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ETHICS UPDATE

Newsletter of the Ethics Institute at Dartmouth College
Spring 2006

FROM THE DIRECTORS

The Ethics Institute staff is eagerly anticipating their move into the new Haldeman Centers Building in the late summer or early fall of 2006. The move to our new spacious home makes it easier to increase programming and provide space for visitors. The library/conference room (pictured at right) will house the Institute's collection of books and videos and the central location of the building will lend itself to easier access for students and faculty.



Construction site of future Ethics Institute offices in Haldeman Center

2005-2006 has been a sabbatical year for the Faculty Director, Ron Green. He has spent the year researching material for a new book on genetic enhancement. The material from that research will be shared with the Dartmouth community at a summer conference the Institute is hosting in August. Please check the website for details.

During the Spring Faculty Advisory Board retreat the Institute will, once again, examine the strategic plan and mission. (Cont.'d. on back page)

ETHICS BOWL 2006



Dartmouth Ethics Society Team Members

For the past three years, Dartmouth students have competed in the Northeast Regional Ethics Bowl. Started in 2004, the regional competition is based on the larger National Ethics Bowl which is hosted by the Association for Applied and Professional Ethics. The purpose of the competition is to develop the moral reasoning skills of undergraduates through a series of debate style presentations. The cases ranged from issues related to eminent domain, vaccinations for attending public school, looting during times of crisis, and academic collaboration.

Teams from 21 colleges and universities throughout the Northeast met on Saturday, February 18th at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., for the day-long event. The Dartmouth team consisted of: Catharine Birtley ('06), Peter Verovsek ('06), Steven Wu ('06), Tatyana Liskovich ('08), Mary Katherine Flanagan ('09), Steven Ueng ('09) and Nikhil Jain ('09). The Dartmouth team placed 4th in the semi-final rounds.

DORSETT FELLOWSHIP

The Dorsett Fellowship, established in 2001, honors the commitment of Burt Dorsett ('53) to ethics in the workplace. Dorsett Fellows are senior scholars or practitioners in their field, with a proven track record of integrity. Past recipients have included Marcia Angell, former Editor of the New England Journal of Medicine; Temple Grandin, animal behaviouralist; Tom Chappell, CEO and President of Tom's of Maine; and, most recently, **Lee C. Bollinger**, President of Columbia University.

President Bollinger presented a public lecture on Sept. 23rd,

"Academic Freedom and Scholarship", that focused

on the ethical tensions in higher education surrounding

issues of free speech. Additionally, during his campus stay he met with smaller groups of faculty and administrators to discuss how best to manage difficult dialogues in a college classroom. President Bollinger's talk can be accessed on the web site at: www.dartmouth.edu/~ethics/index.html



Nominations for the Dorsett Fellowship are welcome. Please send names to Aine Donovan at the Ethics Institute.

ETHICS AND FILM

With the assistance of Ian Isherwood, MALS graduate student, the Ethics Institute launched a new program in the fall of 2005: Thursday Night at the Movies. A selection of films that ranged from *Caine Mutiny* to *Wall Street* were shown once a month in evening sessions, followed by an informal discussion. The discussions were facilitated by professors from the government, business, philosophy, and biology departments.

The film “*Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*” will be shown on **Wednesday, April 26th at 5:30 p.m. in Filene Auditorium**, with a special guest appearance by the author/playwright **Edward Albee**, who will be leading a discussion about the film at 8:00 p.m.



Edward Albee

11TH ANNUAL PEDIATRIC ETHICS CONFERENCE

May 16 & 17, 2006
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

Tuesday, May 16, 2006 Dinner with presentation by
6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Alan Fleischman, M.D.

Fuller Auditorium

Please RSVP by May 7, 2006

Cost for dinner is \$20.00 per person
Checks payable to: MHMH Ethics Committee

Contact: Shannon Wetherington 603-653- 6037

Email: Shannon.L.Wetherington@dartmouth.edu

THE FUTURE OF REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES

There will be a panel presentation on Monday, May 8th, at 4:00 p.m. in Dartmouth 105 with **Kate Michelman**, former president of NARAL Pro-Choice America and author of “*With Liberty and Justice for All: A Life Spent Protecting the Right to Choose*”, and **Nancy Mosher**, President of Planned Parenthood of New England.

[**Note:** Ms. Michelman will host a book signing at the Dartmouth Bookstore from 2:00 p.m. until 3:30 p.m. on May 8th]

PHILLIPS ESSAY AWARD



Matt Slaine '06
Phillips Essay Award Winner

The Phillips Family Fund was created by Gerald ('47), Francine and Stacy ('80) Phillips in 1990. The annual essay contest draws a significant pool of applicants from a variety of departments. The 2005 winner of the Phillips Award was Matthew Slaine ('06). His essay, *Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue: The Moral Arguments Against Excluding Known Gays from United States Military Service* provided a thoughtful perspective on a complex issue.

The Phillips Family has been instrumental in fostering ethics education programs at Dartmouth. With the assistance of Gerry Phillips, the Annual Essay Prize will be expanded to include the Tuck School of Business. The winning student essays will be posted on the Ethics Institute website.

VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM



Carmela Epright, Aine Donovan

The **Visiting Scholar** program exists to provide full time academics an opportunity to visit the Dartmouth campus and pursue research projects that have ethics as the subject.

