

The Ethics of Climate Change: Inter-generational Justice and the Global Challenge

The debate over climate change has largely moved past the issue of the extent and cause of global warming. It is now widely accepted that anthropogenic climate change is real and damaging to many interdependent earth systems—ecological, economic, and political. What is not settled is how humanity should respond. How much should we sacrifice to meet this challenge in a way that preserves justice in this and future generations? Or might the required changes not be ‘sacrifices’ at all in view of the widely criticized American lifestyle? There is of course scientific uncertainty concerning what kind of modifications to lifestyle, and over how much time, might alleviate the climate change problem. But even if science could answer these questions, we would still face moral uncertainty concerning what kinds of lives we should live and what we owe to future populations when it comes to repairing and maintaining a sustainable earth.

We propose a 2-day conference to address these moral questions that lie at the intersection of economics, philosophy, and policy science. We will invite leading international experts to engage one another, the university community, and Delaware policy leaders in an interactive forum on moral choices in response to climate change. Panels will convene on topics such as cost-benefit analysis, discounting of future goods and harms, distributive justice over generations, and the precautionary principle, as they relate to the theme of the conference. We will seek funding from the American Philosophical Association, the UD Class of ’55 fund, the Delaware Humanities Forum, the College of Arts and Sciences, and the Science, Ethics, and Public Policy program through NSF-EPSCoR. We also seek funding from the office of the provost.

There is a robust literature that suggests some keynote speakers: John Broome (White’s Professor of Moral Philosophy, Oxford) “The Ethics of Climate Change: Pay Now or Pay More Later?” *Scientific American* 5-19-08; William Nordhaus (Sterling Professor of Economics, Yale), “A Review of the Stern Review on the Economics of Global Warming” *Journal of Economic Literature* Vol. 45, No. 3, Sept. 2007; Robert Nadeau (George Mason University), “The Economist Has No Clothes: Unscientific assumptions in economic theory are undermining efforts to solve environmental problems”, *Scientific American*, March, 2008 ; Bjørn Lomborg: *Cool It: The Skeptical Environmentalist’s Guide to Global Warming*; Eban Goodstein (Professor of Economics, Lewis & Clark College) *Fighting for Love in the Century of Extinction: How Passion and Politics Can Change the Future*; Kristin Schrader-Frechette (O’Neill Family Professor, Notre Dame) “Evaluating the Expertise of Experts,” *Risk*, Vol. 6, 1995.

The proposed budget for this 2-day conference is \$33,000, which includes honoraria and expenses for 5 invited main speakers, conference hall rental, meals, publicity, and IT and staff support. We propose to hold the conference in the Fall of 2009. To meet this budget, we will dedicate funds administered by the Science, Ethics, and Public Policy program from a National Science Foundation infrastructure grant, and in addition will seek funds from the UD College of Arts & Sciences, the UD Class of ’55 Ethics fund, and the Delaware Humanities Forum. UD Provost Dan Rich has also promised \$8,000. We ask support in the amount of \$5,000 from the American Philosophical Association.

Sincerely,
Thomas M. Powers
Fred Schueler
University of Delaware

Thomas M. Powers, Ph.D.

PROFESSIONAL ADDRESS

Department of Philosophy
University of Delaware
24 Kent Way
Newark, DE 19716
(302) 831-8204

HOME ADDRESS

703 Lehigh Road
Newark, DE 19711
(302) 897-8923
tpowers@udel.edu
powers@dbi.udel.edu

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA

Born 11 January 1965, Honolulu, Hawaii; U.S. Citizen

EMPLOYMENT

University of Delaware: Director of the Science, Ethics, and Public Policy Program, Assistant Professor of Philosophy; Faculty Research Fellow of the Delaware Biotechnology Institute (current)
University of Delaware: Visiting Assistant Professor, 2005-2006
University of Virginia: NSF Research Fellow, School of Engineering and Applied Science, 2003-2005
Santa Clara University: Lecturer in Philosophy, 1997-2003; Adjunct Professor, Computer Engineering, 2000-03
Central Michigan University, Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1996-1997
College of William & Mary, Visiting Assistant Professor of Philosophy, 1995-1996

EDUCATION

University of Texas, Austin: Ph.D. in Philosophy. Dissertation: "Formalism in Kant's Ethics," December 1994
Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich: DAAD-Fulbright dissertation-year fellow, 1993-1994
College of William and Mary: B.A. in Philosophy (with high honors), May 1987

AREAS OF RESEARCH

Ethics, Philosophy of Technology, Kant, History of Modern Philosophy

PUBLICATIONS

Edited Volume

From Kant to Weber: Freedom and Culture in Classical German Social Theory, eds. T. Powers and P. Kamolnick, Krieger Publishing, 1999

