

# NEWSLETTER

FALL 2002

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## President's Report

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Greetings once again from mid-province Alberta. First. Welcome to our new executive. While I remain in the position of president for the coming year, we have new people filling the roles of Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, one of our Members-at-large, one of our Newsletter editors and both of our Programme Chairs for the 2003 Congress meetings. Chris MacDonald is filling the first, Angie White the second, Linda Penoyer the third, Kira Tomsons the fourth and Susan Turner and Sara Bagg take on chair responsibilities. Thanks go out to all new and returning (Mary Richardson, Marc Saner, Natalie Thomas) executive.

Thanks also go out to Don MacNiven, John Rowan and Philip MacEwen for organizing and

running the May 2002 Congress meetings at the University of Toronto. This year saw a wide range of presentations from business to environmental ethics and from the ethics of humour to aboriginal issues. Two special sessions were also held, one on Humanitarian Intervention and one on Aboriginal Voice and Aboriginal Rights. The last two were held concurrently on the last day. We were a busy group.

It is beginning to appear that the diversity of presentations at our meetings is indicative of both a strength and a weakness of the society. The multiple research and scholarly interests represented by the CSSPE/SCEEA affords opportunity to be exposed to new and sometimes seminal ideas for lines of thought and research. My own research has benefitted greatly from the cross-disciplinary and diverse areas represented in our society. Many in our society have expressed the same. Yet we are also facing what seem to be declining attendance at meetings, which seems sometimes to be the result of competition with more specialized societies in applied ethics (e.g., Biomedical Ethics, Business Ethics). Such societies, being more exclusively focused, obviously foster more targeted and technical analyses and are better for pursuing more intensive research and scholarship. This issue has been an ongoing concern of the exec for

the past couple of years. I invite our members to discuss this in our newsletter (the next one is scheduled for the Spring of 2003). Please send discussion pieces to Natalie or Kira.

One possible topic of discussion to start things off is the fragmentation that characterizes so much of the academy. As tolerance for reflection wanes and emphasis is placed on productivity (numbers of publications and presentations), more concern is directed at building C.V.s rather than scholarly communities who work for a common or perhaps greater good. The more the business model is established in the academy, the more this particular emphasis on productivity seems to dominate. It may seem, consequently, that the shift is inevitable, or, at least, an extremely difficult force to resist. The CSSPE/SCEEA does, in some ways, stand in resistance to this trend. Many join the society because of its more relaxed and congenial atmosphere. Many of us have worked together in joint presentations and projects. Over the years, different ways of presenting ideas have been utilized. Building a stronger scholarly community may be one of the items on which we may want to focus in the coming years. Please feel free to express your ideas on this matter.

Numerous times I have been asked to address concerns of the HSSFC as well as other associations in their attempts to determine how to influence governments to support research in the social sciences and humanities. Issues concerning dissemination and becoming more visible to decision-makers as well as the general public are becoming more central at both the HSSFC and SSHRC. Can the CSSPE/SCEEA play a role in this effort?

In closing, I would also like to bring to your attention the matter of membership renewal and recruitment. Please take a moment to send Angie, our new Secretary/treasurer, this year's dues. You may have noticed that we missed sending out requests for dues last year. If your

pockets are sufficient to the task, I would encourage you to contribute those as well.

Our next meetings are at the SSHFC Congress to be held at Dalhousie and King's College in Halifax. The enclosed call for papers describes our focus and provides submission details. Please disseminate this information where it might attract attention.

Hope you all have a fruitful and enjoyable year.

Bruce Morito  
CSSPE President

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## A Message from the Editors

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This is the first newsletter from this editorial team. Not much has changed, but hopefully as more members contact us with suggested content and news, the newsletter will better reflect the interests and accomplishments of the members of the society. In other words, please drop us an email or letter to let us know what you would like to know. New ideas for columns? Feel like sharing news of your accomplishments with like-minded members? Any and all suggestions are welcome. We look forward to hearing from you! (Please use contact info. found on last page.)

