



The Campbell Centre for the
STUDY OF ANIMAL WELFARE

Seminar

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8
12:30-1:30 PM

**Room 1800 Pathobiology/AHL,
Ontario Veterinary College**



Presented by:
Michael Furac (MSc student)
and Prof Karen Houle
University of Guelph

ETHICAL PEDAGOGY IN ANIMAL SCIENCE RESEARCH PRACTICES

A recent workshop led by the authors in University of Guelph's Department of Philosophy aimed to equip animal researchers to be able to go beyond, even challenge the assumptions made by the ethical mandates of their field. This special seminar will discuss some of the outcomes of that work.

In animal science it is not typically required that researchers engage with any ethical theory beyond the 3 R's of research: **reduce, refine, replace**. Yet, behind the three R mandate lies a significant philosophical history. Today, modern academia and research practices are dominated by two theories: **utilitarianism**, and **deontology**. The substance of the three R's is a combination of these two popular approaches.

The shortcomings of utilitarianism and deontology will be discussed, and a third ethical theory introduced: **virtue ethics**. Virtue ethics is thought to be able to avoid the common pitfalls of the former theories, or fill in gaps where there remain ethical insights or practices to be undertaken.

Program Organizer: Dr. Alexandra Harlander aharland@uoguelph.ca

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