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Aichael Winerip

in Conversation

with Scotty McLennan

Ethics and Journalism

APRIL 18, 19, 20 2007 COMMENTATOR JOSHUA COHEN

TROUGH WHAT HAKES A DEMOST Wednesday April 18, 5:30 - 7:00 pm Cordeto Hall, Room 100

LICENTAL DEMOCRATIC INCLUSION & EXCLUSION Thursday April 19, 5:30 - 7:00 pm Conducta Blail, Room 100

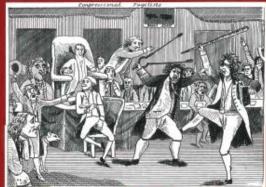
Stanford, Philisophy / Political Science / Low

Friday April 20, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon Conduce Hall, Room 100

Sean Wilentz

THE 2010/2011 WESSON LECTURES

ON PROBLEMS OF DEMOCRACY



The Long and Tragical History of Post-Partisanship

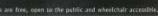
DEMOCRATIC

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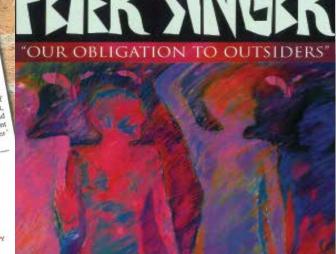
DISCUSSION

Discussants: Christopher Bobonii Associate Professor

Bernard Yack Leman-Neubauer Profesor of Democr Brandels University

Bidg, 420 Room 425

Michael Walzer



Tues. April 24

The Aaron Roland Endowed Lecture

Holy War in the Bible - and After

Can the Good Guys Win?: Moral Dilemmas in

These events are free and open to the public.

Thurs. April 26 Annenberg Auditorum

Ethics & Wor Series Spring 2012

Asymmetric War

ogram in Ethics in Society Diverse Approaches to Affirmative Action in

PAUL KRUGMAN

Professor of Economics at Princeton Univer and New York Times Columnist

Intractable Slumps

MONDAY, MARCH 18 - 5 pm

**Currency Crises** 

University Admissions

FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2003 9:30-4:30 Room 426, 4n Floor of Building 480 PANEL TWO PANEL ONE

Steelard University Presents

Cass R. Sunstein

The 1995 Wessen Lectures

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Sponsored by the Office in Society Program

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ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Ethics of Research

hurs. May 9 at 5:30pm

Elizabeth Anderso Philosophy, University of Michigan Fri May 10 at 1



This year we celebrate 25 years of Ethics in Society at Stanford University

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PROBLEMS INVOLVING ETHICS are all around us, from the acceptability of the use of drones and intervention in other countries, to debates about our obligations to those in need, to the appropriate standards for political campaigns. Twentyfive years ago, the Program in Ethics in Society was founded to provide a place at Stanford where students, faculty, and the broader community could explore such issues.

As the founding committee understood, doing this constituted a substantial challenge. At the time, ethics played only a small role in the undergraduate curriculum and there were very few faculty on the campus who specialized in it. Even in the philosophy department, there were no tenured ethicists or political philosophers. Nor was it clear that an interdisciplinary endeavor seeking to link ethical reflection with questions in fields like economics, political science, computer science, and biology would be successful. The program also faced the daunting task of trying to create a campus culture that reflects a concern for ethics—not as a hobby, nor as an exotic specialty, but as part of a student's everyday life.

Today, our reach extends throughout the campus, and beyond.

Ten years ago, the Ethics Center was launched out of an existing program, and five years ago it was substantially reorganized and integrated with the Honors Program, which has been offered since the early 1990s. In addition to our undergraduate students in the Honors Program, we reach hundreds of students each year through our core classes. We have been a catalyst and convener of ethical reflection through developing new classes, helping hire faculty in ethics, running workshops, hosting conferences, promoting campus-wide dialogues, and engaging in community

outreach. We have selected talented postdoctoral scholars from around the world, and through their research and that of our faculty, we have built a community of scholars who are making enduring contributions to ethical thought.

While not comprehensive, descriptions of some of our milestone programs are included here to give you a sense of the range and depth of the Center's work. In this booklet, we celebrate the achievements of the Center and its affiliated undergraduate program.

Our institutional existence has been pivotal in shaping ethical inquiry at Stanford. Through teaching, research, and engagement, we have provided a focus for considering a range of moral judgments, and underscored the need to make them. At the same time, we are aware that there is more work to do. Through our new faculty fellows program, we are playing a critical role in the first year of the new undergraduate ethical reasoning requirement at Stanford. In addition, the Center hopes to begin a more serious engagement with graduate education across the various departments and professional schools. We are planning a number of initiatives around research ethics as well as a graduate fellowship program. We look forward to building out the Center's role and influence in the coming decades.



**Debra Satz**, Marta Sutton Weeks Professor of Ethics in Society; Professor of Philosophy; Director of the Bowen H. McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society; Senior Associate Dean for the Humanities and Arts.

THE UNDERGRADUATE HONORS PROGRAM in Ethics in Society celebrates 25 years of operation. The program was the seedbed from which the university-wide Center for Ethics in Society grew, and it remains central to the Center's activity today.

Ethical questions arise in every corner of the university, indeed in every domain of life. No matter what a student's major, no matter what a person's profession, there are pressing ethical issues that warrant attention. A casual glance at the titles of the many honors theses written in the program reveals the wideranging interests of the students and the ubiquity of ethical inquiry across diverse academic areas.

Writing a thesis is a daunting task, harder than anything undergraduates could undertake in a single class. I tell all prospective students that writing a thesis is also the very best intellectual experience they can have as an undergraduate. Nothing else requires them to synthesize their learning across multiple classes, to be self-directed and motivated in selecting a topic, and to discover how multiple drafts and repeated revision deliver superior writing.

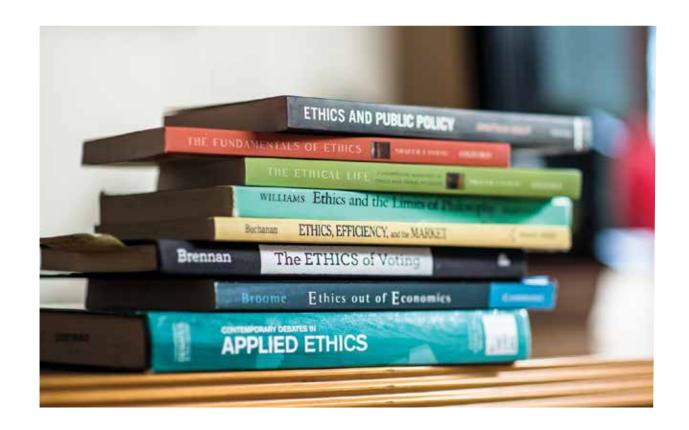
For these reasons, the program's required courses are deliberately minimal. No student has ever failed to complete the program because of falling short of a unit count. What's difficult is writing an excellent thesis, and our program is designed to provide ample support for that important task.

