



Ethics in Practice

2nd Annual Northwest Regional Ethics Bowl

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The Practical Ethics Center will host our second Northwest Regional Ethics Bowl on **Saturday, April 24 in the Gallagher Business Building** at The University of Montana. The event will involve 16 teams from 8 universities: University of Washington, Washington State University, Eastern Washington University, Pacific Lutheran University, Whitworth College, Montana Tech, Carroll College, and The University of Montana.

Teams are given a set of 12 contemporary ethical dilemmas to research and analyze two months before the event. Teams meet in Missoula for a head-to-head competition to present case arguments to panels of judges from the university and community. Teams are evaluated on the strength of their ethical arguments and overall depth of research.

The Regional Ethics Bowl is a lively means for inspired ethical debate. The event is **free and open to the public**, with preliminary rounds from 8:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., semi-finals from 2:30-3:45 p.m., and finals from 4:00-5:15 p.m.

This year's cases include journalistic responsibility in terrorism broadcasts, fetal homicide laws, genetically modified foods, underage alcohol consumption, how physicians handle the terminally ill, sexual harassment of homosexuals, uniform requirements in business, tampering with evidence, investigations of private computer files, fairness in college exams, credit cards for college students, and American history through Caucasian or Native American eyes.

See page two for related story on our National Ethics Bowl Team's recent success...

Summer Ethics Seminars and Courses: Thought-provoking Opportunities for Study

Theory and Skills of Ethics Teaching, June 7 - 15, CRN 51296: a workshop for graduate students, K-12 teachers, post-secondary instructors, and ethics officers. Topics include goals and outcomes for ethics teaching, classical theory, moral development theory, systematic moral analysis, and creating an ethical learning environment. Ethical issues include justice and liberty, blameworthiness and praiseworthiness, role-related responsibilities, and mitigating moral mistakes.

Making Babies, Making Choices—Ethics & Reproduction, June 21 - 26, CRN 51297: a class that examines the ethical issues raised in human reproduction, especially with assisted reproductive technologies. This

course will examine fundamental ethical questions raised by human reproduction, as well as a range of possible reproductive technologies, such as artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, surrogacy, cloning, prenatal genetic testing, contraception, and selective abortion.

The Good, the Bad, and the Indulgent—Film and the Construction of Virtue, June 21 - 27, CRN 51298/51299: What do "American Beauty," "Fight Club," and Woody Allen's "Crimes and Misdemeanors" have in common? This intensive one-week class examines these and other films in light of a variety of theories that focus on the development of moral character.

Registration information and course descriptions continue on page 3...

PEC Presents**Ethics Seminar Series
Spring 2004****February 2: Matt Gibson**

Monday Morning Quarterback:
Second-guess the Publisher of
the Independent

March 1: Karen Townsend

Being a Zealous Advocate
and Still Doing Justice

March 15: Herbert Swick

Selfish or Selfless?
Physicians Confront Epidemics

April 5: Kate Shanley

Gender and Ethics in
Native American Studies

April 19: Hank Fischer

Ethics of Large
Carnivore Conservation

May 3: Deborah Slicer

Moral Vegetarianism:
What's Love Got to Do With It?

12:10 to 1:00 pm
Gallagher Business Building
Room L14

National Ethics Bowl Team Makes Semi-Finals

The University of Montana Ethics Bowl Team reached the "final four" at the Tenth Annual Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, held in Cincinnati on February 26. The competition featured 40 teams from colleges and universities around the nation that had come together to debate controversial ethical issues ranging from privacy of information in libraries to genetic testing for athletic capacities. The competition was part of the annual meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

The UM team was one of only six teams to go undefeated (3-0) in the first round, gaining victories over Villanova University (PA), North Carolina State University, and Williams College (MA). The team then won its quarterfinals match with Union College (NY) before losing to Indiana University-Bloomington, which won the competition. The Seton Hall University (NJ) team was the other semi-finalist.

