

<p>Institution: Keele University</p> <hr/> <p>Unit of Assessment: Philosophy</p> <hr/> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>Philosophy is a small unit within a research-led university founded upon an interdisciplinary ethos and committed to excellence in both research and teaching. There are two research groupings in philosophy: the first works at the intersection between Kantian studies, metaphilosophy, the philosophy of mind and action, and the history of philosophy, and is organised through the Forum for Philosophical Research; while the second focuses on applied ethics, particularly biomedical ethics, and is organised through the Centre for Professional Ethics (PEAK – Professional Ethics at Keele).</p> <p>Philosophy is part of the Research Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences within the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, which provides the infrastructure for all research activities within the unit. Research Institutes are responsible for generating and supporting research, enterprise and knowledge transfer activities, and for the training, supervision and support of research students. A Faculty Research Committee comprising the Dean, the Director of the Research Institute and the Heads of Centre oversees the Faculty research strategy, approves all applications for research leave, monitors reports on leave, and approves all internal selection processes for restricted external applications such as AHRC collaborative doctoral applications and Leverhulme early career fellowship sponsorship. This interdisciplinary infrastructure plays a key role in ensuring the vitality and long-term sustainability of a small research unit such as Philosophy.</p> <hr/> <p>b. Research strategy</p> <p>There was no return for Philosophy at Keele in RAE 2008, with staff in Philosophy returned as part of larger Politics and Law submissions. The University decided to acknowledge existing research strengths and a growing graduate community by making a return for Philosophy in REF 2014.</p> <p>Research in Philosophy is organised through the Forum for Philosophical Research, established in 2008 and located in the School of Politics, Philosophy, International Relations and Environment (SPIRE), and the Centre for Professional Ethics, established in 2002 and located in the School of Law. The vitality of the research culture in Philosophy is strengthened by common interests with political theorists in SPIRE and those working on legal ethics in Law.</p> <p>Research in the Forum clusters in the areas of Kantian studies, Ethics, Metaphilosophy/Philosophy of Mind and Action, and History of Philosophy. Research in the Centre for Professional Ethics focuses on applied ethics, particularly biomedical ethics, and the intersection between metaphysics and issues in practical ethics. The Forum is the home of well-established researchers on the work of Collingwood (D'Oro), Kant (Baiasu), and Rorty (Tartaglia); a tightly woven group of active researchers with interconnected interests in the history of philosophy (Baiasu, D'Oro, Tartaglia); in Kantian philosophy (Baiasu); and at the intersections between metaphilosophy and the philosophy of mind and action (D'Oro, Tartaglia). What unites this group of researchers is a common concern in drawing cross-disciplinary links between metaphysics and ethics (Baisau), and between metaphilosophy and the philosophy of mind and action (D'Oro, Tartaglia). There are significant synergies between the existing members of the Forum: Baiasu's work on Kantian metaphysics complements D'Oro's neo-Kantian reading of Collingwood's metaphysics, while Tartaglia's work on Rorty and D'Oro's work on Collingwood are driven by a similar underlying concern with metaphilosophical issues. During the REF period this group has collectively published over thirty papers; over six edited collections, including Tartaglia's four-volume survey of the literature on Rorty in Routledge's <i>Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers</i> series (2009); and a monograph, Baiasu's <i>Kant and Sartre: Re-discovering Critical Ethics</i> (Palgrave, 2013). This is the first book-length comparative study of Kant's and Sartre's moral theories.</p>

The Centre for Professional Ethics at Keele (PEAK) provides the immediate research environment for researchers working in the areas of bioethics (Dawson, Wilkinson, Chonnachtaigh), the intersection between metaphysics and applied ethics (Wrigley), and the ethics of policing and criminal justice (Hughes). It developed the first professional doctorate in ethics in the UK, a model which was later adopted by other universities. PEAK was ahead of its time in encouraging public engagement as well as more traditional forms of research and it is thus not surprising that our two impact case studies come from work conducted in this Centre. Members of the Centre have attracted considerable grant income and worked closely with non-academic partners such as healthcare practitioners. Wilkinson's monograph *Choosing Tomorrow's Children: the ethics of selective reproduction* represents the culmination of long standing work which influenced the wording of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 (see REF3). It was supported by an AHRC research fellowship in the previous RAE period and a Wellcome Trust Dissemination Award. Dawson was the joint founder and joint Editor-in-Chief of *Public Health Ethics* and his research in the field of public health ethics has had both a national and international impact in a number of areas of ethical policies and practices in the context of public health, particularly the area of infectious diseases (see REF3).

