

CENTRE FOR ETHICS UNIVERSITY OF TARTU

Overview 2001-2006

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Centre for Ethics of the University of Tartu

Centre for Ethics of the University of Tartu was established in 2001 as an interdisciplinary unit within the Faculty of Philosophy. The Centre has involved professors and students from the diverse fields of philosophy, biology, medical studies, theology, law and social sciences to coordinate and improve the teaching of ethics within the university. The Centre also organizes and participates in international interdisciplinary research concerning the ethical issues in science, society and scientific research. Another objective is to assist Estonian society at large to reflect upon the issues of norms, values and justice through organizing public lectures, meetings and workshops as well as through publishing activities. The Centre has developed links with other ethics centres and organized visits of guest lecturers from Estonia and from abroad.

Head of the Centre: Prof. Margit Sutrop (Margit.Sutrop@ut.ee)

Directorate

Prof. Margit Sutrop, director, Professor of Practical Philosophy of the University of Tartu

Prof. Wolfgang Drechsler, co-director, Professor of Public Administration of the University of Tartu

Prof. Raul-Allan Kiivelt, co-director, Professor of Health Care Policy of the University of Tartu

Prof. Anne Lill, co-director, Professor of Classical Philology of the University of Tartu

Prof. Toivo Maimets, co-director, Professor of Molecular Biology of the University of Tartu

Prof. Jaan Sootak, co-director, Professor of Criminal Law of the University of Tartu

Board

Prof. Hele Everaus, Chair of the Board, Professor of Hematology-Oncology of the University of Tartu

Prof. Birute Klaas, Vice Rector for Academic Affairs of the University of Tartu, Professor of Estonian as a Foreign Language

Prof. Jüri Allik, Professor of Experimental Psychology of the University of Tartu

Prof. Ain Heinaru, Vice-Rector for Research of the University of Tartu, Professor of Genetics

Prof. Riho Altnurme, Dean of the Faculty of Theology of the University of Tartu, Professor of Church History

Prof. Marju Luts, Professor of History of Law of the University of Tartu

Kristi Lõuk, representative of the students, MA student of the Department of Philosophy of the University of Tartu

International Board of Trustees

Prof. Dr. Phil., Dr. h.c. mult., Dr.-Ing. E.h., Jürgen Mittelstraß, Chairman of the International Board of Trustees, President of the Academia Europaea, Director of the Centre for Philosophy and Theory of Science of the University of Konstanz

Prof. Dr. Timo Airaksinen, Professor of Moral Philosophy of the University of Helsinki

Prof. Dr. Dr. Jürgen G. Backhaus, Professor of Economics and Sociology of Economics of the University of Erfurt

Prof. Dr. Ruth Chadwick, Distinguished Research Professor of University of Cardiff, Director of the Centre for Economic and Social Aspects of Genomics (CESAGen)

Prof. Dr. Jüri Engelbrecht, President of the All European Academies, Vice President of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, Professor of Mechanics of Tallinn University of Technology

Prof. Dr. Dietrich von Engelhardt, Director of the Institute of History of Medicine and Science of the Medical University of Lübeck

Prof. Dr. Dr. Eric Hilgendorf, Professor of Criminal Law of the University of Würzburg

Prof. Dr. Dres.h.c. Otto Kaiser, Professor of Old Testament of the University of Marburg

Prof. Dr. Rait Maruste, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights

Support and research grants

1. ***Volkswagen Stiftung* continuous grant to finance the research, teaching and publishing activities of the Centre for Ethics** in cooperation with the University of Konstanz 2004-2006. Total 98 000 EUR.
2. ***Volkswagen Stiftung* grant within the program “Gemeinsame Wege nach Europa” to build up the Centre for Ethics of the University of Tartu** in cooperation with the University of Konstanz 2001-2004. Total 102 000 EUR.
3. Estonian Science Foundation grant No. 6099 “**Ethical Aspects of Genetic Databases and New Technologies: Individual versus Common Values and Goods**” 2005-2008. 2005 - 10226 EUR, 2006 - 12271 EUR.
4. National Institute of Health (NIH) Fogarty grant “**E-Education in Research Ethics**” 2005-2007. The grant holders are Union College, Albany, USA and University of Vilnius, Lithuania. Estonia is represented in the grant by Prof. Margit Sutrop who does regular

teaching within the project. Centre for Ethics, University of Tartu is also hosting an on-site practicum in June 2006.

