

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH★TEXAS™

Department of Philosophy and Religion Studies

presents

A Lecture By

Erik Fisher

Socratic Engagement of Nanotechnology: A Case Study in Ethics Policy



Whether or not nanotechnology will be, as its promoters claim, the "next industrial revolution," there are both ethical reasons and practical opportunities to engage its development so as to influence its outcomes.

This talk offers an overview of the emerging field and some of the ethical issues associated with it.

This includes the policy context surrounding nanotechnology, specifically the US Federal "ethics policy" to integrate societal and technological considerations during research and development (R&D). Finally, the results of an experiment in which an "embedded humanist" engaged nanotechnology researchers in their laboratory decision making are presented and discussed.

Thursday, September 7th at 4:30 pm in ENV 110

Erik Fisher currently is a post-doctoral fellow at the Center for Nanotechnology in Society at Arizona State University. His Ph.D research involved macro and micro level analysis of nanotechnology policy implications, and included ethnographic-style research in a mechanical engineering nanoscale laboratory. Fisher's research has been published in *Science and Public Policy*, *Technology in Society*, and *Philosophy Today*. He holds a certificate in Science and Technology Policy, a PhD in Environmental Studies, and MA in Classics, all from the University of Colorado, and a BA in Philosophy and Mathematics from St. John's College.

This lecture is free and open to the public.

For special accommodation, contact us at 565-2266 or philosophy@unt.edu