



York Collegium for Practical Ethics

 @YorkU_Ethics



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COLLEGIUM NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2018

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A new year is upon us and the York Collegium for Practical Ethics has been busy arranging lunch talks for the upcoming term. The Lunch Talk Series is held at McLaughlin College, but our posters will be all around campus and distributed by email and social media. We encourage you to add us on Twitter @YorkU_Ethics, check out our website for updates, and share notice of our lunch talks within your networks.

EXPANDING OUR CAPACITY

YCPE is working hard to expand its reach and influence. The new TTC subway stations at York University offer great potential for the growth of our lunch talk series. Recognizing this, we have worked with York University to set up a fundraising page to help support our efforts. Please consider donating at <http://bit.ly/2jzWj7l> and please also read through this newsletter to learn more about our past and future events.

IN MEMORIUM

We are saddened by the passing of our dear friend Arthur Wesley (Wes) Cragg. Dr. Cragg co-founded the Canadian Business Ethics Research Network (CBERN) in 2007 with the goal of promoting collaborative business ethics initiatives and research across academia, government, NGOs, industry, and civil society. He was a Senior Scholar and Professor Emeritus of Policy and Business Ethics at York University's Schulich School of Business.

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SELECTION OF RECENT AND FORTHCOMING PUBLICATIONS BY YCPE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

“Michael DiBiase v. The City of Vaughan: A Case Study in Descriptive, Normative and Meta-Ethics” by Philip MacEwen in the *Canadian Public Administration Journal*, forthcoming in early 2018.

“An Argument for Critical and Liberal Education: A Synthesis of Ancient and Modern Thought” by Naomi Couto in *Classical Relationalism and the Politics of Europe*, December 2017, Ch. 15.

Honest Politics Now, co-edited by University Professor Emeritus Ian Greene and Professor David Shugarman (both former directors of the YCPE), containing chapters co-authored by Naomi Couto and Ian Stedman

We hope you will join family, friends and colleagues for a ceremony and reception celebrating Dr. Cragg's life and many accomplishments.

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018

Time: 5:30 pm - 7:45 pm

Location:

Robert R. McEwen Auditorium
Schulich School of Business,
York University.

PROFESSIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The YCPE's Executive members have had a productive year and continue to make valuable contributions to the field of practical ethics. Here are just a few of our accomplishments over the past few months.

In addition to publishing chapters in *Classical Relationalism and the Politics of Europe* and in *Honest Politics Now*, **Professor Naomi Couto** was honoured by the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration with the *2017 CAPPA Recognition for Most Compelling Normative Contribution paper*.

YCPE co-coordinator **Philip MacEwen** also had a busy 2017 as a result of the creation of the new

Journal of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics / Journal canadienne pour l'étude de l'éthique appliquée. Volume 1 was published in 2017, with volume 2 expected in early 2018. Philip is a co-editor and has also co-written introductions to both volumes, which can be accessed at <http://scholar.uwindsor.ca/csspe/vol1/>.

Ian Greene and Ian Stedman have had a busy 2017, providing expert opinions and analysis for local and national news stories about government ethics and accountability. Professor. Greene started the year by appearing on CBC Radio's *The Current* with Anna Marie Tremonti, and then wrote two op-eds for *ipolitics.ca* and one for *The Toronto Star*. Ian Stedman provided expert analysis for media on 21 separate occasions. Government ethics has definitely been a hot topic throughout 2017!

The two Ians also presented on a panel about the independence of ethics commissioners at the December conference of the Council on Government Ethics Laws (COGEL) that was held in Toronto, and later both participated

in a Public Policy Forum roundtable on the role of officers and agents of Parliament. [Ian Stedman](#) also presented at an international anti-corruption conference in September and at a continuing legal education event in December that was focused on ethics issues faced by lawyers who work for Ontario's securities regulator.

Looking ahead, Ian Stedman has organized a conference with IP Osgoode, Osgoode Hall Law School and the York Centre for Public Policy and Law, called "Bracing for Impact – The Artificial Intelligence Challenge: A Road Map for A.I. Policy in place on

February 2, 2018 in Toronto and will feature international experts from academia, industry and government. Conference information can be found at:

<http://aichallenge.osgoode.yorku.ca/>

Jacob Blum joined the YCPE as a research assistant and brings a lifetime of experience in practical ethics with him. Jacob has been invaluable in helping to organize lunch talks and he assisted Ian Greene with editing for **Honest Politics Now**.

Nicole Karagach has also joined the YCPE. Nikki is an undergraduate student who has been instrumental in helping us to plan and promote our talks, especially via social media.