Student team members and their fields of study were Nate Biehl (radio/TV), Rhiannon Dodds (philosophy), and Kelly Kirwan (sociology). Four student coaches were also involved: lead coach Loren Meyer (MA program, philosophy), Jarrett Heintz (MA program, philosophy,

teaching ethics option), Michael Williams (MA program, philosophy), and Justin Whitaker (philosophy). Professor Mark Hanson, interim director of UM's Practical Ethics Center, was the team's faculty sponsor. The Practical Ethics Center was the university's institutional sponsor.

Finding time to prepare analyses of complex ethical issues within a short time frame was a challenge. Cases were divided among the team members, who met at least three times per week with coaches and Dr. Hanson to discuss issues and devise research and presentation strategies. Because of busy class schedules for students and coaches, meetings were mostly held evenings and weekends. Given the compressed time frame for preparation, training for the competition demanded sacrifice beyond what is normally required of students in coursework.

The competition provided an opportunity for students to learn skills in ethical analysis and clarity of presentation. Judges scored teams on four criteria: clarity and intelligibility, focus on ethically relevant factors, avoidance of ethical irrelevance, and deliberative thoughtfulness.

Montana's Teenage Parents: A Community's Response

On March 30, a panel discussion and community conversation took place at the Missoula Public Library in conjunction with a traveling photographic exhibit at Southgate Mall—"Children of Children: Portraits and Stories of Teenage Parents" by Michael Nye. Panelists included Gypsy Ray, Executive Director, Mountain Home Montana; Lois Reimers, Instructor/Director of Missoula County Public School's Young Family Program; Brett Gordon, Juvenile Parole Officer with the Department of Corrections; Jennifer Carter, County Director of the Missoula County Office of Public Assistance; and Rosie Buzzas, Representative to the Montana State Legislature, District 65 (Missoula County). Mark Hanson, Interim Director of the Practical Ethics Center, served as moderator.

This event was co-sponsored by The Practical Ethics Center and Missoula Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Prevention Services (MAPPPS).

Did you know that in the United States:

- The teen pregnancy rate is the highest in the industrialized world
- 4 in 10 young women become pregnant at least once before they reach age 20
- 1 out of 3 girls has sex by age 16
- 66 percent of teen mothers were sexually abused before getting pregnant

Did you know that in Montana:

- Of 1,756 pregnancies reported during 2000, 20 were to teens under age 15
- 2 out of 10 teen girls become pregnant before age 20
- 5 out of 10 teen Native American girls become pregnant before age 20

Did you know that in Missoula County:

- There were 188 teen pregnancies in 2000, with 109 births to teens and 76 abortions
- Missoula County ranks 24th in the state for teen pregnancy rates

Ethically Speaking**Tune in to our radio show:**

KUFM (89.1), Thurs., 7:32 pm
KBGA (89.9), Wed., 5:10 pm

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for upcoming broadcasts
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Summer Ethics Seminars (continued from page 1)

Ethics, Fire, and Wilderness—Ethical Issues in Ecological Reconstruction, June 28 - July 3, CRN 51300/51301: The emerging field of ecological restoration has provoked many philosophical and ethical discussions and debates about how human beings should live within and relate to the ecological systems and environments that contain us. This hands-on, experientially-focused seminar will be taught partly on campus and partly in the field in the Bitter-root Mountains and Valley.

Business Ethics at the Top—Culture, Leadership and Governance, July 19 - 23, CRN 51302/51303: a seminar that examines the difference between business ethics and compliance; the role of values in organizational culture; elements of ethical leadership; the responsibility of directors in overseeing the ethical climate of the organization and the board's own ethics; and how managers and outside attorneys, accountants, and others can assess and influence organizational ethics and values. This seminar is designed for directors, executives, ethics and compliance officers, service providers, com-

munity volunteers, professors and business students interested in contemporary ethical challenges facing organizations, and will be taught by a nationally known consultant, Dawn Marie Driscoll, Fellow at the Center for Business Ethics at Bentley College.

