

# Thomas V. Cunningham

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## Current Positions

Bioethics Director, Kaiser Permanente West Los Angeles Medical Center  
Faculty (part-time), Loyola Marymount University Bioethics Institute, Los Angeles  
Covering Bioethics Director, Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center

## Areas of Specialization

Philosophy of Medicine, Theoretical and Clinical Bioethics

## Areas of Competence

Philosophical Ethics, Philosophy of Science

## Previously Held Positions

Assistant Professor, Division of Medical Humanities, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) College of Medicine (2013-2016)  
Assistant Professor, Internal Medicine, UAMS College of Medicine (2013-2016)  
Clinical Ethicist, UAMS and Arkansas Children's Hospital (2013-2016)  
Adjunct Faculty, University of Arkansas at Little Rock (2015)

## Education

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- PhD.** History and Philosophy of Science, University of Pittsburgh **2005-2013**  
*Socializing Medical Practice: A Normative Model of Medical Decision-Making*  
Committee: Kenneth Schaffner, MD, PhD (co-director; Pittsburgh, HPS)  
Peter Machamer, PhD (co-director; Pittsburgh, HPS)  
Sandra Mitchell, PhD (Pittsburgh, HPS)  
Edouard Machery, PhD (Pittsburgh, HPS)  
Robert Arnold, MD (University of Pittsburgh Medical School)
- M.A.** Bioethics and Health Law, University of Pittsburgh **2008-2013**  
*Philosophy and Science Policy in the American Cloning Debate*  
Committee: Mark Wicclair, PhD (director; University of Pittsburgh Medical School, Center for Bioethics and Health Law)  
Douglas White, MD, MAS (Pittsburgh, Medical School and CHBL)  
Alex London, PhD (Carnegie Mellon University)
- M.S.** Biology, University of California at San Diego **2001-2004**  
*Genetic Analysis of Endoplasmic Reticulum Plasticity*  
Committee: Randolph Hampton, PhD (director; UCSD, Biology)  
Laurraine Pillus, PhD (UCSD, Biology)  
Douglass Forbes, PhD (UCSD, Biology)
- B.S.** Biology, University of California at San Diego **1999-2003**
- B.A.** Philosophy, University of California at San Diego **1999-2003**

## Publications

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### Peer Reviewed Publications

1. NR Van Buren, E Weber, MJ Bliton, and TV Cunningham (In Press). “In This Together: Navigating Ethical Challenges Posed by Family Clustering During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *Hasting Center Report*.
2. TV Cunningham (In press). “A Feminist Defense of Fetal Tissue Research,” In J Schoen (ed), *Abortion Care as Moral Work* [working title], Rutgers University Press.
3. TV Cunningham (Forthcoming in 2021). “Surrogate Decision Making,” In DM Hester and T Schonfeld (eds.), *Guidance for Healthcare Ethics Committees*, Cambridge University Press.
4. KW Harris, TV Cunningham, DM Hester, K Armstrong, A Kim, FR Harrell, and JB Fanning (2020). “Comparison is Not a Zero-Sum Game: Exploring Advanced Measures of Healthcare Ethics Consultation” *AJOB Empirical Bioethics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23294515.2020.1844820>
5. AC Glover, TV Cunningham, EW Sterling, and J Lesandrini (2020), “How Much Volume Should Healthcare Ethics Consult Services Have?” *The Journal of Clinical Ethics*, 31(2): 158-172.
6. MM Feinstein, JD Niforatos, I Hyun, TV Cunningham, A Reynolds, D Brodie, and A Levine (2020). “Considerations for Ventilator Triage During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*. Available online April 28, 2020.
7. RS Purvis, CR Long, LR Eisenberg, DM Hester, TV Cunningham, A Holland, HE Chatrathi, and PA McElfish (2020). “First Do No Harm: Ethical Concerns of Health Researchers That Discourage the Sharing of Results with Research Participants.” *AJOB Empirical Bioethics*, 11(2): 104-113
8. E Gilmore-Szott and TV Cunningham (Forthcoming). “How Do People Make Moral Medical Decisions?” In M Trachsel, S Tekin, NB Andorno, J Gaab, and JZ Sadler (eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Psychotherapy Ethics*, Oxford University Press.
9. TV Cunningham, A Chatburn, C Coleman, E DeRenzo, K Furfari, J Frye, AC Glover, M Kenney, N Nortje, J Malek, M Repenshek, F Sheppard, and JS Crites (2019). “Comprehensive Quality Assessment in Clinical Ethics.” *The Journal of Clinical Ethics*, 30(3): 284-296.
10. L Low, RS Purvis, TV Cunningham, A Chughati, R Garner, and PA McElfish (2019). “Ethical Dilemmas Encountered by Health Care Providers Caring for Marshallese Migrants in Northwest Arkansas.” *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics* 9(1):53-62.
11. TV Cunningham, LP Scheunemann, RM Arnold, and DB White (2018). “How Do Clinicians Prepare Family Members for the Role of Surrogate Decision Maker?” *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 44(1):21-26.
12. R Green, A Merrick, TV Cunningham, LR Eisenberg, and DM Hester (2017). “The Curricular Ethics Bowl: Answering Pedagogical Challenges.” *Teaching Ethics*, 17(2):151-166.
13. TV Cunningham (2017). “Health, Disease, and the Basic Aims of Medicine.” In U Feist, Z Biener, J Sullivan, and M Adams (eds.), *Doing History and Philosophy of Science with Peter Machamer*. Dordrecht: Springer International Publishing, pp. 141-162.
14. CR Long, MK Stewart, TV Cunningham, TS Warmack, and PA McElfish (2016). “Health Research Participants’ Preferences for Receiving Research Results.” *Clinical Trials* 13(6): 582-591.
15. TV Cunningham (2016). “A Life Below the Threshold? Examining Conflict Between Ethical Principles and Parental Vales in Neonatal Treatment Decision Making.” *Narrative Inquiry in Bioethics* 6(1):63-71.