Our students are amazing, as the short profiles of some of our graduates in this booklet attest. Their accomplishments across many different fields reflect the original aspirations of the program and inspire every faculty member connected to the Center.

As the program moves into its next quarter century, we are excited to build on our successes with our honors students and to contribute to the new ethical reasoning requirement for all undergraduates. Ethical questions surface in all domains of inquiry, and in many fields they are newly urgent, especially in engineering, technology, biomedicine, and global justice. As we celebrate our past successes, we also look forward to educating future generations of Stanford undergraduates and broadening the reach of the Center at the university.



**Rob Reich**. Associate Professor of Political Science: Associate Professor, by courtesy, in Philosophy and at the School of Education; faculty Co-Director of the Center on Philanthropy and Civil Society; Director of the Program in Ethics in Society.



"The examination of ethical issues plays a fundamental role in Stanford's mission of educating responsible leaders. For a quarter of a century, the nationally recognized Program in Ethics in Society and for the past decade the McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society have provided leadership in this area. Through their many programs and activities, they foster discussion on the critical issues of the day and challenge us to think deeply about their ethical dimensions."

- John L. Hennessy, Stanford University President; Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

# ETHICS BY THE NUMBERS

23 Postdoctoral scholars brought to Stanford

134 Students have written theses since 1992

Ethics in Society cross-listed courses offered since 2000

500+ Talks sponsored by the Center

## RHODES SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDEES

Rachel Maddow ('95) Aysha N. Bagchi ('12) Margaret Hayden ('13)

# MARSHALL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDEES

Michelle Mello ('93) Rachel Maddow ('95) Eric Beerbohm ('98) Joe Shapiro ('05)







# ETHICS TIMELINE

Since the mid 1980s, the Stanford community has been engaging with ethics in society. After 25 years — hundreds of talks, dozens of courses, and countless conversations — the Center continues to foster a thriving intellectual culture on campus. The timeline below highlights some of what we've been working on over the years.

1986 The Undergraduate Honors Program in Ethics in Society was initiated under the leadership of a "Blue Ribbon" steering committee that included Kenneth Arrow (Economics), Bart Bernstein (History), Michael Bratman (Philosophy), Arnold Eisen (Religious Studies), John Ferejohn (Political Science), David Kennedy (History), Pat Suppes (Philosophy), and Lee Yearley (Religious Studies).

Partha Dasgupta was named first Director of the Program in Ethics in Society. He returned to Cambridge University in 1992.

1988 Ethics in Society Program began sponsoring the Tanner Lectures on Human Values. Oxford University Law Professor Ronald Dworkin gave the Tanner Lectures on the topic "Foundations of Liberal Equality."

1990 Susan Moller Okin, Professor of Political Science (1946–2004), was made Director of the Program in Ethics in Society.

the Program. MIT linguist, philosopher and social critic Noam Chomsky gave the first Wesson Lectures on Problems of Democracy. His talk was called "Democracy and the Free Market in the New World Order." 1996 Debra Satz assumed directorship of the Program in Ethics in Society. The Ethics Across the Curriculum Initiative was launched to integrate high-level moral and political theory with research drawn from the empirical, social, and natural sciences. A teach-in on moral relativism took place between noted Stanford professors Richard Rorty and Susan Moller Okin. Debra Satz and Rob Reich started the Hope House Scholars Program, where Stanford professors and student tutors teach humanities courses to women in a local residential drug and alcohol treatment program. To learn more about Hope House see page 27.

Deborah Rhode was appointed founding Director of the Center on

Ethics.

1992 Undergraduate Honors students completed the first theses written in

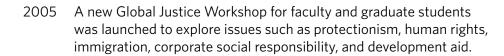
"Clarity about values matters if we're to understand, much less solve, today's important public problems which is why I was happy, when I was dean, to invite the Ethics Center into the Law School. Now, here at Hewlett, I see the centrality of debates about ethics in developing good policy still more starkly, from climate change to guestions about family planning, women's economic empowerment, educational equity, and our obligations to the poor. By bringing extraordinary scholars to Stanford to deepen and enhance research and teaching about values, the Ethics Center plays a critical role bringing us that much closer to making this a better world."

-Larry Kramer, Stanford Law professor; president of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation









A conference commemorated late Director Susan Moller Okin's contributions to Political and Feminist Theory. The conference resulted in an edited book on Okin's work, Toward a Humanist Justice, Oxford,

First Arrow Lecture in honor of Nobel Laureate Ken Arrow given by Georgetown Law School's David Luban.



2007 First postdoctoral fellows cohort began at the Center. Over the years, the Center has brought in over 20 fellows and has offered several types of fellowships. (The Center had two initial postdoctoral positions in the early 1990s to support ethics teaching and research on campus.)

> Ethics of Food and the Environment series began its three-year stint. Speakers included Michael Pollan (author and UC Berkeley professor,) Marion Nestle (New York University professor,) and David Kessler (UCSF School of Medicine professor and former commissioner of the Food & Drug Administration).

2008 The Program in Ethics in Society and the Center on Ethics formally merged to create the Center for Ethics in Society. In recognition of a generous endowment, the Center was renamed the McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society.

> Debra Satz was made Director of the Center for Ethics in Society and Rob Reich was appointed Director of the Undergraduate Honors Program in Ethics in Society.

2010 Ethics of War series ran from 2010 to 2012 and included speakers such as George Packer (New Yorker writer), Michael Walzer (Institute for Advanced Study), and Tim O'Brien (author).

2011 The Spencer Foundation gave the Center a three-year grant for a project on equality of opportunity and education.

> Betrayed, the first collaboration between the Center and Stanford Summer Theater incorporated theater into the Center's outreach, followed by additional plays, Copenhagen in 2011 and The Exception and the Rule in 2013.

