



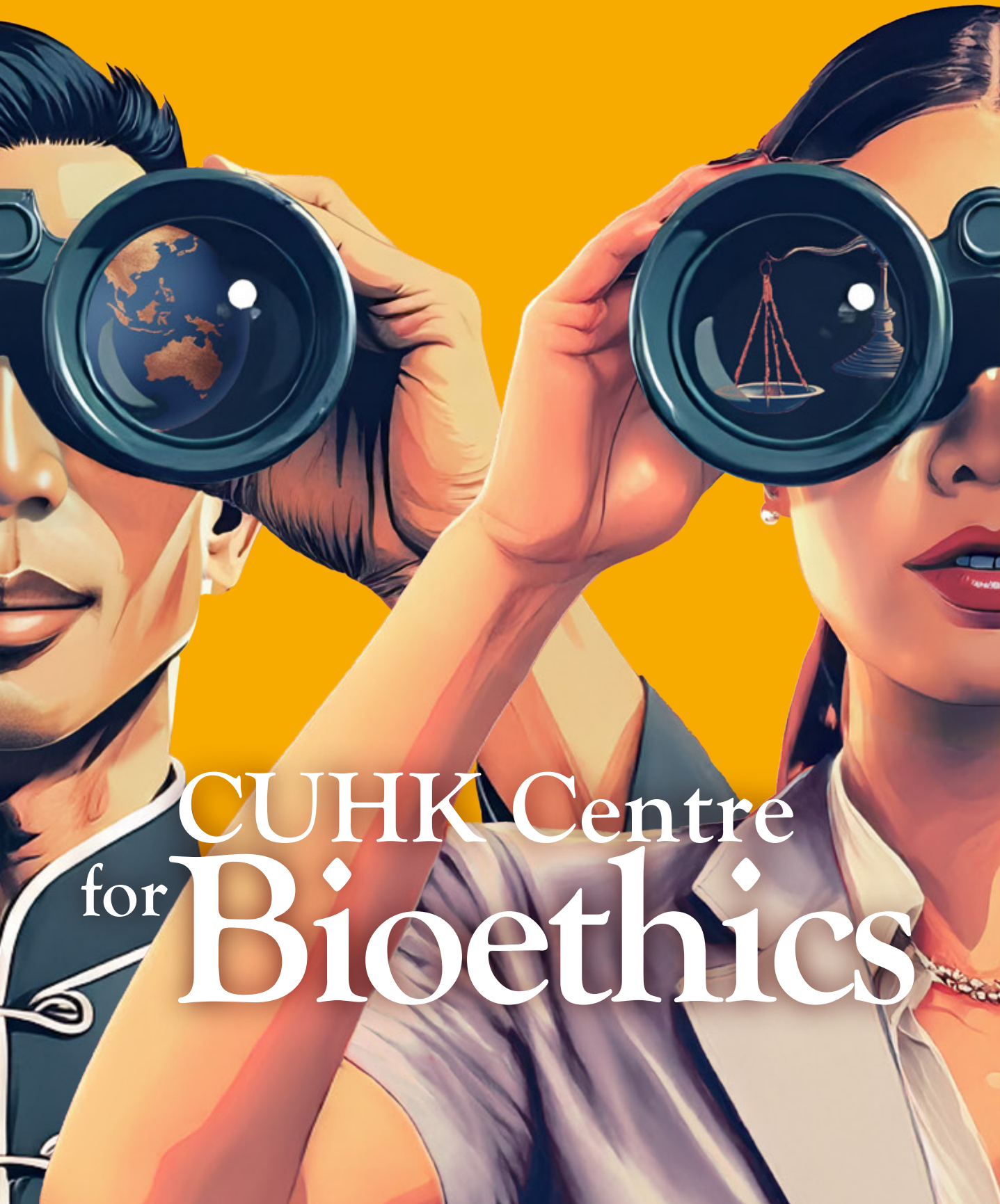
香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



香港中文大學醫學院
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

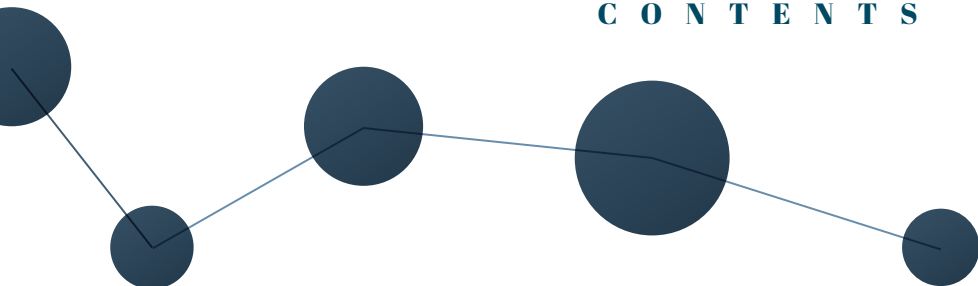


Centre for Bioethics
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
香港中文大學生命倫理學中心



CUHK Centre
for **Bioethics**

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Preface

This commemorative booklet marks a defining milestone in the journey of The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) Centre for Bioethics: our tenth anniversary. Since our establishment in 2015, the Centre has evolved into a vital hub for advancing bioethics in Hong Kong and beyond, guided by our core mission to foster ethical reflection and dialogue in biotechnologies and healthcare.

This booklet is more than a celebration of the passage of time – it is a testament to the vision, dedication, and collective efforts of those who have shaped our Centre’s success. From the pioneering foresight and generosity of our founding benefactor, Dr Edgar Cheng, to the unwavering support of CUHK and the Faculty of Medicine (CU Medicine), and the dynamic engagement of our members and partners, this shared commitment has helped and led the Centre emerge as an increasingly recognised presence in the realm of bioethics. Through a collaborative ecosystem, we have created a unique nexus where Eastern and Western perspectives converge and interact, serving as an interdisciplinary bridge that connects diverse fields of medicine, law, philosophy, and social sciences.

This booklet is also a chronicle of our past ten years – it is a reflection of the enduring importance of ethical considerations in health and healthcare. The transformative advancements in medical

technologies and healthcare delivery in the past decade have brought increasingly intricate ethical challenges. In response, we have worked tirelessly to cultivate ethical awareness among healthcare professionals, past, present, and future, and foster meaningful dialogues with the broader community. Our commitment to advancing bioethical discourse locally and globally has been exemplified through myriad educational initiatives, research endeavours, and public engagement activities, demonstrating the significance and relevance of bioethics in our daily lives.

