

Trinity College Dublin/University of Galway

Research Ethics Conversation Series

2025



Trinity College Dublin
Coláiste na Tríonóide, Baile Átha Cliath
The University of Dublin



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY

Conveners:

Mandy Lee, Assistant Professor, Centre for Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin

Dr. Su-Ming Khoo, Associate Professor/ Senior Lecturer, Head of Sociology, School of Political Science and Sociology, University of Galway

About Us:

This Research Ethics Conversation Series is jointly convened by Trinity College Dublin and the University of Galway. We seek to bring together an interdisciplinary community of inquiry to engage in exploratory conversations about new and/or difficult, thorny issues in research ethics, as identified by researchers working in the field as well as those engaged in research ethics oversight and other relevant areas of higher education practice. We believe in creating this communal space for those interested in the broad field of research ethics across multiple disciplines, as a key issue we see is the lack of a safe space for dialogue between researchers and ethics committees on emerging ethics topics, where there is yet to be a well-founded consensus, and where diverse stakeholders with different perspectives and traditions need to have their voices heard and listened to. We strongly believe that research ethics should be open, inclusive, and pluralistic, and to be broadly discussed and deliberated amongst practitioners and policymakers. We are interested in facilitating a space for discourse and reflection among those keen to push forward the progress of research ethics through both critique and consensus.

Format:

Based on the experiences gained from our very successful inaugural series last year, we will continue with a monthly programme of Conversations, starting in late March, with a break over the summer period. There is a total of 8 Conversations each calendar year (March to June, September to December), taking place in either the third or fourth week of the month, usually on a Thursday. The session is scheduled from 3pm to 4:30pm, allowing space for a proper conversation to develop.

While the lead speaker may present a topic for about 45 minutes (the range could be from 30 minutes to an hour), the rest of the time in this 1.5 hour session will be devoted to conversation amongst the group on the topic. The session will be chaired by either of the series co-convenors (Mandy or Su). Slides (where relevant) by the lead speakers will be circulated, with the authors' agreement, to the email list members for further reflection/action.

List of Topics/Speakers:

Pre-Summer Programme (March to June):

First Conversation

Topic: "Reflections on ethics in migration research: ethically engaging with participants and stakeholders"

Lead Speaker: Dr. Pilar Luz Rodrigues (University of Galway, Ireland)

Date: Thursday, 27th March 2025, 3pm to 4:30pm

Second Conversation

Topic: (Working title) "Reconceptualising the ethical concepts of autonomy, trust, risk, and vulnerability in conflict-afflicted areas: Experiences from Darfur and elsewhere."

Lead Speaker: Dr. Ghaiath MA Hussein (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)

Date: Thursday, 25th April 2025, 3pm to 4:30pm

Third Conversation

Topic: "The Ethics and Politics of Representation in Researching with Social Movement Activists in the Social Media Age."

Lead Speakers: Mandy Lee (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland) and Dr. Outi Kähäri (University of Oulu, Finland)

Date: Thursday, 29th May 2025, 3pm to 4:30pm

Fourth Conversation

Topic: "The interplay between ethics and open research practices"

Lead Speaker: Dr. Jen Smith (University of Galway, Ireland)

Date: Thursday, 19th June 2025, 3pm to 4:30pm

SUMMER BREAK (July and August) (No Conversations)

Autumn/Winter Programme (September to December):

Fifth Conversation

Topic: Ethical Aspects of Research in the Sociology of Mental Health and Emotional Distress

Lead Speaker: Prof. Monika Frąckowiak-Sochańska (Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland)

Date: Thursday, 25th September, 3-4:30pm Irish Time (4pm to 5:30pm CET)

Sixth Conversation

Topic: "Listening to silence: the ethics of representing the voices of others in academic work."

Lead Speaker: Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven (Leiden University, the Netherlands)

Date: Thursday, 30th October, 3pm to 4:30pm Irish Time (4pm to 5:30pm CET)

Seventh Conversation

Topic: "The ethical dilemma of balancing safeguarding and optimising gender-based violence training"

Lead Speaker: Mide Power (Trinity College Dublin, Ireland)

Date: **Friday**, 21st November, 2025

Eighth Conversation

Topic: The Ethics of Emotionally Demanding Research: How much does caring cost and who pays the bills?