Natalie Thomas & Kira Tomsons  
CSSPE Newsletter Editors

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## Calls for Papers

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### **13th meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Technology Park City, Utah: July 7, 8 and 9, 2003**

#### **Conference Theme: "Technology and Global Society"**

The Society for Philosophy and Technology has sponsored conferences on philosophical aspects of technology since the late 1970s. Current conferences are held every other year, rotating between North America and Europe. The Society welcomes a broad range of papers from various philosophical perspectives and schools. This year, the program committee especially invites submissions on the following topics:

"Security and Information Systems"  
"Biotechnology, Trade and Development"  
"Democracy, Trust and Global Institutions"  
"The Global Village Revisited"  
"Technology and Environment"

Submissions on all aspects of philosophy and technology are always welcome.

Submission may be made with an abstract of between 200 and 400 words. Electronic submissions in a standard word-processing or Adobe format may be forwarded to: [pault@purdue.edu](mailto:pault@purdue.edu)

Abstracts in triplicate may also be mailed to:

Paul B. Thompson  
Program Chair, SPT XIII  
Philosophy Department  
Purdue University  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-1360

All abstracts must be submitted by November 30, 2002. Notification of acceptance will be made by

February 10, 2003. Persons interested in serving as respondents or chairing sessions should contact Paul Thompson at the e-mail address listed above.

Final papers for the program should not be more than 12 pages, double-spaced. Completed papers will be required by May 1, 2003 in order to provide respondents with ample time for preparing remarks.

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## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

### **Environmental Justice and Global Citizenship Copenhagen, Denmark: February 13-15, 2003**

The deadline for submissions is December 17, Environments, Sustainability and Technologies

This inter-disciplinary and multi-disciplinary conference aims to explore the role of ecology and environmental ideas in the context of contemporary society and international politics, and assess the implications for our understandings of fairness, justice and global citizenship.

The 2003 conference is one of an annual series of conferences which make up a wider project concerned with the possibilities of integrating social, economic and environmental concerns by focusing on four inter-locking areas (<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ejgc.htm>).

In particular, the 2nd Global Conference on Ecological Justice and Global Citizenship will explicitly explore the relationships between environments, sustainability and technology, the role of technology in creating possibilities for sustainable resources for the future, and the inherent problems and dangers which accompany that role (<http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ejgc2cfp.htm>).

**Papers, presentations, reports and workshops are invited on any of the following indicative themes:**

1. **The Individual and the Environment:** exploring the interaction between individuals, households, and the environment. Issues surrounding household waste, energy efficiency, household technologies and lifestyle choices will be considered. The impact of changes in household ecology on social, national and international environmental issues will also be assessed.
2. **The Deployment of Technology:** reflecting on the manner in which technologies are mobilised and deployed; their relationship with TimeSpace and the contributions of Actor Network Theory (ANT), Critical Geography and Sociology of Science; the social nature of technology; the manner in which technologies can be deployed to help us understand more about our environments, covering issues such as GIS, etc. Papers are sought that develop these ideas further in an environmental context.
3. **Public Perceptions, Technology, and the Environment:** examining public perceptions of the possibilities and challenges offered by technology, public understanding of risks of technological developments in relation to the environment - for example, public perception of the risks afforded by genetically modified food and crops; consideration of the relationships between a broad range of other technologies and the environment.
4. **Technology, Law and the Environment:** examining not only how law regulates technology but also issues of access to and transfer of environmental sustainable technologies and whether law can encourage the use of best available technologies.
5. **Technology and Development:** the extent to which technologies can encourage sustainable development; how developing countries can gain access to the most sustainable technologies; whether patterns of development are predicated on wrong perceptions about the role of technology; the coverage of and access to alternative technologies, intermediate technologies, and the role of education.
6. **Technology, Buildings, Cities and Planning Policy:** the role of technology in designing and constructing buildings and cities to more sustainable effect; the impact of information technologies; knowledge management and the environment.
7. **Transport and the Environment:** looking at the emergence and development of transport systems and networks; personal transport methods and environmental

impact; designing and delivering national and international transport systems; creating sustainable transport networks.

