, and medicine. MedHum challenges the assumption that cutting-edge medical research and innovation in healthcare are solely the domain of

physicians and laboratories. Dr Giubilini will be taking over the leadership of the MedHum research Hub in September 2025 and the Award results will be released in the spring.

Prof Neil Levy was awarded the Philosophy Medal by the Italian Society for Neuroethics and Philosophy (**SINe**) at Roma Tre University. He was also named as the Leading Researcher in philosophy by **The Australian Research Magazine** in November 2024.



Prof Neil Levy is presented with the SINe Philosophy Medal, Rome 2024.

Further highlights

The Philosophical Moral Psychology Lab (formerly, the BioXPhi lab) has continued to foster vibrant interdisciplinary research at the intersection of ethics and psychology under the leadership of Dr Joanna Demaree-Cotton. As well as holding weekly 'lab meetings' for discussing ongoing research, the Lab hosted Dr Carme Isern-Mas as an academic visitor for Michaelmas Term 2024, and leading researchers in moral psychology, including Dr Jim Everett, Dr Kathryn Francis, and Dr Ethan Landes, gave talks.



Philosophical Moral Psychology Lab members 2024

In March 2024, Prof Katrien Devolder was invited to join the Nuffield Council's interdisciplinary working group to examine the case for changing how embryo research is regulated in the UK, with a particular focus on the embryo culture time limit (currently 14 days).

Dr Joanna Demaree-Cotton started the Hugh Price Fellowship at Jesus College in Michaelmas 2024, and Drs Rebecca Brown and Alberto Giubilini became Fellows of St Cross College.

Oxford University Reward and Recognition Scheme: Dr Alberto Giubilini, Dr Gabriel De Marco and Dr Joanna Demaree-Cotton each received an Award of Excellence by the Humanities Division, the UOI Admin team were recognised for their work during the transition of OUCPE to the UOI.

Prof Katrien Devolder was awarded the title of Professor of Applied Ethics.

Dr Lisa Forsberg was awarded a Brocher Foundation research residency (in 2025), for her project 'The Ethics of Motivational Interviewing'.

César Palacios-González became a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, UK.



Profs Savulescu and Wilkinson with attendees and organisers at the 2024 Uehiro Young Scholars program in Kyoto

UOI welcomed 44 visiting researchers from all around the world this year, with visits spanning several days to 8 months. Our most frequent visitors are from France, Mexico, Japan, Germany, Spain, Canada and the US.

"I had a wonderful experience at the Uehiro Centre. The welcoming community and the chance to hear about others' work were highlights."

"During my short stay I managed to do good work, make great connections, discuss my work and get useful feedback."

"There is a sense of community that you don't find easily in other departments or universities. In general, faculty members and staff are very welcoming. Having lunch together, going to the pub, having the Signal group, and other activities are important for someone new to feel welcomed."

University of Oxford

Ranked No.1

for applied ethics in the global rankings
Philosophical Gourmet Report

130

journal
articles

in
90

journals

Dominic Wilkinson

Ranked #4 globally for Ethics by
ScholarGPS over the last 5 years

Alberto Giubilini

Ranked #4 globally for Vaccination
by ScholarGPS over the last 5 years,
#7 for Philosophy and #10 for Ethics

Brian Earp

Top-read author in American
Journal of Bioethics of all time,
with 12,722 read

New Staff

In the coming months and years, the UOI is looking to expand, diversifying our academic competencies to become a truly multidisciplinary institute, and developing a world-class administrative team to support the work. Over the past year we have begun this process by welcoming new staff to several projects. We have also been very sad to say goodbye to two long-time colleagues - Office Manager Rocci Wilkinson and Finance Manager Debbie Sheehan, who have moved on to new roles outside of the University.



Dr Chris Register

Research Fellow in Ethics and Moral Psychology

Chris joined the UOI to work on the EU-funded **CAVAA project**: Counterfactual Assessment and Valuation for Awareness Architecture. He has a background in philosophy of mind, cognitive science, and the metaphysics of moral patients (PhD, Princeton University). He is currently working on philosophical-ethical and empirical studies of human judgments about conscious awareness in AI systems, especially as that informs considerations of privacy, value alignment, and ethical AI design.



Dr Gracie Reinecke

Research Fellow

Gracie is a Postdoctoral Researcher in Collective Moral Development, jointly within the UOI and Oxford's Psychiatry Department's Neuroscience, Ethics, and Society team. She researches moral cognition in humans and artificial intelligence from an interdisciplinary perspective, intersecting developmental psychology, moral philosophy, and computer science. Gracie holds her PhD, MSc, and MPhil from Yale University, as well as her BSc in Psychology and Philosophy from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Hosted *Fellowships*



We have been delighted to continue hosting Fellows Edmond Awad, Binesh Hass, Viktor Savchenko and Cristina Voinea this year, as well as welcoming Daniel Villiger, a former visiting student at the Institute, and now a Hosted Research Fellow funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation.

Daniel's work explores ethical questions regarding psychedelic-assisted therapy, such as whether patients can truly give informed consent to this medical

treatment, which research designs should be used to study psychedelics, and how to prevent malpractice in psychedelic treatments.

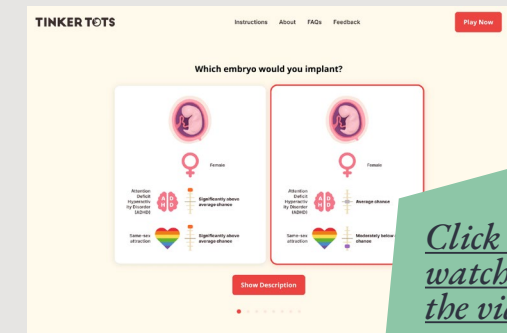
Best Publication of the Year

Viktor Savchenko's book *Freedom of Will in Civil Law*, was recognized as the "Best Publication of the Year" by the National Academy of Sciences of Higher Education of Ukraine and won first place in the "Monographs" nomination.

TINKER TOTS

Hosted Research Fellow Edmond Awad has led the development of Tinker Tots, an interactive tool designed to gather attitudes about the traits and conditions tested for by polygenic screening of embryos (genetic tests before implantation of the embryo). The aim is to understand individuals' judgements on what embryos to implant based on the chances of different traits and conditions.

The Tinker Tots project is part of the ANTITHESES Discovery Research Platform for Transformative Inclusivity in Ethics and Humanities Research funded by the Wellcome Trust and was developed exclusively for scientific research with collaborators at Oxford University, Exeter University, and the National University of Singapore.



*Click to
watch
the video*



Visiting Fellow Dr Dennis Masaka

We have also been delighted to welcome Visiting Fellow Dr Dennis Masaka to the Institute this year, as part of the Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx) Visiting Fellowship programme at the University of Oxford. Dr Masaka is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Ethics, Philosophy, Religion, and Theology at Great Zimbabwe University and is supervised in Oxford by Dr Alberto Giubilini. During his fellowship, Dr Masaka will work on his monograph, "Collective Responsibility and Collective Meeting of Needs: The Question of Land Redistribution in Zimbabwe."

