

The Tanner Lectures on Human Values 2009



*Meeting the Challenges of
the 21st Century*

Welcome to the 2009 Tanner Lectures on Human Values.

The Tanner Lectures take place annually at Brasenose College in Oxford; and at a handful of other distinguished seats of learning around the world. This year, the thirtieth academic year following the lectures' formal inception, is a special one; for it coincides with the 500th year since the founding of the King's Hall and College of Brasenose.

To celebrate this propitious confluence, we host this year, with the generous support of the Tanner Foundation, an especially distinguished, and a singularly numerous and diverse, programme of Lecturers. As you will see, they shall address and inform us on a varied range of topics; but all brought together under one theme; a pressing one: Meeting the Challenges of the 21st Century.

Brasenose is 500 years old, but over the coming two days we shall look forward to its continuing role as an academic institution which seeks to help shape and inform the future through the efforts of its men and women. There are many challenges to be met.

The Tanner Lectures were established by the American scholar, industrialist and philanthropist Obert Clark Tanner; he described their purpose thus: "I hope these lectures will contribute to the intellectual and moral life of mankind. I see them simply as a search for a better understanding of human behaviour and human values. This understanding may be pursued for its own intrinsic worth, but it may also eventually have practical consequences for the quality of social and personal life".

Tanner Lecturers are drawn from amongst the most distinguished of academics or leaders in the field of human values, broadly conceived.

Programme of Lectures

Friday 20 February

Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre, Said Business School

08:45 Registration and coffee

Session 1: *The Challenge of Emerging Infection*

Chair: Prof. William James (Professor of Virology, Sir William Dunn School of Pathology, University of Oxford, Fellow of Brasenose College)

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 09.30 – 10.15 | Prof. Robin Weiss, FRS (Professor of Viral Oncology, University College London)
"Emerging infections: Is the past a guide to the future?" |
| 10.15 – 11.00 | Prof. Jane Cardoso (Institute of Health & Community Medicine, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak)
"Virology in the jungle: the local-global tension" |
| 11.00 – 11.30 | Coffee |
| 11.30 – 12.15 | Prof. Eddie Holmes (Centre for Infectious Disease Dynamics, Pennsylvania State University)
"The Origins of Emerging Disease" |
| 12.15 – 13.00 | Any Questions? A Chance to Quiz the Experts |

Expert Panel: The three speakers will be joined by:

Prof. William James (Chair)

Prof. Paul Klenerman (Professor of Immunology, University of Oxford, Fellow of Brasenose College)

Prof. Tim Peto (Professor of Infectious Diseases, Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine, University of Oxford)

Prof. Harold Jaffe (Professor of Public Health, University of Oxford)

Programme of Lectures

Friday 20 February

Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre, Said Business School

Lunch : 13.00-14.00

Session 2: Terrorism and Security: What have we learned from Afghanistan and Iraq?

Chairs: Paddy Docherty, Llewelyn Morgan (Fellow of Brasenose College),

- 14.00 – 14.35 Lt.-Col John Nagl (Centre for a New American Security)
"Learning to Eat Soup with a Knife: Counterinsurgency Lessons from Iraq for Afghanistan and Beyond"
- 14.35 – 15.10 Leo Docherty (former serving officer in Iraq and Helmand)
"Desert of Death; British Military Intervention in Helmand Province and the Comprehensive Approach"
- Followed by general discussion
- 15.45 – 16.00 Afternoon Tea
- 16.00 – 17.30 Panel discussion

Panel Discussion Members:

Susanne Varga Nagl

Alan Macdonald (UN Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan)

Ana Rodriguez Garcia (Society for the Protection of Afghan Cultural Heritage)

Joanna Buckley (Office of the Special Representative of the EU for Afghanistan)

George Noel Clarke (NGO operative in Afghanistan)

John Bingham (Daily Telegraph)

Prof. Cindy Skach (Fellow of Brasenose)

Programme of Lectures

Saturday 21 February

Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre, Said Business School

08.45 Registration and Coffee

Session 3: *Human Rights in the 21st Century*

Section A: Terrorism and Security

Chair: Lord Justice Scott Baker (Court of Appeal, Hon. Fellow of Brasenose College)

