



DATE: July 15, 2021

TO: Christine Spencer, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Baltimore

FROM: Steven Scalet, Director, Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics

RE: Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics End-of-Year Report, 2020-2021

Dear Dean Spencer,

This document provides an end-of-year report for the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics.

Goals for 2020 – 2021

This past year marked a point of great change for the Hoffberger Center with a new director appointment in October, 2020. There were three goals this academic year for the Center:

- (1) Increase the scholarly profile of the Hoffberger Center
- (2) Create a greater regional and national profile
- (3) Encourage more integration of the study of ethics and ethical dialogue across the University

Activities for 2020 – 2021

(1) Increase the scholarly profile of the Hoffberger Center

- Hoffberger Center Hosts Inaugural International Conference: "Legitimate Decision-Making in Times of Crisis" <https://www.ubalt.edu/about-ub/offices-and-services/provost/reporting-units/hcpe/2021-virtual-conference.cfm>
- Author-Meets-Critics Series, Inaugural Session, featuring Prof. Ronald Niezen, McGill University, with Ubalt faculty critics Nusta Carranza Ko and Joshua Kassner. <https://www.ubalt.edu/about-ub/offices-and-services/provost/reporting-units/hcpe/author-meets-critics-series.cfm>
- Author-Meets-Critics Series, featuring Prof. Firmin Debrabander, MICA, with Ubalt faculty critic Steven Scalet and Associate Dean Christopher Griffin (Northern Arizona

University). <http://www.ubalt.edu/about-ub/offices-and-services/provost/reporting-units/hcpe/author-meets-critics-series.cfm>

- Inaugural Appointment of Director of Research Fellows Program: Professor Josh Kassner. Appointment includes future development of Center Research Fellows.

(2) Create greater regional and national profile

- Regional High School Ethics Bowl draws largest bowl audience in Ubalt host history, including 16 teams with students from 10 area high schools. Appointed Daniel Gellasch as Director of the event : <https://www.ubalt.edu/about-ub/offices-and-services/provost/reporting-units/hcpe/ethics-bowls.cfm>
- New Series on *Leadership in Action*, inaugurated with visit by Terri Freeman, Executive Director of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture. This series is designed to inspire dialogue in ethics and leadership across the University and region. This series expresses UBalt's mission and practice of connecting the University with the Baltimore region and its institutions.
- Ubalt Community Events: Are You a Citizen, or Are You a Consumer? A Conversation with Ron Williams, Education Manager and Resident Artist, The Lyric; Ubalt adjunct faculty.

(3) Encourage more integration of the study of ethics and ethical dialogue across the University

- Submitted CELTT-sponsored grant to revitalize IDIS 301: Ethical Issues in Business and Society. Grant awarded for summer cohort work that includes representatives from Yale Gordon College of Arts and Science, Merrick School of Business, College of Public Affairs, and School of Law. This Hoffberger-linked coursework is a primary mechanism for expressing the Hoffberger mission to integrate the study of ethics and ethical dialogue across the University.
- Classroom Visits by the Hoffberger Director and Research Fellows Director to discuss ethics as it relates to specific disciplines.
- Cross-college UBalt Ethics Bowl Team competes and places in top tier at Mid-Atlantic Regional InterCollegiate Competition. These successes relate to the future development of Hoffberger Ubalt Student Fellows.
- Interviewed and hired two Social Media Interns to facilitate Hoffberger communications across campus.

- Grant application for student scholarships submitted to the Hoffberger Foundation
- Outreach with UBalt administrators to reintroduce the Hoffberger Center and establish new lines of communication.
- Closer integration of the Hoffberger Center with the program in Philosophy, Law, and Ethics (PLE) – the only program on campus, distinctive across the United States, that incorporates ethics into its name as a central component of the major.
- Emphasis on co-sponsored and co-organized events across College units. In this regard I especially wish to express my gratitude to Sascha Sheehan for his organizational skills with the Hoffberger Center and Monica Queen for her publicity and marketing work.

Looking ahead

The three goals for 2020-2021 highlight three areas of impact for the Hoffberger Center that guide longer-term planning for the Center: UBalt constituents, the Baltimore region, and national/international. The Hoffberger Center aims to reinforce and further develop the work from 2020-2021, as well as create improvements in social media, communications, Center organization.

