

David B. Fletcher

Associate Professor of Philosophy
Wheaton College
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1984
M.A. Philosophy, Loyola University of Chicago, 1980
B.A. Trinity College, Deerfield, Illinois, 1973
Wright College, City Colleges of Chicago, 1970-71

PROFESSIONAL/TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Wheaton College, 1981-present

**Associate
Professor**

(Assistant Professor, 1981-86; tenure awarded, 1988)

Courses taught: Ethical Theory; Bioethics; Contemporary Moral Problems; Philosophy of Law; Introduction to Philosophy; Aesthetics; Asian Philosophy; Business Ethics; Social Philosophy; Social and Legal Philosophy; Global Justice; Ethics in Education, Marxism; Plato Seminar; Existentialism; Humanism; Internship; Independent Study

Wheaton College, 1994-1997

**Chair, Department of
Philosophy**

**Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, 1994-
present**

**Visiting
Professor of
Bioethics**

Graduate Courses taught: Bioethics Seminar, Advanced Institute in Bioethics, Introduction to Bioethics, Classic Cases in Bioethics, Ethical Theory

Green College, University of Oxford, 1991 **Visiting Scholar**

College of St. Francis, 1985-1995

**Adjunct Professor,
Health Arts**

Courses taught: Ethics and Morality, Philosophy and Modern Society, World Religions

University of Illinois, 1977-81**Graduate Teaching
Assistant, Instructor**

Department of Philosophy

Courses taught: Introduction to Philosophy, Introduction to Ethics, Logic**Loyola University, 1975-76****Graduate Assistant**

Department of Philosophy

Journal of the American Medical Association, 1974**Manuscript Editor*****THESES DIRECTED***

Co-directed a master's thesis at the Command and General Staff College of the U. S. Army for Major Mitchell Payne, *The Army Ethic*, 2014.

Co-directed a master's thesis in bioethics at Trinity International University for Sarah Flashing, *H. Tristram Engelhardt on Christian Participation in the Public Square: A Van Tilian Philosophical Critique*, successfully defended April 2005.

Co-directed a master's thesis in bioethics at Trinity International University for Daniel McConchie, *Redefining the Active/Passive Euthanasia Debate: Introducing New Categories to Aid Proper Moral Contemplation* (received the Professor C. B. Bluge Award "for the student who has presented to the faculty an acceptable thesis as evidence of creative scholarship in the field of Biblical and Systematic Theology"); successfully defended April, 2001.

Directed and evaluated numerous Capstone projects undertaken in lieu of thesis at Trinity Graduate School. Am currently directing some projects.

Taught a directed readings course in preparation for doctoral competency examinations of the Rev. Damasus Okoro at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, 2015.

Served as an examiner of Damasus Okoro for doctoral competency at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, October, 2015.

Served as an examiner in pre-dissertation examination of Damasus Okoro at Lutheran School of Theology, October, 2017.

DISSERTATION AND PUBLICATIONS

“Willing and Doing,” in Jennifer Grant, Cathleen Falsani, eds. **Disquiet Time: Rants and Reflections on the Good Book by the Skeptical, the Faithful, and a Few Scoundrels**. Jericho Books, 2014.

Ethical Aspects of Human Subject Research in Biomedicine, Doctoral dissertation, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, James Wallace, Director (University Microfilms, 1984)

Books and Book Chapters

Private Vices, Public Consequences, currently under contract with Wm B Eerdmans.

“Foreword,” in Leone Nunley with Dan Merrill , **Fighting for David**, Tyndale House Publishers, March 2006.

“Particular Divine Commands” in Mark Nelson, Michael Beaty, and Carlton Fisher, eds. , **Christianity and Moral Philosophy** (Mercer University Press, 1999)

Social and Political Perspectives in the Thought of Soren Kierkegaard (University Press of America, 1981)

Contributions to Reference Works

“Adultery,” in the *Encyclopedia of the Bible and Its Reception*, **Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co**, 2009.

