



**2025
CANDIDATES STANDING
FOR ELECTION**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Election period: April 1 to April 14, 2025

**BIOGRAPHY STATEMENT FROM THE 2025 CANDIDATES STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION
ASSOCIATION FOR PRACTICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Deborah S. Mower, Ph.D.
Director, The Center for Practical Ethics
Professor of Philosophy, Department of Philosophy and Religion
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Hume Bryant Lectureship in Ethics
University of Mississippi

I have been a devoted member of APPE since 2007 when I attended my first conference and judged at the APPE IEB Nationals. Instantly hooked, I have not missed a year since. APPE has been a proving ground for my most significant contributions to my field, the source of my greatest professional friendships and mentorships, and the source of fruitful research collaborations for publications and grants. Over the years, I have served in many roles for the organization, both at the conference and within the ethics bowl community. I can proudly say that my involvement in APPE stretches across many areas including serving as a current board member, chairing the APPE IEB Committee, coordinating the annual Ethics Center Directors' Summit, and serving on the Finance Committee.

I am running for a second term because I believe that the signature programs of APPE are the most innovative and impactful public philosophy and ethics programs in the country. Providing additional support for Ethics Bowl regionals and case writing teams, for example, is a top priority for me. Having used the case sets for years in my own classes, I know firsthand how useful they are for teaching students how ethics and policy are closely entwined and how thorny ethical dilemmas truly are. Increasing the visibility, growth, and capacity of this program (as well as the many others at APPE!) can and should be pursued as part of a deep commitment to the necessity of moral education for students, professionals, and the public. Additionally, I will prioritize leveraging APPE's existing programs for increased impact. The network of ethics center directors, for example, offers the possibility for sharing resources and program materials, collaborating on grants, and highlighting the role of ethics centers on individual campuses and nationwide.

I would be honored to serve a second term on this board and continue to develop and support this thriving community of scholars and professionals.



Lee Anne Peck, Ph.D.
Professor Emerita, Journalism and Media Studies
University of Northern Colorado

For the last two years, I have worked as an APPE board member. During that time, I have gotten to know many APPE members and have helped the organization in a variety of ways.

I decided to run for a four-year term on the board because of the positive experiences I have had. In the past two years, I have served on the conference committee, the ad-hoc DEI committee, the membership committee (of which I am now chair) and paper award committee (of which I have been chair).

Previously, before serving on the board, I co-chaired the media ethics affinity group and still am in that role today. I joined APPE in 2003, and, over the years, I have been at the annual conference as a presenter, panelist or moderator.

I have a unique journalism ethics Ph.D. from Ohio University. For this degree, I completed a master's in philosophy and a doctorate in mass communications. I also have master's in English and journalism studies.

I retired as professor emerita from the University of Northern Colorado's Journalism and Media Studies in 2017 after almost 15 years. However, I immediately started at Colorado State University as their media ethics instructor. I taught my final media ethics course in June 2022. I continue to do my ethics research and recently presented on a panel at the annual conference in Norfolk.

I am particularly proud of my co-edited textbook (with Dr. Guy Reel of Winthrop) titled *Media Ethics at Work: True Stories from Young Professionals*. First published in 2012, it is now in its fourth edition.

Multiple sclerosis has slowed me down since I was diagnosed in 1996. I now have secondary progressive MS and use a cane occasionally, but for now, I am good to go and have the time to spend with APPE board duties. I would like to continue as your board member. I appreciate your consideration!

BIOGRAPHY STATEMENT FROM THE 2025 CANDIDATES STANDING FOR ELECTION TO FIRST TERM ASSOCIATION FOR PRACTICAL AND PROFESSIONAL ETHICS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Cara Biasucci, M.F.A.

**Director of Ethics Education & Creator/Director of Ethics Unwrapped
McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas at Austin**

I'm an active APPE member, attending every conference since 2012, reviewing conference proposals, chairing sessions and presenting at APPE, attending the Ethics Director's Summit, teaching a pre-conference workshop, sponsoring (and exhibiting in) the Resource Room, and (most recently) funding a new APPE Award—the National Ethics Project's Ethics Education Research Award—through my Center for Leadership and Ethics.

The focus of my career over the last 10+ years has been the creation of Ethics Unwrapped—a free, video-based ethics resources now used around the world by millions of people. APPE was instrumental in launching Ethics Unwrapped; the annual conference's Resource Room was our platform to spread the word about Ethics Unwrapped. I'm grateful to APPE for that fabulous launch and for the continued enthusiasm APPE attendees express for our resources.