-- Event Planning thus far, AY 2021-22:

Fall 2021 – Author-Meets-Critics with Dr. Alec Walen (Rutgers University) with comments from Dr. Michael Skerker (USNA); Dr. David Wasserman (NIH); Dr. Stephen Woodside (LTC) (USMA); and Dr. Yuan Yuan (NYU-Shanghai)

Fall 2021 – Author-Meets-Critics with Dr. Sarah Federman (University of Baltimore). Critics TBA.

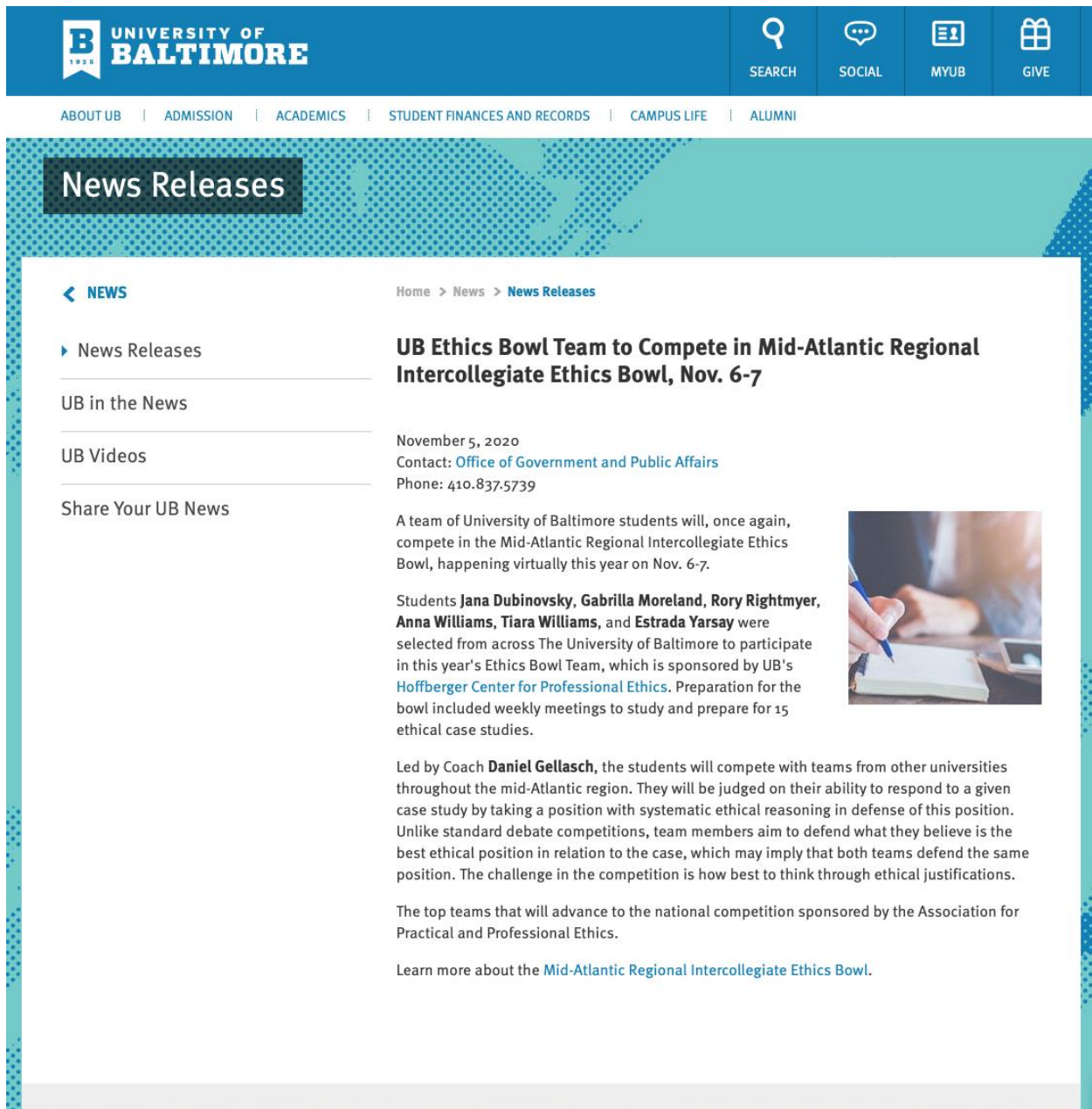
Spring 2022 – Second Annual International Conference, “Ethics and Technology.”

