

Nicholas B. King

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Public health policy and ethics; health inequalities; evidence, expertise, and decision-making in public policy; data science and AI in public policy

Last update: 16 July 2026

Current Appointments & Affiliations (McGill University)

Associate Professor Department of Equity, Ethics, & Policy, Faculty of Medicine	2023-present
Associate Director Trotter Institute for Science & Public Policy	2026-present
Core Faculty Member Max Bell School of Public Policy	2019-present
Associate Member Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Occupational Health	2009-present
Department of Medicine	2018-present
Division of Experimental Medicine	2018-present
Research Group on Health and Law	2015-present

Previous Appointments & Affiliations

Assistant & Associate Professor Biomedical Ethics Unit, McGill University	2008-23
Department of Social Studies of Medicine, McGill University	2008-23
Director Policy and Data Science Program, McGill University	2017-20
Montreal Health Equity Research Consortium, McGill University	2011-17
Measurement, Ethics, and Decision-Making Collaborative, McGill University	2010-16
Assistant Professor Department of Bioethics, Case Western Reserve University	2005-08
Department of History, Case Western Reserve University	2005-08
Postdoctoral Fellow Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health and Society Scholars, Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan	2003-05
J. Elliot Royer Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Anthropology, History, and Social Medicine, University of California, San Francisco	2001-03

Education

Ph.D. History of Science	2001
M.A. Medical Anthropology	
Harvard University	
B.A History with Distinction, Magna Cum Laude	1991
University of Pennsylvania	

Research Grants (\$2.35M as PI)

Co-Investigator (\$63,195)	2024-26
Social Science Research Council. Examining the role of discrimination in restricting women's labor force participation in India: Developing the foundation for an experimental "correspondence study."	
Co-Investigator (\$318,186)	2020-24
FRQSC Soutien aux équipes de recherche. Le droit comme partenaire dans la protection de la santé à l'ère des innovations technologiques, politiques et juridiques.	
Principal Investigator (\$250,000)	2020-24
New Frontiers in Research Fund. Automating Scientific Transparency: Using Machine Learning to Build a Comprehensive Database of Disclosure Information.	
Co-Investigator (\$500,000)	2020-22
Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Using Online News Media to Assess Community and Public Health Responses to COVID-19.	
Co-Investigator (\$525,000)	2020-22
Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Artificial Intelligence for Public Health (AI4PH): A Focus on Equity and Prevention.	
Co-Investigator (£604,318.87)	2020-22
Canada-UK Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiative. EPI-AI: Automated Understanding and Alerting of Disease Outbreaks from Global News Media.	
Co-Investigator (\$20,000)	2020-22
Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Establishing a Relationship Between Philosophy and Epidemiological Research and Practice: Modelling Ethical Standards of Health Equity (MESHE).	
Principal Investigator (\$45,000)	2017-18
Steinberg Fund for Interdisciplinary Global Health Research. International Health Regulations Compliance in India: The Politics of Global Health Security.	
Principal Investigator (\$100,000)	2014-16
Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Transparent Science: using computational tools to assess conflicts of interest and their consequences in biomedical publications.	

Co-Investigator (\$88,022) Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Measuring Global Health.	2012-14
Principal Investigator (\$1.74 million) Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Ethics, Social Determinants of Health, and Health Equity: Integrating Theory and Practice.	2011-16
Principal Investigator (\$190,434) Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Measurement, Ethics, and Health Policy: Investigating the Role of Value Judgments in the Measurement and Evaluation of Health Inequalities.	2010-13
Co-Investigator (\$109,302) Canadian Institutes of Health Research. Justifying Translational Clinical Trials.	2010-13
Collaborator (\$15.572 million) National Institutes of Health Models of Infectious Disease Agents Study (MIDAS) grant, "Center for Communicable Disease Dynamics.	2009-11
Consultant. (\$402,162) National Human Genome Institute, Patient Perceptions of Bioengineered Probiotics and Clinical Metagenomics.	2008-11
Principal Investigator (\$2,000) Research fellowship on visual media and public health. National Library of Medicine, History of Medicine Division	2003
Principal Investigator (\$15,000) University of California Humanities Research Institute. Exchange Networks in Modern Biomedical Science.	2003
Principal Investigator (\$4,000) University of California Humanities Research Institute conference grant for Bioterrorism Preparedness: Contexts and Consequences.	2002

Personal Support Awards

DeWitt Stetten, Jr. Memorial Fellowship in the History of Biomedical Sciences and Technology, National Institutes of Health (Declined)	2003
American Academy of Arts and Sciences Visiting Scholars Program (Declined)	2003
Fellow in the History of Medicine and Medical Ethics, Division of Medical Ethics, Harvard School of Medicine	2000-01
Whiting Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Harvard University	1999-2000
Graduate Society Conference Travel Grant, Harvard University	1999
Graduate Society Term-Time Research Fellowship, Harvard University	1998-99

Graduate Society Summer Fellowship, Harvard University	1996
National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University	1995-98
Jacob Javits Graduate Fellowship, Harvard University (Declined)	1995
Strominger Prize in History of Medicine, Harvard University	1994-95

Publications – Peer Reviewed (* indicates trainee co-authors)