2012 Ethics and the Professions series began. Through conversations with Dean for Religious Life Scotty McLennan and practitioners of professions such as education, journalism, engineering, and law, the series allows students to engage with the ethical underpinnings of various fields.

The Center entered into a three-year partnership to distribute content with the academic publication, the Boston Review.

Ethics of Wealth series runs 2012 through 2014, including speakers John Tomasi (Political Science, Brown University) Larissa MacFarquhar (New Yorker writer) and Emmanuel Saez (Economics, UC Berkeley).

The Center helped facilitate the new ethical reasoning requirement where undergraduates are required to take a course devoted to exploring ethical inquiry of personal, social, or political questions.

New website was launched.





# A CONVERSATION WITH DEBORAH RHODE

As the Center for Ethics in Society's founding director, Deborah Rhode served the Center from 2004 until 2008.

Deborah Rhode's frustration came to a head at a conference on ethics and leadership at Harvard's Kennedy School when, more than 3,000 miles away from the Farm, she met someone from Stanford's Graduate School of Business who had been at Stanford for decades, almost as long as she'd been on the faculty. Even with a mutual interest in ethics and leadership, and both of them at Stanford, it took traveling to Harvard for them to meet.

Something had to be done. Rhode came back to campus and talked with Debra Satz, who was heading the Program in Ethics in Society at the time. "Do you think there's a need for a center on ethics?" Rhode recalls asking.

Rhode imagined a center that would focus especially on professional ethics for graduate-level students. She put together a proposal for the president and the provost, asking for startup funding for a center. They responded favorably and funded the Center for three years. Rhode became the founding director and, as she says, "we were off to the races."



Deborah Rhode during an event on campus to discuss the status of faculty women.

Years later, the driving force behind the Center for Ethics in Society hasn't changed. It still enacts the founding principle Rhode envisioned: to be a Center for innovative interdisciplinary work on ethics in society.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: Where did an ethics center fit in at Stanford at that time? Debra Satz had an existing program in ethics geared toward undergraduates, but did you have the feeling that there were ethical issues here on campus that needed to be discussed?

DEBORAH RHODE: Yes, especially regarding the professional schools. There was very little going on around business ethics, engineering ethics, legal ethics, and education ethics. So we primarily focused on those areas. There was a bioethics center that did programming for the

medical school but didn't do much outreach to the general campus on those topics. The idea always was to have both a programmatic and research focus.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: What was the culture of the Center back then?

DEBORAH RHODE: We saw ourselves as doing innovative interdisciplinary work and trying to be on the cutting edge of issues that would attract an audience. That was the guiding principle: What did we think the community was most interested in hearing about, and what research topics would benefit from the resources at Stanford?

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: What are some of the accomplishments you're especially proud of?

Deborah Rhode: The research conferences that turned into books were important moments, and they involved people from Stanford and people outside. There were a number of programs that stand out: one in which we had the journalist Calvin Trillin talk about journalistic ethics. Then we held a celebration of Title IX—its accomplishments and challenges. We had Billie Jean King come, and she nearly filled Maples Pavilion. We had a wonderful program on academic ethics, in which we had several university presidents participating, talking about challenges they faced—that was extremely interesting.

# "I'm extremely proud of what the Center is accomplishing."

We also invited authors of books that got major coverage. Adam Hochschild came and talked about *Bury the Chains*, which was about the British anti-slavery movement.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: In the next 25 years, what would you like to see happen? What do you wish for the Center?

DEBORAH RHODE: I'm extremely proud of what the Center is accomplishing. I think it would be great if, in addition to the thematic series that it promotes, it occasionally had interdisciplinary conferences that might result in a book. I think those initiatives would make major contributions to the field.

**Deborah L. Rhode** is the Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law; the director of the Center on the Legal Professions; and the director of the Program in Law and Social Entrepreneurship at Stanford University.



The McCovs, Debra Satz, and Rob Reich celebrate the successes of the Center during a recent lecture.

The Bowen H. "Buzz" McCoy family has been donating to the Undergraduate Honors Program since the early 2000s. *In 2008, the McCoy family generously endowed the Center* for Ethics in Society.

T Thile hiking through the Himalayas on sabbatical **VV** from his work as a partner at Morgan Stanley, Bowen H. "Buzz" McCoy encountered a dying pilgrim. McCoy and a group of trekkers he had just met did what they could to help him, but they had to ascend the mountain quickly, if they were going to go at all.

The moral dilemma of personal values versus the group's need for expedience heavily impacted McCoy's perspective on ethics in business. After his retirement in 1990 from a long and successful career, through teaching, writing, and

AN INTERVIEW WITH BUZZ & BARBARA McCOY

continued philanthropy, he focused on helping people to voice and defend their ethical values, especially in the professions. He advocated for the creation of a program in ethics at Stanford, and he wanted serious examination of ethics in society to be an interdisciplinary focus.

In 2008, the Program in Ethics in Society merged with the Center on Ethics to combine postdoctoral research on ethics with undergraduate programming and study. That same year, McCoy made a generous gift to the Center, which became the Bowen H. "Buzz" McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society.

We asked McCoy what drove his interest in ethics in society, how he got involved with ethics at Stanford, and how he would like the Center to grow in years to come.

"A good values-based ethics course gives people confidence in exposing their values to the group and defending their values, helping them decide where they're going to take a stand on their values, and where to trade off. "

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: It sounds like your experience encountering the dying pilgrim while climbing the Himalayas sparked your interest in ethics. But, more broadly, how did this encounter lead to your involvement with the Center?

Buzz McCoy: I'd had an interest in leadership and ethics for a long time, and funded a chair at the business school in ethics and leadership for about 25 years, and another fellowship in ethics at Harvard Business School. I was looking for somewhere else, preferably at Stanford, that would have impact. About 10 years ago, Barbara and I met with Debra Satz for breakfast, and she described what was going on with the then Program in Ethics in Society. She described her goals, and it sounded like something we could support. We began by giving just annual support, much smaller scale, and over the years we began to fund an endowment. It was a 10-year process; it didn't just happen overnight.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: Can you talk a little bit about why you think it's important for students to study ethics, and why and how this has evolved over the years?

Buzz McCoy: One of the things that intrigued me about the Center was that it was branching out to the business school, medical school, law school, and the engineering school. I wanted the Center to be an all-campus operation, which it hadn't been before.