8. **Technology, Global Warming and Energy:** assessing the impact of technological advances on global warming; the uses to which technology can be put; checking and safeguarding energy efficiency; the deployment of technology to utilise alternative sources of energy; technological longevity and the problems of dated and discarded technologies.

Perspectives are sought from people engaged in actor network theory, agriculture and agricultural economics, city and regional planning, conflict resolution and mediation, critical geography, environmental studies, human development and ecology, industrial relations and design, philosophy and ethics, political science and international affairs, public policy and advising, social sciences, sociology of science, theology, urban studies, western European studies; people in the public and private sectors who are involved in planning and project development, policy-making and implementation, and negotiation and mediation at national and international levels; people in Governmental, inter-governmental and non-governmental organisations, voluntary sector bodies, environmental charities and groups, business and professional associations.

Papers will be considered on any related theme. 300 word abstracts should be submitted by Friday 7th November 2002. Full draft papers should be submitted by Wednesday 15th January 2003.

The conference is the second in an annual series of research projects, run under the general banner 'Probing the Boundaries'. It aims to create working 'encounter' groups between people of differing perspectives, disciplines, professions, and contexts. The project is to be supported by an e-mail discussion group, resource website, ISSN e-journal, and dedicated ISBN publication series.

Papers from the first conference are being published in a themed book. Selected papers accepted for and presented at the conference will be published in themed volumes.

For further details and information, please contact: Dr Rob Fisher, [rf@inter-disciplinary.net](mailto:rf@inter-disciplinary.net) or see <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ejgc2cfp.htm>

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Science, Values and Public Policy

**Wilfrid Laurier University - Brantford Campus  
Brantford, ON April 3,4,5, 2003**

Laurier-Brantford is pleased to be hosting its 3rd annual interdisciplinary conference in April 2003. This year the theme will be Science, Values and Public Policy. Recent events have demonstrated that the relationship between science and politics in policy-making continues to be controversial. For example, the new endangered species legislation was subjected to extended debate about whether the designation of a "species-at-risk" was to be decided by politicians or scientists. We invite papers which address the complex interaction between "facts" and "values" in public policy-making. Papers adopting a case study approach (e.g. climate change, air quality, GMOs, fisheries management) and those which focus on more general themes are equally welcome. Conference participants will be encouraged to address the following questions:

- What is science-based policy?
- How has the relationship between science and policy evolved over time?
- Which practices for managing the science-policy interface have worked (or not?)
- What is the relationship between science- and risk-based decision-making?
- How can multi-stakeholder processes and science-based decision-making be combined?
- Are the values of science and the values of the political sphere incommensurable?
- What is the role of the press in mediating the science-policy interface?
- What is the role of risk communication in science-based decision-making?

Our keynote speaker will be **William Leiss**, Ph.D., FRSC, NSERC/SSHRC Research Chair in Risk Communication, Faculty of Management, University of Calgary, and recent past-president of the Royal Society of Canada. Dr. Leiss is one of Canada's foremost researchers in policy, environment and risk. He is a prolific author on a broad range of topics including: *In the Chamber of Risks: Understanding Risk Controversies*, 2001; *Mad Cows and Mother's Milk: The Perils of Poor Risk Communication*, (with Douglas Powell) 1997; *Under Technology's Thumb*; and *The Domination of Nature*. See [www.leiss.ca](http://www.leiss.ca) for more information on William Leiss.

**Submissions:** We invite papers from all disciplines. Please send a short abstract by **Dec. 15th 2002**. Final presentations should be about 20 minutes plus discussion. We encourage participants to make their presentations accessible for scholars from all disciplines, and to leave ample time for questions. We hope to publish the conference papers in book form after peer review.

