2015 Uehiro-Carnegie-Oxford Conference
on
“Global Warming-Environmental Ethics and Its Practice”
October 28-29, 2015

Venue: Carnegie Council, 170 East 64th Street, New York City

Organizers: Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education, Tokyo
Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, New York
Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, Oxford University

Background

“Enough: Staying Human in an Engineered Age” was written in 2013 by Bill McKibben, author and environmentalist. McKibben argues that we are being confronted with “the end of nature” rather than “the end of history.” From on the ice which covers the South Pole to the tropical rainforest of the Amazon, we cannot escape from the influence of human civilization. We damage the ozone layer which protects the earth from solar radiation and we continue to pump carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. McKibben warns that these and other factors are partially responsible for negative impacts on the growth of plants, the chemical structure of rain and the ability of clouds to form. Quoting McKibben, Peter Singer takes aim at this dangerous global situation, saying “either human beings change voluntarily or the climate of this planet changes and transforms every country. We’ve got to choose between the two.”

International treaties, including Conferences of the Parties, have been signed and global warming countermeasures are being proposed all over the world. Today, we would like to think about how we can use the results from psychology and thoughtful reflection to create a process for solving the problem of global warming in a way that is ethical.

Our conference participants will address the following questions:

- Is it possible to establish an environmental ethics to combat global warming? Are there any major differences in environmental philosophies between Eastern and Western thought?
  What are the key values that are necessary to make people recognize the importance of sustainability? How can ethics solve obstacles to prevention of global warming?
- How can we get bystanders and free riders to feel a sense of responsibility?
- What should be our role in helping to preserve sustainable environment? Is environmental education helpful for sustainability?
Wednesday, October 28, 2015

8:30AM  Breakfast Available (Board Room)

9:00AM  Welcome and Opening Remarks (Auditorium)
        Noboru Maruyama, Executive Secretary General, The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics
        and Education
        Joel H. Rosenthal, President, Carnegie Council
        Julian Savulescu, Director, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics
        Hisateru Onozuka, Director, The Uehiro Foundation on Ethics and Education

9:30AM  Stephen Gardiner, Professor of Philosophy and Ben Rabinowitz Endowed Professor
        of Human Dimensions of the Environment, University of Washington on “Accepting
        Collective Responsibility for the Future”

10:10AM  Toshio Kuwako, Graduate School of Decision Science and Technology, Tokyo
        Institute of Technology on “Theory and Practice of Environmental Ethics Facing the
        Benefits and Risks from Complex Interaction between Human Activities and
        Dynamics of the Globe”

10:50AM  Evan Berry, Associate Professor, Philosophy and Religion, American University on
        “Is Climate Change One Problem? Culturally Particular Notions of Harm in a
        Warming Planet”

11:30AM  Guy Kahane, Deputy Director, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics on
        “Climate Change and Human Moral Psychology”

12:15PM  Lunch (Board Room)

1:30PM  Peter Higgins, University of Edinburgh on “TBA”

2:10PM  Narumi Yoshikawa, Assistant Professor, Institute for Waseda Environmental
        Science on “TEIKEI Movement and Agricultural Ethics”

2:50 PM  Break

3:00PM  Dale Jamieson, Professor of Environmental Studies, New York University on
        “How to Live in the Anthropocene”

3:40PM  Mitsuyo Toyoda, Associate Professor at Tokyo Institute of Technology, Academy
        for Global Leadership on “Re-constructing Democratic Culture at the Age of
        Environmental Crisis”

4:20PM  Ingmar Persson, Professor of Practical Philosophy, University of Gothenburg on
        “Climate Change – The Hardest Moral Challenge”

5:00PM  Break

6:00 PM  Reception & Dinner (Board Room)
Thursday, October 29, 2015

9:00AM  Breakfast Available (Board Room)

10:00AM  Gustaf Arrhenius, Professor of Practical Philosophy, Stockholm University on “TBA”

10:40AM  Takako Takano, Waseda University on “Ethical Consequences of ‘Educations’ Linked to Sustainability

11:20AM  Julian Savulescu, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics on “The Psychology and Ethics of the Tragedy of the Commons”

12:00PM  Lunch (Board Room)

2:00PM  Presentation by Paul Gallay, President, Riverkeeper

Riverkeeper is an environmental non-profit membership organization dedicated to the protection of the Hudson River and its tributaries, as well as the watersheds that provide New York City with its drinking water. It was the first "keeper" to be founded; today, there are over 150 "keepers" around the globe, all members of the Waterkeeper Alliance umbrella organization.

3:30PM  Closing Remarks

Joel H. Rosenthal, President, Carnegie Council