1. Balvi I, Lexchin J, Galea S, **King NB**, Davidovitch N. “Artificial Intelligence and the Commercial Determinants of Health: New Mechanisms of Commercial Influence.” *BMJ* (in press).
2. DeBono N, Amar V*, Hardy H*, Schubauer-Berigan M, Ruths D, **King NB**. “A large language model-based tool for identifying relationships to industry in research on the carcinogenicity of benzene, cobalt, and aspartame.” *Environmental Health* 24: 2025.
3. DeBono N, Amar V*, Hardy H*, Schubauer-Berigan M, Ruths D, **King NB**. “The use of a large language model to identify industry-funded research in carcinogenic hazard evaluations.” *Occupational & Environmental Medicine* 82: 2025.
4. Trudeau C*, **King NB**, Guastavino C. “Investigating sonic injustice: a review of published research.” *Social Science & Medicine* 326: 2023.
5. Oei H*, Ruths D, **King NB**. “Who Controlled the Evidence? Question Answering for Disclosure Information Retrieval.” *Proceedings of Machine Learning Research* 209: 2023.
6. Okhmatovskaia A*, Buckeridge DL, Shen Y*, Ganzer I*, **King NB**, Collier N, Meng Z. “A conceptual framework for representing events under public health surveillance.” *Studies in Health Technology and Informatics* 294: 2022.
7. Meng Z, Okhmatovskaia A*, Polleri M*, Powell G, Shen Y*, Fu Z, Ganzer I*, **King NB**, Buckeridge D, Collier N. “BioCaster in 2021: Detecting Disease Outbreaks from Global News Media.” *Bioinformatics* 38(18): 2022.
8. Dimitris M*, Gittings M*, **King NB**. “How Global is Global Health Research? A Large-Scale Analysis of Trends in Authorship” *BMJ Global Health* 6(1): 2021.
9. Harper SB, Riddell C*, **King NB**. “Declining Life Expectancy in the United States: Missing the Trees for the Forest.” *Ann Rev Pub Hlth* 42(1): 2021.
10. **King NB**. “Harm Reduction: A Misnomer.” *Health Care Analysis* 28: 2020.
11. Cooper JE*, Benmarhnia T*, Koski A, **King NB**. “Cash transfer programs have differential effects on health: A review of the literature from low and middle-income countries.” *Social Science & Medicine* 247: 2020.
12. **King NB**, Koski A. “Defining global health as public health somewhere else.” *BMJ Global Health* 2020;5:e002172.

13. Drouin O*, Young M, **King NB**. "Message framing and counseling of parents on children's physical activity – An experimental study." *Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine* 6(1): 2018.
14. Carabali M*, Austin N*, **King NB**, Kaufman J. "The zika epidemic and abortion in Latin America: a scoping review." *Global Health Research and Policy* 3(15): 2018.
15. **King NB**, Harper SB, Young M, Berry SC, and Voigt K*. "The Impact of Social and Psychological Consequences of Disease on Judgments of Disease Severity: An Experimental Study." *PLOS ONE* 13(4): 2018.
16. Huang J*, **King NB**. "Epigenetics Changes Nothing: What a New Scientific Field Does and Does Not Mean for Social Justice." *Public Health Ethics* 11(1): 2017.
17. Voigt K*, **King NB**. "Out of alignment? Limitations of the Global Burden of Disease in assessing the allocation of global health aid." *Public Health Ethics* 10(3): 2017.
18. Benmarhnia T*, Alexander S, Price K, Smargiassi S, **King NB**, Kaufman J. "The heterogeneity of vulnerability in public health: a heat wave action plan as a case study." *Critical Public Health* 28: 2017.
19. **King NB**, Harper SB, Strumpf E. "Has the Increase in Disability Insurance Participation Contributed to Increased Opioid-Related Mortality?" *Annals of Internal Medicine*. 165(10): 729-730: 2016.
20. Benmarhnia T*, Auger N, Kaiser D, Bailey Z*, **King NB**, Kaufman J. "A difference-in-differences approach to assess the effect of a heat action plan on heat-related mortality and equity in Montreal, Quebec." *Environmental Health Perspectives* 24(11): 2016. Awarded honorable Mention as one of the Best Environmental Epidemiology Papers published in 2016 by the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology.
21. Campbell J*, **King NB**. "'Unsettling Circularity': Clinical Trial Enrichment and the Evidentiary Politics of Chronic Pain." *Biosocieties* 12(2): 2016.
22. Richardson R*, Charters T* **King NB**, and Harper SB. "Trends in educational inequalities in drug poisoning mortality in the United States, 1994-2010." *American Journal of Public Health*. 105 (9): 2015.
23. **King NB**, Fraser V*, Boikos C*, Richardson R*, Harper SB. "Determinants of Increased Opioid-Related Mortality in the United States and Canada, 1990-2013: A Systematic Review." *American Journal of Public Health* 104(8): 2014.
24. Harper SB, **King NB**, et al. "Juicios de valor implícitos en la medición de las desigualdades en salud." *Revista Panamerica Salud Publica* 35(4): 2014.
25. Voigt K*, **King NB**. "Disability Weights in the Global Burden of Disease 2010: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back?" *Bulletin of the World Health Organization* 92: 2014.
26. **King NB** "Contagion: A Misnomer for Financial Crisis." *Journal of Public Health* 36(1): 2014.
27. Harper SB, **King NB**, Young M. "Impact of Selective Evidence Presentation of Health Inequality Trends: An Experimental Study." *PLOS ONE* 8(5): 2013