Looking ahead, our vision is both ambitious and clear: to deepen ethical inquiry, empower healthcare professionals, and strengthen knowledge exchange locally, regionally, and globally, all with the overarching aim to improve human lives. With a robust blueprint for future growth and a resolute commitment to our founding principles, we embrace the challenges ahead with renewed determination, ready to build upon our foundation of excellence and expand our impact in the decades to come.

Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG
Dr Ann Sin Nga LAU
Co-Directors,
CUHK Centre for Bioethics



Nestled within the dynamic landscape of CUHK, the Centre for Bioethics at CU Medicine serves as a beacon of intellectual inquiry and ethical exploration. Our dedication to education, research, and community engagement in the domain of bioethics is underpinned by a deep appreciation of the profound impact of biotechnological advancements on a global scale. Embracing a holistic approach, we delve into the intricate nuances of clinical practice, biomedical research and technologies, public health, healthcare laws and policies, environmental considerations, animal welfare, and professional conduct, all guided by a fundamental respect for the intrinsic worth of every entity with moral standing. Our goal is clear: to safeguard the dignity of each person, ensuring that reverence for life continues to be paramount in our interactions with state-of-the-art technologies at the intersections of science, health, and societal well-being. Recognising the profound significance of humanities in offering insight into the human experience of illness, suffering, and care, our works emphasise the integration of these perspectives to contextualise bioethical frameworks.

Situated within the cosmopolitan hub of Hong Kong, our Centre serves as a pivotal bridge between the East and the West, facilitating cross-cultural dialogues and exchanges of diverse ethical perspectives. In an era marked by rapid scientific progress and increasing globalisation, we strive to cultivate a shared understanding of ethical imperatives. This international dynamism enriches our work, enabling us to contribute meaningfully to the global discourse on bioethics and to navigate the ethical challenges posed by the evolving landscape of modern science and technology. Understanding the cultural, historical, and philosophical dimensions of healthcare practices not only enriches our understanding of bioethics, but also fosters a more holistic approach to ethical decision-making in the realm of healthcare and biomedicine.

Our Aims

Inaugurated in January 2015, CUHK Centre for Bioethics plays a key role in developing a future generation of health practitioners and biomedical scientists with a sophisticated, case-based grasp of medical ethics. Our Centre's first priority is to work with CU Medicine and its schools to create first-rate pedagogical and learning tools for bioethics in medical education. Founded in 1981, CU Medicine is one of Asia's leading institutions in medical research and education, with an annual intake of over 700 undergraduates, including students of Medicine, and those across schools of Biomedical Sciences, Chinese Medicine, Pharmacy, Public Health, and Nursing. Since 2015, all health sciences undergraduates are required to enroll in a core curriculum in bioethics. But just as the field of bioethics is intrinsically interdisciplinary, CUHK Centre for Bioethics also serves as a hub within the university for students, scholars, and researchers who are working with bioethics from a variety of disciplines, from anthropology to media studies, psychology, and social sciences. As it builds its own capacity, our Centre also seeks ways to advance the field through its own research and international collaboration. Finally, among our Centre's core aims is to develop a greater awareness of biomedical ethics within the Hong Kong community, not only among medical and healthcare practitioners, and social workers, but also among policymakers, business professionals, young people, families, and religious counsellors – indeed all the varied sectors affected by the changing dimensions of medical and health practice in the 21st century.

Our Mission

At the core of our mission lies a steadfast commitment to identifying, exploring, and disseminating knowledge on the myriad ethical challenges pervading the realms of health and healthcare. With a keen focus on the real-world contexts experienced by professionals and communities, our Centre endeavours to elevate societal consciousness of the constantly evolving landscape of bioethics. Through a blend of comprehensive education, rigorous research endeavours, vibrant public engagement initiatives, community dialogues, and scholarly exchanges, our Centre serves as a platform for fostering ongoing dialogues between the East and the West, leveraging this unique position for collaborative problem-solving on a global stage.

Thank You

The journey of CUHK Centre for Bioethics over the past decade reflects the power of shared vision and collective dedication to advancing bioethical discourse. This milestone publication offers an opportunity to convey our profound gratitude to individuals and institutions that have shaped our growth and contributed to our achievements.

We owe a great debt of honour to our founding benefactor, Dr Edgar Cheng, whose pioneering vision and generous endowment laid the foundation for the Centre. His unwavering belief in the importance of bioethics education and research has been the cornerstone of our mission, inspiring our work and future endeavours.

We acknowledge with appreciation CUHK's steadfast commitment to academic excellence and interdisciplinary collaboration. The University's institutional support has cultivated an environment where bioethical scholarship thrives, enabling the Centre to realise its potential in education, research, and community engagement. The Centre's growth has been further flourished under the leadership of successive Vice-Chancellors and Presidents. Notably, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to Professor Joseph Sung, whose advocacy for East-West dialogue and university-wide bioethics education, played a key role in defining the Centre's early direction. We are also deeply indebted to Professor Rocky Tuan for his leadership in fostering the Centre's impactful partnerships, strengthening our collaborative

networks, and expanding our global footprint. Moreover, we are filled with enthusiastic anticipation for the continued growth and development of the Centre under the university leadership of Professor Dennis Lo.

While CUHK's overarching support has been instrumental in fostering our growth and impact, CU Medicine has also played a vital role as our invaluable institutional home and partner throughout our journey. We are immensely grateful to the Faculty's senior leadership, including current and former Deans, Professor Philip Chiu and Professor Francis Chan, for their enduring support in embedding bioethics into medical education and research, establishing the Centre as a respected voice in healthcare ethics.

Our partnerships with reputable and established institutions have been indispensable in amplifying the Centre's influence and fulfilling our mission in the local and global communities. Particularly noteworthy are the Hastings Center, the National Academy of Medicine (NAM), and Columbia University. We are especially thankful for their collaborations which have enhanced our educational initiatives, faculty development, and international presence through impactful scholarly exchanges and conferences.

