


NOMINATION SIGNATURE PAGE

2021 Virginia Outstanding Faculty Awards

Please include this as the cover page of the nomination package PDF submission*

Name of Applicant:	Andrew Hardy Peterson
Institution:	George Mason University
Category:	Research/Doctoral Institution
Signature of President or Chief Academic Officer:	
Printed Name of President or Chief Academic Officer:	Mark R. Ginsberg
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George Mason University's Mission Statement

A public, comprehensive research university established by the Commonwealth of Virginia in the National Capital Region, we are an innovative and inclusive academic community committed to creating a more just, free, and prosperous world.

The Mason IDEA: our core institutional characteristics

Innovative = We do not cling to old ways just because they have worked in the past. We honor time-tested academic principles, while we strive to create new forms of education that serve our students better and new paths of research that can help us discover solutions to the world's greatest challenges.

Diverse = We bring together a multitude of people and ideas in everything that we do. Our culture of inclusion, our multidisciplinary approach, and our global perspective make us more effective educators and scholars.

Entrepreneurial = We take ideas into action. We educate students to become agents of positive change; to do or create jobs; to create value through government or business, public or private organizations, academia or the arts. We pursue discoveries that can make a difference in the world. We help our community thrive culturally, socially, and economically.

Accessible = We are an open and welcoming community. We partner with public and private organizations in our region and around the world. We proactively engage with our community. We define our success by how many talented students with potential we serve, not how many we leave out

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Professor Andrew Peterson is an internationally recognized bioethicist who has made critical and lasting contributions to ethics research on brain injury and associated neurological disorders. In his short career, he has had a transformative impact on George Mason University. His bioethics courses are exceptionally popular and sought after, he has mentored numerous trainees on multidisciplinary bioethics projects, he has published in leading medical and bioethics journals and presented his work at top international venues, he has secured over \$700,000 in extramural funding while at Mason, and he is the only professor in Virginia to date to receive the Greenwall Faculty Scholar Award, the most prestigious early-career bioethics award in the United States, if not the world. Greenwall Scholar alumni currently direct top US bioethics research centers, including Baylor College of Medicine's Bioethics Center and Harvard's Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law. Professor Peterson's commitment to teaching and scholarly excellence has earned him appointments at the University of Pennsylvania Memory Center and the NIH Bioethics Department, both standard bearers for the ethical conduct of research on neurological disease. His unique scholarship is animated by the singular focus of connecting "big questions" about ethics and the human mind to the most pressing challenges in medical science.

Teaching and Mentorship

Professor Peterson is an innovative and passionate teacher whose interdisciplinary courses attract students from across the university, including from neuroscience, psychology, medical science, and philosophy. Cumulatively, Professor Peterson has taught over 400 students at Mason, Western University (Canada), and San Francisco State University. His course evaluations reflect a commitment to teaching excellence, with *Overall Evaluation of Teaching* scores at Mason significantly exceeding college and departmental averages, and half receiving perfect 5.0 scores.

A key feature of Professor Peterson's teaching is his approach to project-based, student-centered learning. His graduate courses are designed to guide students in producing research suitable for presentation at professional conferences, while his bioethics courses incorporate "case simulations" that expose students to the complexities of medical ethics consultation. In recognition of his efforts, Professor Peterson's bioethics class has been consistently cited as an *Outstanding Synthesis Course* by Mason's Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education, a recognition given to courses that receive exceptional student feedback for superior quality.

Professor Peterson is also a committed mentor. In his short career, he has mentored 12 student projects at the BA, MA, PhD, and Postdoctoral levels. Three of these students are:

- Kevin Mintz, Ph.D., Postdoctoral Fellow NIH Bioethics. Project: Mentored teaching program in bioethics. Currently ongoing.
- Sarah W. Denton, M.A. Philosophy, George Mason University. Project: Remembering Trauma: The Ethical Implications of Memory Dampening for Sexual Assault Survivors. Placement: Research Associate, RAND Corporation.
- Joseph DeFranco, M.S. Biosecurity, George Mason University. Project: Differences in Methods for Determining Brain Death Across U.S. Hospitals. Placement: Joint Chiefs of Staff J-3 Scholar, U.S. Special Operations Command.

