



York Collegium for Practical Ethics

 @YorkU_Ethics



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COLLEGIUM NEWSLETTER – SEPTEMBER 2016

WELCOME BACK!

A new academic year is now upon us and the York Collegium for Practical Ethics is again organizing a Lunch Talk Series that will be co-hosted by and held at McLaughlin College. You will see our posters around campus and we encourage you to add us on Twitter @YorkU_Ethics and check out our website for updates to the Lunch Talk schedule. YCPE is on a mission to help the conversation about practical ethics continue to grow here at York University!

EXCITING NEWS

The YCPE has been keeping very busy. We are excited to announce that one of our coordinators, Professor Philip MacEwen, has been working closely with industry partners to plan a Public Sector Ethics Conference that will take place in Toronto from September 29-30, 2016. Information about the conference can be found on the Ontario's Conflict of Interest Commissioner's website.

Our other coordinator, Ian Stedman, has been forging relationships with

York's Centre for Public Policy and Law and will be working with its director, Professor Richard Haigh from Osgoode Hall Law School, in order to plan some co-sponsored events this year. The connection between ethics, public policy and law is undeniable and this partnership will help open doors to new opportunities and new discussions across the York University community. The year ahead will be very exciting!

Please take a few minutes to read through our newsletter to learn more about us and the events that we have planned for 2016-2017.

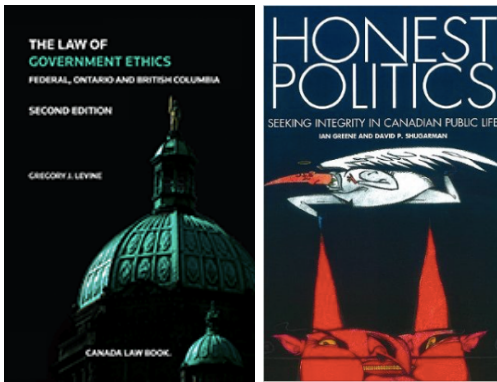
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BOOKS PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING BY YCPE EXECUTIVE MEMBERS!

1. **The Law of Government Ethics, Federal, Ontario and British Columbia (second edition)** by Gregory J. Levine, PhD, LL.B. Published by Thomson Reuters on November 27, 2015.
2. **Honest Politics, 2nd edition**, co-edited by University Professor Emeritus Ian Greene and Professor David Shugarman (both are former directors of the YCPE). Expected to be published by James Lorimer & Company Limited in early 2017.

EXECUTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The YCPE's Executive members have had an incredible 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.

Professor Naomi Couto has successfully received Tenure and Promotion. The good news from the President's Office came on May 6, 2016!

Professor Couto will also leave us this academic year to head out on sabbatical. Professor Couto has been invited to join the University of Keele in Staffordshire, England as a visiting scholar. She will be working on a new research project entitled, *"Education and Utopia: Neoliberalism, the Democratic Deficit, and the Destruction of the Citizen."* The project aims to explore the possibility of the creation of an educational system and educational institution able to socialize citizens who are committed to democratic change and production of a society that values equality, freedom, and hope. The grounding belief is that this is an

important issue in contemporary society. If hope and change are likely to emerge from anywhere in our world, they will come from children and youth through their engagement with the education system, which shapes their orientation towards the world. Professor Couto's hope is to bring some of these findings into the realm of *ethics and governance* courses that could be taught at the elementary and high school levels in Canada.

Professor Peter Constantinou has been awarded the York University President's **University-Wide Teaching Award** in the Contract and Adjunct Faculty category.

Professor Constantinou's award letter states, "You are clearly a creative teacher who develops in students a capacity for critical thinking and a passion for public service".... and... "It is evident that the concepts that your philosophy of teaching rests on – respect, enthusiasm and experiential education – are successfully implemented in your teaching practice."

Professor Constantinou has been a

valued faculty member at York University for many years, but this year his status has also been converted to tenure-track under the York University Faculty Association (YUFA) conversion program.

But the good news does not end there for **Professor Constantinou** - in August of 2015 he was also appointed to be the Academic Director of the Ontario Legislature Internship Programme.

