

## Promoting Ethics in University, Medical and Denver Communities

With great medical and technical advances comes great responsibility. The Center for Ethics and Community in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences endeavors to ensure this responsibility is met through internal and external education and collaborations.

“The more that technology and research advance, the more important it is to have somebody deciding if it ought to be done,” says Candice Shelby, executive director of the center and associate professor of philosophy on the Downtown Campus. “We provide a reflective presence.”

Even before the 2004 consolidation of the Health Sciences Center and CU Denver, an important collaboration between medicine, technology and philosophy was forged at these institutions to promote discussion on bioethics in health care.

Mark Yarborough, director of the Center for Bioethics and Humanities and past chair of the philosophy department, Shelby and the center initiated a two-day annual interdisciplinary conference in April 2007 to bring together researchers in traditional sciences and artificial intelligence, medical practitioners, philosophers and other intellectuals.

“Theoretically, philosophers’ and practitioners’ and scientists’ takes on ethics are different,” Shelby explains. “Working with physicians and researchers gives us a better way to reach a larger section of the community and more thoroughly explore the ethical issues.”



Candice Shelby

The conference, “Intersections: Science, Religion and Ethics,” explored the mind and brain relative to social policy, the medical practice and the future of the culture.

“The conference brought the humanities squarely into scientific conversations by addressing important research and its application from the broader context of human life-space and experience,” Shelby notes. “This venture strengthened the ties we have begun to forge on our campus between practitioners of the sciences and those who theorize about the relevance in

human experience of those sciences.”

The Center for Ethics and Community, established in 1996 by UCD Professor Georg Gadow, reaches far beyond academia to strengthen ethics in the community and in the professions. The center offers community outreach, retreats, seminars and programs that promote ethics in education. Clients served by the center have included legislators, medical practitioners, families, students and corporations.

“Through education and research, dialogue and cooperation with other programs, the center encourages ethics as an alternative to destructive patterns in our community,” Shelby stresses. “It is essential that research and education establish fruitful avenues for dialogue with the general community and the professions.”

 For more information about the Center for Ethics and Community, visit their Web site at <http://carbon.cudenver.edu/~cshelby/cec.htm>



STAFF

Jill Hutchison



## Hutchison’s Dedication Keeps Graduate Students on Track

Commencement is the high point of what Jill Hutchison works toward each year—and not because she’s graduating. She has spent the semesters leading up to this day making sure master’s candidates have what they need to graduate.

As graduate coordinator for College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Hutchison conducts degree audits to make sure students comply with department requirements and have their forms completed for commencement. Although much of her work with graduate students involves paperwork, she also provides advice about their theses or project committees and lends a helping hand as they venture through the complicated bureaucracy of registration and records. “I enjoy talking with both students and faculty advisors to come up with solutions to problems and make everything work smoothly,” she says.

Hutchison’s passion to act as an intermediary between faculty, advisors and students stems in part from her experience as a student in the master of humanities program (MH 1990) and more than 20 years as a University of Colorado Denver employee.

Nothing, however, beats commencement. “It’s a wonderful sight—those hard-working grads dressed up in their caps and gowns, so excited about being finished with graduate school and ready to tackle their future challenges.”

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