Articles, Chapters, and Proceedings

"Environmental Holism and Nanotechnology" in *Nanotechnology and Society: Current and Emerging Ethical Issues*, eds. F. Allhoff and P. Lin, Springer Publishing, 2008

"Computers as Surrogate Agents" (with Deborah Johnson), in *Information Technology and Moral Philosophy*, eds. M. J. van den Hoven and J. Weckert, Cambridge University Press, 2008

"Prospects for a Kantian Machine" *IEEE Intelligent Systems*, July 2006

"Computer Systems and Responsibility: A Normative Look at Technological Complexity" (with Deborah Johnson) *Ethics and Information Technology* 7(2), Kluwer, 2005

“Consequentialism” in *Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics*, ed. C. Mitcham, Gale Group Publishing, 2005

“Deontology” in *Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics*, ed. C. Mitcham, Gale Group Publishing, 2005

“Ethics and Technology: A Program for Future Research” (with Deborah Johnson) in *Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Ethics*, ed. C. Mitcham, Gale Group Publishing, 2005

“Deontological Machine Ethics” *Technical Report*, American Association for Artificial Intelligence, Palo Alto, 2005

“Ideas, Expressions, Universals, and Particulars: Metaphysics in the Realm of Software Copyright Law” in *Intellectual Property Rights in a Networked World*, H. Tavani and R. Spinello, Idea Group Publishing, 2004

“Real Wrongs in Virtual Communities” *Ethics and Information Technology* 5 (4), Kluwer, 2004

“Responsibility in Software Engineering: Uncovering an Ethical Model,” *The Transformation of Organizations in the Information Age: Proceedings of the Sixth International ETHICOMP Conference*, Universidade Lusitana de Lisboa, 2002

“The Legacy of Kantian Rationalism for Social Theory,” in *From Kant to Weber: Freedom and Culture in Classical German Social Theory*, eds. T. Powers and P. Kamolnick, Krieger 1999

“The Integrity of Body: Kantian Moral Constraints on the Physical Self,” *Philosophy and Medicine* 60, Kluwer, 1999

INVITED TALKS

“The Ethics of Biofuels: Starving Peter to Drive Paul?” *Plants & Soils: Montreal '08*, invited plenary symposium speaker (upcoming)

Invited panelist, “Is Ethics Computable?” *North American Computers and Philosophy Conference* (upcoming)

“Discovering Engineering Ethics in the Silicon Valley” *American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference*, July 2007

“Design and Action: A Framework for the Philosophy of Engineering” *University of North Carolina-Charlotte*, February 2007

“Can There Be a Science of Ethics?” *Delaware Biotechnology Institute*, October 2006

“Distributive Justice and Information Technology” *Georgia Tech School of Public Policy*, January 2006

“Deontological Machine Ethics” *American Association for Artificial Intelligence Fall Symposium*, November 2005

“An Account of the Moral Agency of Technology” *University of North Texas*, February 2005

“Towards a Kantian Critique of Technology (the Long Route)” *Drexel University*, January 2005

“On Richard De George’s *The Ethics of Information Technology and Business*” *Eastern Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Boston, December 2004

- “Normative Arguments and the Apparent Conflict of Values” University of Delaware General Education Institute, June 2004
- “Intentionality and Moral Agency in Computers” Computers and Philosophy, Europe (E-CAP), Pavia, Italy, June 2004
- “Computers as Surrogate Agents” (with Deborah Johnson) ETHICOMP-Syros, April 2004
- “How Much Theory: Towards a Meta-Applied Ethics” 13th Annual Meeting of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics, Cincinnati, February 2004
- “A Kantian Critique of Technology” Society for Social Studies of Science Annual Meeting, October 2003
- “The World According to Kant” Philosophical Forum, Linköping, Sweden, September 2003
- “The Moral Agency of Technology” University of Linköping, Sweden, September 2003
- “Real Wrongs in Virtual Communities,” Fifth International Conference of Computer Ethics - Philosophical Enquiry (CEPE), Boston College, June 2003
- “Ideas, Expressions, Universals, and Particulars,” Sixth Annual Ethics and Technology Conference, Boston College, June 2003
- “The Computer Layer in Pedagogy” Pacific Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association and the Society for Philosophy and Technology, April 2003
- “Responsible Computing: Towards a Policy for University Computer Use,” Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University, April 2003
- “An Idiosyncratic Philosophy of Technology,” TCC Colloquium, University of Virginia, January 2003
- “Responsibility in Software Engineering: Uncovering an Ethical Model,” ETHICOMP-Lisbon, November 2002
- “Kantian Freedom and the Defeasible Conception of Dignity,” Pacific Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association, San Francisco, March 2002
- “A Kantian Account of Dignity,” Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University, January 2001
- “The Kantian Critique of Technology,” San Jose Intercollegiate Philosophy Forum, November 2000
- “Consistency and the Categorical Imperative,” University of California at Santa Cruz, November 1997
- “Some Problems with Kantian Ethical Formalism,” Central Division Meeting, American Philosophical Association, Pittsburgh, PA, May 1997
- “Georg Simmel as a Neo-Kantian,” Simmel Conference, University of Colorado at Boulder, April 1996
- “The ‘Object of Experience’ in Kant’s Critical Metaphysics,” St. Joseph’s University, February 1996
- “Kantian Reflections on Bodies and Body-Parts,” Northern Arizona University, January 1996