Science, Values & Public Policy Conference  
Laurier-Brantford  
73 George St.  
Brantford, ON  
CANADA N3T 2Y3

Or send directly to:  
Stephen Haller  
[shaller@wlu.ca](mailto:shaller@wlu.ca)

Watch for further details at <http://www.wlu.ca/~wwwbrant>

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

### The Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics

**Societe Canadienne Pour L'Étude de L'Éthique Appliquée**

**Congress of the Social Sciences and  
Humanities  
King's College at Dalhousie University  
May 29-31, 2003**

The CSSPÉ/SCEEA is pleased to announce a Call for Papers on any topic in the area of practical ethics or on topics consistent with the theme of this year's Congress, which is:

**Conflict and Cooperation**

THE CSSPE WOULD ESPECIALLY LIKE TO SEE SUBMISSIONS IN BUSINESS ETHICS OR ACCOUNTING ETHICS WHICH ADDRESS THE THEME IN THE CONTEXT OF THE 2002 BUSINESS AND ACCOUNTING 'SCANDALS' AT ENRON, WORLDCOM, ETC..

APPROPRIATE SUBMISSIONS WILL EXAMINE APPLIED OR PROFESSIONAL ETHICS OF ANY KIND, SUCH AS THE AREAS OF MEDICAL OR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

Student submissions are strongly encouraged. A student essay prize will be awarded and announced at the meeting. Students wishing to be considered for the prize should indicate their interest when submitting and should also provide a photocopy of proof of their student status.

Selection will be on the basis of quality, but relevance to conference theme will also be a factor. Please submit an abstract (200 words) to one of the conference organizers:

Sara Bagg Department of Philosophy University of Calgary 2500 University Dr. N.W. Calgary, AB T2N 1N4 email: sarabagg@yahoo.com

Susan M. Turner Department of Philosophy University of Victoria Victoria BC V8W 3P4 email: sturner@pacificcoast.net

DUE DATE: January 26, 2003. Notification of acceptances will be made shortly thereafter, and completed papers (20-30 minutes reading time) will then be due by March 30, 2003.

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Positions Available

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**University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point invites applicants** for a full-time tenure track position in Philosophy. AOS: Philosophy of Science, with a biological-ecological orientation.

**Other teaching needs include:** Introduction to Philosophy, Science and Value, Environmental Ethics (occasional fill-in), and, to a lesser extent, Metaphysics. The department, which offers a philosophy major with a concentration in environmental ethics as well as a traditional philosophy major and minor, is looking for someone to contribute to both programs and to complement the university's signature programs in biology and natural resource management. Normal teaching load is 12 credits per semester (four courses with three preparations). The university seeks faculty who recognize the importance of diversity in the university environment.

**Qualifications:** Ph.D. in philosophy preferred; must be able to demonstrate potential for excellence in undergraduate teaching. The appointment will begin with Fall Semester, August 2003, at the Assistant Professor rank (Instructor if ABD at time of hire). Salary is based on educational qualifications and experience. Applications, including vita, teaching evaluations, copies of transcripts, writing sample, and three letters of recommendation, should be sent to:

Michael Nelson, Search Committee Chair, Department of Philosophy, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, Stevens Point, WI

54481.

Applications must be received by December 6, 2002. Please indicate whether you will be available for preliminary interviews at the Eastern Division APA meeting. Top candidates who are not able to attend the APA meeting will be given a preliminary telephone interview. On-campus interviews will commence January 27, 2003. AA/EOE. Women, Minorities, Vietnam era veterans, disabled veterans, and individuals with disabilities are encouraged to apply.

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**POSITION AVAILABLE**

**University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados**  
**Lecturer/Assistant Lecturer in Philosophy**

Lecturer/Assistant Lecturer in Philosophy Department of History and Philosophy Faculty of Humanities University of the West Indies CAVE HILL CAMPUS, BARBADOS Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of Lecturer/Assistant Lecturer in Philosophy. The successful applicant will be a specialist in the field of Ethics, but preference may be given to someone with additional interest, or a teaching track record in Continental Philosophy. He/she will have a demonstrated capacity for research, and actual or potential publications. The successful candidate should have a strong commitment to undergraduate teaching and is expected to contribute to the development of Philosophy in a Caribbean context. The Faculty of Humanities offers a Major in Philosophy and the successful candidate will participate in the design and delivery of courses in the Major. The successful applicant for this post will be expected to assume duties as soon as possible. Detailed applications (three copies) giving full particulars of qualifications and experience, biodata and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent as soon as possible to the Campus Registrar, University of the West Indies, P O Box 64, Bridgetown, Barbados. Email: [human\\_resources@uwichill.edu.bb](mailto:human_resources@uwichill.edu.bb); Fax: +1 246-417-0330; tel: +1 246-417-4067. In order to

