Ethics-related articles and resource list

Selected articles on Learning and Teaching in Bioethics


Willmott, C.J. (2006) Never again shout, “that WOULD have been useful for my teaching!” at the TV Bioscience Education E-journal, 7-c1 available at www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol7/beej-7-C1.aspx


Also, see the web pages of the Centre for Bioscience Special Interest Group on Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/ethicsig.aspx
Reports and presentations from our previous ethics events:

- Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students; University of Cambridge, 16th December 2008
- Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students; Erlas Centre, Wrexham, 1st November 2006
- Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students: Challenges Old and New; Belfast Castle, Northern Ireland, 7th December 2005
- Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students: Engaging with the Issues; University of Leicester, 16th December 2004
- Ethics Teaching: one dilemma after another? University of Bristol, 26th February 2004
- Teaching Ethics to Bioscience Students; University of Stirling, 12th February 2003
- The Rights and Wrongs of Teaching Ethics to Bioscience students; University of Westminster, 22nd May 2002

Links to all the above events are available through the Ethics SIG page at: www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/network/ethicsig.aspx

Printed materials

An Intelligent Person's Guide to Ethics

Biodiversity - a Beginner's Guide

Bioethics: A Philosophical Introduction

Bioethics - an Anthology

Bioethics: An introduction for the biosciences

Bioethics Briefings
This series of briefings, written by Chris Willmott (University of Leicester) and John Bryant (University of Exeter) are intended to help teachers deal with various ethical topics. The briefings are in pdf format and contain a balance of scientific and ethical input, plus case studies and examples of ethics news items and other resources. The topics covered are Ethics and Bioethics; Genetically Modified Crops; Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD), Xenotransplantation, Stem Cells and Issues at the End of Life. Copies may be downloaded from www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/resources/ethicsbrief.aspx

Bioethics for Scientists

Bioscience Ethics

Clinical Ethics: A practical approach to ethics decisions in clinical medicine
Engineering Genesis: The ethics of genetic engineering in non-human species
“Although originating in a Church of Scotland working party, is not particularly ‘religious’. " Professor John Bryant, University of Exeter.

Environmental Ethics: An Overview for the Twenty-First Century

Environmental Issues: An introduction to sustainability
“Very USA-oriented but still good for environmental ethics” Professor John Bryant, University of Exeter.

Ethical Studies
“Designed as a course text for AS and A level students, this book offers an introduction to the principal ethical theories. Whilst inadequate for a philosophy degree this is nonetheless an ideal start point for bioscientists keen to have a handle on broader ethical thinking. The summaries at the start and finish of each chapter are particularly helpful.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Food Ethics

Introducing Ethics (published previously as “Ethics for Beginners”) 
“In keeping with the general style of the "Introducing..." series, this book makes extensive use of cartoons and graphics to enhance the readability whilst retaining adequate content for an introductory text on ethics.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Introduction to Bioethics

Issues in Agricultural Bioethics

Issues Series
Donnellan, C. (ed) Independence (www.independence.co.uk/)
A series of 180 or so regularly updated titles and supporting web site, including:
Vol 87 Genetic Modification, ISBN 1861682883
Vol 90 Human and Animal Cloning, ISBN 1861682913
Vol 102 The Ethics of Euthanasia, ISBN 1861683162
Vol 103 Animal Rights, ISBN 1861683170
“40 page A4 booklets full of resources (e.g. short articles, news clippings) for discussion starters etc.” Dr Andy Bond, University of Westminster.

Life and Death in Healthcare Ethics: A short introduction

Life in Our Hands

Medical Ethics

www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/ethics/bioethresources.pdf
Last updated: 14/12/2009
Medical Ethics Today: Its Practice and Philosophy

Medical Ethics: A case-based approach

Morality Matters

Responsible Conduct of Research

School Science Review - Issue December 2004; ASE
This issue is on the theme of ethics; some of the content may be adaptable to your situation.
Further details available at www.ase.org.uk/htm/journals/ssr/

The Ethics Toolkit: A Compendium of Ethical Concepts and Methods

The Ethical Dimensions of the Biological and Health Sciences

The Practical Guide to Medical Ethics and law

The Troubled Helix: Social and Psychological implications of the New Human Genetics
“Science is slightly dated but all the ethical issues are very much alive.” Professor John Bryant, University of Exeter

Software

Anderson, D., Cavalier, R., and Covey, P.R. Right to Die: The Dax Cowart Case (CD-ROM)

Websites

BBC
www.bbc.co.uk/
"Obvious? Yes - but also versatile. The increasing availability of online news footage adds to the value of what was already an excellent resource”. Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

BEEP – BioEthics Education Project
www.beep.ac.uk
Resources for the teaching of ethics in Post-16 and A-level biology.

