

Samuel J. Kerstein  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Philosophy  
University of Maryland  
1106 Skinner Building  
4300 Chapel Lane  
College Park, Maryland 20742  
[kerstein@umd.edu](mailto:kerstein@umd.edu)  
301-405-3119

<http://www.philosophy.umd.edu/Faculty/SKerstein/>

updated April 2018

## EDUCATION

- 1988-1995 Columbia University, Department of Philosophy. Ph.D. Awarded with Distinction, 1995. M.Phil., 1991; M.A., 1990. Dissertation: *Action, Hedonism, and Practical Law: An Essay on Kant*. Supervised by Professor Thomas Pogge.
- 1987-88 Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales (Paris). D.E.A. (Diplôme d'études approfondies), 1988. Thesis: "Le langage et la 'construction' du monde empirique dans la *Philosophie des Formes Symboliques* de Ernst Cassirer." Advisor: L. Marin.
- 1983-87 Wesleyan University, (Middletown, Connecticut). B.A., 1987. Graduated Phi Beta Kappa with High Honors.

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

bioethics; ethics; Kant

## AREA OF COMPETENCE

political philosophy

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books:

*How to Treat Persons* (Oxford: Oxford University Press), 2013.

*Kant's Search for the Supreme Principle of Morality* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2002) (paper, 2005)

### Articles:

"A Lack of Respect in Bioethics," in *Respect*, Richard Dean and Oliver Sensen ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press), invited and under review.

"Let's Be Fair to Five-Year-Olds: Priority for the Young in the Allocation of Scarce Health Resources." (co-authored with Kelsey Gipe) *Public Health Ethics*, forthcoming.

"Procreation and Intellectual Disability: A Kantian Approach," in the *Oxford Handbook of Philosophy and Disability*, Adam Cureton and David Wasserman ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press), forthcoming.

- “The Badness of Death for Us, the Worth in Us, and Priorities in Saving Lives,” in *Saving People from the Badness of Death*, Espen Gamlund & Carl Tollef Solberg ed. (Oxford: Oxford University Press), forthcoming.
- “Kidney Vouchers and Inequity in Transplantation,” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 42 (2017): 559-574.
- “Dignity, Disability, and Lifespan.” *Journal of Applied Philosophy* 30 SEP 2015 DOI: 10.1111/japp.12158.
- “Are Kidney Markets Morally Permissible if Vendors Do Not Benefit?” *American Journal of Bioethics* (peer commentary) 14(10) (2014): 29-30.
- “Kantian Dignity: A Critique,” *Cambridge Handbook of Human Dignity*, Marcus Düwell et al. ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014), 222-229.
- “Imperatives, Categorical and Hypothetical,” *International Encyclopedia of Ethics* (Boston: Wiley Blackwell), 2013, 1-9.
- “Treating Consenting Adults Merely as Means,” *Oxford Studies in Normative Ethics* 1 (2011), 51-74.
- “Saving Lives and Respecting Persons,” (co-authored with Greg Bogner) *Journal of Ethics and Social Philosophy* 5(2) (2010), 1-20.
- “Dignity and Preservation of Personhood.” In *Humiliation, Degradation, Dehumanization: Human Dignity Violated*, Paulus Kaufmann et al. ed. (Berlin: Springer, 2011), 231-242.
- “Complete Lives in the Balance” (co-authored with Greg Bogner). *The American Journal of Bioethics* 10(4) (2010), 37–45.
- “Response to Open Peer Commentaries on ‘Complete Lives in the Balance.’” (co-authored with Greg Bogner) *The American Journal of Bioethics* 10(4) (2010), W3–W5.
- “Death, Dignity, and Respect,” *Social Theory and Practice* 35 (2009), 505-530.
- “Autonomy, Moral Constraints, and Markets in Kidneys,” *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 34 (2009), 573-585.
- “Treating Others Merely as Means.” *Utilitas* 21 (2009), 163-180.
- “Kantian Condemnation of Commerce in Organs,” *Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal* 19 (2009), 147-169.
- Shortened version reprinted in *Körperteile - Körperteilen. Praktische Fragen aus Medizin, Ethik und Recht*, Dirk Preuß et al. ed. (Würzburg: Verlag Königshausen & Neumann, 2009), 87-98.
- “Deriving the Supreme Moral Principle from Common Moral Ideas.” In *The Blackwell Guide to Kant’s Ethics*, Thomas Hill, Jr. ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2009), 121-137.
- “Treating Oneself Merely as a Means.” In *Kant’s Ethics of Virtue*, Monika Betzler, ed. (Berlin: New York: de Gruyter, 2008), 201-218.
- “Autonomy and Practical Law,” *Philosophical Books* 49 (2008), 107-113. (Discussion of Andrews Reath’s *Agency & Autonomy in Kant’s Moral Theory*.)