People assume ethics are learned when someone is young, and that they won't be changed. But my experience in the business world indicates that values can be contextual, and people haven't thought through the trade-offs that they are going to be asked to make, and haven't really defined their own values in light of the experiences they have as they get older.

I think a good values-based ethics course gives people confidence in exposing their values to the group and defending their values, helping them decide where they're going to take a stand on their values, and where to trade off. We all trade off from time to time, and it is important to know when to take your stand, and why you take that stand. And that's one way that people keep growing all through their mature lives.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: And in a time where undergraduates are under pressure to focus their studies in STEM—science, technology, engineering, and math—how do you think we can increase student interest in ethics?

Buzz McCoy: What about the ethics of drones? Or stem cells? Or the ethics of professions? What is the ethics of a legal profession? What makes the legal profession different from some other profession? Is there a business ethic? Is there a legal ethic? Is there a medical ethic? What is the difference between making money and being in a profession?

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: Barbara, we have the Barbara McCoy postdoc fellowship that we offer. In addition to creating the next generation of ethics scholars, what are you most interested in about the Center?

BARBARA McCoy: I care very deeply that the Center provides opportunity for people to hone their awareness of ethical decision making. I think it's wonderful that the Center attracts such skilled postdocs. We've had some excellent ones. It's fun for us to track their interests.

CENTER FOR ETHICS IN SOCIETY: What are some of the ways you'd like the Center to grow?

Buzz McCoy: Well, I think we need to do some more work integrating with the graduate schools at Stanford. Teaching ethics in the graduate schools is uneven and they have silos. Reaching out and improving integration is important. Also, I see a need for reaching out to the alumni community and foreign campuses, and doing more to encourage students to do public service.

**Bowen H. "Buzz" McCoy** was an owner of Morgan Stanley for 20 years, directing the company's real estate finance activities for 13 years. A graduate of Stanford University and Harvard Business School, McCoy is the author of The Dynamics of Real Estate Capital Markets: A Practitioner's Perspective and Living Into Leadership: A Journey in Ethics.

# THE ETHICS OF MEDICINE

Osterberg and McLennan discuss ethical pitfalls of medicine as business

By Jack Martinez, December 2012



The Buzz is the Center for Ethics in Society's student-driven news portal. We review events and feature initiatives that are of broad interest. Undergraduate students write the articles, and the Center for Ethics in Society edits and produces the content so that the student writers learn to translate academic subject matter into accessible terms and strengthen the clarity and precision of their writing. The content is published on the Center's website.

The following article by Stanford student Jack Martinez was written for *The Buzz*.

To better prepare Stanford students for careers in various fields, in Fall 2012, the Center launched a series called **Ethics** and the **Professions**. During in-depth conversations we bring out the ethical issues unique to each profession. The hope is that students can engage with the issues in ways that often aren't addressed in the classroom.

Professor of Medicine Lars Osterberg thinks too many physicians are in the industry for the wrong reasons. "Medicine has become a business," he said during a conversation with Dean for Religious Life Reverend Scotty McLennan. According to Osterberg, the monetary complications of health care practice are muddling the ethics of medicine.

The conversation ranged from the ethics of universal health care and federal policy to the ethics of plastic surgery. Human Biology majors and medical residents with engineering and humanities backgrounds gathered in Storey House, the university's Human Biology themed residence. The Center for Ethics in Society hosted the talk as part of the Ethics and the Professions series.



Students listen during a recent Ethics and the Professions talk.

Before delving into the ethics of health care, McLennan—who has a background in law and medical ethics—said he wanted to address the elephant in the room: Does "professional" mean that it is all about the money?

Osterberg and McLennan agreed there is an aspect of professionalism that goes beyond the money-making part of medicine. The word profession itself, McLennan explained, reaches back etymologically to religious origins. The concept of a "calling" or vocation has a clerical flavor, but has since been secularized into a guild-like concept in which a select, self-regulating group pursues technical expertise in a learned field, for the benefit of society.

Osterberg said that medicine may be the most apropos of the professions when it comes to a discussion of professional ethics because it fulfills the most requirements of the "profession" definition. As a group, he pointed out, physicians are supposed to serve society, self-govern, require examinations, and have a system of licensure—essentially, to put the public ahead of themselves. However, he added, too many physicians forget this because of the profession's intersection with big business and the profit motive.

Conversation turned to what constitutes legitimate medical practice. Osterberg emphasized that the public service component of medicine is as essential as the technical expertise, adding that some members of the medical community would not even consider cosmetic plastic surgery and concierge practice to be legitimate sectors of the medical profession.



Lars Osterberg and Scotty McLennan discuss the ethical implications of a career in medicine.

Osterberg's Swedish origins also give him insight into the political dimensions of the ongoing national debate about universal standards beyond the basic Hippocratic licensure in medical school. Can you really make someone do it for more than just the money? According to Osterberg, Stanford and other elite medical schools have a tendency to emphasize the strength of a student's science background in the admissions process. Professing a belief in the importance of the mind-body connection in medical care, Osterberg said more needs to be done, both on the political and educational level, to maintain the integrity of medicine as a profession with clear ethical standards.

As Osterberg explained, research suggests that physicians with greater exposure to the arts and humanities tend to be better at interacting with patients and providing care, a fact that the scientific medical establishment needs to take into account. At least one pre-med student agreed, saying

she wished there was more discussion of ethics in her classes. She and Osterberg suggested there ought to be an expectation for students focusing on the natural sciences to explore the ethics of their field beyond the university's general education breadth requirements.

Osterberg believes that, first, the scientific community has to become more convinced of the importance of an interdisciplinary, humanistic approach to the profession of medicine. Does this mean medical schools should start accepting more philosophy majors? "Maybe," Osterberg said. "But first you have to convince the scientists that they will make better doctors."

**Jack Martinez** is a classics major concentrating in Greek and Latin language.

# ENDOWED LECTURE SERIES

The McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society is proud to host three of Stanford University's most prestigious lectures. Each year the Center invites distinguished scholars, professionals, and leaders to discuss ethical issues of societal importance, such as economic inequality, social justice, and war.

### ARROW

The Arrow Lecture Series on Ethics and Leadership is named in honor of Nobel Laureate Kenneth Arrow, the Joan Kenney Professor of Economics and Professor of Operations Research, emeritus. Professor Arrow has made many contributions to welfare economics, social choice theory, and collective decision making. He is also a founding member of the Ethics in Society Honors Program. Arrow's former student Patrick Byrne (PhD '94) endowed the series in honor of his professor.