5. NorFa (Nordic Academy for Advanced Studies) supported networking project **“The Ethics of Genetic and Medical Information”** 2005-2006. The grant holder is the University of Iceland. Other participating institutions are University of Helsinki, University of Lund, University of Central Lancashire, and University of Oslo. Total 9925 EUR.
6. Project of the European Union 5th Framework Program ELSAGEN **“Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects of Human Genetic Databases. A European Comparison”** 2002-2004. ELSAGEN was an interdisciplinary project in cooperation with scientists and researchers from Iceland, United Kingdom, Sweden and Estonia. Total 127 000 EUR.
7. European Union funded 6th Framework Program **FASTER “Feasibility Study for an Advanced Systematic Documentation, Information and Communication Tool in the Field of Ethical Issues in Science, Research and Technology”** in cooperation with international partners from January to November 2004. Total 44 000 EUR.
8. Estonian Science Foundation’s grant JD04-20 for a **post-doctoral position**. The vacant position was fulfilled as a result of an international call by a research fellow from the University of Turku, Dr. Juho Ritola. His research topic is “Epistemic Approach to the Normative Theory of Argumentation”. Total 28 121 EUR.
9. The Estonian Ministry of Education and Research grant **“Normativity: A Critical Study of Its Philosophical Foundations, Historical Sources, and Forms of Manifestation”** 2003-2007. Total in 2006 34 000 EUR.
10. Estonian Science Foundation grant 4618 **“Human Nature -- Morality and Sociability. Early Modern Moral Thought in Contemporary Philosophical Context”** 2001-2004. Total 22 433 EUR.
11. Estonian Gambling Tax Council’s grant for establishing the **National Centre for Information, Documentation and Communication of Ethics** 2005-2007. Total 30 038 EUR.

The members and graduate students of the Centre have received also individual scholarships from several foreign and Estonian foundations.

Other projects

1. In November 2004 a working group for the **instauration of the course of philosophy to gymnasium curriculum in Estonia** was established.

2. In November 2004 a working group for **elaborating the principles of codes of conduct and the composition of the handbook of the codes of conduct** was established. Members of the working group include philosophers, public servants, psychologist, lawyer and others.
3. **Preparations for the new curriculum of “Bioethics” Master’s Program.** The program will be Internet-based and in English language. The interdisciplinary program will include modules of general bioethics, clinical ethics, research ethics, philosophy, theology, social sciences (public administration, communication, economics), law and biomedicine.

Major Publications

Editing of the special issues of scientific journals and article compendiums

1. Special issue of *Bioethics* **“Pharmacogenetics”** guest-edited by Margit Sutrop, vol. 18, No. 4, August 2004.
2. Special issue of *Trames. Journal of the Humanities and Social Sciences* **“Human Genetic Databases: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues”** guest-edited by Margit Sutrop, vol. 7, No. 1/2, 2004.
3. *Teadus ja teadmistepõhine ühiskond. Wissenschaft und wissenschaftsbasierte Gesellschaft*, edited by Margit Sutrop and Urmas Sutrop. Tallinn: EKSA, 2005.

Scientific articles

1. Kadri Simm, **“Benefit-sharing: an inquiry regarding the meaning and limits of the concept in human genetic research”**, *Genomics, Society and Policy*, No. 1- 2, 2005, pp. 29-40.
2. Eva Piirimäe, **“Thomas Abbt's "Vom Tode für das Vaterland" (1761) and the French debates on monarchical patriotism”**, *Trames*, vol. 9, No. 4, 2005, pp. 326-347.
3. Piia Tammpuu, **“Making Genes Commonly Meaningful: Implications of National Self-images on Human Genetic Databases”**, In *Blood and Data. Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects of Human Genetic Databases*, eds. G. Árnason, S. Nordal, V. Árnason. Reykjavik: University of Iceland Press, 2004.
4. Margit Sutrop, **“Pharmacogenetics: Ethical Issues”**, *Bioethics*, vol. 18, No. 4, August 2004.
5. Margit Sutrop, Kadri Simm **“Estonian Health Care System and the Gene Bank Project: From Limited Resources to Big Hopes”**, *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, vol. 13, No. 3, 2004, pp. 254-262.