“Deriving the Formula of Humanity.” In *Groundwork for the Metaphysics of Morals*, Christoph Horn/Dieter Schoenecker, ed. (Berlin-New York: de Gruyter, 2006), 200-221.

“Deriving the Formula of Universal Law.” In *A Companion to Kant*, Graham Bird, ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2006), 308-321.

“Reason, Sentiment, and Categorical Imperatives.” In *Contemporary Debates in Moral Theory*, James Dreier, ed. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2006), 129-143.

“Moral, Non-Moral, and Immoral Norms,” *Erwägen Wissen Ethik* 17 (2006), 483-484. (Discussion of Norbert Hoerster’s *Ethik und Interesse*.)

“Korsgaard’s Kantian Arguments for the Value of Humanity,” *Canadian Journal of Philosophy* 31 (2001), 23-52.

“Kant’s (Not So Radical) Hedonism,” in *Kant und die Berliner Aufklärung, Akten des IX. Internationalen Kant-Kongresses*, v. 3, V. Gerhardt, R.-P. Horstmann, R. Schumacher, ed. (Berlin: de Gruyter, 2001), 247-255.

“The Kantian Moral Worth of Actions Contrary to Duty.” *Zeitschrift für Philosophische Forschung* 53 (1999): 530-551.

“The Derivation Without the Gap: Rethinking *Groundwork* I” (co-authored with Berys Gaut) *Kantian Review* 3 (1999): 18-40.

“Justifying Kant’s Principles of Justice.” *Dialogue* 36 (1997): 401-407 (Critical notice of Allen Rosen’s *Kant’s Theory of Justice*).

### **Book Reviews:**

Thomas Hill, Jr. *Virtue, Rules, and Justice: Kantian Aspirations*. *Notre Dame Philosophical Reviews* 2013.02.19: <http://ndpr.nd.edu/news/37573-virtue-rules-and-justice-kantian-aspirations/>.

Allen W. Wood. *Kantian Ethics*. *Ethics* 118 (2008), 761-767.

Stephen Darwall. *The Second-Person Standpoint: Morality, Respect, and Accountability*. *Australasian Journal of Philosophy* 85 (2007): 335-337.

Thomas Hill, Jr. *Human Welfare and Moral Worth: Kantian Perspectives*. *Ethics* 114 (2004): 350-353.

Philip Statton-Lake. *Kant, Duty, and Moral Worth*. *Ethics* 113 (2003): 721-724.

Katrin Flikschuh. *Kant and Modern Political Theory*. *Philosophical Review* 111 (2002): 436-439.

G. Felicitas Munzel. *Kant’s Conception of Moral Character*. *Ethics* 112 (2002): 634-637.

Henry Allison. *Idealism and Freedom* and Marcia Baron’s *Kantian Ethics Almost Without Apology*. *Philosophical Quarterly* 48 (1998): 269-274.

Peter Poellner. *Nietzsche and Metaphysics*. *The Review of Metaphysics* 50 (1997): 682-3.

### **Other Publications:**

“Is it ethical to purchase human organs?” *The Guardian*. 29 June 2016; originally published in *The Conversation* 24 June 2016.

“Think Very Carefully about Kidney Sales,” letter-to-editor co-written with Dr. Luc Noel, MD *Wall Street Journal*, 20 Nov. 2007, A17.

“Extra Embryos” *Maryland Medicine*, Summer 2003: 31-33.

Ten short articles on philosophical topics, including bioethics, philosophy of science, the Frankfurt School, T. W. Adorno, Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault. In *Columbia Encyclopedia*, 5th ed. Columbia University Press: New York, 1993.

“‘Date Rape’ on Campus a Concern.” *New York Times*, 16 Nov. 1986, XIII-CT, 8.

## **HONORS AND GRANTS**

2016	Visiting Scholar, Department of Bioethics, National Institutes of Health
2010	University of Maryland Research and Scholarship Award
2006	Harvard University Program in Ethics and Health Fellowship (two years)
2005	University of Maryland General Research Board Semester Research Award.
2005	Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County Scholar in Residence Award.
2000	Lilly-Center for Teaching Excellence Fellowship for 2000-2001.
1999	National Humanities Center Fellowship for 1999-2000 (supported by the N.E.H.).
1997	University of Maryland General Research Board Semester Research Award.
1996	Certificate of Teaching Excellence, University of Maryland.
1993	Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation). Awarded for distinguished research in ethics.
1993	Whiting Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship (declined).
1992	D.A.A.D. Fellowship for one year of study at the Universität Bielefeld.
1988-92	Jacob Javits Fellowship for graduate study.
1988-92	Columbia University President's Fellowship for graduate study.

