



THE SOCIETY FOR BUSINESS ETHICS NEWSLETTER

Winter, 2015

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Letter from the Executive Director

Dawn Elm
University of St. Thomas

Happy new year to all of our members! As we start 2015 with our newsletter, I'd like to take this opportunity to tell you about a number of important activities that have been going on in the past year regarding the Society.

As you know from our annual meeting last year in Philadelphia, the Society for Business Ethics Executive Board moved forward with establishing Cambridge University Press as the publisher of *Business Ethics Quarterly* effective January 01, 2015 (See the update from BEQ Editor in Chief Denis Arnold in this newsletter.) In addition, after vetting a number of options, the Executive Board also selected Cambridge to administer SBE membership services, SBE board elections, and SBE annual conference registrations. This is why you have been (or will be) receiving membership renewal notices for the Society from Cambridge Journal Services. Soon you will be receiving your ballot for the annual election of a member to our Executive Board and later this spring you will be able to register for our conference this August in Vancouver, British Columbia. **So, don't delete any messages from Cambridge as just promotional materials!** As part of the conference management, Cambridge will also be providing the Society with a new ScholarOne site dedicated to our annual conference submissions. You will be directed to this site when the call for papers comes out for the 2015 conference.

The Executive Board also authorized the hiring of a Conference Director to handle our onsite conference management activities. Ms. Vickie Hoyle accepted the position in August of 2014 and she will be handling the onsite management of the conference in

2015 in conjunction with me. Please welcome her to the SBE team!

The Executive Board made a resolution in August of 2014 to explore the possibility of Co-Editors in Chief for *Business Ethics Quarterly*. Different forms of editorial structures have been initiated by several other journals in the field to allow for an allocation of effort that is commensurate with the workload for this critical position. A change in the Society's By-Laws is required in order for SBE to pursue this exploration. As a result, the Executive Board will be presenting a proposed change to the By-Laws for membership approval at the conference in Vancouver. Look for more information about the proposed By-Laws change later this spring.

Thank you to all of you who completed our membership survey this past October. As a result of your responses, we have learned a number of important things about our membership that will help shape the strategy for the Society for the future. I will be sharing the full results of the survey at our meeting in Vancouver this August, but one important piece of information the survey revealed is that you want to remain connected to the Academy of Management Meetings each year, and that means we will be going to Anaheim in August of 2016 (versus Puerto Rico with the Association of Legal Studies in Business conference or other options).

As always, the Executive Board and I welcome any of your comments and suggestions. We are looking forward to seeing you in the beautiful city of Vancouver for the conference August 6-9, 2015 at the Metropolitan Hotel.

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Update from the Editor in Chief of *Business Ethics Quarterly*

Denis Arnold
UNC Charlotte

2015 is the 25th consecutive year of publication for BEQ and it is fitting that the journal is now published by a highly respected, internationally known, non-profit, academic publisher. This past fall, Managing Editor Libby Scott and I worked closely with the team at Cambridge University Press to oversee the smooth transition to our new publisher. To better signal BEQ's transition to Cambridge, and the journal's enhanced global reputation, I have worked with Cambridge to design a new cover that will appear for the first time in volume 25, issue 1. Volume 25 will also feature a 25th anniversary banner commemorating the 25th year of the journal.

Libby and I have worked with Cambridge over the last several months to develop the new ScholarOne manuscript submission and management platform. This platform is currently being tested by BEQ's associate editors, and we expect it to go live sometime in January. There will be a transition period in which BEQ will be using Editorial Express for revised submissions of manuscripts initially submitted to Editorial Express, and ScholarOne for new submissions. This is intended to help avoid confusion among authors, referees, and action editors. Eventually, Editorial Express will be completely phased out. ScholarOne will also facilitate the use of plagiarism detection software, a feature we have not previously had access to via Editorial Express. This will serve to better protect SBE from the dark side of modern, academic publishing.

The 2013 journal impact factors from Journal Citation Reports (Thompson Reuters) were announced at the SBE annual meeting in Philadelphia. According to Journal Citation Reports, BEQ is currently ranked #1 of 50 journals in the Ethics category and 16th out of 110 journals in the Business category. BEQ received a 2.702 on the 2-year measure, and 3.486 on the 5-year impact measure. Its 2-year impact factor with self-citations removed is 2.149, indicating that BEQ articles are being widely engaged in other academic journals.

BEQ's annual prize-winners were also announced in Philadelphia. Jason Stansbury (Calvin College) received the 2014 Best Reviewer award for his dedicated service to the journal. Tom Jones (University of Washington) and Will Felts (University of New South Wales), received the Best Article award for "Stakeholder Happiness Enhancement: A Neo-Utilitarian Objective for the Modern Corporation," 23,3 (2013): 349-379.

All in all it has been a terrific year for BEQ and the new year promises to be even better. Please send us your work. We would love to publish your best scholarship!

BOOKS, JOURNALS & MULTIMEDIA

LAUNCHING IN DECEMBER 2015

Business and Human Rights Journal

The Business and Human Rights Journal (BHRJ) provides an authoritative platform for scholarly debate on all issues concerning the intersection of business and human rights in an open, critical and interdisciplinary manner. It seeks to advance the academic discussion on business and human rights as well as promote concern for human rights in business practice. BHRJ strives for the broadest possible scope, authorship and readership. Its scope encompasses interface of any type of business enterprise with human rights, environmental rights, labour rights and the rights of vulnerable groups.

The Editors welcome theoretical, empirical and policy / reform-oriented perspectives and encourage submissions from academics and practitioners in all global regions and all relevant disciplines. A dialogue beyond academia is fostered as peer-reviewed articles are published alongside shorter 'Developments in the Field' items that include policy, legal and regulatory developments, as well as case studies and insight pieces.

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For more information about BHRJ or to submit a paper email bhrj@cambridge.org

Call for Newsletter Contributions

In an attempt to revive a vibrant and current newsletter, we need your contributions to the next issue, which is scheduled to be published in **April, 2015**.

Please send your letters, announcements, professional notes, information about new books, journals, multimedia, calls for conferences and special journal issues, position announcements, and other items of interest to the Communications Director, Katherina Glac (kglac@stthomas.edu).

The deadline for submissions for the April issue is **March 15, 2015**.