

Research Project

Bio&Medical Ethics (BME) - International PhD Program

Third-party funded project

Project title Bio&Medical Ethics (BME) - International PhD Program

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Organisation / Research unit

Ethik / Bio- und Medizinethik (Elger)

Department

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Status Completed

Ethical issues accompany research and practice in medicine and the life sciences. It is widely recognized today that these issues need to be dealt with in a proactive, professional way. This is particularly pertinent for countries such as Switzerland that are important sites of research as well as of highly advanced health care while at the same time fostering transparency and citizen involvement in a liberal democracy. Arguments for and against certain interventions need to be carefully weighed and justified in the light of available empirical data. This falls into the area of bioethics, an interdisciplinary academic discipline. Its expertise includes the identification of ethical dilemmas, the application of conceptual analytical techniques, the development of normative frameworks for problem solving as well as the collection and interpretation of empirical data that can inform bioethical debates.

This interdisciplinary field of scholarship requires specific training. Whereas bioethics has by now become a standard element in undergraduate and graduate education, advanced level training is still scarce, particularly in Continental Europe. The ProDoc "Bio&Medical Ethics" aims to close this gap by offering a high quality, targeted training module that addresses the needs of future bioethics experts. Important features of the ProDoc are 1) its closeness to research/clinical contexts, 2) its focus on empirical skills, 3) its focus on current, "real" (policy) issues.

The ProDoc will build on preparatory work carried out at the University of Zurich, which has already established a PhD program "Biomedical Ethics and Law", with an international medical track containing a range of course offers in English. (www.bmel.uzh.ch/med) The new Bioethics Chair at the University of Basel will join forces in enhancing this program with a particular focus on ethical issues in life sciences. The accompanying research modules focus on current challenges in research ethics, more specifically in nanotechnology, synthetic biology, e-health and personal genomics. The training module is tailored to address these areas.

The ProDoc "Bio&Medical Ethics" will provide state of the art training, excellent supervision and international visibility. It aims to contribute to shaping a future generation of bioethicists who will be highly efficient and reliable in providing expert advice on the unavoidable and manifold ethical issues that arise with advances in medicine and the life sciences.

Keywords Ethics committees

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Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)

Add publication

Add documents

Specify cooperation partners

ID	Kreditinhaber	Kooperationspartner	Institution	Laufzeit - von	Laufzeit - bis
1544126	Elger, Bernice Simone	Emanuel, Ezekiel, Prof. Dr.	University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia	20.06.2012	21.06.2021
1544129	Elger, Bernice Simone	Dawson, Angus, Prof. Dr.	College of Medical and Dental Sciences, Universi- ty of Birmingham, Birming- ham	01.04.2012	30.04.2012
1544163	Elger, Bernice Simone	Tanner, Marcel, Prof. Dr.	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, University of Basel	01.10.2012	30.06.2016
1545609	Elger, Bernice Simone	Rehmann-Sutter, Christoph, Prof. Dr.	University of Lübeck	01.09.2012	30.12.2012
1545613	Elger, Bernice Simone	Loue, Sana, Prof. Dr.	Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland	01.03.2012	30.12.2014
1545615	Elger, Bernice Simone	Koenig, Barbara, Prof. Dr.	University of California, San Francisco	01.03.2012	30.12.2013