Professor Peterson's trainees have published their projects in high-impact bioethics journals (e.g., *Cambridge Quarterly of Bioethics*), presented their work at top national conferences (e.g., Society for Neuroscience), received competitive intramural funding, secured prestigious internships (e.g., Mayo Clinic Summer Internship and US Congressional S&T Research Internship), and have been placed at competitive jobs (e.g., RAND Corporation). Of note is Professor Peterson's success in showcasing research from Virginia university students to the academic community. In 2017, for example, the research projects of 5 Mason students were accepted to the International Neuroethics Society conference in Washington DC. Four of these students received "Top Abstract" awards (only 30 were selected out of nearly 150 submissions), and 1 received a "Best Poster" award (only 2 were selected among all conference participants).

Discovery

Professor Peterson is an international leader in the ethics of severe brain injury and associated neurological disorders. In his short career, he has published nearly 30 articles in top medical and bioethics journals, including the *British Medical Journal*, *JAMA Neurology*, *Brain*, and the *American Journal of Bioethics*. He has given over 50 scholarly presentations at top national and international venues, such as Trinity College Dublin and the ICM Brain and Spine Institute in Paris. His research portfolio has garnered over \$700,000 of competitive extramural funding from the National Institute on Aging (NIH), the Greenwall Foundation, and the NEH. His work is featured widely in the media, such as on CNN, Vice News, and The New Scientist, and is broadly cited in the bioethics and medical literatures. A key focus of Professor Peterson's research is to create meaningful and lasting collaborations with medical scientists. This allows him to translate discoveries directly into clinical practice.

Brain Injury and Consciousness

Severe brain injury places an enormous burden on families and health care systems. The annual cost burden of traumatic brain injury in the United States is estimated at \$76.5 billion and patients who require hospitalization account for approximately 90% of these health care costs. Medical decision making for these patients is exceptionally difficult. Prognostication is complex and families may make ethically fraught decisions about the withdrawal of life sustaining therapy without certainty about recovery or if their loved one will have a good quality of life. Professor Peterson's has dedicated the majority of his career to addressing these issues by:

- Developing a sustained and extensive research program on the use of advanced neuroimaging for prognosis and diagnosis of patients with severe brain injury, published in *Bioethics* and the *American Journal of Bioethics-Neuroscience*, among other venues.
- Analyzing difficulties faced by families in U.S. health care systems and recommending ways to improve clinician-family communication, published in *JAMA Neurology* and *Brain Injury*.
- Assessing the ethical conduct of research involving patients with severe brain injury, who constitute a vulnerable population, published in *Brain* and *Neuroscience of Consciousness*.

Professor Peterson's work on brain injury also extends to "big questions" in the scientific study of consciousness. Patients with severe brain injury, such as those in the vegetative state and minimally conscious state, offer medical scientists a window into the inner workings of the human mind. Yet incorporating these patients in research raises complex ethical and methodological challenges, such as validation of new instruments or the logistical hurdles of examining patients with critical and chronic illness. Professor Peterson has addressed these challenges by:

- Developing the first ethical framework for using psychedelics to modulate consciousness in patients with severe brain injury, published in *Neuroscience of Consciousness*.
- Developing a strategy for validating novel neuroimaging methods that assess patients with severe brain injury, published in *Neuroimage: Clinical* and *Neuroscience of Consciousness*.

Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease

Professor Peterson's innovative bioethics research also addresses dementia and the aging brain. It is currently estimated that 5.8 million Americans live with Alzheimer's disease. By 2050, nearly 14 million Americans aged 65 years or older may develop the disease or related dementias. This will have profound social and economic implications. Professor Peterson has engaged two key issues in the ethics of dementia and aging. The first focuses on the emerging framework of "supported decision making" for people with mild cognitive impairment. Professor Peterson has:

- Developed the first detailed ethical analysis of supported decision making as an alternative to guardianship, published in the *American Journal of Bioethics* (forthcoming).
- Analyzed critical differences in US supported decision-making law as compared to laws in other countries, published in *Journal of Health Care Law and Policy* (forthcoming).

The second line of Professor Peterson's dementia and aging research focuses on "paradoxical lucidity." Paradoxical lucidity is an unexpected episode of communication or connectedness, occurring shortly before death, in a person with severe dementia who is clinically noncommunicative. The National Institutes on Aging (NIA/NIH) recently awarded Professor Peterson and Co-PI Dr. Jason Karlawish MD (Codirector of the Penn Memory Center) over \$450,000 to study the experience of family caregivers who have witnessed paradoxical lucidity. This research is designed to optimize novel measures of dementia and paradoxical lucidity, and to improve clinician-caregiver communication when these episodes occur.