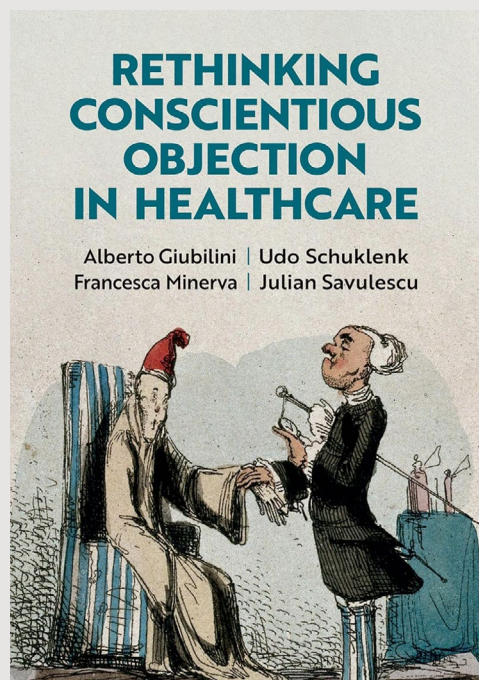
Books

Published this year

Rethinking Conscientious Objection in Health Care

Alberto Giubilini, Udo Schuklenk, Francesca Minerva, Julian Savulescu
Oxford University Press, 2025

The book provides an argument against a right to conscientious objection by health care professionals. In increasingly multicultural societies inspired by pluralism,



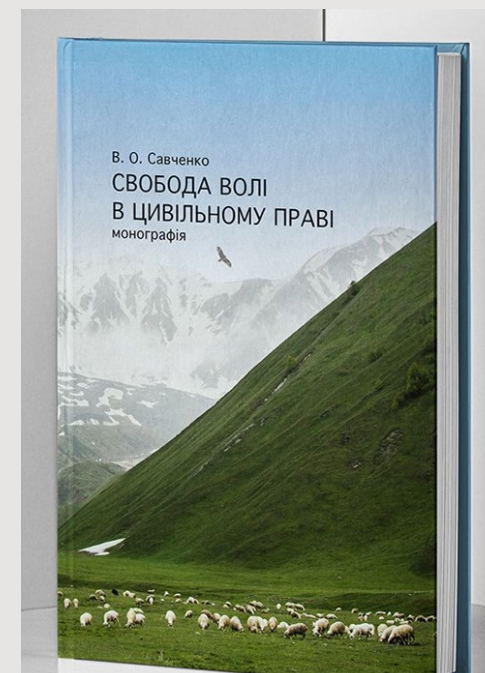
and given the range of controversial medical procedures that are or will be legal in many countries, claims about health care professionals' right to abide by their own moral or religious views in the exercise of their profession become more frequent. This book explains why arguments for pluralism, tolerance, and diversity that support a right to freedom of conscience in society at large do not support the same right within the health care profession, or indeed any profession governed by internal norms of professionalism that someone freely decides to enter.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/9780197786567.01.0001> Online ISBN: 9780197786567

Freedom of Will in Civil Law

Viktor Savchenko
UKRLOGOS Group, 2024

The monograph is the first comprehensive study in Ukraine of theoretical and practical issues of freedom of will in civil law. This study recognises an in-depth analysis of new ideas and current international and foreign trends in the legal regulation of the problem under study. The research topic is relevant



because freedom of will is central to all sub-branches and institutions of civil law, which determines the logic and scope of this study; each chapter provides a detailed analysis of the importance of freedom of will for a particular sub-branch of civil law. The study demonstrates how understanding the legal nature of freedom of will affects the solution to current topical civil law issues. The author analyses the interrelation of freedom of will, integrity and compliance with

the legislation requirements. The author determines whether freedom of will is everyone's choice, whether it is the coercion of the State or fear of sanctions for violation of the law.

<https://doi.org/10.36074/Savchenko-monograph.2024>

Parfit: A Philosopher and His Mission to Save Morality

David Edmonds

Princeton University Press, 2024
(paperback)

The paperback of Parfit: A Philosopher and His Mission to Save Morality was published in September 2024. Parfit was the most famous philosopher associated with the Uehiro Institute. The book was widely reviewed in the national press, both in the UK and the US, and described as 'superb' by the Wall Street Journal.

The Rights

Viktor Savchenko

Chatiner Publication 2024.

A discussion on the disproportionality of the rights of a man and a woman in the context of giving consent to the artificial termination of a pregnancy: an introduction to current issues.
ISBN 978-81-974133-9-1

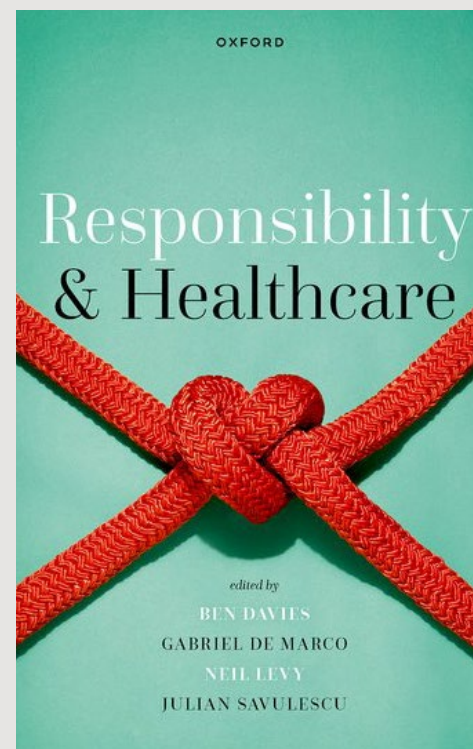
Edited volumes

Responsibility and Healthcare

Ed. Gabriel De Marco, Ben Davies, Neil Levy, and Julian Savulescu
Oxford University Press 2024

This edited collection brings together world-leading authors writing about a wide range of issues related to responsibility and healthcare. Alongside the introduction by the editors outlining the scope of the relevant debates, the volume contains 14 chapters, split into four sections.

The first and second groups of chapters focus on (a) the potential justification and (b) nature of 'responsibility-sensitive' policies in healthcare provision; policies that would hold some patients responsible for their ill health via differences in treatment. These sections include empirically-informed work on public opinion, chapters linking responsibility in healthcare with ongoing debates around criminal responsibility, and new conceptual and theoretical work on the details of responsibility-sensitive policies. The third set of chapters details the issues of whether, and how, we can be responsible for our health, presenting novel challenges and questions for those who would advocate responsibility-



sensitive policies in healthcare. Finally, the fourth group of chapters broadens the volume's focus to think about responsibility of individuals other than patients, including medical professionals and policymakers, including specific consideration of the role of responsibility during pandemics.

This is an open access title available under the terms of a CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 International licence. It is free to read at Oxford Scholarship Online and EuropePMC Bookshelf.

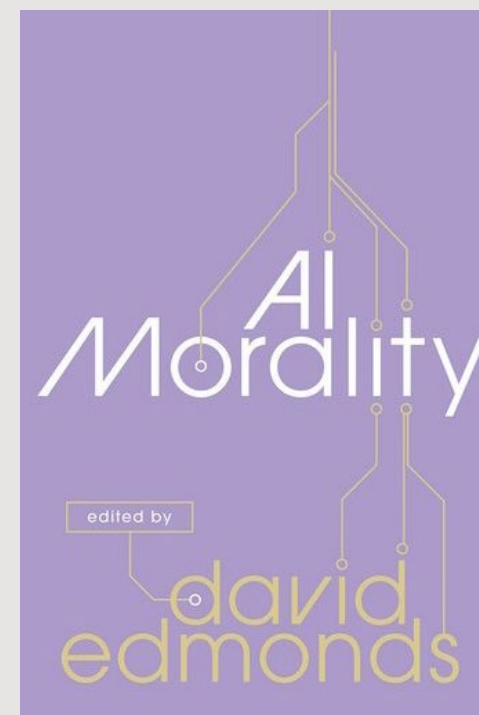
AI Morality

Ed. David Edmonds

Oxford University Press, 2024

A philosophical task force explores how AI is revolutionizing our lives - and what moral problems it might bring, showing us what to be wary of, and what to be hopeful for.