16. A Merrick, R Green, TV Cunningham, LR Eisenberg, and DM Hester (2016). "Introducing the Medical Ethics Bowl." *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics* 25(1):141-149.
17. ML Schwarze, TC Campbell, TV Cunningham, DB White, and RM Arnold (2016). "You Can't Get What You Want: Innovation for End-Of-Life Communication in the ICU." *American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine* 193(1):14-16.
18. LP Scheunemann, TV Cunningham, RM Arnold, P Buddadhumaruk, and DB White (2015). "How Clinicians Discuss Critically Ill Patients' Preferences and Values with Surrogates: An Empirical Analysis." *Critical Care Medicine* 43(4):757-764.
19. TV Cunningham (2015). "Objectivity, Scientificity, and the Dualist Epistemology of Medicine." In P. Huneman et al. (eds.), *Classification, Disease and Evidence: New Essays in Philosophy of Medicine*. Dordrecht: Springer Science+Business Media, pp. 1-18.
20. TV Cunningham (2013). "What Justifies the Ban on Federal Funding for Nonreproductive Cloning?" *Medicine, Health Care, and Philosophy*, 16:825-841.

#### *Other Publications*

21. J Lesandrini, L Guidry-Grimes, J Crites, and TV Cunningham (2021). "160: A Survey of Ethical Views and Experiences During a Pandemic: A Critical Care Perspective." *Critical Care Medicine* 49(1): 65. [Annual Conference Abstracts]
22. E Weber, S Gray, M Applewhite, and TV Cunningham (2021). "Surrogate Decision-Making for Incarcerated Patients: A Pandemic-Inspired Call to Action." *Hastings Center Bioethics Forum* (blog), 03/24/2021, available at: <https://www.thehastingscenter.org/surrogate-decision-making-for-incarcerated-patients-a-pandemic-inspired-call-to-action/>
23. TV Cunningham (2019). "The Methods of Bioethics: An Essay in Meta-Bioethics, by J. McMillan" [Book Review]. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews*.
24. AL Scott and TV Cunningham (2016). "The Problems of Half-Hearted Interdisciplinarity." *AJOB Neuroscience* 27(2): 108-109.
25. TV Cunningham (2016). "Power and Limits in Medical Decision Making." *American Journal of Bioethics* 16(1):56-58.
26. TV Cunningham (2015). "A Multidisciplinary Approach to Ensure Scientific Integrity in Clinical Research: How expensive is sustained moral commitment?" *The Annals of Thoracic Surgery* 100:1534.
27. LR Eisenberg, TV Cunningham, and DM Hester (2015). "Closure But No Cigar." *American Journal of Bioethics* 15(1):44-46.
28. PK Machamer and TV Cunningham (2015). "Mechanisms." In R. Gunstone (editor-in-chief), *Encyclopedia of Science Education*. Dordrecht: Springer Science+Business Media, pp. 625-628.
29. TV Cunningham (2014). "Philosophy, Neuroscience and Consciousness, by Rex Welshon." [Book Review], *Quarterly Review of Biology* (89):256.
30. TV Cunningham (2014). "Non-Reductive Moral Classification and the Limits of Philosophy." *American Journal of Bioethics* 14(2):22-24.
31. TV Cunningham (2013). "Critical Decisions: How You and Your Doctor Can Make the Right Medical Choices Together, by Peter Ubel." [Book Review], *Theoretical Medicine and Bioethics* 34:505-509.

32. TV Cunningham (2013). "Skepticism About the 'Convertibility' of Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells." *American Journal of Bioethics* 13(1):40-42.
33. TV Cunningham (2013). "The Principle of Charity and Non-inferential Coding in Interdisciplinary Behavioral Research." *Proceedings and Addresses of the American Philosophical Association* 86(4):174.
34. LP Scheuenemann, TV Cunningham, M Crankovic, and DB White (2012). "How do Clinicians Elicit Values from Surrogate Decision-Makers of Critically Ill Patients: A Pilot Study" *Proceedings of the American Thoracic Society* A5219.
35. TV Cunningham (2008). "Scientific Pluralism [Book Review]." *The Pluralist* 3:132-137.
36. RY Hampton, O Bazirgan, SR Cronin, TV Cunningham, J Defries, C Federovitch, I Flury, R Garza, T Lam, and E Quan (2002). "Using the ER Quality Control Pathway for Regulation of the Sterol Synthesis." *The Journal of General Physiology* 120(1):3A-3A.