The Ethics of Covid-19

Professor Peterson is playing a crucial role in the fight against Covid-19. Serious ethical issues have arisen as Virginia and the US attempt to control the virus. Racial and socioeconomic health inequities have been laid bare, and the lack of a cohesive national strategy has left states and municipalities to fend for themselves. Professor Peterson has engaged these issues by:

- Publishing recommendations in the *British Medical Journal* on how to fairly allocate scarce medical resources, like ventilators and ICU beds, to patients in need.
- Advising the RAND Corporation in developing consensus-based guidelines for optimizing and standardizing triage protocols across US health care systems.
- Conducting a public survey of over 1800 US residents to determine public attitudes toward different triage policies, published in *PLOS ONE* (forthcoming).
- Writing an editorial for CNN on the fair distribution of limited Covid-19 vaccines.

Integration of Knowledge

Professor Peterson's research, teaching, and service are touchstones of genuinely engaged, interdisciplinary scholarship. He is known at Mason for working at the leading edge of his field, producing work that is responsive to and continuous with medical science, and for making a measurable and positive impact on the world. His research appointments at nationally recognized centers for bioethics, public policy, and brain health are a testament to his commitment to knowledge integration. These unique appointments bring the strengths of Mason to bear on real-world problems outside the campus community and classroom walls.

First, Professor Peterson is appointed as a Guest Researcher (in residence) in the Bioethics Department at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. The NIH Clinical Center, also called "The House of Hope", is the largest hospital in the world dedicated solely to human-subjects research. The center has pioneered discoveries in chemotherapy, HIV/AIDS treatment, gene therapy, and is currently undertaking several clinical trials on Covid-19 therapeutics. NIH Bioethics is broadly regarded as the international standard-bearer for policy, scholarship, and guidance in the ethics of human research. Through this appointment, Professor Peterson has developed an innovative NIH Bioethics Fellows teaching mentorship program. The mentorship program allows NIH Fellows to gain teaching experience in bioethics as Affiliate Mason Faculty under Professor Peterson's supervision. In Fall 2020, Professor Peterson is co-teaching a bioethics course with NIH Fellow, Kevin Mintz, PhD, focused on racial and socioeconomic justice in medicine. The program will also allow select Mason students to participate in bioethics activities at the NIH campus.

Second, Professor Peterson is appointed as an Affiliate Researcher at the University of Pennsylvania Memory Center. The Penn Memory Center is an internationally recognized medical and research institute that serves adults, aged 65 years and older, who seek evaluation, diagnosis, and research opportunities related to memory loss. Professor Peterson's ongoing collaborations with the Penn Memory Center allow his research on the aging brain to have a direct impact on patient care. Of note is his work on supported decision making for people with mild cognitive impairment. This scholarship is at the leading edge of advocacy efforts to make supported decision making the norm in gerontology and elder law.

Third, Professor Peterson's appointment in Mason's Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy and his proximity to Washington DC allow for critical interaction with policy makers. The Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy is one of the oldest academic centers in North America dedicated to studying the normative implications of public policy. Since joining Mason, Professor Peterson has played a pivotal role in the Institute's mission, including speaking at the National Academies on the implications of medical biomarkers on securing social security benefits, convening workshops on the ethics and policy of autonomous weapons systems, and drafting recommendations on the biosecurity implications of gene drives. These initiatives have involved senior DoD representatives and Washington DC think tanks, such as New America. In Spring 2017, Professor Peterson extended these efforts by serving as a S&T policy fellow at the Potomac Institute for Policy Studies. The Potomac Institute is a non-partisan national security think tank that provides policy analysis to the US Defense and Intelligence Communities.

Finally, Professor Peterson has shaped his research portfolio to capture the imagination of communities beyond the academy. This has garnered him international media attention. His views on Covid-19 vaccine distribution appeared on CNN, his research on the ethics of brain injury appeared on Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) radio, the Canadian National Post, and the New Scientist, and his research on the science of consciousness appeared on Vice News.

Service

Professor Peterson is an exemplary team player who is eager to volunteer for university, department, and disciplinary efforts that advance the status of the humanities in the academy and the public sphere. With colleagues at Mason and the US Naval Academy, he helped develop "The Coming Home Dialogues" for US military personnel. The "Coming Home Dialogues" is an NEH-funded service project (\$300,000 from 2016-2019), which uses humanities-based dialogue sessions to allow US military personnel to explore the psychological, spiritual, and moral impacts of war. Feedback from workshop participants highlighted the importance of this service to the community. For example, one Marine Corps special operations officer stated:

- *"My experience at the session was incredible. I will say that you and the rest of your team are on to something significant. I would like to start a conversation that can help us expose the Coming Home Dialogues and like-programs to the Marine Special Operations community in a way that could create a self-sustaining model for use at the command."*

From 2016-2019, the project hosted 12 sessions with over 100 US veterans and service academy faculty. Instructional modules from the project were developed for independent use by the US Naval Academy and the DoD's Yellow Ribbon Program for National Guard and Reservists.

