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CAMBRIDGE

The Centre for Law, Medicine and Life Sciences

Annual Report
2024–2025



An introduction from **Professor Kathy Liddell**

Director of the Centre for Law, Medicine and Life Sciences



As we begin to celebrate LML's tenth anniversary, I am proud to share a snapshot of the 2024/25 year which was full of energy, intellect and collegiality. From our earliest days, LML has aimed to bring legal insights to the fast-moving worlds of medicine and the life sciences. This year's achievements show how firmly the Centre is now established, and how well our work resonates both within Cambridge and beyond.

Our collaborations have grown deeper and more global, our publications continue to influence major debates, and our events have brought together leading thinkers from across disciplines and continents. We have welcomed new colleagues, supported the development of ambitious students and early-career scholars, and contributed to major research programmes that recognise LML's leadership at the international level. These activities reflect not only the dedication of our team, but the strength of the networks and partnerships we have built over the past decade.

Looking ahead, I feel very positive about the next chapter in LML's development. With a vibrant community, a strong portfolio of research and deepening engagement with national and global partners, we are well placed to take on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. I look forward to continuing this work together and building an even more ambitious and productive Centre over the coming year.

One of the things about which I am most proud of this year is the strength of values within our LML community. Colleagues and visitors have continued to support one another and to produce work of real quality, while also managing busy family lives with remarkable balance and commitment. This combination of collegiality and genuine humanity, coupled with the widening diversity of international visitors, is a real marker of LML's character.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kathy Liddell'.

Major Achievements

In 2024-25, LML:

- commenced the third year of a substantial five-year, collaborative research grant of approximately £5.8m from the Novo Nordisk Foundation, recognising our expertise and leadership at the international level.
- provided the course on Law, Medicine and Life Sciences and PhD supervisions, which continue to attract a cohort of enthusiastic, bright participants, demonstrating our commitment to knowledge dissemination and nurturing future leaders in our field.
- had members publish over 20 works, expand their research impact and deliver multiple lecture courses.
- hosted the Baron de Lancey Lecture 2025: Repugnant Transactions and Taboo Trades with more than 150 guests in attendance.
- was actively involved in the Governance of Stem Cell-Based Embryo Models (G-SCBEM) Working Group, a pioneering policy project initiated by the University of Cambridge which published the first ever UK guidelines for the generation and use of stem cell-based embryo models in 2024.
- welcomed a steady stream of leading researchers, strengthening our reputation as a hub for cutting-edge research.



People

Leadership



Prof. Kathy Liddell
Director



Prof. Jeff Skopek
Deputy Director

Research Appointments



Prof. Mateo Aboy
Director of Research in
Technology and Law



Prof. Michael Hopkins
Senior Research
Associate



Dr Cristina Crespo
Research Scholar



Laurence Childs
Research Assistant



Natalie Kiilu
Research Projects
Coordinator

Law Faculty and College Members



Dr Jennifer Cobbe



Prof. David Erdos



**Prof. Stephen
Gilmore**



Dr Stevie Martin



**Prof. Okeoghene
Odudu**



Dr Stephanie Palmer



Dr Rumiana Yotova



**Dr Ira Chadha-
Sridhar**

People

PhD Students



Emma Scott



Rebecca Brown



Matt Jordan



Marno Swart



Zihan Ni

Research Affiliates



Dr Elizabeth Fistein
Cambridge Clinical
School



Dr Zöe Fritz
Cambridge Clinical
School



Prof. Timo Minssen
University of
Copenhagen



Matthew Leitch
1 Crown Office Row



Dr Isaac Weldon
University of
Copenhagen



Prof. Erik Hahn
University of Applied
Sciences, Görlitz & the
Technical University of
Dresden

Events

LML members participated in a wide range of events this year. Some of those organised 'in house' included:



The Baron de Lancey Public Lecture 2025: Medicine and the Rule of Law
Speaker: Prof. Kimberly Krawiec, University of Virginia
Faculty of Law, Cambridge and online
20 March 2025
Organised by LML, Prof. Kathy Liddell, and Prof. Jeff Skopek



Medical AI Workshop: Governance and Liability of Medical AI
Hughes Hall College, Cambridge
29 November 2024
Organised by LML and the PHG Foundation

Examples of our Work

Publications (for a full list, see pages 13-14)

I Weldon, K Liddell, K Outterson, 'Policy Options for Antimicrobial Resistance: Exploring Lessons From Environmental Governance'

The *Milbank Quarterly* (2025), <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-0009.70050>

- This article draws parallels between the challenges of the antimicrobial resistance (AMR) crisis and those of environmental crises as shared-resource problems.
- The authors identify nine adaptable policy strategies from environmental governance that could inform AMR governance; particularly, market-driven approaches in climate governance, state-led mechanisms from water management, and Community-led efforts from biodiversity conservation.
- Recognizing that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to AMR, the article provides policymakers with practical tools to confront this global threat.

