UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA'S BIOETHICS COMMISSION (CBUB)

Dra. Itziar de Lecuona
Tenure Track Lecturer
Deputy Director of the Bioethics and Law Observatory at the University of Barcelona
Member of the University of Barcelona's Bioethics Commission and Member of the LERU TGRI
CBUB was established in 1996 and evaluates research projects that are carried out by members of the University of Barcelona community (academics and researchers).

The favourable opinion of the committee is a legally established requisite for initiating any research involving humans, biological samples of human origin or personal data at the University of Barcelona.

The Bioethics and Law Observatory-UNESCO Chair in Bioethics at the University of Barcelona is the CBUB’s contact and information point for the public.
Aims

- Evaluating research projects that are carried out by members of the University of Barcelona community (academics and researchers)
- Fostering discussion about bioethical concerns
- Encouraging researchers and doctoral students training in Bioethics and RRI
Functions

**Disseminating** bioethics concerns and **fostering debate**

**Evaluating the methodological, ethical, legal and social aspects** of research projects and doctoral theses developed at the UB and of research projects of public and private organizations (if there is an agreement)

Promoting **research integrity** and good scientific practices

**Training programs** of bioethics and research integrity addressed to researchers from UB or from other institutions

In 2002 the Commission created the **Network of Ethics Committees in Universities and Public Research Centres in Spain** in order to share problems, homogeneising procedures and generating best practices in research.
**Composition**

Composed by at least 10 members that need to be UB lecture tracks in different UB knowledge areas in order to ensure an interdisciplinary committee.

Emeritus professors, retired researchers and reknown professionals relevant to the field shall also participate in the activities of the CBUB as **advisors**.

The Commission is chaired by the UB’s **Associate Rector of Research**, who then appoints the Secretary among the CBUB’s members and advisors prior hearing the CBUB.

The **Bioethics and Law Observatory of the UB** acts as technical advisory office of the CBUB.

The composition of the CBUB will be updated by thirds every four years.
Organigram

CHAIRMAN
Domène Espriu Climent, Vice-Rector for Research

SECRETARY
Albert Royes, Specialist and permanent external consultant

BOARD MEMBERS
María Casado, Faculty of Law
Itziar de Lecuona, Faculty of Medicine
Gemma Marfany, Faculty of Biology
Eduardo Mariño, Faculty of Pharmacy
Miquel Martínez, Faculty of Education
Isabel Miralles, Faculty of Law
Ignasi Coll, PhD student

SENIOR ADVISORS
Pilar Antón, University School of Nursing
Margarida Boladeras, Faculty of Philosophy
Sergi Erill, Pharmacology
Roser González Duarte, Faculty of Biology
Miquel Serra, Faculty of Psychology
Antoni Vallès, Faculty of Medicine
The Commission shall act when required by the nature of its functions and/or provided prior request from the UB's Research Commission or the Associate Rector for Research.

The Commission may **require researchers’ additional information** regarding their project whenever deemed necessary in order to issue an opinion.

The members of the Bioethics Committee **must recuse themselves from participating in the evaluation** of those projects they have played a direct or indirect role in.

The members of the Bioethics Commission must respect the **confidentiality principle**.

The whole regulations can be downloaded in **PDF** format through the CBUB website.
Rules to process reports

Resception at the OGRC, the OPIR or the FBG

The **OGRC**, the **OPIR** or the **FBG**, will send a **copy of the relevant documentation** to CBUB’s secretary.

Subcommittee report

The **subcommittee** will develop a **report of each project received** so they can be evaluated by the CBUB.

CBUB evaluation

The **secretary** will propose to the president the date of the **plenary meeting of the Commission**. The president will make the call with the corresponding agenda. During the plenary meeting the **projects will be evaluated**.

Certificate

The **secretary** will sign, in appropriate cases, the corresponding certificates with the approval of the president.

*The rules to process reports can be downloaded in PDF format through the CBUB website.*
Project and theses evaluation

Research projects or doctoral thesis involving human experimentation or using biological samples of human origin

Declaration of recognition of ethical implications in interactions with human beings and social intervention in Research Projects or PhD thesis

Master Final Projects (MFP), Grade Final Projects (GFP) and Memories Practicum (MP) which, according to their characteristics, objectives and methodology are appropriate to fill either Form 1 or Form 2

The researcher and his tutor must sign a sheet of compromise undertaking that work on the project or the ethical standards set by the CBUB are respected.
CBUB communicates

Regarding **suspected cases of plagiarism**

Regarding the characteristics of the **information addressed to the volunteers** that participate in research project

**Statement on Doctoral Thesis presented at the UB**
- Experiments with humans
- Use of biological samples of human origin
- Interviews or questionnaires to the subjects involved
- Use of animals for experimentation

**Communiqué on students’ participation in research projects**

**Communiqué of the CBUB on possible ethical problems in scientific publications**

*Communicates can be downloaded through the CBUB website*

Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)
Horizon 2020

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly €80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014 to 2020)

- Excellent science
- Industrial leadership
- Societal challenges
- Science with and for society
RRI: From science in society to science for society, with society

Science for Society
Science with Society
Reframing responsibility

These key points must be articulated with each other

Landing on RRI

Public Engagement
Science Education
Ethics
Governance
Gender equality
Open Access

6 policy agendas that must be integrated during the whole process of research and innovation and work articulately.
Stakeholders involved

- Researchers
- Civil Society Organizers
- Educators
- Business and Industry
- Policy Makers

Working together in order to tackle societal challenges through mutual learning and research integrity.
RRI: Learning aims and outcomes

**Learning outcomes**
- Engaged publics
- Responsible actors
- Responsible institutions

**R&I outcomes**
- Ethically acceptable
- Sustainable
- Socially desirable

**Solutions to societal challenges**
- Health,
- Food security and sustainable agriculture
- Bioeconomy
- Secure, clean and efficient energy;
- Smart, green and integrated transport
- Climate action
- Europe in a changing world - inclusive, innovative and reflective societies
(...)

More info: RRI Tools project
OBD in the RRI framework

Fostering an **informed social debate** as well as **public engagement** in decision-making regarding the bioethics field.

**Training** in the bioethics field as a tool to foster free decision making.

Promoting a **global, plural and multidisciplinary discussion** related to the values and study fields of bioethics.

Recommendations to promote free and informed decision-making and **shared responsibilities** to foster a **transparent and democratic society**.

Promoting **gender equality** in its scientific, academic and professional activities.

Fostering **open access to information, shared knowledge and transparency**.
OBD Open-Access Documents

All documents developed by the Bioethics and Law Observatory (OBD) are free in PDF format and available in Catalan, Spanish and English: http://www.bioeticayderecho.ub.edu/en/documentos