Professor Peterson has also made important service contributions to the university. In collaboration with Mason's Office of Research Integrity and Assurance, he developed a university-wide Responsible Conduct of Research Initiative. The project team conducted a university survey of research climate, disseminated results to university and college leadership, and helped establish a permanent research integrity position, the Associate Director of Research Integrity, to continue ongoing university-wide responsible conduct of research activities.

Finally, Professor Peterson has made numerous service contributions to Mason's philosophy department and the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy. Of note is his effort in the department's 2018-2019 Academic Program Review, a recurring 7-year self-assessment for university accreditation. Professor Peterson played a critical role in data acquisition, analysis, drafting, and revision of the report. The quality of the program review, and evidence of genuine impact from Mason's philosophy department, received high praise from the review team and the college Dean. In part as a result of the program review's strength, the philosophy department secured 2 tenure-track hires, and Professor Peterson served on one of the resulting search committees. Both lines were filled in the 2019-2020 AY by excellent international candidates who will have a further transformative impact on Mason's philosophy program and interdisciplinary humanities research, generally.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

I was never meant to be an academic. Instead, I was supposed to go to war.

I'm a military brat. My father served for over 30 years in the US Marine Corps. He was deployed to Vietnam twice, led operations to withdraw UN forces from Somalia after the infamous "Black Hawk Down" incident, and helped build Iraq's Provisional Authority after the fall of Saddam Hussein. My grandfather, a Navy pilot in WWII, was deployed to the Pacific on the USS Essex. He detailed his flight missions over Okinawa and surrounding islands in his aviator's logbook, recounting all things from the weather to the number of "boys lost." My uncle, an Airforce pilot, flew fighter jets in Vietnam. He was shot down in 1967 and declared MIA. It was only after lobbying the Pentagon that his remains were retrieved. His headstone, along with my grandfather's, sits on the hills of Arlington Cemetery. His name is etched in the Vietnam War Memorial.

I come from a family of war heroes. I should have been a Marine. Instead, I became an academic. And not just any academic. I became a philosopher. But what seems like a break with my family's military service has been, instead, a life that reaffirms the values that guided my father, grandfather, and uncle.

My pursuit of an academic career was not a conscious decision. Circumstances conspired to draw me away from the military and toward the academy. That I attended university in Northern California in the wake of 9/11, where many in the academic community were politically engaged and organized anti-war protests, did not help my chances for a military career. The letters I exchanged with my father during his deployment to Iraq attest to this. He would describe the Green Zone. I would describe the streets of San Francisco as I protested the war. We shared our love, but within and between each sentence simmered a deep moral tension about the right direction for our country.

And yet, from then and to this day, I've never eschewed the military ethos. Growing up in a Marine Corps family imbues a certain way of life and core values: to be selfless, to protect those who can't protect themselves, to be faithful to your family and country, and to pursue goals relentlessly but with humility. These values were household items. They shaped every interaction and conversation, from morning coffee to being a "team player" in soccer. Examining and living by these values has since become the common thread connecting my research, teaching, and service. They define my life's work in bioethics to this day.

My research centers on the protection of people with brain injury, dementia, and cognitive disability. The guiding principles behind my work are to care for the vulnerable, to speak out for those who lack a voice, and to inspire others to do what is right in the face of ethically fraught decisions and uncertainty. These values were inculcated in me from a young age, but my route to a research career shaped by these values followed a circuitous path. After completing a bachelor's degree in philosophy, I worked at Guide Dogs for the Blind, an organization founded in 1942 to support WWII veterans who were visually impaired in combat. Surrounded by fledgling service dogs, I became fascinated with the inner workings of animal minds, behavior training, and—eventually—veterinary medicine. I transitioned to working at San Francisco's largest and most sophisticated veterinary hospital, San Francisco Veterinary Specialists. My job began with simple clerical work, but through raw determination I taught myself the ins-and-outs of veterinary medicine and was eventually assisting physicians, many of whom were faculty at UC Davis's veterinary science program, in surgery and post-operative care.

