

Bartlett Ethics Working Group (January 2015 – June 2017) PDF

Established in January 2015, by Professor Jane Rendell, the *Bartlett Ethics Working Group's* core aim was to develop a Bartlett vision and processes to guide the practice of ethics in teaching, research and enterprise in the built environment. This approach to ethics was envisaged to be specific and appropriate to built environment disciplines and related professions, and its processes driven by pedagogic and intellectual concerns, rather than bureaucratic conditions.

The initial aims of *The Bartlett Ethics Working Group* were as follows:

- (i) To develop an understanding of different ethical value-systems in the built environment, and to find examples of good practice to establish a common ground – or ethical code – for working with and across difference.
- (ii) To ensure that the Bartlett is developing its approaches/processes to ethics to meet the requirements of the new Research Concordat on Integrity and other relevant UCL, HEFCE and Professional guidelines.
- (iii) To map and connect the different procedural approaches taken to ethics, risk assessment and data protection across the Bartlett at BA/MA/PhD and staff levels and develop a more streamlined approach at Faculty level that interfaces with relevant UCL's procedures.
- (iv) To raise staff and student awareness of ethical issues in the built environment and how these are manifest in teaching, research, impact, enterprise (including public engagement) through an ongoing series of training workshops/seminars and taught modules.
- (v) To enable staff and students to make ethical decisions by collating existing advisory materials on ethics in built environment research, teaching and enterprise (specifically collaborative, partnership, participatory, design, and practice-led research) and developing a handbook focusing on ethics in built environment research.
- (vi) To facilitate and lead conferences, seminars and workshops to connect with built environment professionals to developing and maintain an ethical approach to practice.

Membership

Chair (s): Professor Jane Rendell, with (from September 2016) Professor Mike Raco.

Secretary: from September 2016, Steve Ridge.

Departmental Representatives

BSP: Dr Colomb, Claire and Prof Mike Raco

DPU: Dr Michael Walls

CASA: Dr Martin Austwick

BSA: James O'Leary, Prof Jane Rendell, Dr Kerstin Sailer

BSCPM: Dr Efrosyni Konstaninou and Prof Hedley Smyth

BSEER: Michelle Shipworth

UCL Representatives

Cultures of Integrity Co-ordinator: Rowena Lamb

Research Governance Officer: Helen Dougal

Faculty Representatives

Dean: Prof Alan Penn

Faculty Manager: Helen Fisher

Papers and Minutes circulated to:
Vice Deans
Education: Prof Iain Borden
Research: Prof Murray Fraser
International: Prof Caren Levy

Faculty Office
Faculty Tutor: Soo Ware
Business Development Manager (Executive Education & CPD): Alice Chilver
Faculty Graduate Tutor: Professor Stephen Marshall
Academic Administrative Manager: Annabel Brown
Research and Enterprise Manager: Ella Sivyler

The BEWG worked with UCL on the Ethics Pilot from September 2016 to June 2017, to transform all UCL research (and teaching) ethics approval processes from centrally to locally-managed, administrated, and resourced. The Bartlett, along with Population Health and Laws, helped to design and dry run new UCL ethics procedures including new forms for ethical exemptions, check lists, low and high-risk, as well as set up new local ethics structures/committees, and to finalise a process to be rolled out across UCL from 2017 onwards.

Post pilot, so from September 2017 (most likely September 2018), UCL intends for all low risk research ethics applications to be devolved to Faculties and Departments/Schools, and thus the Bartlett will need to invest and set up a new system to operate at Faculty and Department/School level, to be developed during 2017-8, and formally in place by September 2018.

In its report on the pilot, *The Bartlett Ethics Working Group* advised that at Faculty level the Bartlett would need to establish a Bartlett Ethics Advisory Committee (BEAC), as a development of BEWG, to provide leadership on ethics and oversight on high and low risk ethics. The Bartlett will need to fund co-chairs of BEAC (1 day/wk) and a secretary to BEAC (2 days/wk).

In its report on the pilot, *The Bartlett Ethics Working Group* advised that each Department/School in the Faculty, would deal with all low risk ethics and provide leadership, guidance and support for ethics for UG, PGT, PGR and staff research in a manner appropriate for its specific research processes, and approved by the Faculty and UCL. The Bartlett will need to establish an ethics lead in each School/Dept and the additional admin support required.