Classical & Feminist Foundations of Moral Philosophy, August 9 - 20, CRN 51304: a workshop that provides in-depth practice with virtue theory, deontology, and utilitarianism with feminist theory as a complement to the classical three. The class includes application of classical and feminist theory in the teaching of practical ethics. Readings include Aristotle, Kant, Mill, and 20th-century contemporary philosophers.

Registration Procedure

UM students can register via Cyberbear, using the CRNs listed above.

Non-UM students can register by visiting our website at www.umt.edu/ethics/courses/summer_courses.htm. Registration forms, course descriptions, preliminary syllabi and faculty information, as well as travel information, are available online.

Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care

The latest in a series of monographs from *Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care* is **Lifting the Veil of Huntington's Disease**. It includes recommendations that address different aspects of care through the end of life for patients with Huntington's disease and their families. Recommendations are focused in the areas of access to and quality of care, education of health care providers, health system delivery and research, and describe actions needed to improve palliative care for Huntington's disease patients. The full report is available at: www.promotingexcellence.org/huntingtons/monograph/.

Another monograph **Accounting for the Costs of Caring at the End of Life** is based on the work of the *Promoting Excellence* Cost Accounting Peer Workgroup, chaired by Stephen Seninger, PhD, of The University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research. It addresses the challenges in assessing the costs of end-of-life care and the issues in designing evaluations and computing cost in an accurate and comprehensive fashion. Recommendations contained in the report are intended to help those involved in health care research and clinical program evaluation to

gather useful data. The report is available at: www.promotingexcellence.org/cost_accounting/monograph/.

Completing the Continuum of ALS Care: A Consensus Document presents recommendations that culminate nearly three years of careful study. The recommendations address psychosocial care, bereavement, spirituality, quality of life, ethics, communication and decision making, access to care, cost of care, family support, and physician knowledge and education. Recommendations are also included for symptom management in ALS, issues of life completion and closure and medical management during the last days and hours of life. Find the report at: www.promotingexcellence.org/als/als_report/.

The National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization (NHPCO) 5th Clinical Team Conference was held March 23-24 in Las Vegas, and featured a *Promoting Excellence* learning track entitled "Opening Doors to Palliative Care in Challenging Clinical Settings." Eight sessions presented the innovative work of our *Promoting Excellence* grantees and workgroups to a national audience.

Research Ethics Online CRN 51212

This asynchronous online course introduces graduate students, investigators, and professionals to the common ethical issues that arise in the process of scientific, behavioral or social science research. Topics include a framework for considering research ethics issues, interpersonal responsibility, institutional responsibility, professional responsibility, animals in research, and human participation in research.

www.umt.edu/ethics/courses/online_courses.htm

Alumni Corner

Graduates of the MA in Philosophy, Teaching Ethics Option, and the certification program Advanced Graduate Studies in Teaching Ethics are invited to submit updates on their activities for inclusion in future newsletters. Send information to Colleen Hunter, huntercs@mso.umt.edu. **We'll be delighted to hear from you!**

For more information on Promoting Excellence in End-of-Life Care, visit www.promotingexcellence.org. This outstanding website showcases innovative models and approaches for palliative and end-of-life care.



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From the Director

From war in Iraq to teen pregnancy in Montana, the field of practical ethics is, of course, as vast as the range of human behavior. That breadth is part of what makes the field endlessly interesting and challenging.

One of my priorities since becoming interim director of the Practical Ethics Center has been to hold conversations with various faculty members, administrators, community members, and others who have some connection with the world of practical ethics. My goals are to build connections, explore mutual interests, and gather ideas for future programs and collaborations. I have been truly impressed by strength of interest in ethics on campus and in the community, and by the breadth of possibilities for future PEC research and programming. The challenge for us is setting priorities and building on the Center's solid reputation.

I am grateful for the opportunity to pursue this work in partnership with the Center's many enthusiastic supporters. I invite you to give me a call at 406-243-6632 or send me a note at mark.hanson@mso.umt.edu with your ideas and feedback on how we're doing.

Mark Hanson, Interim Director

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