Yet, in spite of my growing interest in veterinary science, I couldn't shake my curiosity for all things philosophical, especially as they pertained to medicine. How do we know that other animals or humans feel pain? What does it mean to have a good quality of life? And how should we make medical decisions for those who can't choose for themselves, whether they are animals or humans? To explore these questions, I enrolled in the evening graduate program at San

Francisco State University. By day I was “scrubbing in” to the veterinary surgical theater to fix torn cruciate ligaments of rambunctious yellow labs. By night I was studying the ethics of disability and the philosophical foundations of medical reasoning.

This complementary blend of theory and practice has since shaped my bioethics scholarship. At the University of Western Ontario, working with the PTSD research unit, I conducted interviews with Canadian military personnel about traumatic experiences in Afghanistan while simultaneously writing on the philosophical concept of moral injury. I later began working at Western’s internationally recognized Brain and Mind Institute to investigate preserved cognition in patients with severe brain injury, while also exploring the real-world ethical challenges faced by patients’ families: When, if ever, should life support be withdrawn? And how should religious or secular values bear on this decision? My current work at George Mason University, the Greenwall Foundation, Penn Memory Center, and the NIH Bioethics Department further extends this commitment to knowledge integration. My scholarship on supported decision making for people with mild cognitive impairment, for example, incorporates disparate threads in philosophy, health law, and neurology, while also presenting a clear framework for aging and disability policy advocacy.

My approach to scholarship is driven by the conviction that the humanities can—and *should*—play a critical role in medical science. In practice, this amounts to building lasting collaborations with scientists and physicians that bring clarity to medical decision making, and that make a direct and positive impact on patient care. George Mason University is an ideal place to conduct this engaged and transformative research. Not only are humanities scholars encouraged to think beyond their own disciplinary boundaries, but the institution’s proximity to Washington DC allows for meaningful engagement with policy makers on some of the world’s most challenging problems.

I also strive to promote the importance of values and knowledge integration in the classroom. My bioethics course at Mason, for example, is shaped around the singular goal of promoting intellectual humility. I stress to my students that they will bear witness to people at their most vulnerable moments, and that patients may make medical decisions that seem foreign and strange. Health care professionals’ duties in these circumstances are not to question patient values, but to instead approach them with care, humility, and curiosity. Similarly, I stress to my graduate trainees that they shouldn’t think of themselves as passive observers in the scholarly enterprise, but as engaged and active participants in the generation of knowledge. I envision each of them as leaders of tomorrow and inspire them with the same values given to me by academic mentors and military family.

The United States is at an inflection point in history. Covid-19, the worst public health emergency in the past 100 years, has gripped our country. The murder of George Flynn and countless other Black Americans has sparked national outcry over the systemic racism that plagues the American polity. And, as we rapidly approach the 2020 election, we’re on the precipice of a long-lasting economic crisis. Dr. Gregory Washington, George Mason University’s newly appointed 8th president, said in his inaugural speech that “there are no playbooks for the challenges we currently face.” Instead, we have to look to our values—of justice, integrity, and fidelity—for direction.

He is right. Medical science and policy reform may bring an end to these crises, but our values will guide us through them. We need students and scholars who are guided by values; who are not only the best in the world, but who are also the best *for* the world.

Virginia has a storied history in bioethics, from the seminal work of UVA’s late Professor James Childress, to key legal cases, like *Ross et al. v Hatch* in Newport News, on the rights of people with disabilities. I count myself lucky to continue this legacy of bioethics scholarship in Virginia, inspired by the students I teach, the mission of our university, and the values handed down to me by my family.

ABREVIATED CURRICULUM VITAE

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor 2018-Present
George Mason University, Department of Philosophy
- Affiliated Researcher 2020-Present
University of Pennsylvania, Penn Memory Center
- Guest Researcher (in residence) 2019-Present
National Institutes of Health, Department of Bioethics
- Research Assistant Professor 2016-2018
George Mason University, Department of Philosophy

SELECTED AWARDS

- Greenwall Faculty Scholar 2018-2021
Project: The Ethics of Severe Brain Injury, Greenwall Foundation
- Vanier Canada Graduate Scholar 2013-2016
Project: Ethics and the Science of Consciousness, University of Western Ontario