## **PRACTICAL BIOETHICS EXPERIENCE**

Harvard University School of Public Health Institutional Review Board (IRB) alternate member (November 2007-June 2008).

Advised on ethics of incentives for organ donation as Volunteer in Department of Essential Health Technologies, World Health Organization, Geneva, July 1-July 31, 2007.

Advised on Commonwealth of Massachusetts guidelines on distribution of scarce resources during possible outbreak of pandemic flu, 2006-2007.

## **SERVICE**

### **At Maryland, but outside of Philosophy Department**

2017	Chair, Department of Linguistics Chair Review Committee
2016-2017	Honors College Strategic Vision Committee
2015, 2017	Endowed Award Selection Committee
2014-2016	College of Arts and Humanities Program, Curriculum and Courses (PCC) Committee
2008-2012, 15	College of Arts and Humanities Collegiate Council
2013-14	University Plan of Organization Review Committee
2010-12	College of Arts and Humanities Collegiate Council, Chair

2010-12 College of Arts and Humanities Academic Planning and Advisory Committee  
 2012, 04 Jewish Studies review committee  
 2010-11 Dean's Lecture Series steering committee  
 2008-09 Humanities Center Task Force  
 2004-06 Provost's Advisory Committee on Admission and Advising  
 2005 Philosophy department Chair review committee  
 2001-02 Maryland CORE faculty working group on humanities and the arts  
 2000-10 Advisory board for the Committee on Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy

**Within Maryland Philosophy Department**

2016-2017 Assistant/Associate Professor search committee  
 2014-15 Assistant Professor search committee  
 2014 Tenure review committee (chair)  
 2011-15 Co-Director of graduate student placement  
 2013-14 Salary Committee  
 2012 Chair search committee  
 2012 Tenure review committee (chair)  
 2011-12, 09 Chair's advisory committee  
 2010, 08 Departmental Ombudsman  
 2011, 10, 06 Graduate admissions committee  
 2008-09 Undergraduate affairs committee  
 2008, 96-99 Colloquium committee  
 2004-06 Graduate affairs committee  
 2004-06 Director of teaching assistant training  
 2003-04 Director of Undergraduate Studies  
 2003-04 Library committee  
 2003-04 Search committee (ethics)  
 2001-02 Search committee (ethics, epistemology/metaphysics, philosophy of science)  
 2001 Acting Director of Undergraduate Studies  
 2000-02 Co-director of teaching assistant training  
 2000, 1998 Search committee (political/legal philosophy)  
 1998 Internal review committee  
 1996-99, 08 Co-director of colloquium

**Other Service**

2016-2018: Final Selection Committee, Newcombe Fellowship (Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation)  
 2014: University of Nevada, Reno, Philosophy Department, External Review Committee

**LECTURES** (since 2005)

“Dignity and Treating Others Merely as Means.” The Ethical Foundations of Human Rights Conference, University of Maryland, March, 2018.

“Dignity is Not a Useless Concept.” Department of Bioethics, First Year Seminar, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, January, 2018.

“Procreation and Intellectual Disability: A Kantian Approach.” Philosophy of Disability: Perspectives, Challenges, Aspirations. University of Tennessee, Knoxville, October 2017.

“Ethical Questions Regarding the Care of Culturally Diverse Patients.” Family Medicine Residency Program Prince George's Hospital Center, Cheverly Maryland, April 18, 2017.

“A Kantian Approach to Some Issues in the Ethics of Procreation.” Department of Bioethics, First Year Seminar, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, February 2017.

“Commerce in Kidneys: Some Kantian Concerns” Keynote Address for UW-Madison Bioethics Symposium, University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, April 2016; National Institutes of Health Department of Bioethics, Work in Progress seminar March 2016.

“Moral Problems with Markets in Organs” Keynote Address for conference “Bodily Commodification,” College of New Jersey, Ewing Township, New Jersey, April 2016; Work in Progress Talk, Department of Bioethics, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, March 2016.

“The Badness of Death for Us, the Worth in Us, and Priorities in Saving Lives.” Workshop: Saving Lives from the Badness of Death. University of Oslo, June 2015.

“Dignity and Disability,” Evelyn Barker Memorial Lecture, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, April 2014; La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia, November 2013; “Dignity” Conference, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia, November 2013.

“The Mere Means Principle and Research on Biological Samples,” Conference on Kantian Ethics and Moral Life, Antwerp University, September 2012; Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, Australia, June 2012.

“Parfit on the Mere Means Principle” Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference, University of Colorado, Boulder, August 2012.

“The Dignity of Persons: An Unorthodox Kantian Approach,” Dartmouth College Philosophy Colloquium, May 2012; University of Richmond, April 2012.