#### Healthcare Policy

37. TV Cunningham (2020). "MP Score Triage Committee." Available at: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340135577\\_MP\\_Score\\_Triage\\_Committee](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340135577_MP_Score_Triage_Committee)
38. TV Cunningham (2020). "Pandemic Triage Committee Draft Policy." Available at: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340022240\\_Pandemic\\_Triage\\_Committee\\_Draft\\_Policy](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/340022240_Pandemic_Triage_Committee_Draft_Policy)
39. TV Cunningham and KL Watson (2017). "Recognition of Conscience in Health Care Draft Policy." Available at: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320402513\\_Recognition\\_of\\_Conscience\\_in\\_Health\\_Care\\_Draft\\_Policy](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/320402513_Recognition_of_Conscience_in_Health_Care_Draft_Policy)

#### Work in Progress

- i. "Distributed Cognition in Critical Care Medicine" (draft available)
- ii. "Ethical Medical Decision Making for Incapacitated, Hospitalized Inmates" (research in progress)
- iii. "Against Hospital Ethics Committees" (research in progress)

#### Presentations

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- 2021:** TV Cunningham, "Measuring Ethics Consultation: Innovation in Quality Assessment and Improvement through and EMR-Integrated Approach." Geisenger Health System. June 24, 2021. Online
- J Lesandrini, A Muster, N Gin, and TV Cunningham, "Partnering Together for Ethical Planning: A Conversation between Hospital Leaders and Ethics Directors." American College of Healthcare Executives (AHCE) 2021 Annual Meeting March 22-25, 2021. Online.
- TV Cunningham, "Conscientious Objection & Abortion Care." Kaiser Permanente San Bernardino Service Area, March 4, 2021. Online.
- J Lesandrini, L Guidry-Grimes, J Crites, and TV Cunningham, "A Survey of Ethical Views and Experiences During the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Critical Care Perspective." Society for Critical Care Medicine 2021 Annual Meeting, January 31-February 12, 2021. Online.
- 2020:** TV Cunningham, "Nine Months Yet No Delivery in Sight: Doing Ethics on the Frontline of COVID-19." National Institute of Health Bioethics Interest Group, December 7, 2020. Online.
- TV Cunningham, "Clinical Ethics: A 'Philosophy Job' Outside of Academia." Georgetown University Philosophy Department Workshop. October 30, 2020. Online.

- L Guidry-Grimes, J Crites, J Lesandrini, and TV Cunningham, “A Survey of Ethical Views and Experiences During the COVID-19 Pandemic.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), October 15, 2020. Online
- A Kondrat, S Finder, V Bartlett, and TV Cunningham, “Ethics and Epidemics: Caring in the Time of COVID-19.” Harvard University Medical School Webinar Series, May 28, 2020.
- TV Cunningham, A Kon, and K Michelson, “The Ethics of COVID-19: Some Initial Reflections.” Loyola University Chicago Webinar, April 1, 2020.
- 2019:** TV Cunningham, “Clinical Ethics in a Learning Health System: A Vision.” Kaiser Permanente Bernard J. Tyson School of Medicine, November 22, 2019.
- MJ Bliton and TV Cunningham, “Moral Significance in ELO Work.” Kaiser Permanente Southern California End of Life Option Act 2019 Education Event, Anaheim, CA, October 29, 2019.
- R Mishra, J Crites, TV Cunningham, and J Lesandrini, “What’s the Problem with Tracking Ethics Consultations?” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Pittsburgh, PA, October 24-27, 2019.
- SR Gray, E Weber, TV Cunningham, and M Applewhite, “Surrogate Decision Making in Shackles: Finding a Voice for the Hospitalized Inmate.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Pittsburgh, PA, October 24-27, 2019.
- TV Cunningham “HCEC Charting, Tracking, and Quality Assessment: A Vision for the Future.” Kaiser Permanente Inter-Regional Medical Ethics Committee (IRMEC), Portland, OR, October 3, 2019.
- K Wollenburg-Harris, TV Cunningham, M Hester, and J Fanning, “Why Share Data in Health Care Ethics Consultation?” International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation, Vienna, Austria, May 22-25, 2019.
- TV Cunningham, “Black Birth Matters: What Happens When We Think About Beneficence from a Multi-Level Perspective?” Northwestern University School of Medicine, Chicago, IL, May 2, 2019
- TV Cunningham, “Serving the Common Good in the Context of Clinical Care.” Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, April 2, 2019.
- SR Gray, E Weber, M Applewhite, and TV Cunningham, “Surrogacy in Shackles: Finding a Voice for the Hospitalized Inmate.” 6<sup>th</sup> Annual National Nursing Ethics Conference, Los Angeles, CA, March 21-22, 2019.
- TV Cunningham, “Conscientious Objection & Abortion Care.” Kaiser Permanente Baldwin Park Medical Center, February 28, 2019.
- 2018:** TV Cunningham, “Clinical Ethics and Advanced Care Planning: Supporting Patient-Centered, Values-Based Care.” Panelist for the “Conversations in Medical Ethics” panel at the North American Imamia Medics International (IMI) Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, December 14-16, 2018.
- TV Cunningham, “Ethical Research and Medical Decision Making in the Pediatric Setting.” Research Week Grand Rounds, Children’s Hospital of Orange County, Orange, CA, November 14, 2018.
- TV Cunningham, “Being an Expert Witness.” JCEPHS Learning Forum at the Philosophy of Science Association Biennial Meeting, Seattle, WA, November 1-4, 2018.
- AC Glover, TV Cunningham, and J Lesandrini, “National Benchmarks for the Growth of Clinical Ethics Consultation Services.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Anaheim, CA, October 18-21, 2018.