28. **King NB**, Fraser V*. "Untreated Pain, Narcotics Regulation, and Global Health Ideologies." *PLOS Medicine*. 10(4): 2013 [*PLOS Medicine* Weekly Editor's Pick].
29. Young M E., **King NB**, Harper SB, Humphreys KR. "The influence of popular media on perceptions of personal and population risk in possible disease outbreaks." *Health, Risk, and Society* 15(1): 2013.
30. **King NB**, Harper SB, Meredith E. Young. "Who Cares About Health Inequalities? Cross-country Evidence from the World Health Survey" *Health Policy and Planning* 28(5): 558-571.
31. **King NB**, Harper SB, Young M. "Use of relative and absolute effect measures in reporting health inequalities: structured review." *BMJ* 345: 2012
32. Huttenhower C, Gevers D, et al. (+multiple authors including **King NB**). "Structure, Function and Diversity of the Human Microbiome in an Adult Reference Population." *Nature* 486 (14 June): 2012.
33. Methé BA, Nelson KE, et al. (+multiple authors including **King NB**). "A Framework for Human Microbiome Research." *Nature* 486 (14 June): 2012.
34. **King NB** "Invited Commentary: Biodefense and the Production of Knowledge: Rethinking the Problem." *Journal of Medical Ethics* 39: 2012.
35. **King NB** "Case Discussion: Health Inequities in First Nations Communities and Canada's Response to the H1N1 Influenza Pandemic." Canadian Institutes of Health Research - Institute of Population and Public Health. *Population and Public Health Ethics: Cases from Research, Policy, and Practice*. University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics: Toronto, ON: 2012.
36. Harper SB, **King NB**, et al. "Implicit Value Judgments in the Measurement of Health Inequalities." *Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly* 88(1): 2010. NOTE: Harper and King share equal status as primary co-authors.
37. Ornt DB, Aron DC, **King NB**, et al. "Population Medicine in a Curricular Revision at Case Western Reserve." *Academic Medicine* 83(4): 2008.
38. Aiello S, **King NB**, Foxman B. "Antimicrobials and the Ethics of Drug Development." *American Journal of Public Health* Vol. 96, No. 11: 2006.
39. Berg, JW, **King NB**. "Strange Bedfellows? Reflections on Bioethics' Role in Disaster Response Planning." *American Journal of Bioethics* 6: 2006.
40. **King NB** "The Ethics of Biodefense." *Bioethics* 19(4): 2005.
41. **King NB** "The Scale Politics of Emerging Diseases." *Osiris* 19: 2004.
42. **King NB** "The Influence of Anxiety: September 11th, Bioterrorism, and American Public Health" *Journal of the History of Medicine and the Allied Sciences* 58(4): 2003.
43. **King NB** "Security, Disease, Commerce: Ideologies of Post-Colonial Global Health." *Social Studies of Science* 32(5/6): 2002.
44. **King NB** "Dangerous Fragments" *Grey Room* 7 (Spring): 2002.

Publications – Book Chapters

1. Benyekhlef K, Amicelle A, **King NB**, Tanner S. “Technologies de l’information.” In Frédéric Mérand and Jennifer Welsh, *Le Monde D’Après: Les conséquences de la COVID-19 sur les relations internationales*. Univ de Montreal Press, 2023.
2. **King NB**. “Science and Public Policy in a Post-Pandemic World.” In Jean-Louis Denis, Catherine Régis & Daniel Weinstock, *Pandemic Societies*. Montreal: McGill-Queen’s University Press, 2021.
3. Piper A, Kraicer E, **King NB**, et al. “Evidence.” In Andrew Piper, *Can we be Wrong? The Problem of Textual Evidence in a Time of Data*. New York: Cambridge Univ Press, 2020.
4. **King NB**. “Technological Fixes and Antimicrobial Resistance.” In Zeb Jamrozik & Michael Selgelid, Ed. *Ethics and Antimicrobial Resistance: Collective Responsibility for Global Public Health*, 2020.
5. **King NB** “Equality and Inequality in American Health Care (Revised).” In Eileen E. Morrison, Ed., *Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century*. Sudbury, MA.: Jones & Bartlett, 2017.
6. **King NB** “Justice, Evidence, and Interdisciplinary Health Inequalities Research.” *Understanding Health Inequalities and Justice: Bridging Perspectives for New Conversations*. Ed. Mara Buchbinder. University of North Carolina Press, 2016.
7. **King NB** “Mediating Panic: The Iconography of New Infectious Threats, 1936-2009.” In Robert Peckham, ed. *Empires of Panic: Epidemics and Colonial Anxieties*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press, 2015.
8. **King NB** “Equality and Inequality in American Health Care (Revised).” In Eileen E. Morrison, Ed., *Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century* (Sudbury, MA.: Jones & Bartlett): 2012.
9. **King NB** Introduction to reprint of “The Influence of Anxiety: September 11, Bioterrorism, and American Public Health.” In John Charles Goshert, Ed. *Entering the Academic Conversation* (Glenview, IL: Pearson): 2011.
10. **King NB** “Equality and Inequality in American Health Care” in Eileen E. Morrison, Ed., *Health Care Ethics: Critical Issues for the 21st Century* (Sudbury, MA.: Jones & Bartlett): 2009.
11. **King NB** “Networks, Disease, and the Utopian Impulse.” In S. Harris Ali & Roger Keil, Ed., *Networked Disease: Emerging Infections in the Global City* (Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell): 2008.
12. **King NB** “The Ethics of Biodefense” In Michael J. Selgelid, et al., eds. *Ethics and Infectious Disease* (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2006).
13. **King NB** “Immigration, Race, and Geographies of Difference in the Tuberculosis Pandemic,” in Matthew Gandy & Alimuddin Zumla, Eds, *Return of the White Plague: Global Poverty and the New Tuberculosis* (London: Verso Press, 2003).

14. Mako F, Golden J, Dialetis D, Floyd L, **King NB**, Kapetanacos CA. "Beam 'Self-Trapping' in the NRL Modified Betatron Accelerator." In Anthony Hyder, et al., Eds., *High-Brightness Accelerators* (New York: Plenum Press, 1988).