SELECTED FUNDING

- **NIH/NIA (R21-AG069805A); 2020-2022; \$452,493; Co-PI with J. Karlawish (UPenn)**
Title: Caregiver Experiences of Communicating with People with Severe Dementia;
Project: Qualitative interview study to assess the attitudes of caregivers after witnessing an episode of paradoxical lucidity in people with dementia.
- **Greenwall Foundation (Faculty Scholar Award); 2018-2021; \$204,663; PI**
Title: The Ethics of Severe Brain Injury; Project: To explore ethical, methodological, and policy issues associated with the use of neuroimaging to assess brain-injured patients.
- **NEH; 2018-2019; \$99,800; Co-PI with J. Kirkpatrick (GMU), E. Barrett (USNA)**
Title: The Coming Home Dialogues; Project: To develop workshops for US veterans that allow participants to explore the moral, psychological, and spiritual impacts of war.
- **Canadian Tri-Council Agency (Vanier Award); 2013-2016; \$150,000CAD; PI**
Title: Ethics and the Science of Consciousness; Project: To explore ethical and methodological issues associated with the care and diagnosis of patients with disorders of consciousness.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- **Peterson A**, Largent E, Karlawish J. (Forthcoming) Supported decision making for people at the margins of autonomy. *American Journal of Bioethics*.
- **Peterson A**, Aas S, Wasserman D. (Forthcoming) What justifies the allocation of scarce resources to patients with disorders of consciousness? *AJOB-Neuroscience*.
- Buckwalter W, **Peterson A**. (Forthcoming) Public attitudes toward the distribution of scarce resources in the Covid-19 pandemic. *Plos One*.
- Largent E, **Peterson A**. (Forthcoming) Supported decision making in the United States and abroad. *Journal of Health Care Law and Policy*.
- **Peterson A**, Largent A, Karlawish J. (2020) The ethics of reallocating ventilators in the Covid-19 pandemic. *British Medical Journal*; 369:m1828.
- Goldstein C, **Peterson A**. (2020) Is it unethical to publish Chinese transplant research? *Journal of Medical Ethics*. DOI: 10.1136/medethics-2020-107619
- **Peterson A**, Owen AM, Karlawish J. (2020) Translating the discovery of covert consciousness into clinical practice. *JAMA Neurology*; 77(5): 541-542.
- **Peterson A**, Kostick K, O'Brien K, Blumenthal-Barby J. (2019) Seeing minds in patients with disorders of consciousness. *Brain Injury*; 34(3): 390-398.
- **Peterson A**, Tagliazuchi E, Weijer C. (2019) The ethics of psychedelic research in disorders of consciousness. *Neuroscience of Consciousness*; 2019(1):niz013.

- **Peterson A**, Owen AM, Karlawish J. (2019) Alive inside. *Bioethics*; 34(3): 295-305.
- **Peterson A**, Bayne T. (2018) Post-comatose disorders of consciousness. In Gennaro R.J. (ed.) *Routledge Handbook of Consciousness*; Routledge: New York. Pgs: 351-365.
- **Peterson A**, Bayne T. (2017) A taxonomy for disorders of consciousness that takes consciousness seriously. *AJOB-Neuroscience*; 8(3): 153-155.
- **Peterson A**. (2016) Consilience, clinical validation, and global disorders of consciousness. *Neuroscience of Consciousness*; 2016(1):niw011.

SELECTED POLICY CONTRIBUTIONS

- Frank L, Connanon T, Patel K, and Expert Panel. (2020) Healthcare resource allocation decision making during a pandemic. RAND Corporation. (Member of Expert Panel)
- **Peterson A**, Kirkpatrick J, Boehm-Davis DA. (2017) Developing ethical, legal, and policy analyses relevant to the use of machine-learning algorithms in national security. (White paper submitted to the National Academies Decadal Survey on Behavioral Sciences).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

The ethics of biomarker detection of neuropsychiatric diseases, National Academies, USA, 2020; *Searching for consciousness after brain injury*, NIH Bioethics, USA, 2019; *Alive Inside The search for consciousness*, Neurosurgery Grand Rounds, Baylor College of Medicine, USA, 2019; *Erring on the side of consciousness*, ICM Brain and Spine Institute, Paris, 2019; *Seeing minds in disorders of consciousness patients*, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, 2019; *Alive Inside*, University of Pennsylvania Memory Center, USA, 2019; *Are there levels of consciousness?* Association for the Scientific Study of Consciousness, Canada, 2019; *Ethics, machine learning, and brain injury*, Janelia Research Campus; Howard Hughes Medical Institute, USA, 2018

SELECTED MEDIA

- CNN. 2020. How to decide who gets a COVID-19 vaccine first.
- MedicalXpress. 2020. The ethics of allocating resources in COVID-19 era.
- Vice News. 2019. Scientists to use shrooms to revive people in vegetative states.
- Dana Foundation. 2019. Psychedelic treatment for consciousness disorders?
- AAAS Eureka Report. 2018. Mason professor explores ethics of severe brain injury.
- CBC Radio. 2016. Ideas from the trenches: The open mind.
- The New Scientist. 2015. Portable mind reader gives voice to locked-in people.