Appendix AY '20-21: Good memories!

October 26, 2020: Appointment of new Director, Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics

<http://www.ubalt.edu/news/news-releases.cfm?id=3645>

November 6-7, 2020: Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl



The screenshot shows the University of Baltimore website's News Releases page. The header includes the university logo and navigation links for Search, Social, MyUB, and Give. A secondary navigation bar lists categories like About UB, Admission, Academics, Student Finances and Records, Campus Life, and Alumni. The main content area features a 'News Releases' title and a breadcrumb trail: Home > News > News Releases. The primary article is titled 'UB Ethics Bowl Team to Compete in Mid-Atlantic Regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, Nov. 6-7', dated November 5, 2020, and lists contact information for the Office of Government and Public Affairs. The article text describes the team's selection and preparation, mentioning Coach Daniel Gellasch and the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics. A photograph of a student writing on a notepad is included. A sidebar on the left offers links to 'News Releases', 'UB in the News', 'UB Videos', and 'Share Your UB News'. A footer link directs to the 'Mid-Atlantic Regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl' page.

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News Releases

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UB Ethics Bowl Team to Compete in Mid-Atlantic Regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, Nov. 6-7

November 5, 2020
Contact: [Office of Government and Public Affairs](#)
Phone: 410.837-5739

A team of University of Baltimore students will, once again, compete in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl, happening virtually this year on Nov. 6-7.

Students **Jana Dubinovsky, Gabrilla Moreland, Rory Rightmyer, Anna Williams, Tiara Williams, and Estrada Yarsay** were selected from across The University of Baltimore to participate in this year's Ethics Bowl Team, which is sponsored by UB's [Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics](#). Preparation for the bowl included weekly meetings to study and prepare for 15 ethical case studies.



Led by Coach **Daniel Gellasch**, the students will compete with teams from other universities throughout the mid-Atlantic region. They will be judged on their ability to respond to a given case study by taking a position with systematic ethical reasoning in defense of this position. Unlike standard debate competitions, team members aim to defend what they believe is the best ethical position in relation to the case, which may imply that both teams defend the same position. The challenge in the competition is how best to think through ethical justifications.

The top teams that will advance to the national competition sponsored by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

Learn more about the [Mid-Atlantic Regional Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl](#).

[News Releases](#)

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November 10, 2020: Inaugural Author-Meets-Critic Event

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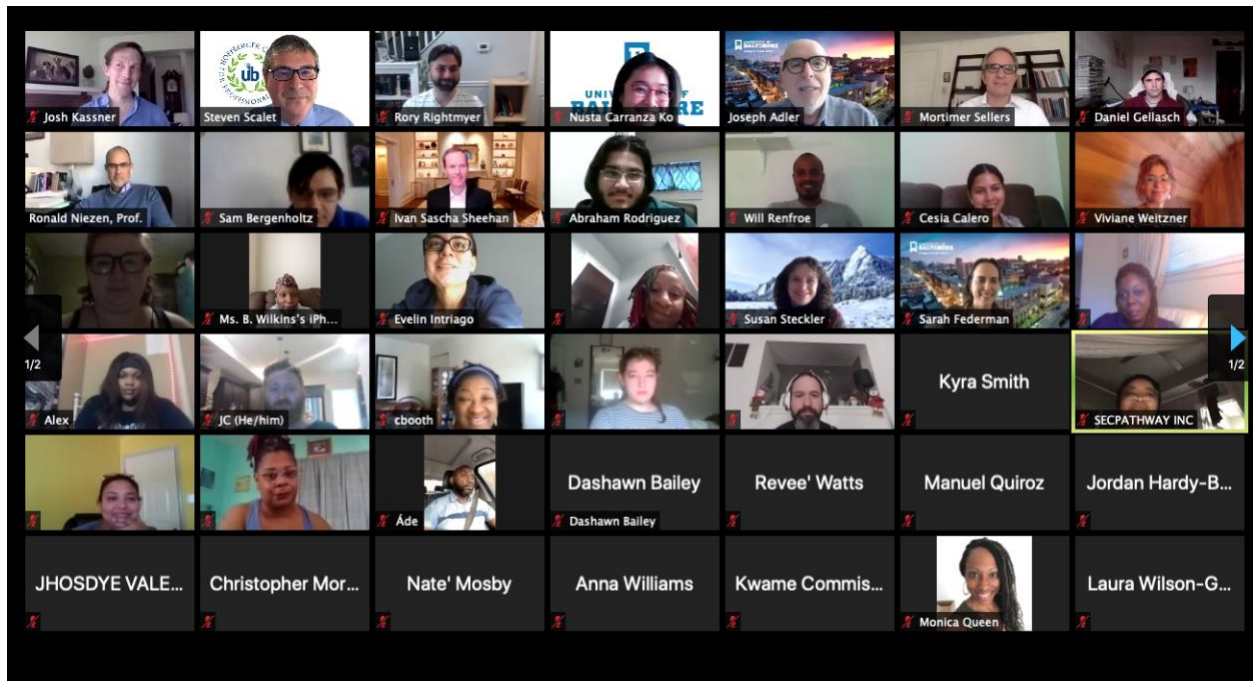
Author-Meets-Critic Event, Nov. 10

The Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics is hosting an author-meets-critic zoom discussion highlighting McGill University's **Ronald Niezen** and the recent publication of his book **#HumanRights: The Technologies and Politics of Justice Claims in Practice** (Stanford University Press). The critics are UB faculty members **Joshua Kassner** and **Nusta Carranza Ko**.

DATE: Tuesday, Nov. 10
TIME: 12:30 p.m.
LINK: <https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/97766570558?pwd=YTIUNCtxbnNRbHdZelZjbjlyQlVFdzo9>
MEETING ID: 977 6657 0558
PASSCODE: 396959

All faculty, staff, and students are invited to join the zoom event, including classes, if this book dovetails with coursework.

Co-sponsored by the School of Public and International Affairs and the Philosophy, Law, and Ethics undergraduate program.



February 5, 2021: Inaugural International Conference

*The Hoffberger Center of Professional Ethics
announces its first annual conference:*

LEGITIMATE DECISION-MAKING IN TIMES OF CRISIS

February 5th, 2021

8:30am-4:15pm

*Philosophers and social scientists
will speak to questions of legitimate
decision-making in times of crises.*

*Do crises alter the notion of
legitimate decision-making? In a time
of crisis, which decision-making form
should be followed? These questions
and more will be addressed in our
virtual panel sessions.*

ub
HOFFBERGER
CENTER FOR
PROFESSIONAL
ETHICS

Co-Sponsors:

Philosophy, Law, and Ethics (College of Arts and Sciences)

School of Public and International Affairs (College of Public Affairs)

Center for International and Comparative Law (School of Law)

09:09:54 View

Claudette Booth

Steven Skelton

Andrii Sachcha Zhezhkun

christopher w. merris

Juliana V. iPad

reginaminna

Josh Kestner

William Tullus

Kenneth Uppenkouss

Ryan Cannon

Eubenne pater

Roger Hartley

Olivia S.

Christine Spencer

Cindy Foster

Rich Wilson

Jessie Schuster

Santiago Mora

Christopher Griffin

Jude Murah

Lourdes White

Pamela Bertha

Nathaly

Chris Hart

Mfon Usiere

Jana Dubinovskiy

Jacob Linn

Emily Kamp

Giuliano Little

Mute Stop Video

Security

Participants

Chat

Share Screen

Help

Record

Closed Caption

Breakout Rooms

Recording

End

February 13, 2021: Maryland Regional High School Ethics Bowl

Maryland Regional High School Ethics Bowl *February 13th, 2021*

Welcome to the 2021 Maryland Regional High School Ethics Bowl!

Our day will begin on Zoom in our Main Lobby Zoom Room. You will then be provided with information that allows you to enter the platform for your Round One competition, Round Two competition, etc. Spectators and invited guests may enter the Common Room and find further links to watch any particular competition or move in between.

[Click Here to Join the Main Lobby Zoom Room](#)

Or, through this information:

Meeting ID: 977 6657 0558

Passcode: 396959

Each round's team pairings will be randomly generated by the platform. At that moment, a special spectator link will be created, which will be posted in the chat of the Main Lobby Zoom room. If you have any questions or concerns, please direct a message to our director of the ethics bowl, Daniel Gellasch. Good luck, and have fun!