SK Shah, TS Huddle, and TV Cunningham, “Autonomy: It’s Time to Set New Priorities.” ASBH Medical Decision Making Affinity Group Annual Meeting, Anaheim, CA, October 18-21, 2018.

AC Glover, TV Cunningham, and J Lesandrini, “National Benchmarks for the Growth of Clinical Ethics Consultation Services.” European Association of Centers of Medical Ethics Annual Conference, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 6-8, 2018.

J Crites and TV Cunningham, “Continuous Quality Improvement [Whitepaper Workshop].” Innovations in Clinical Ethics: A Working Un-Conference, Cleveland, OH, August 27-28, 2018.

TV Cunningham and J Crites, “Tracking Healthcare Ethics Consult Service Activities Minimally, Meaningfully, and Efficiently.” Innovations in Clinical Ethics: A Working Un-Conference, Cleveland, OH, August 27-28, 2018.

AC Glover, TV Cunningham, and J Lesandrini, “National Benchmarks for Clinical Ethics Consultation Services.” Innovations in Clinical Ethics: A Working Un-Conference, Cleveland OH, August 27-28, 2018.

**2017:** TV Cunningham and D Cruze, “Did You Know That in California You’re My Relative?” Kaiser Permanente National Bioethics Symposium, Berkeley, CA, November 2-4, 2017.

TV Cunningham, K Mutcherson, J Schoen, and K Watson, “Taking Care: How Can Secular Healthcare Systems Accommodate the Wide Spectrum of Patient and Provider Views on Abortion?” (Panel Presentation). American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Kansas City, MO, October 19-22, 2017.

TV Cunningham, K Mutcherson, J Schoen, and K Watson, “Abortion Care as Moral Work” (Plenary). Forum on Family Planning National Meeting, Atlanta, GA, October 14-16, 2017.

K Watson, J Chor, TV Cunningham, and D Stulberg, “Difficult Ethical Cases in Abortion Care” (Invited Panel Presentation). National Abortion Federation (NAF), Montreal, Québec, April 22-25, 2017.

TV Cunningham, “On Getting By With the Help of Your Friends: How Multidisciplinary Team Meetings Can Resolve Clinical Ethics Dilemmas.” Cook Children’s Hospital PICU/CICU Meeting, Forth Worth, TX, February 12, 2017.

TV Cunningham, “From Medical School Curriculum to Clinical Practice: How to Approach Ethical Dilemmas with GRACE.” Cook Children’s Hospital Pediatric Grand Rounds, Forth Worth, TX, February 13, 2017.

TV Cunningham, “Sometimes it Takes More than Two to Tango: From Parental Authority to Shared Decision Making.” Cook Children’s Hospital Neonatal Grand Rounds, Forth Worth, TX, February 13, 2017.

TV Cunningham, “Working the Hard Cases: Tools for the Ethics Committee.” Cook Children’s Hospital Ethics Committee, Forth Worth, TX, February 12, 2017.

**2016:** TV Cunningham, M Kuczewski, H Lipman, and R McKinney, “From “Meh” to MEB: Innovative Ethics Education in Medical School” (Panel Presentation). American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Washington, DC, October 6-9, 2016.

TV Cunningham, “Epic Ethics: Measuring Clinical Ethics Consultation Using the Epic Electronic Health Record System.” Vanderbilt University Medical Center, Nashville, TN, July 15, 2016.

TV Cunningham, “Distributed Cognition in Critical Care Medicine.” Society for Philosophy of Science in Practice, Glassboro, NJ, June 17-19, 2016.

- TV Cunningham, “Philosophical Perspectives on Fetal Tissue Research.” Rutgers Workshop on Fetal Tissue Ethics, New Brunswick, NJ, June 10-12, 2016.
- TV Cunningham, K Armstrong, and J Fanning, “Integrating Quality Improvement Measures into Ethics Consultation.” Pre-Conference Workshop at the International Conference on Clinical Ethics Consultation, Washington, DC, May 19-22, 2016.
- TV Cunningham, “Distributed Cognition in Critical Care Medicine.” Medical Knowledge in a Social World, Irvine, CA, March 28-29, 2016.
- TV Cunningham, “Introduction to the UAMS/ACH Clinical Ethics Consult Service” and “Decision Making in Developmental Pediatrics: Ethical and Legal Considerations.” Developmental Pediatrics Lecture Series, Little Rock, AR, March 03 & 10, 2016.
- 2015:** TV Cunningham, LR Eisenberg, and DM Hester, “From “Meh” to MEB: A Novel Curriculum for Overcoming Challenges in Undergraduate Medical Ethics Education.” AAMC Medical Education Meeting, Baltimore, MD, November 10-12, 2015.
- K Armstrong, J Fanning, and TV Cunningham, “Find Meaning: Evidence Based Practice in Clinical Ethics Consultation.” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Houston, TX, October 22-25, 2015.
- TV Cunningham, A Merrick, R Green, LR Eisenberg, and DM Hester, “The Curricular Ethics Bowl: Answering Pedagogical Challenges.” Society for Ethics Across the Curriculum, Greenville, SC, October 8-10, 2015.
- TV Cunningham, “Guardianship, Capacity, and Decision Making for Incapacitated Loved Ones.” Department of Geriatrics Grand Rounds, Little Rock, AR, July 29, 2015.
- M Jaffar and TV Cunningham, “Controversies in Critical Care.” White Paper Workshop at ICARE (Improving Critical and Acute Care Through Regional Education), Rodgers, AR, July 10-12, 2015.
- A Jones, H Moseby, D Jordan, and TV Cunningham, “Controversies in Critical Care.” Panel Discussion at ICARE (Improving Critical and Acute Care Through Regional Education), Rodgers, AR, July 10-12, 2015.
- TV Cunningham, “Research Misconduct in Light of RCR.” UAMS Research Education, Little Rock, AR, May 29, 2015.
- TV Cunningham, “Decision Making for Children and Incapacitated Adults: Educating Institutional Stakeholders About Ethical Differences.” UAMS IWHE (Intensive Workshop in Healthcare Ethics), Little Rock, AR, May 7-8, 2015.
- L Viscioni, M Pippenger, SB Harrington, E Price, TV Cunningham, and LJ Greenfield, “Psychology of Pain” Panel Discussion at Neurology Update 2015, Little Rock, AR, April 11, 2015.
- A Merrick, R Green, TV Cunningham, LR Eisenberg, and DM Hester, “On the Uses of the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl Model for Professional Students’ Education in Healthcare Ethics.” Association for Practical & Professional Ethics (APPE), Costa Mesa, CA, February 19-22, 2015.
- TV Cunningham, A Merrick, R Green, LR Eisenberg, W Ward, and DM Hester, “Introducing the Medical Ethics Bowl” [Poster]. UAMS 1st Annual Educators’ Academy Teaching and Learning Symposium: Education Scholarship,” Little Rock, AR, January 22, 2015.
- 2014:** TV Cunningham and E Gilmore-Szott, “Debating the Ethics of Embryo Research: The Language from ‘Making Babies’ to ‘Cloning-for-Biomedical-Research.’” American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), San Diego, CA, October 16-19, 2014.