Our sincere appreciation also extends to the members of our Advisory Board. Their expertise and wisdom have steered the Centre's strategic development and elevated the calibre of our initiatives. To the Centre's dedicated staff, past and present, we offer our deepest gratitude for their commitment and efforts in transforming ambitious ideas into meaningful accomplishments.

As we embrace the future, we stand upon a foundation built through years of collective excellence and shared purpose. This legacy of collaboration and achievement will undoubtedly propel us forward into new horizons in the advancement of bioethics.

Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG
Dr Ann Sin Nga LAU
Co-Directors,
CUHK Centre for Bioethics

Message From Professor Dennis Yuk-ming LO

PROFESSOR DENNIS YUK-MING LO

2025 is an auspicious year marking the tenth anniversary of CUHK Centre for Bioethics. We stand at a pivotal opportunity to reflect on a decade of impactful contributions of the Centre while charting an ambitious path forward. This milestone not only commemorates our achievements but also reinforces our commitment to addressing the ethical challenges emerging from the rapidly evolving intersection of healthcare, technology, and society.

The importance of ethical considerations in science and research cannot be overstated in an increasingly globalised world. As we witness unprecedented breakthroughs in medical science, particularly in artificial intelligence, biotechnologies, and genomics, that have been reshaping healthcare practices and societal norms, we are also confronted with profound ethical dilemmas that transcend geographical boundaries and demand thoughtful engagement with professionals and communities worldwide in order to adhere to proper values and make sensible judgement. This delicate equilibrium is particularly significant as healthcare innovations become more interconnected and globally accessible, raising concerns about the potential commodification of health and the erosion of human dignity. We need to foster a culture of ethical mindfulness and cultivate dialogues among researchers, healthcare professionals, policymakers, and communities to ensure that technological progress aligns with human values and ethical principles and serves humanity's best interests.

In this dynamic landscape, bioethics illuminates the path towards thoughtful and principled advancement in healthcare and technology. The future of bioethics lies in interdisciplinary approaches – a hallmark of CUHK Centre for Bioethics' work over the past decade. By integrating insights from philosophy, law, medicine, public health, and social sciences, the Centre is dedicated to conducting comprehensive ethical analyses that address the complexities of modern healthcare while nurturing empathy and compassion. The Centre proudly stands poised to catalyse meaningful change in global bioethical discourse, advancing policies and practices that uphold human dignity and ethical integrity.

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to CUHK Centre for Bioethics on its tenth anniversary and express my deepest gratitude to the faculty, staff, and collaborators whose dedication has made this journey possible. May the Centre continue to inspire ethical excellence and humanistic care, ensuring that bioethics remains a guiding light in the pursuit of scientific and medical progress.

Professor Dennis Yuk-ming LO
Vice-Chancellor and President,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



**PROFESSOR
ROCKY
S. TUAN**



It is truly inspiring to witness the remarkable journey of CUHK Centre for Bioethics, which has established itself as a cornerstone of ethical discourse that addresses profound moral questions accompanying advancements in biomedical sciences and healthcare. I have had the privilege of witnessing and supporting the Centre's remarkable growth over the past decade – my heartfelt congratulations to everyone who has contributed to its success.

The establishment of CUHK Centre for Bioethics reflects our conviction that bioethics is fundamental to fostering a deeper understanding of the moral dimensions of biomedical innovation. From its inception, the Centre has focused on critical reflection and dialogue, equipping researchers, healthcare professionals, and society at large with the tools to navigate the ethical dilemmas posed by modern medicine. By tackling issues such as patient autonomy, informed consent, and the societal implications of emerging technologies, the Centre has played a vital role in building public trust in research and healthcare and providing essential perspectives for evaluating groundbreaking developments in stem cell research, reproductive technologies, precision medicine, and regenerative medicine, and the emerging application of artificial intelligence.

As we look to the future, I am filled with optimism about the Centre's expanding influence and continued growth in the local community and beyond. Building upon our decade of experience, sustained dialogue and collaboration among scholars, practitioners, and policymakers will be crucial in addressing the moral challenges of biomedical research and practice. Echoing the theme of the tenth anniversary – *Connecting the Global Communities with Bioethics*, the Centre stands ready to lead these important conversations and shape the future of healthcare with integrity, purpose, responsibility, and thoughtfulness.

Finally, I extend my deepest gratitude to the faculty, staff, collaborators, and students who have contributed to the Centre's success. This milestone is not just a celebration of past accomplishments but also a foundation for future achievements. Congratulations to CUHK Centre for Bioethics, and here's to many more years of impactful work for humanity!

Professor Rocky S. TUAN
Former Vice-Chancellor and President,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Message From Dr Edgar Wai Kin CHENG

DR EDGAR WAI KIN CHENG

A decade ago, I envisioned a future for Hong Kong where bioethics would thrive as a discipline, not only aligning with global standards but also reflecting our unique cultural and societal values. This vision inspired the establishment of CUHK Centre for Bioethics. I am proud to see how far we have come in realising this vision as we celebrate the Centre's tenth anniversary.

Over the past decade, CUHK Centre for Bioethics has emerged as a catalyst for advancing ethical standards and placing patient welfare at the heart of healthcare. As Bioethics is a niche and developing area in Hong Kong, the Centre has overcome significant hurdles, including those brought by the COVID-19 pandemic. These difficulties became opportunities for growth and strengthened our resolve to equip future healthcare professionals with essential skills to navigate complex ethical dilemmas and conduct thoughtful analyses. The exceptional leadership of our Centre directors and the steadfast support of CU Medicine have been instrumental in establishing the Centre as a platform for gathering bioethics specialists of diverse disciplines and strengths, where it has a prominent voice in ethical engagement.

Beyond the University, the Centre has actively engaged with secondary schools and community organisations, fostering public awareness of bioethical issues and encouraging meaningful dialogues.

Collaborations with esteemed institutions such as the Hastings Center and NAM in the United States have enriched our scholarly network, while participation in international platforms like the World Congress of Bioethics (WCB) and the Asia Pacific Bioethics Education Network (APBEN) has amplified our voice in critical global conversations.

As we look to the future, I am heartened to see the Centre poised to deepen its engagement with the global bioethics community. Hong Kong's unique position as the crossroads between East and West offers a rare opportunity to bridge diverse perspectives and contribute to cross-cultural dialogues on pressing ethical issues. Building on our achievements and lessons from the past decade, we are well-positioned to address the intricate ethical challenges of an increasingly interconnected world, foster unity through diversity, and enhance collaboration across boundaries.

