

technology & ethics

LECTURE SERIES AT CAL POLY, SLO

Who: DR. TOM POWERS
When: FRI., FEB 6, 2009 @ 12-1 PM
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Getting 'Good Science' Right:
RESEARCH ETHICS, the NSF, and
the America COMPETES Act



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Under the "America COMPETES Act" (H.R. 2272), Section 7009, the National Science Foundation (NSF)—as a major supporter of university research in the sciences—will require all funding applicants to "provide appropriate training and oversight in the responsible and ethical conduct of research to undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdoctoral researchers."

NSF is now formulating policy to implement that **research ethics** requirement, but there is no consensus yet on the appropriate content or pedagogy for this training; and recent research indicates that some forms of training may have a negligible or even *negative* effect on actual practices.

This presentation will cover some of the models for research-ethics training and will suggest how federal requirements could reinvigorate a critical and constructive approach to the philosophy and ethics of science and engineering.

Tom Powers, PhD, is Director of the Science, Ethics, and Public Policy Program and Assistant Professor in the Department of Philosophy at the University of Delaware. He is also Principal Investigator of NSF-RAISE: Research and Integrity in Science and Engineering.

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