expedite the appointment procedure, applicants are advised to ask their referees to send confidential reports direct to the Campus Registrar without waiting to be contacted. Further particulars for this post including remuneration package are available on request from the University. These particulars may also be obtained from the Association of Commonwealth Universities (50323), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, UK (email: [adverts@acu.ac.uk](mailto:adverts@acu.ac.uk); fax: 020 7383 0368; tel: 020 7380 6706) or visit the University's website at <http://www.uwichill.edu.bb>.

Contact

E-Mail:

[human\\_resources@uwichill.edu.bb](mailto:human_resources@uwichill.edu.bb)

Web: [www.uwichill.edu.bb](http://www.uwichill.edu.bb)

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**POSITION AVAILABLE**

**University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA**

**Tenure-Track Position in Philosophy (Open Rank)**

**Deadline: 08.11.02**

Seeking candidates with research and teaching expertise in ETHICS for a position commencing July 1, 2003. A PhD or equivalent, and a strong research and teaching record are required. Both entry-level and more senior applicants will be considered. Teaching duties include undergraduate and graduate instruction as well as graduate supervision. Complete dossiers, including cv, at least 3 letters of reference, postgrad transcripts, recent sample of writing, and evidence of teaching effectiveness may be sent to: Merlette Schnell, Department of Philosophy, University of Calgary, Calgary, AB T2N 1N4, CANADA. Or by email to: [schnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:schnell@ucalgary.ca). DEADLINE NOV 8, 2002. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The Department will seriously consider applications from women, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and aboriginal people.

Contact E-Mail: [schnell@ucalgary.ca](mailto:schnell@ucalgary.ca)

Web: [www.phil.ucalgary.ca](http://www.phil.ucalgary.ca)

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## POSITION AVAILABLE

### **Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Fellowships in research ethics and health policy at the University of British Columbia and Dalhousie University**

The University of British Columbia Centre for Applied Ethics and Dalhousie University Department of Bioethics and Department of Philosophy invite applications for doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships in a Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) funded training program in research ethics and health policy.

The goal of the CIHR training program in research ethics and health policy, funded from 2002 through 2008, is ambitious: to train the leaders of the next generation of scholars in bioethics in Canada. The training program is open to applicants who have a solid academic disciplinary background in health care, science, social sciences, or humanities. In addition to routine components of training, the program is based on high-quality mentoring, and fellows will work closely with one or more of the program staff. Fellows will have access to regular seminars in research ethics, bioethics theory, and health policy and will present their work at an annual fellows meeting. A strong emphasis will be placed on academic rigor, methodological competence in interdisciplinary research, and communications skills. Practicum opportunities include a health policy internship with the Ethics Division of Health Canada.

Doctoral fellowships provide a maximum of \$20,000 (CDN) per year for three years of study. Successful applicants will have (1) been admitted to an established doctoral program at the University of British Columbia (Individual Interdisciplinary Study Program (IISGP), or either Medical Genetics or Genetics doctorate) or Dalhousie University (interdisciplinary or philosophy doctorate); (2) identified one or more mentors from program staff who will supervise their research; and (3) have applied for additional

external doctoral support.

Post-doctoral fellowships provide a maximum of \$38,000 (CDN) per year for two years of study. Successful applicants will have (1) completed their doctoral studies (or professional equivalent); (2) identified one or more mentors from program staff who will supervise their research; (3) submitted a proposed plan for research; and (4) agreed to apply for additional external post-doctoral support during their first year of post-doctoral study.