In addition to Ethics Unwrapped, I've contributed to ethics-related projects at other institutions, such as the Scientific Citizenship Initiative at Harvard Medical School, as well as authored journal articles, a book, and a book chapter on ethics. I'm also Co-Director of the National Ethics Project (NEP—a multi-institutional ethics research consortium—which has developed free tools and other resources to support ethics education. NEP was recently folded into APPE to offer additional benefits to APPE members. I'd be delighted to give back to APPE by serving on the board and helping the organization flourish.



Mark Doorley, Ph.D.
Director, Ethics Program, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
Villanova University

I came to APPE through the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl. Villanova has sent a team to the competition, regional and/or national, every year since 2000. Whether I am presenting, moderating a session, or participating from the audience, I've always found a spirit of hospitality and generosity that makes for productive and engaging conversations on challenging topics enjoyable and energizing. I served a few years as the member at large on the nominating committee, which gave me a wonderful opportunity to affirm my sense that the people who participate in APPE are talented and eager to collaborate. I currently serve as a member at large on APPE's IEB committee where I bring my almost 25 years of experience with IEB and my 13 years of experience with the High School Ethics Bowl to the table. I have found the dedication of APPE members to the integrity of the IEB inspiring and energizing.

My teaching and scholarship engages engineering and environmental ethics, but also the ethics of technology. I've developed two courses recently that have been well received: Robot Ethics and Frankenstein's Ghost.

I am honored to be nominated for the board of APPE. I bring my many years of experience as an academic administrator, an ethics bowl organizer and coach, and my love for teaching to the challenges that face the APPE board, confident that our collaborative efforts will ensure its continued strength and vitality. From my perspective, the wellbeing of the community of professionals, scholars and practitioners, that constitute APPE will always be my focus if elected to the Board.



Robert V. Doyle, PhD
Associate Professor of Religious Studies & Director of MA in Religious Studies Program
Felician University

Diversity, equity, and inclusion matter. Representation matters. As a queer scholar, I understand these principles firsthand. I not only advocate for the oppressed but also speak about oppression with the voice of experience. These commitments are not abstract ideals but essential values that should guide the initiatives and roles within the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE). If elected, I will work to ensure that our organization remains mindful of these principles in all aspects of its work fostering a more inclusive and representative space for ethical discourse.

I have been an engaged member of APPE for many years, presenting at numerous Annual Conferences and actively contributing to the organization's programming. I currently serve on the Programming Committee, where I help shape year-round programming to reflect the diverse interests and ethical concerns of our members. Additionally, I create, organize, and moderate Ethics Roundtables in cooperation with APPE, facilitating meaningful discussions on pressing moral and philosophical issues. Recent roundtables have included: *Ethics in Action: Making Mental Health Care Accessible and Affordable*, *Inclusive Futures: Ethical Implications of AI for Marginalized Communities*, and *Climate Justice: Ethical Responsibilities in Environmental Stewardship*. I am also delighted to chair the Moral Theory Affinity Group.

Beyond APPE, I bring extensive experience as an interdisciplinary scholar specializing in ethics. My academic work bridges Religious Studies and Philosophy, developing and teaching courses such as Ethics of Happiness, Why Be Good? Religion and Morality, Genocide: Past, Present, and Future, and Morality Across Religions. With a PhD in the Philosophy of Religion and Theology from Claremont Graduate University, my research explores the concept of the common good across Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Additionally, I hold an MA in Bioethics and an MA in Theology from Loyola Marymount University, as well as an MA in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University.

My scholarship and public engagement reflect my dedication to ethical inquiry and social justice. I have published on healthcare ethics and have delivered lectures nationally and internationally on a broad range of topics, including the intersection of spirituality and healthcare, LGBTQ+ issues, business ethics, Catholic social thought, and immigration. I serve on multiple campus committees and advise student organizations that promote inclusivity and critical engagement with ethical issues.

Through my scholarship, advocacy, and institutional leadership, I am committed to fostering an ethical community that values diverse perspectives and lived experiences. It would be an honor to serve on the APPE board and contribute to the organization's ongoing mission to promote thoughtful and inclusive ethical discourse.