Schedule:

- 8:30 a.m. Common Room Opens, Welcome
Prof. Steven Scalet, director, Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics
Daniel Gellasch, director, Regional High School Ethics Bowl
- 9:00 a.m. Round One Begins
- 10:00 a.m. Round Two Begins
- 11:00 a.m. Round Three Begins
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break, with Keynote Speaker and Recognition at 12:30 p.m.
Fred Guy, former director, Hoffberger Center and emeritus faculty, UB
Cindy Myers, former Administrative Assistant, Hoffberger Center
David Hoffberger, Representative from the Hoffberger Foundation
- 1 p.m. Finals
- 2 p.m. Awards and Adjournment

Participating Teams:

Gerstell Academy Team 1
Gerstell Academy Team 2
Liberty High School Team 1
Liberty High School Team 2
Mercy High School Team 1
Mercy High School Team 2
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel High School
Sparrows Point High School
The Bryn Mawr School Team 1
The Bryn Mawr School Team 2
Baltimore PolyTechnic Institute Team 1
Baltimore Polytechnic Institute Team 2
Gonzaga College~~BBB~~ High School
Thomas Jefferson High School Team 1
Thomas Jefferson High School Team 2
CHS (Independent Team)

The image shows a Zoom meeting in progress. The main window displays a grid of approximately 40 participants, each in their own video tile. Some tiles are labeled with names like 'Frank van Vliet', 'Steven Scalit', 'James Campbell', 'Mark Bell', 'Fiona Jenkins', 'Carrie Parks', 'LISA Martinak', 'Ryan Nickerson', 'ashleykastoff', 'Nicole Bissard', 'Elizabeth Chagnin', 'Taylor Yona', 'Britna Buffey', 'Lilly Norbeck', 'Daniel Gellatich', 'Karl Dosterwech', 'Hazel Simonson', 'Jennifer Buzza', 'Ken Pizzico', 'Bob Helper', 'Steve Werhane', 'Deveshi Mevry', 'Mike Steinhack', 'user', 'Jig Dolezal', 'Donald Roland', 'Andrew Pappas', 'Phil Reynolds', 'Nicole Hodgins', 'Cristo Mowery', 'Kurtz Ruppel', 'Joseph Fallon', 'Bory Hightwyler', 'Shannon Berry', 'Louis Geronzi', 'Brian Field', 'melinda's iPhone', 'Brian Hatcher', 'Peter Chagalis', 'Arnie Valedon', '14432', 'Janice Ross', 'tamaya', 'Linda Burns', 'Elizabeth Carr', 'Josh Kassner', 'Mckenzie', 'Anna Katt', and 'Emma Clapp'. The bottom of the Zoom window shows a toolbar with icons for Mute, Stop Video, Security, Participants, Chat, Share Screen, Polling, Record, Closed Caption, Breakout Rooms, and Reactions.

On the right side of the screen, a document titled 'Schedule' is shared. The document contains the following text:

Schedule:

8:30 a.m. Common Room Opens, Welcome
Prof. Steven Scalit, director, Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics
 Make Daniel a co-host
 Exacted introductions
 Keep brief, everyone excited / good morning to the teams, the coaches, the students in competition, the judges, the moderators – what to say – your time, interest, look at us here
 Didn't think possible, other regions with cancellations, but we carried forward, quite remarkable
 A bit about the Hoffberger Center – mission is to bring heightened awareness to Baltimore region of ethical issues in our lives, bringing the best in ethical reflection; This Center associated with some excellent programs and majors that prepare students for law school, further graduate study and professional life.
 place day's proceeding in chat. Introduce Daniel.
 I can go in and out spectator

Daniel Gellatich, director, Regional High School Ethics Bowl

9:00 a.m. Round One Begins
 10:00 a.m. Round Two Begins
 11:00 a.m. Round Three Begins
 12:00 p.m. Lunch Break, with Keynote Speaker and Recognition at 12:30 p.m.
Fred Gray, former director, Hoffberger Center and emeritus faculty, UIC
Cindy Moore, former Administrative Assistant, Hoffberger Center
David Hoffberger, Representative from the Hoffberger Foundation

1 p.m. Finals
 2 p.m. Awards and Adjournment
Goodbye and Good night
Applause for Daniel!

