

UNESCO CHAIR/UNITWIN NETWORK PROGRESS REPORT FORM

Title of the Chair/Network:	UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights. Rome. Italy
Host Institution:	Università Europea di Roma and Ateneo Pontificio Regina Apostolorum
Date of establishment of Chair/Network: <i>(mm, yyyy)</i>	July 7, 2009
Period of activity under report: <i>(mm, yyyy - mm, yyyy)</i>	October, 2011 – October, 2012
Report established by: <i>(name, position)</i>	Prof. Alberto Garcia JD, Chairholder

To be returned by electronic mail to both: unitwin@unesco.org and i.nichanian@unesco.org

Or by mail to UNESCO, Division for Teacher Development and Higher Education,

Section for Higher Education

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1. Executive Summary:

Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair, including on national policies, in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO)
(Not exceeding 300 words)

Some of the outcomes and results related to our objective of promoting an integrated system of research, training, information and documentation on bioethics and human rights are the following:

. Improvement of communication regarding the project of the UNESCO Chair, its mission, and its activities within the organization and to the public (using our internet site:

www.unescobiochair.org, periodical newsletters)

. Design, launching and consolidation of some academic programs and activities in collaboration with our UNITWIN partners in Mexico and Angola.

. Consolidation of Neurobioethics Research Group (ongoing monthly meetings and first accredited Educational Program -Summer Course 2012-)

. Creation an consolidation of a forum of diverse bioethics thoughts leaders through the organization of our 2st International Workshop on Human Vulnerability (Oct 2011) delivering a framework to guide the application of bioethical principles. Involvement of Asian academic institutions through the preparation of 2nd Workshop on Bioethics, Multiculturalims and Religion (Dic 2013)

. Innovative involvement of artistic community in bioethics issues through the organization of our 1st

International Bioethics Art Competition on Human Vulnerability (Sep-Oct 2011) and consolidation by organizing 2nd edition of the competition.

. Increased interest and involvement of new scholars and students from our host institutions (UER-APRA) some of them volunteering as fellows and interns, making possible consolidation and development of our activities.

2) Activities:

Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period

a) Education/Training/Research

(key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair during the reporting period, target group and geographical coverage)

<p>i) Education (leading to certificate)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Summer Course on “Neurobioethics: The Person at the Center of Neurosciences, Ethics, Law and Society” (Rome, July 2-13). 56 participants from 8 different countries. Academic credits: 8 ECTS. Target: graduated medical professionals, lawyers, philosophers, journalists and social workers. International coverage. - Course “State, Society and Human Life”, Pontifical Atheneum Regina Apostolorum, Rome. 1 semester. 2 ECTS. Target: graduated medical professionals, lawyers, philosophers, journalists and social workers. International coverage.
<p>ii) Training (short term)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diploma: “Bioethics Diploma, Universidad Anahuac” Mayab, Mérida, Yucatán. Target: graduated medical professionals, lawyers, philosophers, journalists and social workers. Local and regional coverage. - Diploma: “Biotechnology, Bioethics and Human Rights”, Universidad Anahuac Sur, City of Mexico. Target: graduated medical professionals, lawyers, philosophers, journalists. Local and regional coverage. - Seminar: “Bioethics and Human Rights”, Agostinho Neto University, Luanda, Angola. Target: professors and students from Faculty of Law and Medicine. Local and regional coverage.
<p>iii) Research</p>	<p>NEUROBIOETHICS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “Neuroscienze e Diritto: Il Cervello nella Legge” (Neuroscience and Law: Brain in the Law), Rome, September 23, 2011. - Four posters whose authors are among the members of our Neurobioethics Group have been presented at the International Neuroethics Society (INS) Annual Meeting, Carnegie Institution for Science, Washington DC, November 10th -11th. One of them, regarding the

activities (present and future) of our group was also presented at the Society for Neuroscience, Convention Center, Novembre 12th-16th. Two of the posters presented at the INS were particularly appreciated; their respective abstracts will be published in the Journal of Bioethics – Neuroscience (2012).

