

Dealing with the Dead

History, Medicine, Ethics & Law

Thursday 15 November 2007, ICT Building, 111 Barry Street, University of Melbourne

Every day, in the past and present, people work with human remains – in medical schools, hospitals, research laboratories and morgues. Yet public attention is only captured by this work when a scandal erupts, usually about unethical or unlawful use of human remains, such as when they are taken without consent, sold for profit, or displayed in controversial ways.

This symposium draws together medical scientists, historians, legal scholars, anthropologists and museum practitioners to examine the use and abuse of human remains. In light of recent controversies, papers will deal with the ethical use of the dead in medical science, the collection of tissues and organs for therapeutic and research purposes, the donation of bodies for human dissection and surgical skills programs, attitudes to hospital post-mortem examinations, and displays of human remains.



Speakers

Opening Address by **Gareth Jones**, Professor of Anatomy, University of Otago, New Zealand, author of *Speaking for the Dead: Cadavers in Biology and Medicine*

Stephen Cordner, Professor of Medicine and Director of the Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, co-author of *Ethics, Law & Medical Practice*

Jenny Hayes, Lecturer, Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology, University of Melbourne

Megan Hicks, Commissioning Producer, Permanent Galleries, Powerhouse Museum, Sydney

Philomena Horsley, Medical Anthropologist, Centre for Health & Society, University of Melbourne

Ross Jones, Historian, School of Social & Environmental Enquiry, University of Melbourne, author of *Humanity's Mirror: 150 Years of Anatomy in Melbourne*

Helen MacDonald, Historian and ARC Postdoctoral Fellow, The Australian Centre, University of Melbourne, author of *Human Remains: Episodes in Human Dissection*

Loane Skene, Professor of Law, University of Melbourne, author of *Law and Medical Practice: Rights, Duties, Claims and Defences*

places limited – book early – members of the public welcome

Registration \$40 (waged), \$20 (concession), lunch and morning tea included

Contact Dr Helen MacDonald, email address h.macdonald@unimelb.edu.au



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