6. Ants Nõmper, Book review of „**R. Tutton, O. Corrigan (eds.) “Genetic Databases: Socio-ethical issues in the collection and use of DNA“**“. Routledge: London, New York, 2004”, *A Journal of Law and Technology*, issue 3, 2004.
7. Ants Nõmper, „**Personal Data Protection Regulation in Estonia and Directive 95/46/EC**“, In *Implementation of the Data Protection Directive in Relation to Medical Research in Europe*, eds. D. Beyleveld et al. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2004.
8. Külliki Korts, „**Becoming Masters of Our Genes: Public Acceptance of the Estonian Genome Project**“, In *Blood and Data. Ethical, Legal and Social Aspects of Human Genetic Databases*, eds. G. Árnason, S. Nordal, V. Árnason. Reykjavik: University of Iceland Press, 2004.
9. Margit Sutrop, „**Human Genetic Databases: Ethical, Legal and Social Issues**“, *Trames*, vol. 8, No. 1/2, 2004, pp. 5-12.
10. Ants Nõmper, Jane Kaye, Tarmo Sild, Lotta Wendel and Hordur Helgi Helgasson „**Population Genetic Databases: A Comparative Analysis of the Law in Iceland, Sweden, Estonia and the UK**“, *Trames*, vol. 8, No. 1/2, 2004, pp. 15-33.
11. Külliki Korts „**Introducing Gene Technology to the Society: Social Implications of the Estonian Genome Project**“, *Trames*, vol. 8, No 1/2, 2004, pp. 241-253.
12. Wolfgang Drechsler, Ülle Madise „**Electronic Voting in Estonia**“, In *Electronic Voting and Democracy. A Comparative Analysis* eds. Norbert Kersting and Harald Baldersheim. Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004, pp. 97-108.
13. Marek Järvik, „**How to Understand Moral Responsibility?**“, *Trames*, vol. 7, No. 3, 2003, pp. 147-163.
14. Ivo Volt, „**Aspects of Ancient Greek Moral Vocabulary: Illiberality and Servility in Moral Philosophy and Popular Morality**“, *Trames*, vol. 7, No. 2, 2003, pp. 67-82.
15. Jaan Sootak, Ants Nõmper, „**Estland und Island – Wegweiser in der Kodifizierung des Genbankenrechts**“, In *Strafrecht, Biorecht, Rechtsphilosophie. Festschrift für Hans-Ludwig Schreiber zum 70. Geburtstag am 10. Mai 2003*. C.F.Müller Verlag, Heidelberg 2003, pp. 869-879. Reprint in 2005.
16. Roomet Jakapi, „**Entry 720 of Berkeley’s Philosophical Commentaries and ‘non-cognitive’ propositions in Scripture**“, *Archiv für Geschichte der Philosophie*, Heft 1, 85. Band 2003, pp. 86-90.
17. Eva Piirimäe, „**Spinoza on freedom**“, *Trames*, vol. 6, No. 4, 2002, pp. 355-373.

18. Roomet Jakapi ,“**Faith, Truth, Revelation and Meaning in Berkeley’s Defense of the Christian Religion (in *Alciphron*)**”, *The Modern Schoolman*, LXXX, November 2002, pp. 23-34.
19. Roomet Jakapi, “**Emotive Meaning and Christian Mysteries in Berkeley’s *Alciphron***”, *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*, vol. 10, No. 3, 2002, pp. 401-411.
20. Toivo Aavik, Jüri Allik, „**The Structure of Estonian Personal Values: A Lexical Approach**“, *European Journal of Personality*, vol. 16, May/June 2002.