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 09:30-09:40 | Introduction by Chair |
| 09:40-10:05 | Prof. Vernon Bogdanor FBA, (Professor of Government, University of Oxford, Fellow of Brasenose College)
“Democracy and Human Rights” |
| 10:05-10:30 | Kate Allen (Amnesty International UK, Hon. Fellow of Brasenose College)
“Terror, Security and Human Rights” |
| 10:30-11:00 | General discussion of Terrorism session |
| 11:00-11:30 | Coffee break |

Section B: Bioethics

Chair: Sir Nicolas Bratza (UK Judge at the European Court of Human Rights)

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 11:30-11:40 | Introduction by Chair |
| 11:40-12:05 | Sir Ian Kennedy (Chairman of the Healthcare Commission and Emeritus Professor of Health law, Ethics and Policy at University College London)
“Values and Rights in Health and Healthcare” |
| 12:05-12:30 | Prof. Julian Savulescu (Uehiro Chair in Practical Ethics and Director of the Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, University of Oxford)
“The Right to Human Enhancement” |
| 12:30-13:00 | General discussion of Bioethics Section |

Programme of Lectures

Saturday 21 February

Nelson Mandela Lecture Theatre, Said Business School

Lunch : 13.00-14.00

Session 4: *Environmental Challenges in a Warming World*

Chair: David Shukman (Environment and Science correspondent for BBC News)

- 14.00 - 14.05 Introduction by Chair

- 14.05 – 14.40 Prof. Robert Watson (Chief Scientific Advisor for Defra, former Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change)

- 14.40 – 15.15 Prof. Sir David King (Director of the Smith School of Enterprise and Environment at the University of Oxford, former Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK Government)

- 15.15 – 15.45 Afternoon Tea

- 15.45 – 16.20 Prof. Dieter Helm (Professor of Economics at the University of Oxford, Chairman of the Academic Panel at Defra)

- 16.20 – 16.55 George Monbiot (*Guardian* columnist, author and environmental commentator)

- 16.55 – 17.30 Discussion

Notes on the 2009 Tanner Lecturers at Brasenose College, Oxford

ROBIN WEISS is Professor of Viral Oncology at University College London and a Fellow of the Royal Society. In 2007 he was awarded the Ernst Chain Prize for his original contribution to the understanding of human infectious disease. His work is widely acknowledged as having deepened our understanding of HIV/AIDS. He is currently leading a \$14m international research consortium in the search for an HIV vaccine, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

JANE CARDOSA is the founding Director of the Institute of Health and Community Medicine of the Universiti Sarawak, Malaysia (UNIMAS). Her education in the United States was complemented by an Oxford D.Phil. After post-doctoral training at the Scripps Clinic she returned to Malaysia to continue research into dengue haemorrhagic fever. She is a member of the scientific board of the Bill and Melinda Gates Grand Challenges for Global Health. Her current preoccupation is with the development of affordable vaccines against Japanese encephalitis and EV71 encephalitis.

EDDIE HOLMES was educated at University College London and Cambridge University, before becoming Tutor in Biology at New College, and a University Lecturer in the Zoology Department, University of Oxford. He is currently Professor in Biology at the Centre for Infectious Disease Dynamics, Penn State University, and Eberly College of Science Distinguished Senior Scholar. He pioneered new ways of analysing the evolutionary dynamics of pathogens, such as influenza virus and HIV, combining the approaches of epidemiology and phylogenetics. He was awarded the Zoological Society of London's Scientific Medal in 2003.

WILLIAM JAMES is a Fellow of Brasenose College and Professor of Virology in the University. He studied Genetics at Birmingham University, and completed his DPhil in Oxford under Joel Mandelstam. He has worked at the Sir William Dunn School of Pathology since the mid-1980s, focusing principally on the molecular cell biology of HIV. He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and is currently Associate Head of the Division of Medical Sciences.

PAUL KLENERMAN is a Fellow of Brasenose College whose research focuses on T cell responses to persistent viruses, especially hepatitis C virus (HCV). He is currently Professor of Immunology in the University, where he heads a research group in the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine. His early medical education was delivered at Cambridge and Oxford, where he completed his D.Phil before migrating to Zurich. His work in Oxford since 1992 has been largely funded by the Wellcome Trust.

