

# Dr. Laura Williamson

**Director and Associate Professor,**  
Center for Bioethics and Health Policy,  
Institute of Public & Preventive Health,  
Augusta University, CJ2328, 1120 15th Street,  
Augusta, GA 30912, USA

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- 1/1/2021 -** Director, Center for Bioethics and Health Policy (CBHP), Associate Professor, Institute for Public and Preventive Health, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, USA
- 1/7/2020 – 1/1/2021** Associate Professor and Associate Director, Center for Bioethics and Health Policy, Institute for Public and Preventive Health, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, USA
- 2018 - 2020** Ethics Consultant, UK
- 2015 – 2018** Associate Professor of Biobehavioral Health, Co-Fund Hire Rock Ethics Institute, Pennsylvania State University, USA
- 2009 – 2015** Research Fellow and Senior Research Fellow in Health Ethics, Institute for Applied Health Research, School of Health and Life Sciences, Glasgow Caledonian University, Glasgow, UK
- 2001 – 2009** Research Fellow, Institute of Law and Ethics in Medicine, School of Law, Glasgow University, UK

**Responsibilities:** to assist Professor McLean on funded projects, to write grant applications and conduct independent research.

## POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION

**1994-2001** PhD Research Studentship – Philosophy Department,  
University of Liverpool, UK

**Thesis Title:** The HIV/AIDS Pandemic and Cross-Cultural Ethical  
Discourse. Supervisor: Professor Linda Hogan

## **UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION**

**1991-1994** BA with First Class Honours - Classical Studies and Theology,  
University of Surrey, St. Mary's College

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Monographs**

McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.** (2007) *Impairment and Disability: Law and Ethics at the Beginning and End of Life*, Routledge/Cavendish Press

McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.** (2005) *Xenotransplantation: Law and Ethics*, Ashgate Press

### **Journal Papers and Chapters**

**Williamson, L.**, 'Substance use disorders, stigma and ethics' in *The Stigma of Substance Use Disorders: Explanatory Models and Effective Interventions*, Schomerus, G., and Corrigan, P. (eds.) Cambridge University Press (in press)

**Williamson, L.**, (2021) 'The ethical impact of mandating childhood vaccination: The importance of the clinical encounter', *Clinical Ethics*, 16, 4, 271-277

**Williamson, L.**, (2021) 'Creating an ethical culture to support recovery from substance use disorders', *Journal of Medical Ethics*, doi:10.1136/medethics-2020-106661

Strachan, H., **Williamson, L.**, Elders, A., Sutherland, B., Hibberd, C., Williams, B., (2020), 'The PEPPER Study: The development and psychometric testing of three instruments that measure person-centred caring as three concepts – Personalisation, Participation and Responsiveness', *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 76, 11, 390-320

**Williamson, L.,** and Glaab, H. (2018) 'Addressing vaccine hesitancy requires an ethically consistent health strategy', *BMC Medical Ethics*, 19, 84:  
<https://bmcomedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12910-018-0322-1>

Schomerus G., Bauch, A., Elger, B., Evans-Lacko, S., Frischknecht, U., Klingemann, H., Kraus, L., ... **Williamson, L.,** Heberlein, A., Rumpf, H-J. (2017) 'Das stigma von Suchterkrankungen verstehen and überwinden', [Understanding and overcoming the stigma of substance use disorder] *Sucht*, 63, 5, 253-259

**Williamson, L.** (2015) 'Supporting Innovation in the UK: Care Act 2014' *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*, 12, 2, 183-187

**Williamson, L.,** Thom, B., Stimson, G., Uhl, A. (2015) 'Stigma as a public health tool: Implications for health: A Response to Bayer and Fairchild' *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 26, 7, 615-616

McHugh, N., Baker, R., Mason, H., **Williamson, L.,** van Excel, J., Deongaonkar, R., Collins, M., Donaldson, C. (2015) 'Extending life for people with a terminal illness: a moral right and an expensive death? Exploring societal perspectives' *BMC Medical Ethics*, 16, 1:  
<https://bmcomedethics.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s12910-015-0008-x>

**Williamson, L.** (2014) 'Patient and citizen participation in health: The need for improved ethical support' *Current: Required Reading Recommended by Leading Opinion Makers*, 566, 12-22 [Reprint]

**Williamson, L.** (2014) 'A Response to the open peer commentaries on "Patient and citizen participation in health: The need for improved ethical support"' *American Journal of Bioethics*, 14, 12, W1-W5