Past lectures include: Oxford economist Tony Atkinson's "Where is Inequality Headed?" Columbia Professor of Sustainable Development Jeffrey Sachs's "Designing a Path to Sustainable Development," U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and professor at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government Samantha Power's "Chasing the Flame: Sergio Vieira de Mello and the Fight to Save the World," and Harvard economist Amartya Sen's "Social Choice and Human Rights."



The audience listened carefully during a recent Arrow Lecture with economist Esther Duflo.

### TANNER

The Center collaborates with the Office of the President to host the Tanner Lectures on Human Values at Stanford. The Tanner Lectures were established by the late American scholar, industrialist, and philanthropist, Obert Clark Tanner. The Tanner lectureships, which are comprised of annual lectures and seminars, are held at nine universities.

Past Tanner lectures at Stanford include: UCLA professor Jared Diamond's "Ecological Collapses of Pre-industrial Societies," former President of Ireland Mary Robinson's "Human Rights and Ethical Globalization," author Dorothy Allison's "What It Means to Be Free," Brown economist Glenn Loury's "Racial Stigma, Mass Incarceration, and American Values," and Princeton economist and Nobel Laureate Paul Krugman's "Intractable Slumps" and "Currency Crises."

## WESSON

Each year the Center brings to Stanford a notable scholar to deliver a set of lectures pertaining to problems in democratic theory and practice. These lectures are endowed by the late Robert Wesson, a political scientist and Hoover Institute Fellow.

Past lectures include: University of Michigan philosopher Elizabeth Anderson's "Slavery, Emancipation, and the Forgotten History of the Relationship of Freedom and Equality," New York University political scientist Adam Przeworski's "Self-Government in Our Times," Harvard Professor of Ethics in Politics and Government Nancy Rosenblum's "Glorious Traditions of Antipartyism," and lawyer and activist Lawrence Lessig's "Understanding Institutional Corruption."

The Center reaches out across campus, and many programs and departments are important partners. Some of our recent collaborators include:

Stanford Humanities Center Department of Religious Studies Ho Center for Buddhist Studies Creative Writing Program Department of Art and Art History Clayman Institute for Gender Research Cantor Arts Center Stanford Center on Poverty and Inequality Office for Religious Life Stanford Summer Theater Stanford Continuing Studies Stanford Institute for Creativity and the Arts Taube Center for Jewish Studies The Center for International Security and Cooperation Program on Human Rights

# INTERDISCIPLINARY LECTURE SERIES

The Center for Ethics in Society collaborates with various units on campus to bring to life the interdisciplinary nature of ethics. In many cases, our series have resulted in university-wide initiatives. The food series brought about an annual summit, the war series instigated a new Thinking Matters course, and the wealth series is creating interest in a new class focused on art and wealth.

# ETHICS OF FOOD AND THE ENVIRONMENT

This series, which ran from January 2008 through May 2012, focused on a number of issues concerning the relationship between the food the world produces and the environment in which it is produced. In other words, how do our food choices impact animal welfare, global warming, personal health, and the future of our planet? Our aim was to show that the question "What's for dinner?" raises important and complex moral questions.

Lectures included UCSF School of Medicine professor David Kessler's "The End of Overeating: Taking Control of the Insatiable American Appetite," former Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Kathleen Merrigan's "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food," Indiana University political scientist Elinor Ostrom's "Understanding Social Ecological Systems," and Stanford Professor of Interdisciplinary Environmental Studies and Biology Stephen Schneider's "The Climate Change Problem: Science, Ethics, and Policy."

### ETHICS AND WAR

In an effort to stimulate campus discussion and reflection, the Center launched its Ethics and War initiative in the fall of 2011. The series, which ran through May 2012, featured philosophers, writers, journalists, historians, social scientists, human rights activists, and policy makers who have grappled with the hard moral questions raised by wars. We also produced two plays dealing with issues of war and its aftermath.



Lectures included Pulitzer Prize-winning author Richard Rhodes's "The Ethics of Violence in War," Rutgers University philosophy professor Jeff McMahan's "What Rights May We Defend by Means of War?" Oxford philosophy lecturer Cecile Fabre's "Living with the Enemy: The Ethics of Belligerent Occupation," and the Institute for Advanced Study's Avishai Margalit on "Proportionality in War."



# ETHICS OF WEALTH

Human beings have sought to amass wealth, but they have also condemned it as a source of corruption. Social science, theology, and philosophy have long been home to intense debates about the implications of wealth for happiness, virtue, justice, and democracy. Artists and writers have also critically explored the relationship between money and humanity. Starting in fall 2012,



The Center sponsors plays as part of its annual series, like this 2013 performance of *The Exception and the Rule.* 



Scotty McLennan and Denise Pope Clark discuss the unique ethical issues educators face.

the Center has explored the ethical questions at the heart of wealth: Does wealth make people happy? Is inheritance legitimate? What are the moral obligations of the wealthy to those in need? What is the relationship between financial success and a flourishing human life?

Lectures have included Stanford professors Gavin Jones and Richard White on "Wealth in the Gilded Age," Stanford professor John Taylor's "Economic Freedom, Wealth, and the Alleviation of Poverty," and Stanford political scientist Rob Reich's "Democracy and Philanthropy." The Center has also produced a play associated with this series: *The Exception and the Rule*.

# ETHICS AND THE PROFESSIONS

Stanford students leave campus and embark on careers in a variety of fields. In Fall 2012, the Center launched a yearlong

series called Ethics and the Professions to better prepare students for their careers. In this series, Stanford Dean for Religious Life Scotty McLennan and a



faculty member or practitioner from a particular profession discuss the ethical implications of various fields, something students are rarely exposed to in the classroom. Professions examined include business, education, engineering, journalism, law, and medicine.

Speakers have included Stanford scholars such as Lars Osterberg on medicine, Denise Pope Clark on education, and John Kunz on engineering.

# ETHICS @ NOON

Ethics@noon was Ethics in Society's long-running, popular lunchtime series, which started back in the 1990s. Over time, the series evolved from periodic talks, to weekly talks, to becoming a one-unit course. Each week, Stanford faculty tackled important questions of ethics that arise in private and public life. These questions crossed disciplines and were central to many of the main problems confronting humanity. The informal noontime talks focused on a different question each week, and there was always plenty of time for discussion. Despite its success, the Center ended the series in 2012 to concentrate on new initiatives.

