

Follow-up Symposium on
Teaching Ethics
to Science and Engineering Students
COPENHAGEN 15&16 APRIL 2005

The ethics and responsibility of science should be an integral part of the education and training of all scientists. It is important to instil in the students a positive attitude towards reflection, alertness and awareness of the ethical dilemmas they may encounter in their professional lives. Young scientists should be appropriately encouraged to respect and adhere to the basic ethical principles and responsibilities of science. (Recommendation from the WCS).

Center for the Philosophy of Nature and Science Studies at the University of Copenhagen, the Danish UNESCO Commission, Centre for Ethics and Law in Nature and Society, and International Network of Engineers and Scientists for global responsibility (INES) organise a follow-up symposium to the 1999 UNESCO World Conference on Science. The follow-up symposium takes place in Copenhagen, 15 to 16 April 2005. The theme of the symposium is the recommendation from World Conference of Science, quoted above. The follow-up symposium includes two parts: A public meeting, aimed at Danish teachers, researchers, politicians, journalists etc. and an international workshop for scholars and scientists, who are either actively involved in setting up ethics training-programmes aimed at engineering and science students, or doing research or development in that area.

Tentative agenda

Friday, April 15

14.30 Welcome & Introduction.

15.00 – 18.00 1st Workshop session: Sharing experiences.

- Introduction to the COMEST report "The teaching of ethics" and other international initiatives that deals with teaching ethics to science and engineering students.
- Presentations of ethics curricula from around the world. Advantages and disadvantages connected to different formats.

(16:30 Coffee break).

Saturday, April 16

10:00 – 12.30 Public lectures: Ethics and University Science Education

- *UNESCO's activities in the area of ethics and ethics education.* Dr. Henk ten Have. Director of UNESCO's Division of Ethics of Science and Technology.
- *Ethics in Teaching Chemistry and Chemical Safety.* Dr. Valery S. Petrosyan. Full professor of organic, organometallic and environmental chemistry at M.V. Lomonosov University, Moscow, Russia; Full member of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences. Rector of the Open Ecological University in Moscow. Member of the INES council.
- *Cosmopolitanism in Ethics and Law.* Dr. Peter Kemp. Full Professor and head of Department of Philosophy of Education at the Danish University of Education. Head of Centre of Ethics and Law in Nature and Society.

13:00 Lunch

15:00 – 18:00 2nd Workshop session: Discussions.

- What is the purpose of teaching ethics to science and engineering students?
- Which ethical theories are to be taught?
- Identifying cases potentially included in ethics curricula for science and engineering students.
- Similarities and differences between teaching ethics, 'science studies', and peace & sustainability issues etc.
- Future points for discussion, and plans for action.

(16:30 Coffee break)

The venue of the public lectures is The Alexander Hall, Bispetorvet 1, DK-1167 Copenhagen. The expert workshop sessions take place at the Niels Bohr Institute, Blegdamsvej 17, DK-2100 Copenhagen.

Persons who want to attend the expert workshop must contact Tom Børsen Hansen, at borsen@nbi.dk, no later than March 15. Workshop participants are invited to submit articles and background information, as well as to announce short presentations. Registration is not needed for the public lectures.