Forthcoming

21. Margit Sutrop, “**Trust**” In *Ethics and Governance of Human Population Databases*, eds. R. Chadwick, V. Arnason, M. Häyry, G. Arnason. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming in 2006.
22. Kadri Simm, “**Benefit Sharing and Genetic Databases**”, In *Ethics and Governance of Human Population Databases*, eds. R. Chadwick, V. Arnason, M. Häyry, G. Arnason. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming in 2006.
23. Kjell E. Eriksson, Margrét Lilja Gudmundsdóttir, Külliki Korts, Sue Weldon “**Questions of Privacy and Trust: Quantitative Surveys in Estonia, Iceland, Sweden and United Kingdom**”, In *Ethics and Governance of Human Population Databases*, eds. R. Chadwick, V. Arnason, M. Häyry, G. Arnason. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming in 2006.
24. Jane Kaye, Hordur Helgi Helgason, Ants Nõmper, Lotta Wendel ”**Regulating Human Genetic Databases in Europe**”, In *Ethics and Governance of Human Population Databases*, eds. R. Chadwick, V. Arnason, M. Häyry, G. Arnason. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming in 2006.
25. Leno Saarniit “**A Public Service Code of Ethics Applied in a Transitional Setting: The Case of Estonia**”, *Public Integrity*, forthcoming in 2006.
26. Bondm Ch. F., Aavik, T., Abu-Hilal, M., Ahmad, F., Ahmad, R., Ahmed, R., Alarco, B. “**A World of Deception**”, *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology* (accepted).

Other publications of the Centre

1. In October 2005 translation of **Jonathan Wolff’s** *Introduction to Political Philosophy*. Transl. Tiiu Hallap, ed. Triin Kaalep, preface by Margit Sutrop. Published by Tartu University Press with the support of the *Volkswagen Stiftung*.

2. In October 2005 “**Teaching of Philosophy in Gymnasium**”, a special edition of journal *Haridus* (Education).
3. In January 2005 translation of **Louis P. Pojman’s** *Ethics: Discovering Right and Wrong*. Transl. Tiiu Hallap, ed. Ruth Jürjo, preface by Margit Sutrop. Published by the Estonian Language Foundation with the support of the *Volkswagen Stiftung*.

Forthcoming publications of the Centre

4. **The collection of lectures “Great Works of Ethics. A Dozen Acts of Reading”**, forthcoming in 2006. The lecture series took place in spring term 2004.
5. **The collection of articles of the Centre for Ethics 2000-2005** is in editing process, forthcoming in 2006.
6. **Handbook of the codes of ethics “A and O of the Codes of Ethics”** publication of the Centre for Ethics, forthcoming in 2006.
7. Visiting lecturer Dr. Tiina Kirss from the University of Toronto will compose **internet based teaching materials in academic writing**, based on her course “Hazards of Academic Writing” lectured in the Centre for Ethics during academic year 2004/2005.

Theses defenses

2005

- Doctor Philosophiae thesis: Kadri Simm “**Benefit-sharing: An Inquiry into Justification**”. Supervisors Prof. Margit Sutrop (University of Tartu) and Dr. Tuija Takala (University of Manchester and University of Helsinki), opponent Prof. Ruth Chadwick (University of Lancaster)
- Doctor Iuris thesis: Ants Nõmper “**Open Consent – a New Form of Informed Consent for Population Genetic Databases**”. Supervisor Prof. Jaan Sootak (University of Tartu), opponent Prof. Margit Sutrop.

2004

- Master of Arts thesis in Ethnology: Kirsti Jõesalu “**Social Relations in Soviet Working Life: Biographical Research about Everyday Life in the E.S.S.R.**” Supervised by lecturer Ene Kõresaar (University of Tartu).

2003

- Master of Arts thesis in Philosophy: Küllli Keerus “**Virtue Ethics: A Human Way of Solving the Key Question in Environmental Ethics**“. Supervisor Prof. Margit Sutrop, opponents Tiiu Hallap (MA, University of Tartu) and Ahto Oja (MA, University of Tartu).
- Master of Arts thesis in Philosophy: Mairit Saluveer „**The Nature of Trust and Its Social Significance**“. Supervisor Prof. Margit Sutrop, opponent Marek Järvik (MA, University of Tartu).

2002

- Doctor Philosophiae thesis: Roomet Jakapi “**Berkeley, Mysteries, and Meaning: A Critique of the Non-Cognitivist Interpretation**”. Supervisors Prof. Ülo Matjus (University of Tartu) and Dr. Madis Kõiv (University of Tartu), opponent Prof. Timo Airaksinen (University of Helsinki).

Scholarships for PhD students

To foster research into ethics the Centre has provided PhD scholarships for the students of the University of Tartu since 2001. Stipends are paid with the support of the *Volkswagen Stiftung* and the call is open to all PhD students doing research on ethics or ethics-related issues.