SELECTED TEACHING

The Science of Consciousness, Mason (Graduate, F2018); *The Ethics of Neuroimaging After Serious Brain Injury*, Mason (Graduate, S2017); *Minds, Brains, and Machines*, Mason (Undergraduate, S2018, S2020); *Integrated Information Theory of Consciousness* (Independent Study, S2019); *Ethics of Organ Donation* (Independent Study, S2018); *Bioethics*, Mason (F2016, S2017, F2017, S2018, F2019, F2020); *Introduction to Philosophy*, Western University, Canada (Tutorial, 2011-2012 AY, 2012-2013 AY); *Critical Thinking*, San Francisco State University (Undergraduate, Spring 2011)

SELECTED SERVICE

Responsible Conduct of Research Committee, Mason, 2018-2019; Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy Committee, Mason, 2016-Present; Institutional Review Board, Mason, 2017-2018; Meeting Planning Committee, Greenwall Foundation, 2020; Tenure-Track Faculty Hiring Committee, Mason, 2019; Academic Program Review Committee, Mason, 2018-2019; Evaluation of Learning Outcomes Committee, Mason, 2017, 2020; Vice Provost for Research Review Committee, Western University, 2012; Rotman Institute of Philosophy Steering Committee, Western University, 2014-2015

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Philosophy, University of Western Ontario, Canada	2016
M.A. Philosophy, San Francisco State University, USA	2011
B.A. Philosophy (with Distinction), Sonoma State University, USA	2004

George Mason University Leadership

Andrew Peterson is an outstanding scholar-teacher who represents the distinctive strengths of Mason's College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHSS). His cutting-edge research on brain trauma exemplifies how CHSS faculty provide solutions to social problems while demonstrating the intellectual flexibility to pivot, as in his recent work on the Covid-19 pandemic. A rising star who is making a significant impact on his field—as indicated by his prestigious Greenwall Faculty Scholar Award and his affiliation with NIH's Bioethics Department—Andrew is fostering the next generation of scholars through his innovative teaching and mentoring. His leadership already extends well beyond the College, through supporting a University-wide program for the Responsible Conduct of Research as well as through his partnerships with NIH and UPenn. Even as one of the college's most recent hires, Andrew epitomizes our dual commitment to world-class research *and* engaged teaching and mentoring.

- *Ann L Ardis, PhD; Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, GMU, USA.*

Dr. Peterson is the antithesis of the ivory tower philosopher. He embodies Mason's mission of addressing key contemporary issues while fostering responsible citizens, and models this approach for our faculty, students, and the discipline. Since his arrival in 2016, he has had a transformative effect on our department. His groundbreaking, internationally recognized research shows how philosophy can bridge scholarly excellence, outstanding teaching and mentoring, and highly innovative collaborations with external partners.

- *Rachel Jones, PhD; Philosophy Department Chair and Associate Professor, GMU, USA.*

Andrew Peterson is an exemplary member of the Institute of Philosophy and Public Policy. **He ranks alongside our most prestigious alumni, who have gone on to careers at Oxford, The Brookings Institute, and the NIH.** His research is at the leading edge of the ethics of emerging medical technologies and he is squarely committed to making the world a better place for all.

- *Andrew Light, PhD; University Professor and Director of the IPPP, GMU, USA; Previously Senior Advisor to the U.S. Special Envoy on Climate Change, U.S. State Department.*

Bioethics Scholars, Scientists, and Physicians

Andrew Peterson's scholarship represents the next generation of outstanding bioethics scholars specializing in brain injury and disorders of consciousness. He is a collegial and informed interlocutor who provides challenging insights always with an eye to advancing the debate. His receipt of a prestigious and highly competitive Greenwall Scholar award testifies to both his national reputation and the promise of his ongoing work. As a senior scholar in the field, I am grateful that Dr. Peterson will help sustain neuroethics and research on brain injury for the next generation as he seeks to improve the lives of patients and their families.

Joseph J. Fins, MD, MACP, FRCP; E. William Davis, Jr. M.D. Professor of Medical Ethics; Chief of the Division of Medical Ethics, Weill Cornell Medical College, USA

Professor Peterson is the all-star faculty member and colleague that institutions and individuals wish to have. I have had the good fortune to collaborate with Professor Peterson through the Greenwall Faculty Scholars Program. His humility, work-ethic, and sharp mind make him an excellent scholar and collaborator. His work on the ethical and philosophical issues raised by the scientific study of the mind is cutting-edge and collaborative. It is a prime example of practically engaged humanities making an impact on pressing real-world issues.

