Series editor's foreword

In 1984 the philosopher and bioethicist John Harris met the theologian Anthony Dyson, by chance on a train journey to a conference they were both attending in Aberdeen. Despite both working at the University of Manchester and both sharing an interest in exploring the moral issues that arise from healthcare and bioscience, they had never heard of each other, so the story goes, until that train journey to Scotland. This chance meeting was the beginning of not only an enduring friendship and academic collaboration between these two men, but also the first step towards the creation of the now famous Centre for Social Ethics and Policy (CSEP) which has been so influential in the area of bioethics, medical law and medical humanities more generally. Together with the lawyer Margaret Brazier and clinician Mary Lobjoit, Harris and Dyson set up this Centre later that year to enable both this new academic alliance and a wider network of academics and students to pursue research and teaching in this area in an innovative interdisciplinary way.

My connection with this ground-breaking interdisciplinary Centre began in 1993 as a junior research fellow on a multidisciplinary, international research collaboration that involved participants from fourteen countries and eleven academic disciplines and so began my apprenticeship in this particular brand of bioethics, law and medical humanities with this amazing group of people and the networks they created. Simona Giordano, the editor of this edition and my co-editor in this book series, joined the Centre shortly afterwards as a research student. It is therefore a particular pleasure of mine to write the foreword for this edited edition that is so very much in the spirit of our Centre and the work that is done there.

This impressive edited volume is the third book in the series I co-edit with Simona Giordano entitled *Contemporary Issues in Bioethics, Law and Medical Humanities*. The first book in this series was an edited volume that celebrated the work of John Harris's, *From Reason to Practice in Bioethics*. The second book was the new edition of the brilliant and ever popular *Medicine, Patients and the Law* by Margaret Brazier and Emma

Cave. As such we are proud that this series reflects the people, the academic rigor and interdisciplinary flavour that has been the essence of our Centre from those very early beginnings. Typical of the CSEP approach, this series not only highlights the work of those directly involved in the Centre but also the research networks that have grown from the work initiated by the Centre and its team including the many students and researchers and other collaborators who have been and remain a part of the CSEP family.

This edited volume *The Freedom of Scientific Research: Bridging the Gap between Science and Society* fits perfectly into this interdisciplinary approach to research into the important area of scientific research and innovation with contributions from an impressive range of disciplines including bioethics, philosophy, life sciences, history, law, social science and medicine. It is this kind of interdisciplinary and international collaboration that has been so central to the success of bioethics and medical law across the decades and is one that we are proud to continue both as a Centre of research and education and as editors of this series with Manchester University Press.

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