There is no more important issue at present than artificial intelligence. AI has begun to penetrate almost every sphere of human activity. It will disrupt our lives entirely. David Edmonds brings together a team of leading philosophers to explore some of the urgent



moral concerns we should have about this revolution. The chapters are rich with examples from contemporary society and imaginative projections of the future. The contributors investigate problems we're all aware of, and introduce some that will be new to many readers. They discuss self and identity, health and insurance, politics and manipulation, the environment, work, law, policing, and defence. Each of them explains the issue in a lively and illuminating way, and takes a view about how we should think and act in response. Anyone who is wondering what ethical challenges the future holds for us can start here.

AI Morality includes the following contributions from UOI researchers:

- Risky Business: AI and the Future of Insurance. Jonathan Pugh
- AI and Discriminatory Intent. Binesh Hass
- Do AI Systems Allow Online Advertisers to Control Others?. Gabriel De Marco and Tom Douglas
- Robotic Persons and Asimov's Three Laws of Robotics. César Palacios-González

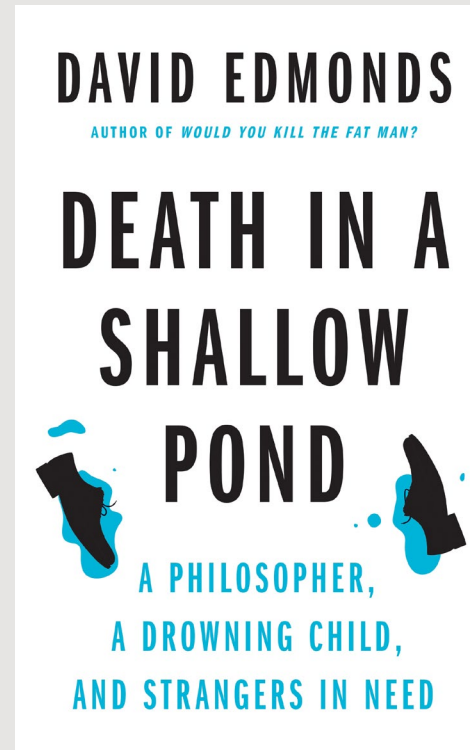
In press

Death in a Shallow Pond

David Edmonds

Princeton University Press, (expected September 2025)

Imagine this: You're walking past a shallow pond and spot a toddler thrashing around in the water, in obvious danger of drowning. You look around for her parents, but nobody is there. You're the only person who can save her and you must act immediately. But as you approach the pond you remember that you're wearing your most expensive shoes. Wading into the water will ruin them—and might make you late for a meeting. Should you let the child drown? The philosopher Peter Singer published this thought experiment in 1972, arguing that allowing people in the developing world to die, when we could easily help them by giving money to charity, is as morally reprehensible as saving our shoes instead of the drowning child. Can this possibly be true? In *Death in a Shallow Pond*, David Edmonds tells the remarkable story of Singer and his controversial idea, tracing how it radically changed the way many think about poverty—but also how it has provoked scathing criticisms.



6
book chapters
currently under contract
with Uehiro Scholars

25
chapters in edited books
this year contributed by
Uehiro Scholars

Hosted *Research Projects*

New Internally Funded

A Humanities Framework for Equitable Global Health

Alberto Giubilini: TORCH International Fellowship: (£7,480)

This project is designed to formulate a Humanities-centred equity framework for global health, by providing a Fellowship for Dr Osayomi (Ibadan University), enabling him to spend a term in Oxford working with Alberto and colleagues. Dr Osayomi's work represents an invaluable source of expertise for the Oxford Global Health programme in terms of addressing the local vs global tension in health policy and practice.



UOI Research Project Awards

This year the UOI has launched a new, internally-funded annual Research Project Awards (RPA) scheme. UOI RPAs are intended to support the development of a small research group pursuing a project that bears on the Institute's guiding question, 'how should we live?', which will run for between two and four years. The incorporation of interdisciplinary elements, in line with UOI's mission, is encouraged and all project proposals should include plans for engaging with non-academic audiences. This year eight applications have been received and are currently being reviewed by the panel, with a view to funding up to three.

Reframing Laziness: Voices of Lived Experience

Katrien Devolder and Joanna Demaree-Cotton: PCER Fund (£3,140)

This project brings together people who have experienced laziness stigma to share their stories and shape public understanding. It is part of broader research aiming to reduce widespread societal harm resulting from misconceptions about 'laziness' (e.g. burnouts through overwork, low self-esteem when failing to meet expectations, and impeded access to healthcare and employment). Through two co-designed workshops, participants from groups who face laziness stereotypes (inc. those with

chronic health conditions, past homelessness or unemployment, or who have experienced ethnicity-based 'laziness-stereotyping') will explore how these stereotypes impact their lives and develop ways to create more public awareness about harmful misconceptions. Using a hybrid format offering both in-person and online participation, we will create an inclusive space where participants can collaborate in ways that work best for them. The project will culminate in a public event at the Westgate Shopping Centre and the Oxfordshire Country Library, where participants can share their stories and insights with the wider community.

Research Visits

Gabriel De Marco: Astor Fund (£3,000)

This funding enabled Dr De Marco to bring Drs Kyle Fritz and Daniel Miller to the UOI to develop and strengthen their research networks, as well as provide student-focussed masterclasses and discussions around their upcoming book.

OPEN Fellowships:

See Policy and Practice for details.

- Embedding ethics in public health policy and practice (Rebecca Brown, £12,253)
- Obstetric violence in the Mexican context (César Palacios-González, £17,379)



The Public's Health: The Methods, Ethics, and History of Public Health in Moving Images

Alberto Giubilini (co-I): John Fell Fund Small award held by the History Faculty

This project is in collaboration with the British Film Institute, with Prof Erica Charters as PI. Activities have included a workshop at St Anne's College in July: "Health in Films": interdisciplinary roundtable with public health academic and representatives of the British Film Institute, University of Oxford.

Workshop on AI, Privacy, and Alignment

Chris Register: John Fell Fund Small award (£6,640)

The workshop, to be held in Oxford on 15-16th of May 2025 on the topic of "AI, Privacy, and Alignment" will bring together researchers from institutions such as Google Deep Mind, the Universities of Sheffield, Cambridge, Sorbonne, and Uppsala, and research groups within Oxford including the ETHOX Centre,

the Institute for Ethics in AI, the Faculty of Philosophy, and the Uehiro Oxford Institute. This interdisciplinary network of researchers from psychology, philosophy, and computer science will be able to produce actionable and much-needed guidance for developing privacy-sensitive AI.

