

**OMICRON CHAPTER**

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❖ **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2013, 6:00 P.M., RUTGERS CLUB** ❖

**PROGRAM AGENDA**

- ❖ WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS
- ❖ DINNER
- ❖ INITIATION CEREMONY
- ❖ OMICRON SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
- ❖ BUSINESS MEETING
  - Secretary's Report, approval of April 24, 2012 minutes – Kate Wiggins
  - Treasurer's Report – Kris Fitzpatrick
  - SC&I Program Associates Committee Report (Fall 2012; next is April 30)
  - Request for BΦM Member to represent Omicron Chapter at General Assembly at ALA in June (Sat., June 29, 3–5 PM)
  - Nomination and vote for new Omicron Board for 2013-2015

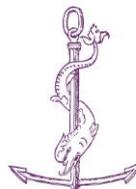
**Maureen Smyth**, President  
**Kristen Fitzpatrick**,  
Secretary/Treasurer

**Katherine Wiggins**, Vice President  
**OPEN**, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

- Please consider nominating yourself for this year's slate!

- ❖ **REMARKS:** We extend our sincere appreciation to **MARIE RADFORD**, Faculty Advisor and **Susan Quinn**, Past President, for their enthusiastic and untiring support of the 2012-2013 Omicron Chapter Board, and for their institutional memory.
- ❖ **FALL LECTURE:** TBA. Suggestions welcome!
- ❖ **ADJOURNMENT**

**AFTER DINNER PRESENTATION: "The Ethics of Teaching, the Teaching of Ethics" by Richard J. Cox (SEE REVERSE)**



## Richard J. Cox



Dr. Cox is a Professor at the University of Pittsburgh, School of Information Studies where he is the lead faculty member in the archives program. His work has earned him three Waldo G. Leland Awards for the best book in archival studies.

### **"The Ethics of Teaching, the Teaching of Ethics"**

Film and fictional portrayals and classic discussions of academic life generally have portrayed the professorate as teachers and mentors. While this may be how the public and media often think of the university faculty, it is not at all what seems to be going on inside the academy. Every element of higher education has seemed to go corporate, with an emphasis on making money and pushing students into exclusively vocational preparation. For faculty, there seems to have been a devaluation of teaching in favor of getting grants and generating revenue by filling up every classroom seat and extending the physical classroom via distance education. Faculty who win teaching awards or spend long hours working with their students are often not the ones who secure tenure, and those who get tenure are often those who are poor teachers, deemphasize teaching, or who have bought themselves out of teaching altogether to focus on research and publication.

In this presentation, I discuss the issue of teaching as an ethical issue, specifically focusing on the teaching of ethics in professional schools as a matter that often generates controversy as a topic minimizing practical skills and attitudes. Teaching ethics may be a sure way to achieve poor teaching evaluations, but this does not suggest that an ethical focus is unimportant. My frame of reference is the archival profession, my own field, but we can easily extrapolate from here into the other information fields. I wonder if the growing focus on distance education, reliance on adjuncts, and a general devaluation of teaching may not be the beginning of the end of professional schools.