- LR Eisenberg and TV Cunningham, “Ethics and Decisionmaking at the End of Life.” Hospice & Palliative Care Association of Arkansas Partners in Care Conference, Little Rock, AR, October 2-3, 2014
- TV Cunningham, “A Critical Assessment of Patient- and Family-Centered Care.” Department of Surgery Grand Rounds, Little Rock, AR, September 16, 2014.
- TV Cunningham, “The Role of an Ethicist in Pediatric Medicine.” Arkansas Childrens’ Hospital Pastoral Staff Education & Training, Little Rock, AR, June 12 and August 14, 2014.
- TV Cunningham, “What is Narrative Medicine? A Deflationary Account for Psychiatry.” Association for the Advancement of Philosophy and Psychiatry, New York, NY, May 3-4, 2014.
- TV Cunningham, “Rawlsian Reflective Equilibrium.” American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Diego, CA, April 16-19, 2014.
- 2013:** TV Cunningham, “Is Patient-Centered Care Possible? The Case of Hereditary Breast and Ovarian Cancer.” Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Grand Rounds, UAMS, Little Rock, AR, November 13, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “Concepts of Health and Disease: Who Needs Them? Recent Progress on a Vexing Debate.” Philosophy of Medicine Affinity Group, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Atlanta, GA, October 24-27, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “Surrogate Decision-Making: The Liger of Bioethics?” Arkansas Children’s Hospital, Little Rock, AR, September 3, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “The Principle of Charity and Non-Inferential Coding in Interdisciplinary Behavioral Research” [Poster]. American Philosophical Association Pacific Division, San Francisco, CA, March 27-30, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “Objectivity, Scientificity, and the Dualist Epistemology of Medicine.” Department of Bioethics, Cleveland Clinic, February 4, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “Objectivity, Scientificity, and the Dualist Epistemology of Medicine.” Division of Medical Humanities, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, February 1, 2013.
- TV Cunningham, “Objectivity, Scientificity, and the Dualist Epistemology of Medicine.” Department of Philosophy and Religion, Northeastern University, January 29, 2013.
- 2012:** TV Cunningham, LP Scheunemann, M Crankovic, and DB White “How Informed are Surrogate Decision Makers About the Principles of Surrogate Decision-Making? Preliminary Data from ICU Family Conferences” [Paper]. American Society of Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Washington, D.C., October 18-21, 2012.
- TV Cunningham, “The Principle of Charity and Non-Inferential Coding in Interdisciplinary Behavioral Research” [Poster]. American Society of Bioethics and Humanities (ASBH), Washington, D.C., October 18-21, 2012.
- 2011:** TV Cunningham, “What Justifies the Ban of Federal Funding of Somatic Cell Nuclear Transfer for Research Purposes?” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB), Salt Lake City, UT, July 10-15, 2011.
- TV Cunningham, “What is ‘Group Decision-Making’? The case of shared decision-making as a normative model of medical choice.” Three Rivers Philosophy Conference: Science, Knowledge, & Democracy, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC, April 1-3, 2011.



- TV Cunningham, “Our Unjustified Regulation of Stem Cell Research: What HPS Can teach about how politics influences scientific research.” History and Philosophy of Biology in the Desert, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, February 1-3, 2011.
- 2009:** TV Cunningham, “To Save the Semantic View.” Models and Simulations 3, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA, USA, March 6-8, 2009.
- 2008:** TV Cunningham, “J. B. S. Haldane’s Intellectual Heritage.” History of Science Society, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, November 6-8, 2008.
- TV Cunningham, “Natural Selection, Adaptation, and Fitness: On the illusion of perspectively neutral explanatory roles.” Institut d’Histoire et de Philosophie des Sciences et Techniques (IHSPST), Paris, France, June 4-5, 2008.
- 2007:** TV Cunningham, “A Reply to Naïve Mechanicism: J. S. Haldane’s Shift from Vitalism to Holism, and its Effects on his Philosophy of Biology.” International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB), Exeter, UK, July 25-29, 2007.
- TV Cunningham, “Science, Policy, & Politics: How distortion and bias on the President’s Council on Bioethics generated the moratorium on cloning for biomedical research.” 7th Annual University of Pittsburgh Graduate Student Expo, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, March 1, 2007.

