



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON BIOETHICS

The Bioethics Centre is to hold an International Seminar on Bioethics from 22-27 November 1993 at Knox College, Dunedin. The seminar will be a major event for bioethics in New Zealand and will bring together renowned bioethics scholars from around the world.

It is being organised around a meeting of the Board of Directors of the newly inaugurated International Association of Bioethics (IAB).

The IAB was formed at a congress in Amsterdam in October 1992 attended by 300 representatives from 32 countries. The Otago University Bioethics Research Centre is a corporate member, and Professor Alastair Campbell was elected to the new Association's Board of Directors (on which 17 nations are represented).

The Association's aims were defined as follows:

- 1 to facilitate contacts and the exchange of information between those working in bioethics in different parts of the world;
- 2 to organise international conferences on bioethics;
- 3 to encourage the development of research and teaching in bioethics; and
- 4 to uphold the value of free, open and reasoned discussion of issues in bioethics.

At least seventeen of the IAB Board are expected in Dunedin for both the International Seminar and the Board

meeting. Among these are Professor Peter Singer, president of the Board and currently deputy director of the Human Bioethics Centre at Monash University, Melbourne.

Professor Singer is a recognised authority on the rights of animals. Also attending will be the director of the Human Bioethics Centre at Monash, Dr Helga Kuhse, who lectured at the Bioethics Research Centre's Summer School in Dunedin last year.

Dr Kuhse has published widely in the field of bioethics. Along with Professor Singer she is editor of the international quarterly journal *Bioethics*, and is editor of the quarterly Australian publication *Bioethics News*.

Among the other scholars expected are Professor Rihito Kimura, the director of the Asian/International Bioethics Programme at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University and Professor of Bioethics, Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan; Dr Raanan Gillon, Imperial College Health Service, London, editor of the *Journal of Medical Ethics*; Professor Dan Wikler, who heads the Programme in Medical Ethics at the University of Wisconsin Medical School and is vice president of the Board; Dr Ruth Chadwick, Secretary of the Board and Director of the Centre for Applied Ethics at the University of Wales; and Professor John Harris, Project Co-ordinator at The Centre for Social Ethics and Policy, University of Manchester.

There will also be Board members attending from India, Egypt, Hungary, Argentina, China, Italy, Nigeria, and Sri Lanka.

The Seminar is open to all interested members of the public and is designed so that participants can attend for part or all of the programme.

The first half of the week will concentrate on clinical and research topics, with sessions on AIDS/STDs, assisted reproductive technology, death and dying, the vegetative state - the difference between killing and letting die, and psychiatric illness. Sessions on the Wednesday will focus on multicultural issues while the latter half of the week will look at priorities in health care. This section will include sessions on markets and standards - conflicts between commercial and private ethics, prioritising information use in the health system and a plenary on research and development issues.

In the evenings there will be a series of public lectures on AIDS, American health care post-Clinton, Maori health issues and Animal Rights.

For further information please complete the form on the leaflet enclosed with this Newsletter or contact:

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