Talks from this long and extensive series included Professor of Political Science Scott Sagan's "The Nuclear Taboo," Professor of Population Studies Paul Ehrlich's "Evolution and Ethics: Racism. Genetic Determinism, and the Environment," and Communications Professor Fred Turner's "Burning Man at Google."

"Stanford's Ethics in Society Program and Ethics Center are remarkable institutions that provide something extraordinary to students, to Stanford, and to the wider community. These are places for serious and sustained reflection on essential ethical issues: war and peace, inequality and justice, the challenges of resource scarcity. They contribute immeasurably to the intellectual life of the university. And they help students to become more thoughtful citizens of the world. These two important anniversaries provide an occasion for celebration and for rededication."

-Joshua Cohen, Martha Sutton Weeks Professor of Ethics in Society, Professor of Political Science, Philosophy, and Law

"It has been my privilege to be associated with the Ethics Center for the past ten years. What the Center has been able to accomplish on a modest budget and the considerable talents and commitment of faculty, staff, fellows, and students is remarkable. The yearlong ethics series is a model of university-wide collaboration, bringing together thousands of people from Stanford and the wider community to explore some of the most urgent ethical issues facing our society and the world beyond."

-Barbara H. Fried, William W. and Gertrude H. Saunders Professor of Law

# ETHICS IN THE COMMUNITY

Ethics is not only a set of ideas, it is also a practice. Among our practical activities, we sponsor public lectures, panel discussions, conferences, and we are involved in ongoing community partnerships like the Hope House Scholars Program.

Cince 2001, each Quarter two Stanford professors teach a course in the humanities to the residents of Hope House, a residential drug and alcohol treatment facility for women, many of whom have recently been released from prison.

This collaborative effort between the Program in Ethics in Society and Stanford Continuing like ethics, social justice, and moral responsibility.

A Hope House scholar, holding an art project, said she gained confidence from studying and writing about Studies focuses on themes influential women in history.

The courses allow the women of Hope House to engage in college-level coursework as part of their rehabilitation and recovery.

The partnership has garnered considerable media attention and in 2004 Stanford's Office of Public Affairs granted

the Hope House Scholars Program with a Community Partnership Award, which recognizes individuals and programs that have formed successful community partnerships between Stanford and its neighbors.

The Hope House Scholars Program is not a one-way program where Stanford faculty bring their expertise to people who have no expertise. This is actually a program where two groups that have been relatively isolated from each other come together and think about important questions of values and ethics and history and each have insights to offer.

In the 12 years that the program has run, program cofounder and Center Director Debra Satz remarked that it's unclear who benefits the most from the program. "Everyone who goes through these courses leaves feeling empowered and transformed by the experience," she said.

"It gave me a whole new outlook on the capability of humankind and the inner struggle of human beings. It (showed me) how much I limited my perceptions. It's beyond a dream come true. I feel like a butterfly drawn from a cocoon."

— A Hope House Scholar alumna reflected on her classroom experience in 2002

The Bowen H. McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society 27 26 The Bowen H. McCoy Family Center for Ethics in Society

# POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS

The Center's postdoc fellowship program has grown since it began with the arrival of two fellows in 2007. In the 2013-14 academic year, we are excited to have eight fellows. Our fellows are involved in teaching, interacting with undergraduates in the Ethics in Society Honors Program, and helping to develop an interdisciplinary ethics community across campus. After a one- or two-year term, our fellows go on to faculty positions around the world.



2013-2014 postdoc fellows congregate to hear a Center-sponsored event.

"Being a postdoc at the Center was a privilege: I met great people, I had time to read and write, and to attend excellent philosophical events. My current students are benefiting from what I learned while at Stanford. I cannot imagine a better postdoctoral program."

- Zofia Stemplowska, former postdoc fellow

"The Center for Ethics in Society is an ideal place to mature as a scholar. Center events continuously raised new questions for research and brought us in contact with leading scholars in the field. Conversations in the hallways, over tea, and at formal and informal lunches were sources of intellectual stimulation and career advice. The professors affiliated with the Center provided valuable mentorship and support. The Center provides the ideal launching pad for a scholarly career in applied moral and political philosophy. I owe a great deal of my own scholarly development to my time at the Center for Ethics in Society."

Joseph Mazor, former postdoc fellow

# WHERE IN THE WORLD ARE FORMER ETHICS POSTDOCS?

#### Sam Arnold

Assistant Professor in Political Science. Texas Christian University

#### **Kendra Bischoff**

Assistant Professor in Sociology. Cornell University

#### Mark Cladis

Brooke Russell Astor Professor. Humanities. Brown University

#### Phillip Clark

Associate Professor of Philosophy. University of Toronto

#### Tom Dougherty

Lecturer in Ethics in Philosophy, The University of Sydney

#### Sarah Hannan

Assistant Professor in Political Science, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg

#### Nicole Hassoun

Associate Professor of Philosophy, State University of New York, Binghamton

### **Hugh Lazenby**

Lecturer in Political Philosophy. University of Glasgow

#### Joseph Mazor

Lecturer in Political Science and Philosophy, London School of Economics

#### **Brad McHose**

Lecturer in Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, University of Washington, Tacoma

#### Allegra McLeod

Associate Professor of Law. Georgetown Law

#### Kieran Oberman

Chancellor's Fellow, School of Social and Political Science, University of Edinburgh

#### Avia Pasternak

Lecturer in Political Theory. University of Essex

### Zofia Stemplowska

Lecturer in Political Theory, Asa Briggs Fellow, Worcester College, University of Oxford

#### Jean Thomas

Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law, McGill University

# 2013-14 POSTDOCS AND WHERE THEY EARNED THEIR PhD

### **Brian Berkey UC** Berkeley

William Bravnen University of Arizona

### **Mark Budolfson**

Princeton

### Hyunseop Kim

New York University

### **Alex Levitov**

Princeton

#### Julie Rose

Princeton

#### Liam Shields

University of Warwick

#### **Patrick Taylor Smith**

University of Washington, Seattle

# UNDERGRADUATE ETHICAL REASONING REQUIREMENT

Starting in 2013, Stanford undergraduate students are required to take one course that devotes a majority of course time either to exploring ethical theories, or to applying ethical theories to important personal, social, or political questions. The Center plays an exciting role in helping to facilitate the new Ethical Reasoning Requirement.