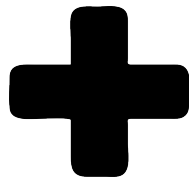
Professor Philip MacEwen worked with Kira Tomsons of the Department of Philosophy, Douglas

College, to co-organize the 2016 Conference of the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics at the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, May 28-30, held at the University of Calgary. Professor MacEwen gave a paper on the ethics of drones at the Conference.

While completing his PhD in government ethics law at Osgoode Hall Law School, **Ian Stedman** has also been appointed to the research ethics board at Toronto's SickKids Hospital as a legal member. Ian will also be teaching the Legal Process course for two section of Osgoode's incoming first year law students.



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YCPPL

WORKING TOGETHER

University Professor Emeritus Ronald Pearlman of York's Faculty of Science & Engineering will give a talk about the legal, ethical and many scientific implications of the emerging gene-editing technology known as CRISPR. This talk will be held at Osgoode Hall Law School and will be promoted university-wide!

The York Collegium for Practical Ethics will be working together with the York Centre for Public Policy and Law throughout 2016-2017 in order to bring exciting and engaging talks like this one to McLaughlin College, Osgoode Hall Law School and the broader York University community!

With the help of Professor and YCPPL Director Richard Haigh at Osgoode Hall Law School, the YCPE and YCPPL have begun planning this first co-sponsored event to take place in November 2016.

LUNCH TALK SERIES

The following lunch talks are scheduled for the coming months. Please check our website regularly as more speakers are added!

September 28 - University Professor Emeritus Ian Greene will give a talk about government ethics and will discuss the upcoming release of the second edition of his book *Honest Politics* (co-edited with Prof. David Shugarman).

September 29 - Vaughan city councilor Alan Shefman will give a talk about the historical growth and value of government ethics systems in the city of Vaughan

September 29-30 - The YCPE is co-sponsoring a Public Sector Ethics Conference to be held at the University of Toronto Law School.

October 4 - Professor Philip MacEwen will give a fascinating talk on "The Ethics of Commercial and Civilian Drones."

October 5 - Ontario's Integrity Commissioner, David Wake, will give a talk about his work as Integrity Commissioner and Lobbyists Registrar.

November 2 - Jacob Blum will give a talk about his experience working for and blowing the whistle at Ontario's Air Ambulance operator, Ornge.

November 16 - Professor Emeritus and Senior Scholar Wes Cragg will give a talk about bribery and economic development.

November 23 - Professor Nergis Canefe will give a talk about ethics and the public good.

THE COLLEGIUM'S MANDATE

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

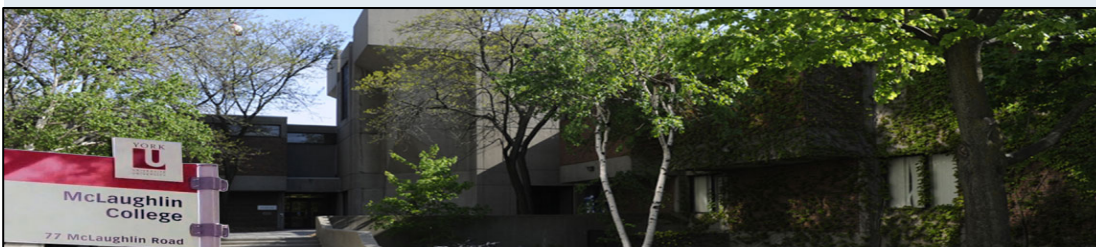
One of the Collegium's goals is to raise awareness of practical ethics and to facilitate the integration of ethics into the everyday life of the surrounding communities, including businesses, government, and the professions.

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, 2016, the executive consists of Philip MacEwen, Naomi Couto, Ian Greene, Peter Constantinou, Gregory Levine, and Ian Stedman. During 2016-17, Philip MacEwen and Ian Stedman have volunteered to serve as co-coordinators.



HELP OUR COMMUNITY GROW!

Help us to enrich and grow the practical ethics community here at York University. 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.

POSSIBLE TOPICS:

- Ethical Theory/Practical Ethics
- Ethical Politics
- Legal and Judicial Ethics
- Public Policy Ethics
- Government Ethics
- Administrative Ethics
- Environmental Ethics
- Business Ethics
- Research and Academic Ethics
- Ethics in International Relations
- Teaching of Practical Ethics
- Ethics in Sport
- Healthcare Ethics

Or anything related to ethics and public policy. We never say no to a good idea!