In this REF period there has been an intellectual reorientation from professional ethics to more traditional areas of research, reflected in the creation of the Forum in 2008. As a result of this intellectual reorientation, an important aspect of our research strategy has been to redirect postgraduate research from the Professional Doctorate to PhD and MPhil degrees in more traditional areas of philosophy. This adjustment in strategic objectives was prompted partly by changes in funding and application patterns for the Professional Doctorate and partly by a response to available supervisory expertise as a result of staff departures, notably Angus Dawson and Stephen Wilkinson. The transition from recruitment on the Professional Doctorate programme to PhDs has been very successful. Six out of our current 18 PGR students are registered on PhDs with the proportion undertaking PhDs rising significantly in the last two years. In the next REF cycle there will be a further increase in the number of students obtaining doctorates compared to the current REF period.

Both the Forum and the Centre for Professional Ethics host Royal Institute of Philosophy lecture series. The Forum hosts an annual lecture, a yearly conference, a series of work-in-progress seminars, and a yearly reading group open to graduate students and staff within the University. Whilst the Forum initially provided the immediate research environment for those members of staff researching in traditional areas of the subject, it is envisaged that in the future it will act as an overarching research unit and will facilitate the transfer of valuable expertise between professional ethicists and other researchers in the unit.

In the next five years Philosophy will seek: a) to develop further excellence in individual research by continuing to submit work to high-quality refereed journals. In addition to this, all those submitted in REF 2014 have at least one monograph and one edited collection in their research plans (some of which are already under contract); b) to increase the external visibility of the unit through funded collaborative projects. Clear plans are already underway to attract research funding for collaborative projects through bids to the AHRC networking and grant scheme, Templeton, the Polish Research Council, the British Academy and Leverhulme Small Research Grants and others; c) to increase the number of research students registered on PhD degrees in both traditional areas of philosophy and professional ethics. This will be done in two ways. First, by taking advantage of Keele's established reputation as one of the country's leading providers of Master's level education in medical ethics and law, and its only provider of a specialist Master's degree in the ethics of palliative care. Second, through the creation of a Centre for Kantian Studies in collaboration with Oxford and St Andrews. The Centre will take advantage of the fact that Keele is already a main centre for the activities of the UK Kant Society and the European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR) Kantian Political Thought Standing Group, and will host Kant-related events and projects, and sponsor studentships.

c. People, including:**i. Staffing strategy and staff development**

Keele's strategic plan aims to provide a research environment that is attractive to new researchers, supports and nurtures researchers at all stages of their careers, and provides strong and effective mentorship. Research excellence and specific research expertise are key criteria in the recruitment of academic staff, as well as academic promotions; and the Research Institute Director is represented on all appointing committees. Early career staff are allocated additional research time under the University's workload allocation model; they have a mentor who provides advice on research; and the Faculty Research Office, in conjunction with the University's Learning and Professional Development Centre, offers an induction programme that includes research planning, funding possibilities, and ethical and governance issues. All staff are required to undergo training before supervising research students, and to take a course in Managing a Research Award if they have a major grant that involves responsibility for finance and for staff supervision.

Keele provides regular periodic research leave for all active researchers. Since 2008, the following have had research leave awarded by the Research Institute on the basis of effective research plans: Baiasu and Wrigley in 2009; Tartaglia, Hughes and Wilkinson in 2010, and D'Oro in 2011. Research active staff are normally expected to produce the equivalent of at least one high-quality publication *per annum* and at least two substantial grant applications over a five-year cycle; to be involved in postgraduate training and supervision; and seminar and conference organisation and attendance. All staff who meet these expectations are eligible to apply for a semester's research leave on a one semester in eight basis, or, for staff appointed to their first research-related open-ended academic post, no later than the seventh semester after appointment. All leave is subject to the approval of the Faculty Research Committee which scrutinises the specific programme of activity proposed for the semester. Research performance is also monitored through an annual report on research activity, outputs and plans that is reviewed by the Head of Centre, before being approved by the Research Institute Director and informing the research element in formal annual appraisal processes. Staff have the opportunity to present their work in progress at the Summer Seminars, organised by the Forum, and at the SPIRE seminar series.