New Externally Funded

Gendered Conceptions of Autonomous Consent: A Philosophical, Psychological and Linguistic Investigation Across Culture

Joanna Demaree-Cotton: British Academy Knowledge Frontiers (£300,000)

This project investigates how philosophical concepts of autonomy and valid consent are gendered across different cultural and language contexts. According to the principle of informed consent, autonomous persons have the right to make their own decisions regarding their bodies, lives and medical treatment. If a person is deemed not to be autonomous, others may make paternalistic decisions on that person's behalf based on what is thought to be in that person's best interests. However, research on gender stereotypes suggest that women are stereotyped as less agentic, less rational, and more emotional - traits that are associated with lower degrees of autonomy. This project bridges philosophy, social psychology and linguistics to investigate how gender stereotypes in different cultures affect the extent to which women are perceived to be autonomous and capable of making

their own decisions. As part of this, the UOI hosted a one-day workshop in September 2024 with academic collaborators and senior advisory members including academics and legal/policy advocates.

British Academy Brazil Academic Writing Workshops in Philosophy and Law (BRAW-thor)

Lisa Forsberg: British Academy International Writing Workshops (£29,965)

This project entails a series of four three-day workshops focused on early-career researchers in Philosophy and Law in Brazil. Workshops participants will receive tailored feedback and one-to-one mentoring on a specific piece of career-development work, such as a journal article or grant application. The workshops will also provide valuable generalised advice on a range of career-development topics—article publication; grant application; job application—with a view to equalising opportunities for success in two competitive academic disciplines in which Brazilian researchers face disadvantage.



Lisa Forsberg with colleagues in Brazil

Policy and *Practice*



Academic Lead: Jonathan Pugh

The Institute continues to make meaningful strides in promoting the integration of ethical considerations into public policy, on both national and global scales. Through the cultivation of strategic partnerships, the Institute's research continues to impact real-world policy and education, with exciting prospects for future collaboration. One example can be seen in the two OPEN Policy Fellowships awarded to UOI members in the past year. These fellowships, and the other collaborative initiatives with external partners detailed below, are ensuring that the research being carried out at UOI is being used to

tackle pressing moral issues in key societal sectors including healthcare, security, and cultural education.



Jonathan Pugh delivers the Keynote address at UMEC2024

Major policy projects

The Ethics of Cultural Restitution (DARCA)
The question of whether cultural institutions like museums have a 'moral obligation' to return certain items within their collections is a question of significant import, both from a legal and a broader cultural perspective. The Decision Aid for the Restitution of Cultural Artefacts (DARCA)

project, led by Jonathan Pugh, is an interdisciplinary project that brings together philosophers, museum professionals, policy-makers, restitution lawyers, and other stakeholders to develop an online decision aid to facilitate discussions of this complex issue. Following a second successful workshop in September, the working group have developed a working version of the decision aid that was successfully piloted in late 2024. It is anticipated that the final decision aid will be publicly launched in summer 2025.

OPEN project: Obstetric violence in the Mexican context

Obstetric violence is defined as "the violation of integrity [which] occurs in the context of antenatal, intrapartum and postnatal care". A recent mixed-methods systematic review of childbirth in health facilities globally found that women in labour have been subject to violence in many forms, including being gagged, beaten, insulted, and tied to the bed. Eradicating obstetric violence globally is of critical concern, and this is even more so where other types of injustices (e.g. racial discrimination) compound the phenomenon. This Fellowship enables César Palacios González and the Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida (GIRE) to work together, building on his existing network of Mexican healthcare practitioners and policy makers, to investigate and develop methodologies for the reduction of obstetric violence in Mexico.

Oxford Policy Engagement Network Visiting Fellowship



We were delighted to be selected as a pilot partner for the OPEN Visiting Fellowship programme. We will shortly be welcoming Jessica Lawrence from the UK's Cabinet Office for a 6-month Fellowship. This is a unique opportunity for the UOI to develop detailed policy understanding as well as relationships at the heart of government, whilst at the same time sharing the opportunities and challenges of a research environment with a policy specialist.

OPEN project: Embedding ethics in public health policy and practice

Rebecca Brown received funding from the Oxford University Policy Engagement Network to spend four months working part time at Oxfordshire County

Council. The aim of this fellowship is to support the council to reflect upon the ethical implications of their public health work, with a particular focus on their public health communications. The fellowship will also help to build ties between the county council and the Uehiro Institute, and to promote academic input into the work of the local authority more generally.

Examples of other policy engagement

Alberto Giubilini was a panelist at the roundtable “Expertise and disagreement in vaccination policy” at the Global Health and Bioethics Conference, St Catherine College, Oxford, 9-10 July 2024.

Joanna Demaree-Cotton's collaboration with the NHS Race & Health Observatory led to a public launch of the report on Patient Experience and Trust in Primary Care on 7th March with a roundtable in London.

Dominic Wilkinson provided a written submission to the House of Commons Public Bills Committee for the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) bill in January 2025. He also provided an Appendix to AORMC **report** ‘Diagnosis of death by neurological criteria (DNC) in infants, children and adolescents (revised)’ and a BAPM **Framework** for practice for the British Association of Perinatal Medicine: Recognising

uncertainty: an integrated framework for palliative care in perinatal medicine.

Katrien Devolder contributed to the Nuffield Council on Bioethics' draft report on the creation of stem cell-based embryo models (final report Published 27 Nov 2024), and to a written submission in response to a call for evidence ‘strengthening leading practice in the animals in science sector’ by The Animals in Science Committee (ASC), whose role it is to provide balanced, and objective advice to the Home Office Minister in areas relating to the use of animals in scientific procedures.

Jonathan Pugh worked on a draft Nuffield Council Report on Stem Cell Based Embryo Models: A review of ethical and governance questions.

Teaching

Teaching has continued to be a key activity for UOI staff. The flagship MSt programme has become a widely respected course and is at the forefront of UOI teaching, but colleagues also continue to support a number of other programmes, including undergraduate courses for the Medical Sciences Division.



MSt in Practical Ethics

Academic Lead: Guy Kahane

Our MSt in Practice Ethics continues to provide high quality training to students from a wide range of background, many of whom are already established leaders in their fields. Over the course of the year, we have had to say our goodbyes to Iris Geens, our course manager, who has moved to the private sector, while welcoming Dr. Jennifer Allen, who has joined as assistant course manager. Interest in the course remains strong, with 142 applications received last year for an intake of 28 students. The course size has also gradually grown, with nearly a hundred students now on the course. Since the introduction of modules on AI and data ethics, we have had an increase of students with background or interests in that area, but we also continue to cover cutting edge ethical questions in areas such as medical, research and psychiatric ethics. Our modules regularly showcase the ethical

work of different researchers from UOI as well as invited external experts. We were very pleased to see our students continue to publish their work in leading journals in the field, and receiving prestigious prizes—the MSt dissertation of our student Esther Braun, for example, has recently been awarded the Dalberg Prize for transdisciplinary work bridging science and the humanities. A significant portion of our students are continuing to doctoral studies either at Oxford or elsewhere. Others are applying the ethical knowledge they acquired in the course in the context of their work. For example, one of our UK students has recently been elected chair of a clinical ethics advisory group in charge of a catchment area of 500,000 people.

Former MSt student *Welles Emerson* was invited to present work derived from her MSt dissertation at the 2024 International Neuroethics Society meeting. Her abstract titled *'The Prudential Value of Creativity; A Neglected Question in Neuroethics'* was then voted for publication in AJOB-Neuroscience.