Past participants have included Professor Thomas Moran, SUNY Plattsburgh, Professor Steven Katz, from Boston University, and, most recently, Professor Carmela Epright from Furman University. Professor Epright, a bioethicist, spent her sabbatical at Dartmouth College researching an ethics program for residents in psychiatry. During her stay at Dartmouth she worked closely with the psychiatry department at Dartmouth-Hitchcock in assessing the needs of residents for ethics training in clinical practice. Professor Epright is currently co-authoring a paper with Dr. Sally Ricketts (psychiatry, DHMC) on the results of this research.

The spring 2006 Visiting Scholar will be Dr. James Giordano, a scholar in residence at the Center for Clinical Bioethics at Georgetown University Medical Center. Dr. Giordano's research on neuro-ethics has introduced him to the work of Dr. James Bernat (neurology, DHMC) and Professor Bernard Gert (philosophy). They have agreed to consult with Dr. Giordano during his stay at Dartmouth. A faculty luncheon will be scheduled in late June where Dr. Giordano will present some of his research findings.

SAYLES RESEARCH

The Thomas Sayles ('54) Research Fund offers full-time Dartmouth faculty and undergraduates monetary awards for research in fields that have direct ethical concerns. For further information and application procedures, please visit our website.

RELIGION AND TOLERANCE LECTURE - MAY 1ST

The religious observances of people have long been respected as individual expressions of a personal orientation toward the divine. Increasingly the news reports on two phenomenons: the rise in conservative religious beliefs and intolerance for opposing points of view. Is this the reality, or does the media distort and exaggerate the differences? A talk by two leading journalists will explore this and other issues associated with religion and society in the 21st century. **David VanBiema** is the senior religion writer for *Time Magazine*, and **Phillipe Gelie** is the Washington correspondent for *LeFigaro*. They will speak on **May 1st in Dartmouth 105 at 4:30 p.m.** This event is open to the public.

EATC

The third annual **Ethics Across the Curriculum** faculty seminar included members of various academic departments and a senior administrator for the College. The program hosts an annual kick-off event in the fall. This year's event featured Columbia University President, and former Dartmouth Provost, Lee Bollinger. President Bollinger's campus visit included a working session with faculty, and a dinner with senior administrators to discuss the issue of free speech on campus. The EATC program has been generously funded by Skip Battle ('66) and Gerry Phillips ('47) and will continue to provide faculty with the tools necessary to highlight the ethical components of their curriculum.

Faculty who are interested in participating in the 2006-2007 seminar(s) should contact Aine Donovan for further information. The sessions meet, on average, once per month in the evening or at lunchtime.

SPORTS AND ETHICS



Sandy Alderson meets with umpires on the field at Fenway Park in July 2005

President and part owner of the San Diego Padres, **Sandy Alderson ('69)**, will present a lecture on **Tuesday, April 11th at 3:00 p.m. in the Shapiro room at Tuck.**

Mr. Alderson was a former general manager and president of the Oakland Athletics. During his tenure, the A's won four division titles, three AL pennants and a World Series. He has spent the last 6 ½ years as the executive vice president in charge of day-to-day operations for Major League Baseball in the commissioner's office.

His talk will have as its focus the ethical issues associated with the business of baseball in the United States today.

FROM THE DIRECTORS, PAGE 1, CONT'D.

Last completed in 2001, the Directors are committed to re-examining the mission and strategic plan of the organization every five years. The Ethics Institute has expanded its programs and offerings over the past five years, and a review of those changes in light of the mission is essential. A copy of the strategic plan will be posted on the website after the May 3rd retreat.

The fall 2005 International Bioethics Conference has resulted in a book project for the Directors, Ron Green and Aine Donovan. They are co-editing the papers from the conference with Steve Jauss, and will publish the book in the fall of 2006. This book serves as a model for college faculty as they develop courses in bioethics. The issues are timely and particularly relevant to the globalization of information. An overview of the book and a table of contents will be posted in the fall 2006 newsletter.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

PLEASE VISIT WWW.DARTMOUTH.EDU/~ETHICS/EVENTS.HTML FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS

**APRIL 11 – ETHICS AND SPORTS - SANDY ALDERSON,
GENERAL MANAGER, SAN DIEGO PADRES**

**APRIL 26 – EDWARD ALBEE TO DISCUSS MOVIE,
“WHO’S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?”**

**MAY 1 – RELIGION AND POLITICS WITH DAVID VANBIEMA
AND PHILLIPE GELIE**

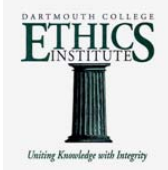
**MAY 8 – THE FUTURE OF REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS WITH
KATE MICHELMAN AND NANCY MOSHER**

**MAY 16 & 17 – PEDI-ETHICS CONFERENCE
ALAN FLEISCHMAN, GUEST SPEAKER**

AUGUST 11, 12 & 13 – ELSI REUNION

NOVEMBER 16, 17 & 18 – SEAC CONFERENCE

**“LIVE SO THAT WHEN YOUR CHILDREN THINK OF FAIRNESS AND
INTEGRITY, THEY THINK OF YOU” – H. JACKSON BROWN, JR.**



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