M Aboy, U Gasser, G Cohen & M Kop, Quantum technology governance: A standards-first approach, 389(6760) *Science* (2025), <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adw0018>

- This article proposes a “standards-first” approach to governing emerging quantum technologies.
- The authors propose the development of a Quantum Technology Quality Management System (QT-QMS), integrating ethical, legal and societal considerations with established risk management principles which could guide responsible innovation, simplify future regulatory efforts and ensure global interoperability as quantum technologies mature.

Presentations

- **Prof. Mateo Aboy** presented on the subject matter eligibility of Artificial Neural Networks (ANN) during the 2025 CIPIL Conference: “Emotional Perception AI: Are Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs) Computer Programs?”
- **Prof. Jeffrey Skopek** presented at LML’s Focus Group on Liability of Medical AI (29 November 2024)
- **Dr Rumiana Yotova** delivered the 6th Annual Heilbron Lecture for the Next 100 Years Project in the Old Bailey in London on the topic 'Creation: The Human and Humanity in the Age of New Technologies'.

Media Coverage

- **Dr Isaac Weldon** presented on his paper co-authored with **Prof. Liddell** and Kevin Outterson: “Policy Options for Antimicrobial Resistance: Exploring Lessons From Environmental Governance” for the Global Strategy Lab’s media, [talking in a short video](#).
- **Dr Ira Chadha Sridhar** was invited for an episode of the ‘[Careful Thinking](#)’ podcast, hosted by Dr. Martin Robb of the School of Health, Wellbeing and Social Care at The Open University in the UK. Each episode features an in-depth conversation with a researcher, writer, or practitioner at the cutting edge about current thinking about care.

A Selection of LML's Collaborations

University of Copenhagen

LML's involved and exciting collaboration with the University of Copenhagen was exemplified at the end of September 2023, where a research award was announced to grow CeBIL into Inter-CeBIL. This award will run from October 2023 to September 2028. With a grand total of over DKK 50m (approx. £6 mill), the grant will enable the Consortium, including LML and its partners, to research advanced medical computing, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, pandemic preparedness, antimicrobial resistance, sustainable innovation and biosolutions.

In June 2025, Prof. Mateo Aboy participated in the Inter-CeBIL Annual Retreat and kick-off event in Denmark which provided an opportunity for collaborators to convene, share progress updates, and receive feedback on the key Inter-CeBIL research areas.



INAMRSS

LML is a founding research centre of the International Network for AMR Social Science (INAMRSS). INAMRSS is an open consortium of international academic centres focused on social science research and policy on antimicrobial resistance. Led by Prof. Timo Minssen (University of Copenhagen), INAMRSS functions as a network of networks, fostering international research and collaboration by tying together research leaders from diverse regional, national and international AMR research centres. Prof. Kathy Liddell (Director of LML) acts as the key liaison, and Dr Stephanie Palmer has also been involved in this research collaboration.



A Selection of LML's Collaborations

University of Hong Kong

Due to the origins of the Centre's funding, we have a close relationship with the Centre for Medical Ethics and Law (CMEL) at the University of Hong Kong. In March 2025, LML hosted Dr Eric Ip (University of Hong Kong) through the Herbert Smith Freehills Global Visitor Programme, which promotes collaboration between our university, Harvard Law School, the National University of Singapore, the University of Hong Kong, the University of Toronto, and the University of Auckland. We also hosted CMEL's postdoctoral fellow, Sanwar Siraj, as a Research Visitor for the month of April 2025.



Other Partners

LML continues to collaborate with its other partners, including the universities of Harvard, McGill, Melbourne, Sydney and Tasmania.



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Impact

LML aspires to shape the ways in which academics, policymakers, and the public understand and address the legal and ethical challenges that arise in the fields of medicine and the life sciences. We aim to have both academic and social impact. This impact can be seen, in part, through our events, publications, and active networks both with academics from other disciplines and with senior policy makers at institutions including the Department of Health. These foundations are important for building trust, credibility and collaborative engagement.



As LML concludes its tenth year, our work has greater maturity and is having increasing impact on public opinion and policy development. For example:

- Prof. Kathy Liddell contributed to the Nuffield Council on Bioethics Workshop on the 14-day rule in July 2025 whose outputs will inform national debate and policy on the regulation of embryo research in the UK.
- Prof. Mateo Aboy published an influential article 'Quantum technology governance: A standards-first approach' in Science which proposes the development of a Quantum Technology Quality Management System, integrating ethical, legal and societal considerations with established risk management principles.

Collegial Events

Along with formal events, LML also hosts collegial events with members and partner organisations to foster its strong and growing community.

CANVAS

In late 2022, LML set up CANVAS—the Cambridge Network for Values and Science—as a collegial forum for a Cambridge-based ecosystem across law, social sciences, medical sciences and public engagement. The acronym stands for the Cambridge Network for Values and Science, and held termly meetings in 2024-25. The group was created to connect those working at the intersection of biomedical issues, humanities and social sciences. CANVAS includes representatives from THIS Institute, the Kavli Centre, SCaN, Wellcome Connecting Science, CsaP, HPS, PHG Foundation and LML.