142

applications
received
last year

for an
intake of
28
students

| MSt Student Publications

Celie, KB., Mocharnuk, JW., Kanmounye, US., Ayala, R., Banu, T., Lakhoo, K., (2024), **The importance of global bioethics to paediatric health care, The Lancet Child & Adolescent Health**, Vol. 8 (5): 379-384, ISSN 2352-4642, [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642\(23\)00317-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(23)00317-6)

Celie, KB., Symons, X., Kochheiser, M., Ayala, R. and Lakhoo, K., (2024), **'Conscientious objection: a global health perspective'**, BMJ Global Health, Vol: 9(12): e017555

Feldman, E. and De Cremer, D (2024), **Preserving Physician Ethics in the Era of Autonomous AI, AI and Ethics**, online 5 Nov 2024

Iglesias, S., Earp, B. D., Voinea, C., Mann, S. P., Zahiu, A., Jecker, N. S. and Savulescu, J., (2025), **'Digital Doppelgängers and Lifespan Extension: What Matters?'**, The American Journal of Bioethics, Vol: 25(2): 95-110 [EuropePMC]

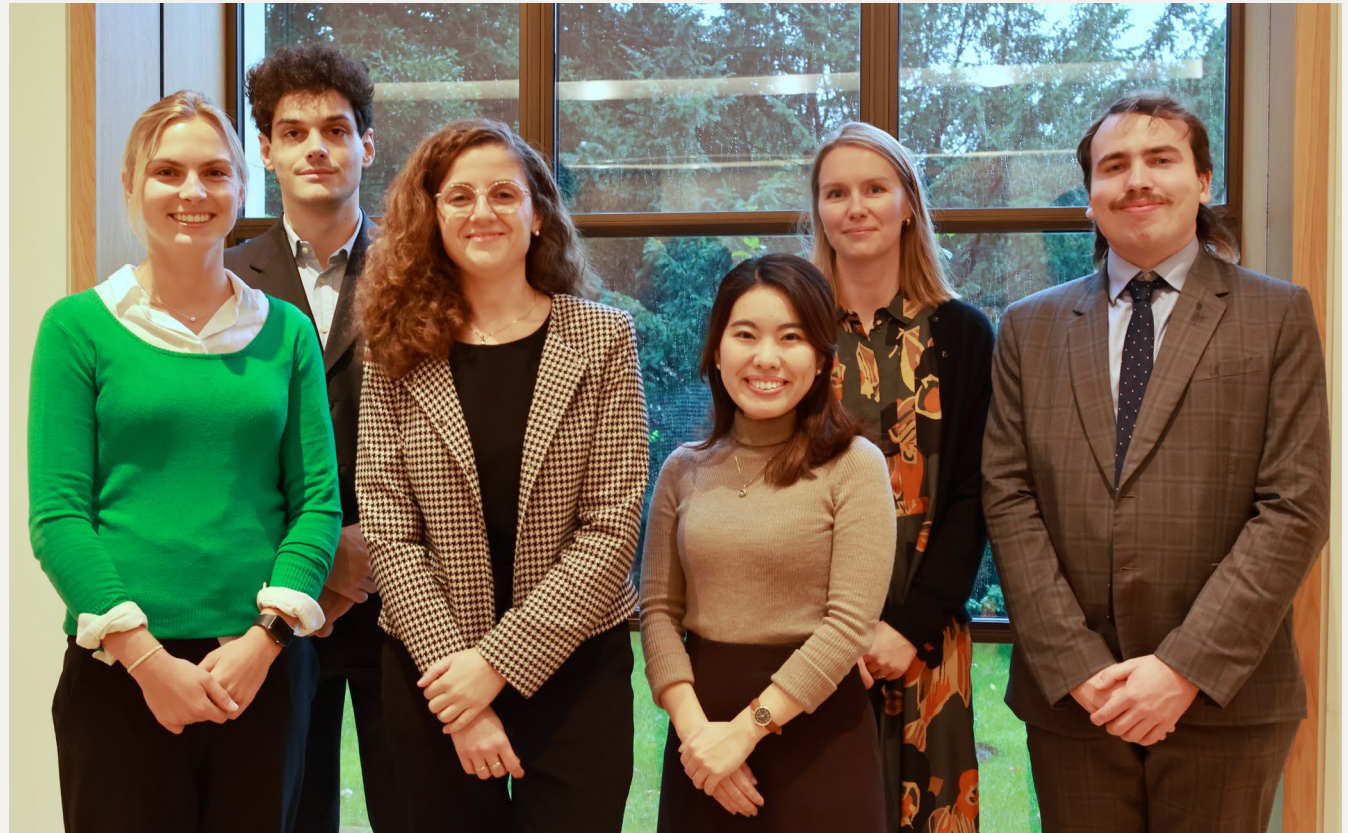
Sargent, Anand., (2024), **The problem of value change: Should advance directives hold moral authority for persons living with dementia?**, Bioethics, <https://doi.org/10.1111/bioe.13386>

BMedSci Elective

Academic Lead: Dominic Wilkinson

This year marks the fifteenth year that we have supported Australian medical students to undertake a BMedSci research project in Oxford. We had five students join us in 2024, and have another five in 2025. We also had one of our previous BMedSci students (Jemima Allen) return to complete a PhD based on her research into the ethical implications of large language models for informed consent in medicine. Papers from her project have been published in the *Journal of Medical Ethics* and the journal *Research Ethics*, while she has presented her research in Oxford, Melbourne, Kyoto, Singapore and Doha.

Research projects in 2024 included examination of the ethical boundaries for professional sanctions of doctors. This included examination of cases where doctors had



DPhil students at the Institute

| BMedSci student Publications

Marks, I. R., Devolder, K., Bowman-Smart, H., Johnston, M., & Mills, C. (2024). **NIPT for adult-onset conditions: Australian NIPT users' views.** *Bioethics*, 1–10. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bioe.13310>

Marks IR, Mills C, Devolder K.
Unconditional access to non-invasive prenatal testing (NIPT) for adult-onset conditions: a defence. *J Med Ethics* 2024;23;50(2):102-107

been sanctioned for involvement in climate protests, or other behaviour in their private life that might be legally or morally questionable. Other projects included ethical questions arising from monitoring of children born following new reproductive techniques.

Our students have also enjoyed the rich range of extra-curricular activities available to them while studying in Oxford, including taking part in sporting, musical and social events with local students.

Undergraduate and graduate teaching

Rebecca Brown leads the graduate discussion group in applied ethics, where students present work in progress and receive teaching on practical ethics topics as well as career development sessions. This is open to all members of the university with an interest in applied ethics. UOI staff also regularly teach and mark for the Faculty of Philosophy's undergraduate and postgraduate courses.



DPhil Students

The growing body of DPhil students plays an active role in the life of the Institute, taking part in teaching, research, conferences and public engagement.

Highlights

Anna Golova (pictured above) won the German Society for Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics (DGPPN) 2024 Prize for Philosophy and Ethics in Psychiatry and Psychotherapy. The DGPPN honours outstanding work that contributes

to the discussion of current fundamental questions in psychiatry and psychotherapy as well as philosophy, particularly in the areas of medical ethics, anthropology and scientific theory. The prize includes an award of 6,000 euros and is presented annually at the DGPPN Congress in Berlin. Anna gave related talks at the Society for Applied Philosophy Annual Conference in June 2024 and at the 25th World Congress of Philosophy in August 2024.

Mattia Cecchinato, Ryan Kulesa and Katerina Jennings won St Cross Uehiro Scholarships for Future Generations, in support of their DPhil studies.

Helena Ward, Paul Heller, and Anna Golova have received **scholarships** to spend two weeks working on their DPhil theses at a writing retreat in Estonia.