Publications – Other

1. **King, NB**. "Catastrophe Theory in Slow Motion." *Biosocieties* 15(3): 2020.
2. **King, NB**. "The politics of evidence and uncertainty in the COVID-19 pandemic." *The Bell: Policy for Pandemics*, 2020.
3. **King NB** "Ebola 1995/2014." *Limn* 5 (<http://limn.it/ebola-19952014/>), 2015.
4. Harper SB, **King NB**, "Invited Commentary: Best Practice for What?" *The Milbank Quarterly* 91(1): 2013.
5. **King NB**, Kaufman J. "More Author Disclosure: Solution or Absolution?" *Epidemiology* Nov; 23(6): 2012.
6. Harper SB, Kaufman JS, and **King NB**. "Increased risk of coronary heart disease in female smokers." *The Lancet* 379(9818): 2012.
7. Kaufman JS, **King NB**, and Harper SB. "A More Complete Picture of Higher Cardiovascular Disease Prevalence Among Blacks Compared to Whites." *The American Journal of Medicine* 124(5): 2011.
8. **King NB**, Harper SB, et al. "We'll Take the Red Pill: A Reply to Asada" *Milbank Memorial Fund Quarterly* 88(4): 2011.
9. **King NB**, Kaufman JS, and Harper SB. "Relative Measures Alone Tell Only Part of the Story." *American Journal of Public Health* 100: 2010.
10. **King NB** "Book Review – Searching Eyes: Privacy, the State, and Disease Surveillance in America." *Isis* 100: 2009.
11. **King NB** and Harper SB. "Scan of Scenario Building in Population Health With a Focus on Social Determinants Of Health." *Report prepared for the Public Health Agency of Canada*, 2009.
12. **King NB** "Book Review – Bioviolence: Preventing Biological Terror and Crime." *American Journal of Bioethics* 8(2): 2008.
13. **King NB** "Emerging Diseases" and "Biological Terrorism" in Sal Restivo, Ed., *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Society* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2005).

Invited Presentations

InfluenceMapper: A Large Language Model-based Tool to Examine Sponsor Influence in Health Research. Invited speaker. Center for Science, Policy, and Outcomes.

May 2026

AI, Health, & Public Policy. Invited roundtable speaker. McGill Collaborative for AI and Society.	March 2026
Beyond Endless Frontiers: Rethinking the Social Contract Between Science and Society. Invited participant. Institute on Governance.	Feb 2026
InfluenceMapper: An Automated Tool for Tracking Sponsor Influence in Health Research. Invited speaker. Laidley Center for Business Ethics & Equity.	Jan 2025
Harm Reduction and the Tobacco 'Endgame.' Invited speaker. Invited presentation. Université de Montreal.	Nov 2024
Mis/disinformation in Public Health." Invited speaker. Attention: Understanding and Shaping the Digital Media Ecosystem Conference.	Nov 2023
Ethical Management of AI in Healthcare. Invited moderator. Laidley Center for Business Ethics & Equity.	Nov 2023
From Evidence to Policy and Back Again. Invited speaker. Max Bell Foundation.	May 2022
Defining Freedom in the Time of COVID-19. Invited speaker. McGill University.	Feb 2022
Science and Public Policy in a Post-Pandemic World. Invited speaker. Université de Montreal.	Jan 2022
Weaponizing Uncertainty During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Invited speaker. Institute for Health and Social Policy.	Jun 2020
Weaponizing Uncertainty During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Invited speaker. Center for Global Health & Center for Health, Humanism and Society. Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.	Jun 2020
Health Disparities Amid the COVID-19 Pandemic. Invited speaker. McGill University.	Apr 2020
Evidence and Uncertainty During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Invited speaker. McGill University.	Apr 2020
Pandemic Preparedness and Moral Economies of Global Health. Invited speaker. Johns Hopkins University.	Oct 2019
'Just Give Cash' or Is Money Alone the Best Option for Improving Health Justice? Department of Epidemiology. McGill University.	Nov 2018
The 'Crisis' in Health Research. Invited speaker. McGill University Hospital Center Medical Grand Rounds.	Oct 2018
Opioid Narratives. Invited Speaker. McGill Research Group on Health and Law.	Sept 2018
Harm Reduction is Neither. Invited speaker. MANCEPT Workshops in Political Theory, the political philosophy of harm reduction.	Sept 2018
Public Health in the 'Post-Truth' Era. Invited speaker. Bowdoin College	Apr 2017

Quantifying Scientific Engagement: Why it Matters for Health Research, Ethics, and (Maybe) Law. Invited speaker. McGill Research Group on Health and Law.	Jan 2017
Health inequalities among children: what should we measure, and why? Invited speaker. International Network for Research on Inequalities in Child Health. Barcelona, Spain.	Jun 2016
Do we care about health inequalities? Invited plenary. Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholars Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA.	May 2016
When - if ever - is health value-added to justice claims? Invited speaker. Bioethics at UNC Faculty Seminar. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.	Nov 2015
Reflections on the Future of Global Health.” Invited plenary. 22 nd Annual Canadian Conference on Global Health.	Nov 2015
‘Just Give Cash’ or Is Money Alone the Best Option for Improving Health Justice?” Department of Social Medicine Forum, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.	Oct 2015
It Takes Guts to Think About Health Equity.” Invited speaker. ‘Health Equity: What People Think’ workshop.	Apr 2015
Addressing Health Disparities in Minority Populations. Invited speaker. Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication Annual Meeting.	Aug 2014
Roundtable on the Social Determinants of Health with the Official Opposition Health Critic. Invited panelist. Lachine, QC.	Apr 2014
Is Health Justice Impossible? Evidence, Uncertainty, and Public Policy. Invited speaker. University of Ottawa.	Jan 2014
Just the Facts Ma’am? On the Role of Evidence in Interdisciplinary Health Inequalities Research. Invited speaker. University of North Carolina.	Oct 2013
The Context-Dependence of Value Judgments About Health Inequalities. Invited speaker. Dalhousie University.	Oct 2013
Two Decades of Increasing Opioid-Related Mortality: Causes, Controversies, and Ethics. Invited speaker. Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research.	Apr 2013
At the Frontiers of Public Health Ethics: Using Mixed Methods to Study Decision-Making, Health Inequalities, and Public Health Policy. Invited speaker. Berman Institute for Bioethics, Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health.	Mar 2013
The Iconography of New Infectious Threats, 1936-2009. Invited speaker. Centre for the Humanities and Medicine & Department of History, University of Hong Kong.	Dec 2012