## **Research, Educational Leadership, & Funding**

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- 2020:** Co-Investigator, “Prospective Descriptive Study of Bioethics Case Consultation in a Large Health Maintenance Organization.” Kaiser Permanente Southern California (PI: Bates Moses, MD)
- 2015:** UAMS TRI Pilot Award: “Participant Preferred Dissemination Methods.” Intramural funding for a T4 phase pilot study investigating community and research participant perceptions and preferences regarding the dissemination of research results. **Co-Investigator** (PI: Scott Warmack, PharmD). Total award: **\$50,000. No salary coverage.**
- UAMS Division of Medical Humanities Bruce and Brandon Lee Scholarship: “Bridging the Gap – An Exploration of the Climate of Mental Health in Rural Costa Rica.” Intramural funding for a mixed methods investigation of Costa Rican perspectives on mental health. **Co-Investigator and Mentor** for Matthew Kern (PI and 4th year medical student); Total award: **\$3,000. No salary coverage.**
- 2014:** UAMS Department of Pediatrics Innovation in Pediatric Education Grant: “Fourth Year Reflection Rounds.” Intramural funding to institute interdisciplinary, spiritual competency curriculum in fourth year acting internships in pediatrics at UAMS and to perform a mixed methods evaluation of program efficacy. **Co-Principal Investigator**, with Rebecca Latch, MD. Total award: **\$25,000. 3% salary coverage for 2014-15.**
- George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health (GWish)-John Templeton Foundation: “Reflection Rounds: Sustaining Spirituality-Based Competencies in Medical Education” (GTRR). Extramural funding to institute interdisciplinary, spiritual competency curriculum in third year clinical clerkships at UAMS. **Co-Principal Investigator** for UAMS site, with Wendy Ward, PhD. Total award: **\$25,000. 4% salary coverage, 2014-15.**
- UAMS Department of Pediatrics Summer Science Student Research Grant. Mentee: Jackson Bridges. Extramural funding (by the Stella Boyle Smith Foundation) to educate and oversee a summer mentee from July-August 2014. **Principal Investigator. \$2,500.**

## Honors & Awards

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Visiting Lecturer (Invited), Cook Children's Hospital, Forth Worth, TX, February 2017.

Early Career Advisee, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Meeting, October 2014.  
Advisors: Mark Yarborough, PhD and Alex Rajczi, PhD

Graduate Student Stipend, American Philosophical Association, to present at the 87th Annual American Philosophical Association Pacific Division Meeting, March 2013: \$300.

Travel Award, National Science Foundation, to attend the Philosophy of Science Association Annual Meeting, November 2012: \$410.

Early Career Scholar Award, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities, October 2012: \$500.

Travel Award, Center for Bioethics & Health Law, November 2012: \$725.

Travel Award, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, July 2011: \$150.

Travel Award, University of Pittsburgh Graduate and Professional Student Assoc., May 2011: \$200.

Housing Assistance Award, University of Arizona History and Philosophy of Biology in the Desert, February 2011: \$100.

Travel Award, Center for Bioethics & Health Law, November 2010: \$825.

Travel Award, Univ. of Pittsburgh Graduate and Professional Student Assoc., March 2009: \$200.

Travel Award, International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, July 2007: \$900.

Travel Award, University of Pittsburgh Graduate and Professional Student Association, November 2006: \$100.

Departmental Fellowship, University of Pittsburgh: 2005-2006, 2007-2008, 2009-2010

## Teaching Experience

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### *Mentees:*

**Eleanor Gilmore-Szott, PhD**, current Clinical Ethics Fellow, Baylor School of Medicine  
**Cheyenne Ford, MA**, current PsyD candidate, Psychology, Alliant University Los Angeles  
**Sonya Ringer**, current PhD candidate, Philosophy, Johns Hopkins University  
**Lauren Sankary, JD, MA**, current Assoc. Director, Neuroethics Program, Cleveland Clinic

### *Course Coordinator:*

**History of American Medicine** [M4 elective], Fall 2014 (UAMS)  
**Art & Medicine** [M4 elective], Spring 2015 (UAMS)

### *Course Co-Coordinator:*

**Genetic Counselor Ethics**, Fall 2015  
**Medical Ethics for Physicians Assistants**, Summer 2014 (UAMS)  
**Biomedical Ethics** [M4 elective], Spring 2014 (UAMS)

### *Instructor*

**Clinical Bioethics (for Graduate Students)**, Summer 2021 (LMU)  
**Life Care Planning Trainer Certification**, March 6, 2019 (KP Southern California)  
Clinical Bioethics (for Graduate Students), Spring 2020 (LMU)