The title and authors of the abstracts are shown below (the posters' abstracts that will be published are indicated by an asterix):

*1) NEUROSCIENCE NEWS JOURNALISM IN ITALY: WHEN ETHICAL STANDARDS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE by Pensieri C., Cavallotto A. and Gini A.

*2) HOW THE CRIMINAL “SHAPES” THE CRIME : A NEUROCOGNITIVE MODEL FOR PSYCHIATRIC FORENSIC EVALUATION by Casartelli L., Gini A., Baertschi B.

3) RACING FOR (NEUROCOGNITIVE ENHANCEMENT) : WHEN THE TRUE HUMAN PERSON IS AT THE STARTING BLOCKS by Gini A, Farisco M. and Benanti P.

4) THE ITALIAN NEUROBIOETHICS STUDY AND RESEARCH GROUP: PRESENT AND FUTURE OF THE NEUROSCIENCES FROM A PERSONALISTIC APPROACH by Gini A. and Benanti P.

- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “La Melanconia: tra psicopatologia e neurobiologia” (Melancholy: between Psychopathology and Neurobiology), Rome, November 25, 2011

- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “Le Sfide delle Neuroscienze: Neurotecnologie, Stimolazione Cerebrale Profonda e Neuroetica” (Neuroscientific Challenges: Neurotechnologies, Deep Brain Stimulation and Neuroethics), Rome, January 27, 2012

- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “The Pontifical Athenaeum Neurobioethics Group, three years after”: balance and prospective. Rome, February 24, 2012

- Conference: “La coscienza tra mente e cervello. Aspetti filosofici, bioetici, psicodinamici, clinici” (Consciousness, between mind and brain. Philosophical, Bioethical, Psychodynamic and Clinical Perspectives), Rome, March 15, 2012 and Milano March 17, 2012

- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “Essere, conoscere e la legge naturale secondo le neuroscienze e la filosofia di San Tommaso d’Aquino” (Being, knowing and the Natural Law according to the Neurosciences and the Philosophy of Saint Thomas Aquinas), Rome, March 23, 2012

- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “La relazione madre-bambino Neuroscienze ed esperienze cliniche a confronto” (Mother-child relationship Neuroscience and clinical experiences), Rome, April 27, 2012

- Seminar and Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “Cervello, Corpo e Mente:

	<p>Una Neuroetica dal Volto Umano” (Brain, Body and Mind: Neuroethics with a Human Face). With Prof. Walter Glannon, PhD (University of Calgary), Roma, May 2-4, 2012.</p> <p>- Neurobioethics Group Meeting: “La Formazione in Neurobioetica” (Teaching and Education in Neurobioethics), Rome, June 23, 2012</p>
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b) Conferences/Meetings

(key conferences and meetings organized by the Chair or to which its Chairholder contributed)

i) Key conferences and workshops hosted by the Chair

BIOETHICS MULTICULTURALISM AND RELIGION:

- International Workshop: “Religious perspectives on human vulnerability”.

Who are the vulnerable? What are the proper attitudes and responses toward them, especially in the field of biomedicine?. These were the questions discussed at a workshop held in Rome from October 9-11, with experts hailing from six world religions—Buddhism, Christianity, Confucianism, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism. This was a follow-up to similar conferences held in Jerusalem two years ago organized by the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights.

A book published by Springer (Global Ethics Collection) will collect papers and proceedings of this workshop. Estimated date: January 2013

ii) Other conferences/organizational activities undertaken by the Chairholder

iii) A selection of conference presentations by the Chairholder and other colleagues

- Lecture: “A Code of Ethics of the International Tissue Engineering Research Association (ITERA) and the German Center for Provement and Development of Innovative Techniques in Medicine (DZITM e.V.)”, Dusseldorf, November 20, 2012

- Lecture: “Social and ethical perspectives on the promises and dilemmas of regenerative medicine in legal context”, 5th ITERA Life-Sciences Symposium, “Stem Cells: From the basic research leading to the promising therapeutic applications”, Maastricht, November 21-22, 2011

- Member of the Ethical Advisory Board of REBORNE (an EU research project involving the use of mesechimal stem cells and adult stem cells), Annual Meeting, Franckfort, January 19-20, 2012.