“Substance Abuse,” in Erwin Fahlbusch Jan Milič Lochman, John Mbiti, Jaroslav Pelikan , Lukas Vischer , Geoffrey W. Bromiley David B. Barrett, **The Eerdmans-Brill Encyclopedia of Christianity**, 2000.

“Communism,” in Campbell Campbell-Jack, Gavin McGrath, and C. Stephen Evans, eds., **New Dictionary of Christian Apologetics** (Intervarsity Press, UK and US, 2006)

Refereed Journal Articles

“Holy Living, Assisted Dying: an Anglican Perspective on Assisted Suicide,” **Ethics and Medicine** vol. 20, No. 1 (Spring 2004)3:5-42

“The Future of Biotechnology,” **Christian Living Quarterly** Vol 2, No.2 (May 2004), 21-27 (English), 44-48 (Chinese).

“Gambling and Character,” **International Journal of Applied Philosophy**, Vol 17, No 1 (Spring 2003):1-15. (Published Fall 2003)

“Autonomy and Polygamy,” **Ethics and Medicine**, vol. 17, No. 2 (Fall 2001).

Other Scholarly Articles

“Assisted Suicide and the Supreme Court,” *Ethical Spotlight*, **Center for Applied Christian Ethics Website**, January 18, 2005, <http://www.wheaton.edu/CACE/resources/spotlight.htm>

“The Teri Schiavo Case,” *Ethical Spotlight*, **Center for Applied Christian Ethics Website**, December, 2003
<http://www.wheaton.edu/CACE/resources/spotlight.htm>

“The Stem Cell Controversy,” *Ethical Spotlight*, **Center for Applied Christian Ethics Website**, August, 2001, <http://www.wheaton.edu/cace/>

“The Ethics of Bioethics,” **Dignity**, Summer, 2001.

“The Dutch Legalization of Euthanasia,” *Ethical Spotlight*, **Center for Applied Christian Ethics Website**, June, 2001, <http://www.wheaton.edu/CACE/resources/spotlight.htm>

Contributing author, “The Covenantal Nature of Health Care: Is There a Right to Health Care with Personal Responsibility?” Resolutions and Supporting Paper, **National Association of Evangelicals**, 2001.

Book Reviews

Tom Beauchamp, *Standing on Principles*, **Ethics and Medicine** Summer 2014, Vol. 30 Issue 2, p125-126. 2p.

James Thobaben, *Health-Care Ethics: A Comprehensive Christian Resource*, **Themelios**.

David VanDrunen, *Bioethics and the Christian Life: A Guide to Making Difficult Decisions*, **Themelios**.

David Albert Jones, *Approaching the End: A Theological Exploration of Death and Dying*, **Themelios**, vol. 33, Issue 2 (September 2008): 95-97.

Bonnie Steinbock, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Bioethics*, **Themelios**, vol 33, Issue. 8 (December 2008): 103.

Jodi Picoult, *My Sister's Keeper: A Novel*, **Ethics and Medicine**, vol 20, No 1. (Spring 2005): 55.

Seeking Understanding: The Stob Lectures 1986-1998, Calvin College and Seminary, **Faith and Philosophy**, July 2004 Vol 21, No. 3: 410-413.
Gordon Preece, ed., *Rethinking Peter Singer: A Christian Critique*, **Ethics and Medicine**, vol 19, No. 3. (Summer 2003).

J. B. Schneewind, *The Invention of Autonomy*, **Ethics and Medicine**, vol. 17, No. 2 (Fall 2001).

Denis R. Janz, *World Christianity and Marxism*, **Christian Scholar's Review**, vol. 30, No. 2 (Winter 2000): 244-246.

Robert Audi, Nicholas Wolterstorff, *Religion in the Public Square : The Place of Religious Convictions in Political Debate (Point/Counterpoint)*, **Ethics and Medicine**, vol 16, No. 2: 64

H. Tristram Engelhardt, Jr. *The Foundations of Bioethics*, second edition, **Ethics and Medicine**, vol 17, No. 1 (Spring 2001): 62-63.

