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Doris, Nichols to address 32nd Philosophy Colloquium

Summary: John Doris, associate professor of philosophy at Washington University, and Shaun Nichols, professor of philosophy at University of Arizona, will travel to the University Minnesota, Morris for the 32nd Midwest Philosophy Colloquium. They will speak in room 109 of Imholte Hall, UMM, on the topic “Frontiers of Moral Psychology.”

(September 27, 2007)-John Doris, associate professor of philosophy at Washington University, and Shaun Nichols, professor of philosophy at University of Arizona, will travel to the University Minnesota, Morris for the 32nd Midwest Philosophy Colloquium. They will speak in room 109 of Imholte Hall, UMM, on the topic “Frontiers of Moral Psychology.”

Doris will present “How to Build a Person” on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m. Nichols will present “Sentimentalist Pluralism: Moral Psychology and Philosophical Ethics” on Friday, Oct 5, at 5 p.m. Doris and Nichols will also present a joint paper, “Broad Minded,” on Friday, Oct 5, at 2 p.m.

The public is cordially invited to attend all of these presentations at no charge.

Doris taught at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and the University of California, Santa Cruz, before becoming an associate professor at the University of Michigan. His work merges the perspectives of psychology, cognitive science and philosophical ethics. His most recent endeavors focus on theoretical and empirical research involving moral responsibility, evaluative diversity, psychopathology and the self, much of which is in collaboration with the Moral Psychology Research Group. Besides authoring his book Lack of Character, Doris has been published in Bioethics, Cognition, Nous, Philosophy, Phenomenological Research, The Encyclopedia of Cognitive Science, and the Oxford Handbook of Contemporary Philosophy.

Nichols was a professor at the University of Utah and an associate professor at the college of Charleston before recently joining the University of Arizona in 2006. He received a bachelor’s degree at Stanford University and a doctorate from Rutgers University, both in the field of philosophy. He is the author of Sentimental Rules: On the Natural foundations of Moral Judgment, and the co-author of Mindreading: An Integrated Account of Pretense, Self Awareness and Understanding Other Minds. Nichols will discuss the symbiotic dependence between morality and emotions, along with other similar themes in the upcoming presentation reflecting his main focus.

These lectures are sponsored by the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Dean at UMM.

Photo: Shaun Nichols

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