Oxford Uehiro-St Cross Scholars

Academic Leads: Tom Douglas and Jonathan Pugh

This year, UOI welcomed two Uehiro/St Cross scholars. Takanobu Watabe, from Kyoto University, researches well-being, personal relationships, and Zen philosophy. Yoshiki Yoshimura, a PhD graduate from Hokkaido University, specializes in Scanlonian contractualism, and he is now exploring a range of new ethical topics at Oxford.



Statement from a current Uehiro scholar. Yoshiki Yoshimura

I came to the Uehiro Oxford Institute in October 2024 from Hokkaido University, where I was a PhD student in philosophy. My PhD thesis was on a moral theory called Scanlonian contractualism. I tried to develop its credible form by responding to some significant objections to the theory. I completed my doctorate in the middle of my time at the Institute and am now developing my new interests in Henry Sidgwick, self-defence, public health ethics, etc. The thriving ethics community at the Institute has undoubtedly enhanced my thesis. In addition, the wonderful supervision of my supervisors, Professor Roger Crisp and Dr. Alberto Giubilini, and the interactions with other scholars, including fellow graduate students, have stimulated my new interests.



Uehiro Lectures *and* Uehiro Series *in Practical Ethics*

Academic Lead: Roger Crisp

The annual public Uehiro Lecture Series captures the ethos of the Uehiro Oxford Institute, which is to bring the best scholarship in analytic philosophy to bear on the most significant problems of our time, and to make progress in the analysis and resolution of these issues to the highest academic standard, in a manner that is also accessible to the general public. Philosophy should not only create knowledge, it should make people's lives better.

This year we were delighted to welcome Professor Elizabeth Harman (Laurance S. Rockefeller Professor of Philosophy and Human Values, Princeton University) to deliver the 2024 Annual Uehiro Lectures in Practical Ethics. The three-part lecture series, entitled "Love and Abortion", took place in Keble College on 25 April, 2 and 9 May 2024.

In her three lectures Prof Harman addressed questions such as 'What does love teach us about abortion?', 'How does love challenge our ideas about abortion?' and 'How can love explain the importance of abortion?'.

The engaging lectures were very well received, and each was followed by thoughtful and energetic discussions. Videos of the lectures are available on [YouTube](#), and they have already been viewed over 1000 times.

More than
1000
views on YouTube

| Uehiro Lectures

Professor Kimberley Brownlee,
University of British Columbia

Topic to be announced
November 2025

Professor Howard McGary,
Rutgers University

The Persistence of Racism in
Liberal Societies: Education,
Health Care, and Policing

Dates to be announced

Public *Philosophy*

Academic Lead: Katrien Devolder

Over the past year we have continued to engage with various non-academic publics across different countries, including through online initiatives such as our annual Bitesize Ethics Summer Course (this year we added a successful Christmas Edition), our widely read blog discussing ethical issues in the news, our contributions to public media outlets (e.g. The Conversation, Aeon, The Ethical Frontier blog, traditional media), and through our growing social media platforms.

We have participated in various Festivals (e.g. The Festival of Tomorrow, The Oxford Literary Festival) that attract thousands of visitors. We have worked with sculptors, musicians, and literary theorists to find new and engaging ways to engage with different audiences. We have taught courses in prisons, have given public lectures and have participated in public debates. We have continued our engagement with secondary schools (e.g., via competitions and teaching), and have begun to engage with primary



Alberto Giubilini (L) and Katrien Devolder (second R) at a panel discussion on 'The Ethics of Human Enhancement' Feb 2025.

We are looking forward to further developing our ambitious plans to empower and support children in the development of their critical thinking skills.

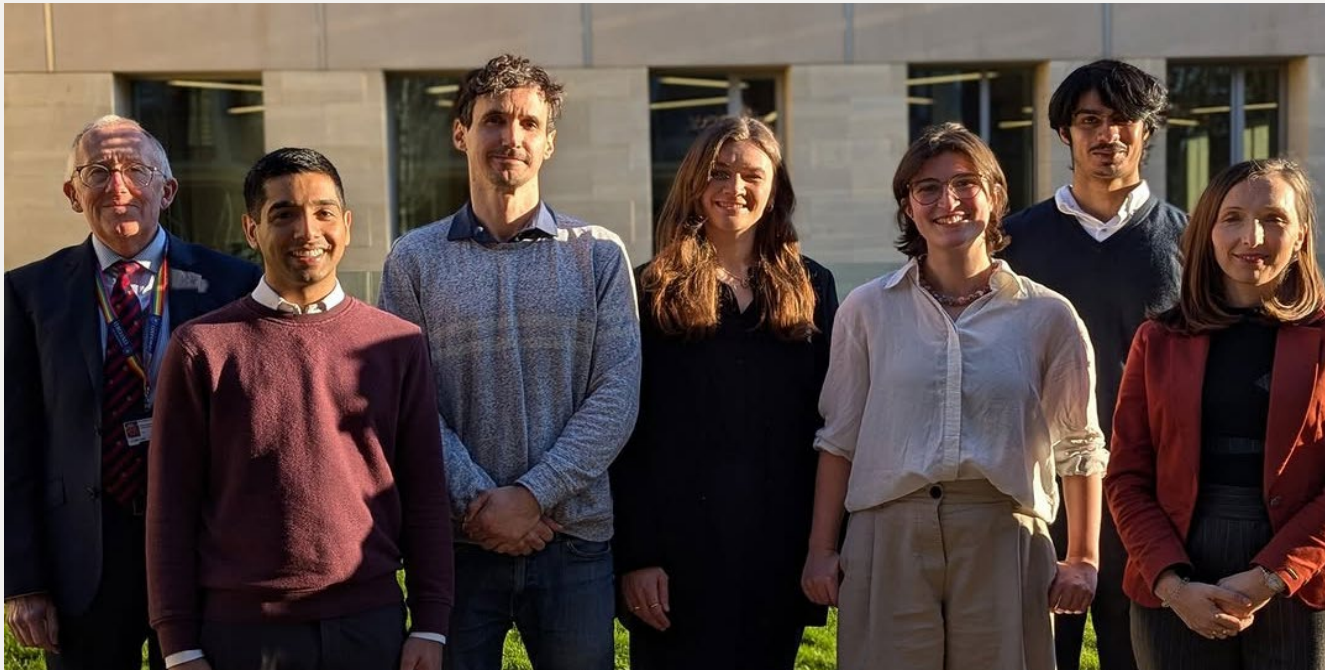
schools. We are looking forward to further developing our ambitious plans to empower and support children in the development of their critical thinking skills. We have also focused on finding new ways to involve relevant stakeholders in the design of our research projects through public and community engagement initiatives.

11th National Uehiro Oxford Essay Prize in Practical Ethics

This year's final of the annual National Uehiro Oxford Essay Prize in Practical Ethics took place in St Anne's college, with a large and enthusiastic audience. Four impressive presentations from our undergraduate and graduate finalists were summed up by Professor Crisp as 'the best set of presentations we've had in the competition's history.' We were delighted to see a substantial number of entries from outside Oxford this year. Many of the winning essays and those with Honorable Mentions can be read on the [Practical Ethics blog](#), where they have benefited from public discussion.

"The best set of presentations we've had in the competition's history."