Program information and profiles of potential mentors may be found at the websites for the University of British Columbia Center for Applied Ethics (mentors: McDonald, Burgess, Baird, Cox)

<http://www.ethics.ubc.ca/>

University of British Columbia Department of Medical Genetics (mentors: Burgess, Baird)

<http://www.medgen.ubc.ca/academic.htm>

Dalhousie University Department of Bioethics (mentors: Kenny, Baylis, Weijer, Graham, Brunger) <http://bioethics.dal.ca/> and the

Dalhousie University Department of Philosophy (mentors: Sherwin, Robert)

<http://www.dal.ca/~philwww/hmpage/phpage2.htm>

All applicants must submit the following information prior to the applicable deadline: covering letter indicating intent to apply for doctoral or post-doctoral fellowship, proposed study site and mentor(s); university transcripts; three letters of reference; and a sample of written work. Applicants for post-doctoral fellowship must additionally provide a two-page statement of proposed research.

Deadlines:

- (Passed: August 15, 2002 for admission in September 2002.)
- November 1, 2002 for admission January 2003.
- Further positions will be available for Fall 2003, deadline to be announced.



Send applications to both of the following:  
Michael McDonald, PhD  
The Centre for Applied Ethics  
University of British Columbia  
227-6356 Agricultural Road  
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, V6T 1Z2

And,  
Susan Sherwin, PhD  
Department of Philosophy  
Dalhousie University  
Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, B3H 4P9

Direct your questions to:  
Prof. Michael McDonald  
mcdonald@ethics.ubc.ca  
Prof. Susan Sherwin susan.sherwin@dal.ca

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## Conferences

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**March 20-22, 2003**  
**Toulouse, France**  
**EurSAFE**  
**European Society for Agricultural and Food Ethics**  
**IV Congress:**  
**"ETHICS AS A DIMENSION OF AGRIFOOD POLICY"**

<http://capoul.toulouse.inra.fr/eursafe2003/>

The EurSafe meeting to be held in Toulouse (France) in March 2003 will address economic and technical developments in the agrifood sector from various ethical perspectives and in relation to policy within Europe and internationally. This may contribute to developing the agenda for future agrifood policies, and to identifying the relevance and scope of ethical considerations as a dimension of these policies. The invited lectures will address a range of levels relevant for policy making: local, national or regional (European Union, Mercosur, Alena.), global ; and the agrifood implications of various key ethical issues: individual and community rights,

participation and representation in democratic societies, interdependencies between countries and regions, preservation of options for future generations, sustainability, public health implications of agrifood policies, distributive justice and fairness (both intra and international), intellectual property rights, appropriate elaboration and use of standards.

Scientific Committee:  
Bernard CHEVASSUS-AU-LOUIS: Chairman  
Volkert BEEKMAN  
Alison BURRELL  
Ruth CHADWICK  
José T. ESQUINAS-ALCÁZAR  
Mats G. HANSSON  
Humberto ROSA  
Peter SANDØE  
Mariachiara TALLACCHINI  
Johan De TAVERNIER

Programe Coordinator:  
Emmanuel JOLIVET  
([Emmanuel.Jolivet@jouy.inra.fr](mailto:Emmanuel.Jolivet@jouy.inra.fr))  
For more information:  
Christine Barbace  
([cbarbace@agrobiosciences.com](mailto:cbarbace@agrobiosciences.com))

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## CSSPE Executive and Editorial

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### 2002-2003 CSSPE EXECUTIVE

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Christopher Lind (Saskatoon, SK)  
[lind@skyway.usask.ca](mailto:lind@skyway.usask.ca)

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Chris MacDonald

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Angie White

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Susan Turner

Sara Bagg

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Enclosed with this Newsletter:

CSSH 2003: Call for Papers  
(Also available on the website)

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**EDITORIAL**

This newsletter is published two times per year (Fall and Spring) by the Canadian Society for the Study of Practical Ethics. Institutional support is provided by the Department of Philosophy and the Ethics and Policy Issues Centre (EPIC), Carleton University, and the Department of Philosophy at Dalhousie University. The information contained in this newsletter is drawn largely from information available publicly on the Internet. All other items © the undersigning authors. Submissions are welcome and should be sent to one of the newsletter editors (see e-mail addresses listed above). Comments on this newsletter are appreciated!

This newsletter is available on the web at  
<http://www.carleton.ca/csspe-sceea/>

A limited number of back issues are available at:

CSSPE Newsletter,  
c/o Natalie Thomas