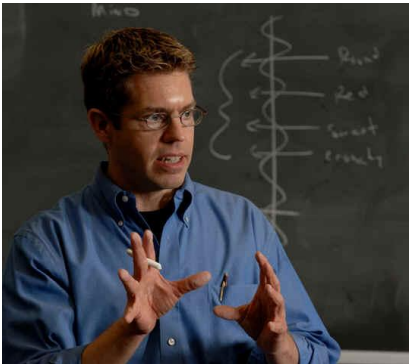# technology&ethics

LECTURE SERIES AT CAL POLY, SLO

Who: **DR. ANTHONY F. BEAVERS**

When: **MONDAY, MAY 4, 2009 @ 2-3:30 PM**

Where: **GRAPHIC ARTS: Building 26, Room 103**

Ethics of facebook

This presentation will explore some of the less obvious ethical issues connected with Facebook. Touching briefly on issues such as privacy, employer scrutiny of employee profiles, fairness for all users, and so on, Dr. Beavers will focus on issues that concern the quality of life more broadly, particularly: **1)** whether Facebook redefines friendship in ways that are potentially helpful or harmful; **2)** how Facebook's news feed functions to determine which relationships will develop and which will not; **3)** whether Facebook plays a positive or negative role in helping users attain a meaningful sense of purpose and self-identity; **4)** how Facebook contributes to remembrance and the coherence of one's life for older users and how the need for such may not even arise for younger users; and, finally, **5)** whether the openness of our private lives on Facebook will lead to restructuring the social and moral expectations placed on us as human beings, and, in turn, help us better understand and accept ourselves for what we are.

Dr. Tony Beavers is Professor of Philosophy and Director of Cognitive Science at the University of Evansville in southern Indiana. He is currently a Digital Humanities Fellow with the National Endowment for the Humanities and is spending the year at Indiana University working on the Noesis search engine for the discipline of philosophy. He is also the Executive Director of the International Association for Computing and Philosophy and Program Chair for its 2009 North American conference dedicated to "Networks and Their Philosophical Implications."

This talk is **free** and **open** to the public!

For more information, please contact:
**Dr. Patrick Lin,
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