Vulnerability, Preventability and Responsibility

Exploring Some Normative Implications of the Human Condition

4 p.m. Tuesday, March 17, 159 Bernhard Center

Dr. Daniel E. Wueste

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Dr. Wueste will share a few stories in which the ideas of vulnerability, preventability and responsibility loom large; make a suggestion about the links between and among these ideas; and articulate an ethical principle that seems to emerge from them. According to this principle, responsibility is a function of two key features of a situation, namely, vulnerability and preventability. He will focus on responsibility in the sense of what one ought ethically to do, which, he suggests, nearly, if not completely, tracks with the query what one can be reasonably expected to do. To conclude, he will explore the implications for individual and organizational responsibility.

Dr. Wueste’s work has appeared in various journals. He is the editor of Professional Ethics and Social Responsibility (Rowman and Littlefield, 1994). He is a Senior Fellow of the International Center for Academic Integrity, and a member of the editorial board of the International Journal for Educational Integrity, among other posts.