United States Naval Academy
Stewardship Report 2006-2007
VADM James B. Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership

Lectures and Conferences

Moral Courage Lecture (5 October 2006)
Sponsored by Lockheed Martin

Speaker: Larry Colburn
Lecture title/topic: My Lai Story
Attendance: All 3/C Midshipmen

Mr. Colburn is the only surviving member of the three-man helicopter crew who stopped the My Lai massacre in Vietnam. This annual event is co-sponsored by the Commandant of Midshipmen.

Stutt Ethics Lecture (19 March 2007)
Sponsored by William ’49 and Carolyn Stutt

Speaker: Dr. Brian Orend
Lecture title/topic: Post-War Justice in Afghanistan and Iraq
Attendance: All 3/C midshipmen

The primary audience is approximately 900 Midshipmen currently enrolled in the Academy’s core ethics course, NE203. The guest speaker generally speaks for 30-45 minutes about ethical challenges that military officers may face in their careers. The Midshipmen then have an opportunity to ask questions. In 2007, Dr. Brian Orend, an international relations authority from Canada, discussed moral dilemmas in the aftermath of military conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, along with the challenges to preventing future wars in those regions. Previous speakers have been: Senator Bob Kerrey, Admiral James B. Stockdale, General Anthony Zinni, Admiral Harold Gehman, Hugh C. Thompson (one of the three heroes who stopped the My Lai massacre in Vietnam), Lieutenant General James Mattis, Major General Anthony Taguba, and Dr. Martin L. Cook.

1964/1984 Ethics Dinner (26 March 2007)
Sponsored by the Classes of 1964 and 1984

Speaker: General Michael Hagee ‘68, USMC (Ret.)
Attendance: All 1/C midshipmen

As part of their continued support for the Center’s charter, the Classes of 1964 and 1984 sponsor a dinner each spring for 1/C Midshipmen. The evening has evolved from a simple dining experience with a guest speaker to an opportunity for members of the senior class to interact with graduates on a very personal level.
Each table features a graduate (and guests) seated with Midshipmen. During dinner, participants discuss ethical topics and share their views on current events. After dinner, the Karel Montor Awardees are acknowledged. In recent years, Professor Montor’s daughters have attended the event. Next, the guest speaker (selected by the members of the sponsoring classes) speaks about ethics and life in the military. The Classes of 1964 and 1984 then present the 1/C midshipmen with copies of *Ethics for the Junior Officer*, a compilation of military case studies.

**McCain Conference (10-12 May 2007)**  
**Sponsored by Senator John McCain ’58 and Mrs. Cindy McCain**

This year, the Center extended the length of the conference, and representatives from senior war colleges joined their colleagues from undergraduate federal service academies. The topic was “Leadership and Ethics: Exploring the Connections.” For the first time, leadership faculty attended, in addition to those in ethics and character development programs. Guest plenary speakers included prominent journalists Robert Kaplan (the USNA Class of 1960 Distinguished Visiting Professor in National Security) and Tom Ricks, as well as former Center director, Dr. Albert Pierce, now at the National Defense University.

Attendees included representatives from the U. S. Naval Academy, U. S. Military Academy, U. S. Air Force Academy, U. S. Coast Guard Academy, U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, National Defense University, Army War College, School of Advanced Military Studies, Naval War College, Center for Naval Leadership, CNO Ethics and Leadership Task Force, U.S. Navy Center for Personal and Professional Development, Marine Corps University, and Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs. Five international contingents from Canada, Australia, France, and England attended as well.

**Faculty and Faculty Resources**

**Faculty Ethics Fellows**  
**Sponsored by the Classes of 1958 and 1967**

The Class of 1958 sponsored LtCol Edward Barrett, Ph.D. (University of Chicago) as a civilian faculty fellow. For the first time, a Fellow taught the NE203 core ethics course, also participating in routine fellowship activities and scholarly research. Barrett presented papers at JSCOPE and Air Force Academy and met with Class of 1958 members at regularly luncheons.

The Class of 1967 sponsored Professor Lori Bogle (History, USNA) as the first USNA faculty member to serve as an Ethics Fellow. A stipend supported her adjunct replacement in the History Department, while Dr. Bogle worked full time in the Stockdale Center on a project on Theodore Roosevelt, looking at the connection between ethics and leadership in the American presidency.

**The Ingersoll Teaching Ethics Resource Room**  
**Sponsored by Mrs. Alice Nagle**

The Ingersoll Room is a resource for faculty, staff, and Midshipmen, and contains a collection of books, journals, films, and multimedia directly relevant to the Academy’s mission of developing ethical leaders. The collection is geared toward preparing graduates for issues that will arise in their military careers. Those issues include the ethical dimensions of the Global War on Terror,
leadership in times of duress, and moral fiction that provides the chance for critical reflection on moral issues and exemplars of moral courage.