Bias in Health Inequalities Reporting: Systematic and Experimental Approaches. Invited speaker. Analytical Sociology and Institutional Design Group (GSADI), Universitat Autònoma De Barcelona.	Jul 2012
Bias in Health Inequalities Reporting: A Multidisciplinary Study. Invited poster. Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Annual Meeting.	Apr 2012
Justice, by the Numbers: Health Inequality Measures, and Why they Matter. Invited speaker. Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center.	Oct 2011
Public Health Ethics Frameworks: An Introduction. Invited speaker. Canadian Public Health Association Annual Meeting.	Jun 2011
Challenges to Integrating Ethics into Public Health Practice. Invited speaker. National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy.	Mar 2011
Surveillance for Decision Making in Emerging Diseases: Lessons from the 2009 H1N1 Influenza Pandemic. Invited panelist. Harvard School of Public Health.	Jun 2010
Justice, By the Numbers - or, Can Ethicists Do Policy Without Math? Invited speaker. Centre de Recherche En Éthique de l'Université de Montréal.	May 2010
Health Justice, By the Numbers. Invited speaker. Health Care, Technology, and Place Annual Workshop, University of Toronto	Apr 2010
H1N1 Pandemic Planning. Invited speaker. The Fritz Institute, San Francisco.	Aug 2009
Scenario Building and Population Health. Invited speaker. Strategic Initiatives and Innovations Directorate, Public Health Agency of Canada workshop on Scenario-Building and Public Health.	May 2009
Anthropologies of Addiction Workshop. Invited discussant. McGill University.	Apr 2009
Social Justice and the HIV/AIDS Epidemic. Invited keynote. Michigan Department of Community Health STD & HIV Conference.	Nov 2008
The Human Microbiome Project: Microbes, Medicine and Identity. Invited panelist. Bioethics Summer Meeting.	Jun 2008
Occupational Lung Disease: Ethical Considerations. Invited speaker. Doctor Dorothy Wiselberg Seminar, Division of Respiratory Medicine, McGill University Health Center.	Jun 2008
What's Wrong with Health Inequalities? Invited speaker. Hixon Hour Lecture, University of Kansas Medical Center.	Apr 2008
Hepatitis B and the Infected Healthcare Worker: Public Safety at Any Cost? Invited speaker. McGill University Health Center Grand Rounds, Montreal General Hospital.	Mar 2008
What's Wrong with Health Inequalities? Invited speaker. Rock Ethics Institute, Pennsylvania State University.	Sept 2007

Expert meeting on Bioethics and Biodefense. Invited panelist. Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.	Feb 2007
Is Health a Useful Proxy for Social Justice? Invited speaker. Against Health Conference, University of Michigan.	Oct 2006
The Soft Cage of Biosecurity? Biological Weapons and the Surveillance Convergence, 1926-2005. Invited Speaker. Department of History, Case Western Reserve University.	Oct 2006
The Soft Cage of Biosecurity? Invited speaker. School of International & Public Affairs. Columbia University.	Apr 2006
If Racial Disparities in Health are the Problem, Can Racially-Targeted Drugs be a Solution? Invited Speaker. Race, Pharmaceuticals, and Medical Technology workshop, MIT University.	Apr 2006
Epidemics in the Making: Politics and the Production of Infectious Disease conference. Invited panelist. University of Minnesota.	Feb 2006
The Ethics of Biodefense. Invited speaker. Stanford University	Apr 2005
The Ethics of Biodefense. Invited speaker. Case Western Reserve University.	Feb 2005
Infection and Contagion: Reflections from the Humanities. Invited panelist. Reframing Infectious Disease conference. University of Michigan.	Dec 2004
Social Science Research Council Working Group on Integrative Doctoral Programs in the Health and Social Sciences. Invited participant.	May 2004
The Iconography of New Infectious Threats. Invited speaker. Department of Communications, University of Michigan.	Apr 2004
The Iconography of New Infectious Threats: Disease in Public Health Films, 1936-2003. Invited speaker. University of British Columbia.	Mar 2004
Biodefense: History, Politics, Ethics. Invited speaker. Rice University.	Feb 2004
Questions of Evidence. Invited speaker. Studying-up/Multi-sited Ethnography Workshop. University of California, Berkeley.	Feb 2004
The Iconography of New Infectious Threats. Invited speaker. National Library of Medicine symposium on "Visual Culture and Public Health."	Oct 2003
Bioterrorism and the Politics of Fear. Invited speaker. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.	Apr 2003
AAA Public Policy Forum: Bioterrorism, Epidemics, and the Future of Public Health. Invited speaker. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.	Nov 2002
Biological Threats. Invited panelist. History of Science Society Annual Meeting.	Nov 2002

Information is Good (and Bad) for Your Health: Utopias of Surveillance in Modern American Public Health. Invited speaker. History and Philosophy of Science Program, Stanford University.	Oct 2002
Reflections on September 11th: A Panel Discussion on its Implications for Historians of Medicine and Public Health. Invited panelist. American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting.	May 2002
The Scale Politics of Emerging Diseases. Invited speaker. Workshop on "Environment, Health and Place in Global Perspective." University of Wisconsin, Madison.	Apr 2002
Ebola, Emerging Diseases, and Biological Terrorism: Infectious Disease in Global Networks. Invited speaker. Department of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine, University of California, San Francisco.	Dec 2001
Infectious Information: Bioterrorism, Global Networks, and Urban Public Health in the Internet Age. Invited plenary. Digital Communities: Cities in the Information Society.	Nov 2001
The Practices of Ownership. Invited commentor. Owning Up: Bodies, Selves, and the New Genetic Property. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University.	May 2001
The Empire of Biomedicine. Invited speaker. Workshop on "Postcolonial Technoscience." University of California at San Francisco.	Apr 2001
Globalization, or a New Nativism? Race, Nation and Disease Emergence. Invited speaker. Symposium on Race, Health, and Citizenship. Princeton University.	May 2000