GRANT ACTIVITIES

NSF “RAISE: Research And Integrity in Science and Engineering” Principal Investigator (awarded \$99,800)

NSF EPSCoR Research Infrastructure Improvement Grant, Co-PI (pending)

NSF New England Workshop on Science and Social Change “Collaborative Generation of Environmental Knowledge and Inquiry” Woods Hole, Mass., April 2007, Participant

NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates, “Creating Computer Applications for Medicine” University of Virginia, Summers 2005 and 2006, Ethics Investigator

NSF DOLCE Workshop on Teaching Computer Ethics, Golden, Co., May 2002, Participant

Center for Science, Technology, and Society Summer Faculty Research Grant, “Defining the Parameters of Undergraduate Web-based Research” Santa Clara University June 2000, Principal Investigator

Center for Science, Technology, and Society Summer Faculty Research Grant, “Developing a Text for the Philosophy Course: Science, Technology, and Ethics” Santa Clara University June 1999, Principal Investigator

School of Engineering Grant for Engineering Ethics, Santa Clara University, Summer 1999, Principal Investigator

University Curriculum Development Grant “Developing a New Graduate Course in Software Engineering Ethics” Santa Clara University 1998-99, Co-P.I.

Markkula Center for Applied Ethics Grant, Faculty Seminar on Affirmative Action, Santa Clara University 1998-99, Participant

NEH Summer Seminar on German Social Theory, University of Chicago, 1995, Participant

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION

Environment, Energy, Ethics: Science and Responsibility for the 21st Century (with Mark Greene), University of Delaware/American Philosophical Association, September 2007

New Directions in Ethics and Technology (with D. Johnson and J. Wetmore), University of Virginia, October 2004

22nd Annual Austin J. Fagothey Philosophy Conference, “Nietzsche and Transvaluation” Santa Clara University, February 2000

Software Ethics Workshop, (with R. Danielson and L. Seiter), Santa Clara University, May 1999

UNIVERSITY TEACHING

Engineering Ethics	(UD, Spring 2007)
Computer Ethics (for engineering undergraduates)	(UVa, Spring 2005)
Ethical Issues in Computing	(SCU, Fall 2002)
Modern Philosophy	(SCU, Spring 98-02, UD 2006-08)
Software Ethics (Graduate seminar in Computer Engineering)	(SCU, Spring 00-02)
Science, Technology, and Society	(SCU, Spring 00-01, Winter 02)
Games, Cooperation, and Conflict	(SCU, Fall 1998)
Ethics in Politics (Contemporary Political Theory)	(SCU, Fall 98-00)
Kant’s <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i>	(SCU, Winter 98 & 01)
Kant’s <i>Critique of Pure Reason</i> and <i>Critique of Practical Reason</i>	(CMU Spring 1997)
Nietzsche	(SCU Fall 2000)

Ethics in Society	(SCU, Winter 98-99)
Environmental Ethics	(W&M Spring 1996, CMU Spring 1997)
Business Ethics	(UT Spring 1995, CMU Fall & Spring 96-97, SCU 97-02)
Epistemology	(UT Fall 1994)
Ethical Theory	(UT Fall 1992, W&M Fall 1995)
Knowledge and Reality	(UT Spring 1993)
Contemporary Moral Problems	(UT Fall, Spring, Summer 1991-92, CMU Fall 1996, UD 2005)
Introduction to Philosophy	(UT Fall 1994, W&M Fall 1995 & Spring 1996, UD 2005)