- Member of the Ethical Advisory Board of CASCADE an EU research project involving the use of mesenchimal stem cells and adult stem cells Annual Meeting, Toulouse, 20-21 December 2011,.

- On February 20, 2012, UNESCO Chair Fellow Fr. Joseph Tham gave a presentation on the “Religious perspective on the Principle of Human Vulnerability of the UNESCO Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights” at the Hong Kong Baptist University. This event was co-organized by our UNESCO Chair and the Centre for Applied Ethics at the university. Prof. Ellen Zhang, researcher at the center who attended the recent Rome workshop, chaired the meeting.

- On Sept 12, 2011, a conference on "Medical Ethics: An Important Update" was held by the Theology Department and the Chi-Rho Theology Club of the University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas.

Prof. Joseph Tham, Fellow of the UNESCO Chair, spoke on the problems related to IVF and why it is problematic with regards to the questions of justice, human dignity, and the psychological and physical risks posed to children thus conceived. He also mentions the promising responses in the Theology of the Body of the late Pope John Paul II and the new possibilities with NaProTechnology to treat infertile couples.

Prof. Alberto Garcia, Chairholder of the UNESCO Chair, spoke on the Human Cloning debates in the UN and its recent revival. In 2005, the United Nations Declaration on Human Cloning called upon its Member States "to adopt all measures necessary to prohibit all forms of human cloning inasmuch as they are incompatible with human dignity and the protection of human life

About 200 persons attended the event and the two speakers responded to the questions posed by the audience at the end.

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics and Law", Universidad Anahuac México Sur, Mexico City, March 16, 2012

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics: The Person at the Center of Neuroscience, Ethics and Law", Universidad Anahuac México Norte, Mexico City, March 20, 2012

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics and Law", Universidad Anahuac de Querétaro, México, March 26, 2012

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics: The Person at the Center of Neuroscience, Ethics and Law", Universidad Anahuac México de Puebla, Mexico, March 27, 2012

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics: The Person at the Center of Neuroscience, Ethics and Law", UPAEP, Puebla, Mexico, March 27, 2012

- Lecture: "Challenge of Dialogue in Bioethics in a Multicultural Society", Universidad Anahuac México Sur, City of Mexico, March 28, 2012

- Lecture: "On Bioethics Global Art: The Esthetic Dimension of Human Behavior in Life Sciences and Medicine", Universidad Anahuac México Sur, City of Mexico, March 28, 2012

- Lecture: "Bioethical Challenges from Neuroscience", COMEXBIO. Foro "Derechos Humanos y bioética", COMEXBIO Colegio de Profesionistas Posgraduados en Bioética, City of Mexico, May 16, 2012

- Lecture: "Neurobioethics: The Person at the Center of Neuroscience, Ethics and Law", Renaissance Hospital, McAllen, TX, USA. August 9, 2012

- Lecture: "Bioethical Challenges from Neurosciencem Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX, USA. September 19, 2012

c) Interuniversity Exchanges/Partnerships

(principal exchanges/partnerships between the Chair and other institutions including UNESCO Chairs/UNITWIN Networks)

- University Agostinho Neto, Luanda, Angola

- University Anahuac Sur, Mexico City, Mexico
- University Anahauc Mayab, Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico
- University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX, USA
- Univerity of St. Thomas, Houston, TX, USA
- University of St. Thomas, Burkina Fasso

d) Publications/Multimedia Materials

(major publications and teaching/learning materials)

Please tick relevant fields of output and indicate volume of output:

	[tick]	[no.]
Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (edited)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (chapters)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Monographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Research Reports	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Journal Articles (refereed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Conference Proceedings	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Occasional Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Teaching/Learning Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (CD-Rom)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Video)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.