**Williamson, L.** (2014) 'Patient and citizen participation in health: The need for improved ethical support' *American Journal of Bioethics*, 14, 6, 4-16

**Williamson, L.,** Thom., B., Stimson, G., Uhl, A. (2014) 'Stigma as a public health tool: Implications for health promotion and citizen involvement' *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 25, 3, 333-335

**Williamson, L.** (2012) 'Destigmatizing alcohol dependence requires ethical (not only medical) remedy' *American Journal of Public Health*, 102, 4:  
<https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/full/10.2105/AJPH.2011.300629>

**Williamson, L.** (2011) 'NICE but needy: English guidance of managing

alcohol dependence is not backed up by government alcohol policy', *Alcohol and Alcoholism* 46, 6, 647 – 650

**Williamson, L.** (2009) 'Alcohol in the age of autonomy: Finding a safety net for the dependent in public policy', *Journal of Law and Medicine*, 17, 386-399

**Williamson, L.** (2009) 'Scotland: Leading the way for alcohol policy in the United Kingdom?' *Journal of Bioethical Inquiry*, 6, 265-266

**Williamson, L.** (2009) 'Alcohol dependence in public policy: Towards its (re) inclusion', *Clinical Ethics*, 4, 2, 74-78

**Williamson, L.** (2008) 'The quality in bioethics debate: Implications for clinical ethics committees' *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 34, 5, 357-36

**Williamson, L.** (2007) 'Empirical assessments of clinical ethics services: Implications for clinical ethics committees' *Clinical Ethics*, 2, 4, 187-192

**Williamson, L., Fox, M., and McLean, S.,** (2007) 'The regulation of xenotransplantation in the UK after UKXIRA: Legal and ethical issues' *Journal of Law and Society*, 34, 4, 441-64

**Williamson, L., McLean, S. and Connell, J.** (2007) 'Clinical ethics committees in the United Kingdom – towards evaluation' *Medical Law International*, 8, 3

McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.** (2007) 'The demise of UKXIRA and the regulation of solid organ xenotransplantation in the United Kingdom' *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 33, 7, 373-375

McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.** (2004) 'Xenotransplantation: A pig in a poke?' *Current Legal Problems*, 57, 443-468

### **Invited Submissions**

**Williamson, L., and Kerr, S.** (2011) 'Adding substance to strategy' *Public Service Review: UK Science and Technology*, 143-144

### **Published Reports from Externally Funded Research**

**2017** Schomerus G, Bauch A, Elger, B, Evans-Lacko, S, Frischknecht, U, Klingemann, H, Kraus, L, Kostrzewa R, Rheinländer J, Rummel J, Schneider W, Speerforck S, Stolzenburg S, Sylvester E, Tremmel M, Vogt I, **Williamson L.** 'Das Stigma von Suchterkrankungen verstehen und überwinden [Understanding and Overcoming

*the Stigma of Illnesses]* German Society for Addiction Research and Addiction Therapy

- 2014 McHugh, N., Baker, R., Mason, M., **Williamson, L.**, van Exel, J., Deogaonkar, R., Collins, M., Donaldson, C., *Extending Life for People with Terminal Illness a Moral Right or Expensive Death? Exploring Societal Perspectives*, Health Economics Working Paper Series, Glasgow: Yunus Centre
- 2004 McLean, S., **Williamson L.**, et al. *Ethico-Legal Decision Making in Health Care*, NHS Highland/ NHS Education for Scotland
- 2003 McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.** *Law and Ethics of Xenotransplantation: Bibliography and Abstracts of Key Articles*, Department of Health, London

#### RESEARCH FUNDING SECURED

- 2011 - 2015 Is 'end-of-life' care more valuable? Measuring societal views using the new Q2S method *Medical Research Council* (£323,000) Baker, R, Donaldson, C., Godwin, J., Hutchinson, C., Mason, H., Van Excel, N., **Williamson, L.** (co-applicant)
- 2012 'The Examination of Alcohol Dependence as a Complex Public Health Issue' PhD Studentship award, Glasgow Caledonian (£45,000), **Williamson, L.**
- 2007-2012 'Health Ethics in the Age of Autonomy: Public Engagement with the Social Challenges of Health Policy' *Wellcome Trust, Research Fellowship* (£160,000), **Williamson, L.**
- 2008-2010 'An Ethical and Legal Critique of Alcohol Policy in the United Kingdom', *Arts and Humanities Research Council* (£152,219) McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.**
- 2007 'Alcohol in the Age of Autonomy: Finding a Safety Net for the Alcohol Dependent' *British Academy* (£50,815) McLean, S. and **Williamson, L.**