Papers Presented

"Bioethics for Physician Assistants," **Midwestern University**, Downers Grove, IL, June 19, July 17, 2007.

"Bioethics for Physician Assistants," **Midwestern University**, Downers Grove, IL, June 20, July 18, 2006.

"Neurological Enhancement and Social Bonds," *Neuroethics: The New Frontier*, Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, July 15, 2006

"Biomedical Ethics and the Physician Assistant," **Midwestern University**, Downers Grove, IL, March 20, 27, 2006.

"Ethical Issues in Senior Care," **Fairview Ministries**, April 18, 2006.

"Stem Cell Research within Moral Limits: Line Drawing in a Pluralistic Society," **Stem Cell Research Seminar Series, Wheaton College Science Symposium** 2006, February 8, 2006.

“Unsociable Cyborgs,” **50th Anniversary Wheaton College Philosophy Conference: Bioethics and Christian Philosophy**, October 30-November 1, 2003.

“Is ‘Futility’ Futile?” **11th Annual Bioethics Summer Conference: Conflict and Conscience in Healthcare**, July 15-17, 2004, Deerfield, Illinois

“Why Embryonic Stem Cell Use and Fetal Research are Unethical,” April 3, 2003, **Trinity Law School**, Santa Ana, California.

“Public Reasons and Christian Moral Argument,” **Society of Christian Philosophers Conference**, September 29, 2000, Boulder, Colorado.

Other Presentations and Lectures

Media presentations and appearances

Interview on WYLL Radio, *Let’s Talk, with Mark Elfstand*. ‘Casino gambling.’ September 12, 2014.

Interviewed and quoted for article, by Kyle Waalen, “Custom-Made Babies,” **Urban Faith.com**, March 10, 2010.

“The Terri Schiavo Case,” **At Issue**, radio panel discussion hosted by Craig Dellimore, WBBM Radio, Chicago, April 27, 2005. This program was aired on the Easter weekend and heard over its large listening area. Along with myself, the panel included **Laurie Zoloth** of the Department of Medical Humanities and Bioethics, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University, and **Howard C. Eglit** of Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Interviewed and quoted for article, “Religious Americans Changing Minds on Stem Cell Research,” G. Jeffrey Macdonald , **Religion News Service** 6/07/05

“Cloning,” television program **The Journal**, May 12, 1997, MediaOne (now Comcast), Chicago.

Interviewed and quoted on the ethics of multiple birth pregnancy by the **Chicago Tribune**, November 25, 1997 issue.

Interviewed and quoted on cloning for U. S. News and World Report (March 10, 1997 issue).

Interviewed and quoted on cloning for *the Chicago Sun Times* (March 1, 1997).

Presentations and lectures

'Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide,' **Bioethics** series at Cornerstone Evangelical Free Church Glenview, IL, October 12, 2014.

The Future of Bioethical Method," "**The Christian Stake in Bioethics**," Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, Bannockburn, IL, May 19-21, 1994.

"Business Ethics and Accounting ," **Dugan and Lopatka** (CPA firm), with Jim Carr, June 5, 2012. Seminar given to meet requirements of CPA continuing education for 40 firm members.

Gave presentation, "Bioethics," **River Glen Presbyterian Church**, Naperville, IL, April 15, 2012.

Gave presentation, "With All Our Minds: Who Needs Philosophy?" Adult Forum, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Glen Ellyn, IL**, January 8, 2012

"Human Experimentation: Using People to Help People," *Christian Perspectives* class, **The Orchard** (Arlington Heights Evangelical Free Church) February 28, 2010.

"The Seven Deadly Sins: Gluttony," Adult Forum, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, Glen Ellyn, February 14, 2010.

"Liturgy and Scripture," Adult Forum, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, Glen Ellyn, January 31, February 7, 2010.

"Human Values in Scripture," Adult Forum, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, Glen Ellyn, January 17, 2010.