Conference and Panel Organizing

Conference co-organizer. "Legalizing Marijuana in Canada: Policy Challenges." Montreal, QC.	Apr 2018
Symposium organizer. "Science and Skepticism: Critiquing Bad Research In An Anti-Science Era." Montreal, QC.	Mar 2018
Research slam organizer, McGill Center for Social and Cultural Data Science Research Slam.	Mar 2017
Workshop organizer and presenter. "Epidemiology, Causation, and Public Policy." Montreal, QC.	May 2016
Workshop organizer and presenter. "Health Equity: What People Think." Montreal, QC.	May 2014
Debate organizer and moderator. "Is There an Ethical Imperative to Address the Social Determinants of Health?" McGill University, Montreal QC.	Apr 2011
Conference organizer and chair. The Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications of Metagenomics and the Human Microbiome Project. Case Western University.	Nov 2007

Panel organizer. Biosecurity: Surveillance, Risk, and the 'War on Terror'. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Oct 2005
Panel Organizer. Biodefense: Critical Perspectives. Reframing Infectious Disease conference. University of Michigan.	Dec 2004
Conference Organizer. Exchange Networks in Modern Biomedical Science. University of California, San Francisco.	Apr 2003
Panel co-organizer. Information Technology, Culture, and Health. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Nov 2002
Symposium Organizer. Bioterrorism Preparedness: Contexts and Consequences. University of California, San Francisco.	May 2002
Panel organizer and presenter. Race, Ethnicity, and Geographies of Difference in the Tuberculosis Pandemic. Society for the Social History of Medicine Spring Conference.	Mar 2002
Panel organizer and chair. Framing Risks in Uncertain Times: Challenges for STS Scholars. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Nov 2001
Panel Chair, Girls on Film? Gender and Mass Media. Beyond No Man's Land, Harvard Graduate Interdisciplinary Gender Studies Conference.	Mar 2001
Workshop organizer and chair. Exchange and Commodification in Modern Medicine. The Humanities Center, Harvard University.	Nov 1999

Conference Presentations

Similar intentions, disparate affects: Modelling ethical criteria of health equity to inform diabetes interventions using the Diabetes Population Risk Tool. Canadian Association for Health Services and Policy Research.	May 2020
How counseling messages are framed to parents and their influence on the reported physical activity of their children. Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting.	May 2016
Trends and demographic patterns in non-medical use of prescription opioids, 2002-2010. Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting.	Jun 2014
Health Inequalities: From measurement to policy. Quebec Inter-University Center for Social Statistics International Conference.	May 2014
Use of relative and absolute effect measures in reporting health inequalities: structured review. Presentation. ACT now: Accuracy, Completeness and Transparency in Health Research Reporting Meeting.	Oct 2012
The impact of framing on judgments about health inequalities. Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting.	Oct 2011

The influence of popular media on perceptions of personal and population risk in possible disease outbreaks. Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting.	Oct 2011
Who Cares About Health Inequalities? Findings From The World Health Survey. Society for Medical Decision Making Annual Meeting.	Oct 2010
Who Cares About Health Inequalities? Cross-Country Evidence from the World Health Survey. Society for Epidemiologic Research Annual Meeting.	Jun 2010
Visualizing Inequality. Fourth International Conference on Interdisciplinary Social Sciences.	Jun 2009
Mapping Equity and Efficiency in Global Health. Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting.	Mar 2009
All Health Inequalities are not Created Equal. American Society for Bioethics and Humanities	Oct 2007
The Moral Complexity of Measurement – or, All Health Inequalities are not Created Equal. European Conference on Philosophy of Medicine and Health Care.	Aug 2007
Security, Justice, and the 'Dual-Use' Ideal in American Public Health. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Oct 2006
The Magic of Clinical Trials. Invited Session, “Cultures of Chemistry: Magic, Science and Religion in the Globalization of Pharmaceuticals.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.	Nov 2005
Pharma Porn: Making the Case for Medicalization. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Oct 2005
The Soft Cage of Biosecurity? Biological Weapons and the Surveillance Convergence, 1926-2005. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Oct 2005
Pharma Porn: Corporate Advertising and the Commodification of Medicine. American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting.	Oct 2004
Information is Good (and Bad) for Your Health: Bioterrorism, Emerging Diseases, and the Globalization of Disease Surveillance Networks. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Nov 2002
Infectious Disease in Global Networks. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.	Nov 2002
Bioterrorism, Surveillance, and American Public Health at Millennium's End. West Coast History of Science Society Annual Meeting.	Apr 2002
Dangerous Fragments: Globalization, Bioterrorism and American Anxiety in the New Millennium. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Nov 2001

The Contagion of Difference: Race and Disease in a Globalizing Era. Society for the Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting.	Nov 2001
Development and Disease Emergence. American Historical Association Annual Meeting.	Jan 2001
Emerging Diseases' and 20 th Century Geographies of Difference. American Society for Environmental History Annual Meeting.	Mar 2000
What's New About Emerging Diseases? American Studies Association Annual Meeting.	Oct 1999
Chronicle of a Disaster Foretold: Epidemic Disease as Medical Commodity. Society for the Social History of Medicine Annual Meeting.	Jul 1999
Chronicle of a Disaster Foretold: Emerging Diseases and the Political Economy of Novelty. American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting.	May 1999
Emerging Diseases and the Political Economy of Novelty. Center for Literary and Cultural Studies, Harvard University.	Nov 1997

