

Colorado

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

Tuesday 21 February 2012

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18th and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver

About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.

Do Economists Need Ethics?

George DeMartino, PhD

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Dr. DeMartino—a onetime union organizer and negotiator for AFSCME (AFL-CIO) in Connecticut—works on economics and ethics. Unlike most other professions that affect the lives of others, economists have never confronted the ethical challenges associated with their work. There is no code of conduct for economists--nor any tradition of inquiry into what it means to be an ethical economist. George DeMartino argues in his book *The Economist's Oath* (Oxford University Press, 2011) that this situation is intolerable. He presents an escalating case for professional economic ethics. Not least, he argues controversially that economics is in the harm business—that it routinely causes harm to others to a greater extent than is the norm in many other professions. In DeMartino's view, this fact requires the profession to give thought to the damage that even well-meaning and adept economists do as they try to do good. Are economists feeling new angst over their role in causing the current economic crisis? Come talk with the expert.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique is organized by an informal group of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as science fans from industry, government and elsewhere. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCDenver.edu

Essential information about the topic and the event on our Web site at:
<http://CafeSciColorado.org>