

AN EXPANDING CENTRE

There has been a big leap in the number of students choosing specialist studies in bioethics. There is a total of 18 students enrolled in Ph.D., M. Med Sci., B.Med Sci., and DipGrad programmes. Areas of research reflect the diversity of the subject, and include theology, moral philosophy, gender issues, care of neonates, maternal-fetal conflict, abuse, sexually transmitted disease, and consent issues.

Students continue to work in bioethics as an elective in their basic medical training. This includes an Auckland Trainee Intern, as well as third year medical students from Otago.

The Centre is working to broaden the content of the Bioethics Research Centre Newsletter. Next issue of the newsletter will include a discussion on the changes in the current health system, and some of the ethical issues that are raised. We hope our readers will respond, and contribute their insights.

Legislative changes seem to happen with great frequency. We hope to have a "law up-date" which will keep readers in touch with some of those decisions which have implications for the health system.

And of course, there are the clinical situations where ethical dilemmas present themselves. Case studies, and comments from health care professionals and others will be presented to stimulate thought and aid reflection.

All this will be in addition to news of the Centre's activities, visiting scholars, speakers, seminars and conferences.

Staff Plans

Staff of the Centre have a busy and stimulating year ahead of them with a number of events added to their teaching and research commitments.

Professor Alastair Campbell is travelling to America in May where he will be lecturing at the University of Kentucky Medical School on the subject of Teaching Medical Ethics. In early June he is a keynote speaker at the Catholic Hospitals Association Conference in Canberra, Australia, addressing the issues of justice and health care. In September he is presenting a plenary paper on the Ethics of Health Promotion at "Promoting Health: International Research Conference for Nursing", to be held at Kings College, London.

Grant Gillett has applied for academic leave for the third term. He will be spending time with the neurosurgical department at Oxford in London, and with the Bristol Neurosurgical Dept and will be attached to Magdalen College, Oxford. As well as attending a philosophy conference in Prague, he will be a visiting professor in Cleveland, Ohio, and in Brown University Providence, Rhode Island. In addition, he will be addressing the University of Canterbury Philosophy Dept and taking part in the development of an evaluation programme for medical ethics teaching at the University of Oxford.

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS

Eliminating the Disabled?

The hidden agendas of health care for people with disabilities

Monday, 30 March at 1 pm
Colquhoun Lecture Theatre, Dunedin Hospital

Education in Death & Dying

Who Needs it?

Monday, 6 April at 1 pm
Colquhoun Lecture Theatre, Dunedin Hospital

Patients Rights

Does Advocacy Work?

Monday, 27 April at 1 pm
Barnett Lecture Theatre, Dunedin Hospital