

Salisbury University's Re-envisioning Ethics Access and Community Humanities (REACH) Initiative: Integrating Community and Curricular Ethics is grant-funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Humanities Connections Program. REACH, led by Co-Directors Michèle Schlehofner, Timothy Stock and Jennifer Nyland, focuses on ethics, ethics literacy and ethics agency through new curricular and co-curricular resources, and connecting with the community.

Ethics Across the Curriculum Workshop

One of the major goals of the REACH Initiative is integrating the conversations and ethical concerns happening in our local community into our classrooms. To that end, REACH Co-PI Timothy Stock led an inaugural cohort of 12 Ethics Across the Curriculum faculty in a week-long, intensive ethics training. The faculty involved represented every school on campus and the College of Health and Human Services. Faculty worked with existing case studies derived from our community listening sessions and developed new ethics units to implement in their classes. Topics ranged from a mathematics class on the ethics of student debt, leadership ethics in athletics and community-based exercises for writing about climate change. These faculty will be participating in REACH discussions and Ethics Across the Curriculum learning communities throughout the spring semester.

Feedback from the workshop, shown in the graph, found that attendees gained useful skills for teaching students ethical reasoning with case studies, had increased confidence in their ability to teach ethics and had greater commitment to developing their students' ethical reasoning skills.

Workshop attendee Dr. Mike Lewis stated: "These REACH cases are so well



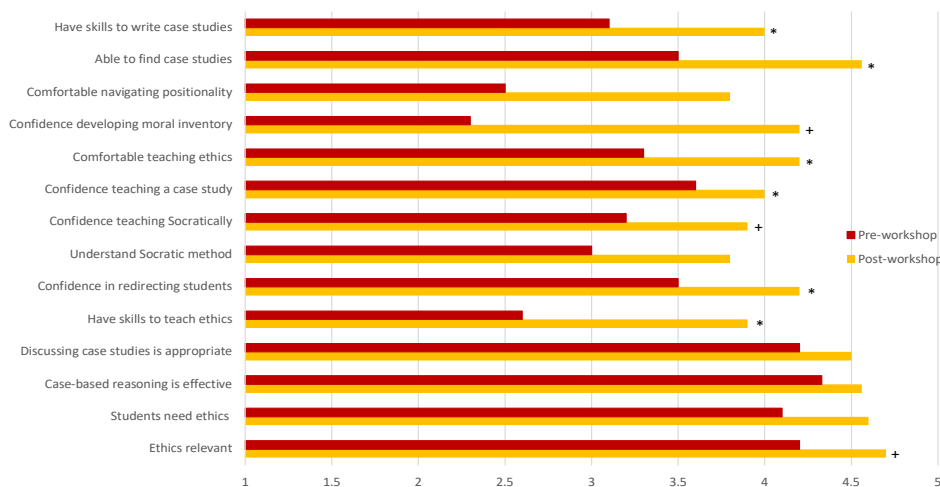
constructed. They raise important ethical questions with obvious and immediate real-world relatability. They are simple enough to read quickly – and brief – yet reward careful thought and consideration. For an instructor of an environmental studies course, they provide an easy on-ramp for building instruction in thinking about applied ethics, and I'm looking forward to seeing how this module impacts discussions throughout the semester in my senior seminar course."

Faculty also felt that the workshop increased their engagement with local issues and provided insight into the relevance of community issues for their teaching.

The REACH team will be offering additional workshops to faculty this semester.

REACH Model Presented to Philosophy Teachers

In January, REACH Co-PI Timothy Stock presented the REACH model to the American Association of Philosophy Teachers' special session at the Eastern Division of the American Philosophical Association on teaching ethics to STEM students. Featured alongside Harvard's Embedded EthiCS program and Purdue University's Engineering Ethics, the REACH model was well received as both an important and innovative method for integrating community-based ethics research into the STEM classroom. The session was attended by 30 philosophy teachers from all levels of professional development, who shared best practices in case design and classroom management, and they reflected on the changing needs of ethics education for STEM students. The group workshoped approaches to pressing issues like emerging AI and social media technologies, data ethics, and the role of philosophy in facilitating public scientific discourse that is ethically informed.



ETHICS PROFILE: Jennifer Gauthier

Lead for Life

Tell us about your organization and what you do.

Lead4Life is a nonprofit servicing Maryland's most vulnerable populations. We provide quality services to the underserved in the community, their homes and their offices. We provide a variety of services depending on the county. On the Lower Eastern Shore, we provide Navigation Services, Re-Engagement Services, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program (PRP), mentoring and an Evening Reporting Center. Each program provided is specific to a population and has its own set of requirements for participants. We partner with the Department of Juvenile Services for the Evening Reporting Center, which is an alternative to the detention model program. Youths are referred by the courts to participate for a specific period of time to gain positive social, behavioral and life skills. Navigation provides youths and families who are experiencing unstable housing or chronic homeless services to reduce barriers and secure housing." to: "Navigation provides youths and families who are experiencing unstable housing or chronic homelessness services to reduce barriers and secure housing. Re-Engagement is a partnership with Wicomico Partnership for Families and Children and we assist disconnected youth 16-24 years old with employment and education services. PRP provides minors and adults who have a pervasive mental health diagnosis with community-based case management. Lead4Life provides innovative services on the Lower Shore, modeling after the programs in the metro areas.



What drew you to be a part of the Community Ethics Network?

This is a great question. I was very interested in the Community Ethics Network because it isn't often where our voice matters as grassroots nonprofits. We have groups of nonprofits that have the funding to back a designated staff person advocating on the state level for the needs of their participants where L4L is still grassroots, and we must be the voice for nonprofits and our participants still. When I saw the opportunity, I felt that I wanted to be a part of a team that cared about the "voices." I love the diversity and willingness to incorporate the voice of those who live in the community and will also be returning to the community as well. The Community Ethics Network has a broad lens that looks at things from the participants, businesses and community. Also, it helped us look at the ethics we practice within our work environment and that was critical. We can't service our participants without

our team members receiving the needed professional development – and simply feeling supported.

How does ethics improve your work?

Ethics is the air L4L breathes. We are CARF accredited so this means that we have over 1,500 policies and procedures in place to ensure we are functioning at the highest level of standards possible. It is a difficult balance to provide quality services, care for team members, and ensure everyone feels supported and that we are ethical and diverse. We are dependent on our participants, stakeholders and team members to provide feedback that can assist with the trajectory of the organization for years to come.



Join Our Community Advisory Board!

Do you have ideas on how to improve ethics training and ethical practice?

We are seeking motivated individuals from our region to serve on our Community Advisory Board! The Community Advisory Board meets regularly and provides the REACH team input on current community-facing initiatives, as well as helps steer what types of products the REACH team develops and implements in our local community. We seek a diverse array of representation across multiple sectors: government, nonprofit, business and advocacy groups. Positions on the Community Advisory Board come with a modest financial stipend. Please email us at REACH@salisbury.edu if interested.



Make Tomorrow Yours

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Ethics on TV!

Salisbury University Philosophy Department alum and current director of the Kegley Institute of Ethics Dr. Michael Burroughs consulted on the new Fox crime thriller *Accused*. From the Fox website: "Each episode opens in a courtroom ... told from the defendant's point of view through flashbacks, the show holds a mirror up to current times with evocative and emotional stories. In the end, audiences will discover how an ordinary person gets caught up in extraordinary circumstances, and how one impulsive decision can impact the course of that life – and the lives of others – forever."

You can learn more on the Fox website: www.fox.com/accused.

Congratulations to Dr. Burroughs for helping bring philosophical concepts to the public in a unique and entertaining format.