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#ethicsBRIDGES

Welcome to BRIDGES



1-2. Nov. 2017.
Asian Institute for Bioethics Health Law (AIBHL) Yonsei University
the Centre for Ethics in Medicine, The University of Bristol

from: <https://feel-planet.com/clifton-suspension-bridge-uk/>

The Project

- **Bioethics Research Interdisciplinary Group:
England and South Korea**
- Funded by National Research Foundation of Korea (KNRF), Global Research Network Programme
- Participating Organization:
AIBHL, Yonsei University (Korea) and CEM, the University of Bristol (UK)
- June 2017 ~ December 2019

Background

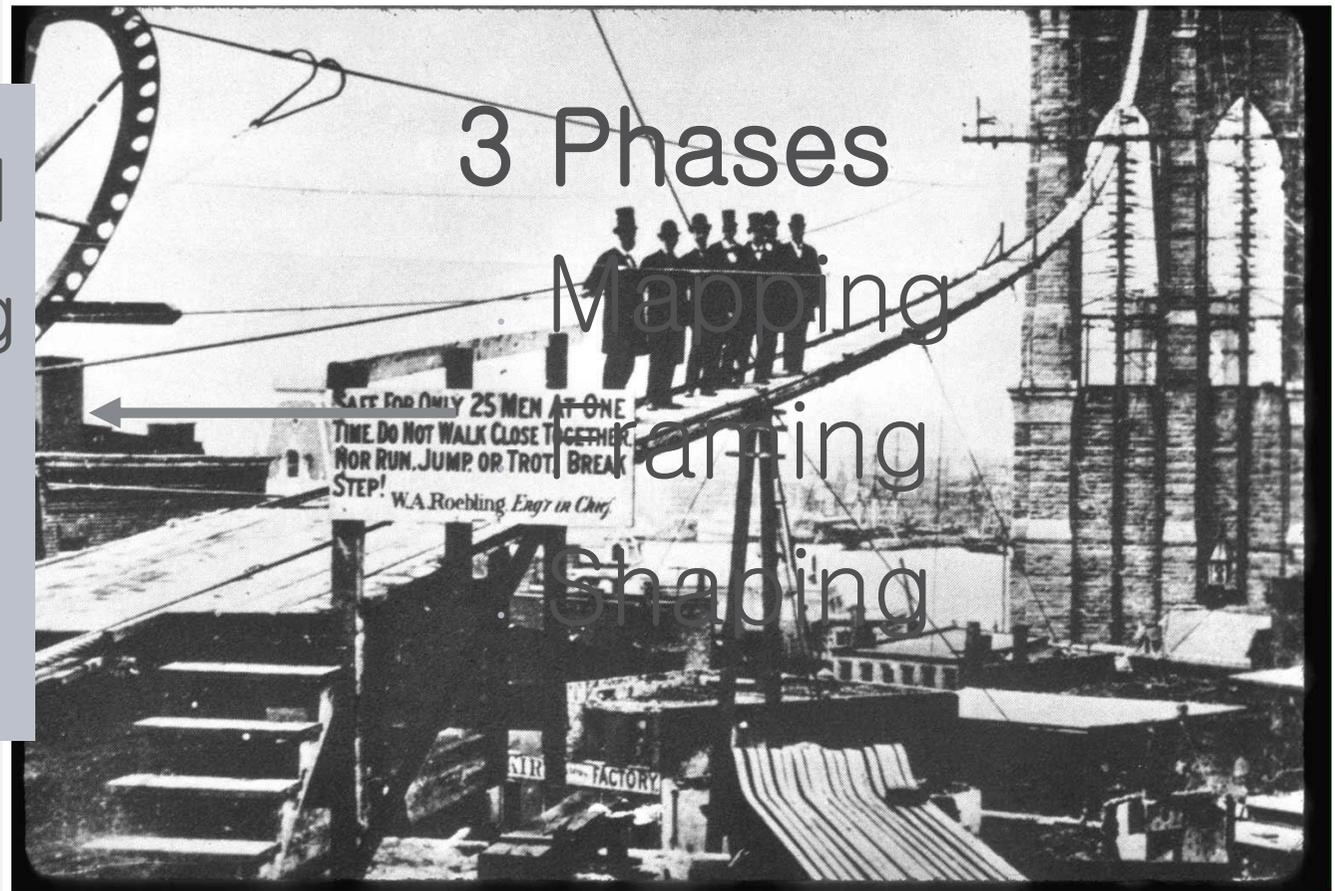
- The need to develop practical bioethics methodologies that will allow fruitful cross-cultural collaboration.
- The benefits that will arise from cross-fertilisation of eastern and western thought in bioethics.
- The need to equip bioethics with methodologies that can be responsive to the urgent, complex and practical issues that are globally relevant and thus require globally compatible solutions.