Teaching – Awards

Thank a Prof Teaching Award, McGill University	2017/18, 2019/20, 2025/26
Faculty Honour List for Educational Excellence, McGill University Faculty of Medicine	2024
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health Student Society, for Excellence in Teaching Public Health, McGill University	2022
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health Student Society, for Excellence in Teaching Public Health, McGill University	2018
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health Student Society, Senior Teaching Award, Best Course, McGill University	2011
Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health Student Society, Senior Teaching Award, Best Course, McGill University	2010
Finalist, Wittke Undergraduate Teaching Award, Case Western Reserve University	2007
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	2000
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	1999
Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Harvard University	1998

Teaching – Courses Taught

Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy. Max Bell School of Public Policy, McGill University	2024-present
Evidence, Experts, and Policy. Max Bell School of Public Policy, McGill University	2019-present
Public Health Ethics and Policy. Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2008-present
Medical Ethics and Health Law. Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2008-present
Ethics and Artificial Intelligence for Public Health. AI4PH training program.	2022-25
The 'Crisis' in Health Research. Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2016-23
Bias in Medicine. Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2011-16
Health Inequalities. Faculty of Medicine, McGill University	2008-10
Health and Health Care in Comparative Perspective: Costa Rica and the United States. Department of Bioethics, Case Western Reserve University	2008-10
Health Inequalities and Social Justice. Department of Bioethics, Case Western Reserve University	2006-08
Everything for Sale. Case Western Reserve University	2006
On Pain. Department of the History of Science, Harvard University.	1997-98

Teaching – Research Trainees Supervised (McGill University)

Vanessa Amar – MSc in Public Health	2024-26
Christopher Trudeau – PhD, Information Studies	2020-25
Hardy Oei – Postdoctoral fellow	2022-25
Parnor Madjity – PhD, Family Medicine	2018-22
Megan Allore – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2018-21
Maxime Polleri – Postdoctoral fellow	2019-20
James Mellett – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2018-19
Jamal Archer – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2016-18
Anushree Dave – MS Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2015-17
Zinzi Bailey – Postdoctoral fellow	2014-16
Tarik Banmarhnia – Postdoctoral fellow	2014-16
Mark Daku – Postdoctoral fellow	2014-16
Jonathan Huang – Postdoctoral fellow	2014-16
Philippa Bird – Postdoctoral fellow	2013-16
Robin Richardson – PhD, Epidemiology	2013-16
Aly Kanji – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2013-15
Daniel Widrig – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2013-15
Gry Wester – Postdoctoral fellow	2012-14
Jurgen De Wispelaere – Postdoctoral fellow	2012-14
Laura Bisailon – Postdoctoral fellow	2012-14
Anat Rosenthal – Postdoctoral fellow	2012-14
Georgina Freeman – MS, Bioethics & Experimental Medicine	2011-13

Kristin Voigt – Postdoctoral fellow	2011-12
Adina Preda – Postdoctoral fellow	2011-12
Christine Baudouin – MS, Bioethics & Law	2010-12
Aaron Goldenberg – PhD, Bioethics (Case Western Reserve University)	2006-08

Departmental and University Service (McGill University)

Administrative roles

Director, Ethics & Policy Stream, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health	2021-present
Director, Medical Ethics & Health Law curriculum, Faculty of Medicine	2008-18, 24-25
Director, 4th-year 'Medicine & Society' curriculum, Faculty of Medicine	2018-23
Director, McGill Program in Policy and Data Science	2017-20
Director, Physicianship 4 medical curriculum, Faculty of Medicine	2008-11

Committees

Impact+ chairs review committee, Max Bell School of Public Policy	2026
Research committee, Max Bell School of Public Policy	2025-present
Multiple mini-interview review committee, Faculty of Medicine	2011-present
Admissions committee, Max Bell School of Public Policy	2021-present
Admission committee, Bioethics specialization	2009-present
Chair, Policy Lab review committee	2025
Faculty search committee, Department of Epidemiology, Biostatistics, and Occupational Health	2024
Chair, Masters of Public Policy review committee	2022-23
Department of Ethics, Equity & Policy chair search committee	2022-23
MScPH Admissions Committee, Faculty of Medicine	2013-22
Founding board member, McGill Center for Social and Cultural Data Science	2016-21
Stakeholders Committee, School of Population & Global Health	2017-21
Basic Sciences Education Champions Committee, Faculty of Medicine	2018-20
Faculty search committee, Department of Social Studies of Medicine	2019

Chair, Subcommittee on Membership, Organization, Structure, Governance and Funding, Institute for Public and Population Health Task Force	2014-15
Physicianship Coordinating Committee, Faculty of Medicine	2008-17
MScPH Core Curriculum Review Committee, Faculty of Medicine	2013-16
Faculty of Medicine Widening Participation Committee	2009-12
“Would You Fund It?” Review Committee	2011
Limited Self-Study Task Force, Faculty of Medicine	2009-10
Strategic Planning Education Design Group committee, Faculty of Medicine	2009-10

Other service roles

Faculty mentor, Provost’s Faculty Mentorship Network	2020-present
Steering Committee, McGill Program in Global Mental Health	2016-present
Pro-Dean, Sam Selmani, Department of Physics	2017
Pro-Dean, Rosalind Hampton, Integrated Studies in Education	2016
Pro-Dean, Oleksandr Fuks, Education and Counseling Psychology	2014

Professional Service

Journal Refereeing

<i>American Journal of Bioethics</i>	2008
<i>American Journal of Public Health</i>	2011, 2013
<i>Annals of Epidemiology</i>	2018
<i>Bioethics</i>	2021
<i>Biosecurity and Bioterrorism</i>	2005
<i>BMC Medical Ethics</i>	2017, 2018
<i>BMC Public Health</i>	2015
<i>BMJ</i>	2021
<i>BMJ Global Health</i>	2019, 2020
<i>Bulletin of the History of Medicine</i>	2023
<i>Bulletin of the World Health Organization</i>	2014
<i>Canadian Journal of Bioethics</i>	2019
<i>Canadian Journal of Public Health</i>	2022
<i>Clinical Infectious Diseases</i>	2018
<i>Clinical Trials</i>	2023
<i>Critical Public Health</i>	2011
<i>Critical Review of International Social & Political Philosophy</i>	2025, 2026
<i>Cultural Anthropology</i>	2007, 2008
<i>Developing World Bioethics</i>	2024
<i>EcoHealth</i>	2010
<i>Environment and Planning A</i>	2007