I invite all stakeholders to join us on this continuing journey.

Dr Edgar Wai Kin CHENG
Benefactor and Special Advisor,
CUHK Centre for Bioethics



Message From Professor Tai Fai FOK



PROFESSOR TAI FAI FOK

Established in 2015, CUHK Centre for Bioethics has been instrumental in addressing the complex ethical challenges posed by medical advancements. Our founding vision was to embed bioethics within CUHK and CU Medicine, enhancing our academic strengths and providing resources to explore the ethical dimensions of healthcare education and research. This initiative has laid a strong foundation for integrating ethical considerations into the training of healthcare professionals, ensuring that medical innovation is pursued with integrity, responsibility, and compassion.

Throughout my tenure as the Chairman of the Advisory Board, our Advisory Board members and I have worked closely with the Centre's leadership to shape its strategic direction and ensure its growing impact on healthcare education and research at CUHK. We are not merely imparting knowledge but cultivating a new generation of ethical practitioners. Our Centre serves not only as a hub for ethical inquiry but also as a cornerstone of our academic mission – bridging the gap between ethical principles and their practical application in healthcare. This commitment ensures that medical innovation is pursued with unwavering ethical scrutiny, prioritising the advancement of human well-being at its core.

This commitment has driven a transformative decade for CUHK Centre for Bioethics. Since its establishment, we have systematically built our capabilities and reach to respond to the city's

growing demand for bioethical expertise amid rapid advancements in medical and other emerging technologies. Drawing on the international expertise of our Advisory Board members, we established our pioneering collaboration with the Hastings Center and subsequently Columbia University, developing a comprehensive bioethics curriculum within CU Medicine. Our partnerships with prestigious institutions like NAM have also strengthened our global network and enriched our perspectives. Meanwhile, our Centre has been pivotal in shaping the local bioethics landscape and promoting ethical awareness beyond academic boundaries through community outreach programmes and public engagement initiatives.

Looking ahead, we remain steadfast in fostering an environment of ethical inquiry – not only addressing the challenges of today but also anticipating the ethical questions of tomorrow – to ensure that bioethics continues to guide the future of healthcare in our ever-evolving world. As we celebrate this milestone, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to our Centre's success.

Professor Tai Fai FOK
Chairman, Advisory Board,
CUHK Centre for Bioethics



Message From Professor Philip Wai Yan CHIU



In an era of rapid medical advancements and increasingly diverse patient populations, a strong foundation in ethical principles has become indispensable for healthcare professionals. Bioethics provides the moral compass that guides practitioners in making informed decisions, prioritising patient welfare, and respecting individual autonomy. Through its comprehensive initiatives, CUHK Centre for Bioethics shapes CU Medicine's approach to ethical education, nurturing healthcare practitioners who are not only technically skilled but also compassionate and ethically grounded.

The Centre's robust bioethics curriculum enriches the MBChB and undergraduate health sciences programmes of CU Medicine, distinctively weaving ethical training throughout the professional education journey. As we celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Centre, we are excited about the latest enhancement of our faculty-based bioethics education in which students are engaged in team-based, interprofessional interactions with local and international educators that strengthen their analytical capabilities and moral reasoning. Through carefully designed case studies, interactive discussions, and reflective practices, students develop the skills needed to resolve ethical complexities with acute sensitivity and insights. This comprehensive training ensures that our graduates are well-equipped to address the ethical challenges they will likely encounter in their professional lives.



Looking ahead, we recognise that the future of healthcare education lies at the intersection of bioethics and medical humanities. This synergy enriches our understanding of patient care by combining ethical frameworks with insights from literature, philosophy, and the arts. Such an approach illuminates the human experience of illness and healing, fostering deeper empathy and understanding among healthcare providers. This aligns perfectly with the evolving paradigm of patient-centred care, where individuals are viewed not merely as recipients of treatment but as active partners in their healthcare journey.

CU Medicine pledges its continued support to advance the Centre's mission and growth in ethical discourse and practice. I am confident that CUHK Centre for Bioethics will rise to become one of Asia's foremost centres in bioethics.

Professor Philip Wai Yan CHIU
Dean, CU Medicine

Advisory Board



Chairman

Professor Tai Fai FOK
Emeritus Professor & Honorary Clinical Professor,
Department of Paediatrics, CU Medicine



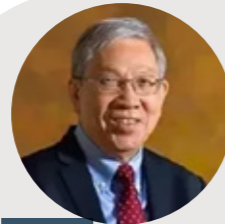
Special Advisor

Dr Edgar Wai Kin CHENG
Chairman, World-Wide Investment Co. Ltd.
Senior advisor to the Council of CUHK



Member

Professor Philip Wai Yan CHIU
Dean, CU Medicine
Shun Hing Education and Charity Fund Professor
of Robotic Surgery



Member

Professor Wai-yee CHAN
Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President
(Strategic Developments), CUHK
Li Ka Shing Professor of Biomedical Sciences



Member

Dr Derrick Kit Sing AU
Clinical Professional Consultant (honorary),
CU Medicine



Member

Professor Hon-lam LI
Adjunct Professor, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Distinguished Professor, Department of Medical
Humanities, Southeast University,
Emeritus Professor, Department of Philosophy, CUHK
Affiliate Professor, Department of Bioethics & Humanities,
University of Washington School of Medicine



Member

Professor Ho Keung NG
Professor, Department of Anatomical
and Cellular Pathology, CU Medicine



Member

Professor Jean WOO
Emeritus Professor, Department of Medicine and Therapeutics, CU Medicine
Henry G Leong Research Professor of Gerontology and Geriatrics, CU Medicine
Director, CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing
Co-Director, CUHK Institute of Health Equity
Director, S.H. Ho Centre for Gerontology and Geriatrics, CU Medicine
Director, Centre for Nutritional Studies, CU Medicine

Faculty & Members



Co-Director

Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG
Associate Professor, JC School of Public Health and
Primary Care, CU Medicine
Associate Director, CUHK Institute of Health Equity
Research Fellow (by courtesy), CUHK Jockey Club
Institute of Ageing