The collection of texts also deal with ethical theory, applied ethics, pedagogy in ethics classes, leadership, the psychology of leadership, and issues in modern warfare. In addition to respected academic periodicals, such as The Naval War College Review, Parameters, The Journal of Military Ethics, Teaching Philosophy, and the Journal of Moral Education, there is a collection of multimedia resources for teachers and students, such as audio courses on classics of ethical thought, issues of the military profession, and modern issues in various areas of applied ethics.

CEL Director of Assessment
Sponsored by Stephen Newberry ’75 and Shelley Newberry

Dr. Elizabeth Holmes (a retired Navy Captain) serves as Director of Assessment at the Center. She has conducted ethical decision-making research on 1,000 Midshipmen and more than 350 naval officers and used the results to design Last Call, a computer-based teaching tool and facilitator’s guide for use in the classroom and wardroom to teach ethical decision-making.

This program has put the Academy in the lead of utilizing computer-based technology and interactive simulations to advance ethical education. The Academy is also now the first institution in the United States to conduct research about moral reasoning and ethical decision-making by its undergraduates. The Center has also developed Navy E-Learning programs for the Department of the Navy’s Officer Primary Professional Military Education ethics course. This Navy Knowledge Online course has 3,200 personnel registered.

Programs and Activities

Ethics Bowl
Sponsored by the Class of 1964

Since 2001, the Naval Academy has fielded teams for the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl (sponsored by the Association of Practical and Professional Ethics), the Baltimore region Ethics Bowl, and the annual Loyola Marymount University Los Angeles Business Ethics competition. Teams discuss specific moral dilemmas and offer solutions to panels of judges.

To prepare for these competitions, the Center sponsors regular gatherings of Midshipmen. These meetings allow for discussion and review of ethical theories and approaches. Participating Midshipmen thrive on the freedom of discussion and develop their ethical decision-making abilities, along with analytical and presentation skills. The Stockdale Center provides a meeting place, funds and travel and expenses for the members of the Ethics Bowl teams.

William P. Lawrence Ethics Essay Award Dinner
(18 September 2006 and 29 January 2007)
Sponsored by the Class of 1981

Every semester, the Center for Ethical Leadership organizes a competition to select the outstanding ethics essay written in the Academy’s core ethics course by 3/C midshipmen (NE203). As the final stage in that process, three outside reviewers read four to six finalists’ papers (usually 8-10 pages in
length). The reviewers rank-order the papers and offer comments concerning their top choice. The scores are calculated to determine the highest ranked paper, and the winner and all finalists (usually about thirty Midshipmen) are honored at the dinner.

**Fall semester**
Winner: Midshipman 3/C Matthew Linsley  
Essay title: The Need for Transparency: An Ethical Examination of the Media and the Military  
Speaker: VADM Ann Rondeau, USN

**Spring semester**
Winner: Midshipman 3/C Alison Burns  
Essay title: Obedience: A Duty or a Choice  
Speaker: Colonel Willard A. Buhl, USMC

**Occasional Papers**  
**Sponsored by the Class of 1987**

In the fall of 2006, the Center published a paper titled *The Citizen-officer Ideal: A Historical and Literary Inquiry*, by LT Mark R. DeBuse ‘96.

**Friday Night Ethics at the Movies**  
**Sponsored by the Class of 1964**

The Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership provides Midshipmen an opportunity to discuss ethical and moral decision-making in an open forum, outside of the classroom. A group of up to twenty Midshipmen views a movie that contains ethical dilemmas and then discusses how characters in the movie either did or did not make the appropriate ethical decisions. The Midshipmen voice their views in a relaxed debate format, while the facilitator interjects ethical curriculum content. Examples of some movies are: *Rules of Engagement, Hotel Rwanda, Changing Lanes, Black Hawk Down,* and *Courage Under Fire.*

**Auschwitz Jewish Center Service Academy Scholar Program**  
**Sponsored by David Robinson ‘87 and Valerie Robinson**

The Auschwitz Jewish Center, a Polish-based organization committed to the study of the Holocaust and the life that preceded it, partners with the Museum of Jewish Heritage to bring outstanding U. S. service academy midshipmen and cadets to Poland each summer. Participants spend three weeks meeting with scholars, high-level government officials, and citizens of Poland. They also engage in intensive workshops designed to educate and inspire. The purpose of the Academy Program is to display in vivid terms what can happen in the absence of free, open, and democratic governing institutions. By learning in great detail about the Holocaust and events leading up to it, Academy scholars understand what can happen when evil is given free reign, when democratic ideals are not defended, and when ordinary citizens choose compliance over morality.