“Kantian Dignity,” Keynote Address for Southern Study Group of North American Kant Society, Tulane University, March 2011.

“The Value of Lives in the Midst of Being Complete: a Response to Tallman,” Valuing Lives: A Conference on Ethics in Health and the Environment,” New York University Center for Bioethics, March 2011.

“Saving Lives and Respecting Persons,” Rocky Mountain Ethics Conference, August 2010; Workshop on Respect for Persons, Emerald Isle, North Carolina, May 2010; Ethikzentrum Jena, November 2008; Committee on Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy Workshop, University of Maryland, October 2008.

“Treating Consenting Adults Merely as Means,” Normative Ethics Workshop, University of Arizona, January 2010.

“Complete Lives in the Balance,” Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics, University of Baltimore, September 2009.

“Kantian Condemnation of Commerce in Organs,” for conference “Körperteile(n)?: Praktische Fragen aus Medizin, Ethik und Recht, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, November 2008.

“A Case of Genetic Information: Kantian Analysis,” Harvard Ethics Course, Harvard Medical School, June, 2008.

“Treating Persons Merely as Means: On the Ethics of Organ Sales,” The Harvard University Program in Ethics and Health and the Brigham and Women’s Hospital Center for Bioethics Research in Progress Presentation Series, Boston, March 2008.

“Is Organ-Selling Inherently Wrong? Kantian Objections,” for symposium: “Markets for Kidneys?: The Ethics of the Organ Bazaar” Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, February 2008.

“Death, Dignity, and Respect,” for workshop: “Using People and Respect for Persons,” Centre for Ethics, University of Zurich, January 2008; and at Ethikzentrum Jena, November 2008.

“Why Won’t You Do Anything?” Commentary on clinical case presented at the Harvard Ethics Consortium, Harvard Medical School, Boston, January 2008.

“Respecting Persons: the Promise and Peril of a Kantian Approach,” Pathways of Human Dignity, European Science Foundation Research Conference, Vadstena Sweden, November 2007.

“Autonomy and Practical Law,” for Author Meets Critics session on Andrews Reath’s *Agency & Autonomy in Kant’s Moral Theory*, Pacific Division A.P.A., San Francisco, March 2007.

“How to Treat Persons,” Harvard University Program in Ethics and Health, February 2006.

“Genetic Engineering and the Distinctively Human,” Association for Politics and the Life Sciences Annual Meeting, (Washington, D.C., September 2005) and the American Society for Bioethics and the Humanities 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, (Washington, D.C., October 2005)

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Maryland:**

“Graduate Seminar in Ethics”: 2017, 2015, 2013

“Bioethics: Regulating Right and Wrong”: 2017

“Contemporary Moral Issues”: 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2009, 2008, 2005, 2004, 2003

“Kantian Ethics”: 2015, 2014, 2012, 2011

“Bioethics”: 2015, 2014, 2011, 2010, 2009

“Introduction to Ethical Theory”: 2012, 2008, 2000-01, 98, 96 & 95

“How to Treat Persons” (graduate seminar): 2011

“Kant’s Moral Theory”: 2015, 2014, 2012, 2011, 2010, 1998

“Respect for Persons” (graduate seminar): 2009

“Graduate Seminar on Kant’s (and Kantian) Ethics”: 2006, 2004, 1998, 1996

“Ethics at the Beginning and End of Life”: 2006

“Existentialism”: 2006, 2005, 2003, 1997

“History of Ethics”: 2005

“Proseminar in Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy” (graduate course) (co-teacher): 2005, 2004, 2001

“Graduate Seminar on Kant’s *Critique of Pure Reason*” (co-taught with Georges Rey): 2002

“Modern Philosophy”: 2002 & 2001

“Introduction to Philosophy”: 2000-01, 99, 98, 97 & 96:

“Nietzsche”: 1996

### **Columbia University:**

“Philosophy of Law”: 1995

“Existentialism”: 1994

## **MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS**

### **TV**

2016, “Religion and Ethics Newsweekly” WETA (PBS) “Death with Dignity” Jan. 8

2005, “The Scholar’s Chair,” Panelist on CTV (taped Jan. 11) on religious freedom

2004, “The Scholar’s Chair,” Panelist on CTV (taped Sept. 8) on Immanuel Kant’s views on religion

**Internet**

2008, Kidney Exchange Gives One Woman a Second Chance at Life, Monica Delarosa, Quoted in abcnews.com story, July 31, 2008

**Radio**

2014, Interviewed by producer for Diane Rehm Show (NPR) for background on morality of organ sales

**LANGUAGE SKILLS**

German: Good speaking and excellent reading ability.

French: Fair speaking and excellent reading ability.