**KP Advanced Steps Instructor**, Winter 2019 training  
**Introduction to Bioethics (for Graduate Students)**, Fall 2019 (LMU)  
Introduction to Bioethics (for Graduate Students), Fall 2018 (LMU)  
**Research Ethics**, Summer 2018 (LMU)  
**Ethics and Society**, Fall 2015 (UALR)  
Medical Ethics for Physicians Assistants, Summer 2016 (UAMS)  
Medical Ethics for Physicians Assistants, Summer 2015 (UAMS)

*Teaching Facilitator (co-taught):*

**Practice of Medicine 1** [for M1 students], 2015-2016 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor D. Micah Hester  
Practice of Medicine 1 [for M1 students], 2014-2015 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor D. Micah Hester  
**Practice of Medicine 2** [for M2 students], 2015-2016 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor D. Micah Hester  
Practice of Medicine 2 [for M2 students], 2014-2015 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor D. Micah Hester  
**Pediatric Reflection Rounds** [for M3 and M4 students], 2015-2016 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor Rebecca Latch  
Pediatric Reflection Rounds [for M3 and M4 students], 2014-2015 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor Rebecca Latch  
**Medical Ethics** [for M2 students], 2013-2014 (UAMS)  
*with* Professor D. Micah Hester  
**Clinical Clerkship Ethics Conference** [for M3 students], Spring 2011 (Pitt)  
*with* Professor David Barnard  
**Ethics, Law, and Professionalism** [for M1 students], Fall 2011 (Pitt)  
*with* Professor David Barnard  
Clinical Clerkship Ethics Conference, Fall 2011 (Pitt)  
*with* Professor David Barnard

*Teaching Fellowship (independently taught):*

**Morality and Medicine** [Bioethics], Summer 2011 (Pitt)  
Morality and Medicine [Bioethics], Spring 2011 (Pitt)  
Morality and Medicine [Bioethics], Fall 2010 (Pitt)  
**Myth and Science**, Spring 2009 (Pitt)  
Morality and Medicine [Bioethics], Fall 2008 (Pitt)

*Teaching Assistantship:*

**Explanations of Humans and Society**, Spring 2007 (Pitt)  
*for* Professor Peter Machamer  
**Darwin and His Critics**, Fall 2006 (Pitt)  
*for* Visiting Professor Laura J. Snyder  
**Introduction to Human Nutrition**, Spring 2003 (UCSD)  
**Metabolic Biochemistry**, Winter 2002 (UCSD)

## Administrative Experience

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Director, Bioethics, Kaiser Permanente West Los Angeles Medical Center	2016-present
Administrative Assistant, University of Pittsburgh Graduate and Professional Student Government Association	2011-2013
Administrative Assistant for Adolf Grunbaum, PhD.	2007-2008
Department Representative, University of Pittsburgh Arts & Sciences Graduate Student Council	2006-2008

## Professional and Community Service

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### *Community Service*

- Panel Reviewer, Department of Defense Peer Reviewed Orthopaedic Research Program, 2020-2021
- Panel Reviewer, Armed Forces Institute of Regenerative Medicine Network, 2019-2020
- Expert Witness, Center for Reproductive Rights, Virginia TRAP Laws (2019)
- Expert Witness, Center for Reproductive Rights, Texas Senate Bill 08 (2017)

### *Taskforce, Conference, and Journal Service*

- Member, ASBH Core Competencies 3rd Edition Task Force, 2021-present
- Chair, ASBH Clinical Ethics Consultation Affinity Group (CECAG), 2020-present
- Member, ASBH National Conference Programming Committee, 2019 and 2021
- Chair, ASBH National Conference Programming Committee, 2020
- Referee for *Social Theory & Practice*, 2021-present
- Referee for *Clinical Ethics*, 2019-present
- Referee for *Palliative Care: Research and Treatment*, 2019-present
- Referee for *AJOB Empirical Bioethics*, 2018-present
- Referee for *Journal of Evaluation in Clinical Practice*, 2016-present
- Referee for *Medicine, Health Care, and Philosophy*, 2016-present
- Referee for *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 2016-present
- Referee for *American Society of Bioethics and Humanities*, 2014-2018
- Referee for *Philosophy of Science*, 2010-present
- Judge, University of Arkansas, Little Rock High School Ethics Bowl, January 25, 2014
- Chair, Contributed Papers: Values, Interests, and Motivations, Philosophy of Science Association 2012, San Diego, CA.
- Session Co-organizer, Meeting of the History of Science Society, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, November 6-9, 2008.
- Conference Co-organizer, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> annual Pittsburgh-Carnegie Mellon Graduate Student Conferences, Pittsburgh, PA, USA, March 2007 and 2008.

Session Chair and Co-organizer, Meeting of the International Society for the History, Philosophy, and Social Studies of Biology, Exeter, UK, July 25-29, 2007