**2002-2003**                    ‘A Right to Live, a Right to Die?’ *Disability Rights Commission*, London (£25,000) McLean, S., and **Williamson, L.**

## **TEACHING AND TRAINING**

I have taught at undergraduate and graduate level and provided ethics training for health professionals and managers. In addition, I have experience with curriculum development at undergraduate and graduate level, integrating ethics material into science courses and in the development of research ethics training. I have taught small and large groups (from 4 to 125 students).

- 2021**                    ‘Ethics, Public Health, Disparities and Vulnerability’  
Bioethics: Area of Concentration, Medical College of  
Georgia, USA
- 2021**                    Capstone in Bioethics (Hist 695), Graduate Certificate  
Program in Bioethics, Augusta University
- 2020**                    ‘Public Health Ethics’ Foundations in Bioethical Ethics  
(Phil 6004), Graduate Certificate Program in Bioethics,  
Augusta University, USA.
- 2018**                    Honors Elective: Health Ethics (BBH 397), Penn State  
University, USA
- 2015 – 2018**           ‘Values and Ethics in Biobehavioral Health Research  
and Practice’ (BBH 301w), Penn State University, USA
- 2017**                    Scholarship and Research Integrity, Penn State  
University, USA
- 2016**                    ‘Ethical Issues in Public Health Research’ 2 March 2016,  
Research Integrity Training, Penn State University, USA
- 2015**                    ‘Ethical Leadership in Practice: Balancing  
the Interests of Individuals and Institutions’, MSc in  
Advanced Practice, Glasgow Caledonian University,  
UK

- 2014 - 2015** 'Ethical Dilemmas in Practice: The Impact of Problem Alcohol and Drug use on Children and their Families', MSc Elective, Scottish Training on Drugs and Alcohol, University of Glasgow, UK
- 2011- 15** 'Public Health Ethics, Ethics in Advanced Practice' - MSc Elective, Public Health and Social Action, Glasgow Caledonian University at Glasgow and London campuses
- 2007** 'Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza: Ethical Issues' training event for senior members of NHS Scotland
- 1994-1997** Tutor and Lecturer, Healthcare Ethics, Development Ethics, Introduction to Philosophy, University of Chester, UK

#### **HONORS SUPERVISION**

- 2016-2017** 'Measles Vaccination: An Ethical Analysis of International Policies' thesis submitted to Schreyer Honors College, Penn State University, USA by Kirsten Gochnauer, successful

#### **PhD SUPERVISION**

- 2014 - 2015** 'The Examination of Alcohol Dependence as a Complex Public Health Issue'. I wrote this bid for a PhD studentship and won internal funding to support the student I interviewed and appointed.
- 2012 - 2016** 'Person Centred Caring and its Measurement: a Multidisciplinary Tool to Guide Decision Making and Quality Assurance', PhD thesis submitted to Glasgow Caledonian University and successfully defended by Heather Strachan with no changes

#### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

- 2021 - 2022** Chair, Selection Panel Assistant/Associate Professor in Bioethics, Augusta University, USA

- 2020 - Co-founder and Co-Chair, Community Engaged Research group, Augusta University
- 2020 - 21 Advisor, Graduate Certificate in Bioethics Augusta University, USA
- 2020 - Mentor, Leadership through Ethics Program, Medical College of Georgia, Augusta University, USA
- 2020 – 2021 Member, Selection Panel for Director MPh Program Augusta University, USA
- 2020- 21 Member, Graduate Certificate in Bioethics Oversight Committee, Augusta University, USA
- 2020- Member, Clinical Ethics Committee, Augusta University Health System, Augusta, USA
- 2018 Member, Consortium to Combat Substance Abuse, Penn State University, USA
- 2017 - 2018 Chair, Ethics Literacy Development Committee, Biobehavioral Health Department, Penn State University
- 2017 – 2018 Member, Scholarship and Research Integrity (SARI) University Advisory Group, Penn State University
- 2015 – 2018 Member, Global Health Minor Selection Committee Biobehavioral Health Department, Penn State University
- 2016 – 2017 Member, Graduate Program Committee Biobehavioral Health Department, Penn State University
- 2016 Member, Instructor Search Selection Committee Biobehavioral Health Department, Penn State University
- 2011 -2012 Won Internal Funding, Organized and Chaired, The Research Institutes Interdisciplinary Seminar Series:



Substance Use and Misuse, Glasgow Caledonian University

**2010 - 2014** Founder, Lead and Co-Lead Substance Use and Misuse Research Theme, Glasgow Caledonian University

**2011** Member, Public Health (MSc) Development Group, Glasgow Caledonian University

## CONFERENCE AND MEETING PRESENTATIONS

### Invited Presentations

**2017** 'Paternalism and Autonomy in the Control of Alcohol Misuse Problems', Critical Approaches to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Group, Vienna, Austria

**2016** 'Integrating Ethics into Responses to Alcohol Dependence and Stigma' Das Stigma von Suchterkrankungen verstehen und überwinden University of Greifswald, Germany

**2016** 'Ethical Literacy across Health and Health Care: What might it look like? How do we get there?' Penn State, Rock Ethics Institute Series

**2014** 'Should Delivery of Identification and Brief Advice (IBA) be a Policy Goal?' invited presentation at *An Expert Witness Seminar, Delivering Alcohol IBA, Broadening the Base from Health to non-health Contexts*, Birmingham, UK, 7<sup>th</sup> November

**2014** 'Stigma, Public Health and Citizen Engagement' Critical Approaches to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Group, Vienna, Austria

**2012** 'Reconsidering Alcohol Dependence through the Lens of Public Health Ethics' Medical Research Council Unit, 14 June, Glasgow University

**2012** 'The Contribution of Health Ethics to Improving Alcohol) Addiction' Meeting of Scottish Psychiatrists (Addiction Specialists), 15 June, Stirling

**2013** 'Ethics Funding – Conflicts and Interests' The Future of Research, Policy and Practice on Alcohol and other Substances, 3-5 December, Critical Approaches to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Group, Vienna, Austria

#### **Other Oral Presentations**

**2014** 'Extending life for people with a terminal illness: a moral right or an expensive death? Empirical and Methodological Issues', Health Economists' Study Group, Glasgow 23-25 June, McHugh, N., Baker, R., Mason, H., van Exel, J., **Williamson, L.**, Deogaonkar, R. and M. Collins

**2000** 'The Cross-Cultural Ethical Challenges of Addressing HIV/AIDS in Resource Poor Countries' University of Leeds

**1999** 'The Social Justice Dimensions of the HIV/AIDS Pandemic' AIDS Network Conference, London

**1998** 'The Ethical Dimensions of HIV/AIDS' CAFOD, London

#### **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS**

**2020** Chair, screening and debate 6000 Waiting: A Film about Disability and Advocacy, Center for Bioethics and Health Policy, Augusta University, USA.

**2016** Drugs and Alcohol Offices meetings Centre County, PA, USA – expert participant.

**2012** Food for Thought event: 'The Role of Ethics in Public Debates on Improving Health' Healthy Living Center, Rutherglen, Glasgow – convened and led.

**2012** Community Café event: 'The Role of Values in Health and Wellbeing' Pearce Institute, Govan, Glasgow – convened and led.

## OTHER DUTIES

### Expert Witness

Supreme Court of British Columbia, *Lamb and British Columbia Civil Liberties Association v. Attorney General of Canada*.

Supreme Court of British Columbia, *Carter et al. v Canada (Attorney General)*. Affidavit submitted November 2011, case decided 2015.

### International Partnerships and Advising

Advisor Centre Country Drug and Alcohol Team, State College, PA, USA (2016-2017)

Member (2014 - ) of 'Critical Approaches to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs' an international, interdisciplinary research group utilizing novel methods to change policy and practice in the context of substance misuse.

Scottish Government, Partnership Drugs Initiative (2014-2016) 'Everyone has a Story'. A project assessing the impact of parental substance use on children.

### Peer Reviewer

American Journal of Bioethics, Bioethics, Journal of Medical Ethics, Clinical Ethics, European Journal of Addiction Research, Alcohol and Alcoholism, Politics and the Life Sciences, Wellcome Trust, Arts and Humanities Research Council, Cambridge University Press, Routledge, Lancet Digital Health, Politics and the Life Sciences

### Editorial

International Associate Editor, the Journal of Bioethical Inquiry; Topics Board Editor, Nursing Reports.