Volkswagen Stiftung scholars participate regularly in the research-colloquia to discuss each others' research work and scientific activities. Since 2001 the colloquia has been supervised by various researchers: Prof. Margit Sutrop (Practical Philosophy), Dr. Roomet Jakapi (History of Philosophy), Prof. Marju Luts (Law). In addition, the scholars take part in seminars, lectures and interdisciplinary colloquia organized by the Centre.

In 2001- 2006 the following PhD students from the University of Tartu have received the *Volkswagen Stiftung* scholarships:

1. Toivo Aavik (Psychology) "The Structure of Estonian Personal Values - A Lexical Approach and Social Desirability Responding" (2004/2005, 2005/2006)
2. Roomet Jakapi (History of Philosophy) "Berkeley on the Meaning of Morally Relevant Utterances" (2001/2002)
3. Marek Järvik (Practical Philosophy) "Norms and Action: How Moral and Legal Duties Affect Our Action" (2001/2002, 2002/2003, 2003/2004)
4. Ken Kalling (Public Administration) "History of Eugenics in Estonia" (2002/2003)
5. Küllli Keerus (Practical Philosophy) "The Possibilities of Contractual Moral Theory in Environmental Ethics" (2005/2006)
6. Taavi Lai (Medicine) "Overview of the Implementation of Informed Consent Acquisition and Data Collection Processes in Estonian Genome Project" (2001/2002, 2002/2003)
7. Ants Nõmper (Law) "Open Consent - a New Form of Informed Consent for Population Genetic Databases" (2004/2005)
8. Aive Pevkur (Practical Philosophy) "Decision-making Process in the Field of Continuing and Ending Life. A Philosophical Approach" (2003/2004)
9. Eva Piirimäe (History of Political Ideas) "Thomas Abbt (1738-1766) and the Philosophical Genesis of German Nationalism" (2005/2006)
10. Leno Saarniit (Public Administration) "Criticism of Law Centered Approach of Public Ethics" (2003/2004, 2004/2005, 2005/2006)
11. Kadri Simm (Practical Philosophy) "Social Justice and Equal Opportunities in Biomedicine" (2001/2002, 2002/2003, 2003/2004, 2004/2005)

12. Eneken Tikk (Law) "Ethics and Information Society Law" (2005/2006)
13. Ivo Volt (Classical Philology) "Lexical and Semantic Basis of Depicting Negative Character Types in Classical Greek Literature, and Their Relation to Greek Ethical Theory and Popular Morality" (2001/2002, 2002/2003, 2003/2004, 2004/2005).

Teaching activities

Lectures

The Centre has organized 28 lecture-courses at the University of Tartu. The courses range from general overviews and introductory courses to specific applied ethics fields (bioethics, medical ethics, environmental ethics, ethics of science, etc). The Centre provides both general and specific courses to all undergraduate and graduate students of the University of Tartu. Some examples are as follows:

1. "The Foundations of Ethics" by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Dr. Kadri Simm, Külli Keerus (during academic years 2002/2003; 2003/2004; 2004/2005; 2005/2006), about 700-1000 students.
2. "Introduction to Social and Political Philosophy" by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Marek Järvik, Eva Piirimäe, Marek Volt, Indrek Männiste (2001/2002; 2002/2003; 2003/2004; 2004/2005; 2005/2006)
3. "Medical Ethics" for the students of Faculty of Medicine by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Kadri Simm (2001/2002, 2002/2003, 2003/2004, 2004/2005)
4. "Introduction to Bioethics" by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Kadri Simm (2003/2004)
5. "Feminist Theory" by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Kadri Simm (2003/2004)
6. "Ethics of the Treatment of Animals" by Külli Keerus (2004/2005)
7. "Environmental Ethics" within teachers' continuous education at Türi College of the University of Tartu by Külli Keerus (2004/2005)
8. "Contemporary Philosophy" for philosophy MA students and MA students of the Department of Media and Communication by Prof. Margit Sutrop (2000/2001, 2001/2002, 2004/2005)
9. "Dilemmas of Practical Philosophy" for MA students of the Department of Media and Communication by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Dr. Kadri Simm (2000/2001, 2001/2002, 20002/2003, 2003/2004, 2005/2006)
10. "Economics and Ethics" for the executive MBA students of Strategic Management of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration by Prof. Margit Sutrop (2002/2003, 2003/2004, 2004/ 2005)