Co-Director

Dr Ann Sin Nga LAU
Assistant Dean (Health Sciences
Education), CU Medicine
Associate Director (Undergraduate
Education) and Principal Lecturer, School
of Biomedical Sciences, CU Medicine



Dr Derrick Kit Sing AU
Clinical Professional Consultant (honorary)



Dr Chelsea Sihan SUN
Assistant Lecturer



Dr John Weian ZHONG
Postdoctoral Fellow



Ms Joey Mei Yi SO
Executive Officer



Ms Po Tim CHENG
Project Coordinator



Ms Jovie Jun WANG
Project Coordinator

Honorary & Affiliated Members



Professor Nancy S JECKER
Visiting Professor, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Professor, Bioethics and Humanities,
University of Washington School of Medicine



Professor Hon-lam LI
Adjunct Professor, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Distinguished Professor, Department of Medical
Humanities, Southeast University
Emeritus Professor, Department of Philosophy, CUHK
Affiliate Professor, Department of Bioethics & Humanities,
University of Washington School of Medicine



Professor Helen Yue Lai CHAN
Professor (by courtesy),
CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Professor, The Nethersole School
of Nursing, CU Medicine



Professor Jean Hee KIM
Senior Research Fellow (by courtesy),
CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Associate Professor, JC School of
Public Health and Primary Care, CU Medicine



Professor Dong DONG
Research Fellow (by courtesy),
CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Assistant Professor, JC School of Public
Health and Primary Care, CU Medicine



Professor Wai Tat WONG
Research Fellow (by courtesy),
CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Clinical Professional Consultant, Department of
Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, CU Medicine



Mr Anselm AU
Adjunct Tutor, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
PhD Candidate, Department of
Chemical Pathology, CU Medicine



2015-18

Building Foundations, Forging Partnerships

This period marks the formative years of CUHK Centre for Bioethics endeavoured to become a key regional hub for advancing bioethics scholarship in Hong Kong and Asia Pacific. This phase was pivotal, as it marked the beginning of some of our forward-thinking partnerships, distinctive curriculum development, and purposeful outreach activities that set the stage for the Centre's future growth.

2019-22

Consolidating Strengths, Demonstrating Resilience

Building on its early successes, the Centre moved into a phase of consolidation and advancement, solidifying its role in education, research, and ethics discourse. Amid the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Centre adapted to the new normal with agility and resilience, leveraging digital platforms to sustain academic excellence and foster meaningful engagement.

2023-Present

Reimagining Impact, Expanding Horizons

The Centre is embarking on a bold new chapter with transformative initiatives, enhanced institutional capabilities, and a forward-looking vision for bioethics. Through renewed strategic priorities in research, education, and public engagement, the Centre continues to advance bioethics scholarship while deepening its impact across academic and community spheres.



2015

- Officially launched CUHK Centre for Bioethics with the landmark conference 'Building Bioethics Capacity in Hong Kong: Ethical Dimensions of Policy for Ageing and Genetics' on 9 and 10 January 2015
- Designed and introduced a comprehensive bioethics curriculum for the MBChB programme in collaboration with Columbia University
- Jointly offered the first Hospital Clinical Ethics Grand Round with the New Territories East Cluster (NTEC) Ethics Committee at the Prince of Wales Hospital
- Co-organized the first Bioethics Symposium with the Department of Philosophy, CUHK
- Launched the Bioethics Public Lecture and Workshop series



Key Achievements



2016

- Established the CUHK-Hastings Scholarly Exchange Program
- Inaugurated the prestigious Lanson Lecture in Bioethics series, an annual event showcasing global thought leaders in the field



2017

- Launched the International Health Policy Fellowship at CUHK in partnership with NAM
- Established a sponsorship initiative for CUHK faculty members to pursue Columbia University's Certification of Professional Achievement or Master of Science in Bioethics to bolster teaching excellence
- Organised CUHK's first Medical Education Conference with the themes of "Bioethics Education" and "Professionalism"
- Launched the monthly Bioethics Journal Club series
- Began publishing a monthly op-ed column in *Hong Kong Economic Journal* to enhance public engagement in bioethics discourse



2018

- Organised CUHK's second Medical Education Conference with highlights on bioethics, professionalism, and workplace assessment
- Founded APBEN, creating a regional platform for bioethics education and collaboration



2019 - 22

- Hosted the APBEN's Second (2019) and Fourth Annual Conferences (2022)
- Orchestrated seamless transition to webinar series and online initiatives through digital platforms during the pandemic, including the APBEN's Fourth Annual Conference in 2022
- Cultivated new international collaborations with the Nuffield Council on Bioethics and Sydney Health Ethics
- Spearheaded bioethical research in emerging fields, including artificial intelligence, genetics, and genomics
- Published significant research on pandemic ethics, contributing to policymaking and public understanding during the COVID-19 crisis
- Kickstarted a thorough review and enhancement of the CUHK medical bioethics curriculum as the coordination lead
- Extended the sponsorship for CUHK faculty members to pursue Harvard Medical School's Master of Science in Bioethics to invest in the professional growth of faculty members
- Launched the first issue of the *CUHK Bioethics (CUBE) Newsletter*, a medical student-teacher publication



2023

- Introduced 'Bioethical Perspectives on Health, Life, and Death', a General Education course designed to engage students across all disciplines at the university
- Member of the Centre was elected as the Chair of APBEN's Executive Board
- Expanded community outreach through bioethics education programmes for secondary schools and partnerships with community organisations



2024

- Crafted a comprehensive blueprint focusing on organisational capacity enhancement and strategic development priorities
- Reimagined the Centre's digital presence with a website revamp and increased online engagement



2025 & Beyond

- Commemorating the tenth anniversary through diverse celebrations, including creative engagement through bioethics art competition, academic excellence showcase via a one-day symposium, and international collaborations through joint symposiums with the Harvard Medical School Center for Bioethics, The Hastings Center, Columbia University, and the Center for the Study of Bioethics
- Hosting the APBEN's Sixth Conference, underscoring the Centre's major milestone in regional collaboration in bioethics education



CUHK Centre for Bioethics is characterised by several distinctive features that define its focus on the field of bioethics.