"Hinduism" and "Buddhism," Adult Forum, **Church of the Resurrection**, Glen Ellyn, IL, September 20, 27, 2009.

"Business Ethics Professional Development Session," Dugan and Lopatka (CPA firm), with Jim Carr, May 14, 2009. Lecture given for CPA continuing education for 40 firm members.

Taught course, Education 531 **Ethical Perspectives in Teaching**, graduate (MAT) course, Summer, 2009.

"Bioethics and Worldviews," lecture in Biology Senior Seminar course, *the Integrated Biologist* (taught by Pattle Pun), March 20, 2008.

"Bioethical Reasoning," lecture in *Life, Death, and Public Policy* (taught by Paige Cunningham), March 26, 2008.

"Questions and Answers," **Chinese Alliance Church**, November 18, 2006

"Neuroethics and the Cinema," *Neuroethics: The New Frontier*, **Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity**, July 14, 2006.

"Bioethics: Current Controversies," Fairview Ministries, April 18, 2006.

"Japanese Religious Philosophies," **Wheaton Warrenville South High School**, March 29, 2006.

"End of Life Issues," Women's Group, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church**, November 9, 2005.

"Suffering, Death and Dying," Feinberg School of Medicine, **Northwestern University**, November 18, 2004. This was a presentation on end of life issues to medical students at Northwestern.

"Receiving the Lambeth Report: Managing Divergent Moral Perspectives," presentation to Bishop and clergy, **Episcopal Diocese of Chicago**, September 16, 2004. I was invited to address the Bishop of Chicago and the assembled clergy of the diocese about the then-awaited Windsor Commission Report of the Anglican Communion, and its implications for the diocese and its parishes. The diocese has made my presentation available as a resource at <http://www.episichicago.org/diocese/offices/GroupResourcesDtl.cfm?GroupID=30&CatID=02&ReclID=115>

"Bioethical Principles," Ethics Committee, **Central DuPage Hospital**, Winfield, IL, February 2004.

"Christians and Business Ethics," **Park Ridge Community Church**, January 12, 2003.

"Thinking like a Leader: Making the Tough Calls," **Alumni Symposium**, *Wheaton College Alumni Association and Center for Applied Christian Ethics*, (appeared with President Litfin, C. William Pollard, April Carlson, Larry Poland, and Donald Holt), May 4, 2001.

“Shalom or ‘Shove Off:’ Caring for the Elderly in a Culture of Death, Keynote Address, **National Association of Evangelicals** (Life Care Commission), Dallas, TX, March 4, 2001.

“Gattaca: Is this Where We’re Going, and How Soon?” presentation, **Christ Church of Oakbrook** (Reel to Reel Discussion Group), March 9, 2001.

“Bioethics and Long-Term Care Issues,” **Fairview Ministries** (retirement/ nursing facility), Downers Grove, Illinois, January 16, 2001.

“The Method of Principlism” and “Postmodernism and Bioethics,” Intensive Bioethics Institute and Advanced Bioethics Institute, “**Bioethics in the New Millennium**,” 2000 Summer Conference, Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity, Bannockburn, IL, July 10-14, 2000.

Other scholarly activities

Served on the examination board for admission to the Ph.D. program in ethics at Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, for the Rev. Damasus Okoro, a Nigerian Roman Catholic priest studying in the U. S., Fall 2015.

Invited Responses

To Michael B. Gill, “Relative Unimportance of Hutcheson’s Arguments against Moral Rationalism,” **American Philosophical Association**, Chicago, April 30, 2005.

Sessions Moderated

Clinical Practice in Transition, Preconference Workshop, June 18, 2014, **Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity 21st Annual Summer Conference: Bioethics in Transition**, June 16-25, 2014.

“Virtue Theory and Supererogation,” **American Philosophical Association**, May, 2002.

Professional Activities: Conference Planning, Direction, and Presentation

Planned Faculty Development Day, “Gender at Wheaton College,” Dr. Melanie Humphreys, speaker, February 2013.