Roger Crisp



Undergraduate Category

Winner: Rahul Lakhanpaul: Social Media, Epistemic Threats, and the Threat to Autonomy

Runner Up: Elizabeth McCabe: Silencing Queer Signals: How cultural misuse prevents the expression of queerness

Honourable Mentions:

Artur Littner: The Duty to Have Courage: Developing the Theory of Epistemic Injustice
Nicole Chinenyenwa Oboko: Bring Back Shame: Does the Ethical Value of Shame Justify Shaming?

Graduate Category

Winner: Esther Braun: Are requests for assisted dying motivated by poverty autonomous?

Runner Up: Arjan Heir: Promises and Consent: The Moral Permissibility of Accepting a Promise to Perform an Act That Requires Contemporaneous Consent

Honourable Mentions:

Sasha Arridge: "You nearly killed me!" Casual Contribution and Responsibility For Things That Don't Happen
Edward Lamb: Justifying exclusion from public sport
Beatrice Marchegiani: An autonomy-based argument for the permissibility of (some) prenatal injuries



Practical Ethics and Responsibility video competition

Now in its sixth year, the PERC video competition has become a fixture in participating schools' calendars, as well as attracting a number of new schools. We had a great level of participation this year, with over 40 entries.

School students in Year 11, 12 or 13 (or the international equivalent) take part by making a video about an ethical problem and how they think responsibility is involved. The top four schools are then

invited to Oxford for a full, fun day of further competition to decide the overall winners. We're especially grateful to our speakers Dr Jonathan Pugh and Dr Tess Johnson for really engaging the

"[I felt] pride from watching my students challenge themselves and perform well."

"We really enjoyed working on this project and engaging with such an interesting and thought-provoking question. It was a fantastic experience."

teams with applied ethics, and to our judges Drs Alberto Giubilini and Cristina Voinea who provided positive and constructive feedback. We're also very grateful to the teachers who took the time to support their teams and bring them to Oxford, and to all the academics and students who were involved in judging the video entries.

The final competition results were as follows: Westminster School (First place), Highgate Senior School (second place), St Paul's School for Girls (third place) and Christ's Hospital School (fourth place).

41
entries

8
*Highly
commended*

100%
of teachers...

Felt that event improved students' ability to argue effectively.

Will encourage their schools to take part again next year.

100%
of participants...

Felt that the event has made it more likely that they will study a subject at university which involves ethics.

Bitesize Ethics

Now in its fifth year this free, online summer programme provides a short introduction to practical ethics, looking at some of the issues that concern philosophers and the public alike, and offers an insight in to the current research of academics at the UOI.

We continued with the ten-week **summer programme** this year, and following the really positive engagement with academic leads and participants

Christmas Bitesize specials:

11th Dec 2024

Mr Scrooge, the Grinch, and the conscience of the anti-Christmas characters
(Alberto Giubilini)

12th Dec 2024

Trust, truth and tinsel: the ethics of the Santa tradition
(Rebecca Brown)

we also offered two Christmas specials, both of which were well attended and provided an opportunity to reflect at a very busy time of year.



Bitesize Ethics

The summer programme provided an opportunity for early career academics and students to gain experience in speaking to a lay audience, and also featured classes from prominent academics who were well known to participants. We were especially delighted to welcome back Prof Anders Sandberg, a very popular speaker on the topic of Deep Fakes, and Prof Jeff McMahan on the Ethics of War — a topic frequently requested by the audience. Other topics included mental health and illness, LLMs and 'griefbots', autonomy in decision-making, and the ethics of governmental economic policy.

"I liked that the course dealt also with problems that we are currently facing (mental health, deepfakes, the war etc)."

"Its relevant, thought provoking and topical. Its also easy to participate."

"Anybody who's remotely interested in lifelong learning -- and wants to think -- will profit from the Bitesize courses."

100%
of feedback providers

Felt encouraged by the course to continue studying Philosophy.

Wanted another course.

100+
registrations

66%
of participants were from outside the UK

2.5k
views on YouTube



"This course makes me think outside the "box". There is always more than one argument or side. It encourages different groups of people, who have different beliefs to respect each other"

Inmate and participant, Ethics of Technology

"I found the course intriguing as it has opened my mind to discussing various views to current affairs. I have benefited from the course in many ways including: 1 - Communicating and sharing my opinions in a safe space without judgement or ridicule which has boosted my confidence. 2- Listening skills - I have been more attentive to other people's opinions even if I have initially disagreed. 3 - I have become more aware and understanding of how ethics, morals and philosophy shape regulations and our own decision-making process"

Inmate and participant, Ethics of Technology

Philosophy in Prisons

Academic lead:

Joanna Demaree-Cotton

The partnership with Philosophy in Prisons charity has developed well under Joanna's leadership this year, with ten staff and students trained to deliver courses. This has culminated in a number of one-off sessions and a 10-week course in Ethics of Technology delivered by Joanna with Alberto Giubilini and Thomas Mitchell in a local women's prison. The course was well-received by inmates and prison staff, and Joanna hopes to be able to develop further programmes within the prison over the coming year.

Festival of Tomorrow

Several colleagues took part in Swindon's annual Festival of Tomorrow, a unique opportunity to showcase academic projects to a lay audience. Alberto Giubilini represented the UOI in collaboration with the Antitheses platform, and Chris Register led a small panel discussing the ethics raised in the new documentary 'Cyborg', reprising a discussion first held in Oxford in November, in collaboration with the film's director and producer and the Ultimate Picture Palace (an Oxford cinematic treasure).



Schools engagement

UOI academics visited a wide range of schools across the UK this year, providing mentorship, judging for competitions, lectures and other educational visits.



David Edmonds addresses Dulwich College

"Rebecca Brown was great – giving the students a real insight into the work of professional philosophers, working on real-world problems. It's such a boon to be able to invite people in to inspire the next generation of ethicists."

Mr Paul Sperring, Teacher of Religion and Philosophy

Philosophy Bites

Philosophy Bites: David Edmonds continues to co-present Philosophy Bites, arguably the world's most popular philosophy podcast, which has now had 49 million downloads

Roger Crisp was honoured to deliver the University of Reading's Annual Cottingham Lecture on 'Meaning and the Good Life' in October 2024

Science communication

"[Congratulations Prof Wilkinson] on your excellent recent articles for The Conversation. Three articles in the space of the month is very impressive! It is a tremendous way to help the public to understand topical scientific issues"

Dr Caroline Wood, Public Affairs Directorate, University of Oxford

Journal of *Practical Ethics*

**Editor: Tom Douglas/
Rebecca Brown**

This year the Journal of Practical Ethics has issued its twelfth volume. Rebecca Brown has recently stepped in as Editor-in-Chief, and Rachel Gaminiratne will be taking a lead on the management of the journal shortly, replacing Liz Sanders.

Journal of Practical Ethics papers were **read over 11,000 times this year.**

Lying to our children is the most widely read of the papers, with **3792 views and 320 downloads.**

**November 2024
(Volume 11, Issue 2)**

Title: Longevity

Author: Douglas MacLean

Title: Lying To Our Children

Author: Joseph Millum

Title: Why We Should Negatively Discount the Well-Being of Future Generations

Author: Matthew Price (Uehiro Essay Prize finalist, 2023)

Title: Why Me?

Author: Sarah Buss

Title: The Ethics of Social Media: Why Content Moderation is a Moral Duty

Author: Jeffrey Howard

November 2024 (Volume 12, Issue 1)
A special edition on Axel Gosseries' "What is Intergenerational Justice?"