Bioedge
www.bioedge.org
"Bioedge is a weekly update on recent bioethics stories. Based in Australia, they pick up on breaking news around the world. I recommend subscribing to the weekly e-mail alert - a very useful way to keep in touch with issues you may otherwise have missed.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.
BioethicsBytes
http://bioethicsbytes.wordpress.com/
“A repository for suggestions about bioethics-related clips in films, TV programmes and news footage as case studies and discussion starters for teaching” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Bioethics Resources on the Internet - National Institutes of Health
http://bioethics.od.nih.gov/
“A USA-based portal, with well signposted links to both their own papers and material on specific topics posted elsewhere.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

BioethicsWeb – Intute (formerly Bioethics on the Internet – Wellcome Trust)
www.intute.ac.uk/bioethicsweb/
“A portal rather than a place to end up. A thorough listing of the best other bioethics sites on the internet - regulatory bodies in the UK, and other bioethics sites in the USA and elsewhere.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

The Christian Medical Fellowship
www.cmf.org.uk/
“The website of the Christian Medical Fellowship. You would perhaps assume you know WHAT this site is going to say about a certain issue (and you're probably right!) But what you get additionally is the reasons WHY they say it. A good collection of briefing papers and submissions to ethical reviews from a Christian perspective. Perhaps helpful if you are asking student to review the diversity of opinion on a particular topic. Well indexed but without a search engine.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Ethical, Legal and Social Implications - Human Genome Project
www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/elsi/elsi.shtml
“When the Human Genome Project was conceived a percentage of the expenditure was ring-fenced for research into the ethical, legal and social implications. This is where you see the money spent.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Ethical Matrix
www.ethicalmatrix.net/
“Authored by Ben Mepham (then at University of Nottingham, now University of Lincoln), funded by Compassion in World Farming, this is a worked example of Mepham's ethical matrix concept applied to the specific area of animal farming. This may not be a subject of direct relevance to you or your students, but it is worth taking a look at the site for ideas about how you might adapt the matrix approach to evaluation of a different topic.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Ethics Update
http://ethics.sandiego.edu/
“Established and edited by Lawrence Hinman (University of San Diego), this is a thorough repository of material on a wide range of ethical concepts and associated philosophers.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.

Newsfilm online
www.nfo.ac.uk
“Members of the British Universities Film and Video Council can access this archive of selected ITN news reports which include a number of bioethics-related reports. The clips can be downloaded for use offline.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester

Nuffield Council on Bioethics
www.nuffieldbioethics.org/
“In many ways the ‘home’ of bioethics with a UK focus. There are reports and discussion papers here on issues ranging from genetic screening, to xenotransplantation and to the ethics of healthcare research in developing countries. A 'copy' of the site was also distributed with Nature in autumn 2002.” Dr Chris Willmott, University of Leicester.
Television and Radio Index for Learning and Teaching
www.trilt.ac.uk
A fantastic 'early warning' system run by the British Universities Film and Video Council. Alerts you about forthcoming TV and radio programmes matching any keyword(s) you choose to include, with a weekly e-mail message. (As mentioned in; Never again shout, “that WOULD have been useful for my teaching!” at the TV, by Dr Chris Willmott, www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/journal/vol7/beej-7-C1.aspx)

ETHICS Project

This project involved six Subject Centres including Bioscience. The purpose of the project was to collectively examine the current provision of professional and academic ethics teaching across a number of cognate subject disciplines. The project web site contains: a database of case-studies/contextualised scenarios and documents on assessment, benchmarks, confidentiality and consent. Also, the Project's hardcopy guide: Approaches to Ethics in Higher Education: Teaching Ethics across the Curriculum is available for downloading from www.prs.heacademy.ac.uk/projects/ethics/

Four mini-projects were funded as part of the ETHICS project, including one in biosciences:

Development, pilot delivery and evaluation of an internet based module on Scientific Integrity for Bioscientists
Prof. Valerie McKelvey-Martin, School of Biomedical Sciences, University of Ulster at Coleraine. An internet based module on Scientific Integrity for Bioscientists was developed at the University of Ulster. The module was designed so that components of it could be taken by final year BSc Hons students, PgD/MSc students, Master of Research students and the whole module by PhD students in the Biosciences. Further information is available from: www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/events/bristolethics/valerie.pdf


Thank you to Professor John Bryant (University of Exeter), Dr Chris Willmott (University of Leicester), Dr Any Bond (University of Westminster) and Professor Valerie McKelvey-Martin (University of Ulster at Coleraine) for their resource suggestions.

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www.bioscience.heacademy.ac.uk/ftp/ethics/bioethresources.pdf
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