

Salisbury University's Re-envisioning Ethics Access and Community Humanities (REACH) Initiative: Integrating Community and Curricular Ethics is grant-funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Humanities Connections Program. REACH, led by Co-Directors Michèle Schlehofer, Timothy Stock and Jennifer Nyland, focuses on ethics, ethics literacy and ethics agency through new curricular and co-curricular resources, connecting with the community.

Looking Ahead to 2022

REACH is entering its third year, and we are very excited for what 2022 will bring! Since our inception in 2020, we have focused on growing our work in three core areas.

First, we have been **developing the Community Ethics Network (CEN)**. The CEN, comprised of local small and large for-profit enterprises, nonprofit organizations, government agencies and advocacy groups, receives priority access to REACH events and services.

Second, we have been working to **increase REACH offerings**. In addition to our listening sessions, which provide members of the CEN the opportunity to engage in confidential conversations centered around ethics, we are available for ethics consultation. With the addition of Dr. Jennifer Nyland to our team, we have increased our capacity and ability to address a broader range of concerns in our community. We have **increased ethics education** at Salisbury University by developing case studies – representative of the types of ethical dilemmas occurring in our local community – for use as curricular tools in a wide variety of courses across campus.

Finally, we have given multiple **presentations at academic conferences** on the REACH model for other communities to adopt.

This coming year, we look forward to expanding these efforts, including both growing our community outreach and engaging in deeper collaborative work with our existing community partners. In addition to continuing to hold listening sessions, we are planning workshops and guest speakers.

Please stay tuned in coming months for information on upcoming events. We will continue to develop comprehensive ethics education at Salisbury University and look forward to offering students future experiential opportunities in our local community.

REACH Growth by the Numbers



Case Study Spotlight



REACH listening sessions cover a broad range of topics, from definitions of ethics and organizational frameworks to discussions of priority ethics issues in the greater Salisbury community. Out of these discussions, we develop anonymized case studies for SU students in STEM and social science fields to consider how their learning can have an impact on local issues. Cases we have discussed in SU classes have addressed the following questions:

- How should vaccine information be distributed along with other health services to vulnerable populations?
- Should municipal traffic safety improvements be put in place in all communities or only those who request them?
- How should elected officials relate to the groups who support them in campaigns once they hold office?
- How should climate change be addressed in civic groups in cases where it is deemed "too political"?
- What role does truth and reconciliation for past injustices play on the social media pages of local civic groups?
- Should advocacy groups support symbolic efforts advocating for change if that change does not address structural inequalities?

These materials can also be made available for facilitated discussions (about one hour) in your organization. We are also able to develop case studies on new questions that you want to talk about as well!

ETHICS PROFILE: Stephen Feliciano

Chair, Human Rights Advisory Committee,
City of Salisbury

Currently, I am the chair of the City of Salisbury's Human Rights Advisory Committee (HRAC). We are a group of Salisbury citizens entrusted to promote and encourage respect for the human and civil rights of all Salisbury residents. The chair's duties include, but are not limited to, officiate and conduct meetings on purposeful topics that are relevant to the committee and consult the mayor on any matters of discrimination or human relations conflicts within the city.

As a society, we are constantly faced with making choices that ultimately affect our lives and of those around us. When I see or hear the word "ethics," it brings me back to my time at Wor-Wic Community College and the course titled Scientific Thought Data Analyses – part of their Honors Program. There, I learned about Aristotle and the term ethos, which originally referred to a man's character. Being that our

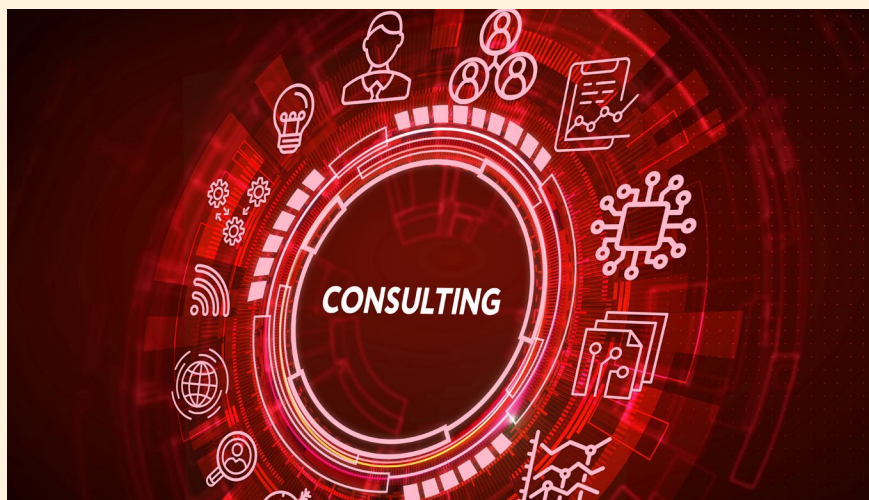
committee represents the Salisbury community, I believe it is imperative, given today's tumultuous state of America, that HRAC participates in any and all dialogues involving ethics. We believe all community members have the right to be treated fairly, with respect and with dignity.

HRAC has maintained a collective consciousness on the importance of ethics within our group and in society. Our committee members are very mindful that maintaining this consciousness is a bit of a challenge, especially when dealing with matters of inequities. However, we have established a practice of coming together and sharing our unique experiences and that helps us to get a better perspective on these matters. This process keeps us grounded and aware that what we do is not only for us but for our greater community.



Do You Want to Request an Ethics Consultation?

The REACH team is available to any of its CEN partners to engage in an ethics consult for any issues you wish to discuss in a confidential environment. We can assist in evaluating policies and procedures, give feedback on decision making, or make ourselves available to plan more ambitious ethics studies via university resources. These consultations are free of charge and can be scheduled on a short term or ongoing basis. For more information contact REACH@salisbury.edu.



Ethics Workshop

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 2022

10 A.M.-2 P.M.

Details to follow

Salisbury
UNIVERSITY

SU is an Equal Opportunity/AA/Title IX university and provides reasonable accommodation given sufficient notice to the University office or staff sponsoring the event or program. For more information regarding SU's policies and procedures, please visit www.salisbury.edu/equity.