TIM PETO is an alumnus of Brasenose College and Professor of Infectious Diseases at the Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine, Oxford University and the MRC Clinical Trials Unit, London. He is a consultant in infectious diseases and general medicine at the Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust. He is a clinical trialist and epidemiologist. For over 20 years he has conducted international studies funded by the MRC or Wellcome Trust on HIV, TB, malaria, meningitis and pneumonia. More locally in Oxford he has worked on chronic fatigue syndrome and is now studying the epidemiology of hospital acquired infection including MRSA and diarrhoeas.

HAROLD JAFFE is Head of the Department of Public Health in Oxford University and a Fellow of St Cross College. Professor Jaffe spent most of his career at the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, where he served as the Director of the National Centre for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention. In Oxford, he has helped to establish a new MSc course in Global Health Science. His current interests are in international health, HIV/AIDS, and AIDS-related cancers.

JOHN NAGL is a retired officer of the United States Army, widely regarded as a leading expert on counterinsurgency. After West Point and studying international relations as a Rhodes Scholar in Oxford, he served as a tank platoon leader during the Gulf War, before resuming doctoral studies in Oxford, which led to the publication of his book *How to Eat Soup with a Knife*. After a spell as a professor at West Point he returned to active service in Iraq. Lt Col Nagl is affiliated with a group of military intellectuals who have given advice to General Petraeus; he is now a Fellow of the Center for a New American Security in Washington D.C.

LEO DOCHERTY served with the British Army in Iraq and Helmand (where he was aide-de-camp of the British commander), before resigning his commission in protest. His account of campaigns he condemns as poorly conceived, clumsily pursued and counterproductive is contained in his bestselling book *Desert of Death: British Military Intervention in Helmand Province and the Comprehensive Approach*.

PADDY DOCHERTY studied history at Brasenose. He is a historian and natural resources expert, with a particular interest in South Asia. He is author of *The Khyber Pass*, a *Financial Times* Book of the Year in 2007.

ANA RODRIGUEZ GARCIA is Programme Coordinator of the Society for the Preservation of Afghanistan's Cultural Heritage (SPACH), a leading provider of local and international support to preservation of historical remains in the country. A long-term resident of Kabul, she is currently undertaking research in Cambridge.

ALAN MACDONALD is Chief of Staff at the Mine Action Centre for Afghanistan (MACA), based in Kabul. A former British Army Officer, he has been involved in mine clearance for two decades in Eritrea, Angola, Sudan, Mozambique and elsewhere, and has worked in Afghanistan periodically since 1995.

JOHN BINGHAM is a senior correspondent for *The Daily Telegraph*. A former undergraduate in Modern History at Brasenose, he has reported on the British deployment in Afghanistan on more than one occasion. As chief reporter at the Press Association he was closely involved in the reporting of Prince Harry's deployment in Helmand.

SUSANNE VARGA NAGL was a graduate student at Brasenose in the early 1990's. Married to John Nagl, she has an unusual insight into the problems faced by service families in the US.

JOANNA BUCKLEY was until last year Political Advisor in the Office of the Special Representative of the European Union for Afghanistan (EUSRA). She has now joined the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, and has a special interest in security sector reform.

GEORGE NOEL CLARKE has been involved in promoting the political process in Afghanistan for a number of years, working with the British government, the UN and the EU amongst others. He studied Classics & English at Brasenose.

CINDY SKACH has recently joined Brasenose as a Tutorial Fellow. She is Professor of Comparative Government and Law, and specializes in comparative constitutionalism and legal development, particularly in Europe and Europe's former colonies. She recently travelled to Baghdad to advise the Iraqi government on constitutional reform.

VERNON BOGDANOR has been a Fellow of Brasenose College for over forty years and is Professor of Government in the University. A Fellow of the British Academy and CBE (awarded for his services to constitutional history), he has written widely on constitutional matters, on which his latest book will appear shortly. He has advised a wide range of governments throughout the world and served as specialist adviser to committees of both Houses of Parliament. He is a frequent contributor to TV and radio programmes and to the press. He was presented with the Sir Isaiah Berlin Prize for Lifetime Contribution to Political Studies at the annual Political Studies Association in November.

KATE ALLEN is an Honorary Fellow of Brasenose College, where she read PPE; and has been Director of Amnesty International (UK) since 2000. After opening her professional career in London local government she moved to the Refugee Council to direct the UK emergency evacuation programmes for Bosnia and Kosovo. While on secondment to the Home Office she worked on the 1999 Immigration and Asylum Act.

