The Institute for Ethics is proud to have Adrian College’s *Not for Sale* organization for our first Brown Bag presentation of 2014 on Thursday, January 16th at 12:05 in Valade Knight Auditorium.

Started in 2007, in keeping with the abolitionist tradition of Adrian College students involved in this organization have been successful in bringing awareness to our campus of human trafficking.

In September 2013 several students presented at the "Historians Against Slavery" professional conference at the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Their presentation was exceptionally received and covered in the media. Come and share this impressive presentation with us.

Our next Brown bag presentations will also feature students. Michigan College Foundation Certificate applicants Megan Vanderkerkhove and Kayla Penner will be discussing their case studies as part of the certificate requirement.

February 13, 2014
Megan Vanderkerkhove

March 13, 2014
Kayla Penner
The Institute of Ethics is happy to come to your classroom to help introduce and reinforce ethical thought across the curriculum. Instructors have been providing their students this opportunity offered by the Institute.

Dr. Oded Gur– Arie’s B AD 230 Principles of Marketing and B AD 250 Fundamentals of Entrepreneurship had Dr. Detwiler as their guest and Dr. James Hill’s B AD 241 Management classes invited Dr. Spence into their classes. Currently Dr. Detwiler is scheduled to visit Dr. Boxer’s SOC 305 Research Methods class. To take advantage of this opportunity, please contact Dr. Fritz Detwiler to schedule a visit.

Ribbons of Excellence - New Award Opportunities

RIBBONS OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

New opportunities to incorporate an ethical component into your presentation… and now more awards for doing so!

The Institute for Ethics offers three prizes for the best ROE presentation with analysis of an ethical problem:  

First Prize: $100, Second Prize: $50, Third Prize: $25

We will now also offer three prizes for the best ROE presentation which raises the best ethical issue: 

First Prize: $100, Second Prize: $50, Third Prize: $25*

Students wishing to compete for the prize should notify the Institute at least one week before the presentation through e-mail at ethics@adrian.edu. The institute director is available for consultation with students and/or their advisors to help them develop the presentation.

General Process:

- Become familiar with key terms in ethics: “fairness,” “virtue,” “duties,” “rights,” “justice,” etc.
- Identify an ethical question or problem: What is the ethical issue?
- Take a stand: What should be done?
- Defend the stand: Why should it be done?
- Explore consequences: What difference would it make?

* Best ethical issue prize incorporates the first two above listed processes.
Institute for Ethics

Ethical Question of the Month - Winner

We would like to congratulate the first winner of the Ethical Question of the month:

Emily Borup

We were pleased to receive a number of quality entries. Emily’s analysis was the strongest as it focused upon detailed ethical reasoning in response to the dilemma posed in the case study. Below is the case study and her entry.

You are an athletic trainer at a Division II University. You have 5 years of athletic training experience and are the head athletic trainer for football. You oversee a staff of 2 assistant athletic trainers and have 3 athletic training students working with you.

During the league championship game, the starting senior quarterback sustains a collision to the head. You did not see the play that injured the quarterback, but one of your novice athletic training students reports that the athlete looked as if he was "knocked out for a second," and appeared unstable as he exited the field.

Earlier that season, you recall a sideline disagreement regarding whether an athlete should return to play. Based on current best practice, you recommended complete rest for the athlete which meant missing a competition that would affect the team’s ranking. The coach disagreed with your decision and involved the athletic director who questioned your decision and abilities as an athletic trainer. At the time, you felt that your position as the head athletic trainer with football was threatened.

Now on the sidelines, you begin to perform an evaluation for concussion. The end of the game is near, the team is in scoring position, and a touchdown will win the game. You hear the athlete’s mother asking from the stands if her son will be okay. Simultaneously, the coach is screaming at you to "get him back in the game!"

What do you do?

First I will finish the concussion evaluation. If the athlete portrays any signs or symptoms of concussion, any change in normal function, I would hold the athlete out. As an athletic trainer I have an ethical responsibility to be the advocate for my athletes. In the heat of the moment, the coach wants the athlete back in, the athlete more than likely wants to continue playing, and the mother is worried about her son, it is my moral obligation to do what is best for the athlete at that time and for his future. A concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury and an athlete that suffers an impact that can cause a concussion should be closely observed and monitored for further brain trauma, such as hemorrhaging. I understand that my job may be on the line but my athlete’s well being is more important than that job. I would much rather have that athlete be completely fine than to put him back in the game and risk further injuries. If the athletic director decided that I was not right for that position due to my decision to hold that athlete out, I would regretfully leave the position. I would not regret the decision I made on behalf of my athlete’s well being, but the fact that those athletes would not have someone looking out for them in those vulnerable situations. I would not want to work at an institution that is more concerned with winning a game than with the welfare of the athletes. I would be sure to inquire about when it was decided that it should no longer be under my authority whether to withhold an athlete from competition or not, as that is part of my job.