Title: What is Intergenerational Justice? A Precise

Author: Axel Gosseries

Title: On Axel Gosseries' "What is Intergenerational Justice?"

Author: Charlotte Franziska Unruh

Title: Climate Justice and the Moral Relevance of the Past

Author: Simon Caney

Title: Climate Change, Historical Emissions, and Unjust Benefits: A Comment on Axel Gosseries' Account of Climate Justice

Author: Göran Duus-Otterström

Title: Past emissions and distributive climate duties: A reply to my critics.

Author: Axel Gosseries

Public *Engagement*

2.1k
views

for the most popular
video this year:

Philosophers do it in
armchairs and other myths

1.1k
reads

Most popular blog
post this year:

Humanizing Chatbots is
Hard to Resist — But why?



Dr Nigel Warburton gives the inaugural UOI lecture

45

*new videos
posted on
YouTube with
9.7k views*

51k

*You Tube
views in the
last year*

6k

YouTube
Subscribers

184k

total website
visitors this
year

132k

page views of
the Practical
Ethics blog
this year

1.3k

Bluesky
followers

12.6k

X followers

2k

Facebook
followers

Selected Media Outlets *this Year*

THE CONVERSATION

BBC

THE NEW STATESMAN

The
Telegraph

ABC

Rolling Stone

ABC
BBC
BBC Oxford
BBC Radio 3
Daily Mail

LBC Radio
New Statesman
NPR
Rolling Stone
Science Unscripted

The Telegraph
The Conversation
Times Radio

Translations

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



Chinese



Polish



German



Portuguese



Italian



Romanian



Japanese



Russian



Korean



Serbian



Dutch



Spanish



Greek

103

Presentations

given by Uehiro Oxford Institute members last year

**Some conferences this year took place online only.*



Uehiro Oxford Institute

50

United Kingdom

Reading (1), Loughborough (1),
Edinburgh (2), Witney (1), Oxford (35),
London (6), Canterbury (1),
Swindon (1), Manchester (1),
St Andrews (1)

13

Americas

Brazil: Rio de Janeiro (2)
Canada: Toronto (2)
Mexico: Mexico City (3)
USA: Houston (2), Pennsylvania (1),
Palo Alto (1), Phoenix (1),
Washington DC (1)



24

Europe

Austria: Graz (1)
Czech Republic: Prague (1)
France: Paris (1)
Germany: Munich (1), Hamburg (1),
Cologne (1), Berlin (1)
Greece: Athens (1)
Italy: Rome (2), L'Aquila (1), Milan (1)
Netherlands: Delft (1)
Poland: Krakow (2)
Romania: Bucharest (1)
Spain: Las Palmas de Gran
Canaria (1), Madrid (2)
Sweden: Uppsala (1)
Switzerland: Zürich (2), Basel (1)
Ukraine: Kharkiv (1)

5

Singapore



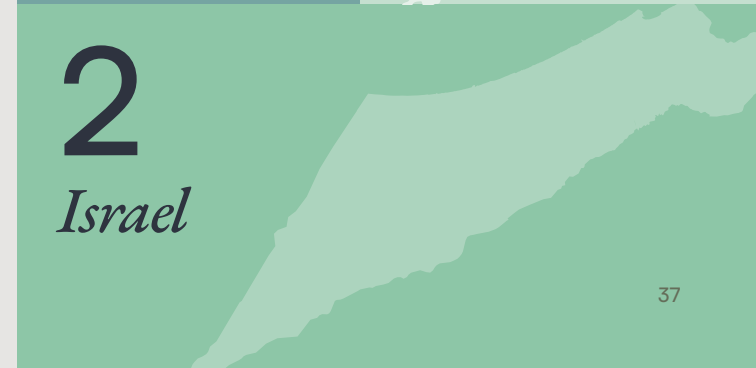
3

Japan



2

Israel



Team

Directors

Director Professor Roger Crisp

Deputy Director and Director of Medical Ethics

Professor Dominic Wilkinson (0.60 FTE)

Director of Studies

Professor Guy Kahane (0.66 FTE)

Director of Public Philosophy

Professor Katrien Devolder

Director of Research and Development

Professor Thomas Douglas (1 FTE, 60% externally funded)

Advisory Support and Consultants

Emeritus Professor Tony Hope

Emeritus Professor Janet Radcliffe Richards

Professor Ingmar Persson

Dr David Edmonds

Funded Research Fellows

Ms Mey Bahar Buyukbabani

Dr Joanna Demaree Cotton (50% externally funded)

Dr Brian D. Earp (until October 2024)

Dr Alberto Giubilini (20% externally funded)

Dr Hannah Maslen (0.25 FTE)

Dr Jonathan Pugh (funded through MSt)

Dr César César Palacios-González (funded through MSt)

Externally-Funded Research Fellows

Dr Rebecca Brown

Dr Gabriel De Marco

Ms Maryam Khan

Professor Neil Levy (0.5 FTE)

Dr Thomas Mitchell (until December 2024)

Dr Joseph Moore (until August 2024)

Dr Lisa Forsberg

Dr Christopher Register

Dr Gracie Reinecke (in Psychiatry)

Dr Hazem Zohny

Hosted Research Fellows

Professor Edmond Awad

Dr Binesh Hass

Dr Viktor Savchenko

Dr Daniel Villiger

Dr Cristina Voinea (Marie Curie Research Fellow)

Public Engagement

Liz Sanders

Administration

Axelle Duquesnoy

Rachel Gaminiratne (0.8 FTE)

Vara Raturi

Deborah Sheehan (until March 2025)

Rocci Wilkinson (until November 2024)

DPhil Students

Ayushi Agarwal

Dr Sophie Bertaud

Dr Esther Braun

Mattia Cecchinato

John André Nebb Ek

Anna Golova

Bryce Goodman

Paul Heller

Dr Daniel D'Hotman de Villiers

Katerina Jennings

Ryan Kulesa

Theo Naylor

Virginie Simoneau-Gilbert

Callum Smith

Helena Ward

Dr Bridget Williams

Lewis Williams

Services and *Committees*

In addition to ongoing commitments, UOI members undertook the following service this year:

University

Member of the Animal Care and Ethical Review Committee (Katrien Devolder)

Member of the Exam Board, MSt in Practical Ethics (César Palacios-González)

Member of the Humanities Divisional Research Committee (Tom Douglas)

Research Staff Representative, Joint Committee on Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (Lisa Forsberg)

Learned Societies and Journals

Committee Member of the International Society for Utilitarian Studies (Lisa Forsberg)

Editor, Applied Ethics and Normative Ethics, Diversity Reading List in Philosophy (Lisa Forsberg)

Editorial Board Member of the Journal De Iure (Viktor Savchenko)

Editorial Board Member of the journal Medical Law International (Lisa Forsberg)

Editorial Board Member of the Journal of Medical Ethics (Alberto Giubilini)

Member of the board of advisors of the Institute of Philosophy (David Edmonds)

Member of the British Academy's RaR Learning and Development Committee (Viktor Savchenko)

Member of the Editorial Board for Ethical Review of Social Sciences (Roger Crisp)

Member of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Working Group, British Academy Early Career Researcher Network (Lisa Forsberg)

Member of the executive committee of the Royal Institute of Philosophy (David Edmonds)

Special interest Groups and Working groups

Member of the committee of Kansai Ethical Society (Takanobu Watabe)

International Research

Member of the International Educators and Scientists Foundation (Viktor Savchenko)