Why does Stanford need such a requirement for undergraduates? Human conduct, individually and collectively, involves ethical notions that call for our attention and reflection. Those notions include standards of right and wrong action, judgments about which human ends are worth pursuing, and ideas about valuable qualities of human character. Ethical inquiry explores moral rights and responsibilities, fairness and decency, personal virtue and vice, the worthiness of individual choices and the rightness of public policies. An ability to reason about ethical issues, draw defensible conclusions, and assess competing ethical claims is fundamental to individual development and to effective social participation.



2012-2013 undergraduate honors students listen during thesis presentations.

# THE PROGRAM IN ETHICS IN SOCIETY

Operating under the umbrella of the Center for Ethics in Society, the Undergraduate Honors Program in Ethics in Society offers undergraduates in any major the opportunity to write a senior honors thesis. The program is grounded in moral and political philosophy, but it extends its concerns across a broad range of traditional disciplinary domains. The program is guided by the idea that ethical thought has application to current social questions and conflicts, and it seeks to encourage moral reflection and practice in areas such as business, international relations, law, medicine, politics, science, and public service. The Program attracts students from all corners of campus who are committed to studying important ethical issues in an interdisciplinary cohort.

Each year the Program is made up of a purposefully small cohort of about 10 students. Seniors in the Program spend their last year as undergraduates writing honors theses under the guidance of a postdoctoral fellow scholar in addition to their thesis advisor.

# ALUMNI PROFILES

Alumni from the Undergraduate Honors Program in Ethics in Society engage difficult questions during their time at the Center and then consistently embark on remarkable journeys, whether it's winning Rhodes Scholarships, saving lives as a doctor, or joining the next generation of leading scholars.

#### Michelle Mello 1993

Michelle Mello studied political science and applied ethics as an undergraduate. Her interest in the ethical intersections of law, policy, and medicine inspired her to complete her honors thesis, "Achieving Equity of Access to Health Services: The Ethical Mandate for Change in the U.S. Health Care System," through Stanford's Program in Ethics in Society in 1993. Her studies continued at Oxford University, where she received a Master of Philosophy in Comparative Social Research in 1995, and then at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where she completed her PhD in Health Policy and Administration in 1999. She received a JD from Yale's Law School in 2000. Today, she is a professor of Law and Public Health at the Harvard Department of Health Policy and Management. Her research spans issues such as disclosure of medical errors, appropriate roles for government in curbing obesity, and ethical issues in human research.

#### Rachel Maddow 1994

Rachel Maddow, now the host of MSNBC's The Rachel Maddow Show, crystallized her career in activism at Stanford, where she received her undergraduate degree in public policy



in 1994. Her honors thesis, "Identifiable Lives: AIDS and the Response to Dehumanization." helped chart her course to become one of the nation's leading advocates of gay rights." In 1995, she became the first openly

gay person to receive a Rhodes Scholarship and went on to obtain her Doctor of Philosophy degree at Oxford University. Maddow recently returned to Stanford for the first time in two decades to give a talk organized by the Center. She spoke about the value of studying the humanities and about her book, Drift: The Unmooring of American Military Power.

#### Eric Beerbohm 1998

A native of Belmont, California, Beerbohm graduated from Stanford in 1998 with a BA in Political Science and MA in Philosophy. His senior Ethics in Society thesis was, "Welfare Justice: A Rawlsian Response to the Personal Responsibility



Act of 1996." Beerbohm went on to be a Marshall Scholar, and then received a Master of Philosophy degree from Oxford University and a PhD from Princeton. Currently, he serves as the Frederick S. Danzinger Associate Professor of Government at Harvard and is director of the Edmond J. Safra Graduate Fellowships in Ethics.

#### Nandini Gandhi 2001

Nandini Gandhi was raised in Sacramento, California, and graduated from Stanford in 2001. A major in biological sciences, she wrote her Ethics in Society honors thesis on the ethics of sorting elementary school students by ability. After graduating, she traveled on a Fulbright Scholarship to Bombay, India, where she studied women's reproductive health education at the TATA Institute of Social Services. Continuing her deep commitment to global health and service. Gandhi attended medical school at the University of California, San Francisco, graduating in 2006. She completed her residency at the University of Iowa and later became a fellow in Pediatric Ophthalmology at Duke University, where she was named Fellow of the Year in 2010-11. Today, Gandhi

works in an academic medicine practice at the University of California, Davis, where she focuses on pediatric ophthalmology and adult strabismus.

#### Mattie Johnstone Bekink 2001

Before becoming an esteemed legal practitioner and academic. Mattie Johnstone Bekink wrote an honors thesis. "Freedom and Responsibility: The Right to Reproductive Autonomy and China's One-Child Policy," through the Program in Ethics in Society. After graduating in 2001, Bekink went on to receive her JD from the Georgetown University Law Center in 2005 and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship, which took her to Doha, Qatar, to continue her studies. She worked as an associate in an international arbitration and litigation group and as a fellow at the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at the NYU Law School. Her interest in Chinese ethics sent her abroad again, where she was the deputy country director of the American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative China Program. Afterward, she became an independent consultant working on rule of law. She was affiliated with NYU Law School's U.S.-Asia Law Institute and served as a special advisor to Chinese human rights activist Chen Guangcheng after his arrival in the United States. She is currently deputy director, NYU Public Affairs, Global Programs & Sites, based in Europe.

#### Joe Shapiro 2003



Joe Shapiro's 2003 honors thesis on the ethics of kidney sales in the developing world is required reading for most Ethics in Society juniors. An economics major who grew up in Portland, Oregon, Shapiro exhaustively researched kidney sales in the slums of South India. Shapiro worked as a TA in a medical ethics course at Stanford before taking a job at the World Bank, where

he worked with policy makers in Mexico and Paraguay to analyze health and education policies. A Marshall Scholar, Shapiro received an MSc in Economics for Development at Oxford in 2006 and another MSc in Statistics at the London School of Economics in 2007. In June 2013, he completed a PhD in Economics at MIT, where his dissertation research analyzed how trade policy affects climate change and how ideas from research on international trade can help evaluate environmental regulation. He is currently an assistant professor in the Department of Economics at Yale University, where his research focuses on the intersection of environment and energy economics, trade, and health.