HONORS and ADVISORY BOARDS

Faculty Affiliate, Center for Critical Zone Research, University of Delaware
 International Editorial Board, *Studies in Ethics, Law, and Technology*
 Member of the Advisory Board of *The Nanoethics Group* (www.nanoethics.org)
 Fellowship Nominee (continuing), Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford
 Faculty Scholar, Markkula Center for Applied Ethics, Santa Clara University, 1997-2003
 Model Teacher, Center for Teaching Effectiveness, University of Texas at Austin, 1994

MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility
 American Society for Engineering Education
 American Philosophical Association
 International Society for Ethics and Information Technology (INSEIT)
 Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE)
 American Association for Artificial Intelligence

FOREIGN LANGUAGES

German: Certification of Knowledge of the German Language (PNDS), University of Freiburg, 1993
 Spanish: reading proficiency

Curriculum Vitae

GEORGE FREDERICK SCHUELER

E-Mail: [SCHUELER@UDEL](mailto:Schueler@udel.edu), Web Page: www.unm.edu/~schueler/

35 Darien Rd., Newark, Delaware 19711,
Phone: (505) 889-0103

Philosophy Dept., University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716, Phone: (302)
831-8206

Education

Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley (1973)
M.A., University of California, Berkeley (1968)
A.B., (Honors in Philosophy), Stanford University (1966).

Academic Positions

Department Chair, Philosophy Department,
University of Delaware, 2007 - present

Professor of Philosophy,
University of Delaware, 2007 - Present

Professor of Philosophy,
University of New Mexico, 1990- 2007

Department Chair, Philosophy Department,
University of New Mexico, 1996 - 2000

Associate Professor of Philosophy, University of New Mexico, 1979- 1990.

Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of New Mexico, 1971-1979.

Areas Of Specialization

Ethics, Philosophy of Mind, Philosophy of Action

Areas of Competence

Philosophy of Law, Applied ethics, Elementary Logic.

Books

REASONS AND PURPOSES: Human Rationality and The Teleological Explanation of Action, Clarendon Press/ Oxford University Press (2003), paperback (2005)

DESIRE: Its Role in Practical Reason and the Explanation of Action, MIT Press/ Bradford Books (1995)

THE IDEA OF A REASON FOR ACTING, The Edwin Mellen Press, Lewiston, NY(1989)

Current Work:

Invited Review Essay on *Three Faces of Desire* by Timothy Schroeder.
(Forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*)

“Interpretative Explanations” (Invited contribution to a collection of essays on explanation of action edited by Constantine Sandis to be published by Palgrave-Macmillan.)

Articles

(excluding book reviews, colloquium and symposium papers, informal public talks, etc.)

“The Humean Theory of Motivation Rejected” (Forthcoming in *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*)

“Is It Really Possible to Follow One’s Conscience?” *American Philosophical Quarterly*, January 2007

"Rationality and Character Traits", in *Moral Psychology*. (Poznan Studies in the Philosophy of the Sciences and the Humanities, New Trends in Philosophy) edited by Sergio Tenenbaum (July, 2007)

"Action Explanation: Causes and Purposes" in *Intentions and Intentionality*, ed. by B. Malle, L. Moses, and D. Baldwin, MIT Press, 2001.

"Why IS Modesty a Virtue?," *Ethics*, July 1999.

"How Can Reason Be Practical?," *Critica*, Vol. 28, issue no. 84, pp. 41-62.

"Why Modesty Is a Virtue," *Ethics*, Vol. 107, no.3 (April 1997), pp. 467-485. [Reprinted in *Ethics for Everybody*, David Benatar (ed.) (McGraw-Hill, 2001)]

"Why 'Ought's Are Not Facts", *Mind* 416, Vol. 104, Oct. 1995, pp. 713-723. Presented at a conference on Norms and Rationality, Glasgow, Scotland, (July, 1995)

"Pro-Attitudes and Direction of Fit", *Mind* 398, Vol. 100, No. 2 (April, 1991), pp. 277-281.

"Anti-Realism and Skepticism in Ethics," *Iyyun* Vol. 4 (Jan. 1991), pp. 3-18.

"Consequences and Agent-Centered Restrictions," *Metaphilosophy* Vol. 20, no. 1. (Jan., 1989). (This paper was read at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 27 March 1987. 'Abstract,' Proceedings and Addresses of the A.P.A., Vol. 60, #3 (Jan., 1987), p.569.)

"The Evaluation of Teaching in Philosophy," *Teaching Philosophy*, Vol. 11, no. 4 (December, 1988). (Reprinted in Polish translation in Edukacja Filozoficzna, Vol. 10 (1990).)