Internationally recognised excellence in research is a key criterion in academic promotions. There has been significant career progression in Philosophy in the current REF cycle, including two promotions to Senior Lecturer (Tartaglia, and Wrigley), two promotions to Reader (Baiasu and D'Oro), and one external progression to Professor (Dawson, who took up a chair at the University of Birmingham). All policies relating to research management are subject to equality impact assessment (this was done with recent changes in the research leave policy); all members of appointing committees and any staff who carry out appraisals have been trained in equality and diversity issues, with periodic updates on legislative change. Part-time staff are given research support and access to leave on the same basis (but pro-rata) as full-time staff. The University abides by the RCUK/Vitae Concordat to support the Career Development of Researchers and has recently achieved the European Commission HR Excellence in Research Award.

ii. Research students

During this REF period eight students graduated with either PhDs or Professional Doctorates and two students graduated with MPhil degrees. Stephen Leach's PhD on the philosophy of Collingwood, was published as a monograph and he has since been employed by Keele as a Research Associate. In Philosophy there are currently three students registered on the MPhil and a very healthy number of students registered either on PhD or professional doctorate programmes (9.8 FTEs). Of these, Jonathan Head (started 2012) is the recipient of the Adrian Piper Research Archive Foundation, Berlin and the Keele ACORN fund Scholarship; George Carpenter (started 2013) is recipient of one of the Keele Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences studentships. We have also made good inroads with EU and international students having recently recruited two: Lavinia Udrea (EU, started 2012) also recipient of a Faculty scholarship, and Allan Gonzales Estrada (overseas, started 2013). Keele is a member of the North West Consortium (other

members: the Universities of Manchester, Lancaster, Liverpool, Salford, Manchester Metropolitan, and the Royal Northern College of Music) which has been set up with a view to connect institutions offering research degrees in the North West and facilitate the sharing of modules and supervisory expertise. Tartaglia and two of our current research students (Philippe Blenkiron and Jonathan Head) presented at the Consortium's conference in July 2013. The Consortium made a successful application to the AHRC to host one of its recently announced 11 Doctoral Training Partnerships. As a result we will be able to advertise PhD studentships on a competitive basis for an October 2014 start.

Philosophy benefits from the interdisciplinary structures for the recruitment, support and training of research students provided by the Research Institute. These structures have enabled Philosophy to recruit and support a healthy number of PGR students in spite of its small size. Within the Faculty there are Postgraduate Committees for Social Sciences and Humanities, each comprising the PGR Director, associate PGR Directors from each discipline, and student representatives. These establish policies for training and support, approve supervisory and examination arrangements, monitor progress, and administer funds for training and research. The Social Sciences and Humanities PGR Directors both sit on the University's Postgraduate Research Committee. All Philosophy progression and examination matters are approved by the University Research Degrees Committee, while an institution-wide Research Student Liaison Committee, chaired by the Pro Vice-Chancellor for Research, considers the needs of postgraduate students, including library and IT issues. All students have a lead and second supervisor who help the student identify their training needs at an early stage; academic staff must undergo supervisor training and can only act as main supervisors once they have seen a student through to completion. Training and progress is kept under regular review through the development of a Personal Development and Learning Plan, underpinned by the RCUK/Vitae Researcher Development Framework. A credit-based system of training has recently been replaced by one which uses needs-based principles with a broad requirement for some 200 hours personal development and employability training over the course of the doctorate besides subject-specific support.