Comprehensive Interdisciplinarity

CUHK Centre for Bioethics exemplifies a commitment to interdisciplinarity, bringing together a diverse team of experts from medicine, humanities, law, and social sciences. This breadth of expertise enables the Centre to enrich both educational programming and research initiatives. Its integrated bioethics curriculum spans foundational principles, legal frameworks, and cultural dimensions, fostering critical thinking and ethical sensitivity among students across various healthcare disciplines. Through team-based learning and interprofessional interactions, students engage with multiple perspectives and develop comprehensive analytical skills. Similarly, the Centre's research initiatives benefit from this interdisciplinary synergy, where multiple viewpoints converge to address complex bioethical challenges. By bridging disciplines in both education and research, the Centre creates a dynamic environment that fosters a more holistic understanding of ethical dilemmas in modern healthcare and bioethics.

Confluence of Eastern and Western Perspectives

Leveraging Hong Kong's unique position at the intersection of Eastern and Western traditions, the Centre serves as a vital nexus for cross-cultural bioethical dialogue. Strategic partnerships with institutions like the Hastings Center and NAM facilitate global knowledge exchange, while the Centre's local initiatives ensure that Eastern values and cultural contexts are thoughtfully integrated. This distinctive position enables the Centre to develop nuanced perspectives on contemporary healthcare challenges, where traditional wisdom and modern methodologies converge to yield comprehensive, culturally informed solutions.

Community Engagement and Public Impact

The Centre extends its influence beyond academic boundaries through diverse community initiatives that enhance public understanding of bioethical issues. By rendering complex bioethical concepts accessible to diverse audiences, the Centre actively engages with secondary schools, professional organisations, and community groups. Through carefully curated public events, educational workshops, and media engagement, including a regular newspaper op-ed and public commentary, the Centre facilitates meaningful dialogue on pressing bioethical issues. These efforts strengthen public awareness and empower individuals to engage thoughtfully with the ethical dimensions of modern healthcare, fostering a more ethically conscious society.



CUHK Centre for Bioethics has been at the forefront of advancing bioethics education across CU Medicine and the University, fostering an intellectually rich learning environment that addresses the needs of students, healthcare professionals, and the broader academic community. Through a strategically designed multi-tiered approach – encompassing a structured medical curriculum, professional development initiatives, university-wide General Education offerings, and engagement events – the Centre cultivates ethical literacy while nurturing critical discourse on contemporary bioethical challenges.

At the core of the Centre’s educational mission lies its integrated bioethics curriculum for MBChB students, meticulously designed to span all six years of their medical study. Beginning with foundational ethical principles and health beliefs, the curriculum progressively explores complex issues such as patient autonomy, healthcare resource allocation, and the implications of emerging technologies in medicine. Legal and professional standards are interwoven to provide students with the societal and regulatory dimensions of medical ethics. Through case-based learning and interactive discussions, students develop analytical skills and emerge as practitioners with moral sensitivity and professional acumen.

Building on this foundation, the Centre extends its educational reach across CU Medicine through tailored bioethics courses for various healthcare disciplines: the Biomedical Sciences ethics course emphasises ethical considerations in research and clinical practice, while the Public Health ethics course examines the complex interplay among ethics, law, and public health policy. First-year students across all healthcare programmes are also required to engage with foundational bioethics courses through an interprofessional approach, laying a firm ethical grounding for their future roles. Complementing these formal curricula, the Centre publishes *CUBE Newsletter*, an annual publication that features students’ ethical discussions and reflection on topics in clinical medicine, public health, and emerging technologies.

Moreover, with the aim to elevate individual expertise and the institution’s capacity for teaching excellence, the Centre supports faculty members in pursuing advanced training in bioethics. In particular, our Centre’s collaboration with Columbia University’s School of Professional Studies has supported staff members in pursuing advanced bioethics degree and certificate through our CUHK-Columbia scholarship. Support has also been given to staff members to pursue advanced bioethics degree at the Harvard Medical School’s Center for Bioethics.

Beyond our medical students, the Centre offers the General Education course ‘Bioethical Perspectives on Health, Life, and Death’ to engage students from all disciplines with the moral complexities of modern medicine through a pluralistic and reflective lens. Further enriched by expert talks, film screenings, and public lectures, the Centre creates a vibrant platform for fostering interdisciplinary dialogue and a university-wide culture of ethical inquiry.

The Centre also holds a leading role in bioethics education discourse and research, introduced bioethics as the theme of the Medical Education Conference, and founded APBEN as a regional platform for bioethics education and collaboration.

Riding on these visionary initiatives, the Centre will substantiate its role in shaping bioethics education in healthcare programmes beyond Hong Kong to its nearby regions, fostering collaborations on educational initiatives, and sharing good practices and pedagogical approaches with an East Asian angle and experience. As bioethical challenges grow increasingly complex, CUHK Centre for Bioethics remains committed to shaping an ethically-conscious university community and equipping the next generation to navigate moral complexities with wisdom, compassion, and integrity.

Teaching Team

From left to right:

Dr John Weian ZHONG
Postdoctoral Fellow, CUHK Centre for Bioethics

Dr Chelsea Sihan SUN
Assistant Lecturer, CUHK Centre for Bioethics

Professor Helen Yue Lai CHAN
Professor (by courtesy), CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Professor, The Nethersole School of Nursing

Dr Kanchan Rao SINGH
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Maria Sen Mun WAI
Senior Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Molly Pui Man WONG
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Shivani Salil SHINDE
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Hang Mee YEUNG
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Ann Sin Nga LAU
Co-Director, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Principal Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG
Co-Director, CUHK Centre for Bioethics
Associate Professor, JC School of Public Health and Primary Care

Dr Christopher Yew Hong SEE
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Isabel Shui Shan HWANG
Senior Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Mr Anselm AU
Adjunct Tutor, CUHK Centre for Bioethics

Dr Josephine Wing Sze LAU
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Dr Victor Chun Yan TSE
Part-time Lecturer, CU Medicine

Dr Francis KEE
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences

Our teaching team also includes

In alphabetical order

Dr Derrick Kit Sing AU
Clinical Professional Consultant (honorary),
CU Medicine

Professor Albert LEE
Emeritus Professor/Clinical Professional Consultant
The Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care

Professor Chi Kong LI
Research Professor, Department of Paediatrics

Dr Leo She Wang POON
Adjunct Assistant Professor, CU Medicine

Professor Wai Tat WONG
Clinical Professional Consultant, Department of
Anaesthesia and Intensive Care

Dr Daniel Ka Lok YUK
Department of Medicine and Therapeutics



CUHK Centre for Bioethics is dedicated to advancing bioethical research that addresses the complex ethical challenges of our time. Through interdisciplinary inquiry and evidence-based approaches, the Centre explores pressing issues at the intersection of healthcare, technology, and society. Its purpose-driven mission seeks to bridge theoretical frameworks with practical applications, contributing to both academic discourse and societal well-being.