Jennifer Blumenthal-Barby, PhD, MA; Cullen Professor of Medical Ethics; Associate Director, Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy, Baylor College of Medicine, USA.

Andrew Peterson is an academic rock star. Over the nearly 10 years we've worked together, Andrew has had a profound influence on my scientific work. Early in my career, I was skeptical about the value of philosophy in clinical research. But Andrew has proven me wrong. His research genuinely changes the course of science. George Mason University is lucky to have him.

Adrian Owen PhD, OBE; Koerner Fellow, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research; Professor of Neuroscience, Brain and Mind Institute, Western University, Canada.

Dr. Peterson's work in disorders of consciousness is at the vibrant intersection of the neurosciences, medicine, and philosophy. He is a brave and courageous scholar. I'm thrilled to have him as a core member of UPenn's Program for Precision Medicine for the Brain. His collaborations with physicians, psychologists, and neuroscientists have produced truly creative and provocative insights. **Andrew's work makes an enormous and serious impact on how we care for people living with disabilities caused by brain disorders.**

Jason Karlawish, MD; Professor of Medicine, Neurology, and Medical Ethics; Co-Director Penn Memory Center, University of Pennsylvania, USA.

Dr. Peterson is a tireless advocate for the value of the humanities to science. Scientists and physicians listen to him because he challenges received wisdom, and through a collaborative process helps them to fully bring to the shore the value of science to the wider society. He advocates effectively for critical and ethical reflection, and he works with scientists to move their research programmes forward. **Working with Dr. Peterson has made me a better scientist.**

Lorina Naci PhD; L'Oréal-Unesco International Rising Talents; Assistant Professor of Psychology; Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Andrew Peterson is the first GMU faculty to join the NIH Bioethics Department and he has proven to be terrific colleague. I was delighted to learn that he's part of the Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy, where I worked years ago. **Andrew epitomizes the qualities of the Institute: a commitment to interdisciplinary research with practical significance, a fluency in several areas of inquiry, a skill at communicating with a lay audience, and an entrepreneurial spirit.** NIH bioethics has benefitted enormously from Andrew's participation.

David Wasserman, J.D., M.A., Faculty, NIH Department of Bioethics, USA.

Andrew exemplifies the very best of bioethics. He thinks about ethical issues rigorously. He communicates his ideas to diverse audiences effectively—as seen in his ability to publish in top general medical, specialty, and bioethics journals. And he is an intellectually generous colleague and a wonderful collaborator.

Emily A. Largent, JD, PhD, RN; Emanuel & Robert Hart Assistant Professor of Medical Ethics; Department of Medical Ethics and Health Policy, University of Pennsylvania, USA.

As we develop new tools for understanding consciousness in the context of serious brain damage, it is vital that we have theorists who are able to understand the ethics and clinical implications. **Andrew Peterson's work is at the very leading edge of research in this area, and anyone interested in autonomy and decision-making in patients with disorders of consciousness must engage with it. I can't recommend his work highly enough.**

Tim Bayne PhD; Australian Research Council Future Fellow; Senior Fellow, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research; Professor of Philosophy, Monash University, Australia.

George Mason University and NIH Students

Dr. Peterson saw something in me early on and guided me on the right path. He taught me to be goal oriented and to think of myself as a scholar who can actively contribute to solving some of the world's most difficult problems, not just a mere student. I was neither a philosophy major nor a graduate student, but Dr. Peterson took the time to give me direction. **My success is due in large part to Dr. Peterson's guidance, ongoing mentorship, and belief in my potential.**

Joseph DeFranco, GMU BA '18, MA '19; Donovan Group Fellow and Joint Chiefs of Staff J-3 Scholar Fellow, US Special Operations Command, USA.

Andrew is an empathetic and thoughtful mentor. I have severe cerebral palsy, which presents unique logistical challenges for pursuing a career in academia. Andrew has helped me see these challenges as opportunities for pedagogical innovation, not obstacles to student learning. **The quality of his feedback on draft course materials and presentations rivals that of two senior professors from Harvard and Stanford, whom I taught for as a teaching assistant. I have grown as a teacher because of Andrew's extraordinary mentorship.**

Kevin Mintz, Stanford PhD '19; Postdoctoral Fellow, NIH Department of Bioethics, USA.