

Newsletter

Indiana University Bloomington

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Coach Mark Wilson, faculty director Richard Miller, and team members: James Bourke, Khalil AbuGharbieh, and Jacob Fulk in back and Elizabeth Lewis and Valerie Aquila in front.

IU Poynter Center Ethics Bowl Team Places First in US Competition

The Indiana University Poynter Center Ethics Bowl Team won the Tenth Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl February 26th in Cincinnati, Ohio. The competition is held each year in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

The team included five members: Khalil AbuGharbieh, a freshman in Political Science, Religious Studies, and Near Eastern Languages and Culture; Valerie Aquila, a senior in Journalism and History; James Bourke, a junior in Philosophy, Political Science, and the Individualized Major Program in Nonviolence in Theory and Practice; Jacob Fulk, a senior in Religious Studies; Elizabeth Lewis, a senior in Religious Studies, Philosophy, and Political Science. The faculty director was Richard B Miller, Director of the Poynter Center and Professor of Religious Studies.

Mark A. Wilson, a doctoral student in Religious Studies, was the coach.

The forty participating teams competed in three rounds in the morning. The teams were given thirteen complex ethical and policy cases to study in advance of the competition, although they were not told what questions they would be asked about any case. For each match, one team was required to present a view on a case and then respond to questions from the opposing team and judges. Then the roles were reversed, and the opposing team presented an argument surrounding a case, after which they were to respond to questions. Teams were evaluated at the end of each match for the quality of their arguments, responses, and counter-responses. The top eight teams advanced to the quarterfinals. The IU team defeated Weber State University in the quarterfinals and University of Montana in the semifinals. IU defeated Wright State University in the final round.

The day-long competition is held each year as a method of involving students in viewing difficult situations from a variety of perspectives. The competition is presented by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics and the Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Poynter Center Fellows Focus on Democracy and Dissent

The initial group of Poynter Center Fellows spent the academic year in interdisciplinary discussion and study on the topic of Democracy and Dissent. Each fellow is producing an article drawing on the year's research.



Melissa Seymour, a philosophy graduate student, talked with Richard Miller and Arthur Applbaum after the lecture.

The spring Democracy and Dissent lecturer was Arthur Applbaum, Professor of Ethics and Public Policy at John F. Kennedy School of Government and a faculty associate at the Center for Ethics and the Professions at Harvard University. He spoke on the topic, "Forcing a People to be Free" on April 1. Professor Applbaum considered a number of ethical and political issues confronting the United States in its quest to free Iraq and create a new form of government.

Poynter Center Fellows Will Study Ethics and Politics of Childhood in 2004-2005

The Poynter Center's second group of Poynter Center Fellows will study the ethics and politics of childhood during the 2004-2005 academic year. The Poynter Center has received applications from Bloomington faculty interested in participating.

Participants will meet ten times during the year to discuss readings relating to practical and policy developments surrounding children's welfare. There will be a fall and spring guest lecturer as well.

Religion and Violence Lecture

Dr. Rainer Funk, from Tuebingen, Germany, presented a lecture, "Violence in Our Time: Psychology and Religion," March 31, 2004. He examined such questions as: Is there an alternative to violence besides more violence? How do we avoid using religion to legitimize violence?

Dr. Funk was Eric Fromm's last assistant and became Fromm's literary executor. Dr. Funk has published many of Fromm's previously unpublished writings and owns the Erich Fromm Archive in Tuebingen.

The program was co-sponsored by the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions and the IU Center on Philanthropy.

Matthew Vandivier Sims Memorial Lecture



Damon Sims, LeRoy Walters, Suzette Sims, and Richard Miller after the Matthew Vandivier Sims Memorial Lecture.

LeRoy Walters, the Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr. Professor of Christian Ethics at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics at Georgetown University, and a professor of philosophy at Georgetown, presented the third Matthew Vandivier Sims Memorial Lecture March 11, 2004. Walters has been engaged with the ethical and public-policy questions surrounding research and human-gene-transfer research since 1976.