Training for PGR students is delivered through specific Master's level modules such as Generic Research Skills (including project management, ethics, and research governance); Reflective Practice, Metaphilosophy, and Philosophy of Social Science. For most PhD students, the training consists of a module in Metaphilosophy and additional training depends on their specific needs. Training and general progress are reviewed formally by the Social Sciences PGR Committee at six-monthly intervals, with a rigorous formal independent written and oral doctoral progression process after ten to twelve months (for full time students) to confirm that the student has met the criteria necessary for successful continuation of a doctorate. The Research Institute, in collaboration with the University's Learning and Professional Development Centre, offer development sessions on public engagement and impact, conference presentation, publication strategies, and introduction to teaching for postgraduates. Funding is available on application for individual research expenses and conference attendance, and all students are expected to attend a workshop on external funding opportunities. A separate research training fund facilitates individual student attendance at specialist training events such as the Faculty PGR residential weekend, the North West AHRC Doctoral Training Centre and British Library courses.

Students registered on research degrees benefit from dedicated office space and meeting places in the Claus Moser building (see also section d). £270,000 of HEFCE research capital funding has been deployed to produce exceptional office and ICT facilities, beyond Research Council minima for PGR students, with a further £20-25,000 *per annum* used to provide computing facilities (including laptops for loan). Shared office space and hot-desking facilities are allocated in the Moser Building following a systematic survey of individual student needs. The Moser Building serves as a social and intellectual hub for postgraduate research students in the Faculty, encouraged by weekly social events and drop-in sessions. All postgraduate students are strongly encouraged to take part in the research events of the Forum, including the reading group (where they are asked to give individual research presentations), the Royal Institute of Philosophy lectures (currently co-organised by a member of staff and a PhD student, Jonathan Head) and the Summer

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Seminars. There are also annual postgraduate symposia organised by the RI which allow postgraduate students the opportunity to present to staff and their fellow students. Our PhD, MPhil and MRes students (most recently Arran Goodfellow and Philippe Blenkiron) have presented in this venue. Where possible our postgraduate students are actively involved in the organisation of events, such as the annual conference of the Forum.

d. Income, infrastructure and facilities

This REF period, Philosophy saw a steady flow of research income as a result of prestigious awards from a wide variety of funding bodies such as the Wellcome Trust, the AHRC, the Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto, the Leverhulme Foundation, the Adrian Piper Research Archive Foundation and the British Academy. To give a few highlights: in 2011-12 the Wellcome Trust funded a dissemination project on Eugenics and Genetics (£34,009) led by Wilkinson, which made possible the creation of a set of accessible and freely available essays written for a public audience and published both electronically and in hard copy under the collective title of *Eugenics and the Ethics of Selective Reproduction*. In the same year, the first instalment (£15,381) of an Adrian Piper Research Archive Foundation, matched by Keele's ACORN studentship funding, covered the costs of a three year doctoral teaching scholarship for research on Kant's philosophy of religion under the direction of Baiasu; and a British Academy Small Research Grant, 'Workshop on Ethical Policing' (£7,107), enabled Hughes to organise a workshop on Ethical Policing, which brought together academics and practitioners from across the UK to discuss issues relating to ethical practice, training and accountability. In 2010, Wilkinson was awarded a Leverhulme Visiting Professorship (£15,373) on behalf of Martin Wilkinson (Auckland). In 2008-09, Dawson was awarded £32,990 for a visiting fellowship from the Centre for Bioethics at the University of Toronto. Hughes won a European Commission competitive tender (2007-10) which led to the publication of the *European Textbook on Ethics in Research*. We have also received regular funding from the European Consortium for Political Research to support the conferences organised by the standing group on Kantian Political Thought, and by the British Academy, which funded numerous overseas conference trips.

Grant income averaged at £26,000 for each year of the census and peaked in the first three years. The income is lower in the last two years, reflecting staff departures from PEAK. It is, however, already on track to increase well above previous levels in the years ahead. In 2013, Baiasu secured a Marie Curie Fellowship worth €310,000 awarded under the European Commission's Seventh Framework Programme. This 'Intra-European Fellowship' has brought a researcher from Kocaeli University in Turkey, Dr Mehmet Demiray, to develop a Kantian approach to the problematic relations between modern law and religious commitments. This indicates that the unit has successfully managed the intellectual reorientation from professional ethics to more traditional areas of research both by recruiting very successfully to its PhD programmes and by increasing grant income, which will be reflected in the next REF reporting period.