Participated in seminar, “The Role of Moral Reflection in Social Organization: A Historical and Interdisciplinary Approach,” **Advanced Faith and Learning**

Seminar, May 18-June 3, 2011. Director: James Halteman, Professor of Business/Economics.

Participated in conference, "Decisional Capacity, Informed Refusal, and Substituted Judgment," **Southern Illinois University School of Medicine**, at Central DuPage Hospital, February 23, 2012.

Faculty participant, **Regional Honors Students' Research Conference**, 2007 Annual Spring Conference, April 21, 2007, Governors State University, University Park, IL.

Taught graduate course for MAT students at Wheaton, **Educ 531 Ethical Perspectives on Teaching**, May 2007.

Regularly teach and direct course, *Advanced Bioethics Institute*, attached to the annual bioethics conference, **Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity**, for Trinity Graduate School, Deerfield, IL.

Taught Doctor of Ministry course, **DMIN 936, Studies in Bioethics for the Chaplaincy**, at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, July, 2007

Planned and directed the conference, **The Future of Humanity: Technology, Medicine, and Genetics**, (Center for Applied Christian Ethics), March 16-18, 2005, featuring Gilbert Meilaender and Lori Andrews.

Planned and directed **Bioethics across the Disciplines**, CACE Summer Faculty Conference, May 17-19, 2004.

Planned and directed the **50th Anniversary Wheaton College Philosophy Conference: Bioethics and Christian Philosophy**, October 30-November 1, 2003.

Planned and directed the 40th Annual Conference of the *Illinois Philosophical Association*, "Honoring the Philosophy of Martha Nussbaum," Nov. 14-15, 1997.

Professional Service and Leadership

Vice President, Illinois Philosophical Association

Editorial board, *Ethics and Medicine* (1993-present)

Ethics Advisory Committee, Central DuPage Hospital (1991-present).

Ethics Committee, Fairview Ministries 2001-2010.

I served as an “assessor” and peer-reviewed an article for the **Journal of Medical Ethics**, published by the *British Medical Journal*, 2007.

I peer-reviewed an article for the journal, **Vaccine**, published by the *British Medical Journal*, 2007.

I have reviewed manuscripts for publication for Wadsworth, Prentice-Hall, Mc Graw Hill, Tyndale, Crossways, and Intervarsity Press publishers and for **Journal of Medical Ethics, Vaccine, Journal of Business Ethics, Kluwer Academic Publishers, History of Philosophy Quarterly, Faith and Philosophy**, and **Christian Scholar’s Review**.

I have also reviewed manuscripts for **Central States Philosophical Association** and **Illinois Philosophical Association**

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE--Wheaton College

Serve on special committee to advise the President and Trustees regarding the HHS mandate for contraceptive coverage, 2013-2015

Committee Chairs:

Steering Committee, Center for Applied Christian Ethics, 1988, 1995-present
Faculty Development Committee, 2013-2014

Committee Memberships:

Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, 2014-present
Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee, 1996-1999, 2007-2011
Honors Committee/Scholastic Honors Committee, 1998-2000
Calendar and Petitions Subcommittee, 1997-1999, Chair 2007-2009
Animal Care and Use Committee
Human Subjects Research Review Committee (chair, 1994-96, 2000-2002)
Faculty Development Committee, chair 2013-2014

Teacher in Passage, Wheaton College’s transition program for new freshmen, at Honey Rock Camp, Wisconsin, 2006-2012

Pre-Law Advisor, Philosophy Department
Internship coordinator, Philosophy Department
Advisor, Phi Sigma Tau (Philosophy Honor Society)

HONORS AND AWARDS

Fellow, **Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity**, 1997-present

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Philosophical Association
Illinois Philosophical Association; **Vice President**, 1996-1999.
The Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity
Christian Medical and Dental Society
Chicago Center for Clinical Ethics
Society of Christian Philosophers
Institute of Society, Ethics, and the Life Sciences (Hastings Center)

REFERENCES

Available on request