Coffee Mornings

LML hosts regular coffee mornings during term time. It presents an opportunity for our postgraduate and early-career researchers (particularly our newer members) to meet with more senior academic colleagues. Visiting scholars to the centre also join to meet and connect with our members.



Christmas Dinner

LML also hosts its much loved Christmas dinner as a joint event with CIPIIL (Centre for Intellectual Property Law). It always presents a great opportunity for members to celebrate the holidays together!

[PENDING PHOTOGRAPH]

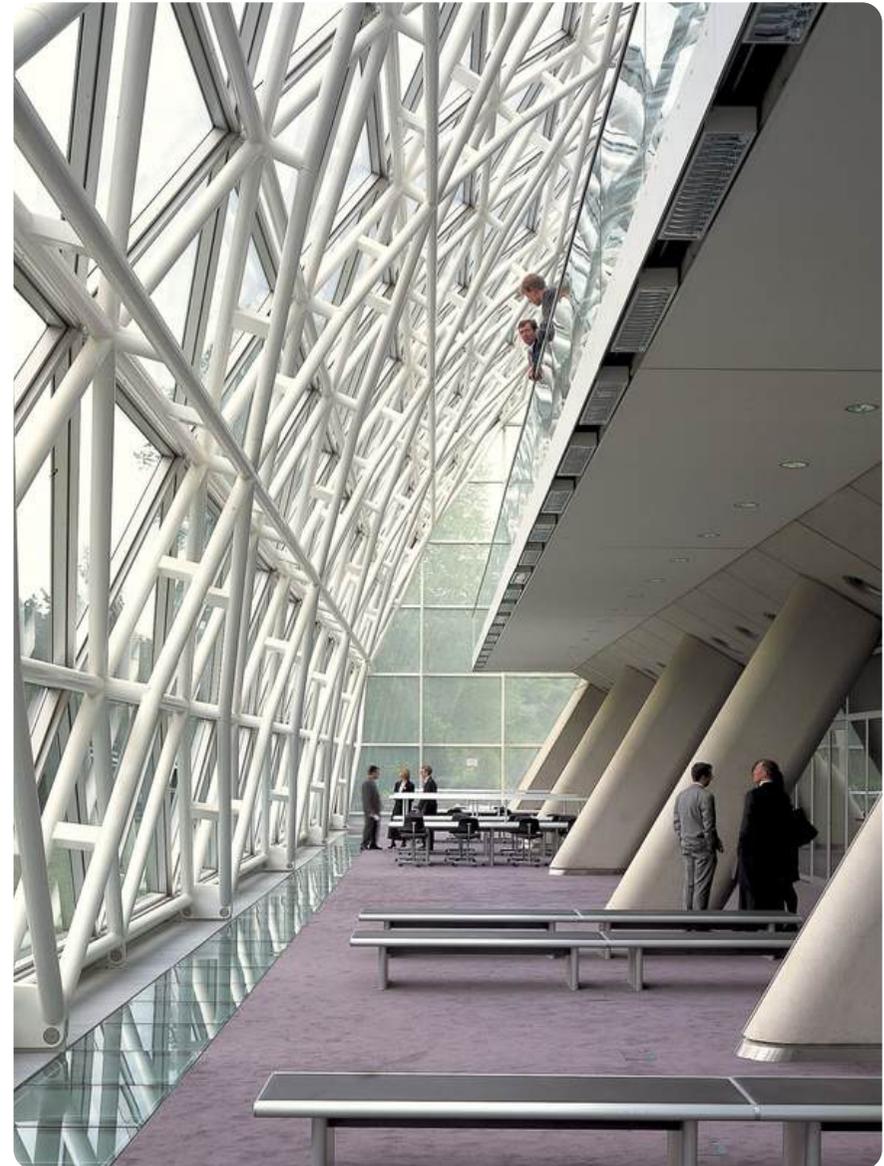
Conclusion

In conclusion, this past year, which marked LML's tenth anniversary, represents a significant milestone that has further consolidated our position as a leading research institution both nationally and internationally. The achievements highlighted in this report illustrate our commitment to academic excellence. Our members' publications, presentations, events, and collaborative projects continue to drive tangible change in our field. Financially, the Centre has shown resilience and success, securing and sustaining ample resources, including a second substantial five-year grant from the Novo Nordisk Foundation. Our courses and PhD supervisions continue to attract enthusiastic participants, whom we guide towards becoming future leaders in the field, aligning with our broader vision.

This year, we saw a marked increase in visitor requests from a wide range of regions, including from low- and middle-income countries, which underscores LML's growing international reach. Additionally, several LML members have accepted career-enhancing positions at other institutions, further demonstrating the calibre and impact of our team.

Looking forward, LML is well positioned to tackle new challenges and pursue emerging opportunities. With a strong portfolio of ongoing research projects and grants, we are poised to build on our achievements and anticipate an exciting year ahead.

Prof. Kathy Liddell & Prof. Jeff Skopek



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