"*Modus Ponens* and Moral Realism," *Ethics*, Vol. 98, no. 3 (April, 1988). (A shorter version of this paper was read at the Central Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 30 April, 1988. 'Abstract,' Proceedings and Addresses of the A.P.A., Vol. 61, #4 (March, 1988), p. 797.)

"Philosophers and Medical Ethics" (published as "Toppling the Philosopher Off his Ethical Pedestal"), *Medical Ethics for the Physician*, Vol. 1, no. 5 (Dec. 1986).

"Some Reasoning About Preferences," *Ethics*, Vol. 95, no. 1 (Oct. 1984).

- "Stroud on Hume on Induction," *Southwest Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 3, no. 3 (Spring, 1983).
- "How Not to Reply to a Moral Sceptic," *Australasian Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 61, no. 3 (Sept. 1983). (This paper was read at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 26 March 1983. 'Abstract,' Proceedings and Addresses of the A.P.A., Vol. 56, #3 (Feb., 1983), pp. 479-480.)
- "Akrasia Revisited," *Mind*, Vol. 92 (Oct., 1983).
- "Can Subjectivism be 'Defused'?" *Metaphilosophy*, Vol. 12, no. 1. (Jan., 1981) (This paper was read at the Pacific Division meeting of the American Philosophical Association, 25 March 1979. 'Abstract,' Proceedings and Addresses of the A.P.A., Vol. 52, #3 (Jan., 1979), pp. 477-478.)
- "Exclusionary Reasons," *The Personalist*, Vol. 60, no. 4.
- "X's Reason for phi-ing was p'," *Mind*, Vol. 87, no. 349. (Jan., 1979)
- "Harman on Moral Relativism," *The Journal of Critical Analysis*, Vol. 7, no. 3 (Summer/ Fall, 1978)
- "A Law School Course in Philosophy of Law and Professional Responsibility," (co-author), in *Professional Responsibility in the Law*, S. Gorovitz and B. Miller (eds.), (Council for Philosophical Studies, 1977).
- "Moral Scepticism," *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, Vol. 15, no. 1 (Spring, 1977).
- "Nagel on the Rationality of Prudence," *Philosophical Studies*, Vol. 29, no. 1 (Jan., 1976).
- "How to Prove 'Freedom of the Will'," *Proceedings of the N.M. and W. Texas Philosophical Society*, (April, 1975).
- "Rawls on Promising," *Proceedings of the N. M. and W. Texas Philosophical Society*, (April, 1974).
- "The Notion of 'Incitement'," *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, Vol. 7, no. 2 (Spring, 1974).

Awards, Fellowships, Etc.

Sabbatical Semester, Fall 2005

National Endowment for the Humanities: Summer Research

Stipend, June & July 2003.

Hewlett Foundation Interdisciplinary Teaching Grant (With J. Jenson and I. Jaffe), 2001-2002.

Sabbatical Semester, Fall 1998.

Sabbatical year at Oxford University, 1991-92.

Faculty Scholar (Research Fellowship), University of New Mexico, Fall 1990-91.

National Endowment for the Humanities: Institute on Heidegger and Davidson, University of California, Santa Cruz, summer 1990.

Sabbatical year at Oxford University, 1984-85.

American Philosophical Association: Conference on Teaching Philosophy, Williams College, 1981.

Sabbatical year at Oxford University, 1977-78.

Council for Philosophical Studies: Institute on Law and Ethics, Williams College, 1977.

Ralph W. Church Scholarship, University of California, Berkeley, (declined) 1971.

James Sutton Fellowship in Philosophy, University of California, Berkeley, 1969-70.

Undergraduate Prize in the Humanities, Stanford University, 1966.

E.R. Crosset Scholarship, Stanford University, 1965-66.

Other Professional Activities

Program Committee, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, (2005-2008); (Chair, for the 2007 meeting)

Executive Committee, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division, (2005 - 7).

Nominating Committee (Chair), American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division (2000/2001)

University Faculty Senator, UNM (1982/ 84, 1995/ 97);

Program Committee, American Philosophical Association, Pacific Division,(1995-98);

Departmental Director of Graduate Studies, UNM (1980/ 81, 1982/ 83, 1986-1990,1993/ 94);

Acting Department Chair, UNM (1981/ 82 and second semester 1986/ 87);

Assistant Editor: *Guidebook to Publishing in Philosophy* (2nd Ed.,APA, 1986);

Referee for *Ethics, Philosophy and Phenomenological Research, Nous, Hume Studies, Dialogue: Canadian Philosophical Review, Philosophical Quarterly, Inquiry*;

Organized Brian O'Neil Memorial Lectures in The History of Philosophy(endowed annual lectures, UNM, 1985-2007)