



Call for Papers

Special Issue The Empirical Turn in Bioethics Critical Perspectives

Bioethics announces a special issue to be published in May 2009.

Guest editors are Lucy Frith and Bert Molewijk

This special issue of *Bioethics* examines the following questions:

1. What are appropriate and inappropriate uses of empirical research within bioethics?
2. What is needed both theoretically and practically to ensure that empirical research is used fruitfully in bioethics.

The aim of this special edition is to examine the quality of this debate by bringing together papers from both opponents and advocates of the 'empirical turn'.

We call for papers on the following themes:

- ◆ Is such an 'empirical turn' good for the development of bioethics?
- ◆ What form should any 'empirical turn' take?
- ◆ How should the problems of the fact-value distinction, the is-ought imperative, and the naturalistic fallacy be addressed?
- ◆ What are bioethicists' responses to social scientists' criticisms of bioethics?
- ◆ Is it possible to generate anything interesting about ethics from empirical research, i.e. how can empirical research impact on moral theory?
- ◆ What is an appropriate methodology to combine empirical data and moral theory and how can we reach normative conclusions?
- ◆ What qualifications and training should ethicists have in empirical research? What constitutes expertise in this area?
- ◆ And other related questions and debates

Submission Deadline 1st May 2008

The editors welcome early discussion of brief proposals and/or abstracts by email to both: L.J.Frith@liverpool.ac.uk and B.Molewijk@ZW.unimaas.nl

For further submission requirements, including format and referencing style, please refer to the Author Guidelines on the *Bioethics* website www.blackwellpublishing.com/submit.asp?ref=0269-702&site=1.

You can now submit your manuscripts to *Bioethics* online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/biot>.

Please ensure that you select manuscript type 'Special Issue' and state that it is for the 'Empirical Turn in Bioethics' Special Issue when prompted.