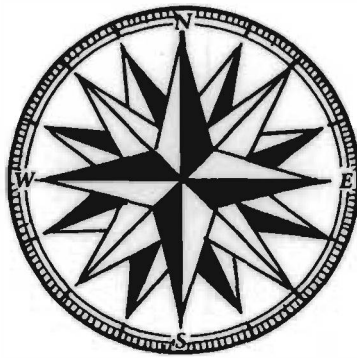


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Business Ethics Quarterly

Business Ethics Quarterly is the journal of The Society for Business Ethics, a non-affiliated international scholarly association of persons interested in business ethics. The Society for Business Ethics holds annual meetings in conjunction with the Academy of Management as well as special sections at American Philosophical Association conventions. Besides *BEQ*, the Society publishes a quarterly newsletter.

BEQ's purpose is to publish scholarly articles from a wide variety of disciplinary orientations on the general subject of the application of ethics to the business community. The journal will address theoretical, methodological, and issue-based questions that can advance ethical inquiry or improve the ethical performance of business organizations. With the contemporary focus on international business, the journal is particularly interested in articles that discuss global business and economic concerns. The journal will also be interested in the value dimensions of gender, race, ethnicity, nationality and culture, and how these factors affect and are affected by business questions.

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INTRODUCTION

SPECIAL ISSUE:

RUFFIN SERIES: NEW APPROACHES TO BUSINESS ETHICS:

This special issue marks the first in a series of special issues of *Business Ethics Quarterly* that are sponsored by the Ruffin Foundation and the Olsson Center for Applied Ethics at the University of Virginia. The editors of *Business Ethics Quarterly* want to thank the Ruffin Foundation and the Olsson Foundation for their generosity in funding these issues for our subscribers at no extra cost.

Some time ago the Ruffin Foundation endowed a permanent lecture series in business ethics at the Darden School at the University of Virginia. The purpose of the endowment was to conduct a series of lectures every second or third year that would bring in experts on a particular topic in business ethics. The Series, edited by R. Edward Freeman, was originally published by Oxford University Press.

However, many of the contributors to the Series in the past have suggested that a journal publication of their contributions might speed up publication, make the papers more accessible to interested academics and practitioners, and provide a journal citation for young faculty who contribute to the Series collection. As a result, *Business Ethics Quarterly* has agreed to take on the publication of this series, beginning with this collection. As is the case for our regular issues, each essay in this collection has been blind-reviewed by peers in the field.

Periodically in the future (but not every year) we will publish the Ruffin Lectures in this same format and under the same stringent reviewing conditions. *Business Ethics Quarterly* is pleased to be able to carry out this mission, and we want to thank R. Edward Freeman, Olsson Professor of Business Administration at the Darden School, University of Virginia, for arranging the funding of the special issues and for editing this first issue.

Patricia H. Werhane Editor-in-Chief