<i>Epidemiology</i>	2012, 2014, 2016, 2018
<i>Globalizations</i>	2017
<i>Health</i>	2002
<i>Health and History</i>	2009
<i>Health Care Analysis</i>	2024
<i>Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada</i>	2017
<i>International Journal for Equity in Health</i>	2014, 2016
<i>International Journal of Epidemiology</i>	2009
<i>Journal of the American Medical Association</i>	2007
<i>Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health</i>	2018
<i>Journal of Global Security Studies</i>	2018
<i>Journal of Medical Ethics</i>	2011, 2022
<i>Journal of Public Health</i>	2016
<i>Lancet</i>	2020
<i>Management Information Systems Quarterly</i>	2004
<i>Medical Anthropology</i>	2005
<i>Medical Anthropology Quarterly</i>	2006
<i>New Global Studies</i>	2009
<i>Observational Studies</i>	2024
<i>Pain Medicine</i>	2015
<i>PLOS Medicine</i>	2016, 2019
<i>Preventive Medicine Reports</i>	2016
<i>Public Health Ethics</i>	2011, 2021
<i>Regulation & Governance</i>	2011
<i>Science</i>	2015
<i>Science as Culture</i>	2006, 2010
<i>Science and Engineering Ethics</i>	2025
<i>Scientific Reports</i>	2024
<i>Science, Technology, and Human Values</i>	2014
<i>Social Science and Medicine</i>	2012
<i>Social Science and Medicine – Population Health</i>	2023
<i>Social Studies of Science</i>	2008, 2010, 2017, 2018
<i>Substance Use & Misuse</i>	2017
<i>Tropical Medicine and International Health</i>	2022

Grant Reviews

Canadian Foundation for Innovation, AI & Social Science	2025
Swiss National Science Foundation	2025
MITACS Accelerate Competition	2023
York University CIHR Ad Hoc Review	2020
Canadian Foundation for Innovation, John R. Evans Leaders Fund	2018
International Development Research Centre, Ebola Rapid Research Fund	2018
Quebec Population Health Research Network	2018
Canadian Institutes of Health Research	2017
Australian National Health and Medical Research Council	2017
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2015
The Icelandic Research Fund	2014
Canadian Institutes of Health Research	2010, 2011, 2012, 2013
Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation	2012
Wellcome Trust Foundation	2010
National Science Foundation	2008
Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada	2008
Wellcome Trust Foundation	2008

Other Reviews

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, <i>Global Perspectives on Public Health Ethics: A Casebook</i>	2013
National Collaborating Centre for Healthy Public Policy, <i>Ethics & Economic Evaluation</i>	2013
Canadian Institutes of Health Research, <i>Public Health Ethics Casebook</i>	2011

Media

Exploring Evidence-Based Policy with Dr. Nick King. The Bell Podcast (22 Jan)	2026
California Expands Program That Pays People to Stop Using Drugs. KQED Forum (5 Sept)	2023
A spike in pandemic-related mental illness has overwhelmed Canada's health care system. The Conversationists (24 Feb)	2022
Emerging health law ethics challenges with Dr. Nicholas King. McGill Journal of Law and Health Podcast (23 Feb)	2022
The pandemic exposed Montreal's inequalities, and residents say it's time to tackle root causes. CBC News (3 Nov)	2021
Peut-on parler de « décès acceptables » de la COVID-19? Radio-Canada (9 Oct)	2021
Concerns raised over travel based on type of COVID-19 vaccine received. Global News (22 July)	2021
COVID-19: Could Albertans choose which vaccine they get? GlobalNews (5 March)	2021
Trudeau's move to wait his turn for vaccine signals difference in political dynamics with U.S., say experts. Hill Times (6 Jan)	2021
COVID-19 Vaccine distribution. CTV News (9 Dec)	2020
Legault concedes Quebec's pandemic projection data is out of date. Montreal Gazette (16 Sept)	2020
Keeping accurate lists of COVID in schools not 'mission impossible.' Montreal Gazette (12 Sept)	2020
How Canada's first long-term coronavirus pandemic projections hold up today. Global News (1 Aug)	2020
Covid Conversations Talking Culture podcast (25 June)	2020
Racialized groups in Canada will 'lose' in the post-pandemic economy. Experts aren't surprised. Global News (21 June)	2020
Covid-19: chi teme la riapertura e chi invece pensa all'economia. OMNI Television (10 June)	2020

Should B.C. remain an outlier when it comes to releasing locations of COVID-19 cases? CBC News (30 May)	2020
How we make decisions during a pandemic. Knowable Magazine (26 May)	2020
Coronavirus pandemic exposing health inequities among Canadians, experts say. Global News (25 May)	2020
Florida knew a COVID-19 pandemic was likely. State leaders didn't warn the public. Miami Herald (20 May)	2020
COVID-19's devastating toll on families in Montreal's poorest neighbourhoods. CBC News (15 May)	2020
Gare à l'infection volontaire. La Presse (30 April)	2020
Quebec and Ontario are hardest hit by coronavirus. Why are their reopening plans different? Global News (29 April)	2020
The pandemic pods choosing friendship over public health. MEL Magazine (20 April 20)	2020
Better late than never? What to expect from COVID-19 modeling — if Manitoba ever reveals it. CBC News (22 April)	2020
Reporting COVID-19 numbers in small communities. CBC Radio (6 April)	2020
The ethics of safe injection sites CTV News (2 Mar)	2017