11. "Ethics of Pedagogy" for pedagogy MA students of Faculty of Education by Külli Keerus (2003/2004, 2004/2005)
12. "Ethics and Methodology of Science" for all PhD students of the University of Tartu by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Associate Prof. Endla Lõhkivi (2004/2005, 2005/2006)

Special courses by visiting professors and lecturers (open to all students of the university)

1. „Philosophy of Anarchism“ by Dr. Paul McLaughlin (National University of Ireland), 2005/2006;
2. „What's Wrong with Marx?“ by Dr. Paul McLaughlin (National University of Ireland), 2005/2006;
3. "Happiness, Welfare, and Good Life: Conceptual and Social Issues" by Prof. Timo Airaksinen (Helsinki University), 2004/2005;
4. "Hazards of Academic Writing" by Prof. Margit Sutrop and Dr. Tiina Kirss (University of Toronto), 2003/2004, 2004/2005;
5. "Ethical Choices in the Works of Jaan Kross" by Prof. Margit Sutrop and Dr. Tiina Kirss (University of Toronto) 2004/2005;
6. "Great Works of Ethics" (Lectures and seminars on different works of ethics were held by Prof. Margit Sutrop, Prof Anne Lill, Prof. Wolfgang Drechsler (University of Tartu), Prof. Otto Kaiser (Marburg University), Prof. Herlinde Pauer-Studer (Vienna University), Prof. Olli Koistinen, Prof. Juha Räikkä (Turku University), Dr. Theda Rehbock (Dresden University of Technology), Prof. Vilhjalmur Arnason (University of Iceland), Prof. Olli Loukola (University of Helsinki), Prof. Rainer Kattel (Tallinn University of Technology), 2003/2004;
7. „Selected Texts from the Work of Hannah Arendt“ by Prof. emer. Hubert Schleichert (University of Konstanz), 2002/2003;
8. „Introduction to Argumentation Theory“ by Prof. emer. Hubert Schleichert (University of Konstanz), 2002/2003;
9. "Philosophical Reflexions on War and Peace" by Prof. emer. Hubert Schleichert (University of Konstanz), 2002/2003;
10. "Body, Psychoanalysis and Philosophy" by Dr. Tiina Kirss (University of Toronto), 2002/2003;
11. "Feminist Political Philosophy" by Prof. Lynda Lange (University of Toronto), 2002/2003;
12. "Ethics of Globalization" by Dr. Michael Haspel (University of Marburg), 2002/2003;

13. "The Philosophy of Simone de Beauvoir" by Dr. Tiina Kirss (University of Toronto), 2001/2002.

Conferences and seminars

Conferences

The Centre organizes international scientific conferences on various aspects of philosophy and ethics with the objective of promoting and fostering interdisciplinary scientific research. In addition to the examples below the Centre has organized more than 20 seminars and workshops to encourage reflection among scientists, researchers, graduate and undergraduate students about various aspects of bioethics, medical ethics, ethical, social and legal aspects of the human genetic databases.

1. December 15-17, 2005 international conference "**Human Nature as the Basis of Morality and Society in Early Modern Philosophy**" organized by the Centre for Ethics and the Department of Philosophy of the University of Tartu in cooperation with the Department of Social and Moral Philosophy of the University of Helsinki.
2. November 25, 2005 joint workshop of UNESCO and Centre for Ethics "**Ethics around the World – Estonia, Tartu**" in Tartu. Workshop about UNESCO and universal norms in bioethics and ethics education in Estonia.
3. October 28-29, 2005 international conference "**Values and Conflicts in Environmental Ethics**" organized by the Centre for Ethics and Jakob von Uexküll Centre.
4. May 26-28, 2005 **1st Estonian Annual Conference of Philosophy "The Power and Powerlessness of Philosophy"** organized by the Centre for Ethics and the Department of Philosophy of the University of Tartu. The plenary lecture was held by the President of the Finnish Association of Philosophy, Rector of the Helsinki University Prof. Ilkka Niiniluoto.
5. September 25-30, 2004 German-Estonian academic week *Academica* "Science and Knowledge-based Society" in the University of Tartu. The Centre organized section **„Tensions between Science and Society“**.
6. April 25-26, 2002 jubilee conference of University of Tartu "Medicine, Ethics and Society" organized by the Centre for Ethics together with the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Social Sciences. The Centre organized **platform discussion "The Opportunities and Dangers of Gene Technology"**.
7. September 17, 2001 Estonian-German academic week *Academica* "Is the science of today ethical?" The Centre organized platform discussion "**Ethical Dilemmas in Science**".