The central hub for the Faculty's research is the £3.5 million Claus Moser Research Centre for Humanities and Social Sciences, completed in 2008. It was built with HEFCE research capital funding and its facilities are enhanced and updated with HEFCE Research Capital and University funding. The Claus Moser Centre houses the Faculty Research Office, office space and facilities for research projects, offices for visiting scholars and postgraduate students, and meeting and conference rooms. It underpins an efficient and flourishing inter-disciplinary research environment, with exceptional office and ICT facilities. The staff in the Faculty Research Office provide the essential infrastructure for our research and postgraduate activities. They monitor the internal funding available for individual research expenses, for travel and conference attendance, and for small scale and pilot study research costs. Generous internal funding is available for individual research expenses, travel and conference attendance, collaborative disciplinary or inter-disciplinary events, regular seminars, and one-off conferences and workshops. The Faculty Research Office also offers guidance on funding opportunities and grant applications through a dedicated office, with additional specialist European funding support provided by the University's Research and Enterprise Services. The Faculty has also put in place a peer-review process aimed at improving the quality of bids over £40,000, which has led to two major grant application

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successes: (1) the Marie Curie Fellowship led by Baiasu, mentioned above and (2) the Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator Award (£970,087) awarded to Stephen Wilkinson and Prof Rosamund Scott (King's College, London) for a project on 'The Donation and Transfer of Human Reproductive Materials' (2012).

e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base**Editorial/collaborative work**

During this REF period several important collections and special issues were edited within the unit and the majority of these were the result of research collaborations with colleagues from other universities: Graham Bird's *The Revolutionary Kant*, *Kantian Review* Special issue (Baiasu and Grier eds.); *Kant on Practical Justification: Interpretive Essays* (Baiasu and Timmons eds., Oxford University Press, 2013); *Politics and Metaphysics in Kant* (Baiasu and Pihlström eds., University of Wales Press, 2013); *The Philosophy of Public Health* (Dawson ed., Ashgate, 2009); *Public Health Ethics: Key Concepts and Issues in Policy and Practice* (Dawson ed., Cambridge University Press, 2011); *Reasons and Causes: Causalism and Anti-Causalism in the Philosophy of Action* (D'Oro and Sandis eds., Palgrave, 2013); a four-volume survey of the literature on Rorty in Routledge's *Critical Assessments of Leading Philosophers* series (Tartaglia ed., 2009); the final volume in Cambridge University Press's definitive edition of Rorty's papers, *Mind, Language, and Metaphilosophy: Early Philosophical Papers by Richard Rorty* (Leach and Tartaglia eds., 2013); *Ethics, Law and Society Vol. V: Ethics of Care, Theorizing the Ethics, and Body Politics*, (Wrigley and Priaulx eds., Ashgate, 2013). Several collaborative projects are in the pipeline. For example, Baiasu will collaborate with the Universities of Oxford and St Andrews to develop a Centre for Kantian Studies; D'Oro is applying as co-investigator with Constantine Sandis (Oxford Brookes) to the Templeton Foundation for a project on the theme of 'Understanding Others' and as principal investigator with Soren Overgaard (University of Copenhagen) to the AHRC networking scheme to fund seminars on the theme of 'How philosophy should be done' to be timed with the publication of an edited collection on that theme; Tartaglia is planning to organise (in collaboration with Artur Szutta) an international conference at the University of Gdańsk to be co-ordinated with the publication of his manuscript *Mind, Language, and Metaphilosophy*; and Wrigley is currently co-investigator in an ESRC Research Grant bid in conjunction with the Marie Curie Palliative Care Institute of Psychology, Health and Society, University of Liverpool, on a project called 'Enhancing pedagogy for clinical communication in end-of-life care'.