The Centre's research spans a broad spectrum of bioethical issues, reflecting the diverse expertise of its members. In the area of end-of-life care and death studies, its work examines advance care planning, advance medical directives, palliative care approaches, human dignity, and physician-assisted death. The Centre also investigates the ethical implications of emerging technologies, in particular artificial intelligence, robotics, genetics and genomics, focusing on their impact on patient care, autonomy, and decision-making. Research in bioethics and cultures explores how cultural values shape medical practices, while studies in health equity address social determinants of health and improve access to care for marginalised populations. Foundational research in moral philosophy further examines public reason in bioethics and resource allocation.

The Centre's research efforts are reflected in its publications in leading journals, including *the American Journal of Bioethics*, *the Journal of Medical Ethics*, and *Bioethics*, alongside books and policy papers. The research engagement of the Centre extends to international research conferences, such as the 17th WCB in Doha, Qatar, where its research on end-of-life interventions, health inequities, prenatal diagnosis, and bioethics education was showcased. Looking ahead, the Centre will jointly organise an international symposium with the Center for Bioethics of Harvard Medical School on global bioethics research, education, and practice in summer of 2025, as well as an international conference on existential threats and other disasters in 2026 in collaboration with renowned institutions, including the Hastings Center, Columbia University, Center for the Study of Bioethics, and the European Division of the International Chair in Bioethics, and Cooperating Center of the World Medical Association. These will be notable milestones in the Centre's involvement in high-profile international research activities in bioethics.

As it celebrates its tenth anniversary in 2025, the Centre maintains its trajectory of excellence, propelled by innovation, purpose and an enduring dedication to addressing the complex ethical questions of our time.

Academic Collaborations & Exchanges

CUHK Centre for Bioethics has established itself as a hub of academic collaborations and exchanges, forging strategic partnerships with world-renowned institutions through prestigious fellowships, exchange programmes, and scholarly events. These collaborations have enabled the Centre to create a dynamic intellectual environment linking disciplines and cultures to address contemporary healthcare ethical challenges.

At the global level, NAM International Health Policy Fellowship Program stands as a flagship collaboration. This prestigious two-year programme equips early to mid-career scholars with leadership skills and expertise in bridging science with policy. Fellows spend one-fourth of their time in residency in Washington, D.C., where they contribute to global health policy discussions and develop impactful research. Through the successful nomination of three distinguished scholars to this fellowship in the past, the Centre strengthens its worldwide network and builds a pipeline of global health policy scholars to improve healthcare policy domestically and globally. The Centre will extend its participation in the Programme, supporting additional fellowships in successive cohorts.

Building on these international connections, the CUHK-Hastings Centre Scholarly Exchange Program represents a significant bilateral partnership fostering academic discourse in bioethics. The programme features diverse scholarly activities, including seminars, public lectures, roundtable discussions

with healthcare professionals, and collaborative research meetings between faculty members, covering crucial bioethical issues such as end-of-life care, genetic testing, artificial intelligence in healthcare, and medical-assisted dying.

In the Asia-Pacific region, the Centre demonstrates its foundational role in APBEN. Founded in 2018 as part of a CUHK-led initiative, APBEN connects educators and researchers in health sciences across the region to promote excellence in bioethics education through international collaboration, academic conferences, and the development of educational resources.

The Centre's academic vibrancy is further exemplified through its distinguished lecture series and other activities. The prestigious Lanson Lecture series, alongside regular seminars and workshops, features renowned scholars from leading institutions worldwide, fostering intellectual exchange on pressing bioethical issues in healthcare, digital medicine, and reproductive genetics.

As the Centre marks its first decade, these robust academic partnerships and exchanges continue to advance its mission of promoting excellence in bioethics. Through sustained collaboration with global partners and ongoing commitment to scholarly discourse, the Centre is well-positioned to address emerging ethical challenges in healthcare and contribute to developing bioethics scholarship in Hong Kong and beyond.



NAM International Health Policy Fellows from CUHK

Fellow's Name	Position	Fellowship Period	Key Contributions
Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG	Associate Professor, Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care	2018–2020	Contributed to the consensus study on 1) pandemic preparedness and response through global coordination of vaccines and 2) healthy longevity
Professor Vincent Chi Ho CHUNG	Associate Professor, Jockey Club School of Public Health and Primary Care	2021–2023	Involved in a systematic review for supporting the development of a code of conduct for artificial intelligence in healthcare
Professor Kim Hei Man CHOW	Assistant Professor, School of Life Sciences	2023–2025	Explores the role of neurodevelopment science in dementia prevention within society.



Participating Scholars of the CUHK-Hastings Centre Scholarly Exchange Program

Scholar's Name	Institution	Visiting Period	Key Contributions
Dr Nancy BERLINGER	The Hastings Center	December 2017	Talked at a Roundtable on the challenges and opportunities of end-of-life care and shared the related U.S. initiatives
Dr Alexandre ERLER	CUHK Centre for Bioethics	June 2018	Engaged in academic discussions and shared insights on contemporary bioethical issues
Dr Carolyn NEUHAUS	The Hastings Center	November 2018	Gave a presentation on artificial intelligence in ageing care and delivered a talk to share the bioethics research and initiatives at the Hastings Center
Professor Hon-lam LI	CUHK Centre for Bioethics	May 2019	Presented a paper on genetic enhancement and unfairness and exchanged with scholars on his work on public reasons and bioethics.