Interdisciplinary Colloquia

The Centre's interdisciplinary colloquia are devoted mainly to ethics but also to wider philosophical issues. The colloquium involves a presentation and is followed by a discussion. The presentations are given by researchers from the University of Tartu as well as by guests. Since 2001 the Centre has organized 64 colloquia on very different topics – ethics of medicine, media, genetic research, genetic policy, philosophy of law, values in society, feminist issues, etc. For example:

1. December 6, 2005 Dr. Paul McLaughlin, National University of Ireland "An Introduction to Social Ecology"
2. May 5, 2005 Dr. André Gonçalo Dias Pereira, University of the Beira Interior (Portugal) "Medical Malpractice and Civil Liability in Portugal"
3. May 3, 2005 Prof. Timo Airaksinen, University of Helsinki "The Elusive Nature of Happiness"
4. November 25, 2004 Dr. Ananta Kumar Giri, University of Madras (India) "A Moral Critique of Development"
5. September 28, 2004 Prof. Paul Hoyningen Huene, University of Hannover "Inter-, Multi- or Transdisciplinarity?"
6. May 30, 2003 Prof. Hubert Schleichert, University of Konstanz "On Responsibility and Shifting Responsibility"
7. October 21, 2002 Prof. Jens Reich, Berlin Max-Delbrück-Centrum "Politics of Research and Bioethics in Relation to the Early Stages of Life"
8. October 14th 2002 Prof. emer. Eric Matthews, University of Aberdeen "The Philosophy of Psychiatry"
9. October 4, 2002 Prof. Lynda Lange, University of Toronto "Women and the Problem of Philosophy"
10. September 24, 2002 Docent Michael Haspel, University of Marburg "Human Rights and Humanitarian Intervention. Current Problems of an Ethics of International Relations"
11. February 12, 2002 joint colloquium of the Ethics Centre and the Estonian Gene Bank "Ethical Aspects of the Gene Bank". Presentations: Prof. Arvo Tikk "Estonian Gene Bank and Ethics"; Prof. Margit Sutrop "The Right to Know and the Right Not to Know One's Genetic Data".

Activities aimed towards Estonian public

One of the purposes of the Centre is to further reflections upon norms, values and questions of justice in the Estonian society through organizing public lectures, meetings, seminars and discussions. The Centre has organized 28 seminars and workshops to raise interest and reflect upon different aspects of ethics: values in Estonian society and especially among the youth, teaching ethics and religion in schools, ethical aspects in research projects in life sciences, morality and law, medical ethics, etc.

Seminars and workshops (a selection)

1. September 16, 2005 the Centre for Ethics, together with the Estonian Society for Medical Doctors, the Ethics Committee of Tartu University Hospital and Estonian Council for Bioethics celebrated the international day of medical ethics with the conference „**Can alternative medicine rival the evidence-based medicine?**”.
2. July 8 and August 2, 2004 meeting between Estonian students from the Tartu University and academic guests from Germany “**European Perspectives of Young Estonians**”
3. October 29-30, 2004 the Centre for Ethics and Foundation *Domus Dorpatensis* organized a conference “**Trust and Cooperation in Society**”. Topics under discussion: essence, necessity, difficulties and results of cooperation within society.
4. June 13-14, 2003 the Centre for Ethics in cooperation with the Foundation *Domus Dorpatensis* organized an international symposium „**In Search of Common Values**“. The aim of the symposium was to reflect upon the values and norms in Estonia, Europe and beyond.
5. December 5, 2002 seminar and discussion “**Estonian Society – the Ethical Issues**” involved representatives from the Estonian media, the deans of all faculties and the officials from the University of Tartu.

Set-up of the National Centre for Information, Documentation and Communication of Ethics

To raise interest and awareness of ethical issues and to promote ethical behavior the Centre for Ethics is currently establishing the national information centre on ethics related documentation, information and communication. The main objective of the national centre is to gather together and offer information on practical ethics (case studies, study materials, codes of conduct, regulations, ethics committees, bibliographies, experts, etc.) to all interested persons and organizations. Information is gathered and presented about normative ethics, public ethics,

medical ethics, ethics of sexuality, business ethics, law ethics, ethics in science, environmental ethics, cyberethics, media ethics, ethics and religions, ethics in advertising and ethics of pedagogy.