i) Theses

ii) Publications

Gonzalo Miranda- Adriana Gini, Neurobioetica: la persona al centro delle Neuroscienze , Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Giulio Corrivetti, Bioetica e Neuroscienze, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Roberto Rubino, Riflessione filosofica sul Mind - Body – Problem, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Michele Farisco, L'impatto delle neuroscienze e neurotecnologie contemporanee sulla medicina. Una prospettiva transumanistica e postumanistica, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Luca Casartelli, How Cognitive Neuroscience interacts with Psychiatric Forensic Examination: Conceptual Clarification and Methodological Assessment, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Paolo Benanti, La governance delle neuroscienze e delle neurotecnologie: la bioetica tra ricerca del bene comune e gestione dell'innovazione, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Antonello Cavallotto, La Neuroetica nella stampa, Studia Bioethica, Vol 4, No 1 (2011)

Ramellini, P. (i.p.). Science and Faith: the Case of Human Ecology. In: Traversa, G. (ed.) Proceedings

of the International Workshop "The God of the Universe and the Laws of Nature - Faith and Science in the Monotheistic Religions" (Jerusalem, December 6-7, 2011).

Ramellini, P. (i.p.). Vivere insieme: una sconfinata simbiosi. In: Continenza, B. (ed.). Confini aperti. Roma, FrancoAngeli

e) Cooperation with UNESCO Headquarters, Field Offices

- Collaboration with UNESCO Italian Commission activities.

f) Other

(any other activities to report)

BIOETHICS GLOBAL ART:

- Global Art Competition on Human Vulnerability

A most unusual merging of disciplines, the competition's theme centered around the principles of respect, pluralism, personal integrity and human vulnerability as defined in articles 8 & 12 of the UNESCO Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights. 225 submissions were received from 23 countries by 132 artists. An international expert panel of six judges was charged with choosing the winners. The official website of the competition is www.bioethicsart.org. The 11 winners can be seen here, together with the 19 finalists a catalogue will be published.

The UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights Global Art Competition exhibited 11 winners from 6 countries in the following locations:

. The Woodlands, Texas: Northwoods Unitarian Universalist Church, September 10, 2011 from 3 - 9 p.m. Reception 4 p.m.

. The United Nations: General Assembly Hall, New York, NY, October 3, 2011, Reception from 6 - 8

p.m. ongoing exhibit until October 6, 2011.

. Regina Apostolorum Pontifical University: Rome, Italy, in conjunction with the Multicultural and Religion Workshop there October 9 – 11, 2011

. University of St. Thomas, Houston, TX, September 25, 2012

- Documentary "Beautiful Faces": www.beautifulfacesfilm.com

"Beautiful Faces" introduce us in the fascinating work of a medical group directs by Dr. Fernando Ortiz Monasterio. It is "the most exciting clinical of the world, the only place where I should stay". Dr. Ortiz Monasterio has founded the Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Unit at Dr. Manuel Gea González Hospital, in the frenetic area of Tlalpan, in the Federal District of Mexico City. His enormous talent, his compassion, his principles provide a font of inspiration as for his collaborators as his patients. He has demonstrated at the most sceptics than until the poorest people can get an official sanitary service with quality without that assistance means the failure of Health System. Each person must be fit to a fundamental human right: to have a common and presentable face.

The documentary lead us into the world seeing from the eyes of these children: how they watch to their parents, to their classmate, it reflects the hope that they put on their doctors. Because of Dr. Ortiz Monasterio does not work alone. An interdisciplinary team of doctors of the highest level surrounds him. Likewise, we can meet the worldwide known Dr. Kenneth Salyer, founder of the World Craniofacial Foundation, and other specialists of extraordinarily high level dedicated themselves body and soul. All of them are developing an exemplary task in a city with a bad reputation in other places of the world.

"Beautiful Faces" brings hope in this profession, if someone had lost it. It is a marvellous Russell Martin and Alvera de León's production. UNESCO Chair on Bioethics and Human Rights has collaborated in the documentary production and is sponsoring this project.

The distinguished Hot Springs Documentary Film Festival hosted the world premiere of Beautiful Faces in October. Since its inception in 1991, it has become one of the foremost documentary-focused festivals. European premiere has taken place at the acclaimed Bergen International Film Festival in Norway in October 2012, and the Ojai Film Festival in California hosted its West Coast premiere in October as well.

BIOETHICS AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

On December 1, 2011, Alberto Garcia met with Pietro Ramellini (Pontifical Athenaeum 'Regina Apostolorum' in Rome) to foster a collaboration in the Unesco Chair area of interest "Bioethics and Human Ecology".