SIR SCOTT BAKER is an Honorary Fellow of Brasenose College and has been a Lord Justice of Appeal since 2002. He became a Judge of the High Court in 1988, and the Presiding Judge of the Wales and Chester Circuit three years later. He was a Member of the Committee of Inquiry into Human Fertilisation (Warnock Committee) and of the Parole Board, 1999–2002. He sat as coroner for the recent inquests into the deaths of Diana, Princess of Wales, and Dodi Al Fayed.

SIR IAN KENNEDY is Emeritus Professor of Health, Law, Ethics and Policy at University College London. A long-standing member of the General Medical Council, he is a former president of the Centre of Medical Laws and Ethics, which he founded in 1978. He is a member of the Ministry of Defence's Advisory Committee on Medical Countermeasures and Working Party to Review the Code of Practice for the Diagnosis of Brain Stem Death. He has been Chairman of the Healthcare Commission since 2004.

JULIAN SAVULESCU is Professor of Practical Ethics in the University of Oxford. He came from Australia to be Director of the Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics and of the Programme on Ethics and Biosciences in the James Martin 21st Century School. The Centre is devoted to research, education and stimulating open public discussion around the ethical issues which arise in everyday life and which relate to the changes in society, particularly those involving technological advancement. As both a doctor and a philosopher he has brought to medical ethics an accessible analytic philosophical approach. He is the author, with Tony Hope and Judith Hendrick, of *Medical Ethics and Law: The Core Curriculum*.

SIR NICOLAS BRATZA is an alumnus of Brasenose College and has been a High Court Judge since 1998, when he was also elected as one of the five Section Presidents of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, of which he is now Vice-President. He is a member of the Advisory Council and former Vice-Chairman of the British Institute of Human Rights, a member of the Advisory Board of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law and a member of the Editorial Board of the European Human Rights Law Review.

ROBERT WATSON has been the Chief Scientific Adviser for the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) since September 2007. His main role is to provide ministers with the best possible scientific advice and build on existing measures to ensure that science and technology are used to inform policy. Professor Watson was previously Chief Scientist and Senior Advisor for Sustainable Development at the World Bank. He has also held senior positions at NASA and at the White House, where he was responsible for ensuring that science underpinned policy making.

SIR DAVID KING is Director of the newly formed Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment at Oxford University. After a distinguished career as a chemist at Cambridge, he became Master of Downing College and was the British Government's Chief Scientific Adviser until 2007. Founded by a benefaction from the Martin Smith Foundation, the Smith School conducts multidisciplinary research on private sector solutions to environmental problems, and promotes environmental study as part of mainstream social science degree programmes.

DIETER HELM is Professor of Energy Policy at the University of Oxford and a Fellow of New College, specialising in utilities, infrastructure, regulation and the environment. He concentrates on the energy, water and transport sectors in Britain and Europe and is Chairman of the Academic Panel at the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), and a member of the expert panel for the Department of Transport's Review of the Regulation of Airports, and of the Advisory Panel on Energy and Climate Security, Department for Energy and Climate Change. Recent editions of his books include *Energy, The State and the Market*, and *Climate -change Policy*. He is an alumnus of Brasenose College.

GEORGE MONBIOT is an author and comments on environmental issues for *The Guardian*. His books include *Heat: How to stop the planet burning*; *The Age of Consent: A manifesto for a new world order* and *Captive State: The corporate takeover of Britain*. His investigative journeys have taken him to Indonesia, Brazil and East Africa. Back in Britain, he joined the roads protest movement and helped to found The Land is Ours, which has occupied land all over the country, including 13 acres of prime real estate in Wandsworth belonging to the Guinness corporation and destined for a giant superstore. A BNC alumnus, he has held visiting fellowships and professorships at Oxford and other universities. In 1995 Nelson Mandela presented him with a United Nations Global 500 Award for outstanding environmental achievement.

DAVID SHUKMAN is the environment and science correspondent for BBC News. His previous role as world affairs correspondent involved providing regular studio analysis of the Iraq crisis and the United States-led war against terrorism. In a broadcasting career that began in 1985, his assignments have ranged from reporting from East Berlin during the fall of the Wall, to securing the first filming of Soviet nuclear weapons, to gaining rare access when covering war in Angola. He has reported on the conflicts in Northern Ireland, the Gulf, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Israel and East Timor. His reports were cited as part of the Royal Television Society award to BBC News for its coverage of the Kosovo conflict in 1999.