Page 1 of 3 8:38 a.m. 11/15/21

February 25, 2021: Second Author-Meets-Critic Event



FEBRUARY 25, 2021 AUTHOR MEETS CRITICS

Discuss Morals, Privacy, and Surveillance with Firmin DeBrabander

Join our second annual virtual author-meets-critics conference to discuss and explore the thoughts behind Firmin DeBrabander's book, *Life After Privacy: Reclaiming Democracy in a Surveillance Society*. All students and faculty are welcome to attend this event to discover and debate the topics of the ethics of privacy.



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**Hoffberger Center for
Professional Ethics**

Featuring
Firmin
DeBrabander,
author of "Life
After Privacy:
Reclaiming
Democracy in a
Surveillance
Society"

Sponsored by
the Hoffberger
Center for
Professional
Ethics

February 25, 2021

2-4pm

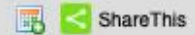
For registration
information, please
email

cbooth@ubalt.edu



March 24, 2021: Leadership in Baltimore

Leadership in Action: A Discussion with Terri Lee Freeman



When: Wednesday, March 24, 2021, 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Location: Online

Room: Zoom

Description: In celebration of Women's History Month and Black History Month, the Yale Gordon College of Arts and Sciences and the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics welcome special guest **Terri Lee Freeman**, the newly appointed executive director of the [Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture](#). Join us to meet Ms. Freeman, learn about the museum, and consider her insights about leadership and ethics in her professional role. A question-and-answer session will follow and all are invited to participate.



We will also be giving away several FREE one-year memberships to the Reginald F. Lewis Museum during the event!

This event is free and open to the public. Students are especially encouraged to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/97766570558?](https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/97766570558?pwd=YTIUNCtxbnNRbHdZelJzbjlyQlVFdz09)

[pwd=YTIUNCtxbnNRbHdZelJzbjlyQlVFdz09](https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/97766570558?pwd=YTIUNCtxbnNRbHdZelJzbjlyQlVFdz09)

Meeting ID: 977 6657 0558

Passcode: 396959

Contact Name: Claudette Booth

Contact Email: cbooth@ubalt.edu

Appropriate accommodations for individuals with disabilities will be provided upon request 10 days prior to a campus event and 30 days prior to an event requiring travel.

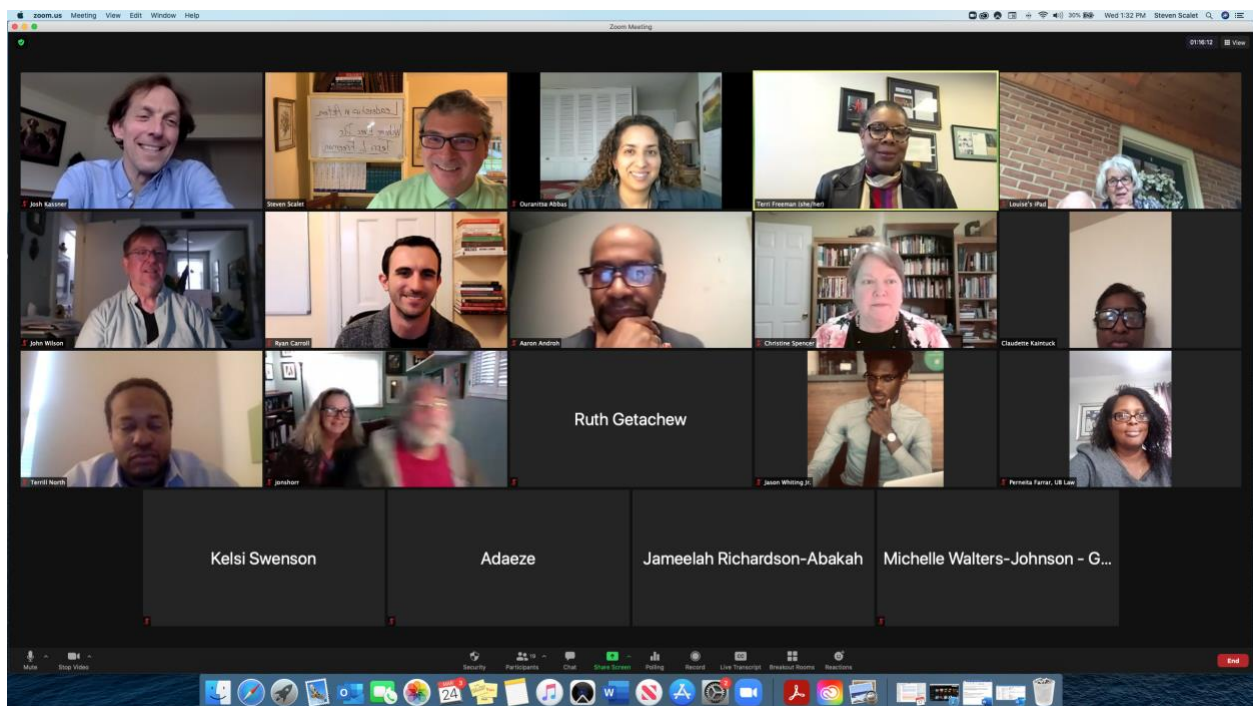
Leadership in Action:

A Discussion with **Terri Freeman**, Executive Director of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture

Wednesday, March 24
12:30 p.m. | online via Zoom
Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://ubalt.zoom.us/j/97766570558?pwd=YTIUNCtxbnNRbHdZeJzbljlyQlVFdz09>
Meeting ID: 977 6657 0558
Passcode: 396959

In celebration of Women’s History Month and Black History Month, the College of Arts and Sciences and the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics welcomes special guest **Terri Freeman**, the newly appointed executive director of the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture. Join us to meet Ms. Freeman, learn about the Museum, and consider her insights about leadership and ethics in her professional role. A question-and-answer session will follow and all are invited to participate. **We will also be giving away several FREE one-year memberships to the Reginald F. Lewis Museum during the event!**

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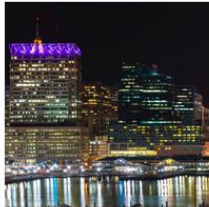
April 22, 2021: Hoffberger Center Community event with Ron Williams

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PROGRAMS REQUEST INFO VISIT APPLY NOW

NEWS >



Eleven UBalt Alumni Represent 25 Largest Area Accounting Firms in Annual List



School of Law Dean Weich Calls End of Filibuster 'A Nightmare for Progressives' in Politico



Hoffberger Ctr. Hosts 'Are You a Citizen, Or Are You a Consumer?,' with Prof. Ron Williams, April 22

ADMISSION >

FRESHMEN >

TRANSFER >

GRADUATE

LAW

NEED HELP? LET'S CHAT!

May 1, 2021: Hoffberger Cohort Formed to Revitalize IDIS 302 Ethics in Business and Society

IDIS 302 Community of Practice CELTT Grant Proposal

Why form this group

We would like to reinvigorate IDIS 302 for continuing a shared experience in ethics education for UB undergraduates, so many of whom take this class to satisfy the upper-division ethics requirement. This proposal began with consultations with the Associate Deans, Provost's Office, and CAS Dean's Office, among others, and extends the mission of the Hoffberger Center for Professional Ethics.

Objectives

1. Review and revise IDIS 302 curriculum to ensure that the content is vital, follows best practices, and serves the needs of students at the University
2. Continuing education in ethics, relevant to IDIS 302 instruction
3. Integrate Hoffberger Center Activities and Writing Fellows
4. Communicate successes to University community

Deliverables

1. Redesigned syllabus, ancillaries, and common assignments.
2. Develop 5-year plan and process for continuing education and curricular updates
3. Show how curriculum will be integrated with Hoffberger Center activities and Writing Fellows
4. Communicate results across the University campus.

Membership

1. Faculty whose area expertise in ethics will add to discussions of content revision, including faculty who currently teach IDIS 302
2. Invited participants, who will concurrently become UB Faculty Fellows of the Hoffberger Center: Steven Scalet (Ethicist, co-leader); Josh Kassner (Ethicist, co-leader); Toni Martsoukos (IDIS 302 Faculty, CAS); Mark Bell (IDIS 302 Faculty, Law School); Frank Van Vliet (IDIS 302 Faculty, Business School); Dawnsha Mushonga (Faculty, Health and Human Services, CPA).

Consultation

Brandy Jenner in particular on questions of assessment during phase of curricular revision and general questions of outreach; further consults with stakeholders, such as (a) General Education Council (b) Deans and Associate Deans (c) Provost office (d) Other faculty across University who teach ethics-related content so as to enhance connections (e) Student perspectives

Member Responsibilities and Funding

Each cohort participant will receive \$1500 for participating in activities as outlined in the "IDIS 302 Time-line and Framework" (see separate document), including deliverables (see above)