

EE 500 GRADUATE COLLOQUIUM

Spring 2014

You are cordially invited to

"Rolling in it: The Influence of Money on Science and Engineering"

By

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Date: January 30, 2014 Time: 4:00 pm Location: 108 Henderson

Abstract

The 19th century gentleman scholar may have tinkered with a new invention in his attic without so much as a benefactor, much less an NSF grant or lucrative consulting agreement. But today's inventors have an obvious and immediate need for lots and lots of beautiful, intoxicating money. As a modern-day Homer might say, the U.S. dollar is our teacher, our mother, our secret lover. If all love were wholesome, then our love of money would be wholesome, too. Unfortunately, love can take us to dark, scary places. Faculty members have been known to neglect their graduate students, because they were too busy doing consulting work outside the lab. Researchers and universities have been reproached and sanctioned for failing to disclose their financial conflicts of interest. Universities, sponsors, and faculty members have found themselves locked in furious three-way battles over ownership of intellectual property. This purpose of this presentation is to consider what reasonable measures we can take to prevent financial considerations from distorting the objectivity of science and undermining the public trust in the work we do. (Free cash will be given to anyone who can solve this problem, once and for all.)

Biography

John Hanold is the Senior Associate Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) at The Pennsylvania State University (PSU). In this position, John provides training to OSP staff, assists in the review and negotiation of agreements, and manages all personnel actions. He is an instructor in PSU's ACES program, which provides comprehensive training to PSU staff in all aspects of pre-award and post-award research administration. He also teaches philosophy and ethics classes, including a research ethics class (IBIOS 591) to graduate students in PSU's Integrative Biosciences Program. John has served on PSU's Conflict of Interest Committee and the Office of the Vice President for Research Diversity Council. He has presented at regional and national meetings of NCURA, including presentations on research ethics, the federal acquisition regulations (FAR), export control regulations, and the art of contract negotiation. He will be serving as an NCURA International Fellow at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich and the University of Zürich in May 2012. John is a 1990 graduate of Marquette University (B.A., philosophy) and a 1999 graduate of PSU (Ph.D., philosophy).