*University and Hospital Service*

Covering Bioethics Director, KP Baldwin Park Medical Center, 2021 (6 month term)  
Covering Bioethicist On-Call, KP Los Angeles Medical Center, 2020-present (periodic)  
Covering Bioethicist On-Call, KP San Bernardino Area, 2020-present (periodic)  
Logistics Chief, KP West Los Angeles COVID-19 Incident Command Center, 2020-2021  
Member, KP West LA Blood Management Committee, 2018-present  
Member, KP West LA Neonatal ICU Mortality and Morbidity Committee, 2018-present  
Co-Chair, Life Care Planning Committee, KP West LA Medical Center, 2018-2019  
Co-Chair, Bioethics Committee, KP West LA Medical Center, 2016-present  
Member, Senior Leadership Team, KP West LA Medical Center, 2016-present  
Member, KP West LA Critical Care Committee, 2016-present  
Member, Compliance Committee, KP West LA Medical Center, 2016-2018  
Member, Kaiser Permanente Southern CA Regional Bioethics Committee, 2016-present  
Member, UAMS Multidisciplinary Critical Care Committee, 2015-2016  
Member, UAMS College of Medicine Curriculum Committee, 2015-2016  
Member, UAMS Arts Council, 2015-2016  
Chair, Bruce and Brandon Lee Medical Scholarship Committee, 2014-2016  
Member, UAMS Institutional Review Board, 2013-2016.  
Member, UAMS Medical Ethics Advisory Committee, 2013-2016  
Member, UAMS Planned Emergency Research Committee, 2013  
Member, Arkansas Genetic Health Committee (ARGHC), 2013-2015.  
Member, ARGHC Newborn Screening Subcommittee, 2013-2015.  
Member, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh (UPMC) Ethics Committee, 2012-2013.  
Member, University of Pittsburgh Provost's Advisory Committee for Planning and Budget, 2012-2013.  
Member, Univ. of Pittsburgh Univ. Senate Child and Dependent Care Subcommittee, 2012-2013.  
Member, Univ. of Pittsburgh University Senate Commonwealth Relations Committee, 2012-2013.  
Attendee, UPMC Presbyterian Ethics Committee, 2012-2013.  
Member, University of Pittsburgh GPSG Executive Committee, 2012-2013.  
Chair, University of Pittsburgh GPSG Student Affairs Committee, 2012-2013.  
Lead, GPSG Pittsburgh Public Schools Fund Raiser: The Represent PITT! Art Initiative, 2012.  
Member, University of Pittsburgh Board of Trustees Affirmative Action Committee, 2011-2013.

Member, University of Pittsburgh University Review Board, 2011-2013

Project Leader, GPSA Alliance for Infants and Toddlers Toy Drive & Fund Raiser, 2011.

## Professional Memberships

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Since 2010: American Society for Bioethics and Humanities  
2011-2019: American Philosophical Association  
2015-2016: Association for Practical and Professional Ethics  
2006-2020: Philosophy of Science Association  
2006-2014: History of Science Society; International Society for History, Philosophy, & Social Studies of Biology

## Media Coverage

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Medical Ethics Advisor: “Ethics Services Want to Know How Consult Data Compare to Other Hospitals.” March 2021. <https://www.reliasmedia.com/articles/147625-ethics-services-want-to-know-how-consult-data-compare-to-other-hospitals>

Medical Ethics Advisor: “Many Ethics Services Need Better Information on Volume.” October 2020. <https://www.reliasmedia.com/articles/146894-many-ethics-services-need-better-information-on-volume>

WIRED, “In Crowded Hospitals, Who Will Get Life-Saving Equipment? As health care workers prepare for surges of Covid-19 patients, they must grapple with the ethics of rationing critical medical gear.” March 2020: <https://www.wired.com/story/in-crowded-hospitals-who-will-get-life-saving-equipment/>

LMU Magazine’s Off Press Podcast, March 30, 2020: <https://magazine.lmu.edu/podcasts/thomas-v-cunningham/>

Medical Ethics Advisor, “Fresh Approaches for Quality Assurance: Hot Topic in Ethics Field.” February 2020: <https://www.reliasmedia.com/articles/145653-fresh-approaches-for-quality-assurance-hot-topic-in-ethics-field>

Medical Ethics Advisor, “Ethical Controversy Erupts Over Human-animal Embryo Research.” October 2016: <https://www.reliasmedia.com/articles/138800-ethical-controversy-erupts-over-human-animal-embryo-research>

## Dissertation Abstract

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### **Socializing Medical Practice: A Normative Model of Medical Decision-Making.**

My dissertation is about the way people *should* and *do* make medical choices. It defends the claim that medical decisions should be made by groups of persons acting together, not by individuals acting alone. I begin by arguing that prominent models of medical decision-making are problematic, because they fail to be both *descriptively* and *normatively adequate*, which I argue any account of choice in medicine should be. The remainder of the work articulates a model that meets these two criteria. First, I justify an account of the uniquely medical context my model is designed to apply to by distinguishing *two basic aims of medicine*: (i) to fully understand patients in personal and scientific terms; and, (ii) to intervene upon patients' health states in ways that are consistent with this understanding. Then, I take two chapters to develop a descriptive account of medical decision-making. In them, I introduce a close study of the case of hereditary breast and ovarian cancer decision-making, which I argue shows choices are made by groups of interacting persons over extended spatiotemporal and social dimensions. So, I appeal to the theory of *distributed cognition* to describe this collection of persons processing information together when making choices. Having defended a descriptive account of medical choice, I then take two more chapters to propose a normative account, based on a modified version of Rawlsian reflective equilibrium that I call *medical reflective equilibrium*. On my account, medical choices should be made by searching for, selecting, and integrating the right kind and amount of information, which requires considering sufficient information to meet the basic aims of medicine. Given that the basic aims are defined in terms of an epistemic distinction between *subjective* and *objective knowledge*, I argue that performing the medical reflective equilibrium procedure adequately requires multiple participants in decision-making. Consequently, I conclude that medical choices are and should be social.

My dissertation may be accessed here: <http://d-scholarship.pitt.edu/20142/>