#### Eric Pai 2003

Eric Pai graduated from Stanford in 2003 with a degree in economics and political science. In addition to joining the Phi Beta Kappa honors society, Pai wrote a thesis, "Disability, Work, and Equality: Applying Democratic Equality to the Americans with Disabilities Act". After leaving Stanford with honors, he graduated from Yale Law School in 2006, where he was a member of the Board of The Yale Law Journal and editorin-chief of the Yale Journal on Regulation. Currently, Pai is an associate in the litigation department of Morrison & Foerster's Palo Alto office. His practice focuses on intellectual property litigation, with an emphasis on patent litigation.

#### Jason Shen 2009

Jason Shen studied biological sciences as an undergraduate and completed an honors thesis titled "Who Gets the Goods?: The Ethics of Organ Distribution Policies." Shen was a competitive gymnast, but he suffered a major knee injury in 2008. Dauntless, he made an aggressive recovery and went on to help Stanford win an NCAA championship as team captain in 2009. The same year, he received his master's degree in Biology and became the chief operations officer of the Stanford Daily, where his efforts helped the newspaper revitalize itself and expand its audience. After leaving Stanford, he attended the highly prestigious Y Combinator program for aspiring entrepreneurs. His

experiences there allowed him to co-found the acclaimed community ridesharing service Ridejoy in 2011. He was named a Presidential Innovation Fellow in 2013 and is currently working in Washington, D.C., where he is assisting the Smithsonian Institution's efforts to digitize its assets and reach a broader public.

## **Alexander Berger** 2011



Alexander Berger graduated from Stanford in 2011 with a BA in Philosophy and an MA in Policy, Organization, and Leadership Studies from the Graduate School of Education. His Ethics in Society honors thesis explored the significance of education rights in school finance litigation. After graduation, Berger began work as a

research analyst for GiveWell, an organization that rigorously evaluates the effectiveness of charities.

### Margaret Hayden 2013

Originally a native of Brunswick, Maine, Margaret Hayden came to Stanford in 2009 to study Human Biology. Here, her interest in the intersection of medicine, anthropology,

"The Ethics in Society Program and the McCoy Center for Ethics in Society have been invaluable to the educational program of Stanford and to the clarification of the ethical problems inherent in the functioning of society. The honors students have been challenged to develop breadth and depth in their theses, because they have to consider both the technical aspects of the problems they address and the broad ethical considerations they have to bring to bear."

 Kenneth Arrow. Nobel Laureate in Economics. Professor Emeritus of Economics and of Operations Research



and ethics brought her to the Center for Ethics in Society where she completed an honors thesis titled. "The Ethics of Conceptualizing Serious Mental Illness: Schizophrenia and the Limitations of a Brain-Based Model." In addition to being a member of Stanford's varsity squash and varsity sailing teams, Hayden served as a patient advocate and clinic coordinator at the Mayview

Community Health Center in Palo Alto. Her commitment to exploring the deeply ethical issues of mental health treatment coupled with her passion for service to the community resulted in her being named a 2013 recipient of the Rhodes Scholarship. She plans on pursuing her master's degree in anthropology at Oxford University.

# PEOPLE OF THE CENTER

# Founding "Blue Ribbon" Committee

**KENNETH ARROW** Economics

BART BERNSTEIN History

MICHAEL BRATMAN Philosophy

ARNOLD EISEN Religious Studies

JOHN FEREJOHN Political Science

David Kennedy History

PAT SUPPES Philosophy

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JOSIAH OBER Professor of Political Science and of Classics

KRISTI OLSON Assistant Professor of Political Science

**ROB REICH** Associate Professor of Political Science

**Debra Satz** Professor of Philosophy, Senior Associate Dean for the Humanities & Arts

**Brent Sockness** Associate Professor of Religious Studies

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ROB REICH Director of the Undergraduate Honors Program

DEBRA SATZ Director of the Center for Ethics in Society

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SCOTTY MCLENNAN Dean for Religious Life

ALISON McQUEEN Assistant Professor of Political Science

KRISTI OLSON Assistant Professor of Political Science

BRENT SOCKNESS Associate Professor of Religious Studies

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LILY BIXLER CLAUSEN Communications Specialist

BREANA DINH Administrative Associate

ANNE NEWMAN Associate Director



Peter Singer Vealth in the Gilded Age How Much is Enough?

of Carah Winfrey

Elinor Ostrom Indiana University

Charles Sabel / Columbia Law

Margaret Lovi / Political Science, University

of Washington and University of Sydney

Puzzles

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE FREE

Tuesday, May 15, 2001 5:00 PM

Stanford Law School

All Animals Are Equal - But in What Sense of Equality?



Sir Tony Atkinson Economics, Oxford

Where is Inequality Headed?



Thurs. May 16, 2013 / 5:30 pm Annnenberg Auditorium, Stanford University

Rising economic inequality has serious implications for today's society. What can we learn from historical economic models? When have we successfully reduced inequality? Given what we've learned, where are we headed and what can we do about it? ethicsinsociety.stanford.edu

The Ethics of Wealth

The 1999 Wesson Lectures in Problems of Democracy

"Freedom, Trust and Democracy

Program In Ethics in Society

Orlando Patterson Sociology Department, Harvard University and author of "The Ordeol of Integration"

in America'

"Cultivating Distrust: The Development of Three Cultures of Democracy in America"

Monday, February 8, 1999

Trust and Democratic Transition in

Both Lectures held at

POLYGLOT P



Philippe Van Pa

STANFORD UNIVERSITY

Sociology Department, Harvard University

"The Ironic Construction of Civic America"

Ethics in Society Program presents IF 1998 WESSON LECTURES IN PROBLEMS OF DEMOCRAC

SPEAKER: PROFESSOR THEDA SKOCPOL

Wednesday, March 11

"Democracy Unravelled:

The Ethics of Wealth \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

IEAN STORIES G STUBBORN BIRLS

onday May 14, 2001 5:00 PM

nford Law School

Thursday, May 29 Institutional Design for Multilingua

Friday, May 30 Discussion Seminar with David Latin 1:00.-3:00 p.m. Building 460, Room 426

Rethinking Justice for Multilingual

5:30 -7:00 p.m. Building 370, Room 370

Barron "Buza" Thompson, Jr. / Woods and

# THE CHALLENGE SUSTAINABILITY eb. 16~18, 2011 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. / Room 130 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. / Room 120 Turns, Pur. 17 Frameworks Francis Fukuyama / FSI, Stanford University Tucus, Pos. 17