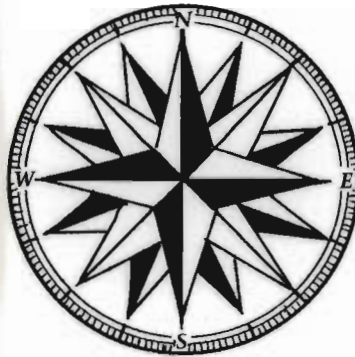


# **BUSINESS ETHICS QUARTERLY**



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The Society for Business Ethics is pleased to acknowledge the financial support of Loyola University of Chicago in the publication of *BEQ*.

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## SOME WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of *Business Ethics Quarterly* is a joint effort of the Association for Legal Studies in Business and the Society for Business Ethics. For these two groups to work together makes sense because ethics and law are inexorably tied to one another. One way in which they are tied is that we can use the theories of ethics to evaluate the realities of law. *Should* one favor one legislative or administrative proposal over another? *Should* one favor one case outcome over another? Granting that the assertion of interests by affected parties, the personal interests of decision makers, and societal expectations will contribute to the shape of political and judicial outcomes, reasoned analysis concerning what is good, right, fair, and just can influence those outcomes as well.

The articles in this issue of *BEQ* reflect how reason can contribute to dialogue concerning important contemporary legal issues. They seek to objectively consider and evaluate matters of contract law, securities regulation, corporation law, sovereign immunity and professional responsibility. Not surprisingly, because they look at established legal concepts from a new perspective—from an ethical perspective—the authors frequently arrive at unique conclusions and make new proposals for improving legal doctrine.

At a time when it is conventional wisdom that public dialogue is at a low ebb, I invite you to read with pleasure this issue of *BEQ*. You may not always agree with the authors's conclusions and proposals, but you will derive enhanced insight and your current viewpoints will be challenged. And these, after all, are the purposes of public dialogue.

Besides the authors of the articles and responses contained herein, many people have contributed to the completion of this issue of *BEQ*. First, thank you to those who reviewed submissions and provided feedback to authors: Robert Adler, Caryn Beck-Dudley, John Blackburn, Elletta Sangrey Callahan, Edward Conry, Terry Morehead Dworkin, Michael Garrison, Nancy Hauserman, Sandra Hurd, James Karp, Nancy Kubasek, Sharlene McEvoy, Michael Metzger, Gary Moore, Frederick Post, Robert Prentice, David Reitzel, Linda Samuels, Cindy Schipani, Malcom Schlusberg, David Silverstein, Lynn Ward, and Art Wolfe. Special thanks to Jeffery Nesteruk for his help and support in this effort, to Patricia Werhane and Al Gini of *BEQ*, who counseled and cajoled the neophyte guest editor, and to Bill Shaw of the ALSB, whose brainchild is brought to life in the printing of this issue.

John Collins, *Guest Editor*



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