Lead Speaker: Dr. Stacey Sriver (University of Galway, Ireland)

Date: Thursday 18th December from 3pm to 4:30pm

2025 Lead Speakers' Biographies (in Alphabetical Order):

Dr. Ghaiath MA Hussein

Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin

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Dr. Ghaiath Hussein is an Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics and Law at Trinity College Dublin, University of Dublin, Ireland. A medical doctor, bioethicist, and public health specialist. He holds an MBBS from Sudan, an M.Sc. in Bioethics from the University of Toronto, and a Ph.D. in Bioethics from the University of Birmingham.

His career encompasses health research, health policy, and field epidemiology, with a focus on humanitarian settings. Dr. Hussein specializes in bioethics, with focus on research ethics, public health ethics, and humanitarian ethics. Since 2010, he has taught bioethics to undergraduate and postgraduate students, residents, healthcare providers, and public health practitioners. He also engages in ethics consultations in developing countries, collaborating with organizations like the WHO, UNESCO, and EMPHNET.

Dr. Hussein has published numerous articles in international journals, and authored chapters in national and international books and training manuals on bioethical issues related to clinical practice, health research, humanitarian settings, and global health. His recent research examines Research Ethics in complex humanitarian emergencies and north-south global ethics dialogue. Currently, he chairs the School of Medicine Research Ethics Committee and is a member of the Ethics Review Board of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF - ERB).

Dr. Outi Kähäri

Post-doctoral Researcher, University of Oulu, Finland.

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Dr. Outi Kähäri is a postdoctoral researcher in the research unit for history, culture and communications at the University of Oulu, Finland. She holds a doctoral degree in sociology (University of Turku, 2017) with a specialization in migration, integration, work life studies and trust research. Her recent studies have concentrated on intergenerational relationships and (post)memories in transnational Ingrian families whose pasts include persecution and forced migration. She is specifically interested in questions of retrospective justice and memory activism in the intersection of history and sociology. Currently, Kähäri works in the Mobile Futures project exploring how young adults make everyday racism visible and tackle it, by using the methods of digital ethnography. Her field of expertise includes qualitative methods, research on institutional and social trust and interaction, sociological memory studies and minority history.

Mandy Lee

Assistant Professor, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

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Mandy Lee is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin. A sociologist of health and illness, her research interests include narrative medicine, trauma studies and research ethics. She served as programme coordinator for the M.Sc. Health Services Management from 2004 to 2019, and was module leader for the Research Methods and Research Ethics module over the same period. Representing her department, she served on the TCD Faculty of Health Sciences Ethics Committee from 2005 to 2009. In 2009, she helped establish the Health Policy and Management/Centre for Global Health (HPM-CGH) Research Ethics Committee, where she co-authored protocols and guidelines with her CGH counterpart, and later led efforts to ensure GDPR compliance. She served as deputy REC Chair in 2021-2022, and retains an advisor role to the HPM-CGH REC at present. From 2022, Mandy is also a member of the advisory board on the Trinity Inclusive Curriculum. In 2024-2025, Mandy was the TCD co-representative on the Medical and Health Humanities Working Group of the Irish Humanities Alliance (IHA), and since 2025, she is the Health Sciences Co-Chair of this TMHH research network. She has published on research methods and research ethics in international journal and as part of HSE research guidebooks, and provided research ethics training to national agencies. She is currently conducting doctoral research at the TCD Department of Sociology, exploring trauma, resilience and resistance of the Hong Kong pro-democracy community since the 2019 mass protests.

Prof. Monika Frąckowiak-Sochańska

Professor, Faculty of Sociology, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

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Monika Frąckowiak-Sochańska is a sociologist and psychologist. She works as a professor at the Faculty of Sociology at Adam Mickiewicz University (AMU) in Poznań. She specializes in the sociology of mental health, trauma studies, and gender studies. From 2020 to 2024, she was the faculty coordinator for mental health and the faculty coordinator for people with disabilities. She participates in the work of the program council for the annual Mental Health Day at AMU.

Míde Power

PhD Candidate, Sociology, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

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Míde Power is a PhD candidate in Sociology. Her project focuses on developing and evaluating sexual violence prevention training, using an applied social research approach and drawing on bystander intervention, intersectionality and social norms theories. Míde has worked as a Programme Coordinator and Research Assistant in Equality, Diversity and Inclusion with the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. She completed an MPhil in Race, Ethnicity and Conflict with distinction, focusing in particular on forced migration, international protection, anti-racism and intersectionality. Míde originally trained as an occupational therapist, and remains committed to a collaborative, participatory approach in conducting empirical research.

