

## 2013 Philosophy Assessment meeting

1. We discussed the addition of the Liberal Arts major to our department. It seems Philosophy will play a sizable role in integrating the major with our department, given the crossover in interests. A general welcome to the program was expressed.
2. We continued discussion about students' possible misconceptions about Business Ethics. Typically Business Ethics courses are taught in a "case study" fashion, with pretty shallow engagement with philosophical texts. But Kleiner and Holberg have been teaching the course much more as a humanities course (it is flagged as "DHA"), with longer writing assignments and more extensive examinations of difficult texts (Smith, Marx, Rousseau, etc.). Some students have complained about the course not being what they thought they were going to get. There was a general, tentative consensus to create a new title or a new course to reduce misconceptions.
3. We discussed the results of our annual paper exchange, and reviewed grading criteria. Again, we seem to be pretty much on the same page in assessing students' work. Course GPAs were reviewed, and our annual "grade fairy" and "grade troll" awards were bestowed.
4. We also had an open-ended discussion of the key ideas and skills we try to teach in each of our classes. Our classes have different audiences - from Intro to Social Ethics to Philosophy of Science to a small seminar - and these different student populations pose unique challenges and opportunities. The discussion was quite useful, as it helps us to see the overall shape of our program.