

## **The Bartlett Ethics Commission 2015-2020**

Developed out of *Ethics in Built Environment Research* project, funded by a Bartlett Research Projects Small Grant, 2014-5.

Director: Professor Jane Rendell

Bartlett Ethics Fellow: Dr David Roberts

### **Year 1: September 2015-September 2016**

Activities:

- Roberts conducts interviews with 11 more Bartlett staff on ethics, and drafts a report identifying 5 key issues concerning gaps in support for ethics – specifically the relation of vision to application, a lack of guidance on ethics, collaboration between research and teaching, concerns re staff and student wellbeing, and trust, and proposing 5 recommendations.

- Rendell hosts *Practicing Ethics*, (October 2015) a training symposium for PhD students in the humanities at the Bartlett School of Architecture, Slade School of Fine and Kings College London, funded by LAHP, and chairs Bartlett Ethics Working Group.

Outputs

(i) report on ethical issues concerning research in the Bartlett completed.

(ii) guidance leaflets on research ethics for UG, PGT, and PGR Bartlett students completed for Faculty handbook.

(iii) talk, workshop and briefing note on guidance and practical steps of ethics and risk assessments to Architecture PhD supervisors.

(iv) cross-faculty PhD supervisor ethical guidance.

### **Year 2: September 2016-September 2017**

Activities:

- Roberts prepares a draft report mapping of ethics approaches, expertise and issues at the Bartlett.

- Rendell hosts three conferences on ethics, *Speech ExtrActions* (Oct 2016) *Judgement Calls* (June 2017) and *Creative Resistance* (July 2017) and chairs Bartlett Ethics Working Group low risk ethics pilot, prepares report of the Bartlett Ethics Working Group on processes for low risk ethics evaluation in the Bartlett (October 2017).

Key outputs

(i) map of Bartlett expertise in ethics produced as draft report of 9000 words.

(ii) design of set of 6 protocols, draft of protocol no. 2, *Making Images*, produced.

A set of six ethical protocols that relate to common methods in Built Environment research designed. The protocols will present both essential guidance on requirements related to the three key ethical principles of informed consent, benefit not harm, confidentiality. They will also provide generative questions that prompt reflection on ethical issues that arise in built environment research. This balance between the instructive and the reflective will be key to help navigate ethical issues that arise in practice with confidence and creativity.

### **Year 3: September 2017-September 2018**

Activities:

- Roberts prepares a draft report of 10,000 words evaluating a wide range of codes currently being used by the built environment professions.

- Roberts updates guidance and completes draft protocols.

The final 5 protocols to be completed by Dr David Roberts (Bartlett Ethics Fellow) and published on the Bartlett website by September 2018:

2. *Asking questions: interviews / questionnaires / surveys / focus groups.*

3. *Taking observations: participant observation / structured observation / physical monitoring.*

4. *Working collaboratively: participation with community groups / partnerships with organisations*

5. *Using data: combining data sets / social media data.*

6. *Staging research: events / exhibits / interventions*

- Rendell joins UCL's Ethics Steering Group (June 2018) to develop processes for low risk ethics evaluation in the Bartlett.

- Rendell and Roberts join Steering Group of the RIBA Ethics Commission (May 2018).

Key outputs

(i) report evaluating of ethical codes in the built environment professions completed and a 10,000 word paper submitted to RIBA Presidents' Awards for Research.

(ii) Input from applied ethics experts, IDEA, received as a report on work of the Bartlett Ethics Working Group and Commission to date.

(iii) Bartlett Faculty website updated to make public work of the Bartlett Ethics Commission to date.

Ethics pages on the Bartlett website to be designed and produced to provide support for ethics, in the form of a toolkit for those involved in built environment research, education and enterprise.

(iv) draft of protocols completed.

#### **Year 4: September 2018-September 2019**

Activities:

- Sept – Dec 2018, Rendell and Roberts host training session on low risk ethics.

- Jan – Sept 2019, Rendell and Roberts prepare co-edited book proposal on ethics work for UCL Press, including several case studies by Roberts.

Key outputs

(i) Bartlett Faculty website updated to make public work of the Bartlett Ethics Commission to date.

(ii) drafting of protocols complete.

(iii) book proposal submitted.

#### **Year 5: September 2019-September 2020**

Activities:

- Sept – Dec 2019: Rendell and Roberts host workshop to develop Ethics code

- Jan – Dec 2020: Rendell and Roberts complete book.

Key outputs

(i) With input from applied ethics experts, IDEA, a workshop for key staff as part of the work of the Bartlett Ethics Working Group for training and development of ethics code.

(ii) Development of a new specialist training module at M-level or CPD or a summer school on ethics and built environment research

(iii) Completion of book as training manual.