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Midwest Philosophy Colloquium

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Thirty-Second Annual Midwest Philosophy Colloquium, 2007-2008

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Everyone is cordially invited to the first session of:

The 32nd Midwest Philosophy Colloquium
Frontiers of Moral Psychology
October 4-5, 2007

Thursday, October 4, 7:30 PM

“How to Build a Person”

John Doris

Washington University in St. Louis
Author of *Lack of Character* (Cambridge 2002)
Imholte 109

Friday, October 5, 5:00 PM

**“Sentimentalist Pluralism:
Moral Psychology and Philosophical Ethics”**

Shaun Nichols

University of Arizona
Author of *Sentimental Rules* (Oxford 2004)
Imholte 109

Professors Doris and Nichols will also present a joint paper, **“Broad Minded,”** on October 5 at 2:00 PM, Imholte 112.

These lectures are funded by the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean, UMM.

Everyone is cordially invited to the final session of:

**The 32nd Midwest
Philosophy Colloquium**
“Frontiers of Moral Psychology”
Friday May 9, 5 PM
Imholte 109

Stephen Stich

**Board of Governors Professor of Philosophy,
Rutgers University.**

“The Persistence of Moral Disagreement”

Moral disagreement is widespread. But would that disagreement persist even under hypothetical idealized conditions in which all parties to a moral debate are rational, impartial and fully informed about the relevant non-moral facts? In this talk I will review a number of recent empirical studies of moral judgments in different cultural groups which suggest that moral disagreement would indeed persist under idealized circumstances – though much turns on exactly how the idealized circumstances are characterized. The persistence of moral disagreement is also suggested by an empirically motivated account of the psychological mechanisms underlying the acquisition and implementation of moral norms and by theoretical work on how those mechanisms might have evolved. The model for the psychology of norms, which I’ll discuss briefly, leaves abundant room for reasoning in moral deliberation, but does not support the idea that rational deliberation will lead to convergence.

Professor Stich will also be giving a workshop entitled "**Experimental Philosophers are not Oxymorons**" at 2:15 PM in Imholte 114. All are welcome.

For more information contact Tamler Sommers (sommers@umn.edu). These lectures are funded by the Office of the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Dean, UMM.