Suspension of the Programme from 2020 to 2023 due to the COVID-19 pandemic

Professor Josephine JOHNSTON	The Hastings Center	March 2024	Delivered research seminars on the experience of physician-assisted dying in New Zealand and the complexities of genetic testing
Dr Nancy BERLINGER	The Hastings Center	February/ March 2025	To share insights on promoting bioethics education to the under-represented groups
Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG and Professor Dong DONG	CUHK Centre for Bioethics	June 2025	To present on end-of-life interventions and early-phase paediatric gene therapy trials

Community Contributions

CUHK Centre for Bioethics has spent the past decade committed to raising public awareness of bioethical issues and strengthening the connection between bioethics and society. Through a variety of initiatives – including but not limited to public events, educational workshops, media engagement, and collaborations with community organisations – the Centre translates complex bioethical concepts into accessible discussions that resonate with diverse audiences, spanning healthcare professionals, students and the general public.

The Centre’s dedication to community engagement shines through its wide-ranging and impactful initiatives. Events such as webinars on genomics for health, talks on end-of-life care, bioethics journal club on medical errors, organ donation, ethics and care of elders during the pandemic, and thought-provoking film screenings on life and death issues bring ethical discourse into public spaces, creating opportunities for open dialogue on the ethical dimensions of mental health, modern healthcare and biomedicine. These efforts also extend to nurturing the next generation, with school workshops and debate competitions that engage secondary school students in exploring bioethical issues like organ donation and beginning-of-life dilemmas. By incorporating hands-on activities and case-based discussions, the Centre encourages critical thinking and inspires ethical sensitivity among students, preparing them to contribute meaningfully to future bioethical conversations.



The Centre works closely with professional bodies, non-governmental organisations, and religious groups to share its expertise in bioethics. Its invited contributions have included training workshops on topics such as end-of-life decision-making and health equity, as well as talks addressing emerging issues like artificial intelligence in healthcare. These partnerships amplify the Centre’s impact by connecting academic expertise with the practical needs of diverse communities which ensures that bioethics remains relevant and responsive to societal concerns.

Through its newspaper op-ed column, media interviews and publications, the Centre contributes thoughtful and timely commentary on pressing matters – from ethics during the COVID-19 pandemic to local legislation on advance medical directives. This dynamic media presence strengthens public discourse on bioethical issues while fostering informed dialogue across academic, professional, and community spheres.

As it enters its second decade, CUHK Centre for Bioethics continues to broaden its public engagement efforts and respond to the evolving bioethical landscape while staying true to its mission: promoting ethical reflection and inspiring a more compassionate and ethically informed society.



CUHK Centre for Bioethics envisions a future of sustainable growth and meaningful impact across education, research, and community engagement. This aspiration is anchored in the Centre’s ‘5+ Topical Pillars’ – bioethics education; end-of-life care; genetics, genomics and reproductive ethics; artificial intelligence and emerging technologies; and culture and humanities. These carefully curated orientations not only encapsulate the Centre’s strategic priorities but also underscore its commitment to dynamic developments, ensuring that these conceptual pillars flourish to embrace emerging societal challenges.

Building on this foundation, the Centre has crafted an ambitious blueprint centred on three interconnected imperatives: (i) strengthening education and research, (ii) deepening local and international engagements, and (iii) enhancing visibility. This cohesive strategy emphasises building institutional capacity and

cultivating transformative collaborations that position the Centre as a leading voice in global bioethics.

In pursuit of these objectives, the Centre is broadening its interdisciplinary academic team by attracting expertise across engineering, health and medicine, humanities, law, science, and social sciences. Its research portfolio will expand through flagship studies within the Topical Pillars, delivering actionable insights into pressing ethical challenges. On the educational front, the Centre is enhancing bioethics training by enriching curriculum components, such as medical humanities and health law, within the MBChB programme, and in the context of interprofessional healthcare. Another initiative is the Bioethics Student Fellowship Programme, which provides students with hands-on and community-based opportunities that bring "bioethics-in-practice" through real-world applications.

The Centre’s sphere of influence grows through strategic partnerships with institutions across Asia, Mainland China, and the United States. At the same time, its community engagement efforts are thriving through secondary school outreach, monthly op-ed articles, thematic workshops, and knowledge-transfer projects that empower diverse communities with ethical awareness of emerging healthcare issues and medical advances.

With a bold vision and steadfast commitment to excellence, we believe CUHK Centre for Bioethics is uniquely positioned to lead the next frontier of bioethical discourse and practice in Hong Kong, Asia, and beyond. By championing interdisciplinary approaches, empowering communities, and cultivating ethically conscious leaders, the Centre is aspired to drive global progress in navigating the ethical challenges of an ever-changing world.

To amplify its impact, the Centre is implementing a digital transformation strategy to enhance visibility, featuring vibrant social media engagement, engaging content creation, and a refreshed visual identity. These efforts, combined with high-profile academic conferences, symposiums and seminars, and expanded international collaborations, will elevate the Centre’s global profile in bioethics education and practice.

Overall blueprint

- Adopt ‘5+ Topical Pillars’ as the development priorities
- Build institutional capacity through strategic expansion
- Bridge diverse perspectives and cross-cultural dialogues
- Strive to significantly contribute to the development of bioethics in Asia
- Advance as a leading voice in global bioethics

I Education and research capacity

- Broaden and expand the Centre’s academic team
- Enhance bioethics curriculum and courses
- Engage students as partners and ambassadors
- Extend research portfolio to flagship bioethics studies
- Develop knowledge-transfer projects

II Local and international engagements

- Empower communities with ethical awareness
- Foster intramural engagements and initiatives
- Implement outreach to schools and the community
- Expand the international bioethics network
- Organize/co-host international conferences and symposiums

III Image and digital visibility

- Elevate the Centre’s global profile
- Enhance social media engagement
- Refresh visual identity
- Expand teacher-student collaboration



Editorial and Production Team

Content writer:

Ms Grace Ching Shan LAU

Graphic design and printing:

CHUN DESIGN HUT

Bynock Printing & Design Limited

Editing:

Professor Roger Yat-nork CHUNG

Dr Ann Sin Nga LAU

Administrative Support:

In alphabetical order

Ms Po Tim CHENG

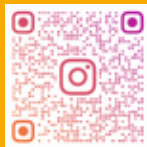
Ms Joey Mei Yi SO

Ms Jovie Jun WANG

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Room 602, Wong Foo Yuan Building , The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin New Territories, Hong Kong
Tel : (852) 3943 3508 Fax : (852) 3942 0940 Email : bioethics@med.cuhk.edu.hk