Christopher Meyers, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus, Philosophy, CSU Bakersfield
Director Emeritus, Kegley Institute of Ethics

I am honored and grateful to be considered for service on the APPE Board. The Association has been central to my career, providing a uniquely collegial setting for connecting and collaborating with multidisciplinary colleagues. The resulting relationships have led to career-defining opportunities, and, more importantly, to life-long friendships.

I've presented at every APPE since Gainesville in 1992, and nearly all my publications first benefited from helpful feedback at the annual conference. That ethos of supportive feedback is all-too-rare in the academy, motivating the conference as my only annual 'must-attend.'

Further, as a co-founder of an early ethics center (CSU Bakersfield's Kegley Institute of Ethics, in 1987), I attended the Center Directors Summit for most of my 35-year tenure as KIE's director. It was, and still is, the only venue in which directors could swap ideas for how to develop, fund, and run a center. The insights gained undoubtedly contributed to our long success and I've tried to pass along similar insights via contributions to the APPE Monographs, presentations at the Summit, and through editing the recent issue of *Teaching Ethics* on "the ethics of ethics centers."

I've also served on the membership and nominating committees, was a Board member 2009-2013, and judged the Ethics Bowl final rounds for many years.

I am a generalist, with books in clinical, professional, and journalism ethics, the last being the final selection in the APPE-Oxford Practical Ethics series. I also embrace the role of public ethicist, consulting at hospitals, news organizations, businesses, government, leadership programs, and law enforcement. Although I retired from CSUB in 2018, I've stayed active, continuing as ethicist for eight California hospitals and averaging an article or two annually. I'm currently under

contract with Wiley for *Being an Ethicist*, a 40-year retrospective on what ethicists do and how we should do it.

As a Board member, my primary goal would be long-term APPE viability. When it succeeds we—scholars, teachers, students—succeed. It was only few years ago that the Association was on the edge of insolvency, with leadership, financial, even physical location pressures. The Board and Executive Director have smartly designed creative solutions, resulting in more stable footing. But many of these concerns, especially financial, persist for all academic associations. I would hope my long involvement with the Association, as well as successful long-term management of a vibrant center, position me well to work with others to assure APPE continues to thrive.



Ann Thebaut, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Santa Fe College
Director, SF Center for Applied Ethics & Humanities

It is an honor to have been nominated as a candidate for the APPE Board of Directors. APPE has played a pivotal role in my development as a public philosopher, guiding and supporting my ongoing efforts to implement impactful ethics initiatives at my college and in my community. Through my association with APPE, I've been able to bring Ethics Bowl to my institution, as well as the Ethics Bowl model of civil discourse to my community through ethics slams and cross-generational conversations. By connecting with APPE every step of the way via coaches' workshops and mentorship, SF's Ethics Bowl program has flourished and garnered recognition as a collegial, competitive team, having qualified for Nationals multiple times with a 4th place finish at the National IEB in 2022. As an IEB Coach, I was humbled and honored to have been selected as the inaugural Pat Croskery Award recipient in 2020.

APPE was instrumental in my forging connections with the Edmond and Lily Safra Center for Ethics at Harvard University, which led to SF's membership in the Intercollegiate Civil Disagreement Partnership, and APPE's guidance and support helped to propel the establishment of SF's Center for Applied Ethics & Humanities. I have been an active member of APPE for ten years, attending APPE Ethics Center Directors Summits and IEB Summer Workshops, serving on APPE's Diversity and Question Project Committees, presenting at APPE Conferences, serving as a volunteer at multiple IEB competitions, as well as hosting two virtual Two-Year College Ethics Bowls.

My additional work at Santa Fe College, a two-year college in Gainesville, Florida, includes serving as the Project Director for a NEH Grant, *Engaging in Ethics*, as well as for a Florida Humanities Grant, *Free to Learn: Education In and Out of Prison*. Through both campus and community-facing programming, my aim has been to develop a college and community-wide appreciation for the value of ethical reasoning and active engagement in ethics, as well as to cultivate values and skills necessary for responsible, moral citizenship.

Through my involvement with APPE, I have had the privilege of working with extraordinary colleagues, whose support and friendship have enabled me to flourish as an educator and practitioner of ethics. These are experiences and opportunities that I would like to bring to others not currently engaged with APPE, including those at community colleges. If elected to the APPE Board of Directors, I will continue to support the critical mission of APPE and work to expand the reach of APPE programming.

*****Please note: John Garcia has withdrawn his candidacy*****