1. Establish formal channels of communication, collaboration and two-way learning between UK and Korean bioethics scholars.
2. Identify and develop mutual areas of research interest that would benefit from blending UK and Korean perspectives and approaches, including: End of life ethics; Research ethics; Family and Reproductive ethics.
3. Identify, and develop mutual learning about, approaches to bioethics that will challenge and inform bioethics research practice and discourse in both Korea and the UK, including Confucian approaches and empirical bioethics methodology.
4. Develop methodologies and approaches to undertaking bioethics research that enable bioethics researchers to identify and understand real problems and generate workable solutions, which can accommodate the needs and aims of both UK and Korean research and policy.

Goals of BRIDGES

How to build BRIDGES?

Methodological approach being developed by Huxtable and Ives



Mapping (phase 1)

- Explore and identify issues of common interest and import in our respective countries.
- 2 workshops, which aim to:
 - (1) share experience and areas of interest and expertise
 - (2) share ideas about pressing issues and topics that require attention in our respective countries.

Summaries of these meetings will be prepared and circulated prior to the next phase.

Framing (phase 2)

Frame the different conceptual and methodological approaches we might take to address the topics and issues identified in phase one.

The two meetings in year 2 will focus on:

- (1) identifying key conceptual and philosophical traditions that underpin bioethics research in our respective countries (e.g. exploring putative conflict between Confucian and autonomy based approaches), and
- (2) exploring methodological differences (e.g. the trend towards empirical bioethics research in the UK).

This phase is key to enabling us to work together on substantive research, and will feed into phase 3.

Shaping (phase 3)

- Intensive week long ‘retreat’ to develop and write up funding applications for collaborative bioethics research projects, that build on our shared understanding of each other’s approaches and priorities.
- Building on the previous two phases, they will seek to be methodologically innovative, impactful and cross cultural, using comparative insights to develop better understandings, critiques of, and solutions to, bioethical problems around end of life care, research ethics and reproduction & family.

- . The advantage of the cross-cultural work we propose is that it will ensure taken-for-granted cultural ethical norms and methodologies are challenged and revisited; which generates real potential for innovative solutions and new ways of thinking.
- . To date there has been little cross-cultural development of bioethics methodology, and the bioethics methodology literature tends to only draw on Western philosophical traditions.
- . Thus, our UK – Korean network will **explicitly explore the implications of Eastern thought for bioethics methodology** (which is currently dominated by western philosophical thought).

The BRIDGES project aims to **break down barriers** to collaboration in bioethics research that stem from lingering cultural, ethical and disciplinary imperialism, with the assumption that bioethics undertaken in one tradition has nothing to learn from bioethics undertaken in another (e.g. western vs. eastern, empirical vs. theoretical).

- . One of our primary objectives **to construct *bridges***: bridges between Eastern–Western perspectives, between empirical and theoretical, and between the descriptive and the prescriptive.
- . A cross–cutting theme that will run through the network is methodology, as we develop ways of working.
- . This is itself a substantial area of bioethics research, and there is a call for new and innovative research processes for the field that provide ways of applying different, sometimes conflicting, methods.

Itinerary of workshop

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