Dr. Pilar Luz Rodrigues

Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researcher, University of Galway, Ireland.

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Dr. Pilar Luz Rodrigues is a Lecturer and Postdoctoral Researcher in the School of Political Science and Sociology of the University of Galway. As a Postdoctoral Researcher, Dr. Rodrigues is working in the Centre for Global Women's Studies on the Higher Education Authority (HEA) funded study "Intersectional Discrimination in Irish Higher Education: An Index of Intersectional Discrimination (IID) Measuring Student's Experiences of Discrimination at University of Galway". In addition to this work, Dr. Rodrigues is also leading a project at the South East Technological University (SETU) funded by the SETU EDI Fund titled "Understanding Race Equality in the South East". Previously, she worked as Postdoctoral Researcher at the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, of the University of Galway, on the Irish Research Council funded project "Rural Villages, Migration and Intercultural Communication". Dr. Rodrigues concluded her PhD in Sociology in 2023, with her thesis titled "Mitigating the Effects of Precarity: Brazilian Migrant Workers and Place-Making in Rural Ireland". Her research involved 18 months of fieldwork with Brazilian migrants in rural Ireland, particularly in Gort, Ireland's Little Brazil. She previously worked as a Junior Research Consultant at the International Organization for Migration (IOM UN Migration) in their headquarters in Geneva, and as a

Research and Project Assistant at the Irish Council for International Students (ICOS). She also worked as a Research Assistant at SETU on social and health related projects, including a study funded by the Irish Cancer Society. Dr. Rodrigues is a member and current co-convenor of the Sociological Association of Ireland (SAI) Race & Ethnicity Study Group.

Dr. Stacey Scriver

Assistant Professor, University of Galway, Ireland.

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Dr. Stacey Scriver is Assistant Professor in the Discipline of Gender and Women's Studies, School of Political Science and Sociology at the University of Galway, Ireland. She is Director of the MA Gender, Globalisation and Rights programme. Stacey has worked on issues of Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) for the past 15 years, in Ireland and internationally. She is co-author of the groundbreaking book, 'Rape and Justice in Ireland' and is currently co-writing 'Violence against Women and the Global Economy', forthcoming with Taylor and Francis. In addition to her work on SGBV, Stacey has been researching the affects and effects of emotionally demanding research.

Dr. Jen Smith

Open Research Librarian, University of Galway

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Dr. Jen Smith is the Open Research Librarian at the University of Galway. She is a member of the ENLIGHT Open Science Expert Network and the LAI Open Scholarship Group. Before returning to Galway, she was Scholarly Communications Librarian and Research Manager at the University of Sheffield. She also has extensive postdoctoral research experience, including RDMRose, a JISC-funded project to develop research data management training materials; PATHS (Personalised Access To cultural Heritage Spaces), an EU-funded project exploring interfaces for Europeana; and Reading Digital Fiction (AHRC).

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Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven

Assistant Professor, Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society (LUCAS)

<https://gerlovvanengelenhoven.nl/>

Dr. Gerlov van Engelenhoven Med is an assistant professor at Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society (LUCAS), teaching courses on postcolonial memory and heritage, law & culture, and cultural interaction. His most recent book is titled Postcolonial Memory in the Netherlands: Meaningful Voices, Meaningful Silences. It was published open access by Amsterdam University Press in 2023. From 2024 to 2028, he runs a research project called Listening to Silence: Powerful Silences in Dutch Decolonial Memory Practice, funded by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) through a Veni Talent Program grant. His research methodology is a combination of participatory research with discourse analysis and (auto)ethnography.

Check out his video podcast series in cooperation with Museum Maluku, here:

https://youtu.be/Bp4duin4woA?si=v3_hsLPBTOLV4qqL

<https://youtu.be/yOvGX24ATv0?si=o1R0qIZC1xVSMWcB>

[Information about his current NWO-funded Veni Research "Listening to Silence"](#)

Out in Open Access, my monograph with Amsterdam University Press:

[Postcolonial Memory in the Netherlands: Meaningful Voices, Meaningful Silences](#)