

technology, policy & ethics

LECTURE SERIES AT CAL POLY, SLO

Who: **DR. ANTHONY F. BEAVERS**
When: **FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2011 @ 1:00-2:30p**
Where: **PHILIPS HALL: Building 6, Room 124**

Ethics of

facebook



At around 700 million members, Facebook is the largest social science dataset ever collected—helping it to acquire a great deal of social and political power in a very short time, both in terms of profiling users and steering public opinion. For instance, within the last year, Facebook started directing more traffic than Google and, on some reports, accounted for 12% of all internet activity. Given that the people behind the site are aware of its growing power, we may fairly ask about what the company intends to (or can) do with it. From the user's perspective, Facebook is just a site for connecting with friends, "friends", and family. But what else is going on, particularly with respect to our values?

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

For more information,
please contact:
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*Sponsored by the
College of Liberal Arts'
Lottery Speakers Fund
and the Philosophy
Department.*

Two years ago, Dr. Beavers gave a talk at Cal Poly on the virtues of Facebook. This talk will revisit and reassess the themes raised earlier and consider the vices that Facebook has acquired after two years of accelerated growth.

Dr. Tony Beavers is Professor of Philosophy, Director of Cognitive Science, and Director of the Digital Humanities Laboratory at the University of Evansville. He is the President of the International Association for Computing and Philosophy and currently serves on the organizing committees for several conferences, institutes and symposia dedicated to computer modeling, network analysis and the philosophical aspects of computing. His publications range from social and political issues involved with computing and robotics to formal papers on the philosophy of computation and the history and philosophy of information technology.

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