On December 6, 2011, Pietro Ramellini presented the paper 'Science and Faith: the Case of Human Ecology' at the International Workshop "The God of the Universe and the Laws of Nature - Faith and Science in the Monotheistic Religions" (Jerusalem, December 6-7, 2011).

On January 26, 2012, the Symbiosis Group attended the roundtable on 'Human Ecology and Sustainable Development' at the Pontifical Athenaeum Angelicum in Rome

On February 2, 2012, Alberto Garcia met with the Symbiosis Group at the Pontifical Athenaeum 'Regina Apostolorum' in Rome to present the nature and aims of the Unesco Biochair, in view of a synergy in the Unesco Chair area of interest "Bioethics and Human Ecology".

On March 1, 2012, the Symbiosis Group visited the exhibit Homo sapiens at Palazzo delle Esposizioni in Rome.

May 2012: Prof. Ramellini gave an evaluation about the doctoral thesis project of Mr. Patrick Tibangayuka (supervisor Prof. Michael Ryan).

On June 15, 2012, Prof. Ramellini held a conference on "The Organism and the Environment" at the Faculty of Philosophy, "La Sapienza" University in Rome.

During the school year 2011-2012, Prof. Ramellini held two courses in human ecology at the Mancinelli High School in Velletri (Rome).

CODE OF RESEARCH ETHICS

In accordance with the mission of creating an appropriate framework to guide the implementation of ethical principles, Professor Alberto Garcia, Director of the UNESCO Chair in Bioethics and Human Rights with its headquarter in Rome, Italy, has signed a document that guarantees an International Code of Ethics. This statement was taken up by two leading European research centers in adult stem cells: ITERA and ITERM. Both ITERM (Institute of Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine) and ITERA (International Tissue Engineering Research Association) have proposed this international Code of Ethics for all institutions that are part of those agencies. This Code is in line with the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights of UNESCO (2006).

The signatories are ITERA's President, Prof. Albert Ramon and Prof. Thomas Otto of ITERM.

3. Future Plans and Development Prospects:

Outline of action plan for the next biennium and short/medium and long-term development prospects. Please do not hesitate to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced
(Not exceeding 300 words)

Consistently with our mission and strategic objectives we'll intend to accomplish in the next biennium the following action plan:

1. To develop academic programs already opened in UNITWIN partners institutions (Mexico and Angola).
2. To strength cooperation with UNESCO Headquarters
3. To consolidate our Neurobioethics Study Group by increasing participants and publications (journals and books)
4. To consolidate and develop our forum of diverse bioethics thoughts leaders "Bioethics, Multiculturalism and Religion" (Mexico 2014, Paris 2015). To develop the publications related to the topics we deal within them, intended to deliver in a framework to guide the application of bioethical principles in a global an multicultural environment.
5. To consolidate and develop our Bioethics Art Competition enlarging the number of artists involved in our painting and photography contest and opening to new artistic areas (documentaries and films).
6. To consolidate Bioethics and Ecology area through seminars and publications.
7. To Inform & enlighten ethical, legal and public opinion, decisions and actions relative to medicine, life sciences and human rights and responsibilities through a consistent communication plan.

Appendix:**1) Human Resources**

Prof. Alberto García, *Chairholder*
Prof. Joseph Tham, *Fellow*
Prof. Gonzalo Miranda, *Fellow*
Prof. Adriana Gini, *Fellow*
Prof. Pietro Ramellini, *Fellow*
Mrs. Clauda Ruiz Sotomayor, *Scholar Research*

Mr. Michael Gannon, *Executive Director USA*
Mr. Fernando Lorenzo, *Executive Director, Spain*
Mr. Dane Kane, *Development Officer USA*
Mr. Michael Baggot, *Correspondant*

Cyntia Muñoz, *Intern*
Angela Lane, *Intern*
Nicolò Corsi, *Intern*
Bogi Sztancs, *Intern*

Most of our scholars and staff members are volunteers and receive no economic compensation for their collaboration. This makes their work specially valuable and stimulating, creating a nice atmosphere of lively university community.