Conference organisation

There have been numerous conferences organised at Keele under the aegis of the Forum. These included a conference on 'The Morality of Law: Kantian Perspective' in 2010, and a conference on 'Kant and Sartre' in 2012. The annual lecture of the Forum for Philosophical Research included speakers such as Miranda Fricker (London), Rainer Forst (Frankfurt), and Stephen Engstrom (Pittsburgh). In addition, the Forum hosts the fortnightly lectures of the Royal Institute of Philosophy (including high profile speakers such as Adrian Moore), and regular reading groups open to the Faculty and staff work in progress seminars. There are many synergies between the philosophers entered under this unit of assessment and other political theorists in SPIRE. These include the conference in honour of Professor John Horton (Professor of Political Philosophy) on the theme of Toleration and Pragmatism in 2011. Many other conferences and workshops were organised by the Centre for Professional Ethics, including conferences on 'Organ Donation and Consent' (2010), and workshops on 'Ethical Policing' (2010), funded by the British Academy and supported by the Association of Chief Police Officers' Ethics Portfolio and the Scottish Institute for Policing Research, led by Jonathan Hughes, and 'Research Ethics in Europe', funded from income from the *European Textbook on Ethics in Research* and led by Hughes. Many workshops and activities are organised by Keele. For example, Baiasu organised panels on the philosophy of Immanuel Kant for several major conferences of the European Consortium of Political Research at Bordeaux (2013), Reykjavik (2011), and Potsdam (2009); Dawson organised numerous workshops on themes such as 'Ethical Issues in TB Prevention' (International Association of Bioethics, Croatia, 2008), 'Obesity, Policy and Ethics' (Toronto, 2008), and 'Pregnancy, Ethics and Public Health' (Toronto, Canada, 2009). In 2010 Wrigley organised a special panel on 'Reproductive Technologies and Gender' (Singapore 2010).

Invited lectures

Members of the unit have received regular invitations to speak at national and international conferences in Ankara, Manchester, Hull, Oxford, Bucharest, St Andrews, Padova, Minneapolis, Potsdam, and Sheffield (Baisau); Oxford, Athens, London, San Francisco, Hull, Cambridge, Cardiff, Akersberg, Prato, Grenoble, Gregynog, York, and Montreal (D'Oro); Manchester, Bucharest, Gdańsk, Hertfordshire, Oxford Brookes, Sheffield, Cardiff, and London (Tartaglia); Arizona, Birmingham, Bristol, and Cardiff (Wrigley).

External examining

Members of the Philosophy team have acted as external examiners for PhDs at Oxford, St Andrews, Lancaster, Queen Mary London, Sheffield and Kent in the UK, and at Waterloo, Adelaide, Melbourne, Utrecht and Uppsala. They have acted as postgraduate external examiners at King's College London, Kent, Lampeter and Trinity St David, and at Melbourne.

Refereeing and membership of editorial/advisory boards

In the REF period, staff have reviewed articles for over fifty academic journals including *Kantian Review* (Baisau); *The British Journal for the History of Philosophy* (Baisau, D'Oro, Tartaglia); *Mind*, *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* (D'Oro, Wrigley); and *Bioethics*, *Journal of Medical Ethics* (Dawson, Wrigley).

Staff have reviewed manuscripts and proposals for publishers such as Oxford University Press, Kluwer, Springer, Polity, Wiley, Blackwell, Johns Hopkins, British Medical Association, Palgrave MacMillan, Routledge, Cambridge University Press, Harvard University Press, Continuum and Bloomsbury. They have acted as referees on grant applications for the AHRC, the Wellcome Trust, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, The British Academy and The Romanian National Research Council. They are on the advisory board of *Public Reason* and *Kant Studies Online* (Baisau); and on the editorial board of the *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, *Journal of Applied Philosophy* (Dawson); *Bioethics* (Dawson and Wilkinson); *Journal of the Philosophy of History* (D'Oro); *The Journal of Medical Law and Ethics* (Hughes); the *Annals of the University of Bucharest Philosophy Series* (Tartaglia); *Ethical Theory and Moral Practice*, *Clinical Ethics* (Wilkinson); and *Journal of Medical Ethics* (Wilkinson and Wrigley).

In addition, during his time at Keele and in this REF period, Dawson was a member of the International Advisory Board of the Institute of Population and Public Health (a Canadian national grant-giving body); he was Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board (SAB) for the interdisciplinary research initiative 'Governing Obesity' (GO) based at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark; and has reviewed grants for the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research, the Swiss National Science Foundation, AHRC, ESRC, and Taiwanese National Science Council. Wilkinson was a member of the AHRC Peer review College and of the Wellcome Trust Biomedical Ethics Funding Panel. He is also a member of the Ethical Advisory group of the Organ Donation Task Force.