The lecture, "Five Policy Options for Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research: An International Perspective," is available online at <http://broadcast.iu.edu>. The lecture, presented in memory of Matthew Sims, who died in infancy, is a collaboration between the Poynter Center and Matthew's family and friends.

Medical Ethics Seminars

The seminars bring together practitioners, faculty, and students to discuss topics in medical ethics. During the spring semester the seminar participants tackled a range of subjects. The January 22 discussion topic centered on ethical issues in the delivery of managed care costs and practices. The presenters were all from the Indianapolis-based health maintenance organization M-Plan: Alexander Slabosky, CEO; Joe Fox, Medical Director; and John Ellis, Associate Medical Director. Jason Eberl from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis spoke February 12 on defining death for the purposes of organ procurement. On March 25 Sandy DeWeese, chief operating officer of Southern Indiana Pediatrics, led participants in a discussion of how for-profit physicians should respond to the current situation in which the reimbursement from the state does not actually cover the cost of services rendered. Richard Miller concluded the spring series with a discussion of ethical issues in pediatric research, drawing from his new book, *Children, Ethics, and Modern Medicine*, on April 29.

Scientists and Subjects

Twenty-one people completed the spring offering of Scientists and Subjects, an online seminar on the ethics of research with human subjects. The program is funded by the National Institutes of Health. The staff has begun planning the spring 2005 seminar.

Teaching Research Ethics May 19-22

The annual Teaching Research Ethics workshop will be May 19-22 in Bloomington. Ken Pimple, Director of Teaching Research Ethics Programs at the Poynter Center, reports that the workshop is full, with forty-five registrants from eighteen states and Canada.

Moral Reasoning in Scientific Research

In addition to the online Scientists and Subjects seminar and the Teaching Research Ethics workshop, the Poynter Center offers *Moral Reasoning in Scientific Research*, an 80-page booklet of materials for teaching the responsible conduct of science in college and university science courses. The booklet, which includes an introduction, instructions, an essay for students, and six case studies, can be ordered from the Poynter Center for \$7 or downloaded in .pdf format for free.

See the web site at <http://poynter.indiana.edu/> and follow the link to *Moral Reasoning in Scientific Research*.

Web Site

We have redesigned our web site. You can find more details about all of the items mentioned in the newsletter and get updates on events, programs, and news at the web site: <http://poynter.indiana.edu>.

Be Involved

You can further the work of the Poynter Center by sending contributions to the Indiana University Foundation, State Road 46 Bypass, Bloomington, IN 47405, with a notation designating the gift for the Poynter Center. The Poynter Center is an endowed research center at Indiana University.

Poynter Center Newsletter

This newsletter is published twice a year by the Poynter Center for the Study of Ethics and American Institutions at Indiana University and mailed free of charge to our friends. We welcome additions to our mailing list.

Glenda Murray, Editor

Staff Changes

The Poynter Center is experiencing a number of staff changes this summer, as students and staff pursue the next phase of their lives.

Jae Chung, a recent graduate who has assisted with many research projects this year, will be serving in the Peace Corp in Mauritania.

Jennifer Girod, who joined the Poynter Center as Research Associate a year ago, will be attending law school at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis.

Kara Lochridge, a folklore graduate student who has assisted Ken Pimple with Teaching Research Ethics the last two years, will become an apprentice flute maker in Charlottesville, VA.

Mary Ulmet, who has been an assistant at the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics for three years, is pursuing a career in campus ministry here in Bloomington.

Mark Wilson, a Ph.D. candidate in Religious Studies, is moving to Baltimore to continue his research. Among other duties, Mark has coached the Ethics Bowl team the last two years.

Thanks to each of them for their work at the Poynter Center. We wish Jae, Jenny, Kara, Mary, and Mark best wishes in their new endeavors.

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