JOIN OUR EXECUTIVE

The YCPE is looking for faculty members and graduate students to join our executive for the 2018-2019 academic year. Please send your expressions of interest to ianstedman@osgoode.yorku.ca. The YCPE is also looking for undergraduate students to join our executive. Please send your CV and a covering letter to ianstedman@osgoode.yorku.ca.

LUNCH TALK SERIES

Please check our website regularly as our schedule is updated.

February 14 - Dr. William van Wijngaarden (York University) will give a talk entitled "Climate Change: What on Earth is Going On?"

February 28 – Bob Tarantino from Dentons Canada LLP will talk about ethics, the law and artificial intelligence in a talk entitled "Judging AI: Ethics and Accountability for Legal Algorithms".

Dates are TBD for the following speakers:

Tomee Sojourner-Campbell on Consumer Racial Profiling.

Olivia Schuman on Donor Anonymity: Practical and Moral Considerations.

William Wong will talk about his work as Deputy Parliamentary Counsel, including the importance of ethical codes and the immunities offered by parliamentary privilege.

George Fallis on Plutocrats.

Richard Phidd – (Subject TBD).

WORKING TOGETHER

The Toronto Star's **Kevin Donovan** gave a lunch talk at Osgoode Hall Law School about **The Law & Ethics of Investigative Journalism**.

The talk was co-sponsored by Osgoode Hall Law School, the York Centre for Public Policy & Law, and by IP Osgoode. The York Collegium for Practical Ethics hopes to continue to work with partners at Osgoode in order to bring exciting and engaging talks like this one to McLaughlin College, Osgoode Hall Law School and the broader York University community.

A big thank you is owed to Jacob Blum for coming up with the idea for the talk and for doing all the work to draw Mr. Donovan to our campus!



THE COLLEGIUM'S MANDATE

The York Collegium for Practical Ethics organizes a seminar series that addresses issues related to practical ethics. It also works with other organizations to organize talks workshops and conferences on practical ethics.

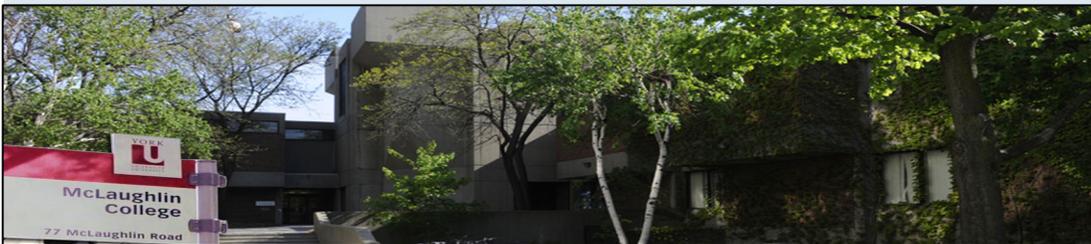
One of the Collegium's goals is to raise awareness of practical ethics and to facilitate the integration of ethics into the everyday life of the surrounding communities, including businesses, government, and the professions.

The forerunner of the Collegium was the York Centre for Practical Ethics, which operated from 1994 to 2013.

The Centre was established in 1994 to further research in the field of practical ethics and to support the teaching of practical ethics at York University.

GOVERNANCE

YCPE has an executive that reports to its members and affiliates and to the Master of McLaughlin College. As of August 1, 2017, the executive consists of Philip MacEwen, Naomi Couto, Ian Greene, Peter Constantinou, Gregory Levine, and Ian Stedman. During 2017-18, Philip MacEwen and Ian Stedman have volunteered to serve as co-coordinators.



ETHICS MATTERS

There have been very few moments in history where we have been so starkly and regularly reminded of the importance of professional and practical ethics. The most powerful politicians in the U.S. and in Canada have found themselves the focus of ethics scandals in 2017 and 2018, with no end seemingly in sight. We have seen scandals in health care, legal services, business, finance, etc.

With the TTC now coming to York University, there has never been a better time for us to push to grow the practical ethics community here. The YCPE is always looking for ways to reach beyond its own limits and to open doors to new and engaging discussions. If you have an idea for a lunch talk that you would like to hear or if you would like to give one yourself, please contact Ian Stedman at ianstedman@osgoode.yorku.ca.

The YCPE is also open to collaborating with other groups around (and off) campus and co-sponsoring events outside of our lunch talk series. Please do not hesitate to contact Ian if you have any ideas for encouraging and growing the conversation surrounding practical ethics here at York University.