Main target groups include people who are dealing with these subject matters daily: doctors, patients, ethics committee members, scientists, graduate and undergraduate students, lawyers, politicians, civil servants, journalists, business persons, non-governmental organizations, pupils, teachers, etc.

Handbook of Codes of Conduct

To draw attention to the ethical behavior and responsibilities within Estonian society the Centre for Ethics is currently elaborating and composing the handbook on the codes of conduct. **“A to Z of the Codes of Conduct”** is aimed towards non-governmental organizations, public and private sector organizations to help compose their own codes of conduct.

Public debate

The Centre also serves the Estonian society in **continuously pushing forward and promoting the discussions on ethics through articles in popular science and mass media**. More than 20 articles of popular science have been published in different magazines, article compendiums and books. The researchers and co-workers of the Centre and journalists have published mass media articles about the activities of the Centre for Ethics (almost 50), ethics and just society (more than 20 articles) the ethical aspects of and genetic research (about 55 articles), teaching religion or ethics in Estonian schools (initiated by Prof. Sutrop, almost 50 articles) in Estonian media. In addition the researchers of the Centre have presented a number of comments and speeches on television and radio both to Estonian and foreign media.

There have been 5 articles in foreign media about the Centre for Ethics (see more <http://www.ut.ee/eetikakeskus/index.php?eng/meedia>).

Ethical expertise

Also, Centre for Ethics has been actively involved in **providing expertise and composing various materials for policy and other purposes**, e.g. “Regulation of the Ethical Aspects of Scientific Research in Estonia” by Valdar Parve, Kristi Lõuk, Margit Sutrop, Arvo Tikk, Ants Nõmper (in Estonian and English) European Commission, Brussels 2004, participation in an ethical expertise of personal digital illness history project and Personal Data Protection Act.

The researchers and co-workers of the centre have introduced ethics related issues in more than 46 seminars and conferences aimed towards the public.

Activities aimed towards gymnasium pupils (a selection)

- 1) April 1-4, 2005 the Centre co-organized the **National Olympiad of Philosophy for school pupils**.
- 2) From December 12, 2004 till February 20, 2005 the Centre together with the Estonian Philosophy Teachers Association carried out an international project “**Minority Rights, Majority’s Will – How to Live Without Conflicts in Multicultural Europe?**” The project was carried out among pupils from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Finland and involved an essay contest and conference “**Minority Rights, Majority’s Will – How to Live Without Conflicts in Multicultural Europe?**” in Tartu.
- 3) From October 11 until December 1, 2003 the Centre in cooperation with Foundation *Domus Dorpatensis* carried out a project “**How to Avoid Violence in School?**” three workshops and conference for school psychologists, teachers and pupils.

Library

The purpose of the library is primarily aimed at **fostering research and learning in philosophy and ethics**, and it is also open to all as a seminar library. The library has more than **3 500 entries in total** together with the books that belong to the Faculty of Philosophy of the University of Tartu. The primary focus of complementing the library is on essential study and research materials. Several specialists from other faculties (Faculties of Philosophy, Medicine, Biology and Geography, Law and Social Sciences) have made their suggestions.

Majority of the collection is taken up by following fields: moral philosophy and political philosophy, applied ethics (bioethics and medical ethics, environmental ethics, public ethics and others) philosophy of law and aesthetics. Represented are also the various disciplines within philosophy: history of philosophy, philosophy of language, philosophy of mind, metaphysics, epistemology, philosophy of science. The majority of books are in English but there are also books in Estonian, German and other languages. The books have been entered into the all-Estonian **electronic catalogue ESTER**.

Our team

Prof Margit Sutrop is head of the Centre for Ethics since September 2000.

Dr. Kadri Simm – project manager since November 2002.

Krõõt Nõges – project manager.

Kirsti Jõesalu – project manager (MA) and PhD student of Ethnology.

Margit Sakson – coordinator.

Küllli Keerus – library assistant (MA) and PhD student of Philosophy.

Kristi Lõuk – library assistant and MA student of Philosophy.

Aire Vaher – library assistant and MA student of Philosophy.

Anne-Mai Helemäe – library assistant and MA student of Philosophy.