

Call for Proposals: Ethics in Translation

Unprecedented flows of both people and ideas across North American, European, African, Indian and Asian regions, decolonization, and increasing economic interdependence have driven issues of globalism to the forefront of normative theory. These developments complicate the faith in universally valid moral principles to govern global engagements. Theorists sensitive to such cross-cultural dilemmas have begun to explore new ways of engaging the incredibly rich intellectual legacy of the non-European world. Yet this move to de-parochialize the field of normative theory presents special challenges. For example, can the texts and debates emerging from historically isolated societies be commensurable with each other? If so, how and on what level(s)? How may the seminal texts from ancient civilizations be incorporated in the contemporary theory canon, when those very texts often comprise a rich canonical repository in their own right? How can teachers working within their own socio-historically situated academies sensitively engage texts from disparate traditions, without reducing them to representative mouthpieces of a particular cultural perspective or interpretation? There are no simple answers to these questions, but we feel that it is vitally important to think about them more deeply.

The goal of the “Ethics in Translation” Working Groups Initiative is to build scholarly communities interested in forging links between area studies and normative theory. In order to accomplish this goal, we would like to support working groups engaged in research related to this theme.

Affiliated working groups will have the following resources:

1. Meeting space at the Centre for Ethics, Larkin Building.
2. Publicity for group initiatives.
3. Affiliated groups are also eligible to apply for grants of \$1500 to fund workshops or outside speakers. Additional financial support may be requested by providing a detailed budget justifying the extra funds.

How to Apply:

Please email a description of your project and list of members to ethics@utoronto.ca by February 15, 2010. Include “Ethics in Translation Working Groups” in the subject heading. Decisions will be made by March 1.

Rules and Eligibility:

1. There are no rules about the composition of working groups, but we especially encourage groups that include members from different disciplines and academic ranks.
2. All working groups must hold one public event that is open to non-members.
3. All working groups will be expected to provide a report on the activities of the group and a final accounting of how the funds were spent.

Examples of possible working groups:

- A group which is interested in planning a conference or workshop.
- An interdisciplinary reading group.
- A group of scholars from across the GTA that wants to read and discuss each other's work in progress.

Selection Criteria:

The Centre for Ethics will give priority to groups that are most closely related to the theme of "Ethics in Translation."

Ethics in Translation can also be found on our website [here](#) under "Research".