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## Introduction

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DePaul University hosted the 14th Annual International Conference Promoting Business Ethics, at The Standard Club in Chicago, November 1–3, 2007. Academic and business leaders came together to explore the important ethical issues facing the business community in the twenty-first century.

The articles in this special volume of *The Journal of Business Ethics* have been selected from the many presentations at this conference. Sponsored annually by the Vincentian Universities in the United States (DePaul University, in Chicago, Illinois; Niagara University in Niagara Falls, NY; and St. John's University in Queens, NY) this conference promotes the mission of St. Vincent DePaul, the seventeenth century roman Catholic saint who serves as the patron of these universities and who urged his followers to encourage and promote social justice throughout the world.

The annual Dean's Award recognizing the best paper presented at the 13th Annual International Conference Promoting Business Ethics (hosted by St. John's University, October 2006) was presented to Mary Lynn Stoll of the University of Southern Indiana.

The three Keynote speakers set the stage for the many excellent presentations that followed. These business executives, Ellen Carnahan, Managing Director of Seven Capital, LLC; Klaus Leisinger, Ph.D., President and CEO of the Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development; and C. Richard Panico, President and CEO, Integrated Project Management Company, Inc. helped to introduce

many of the themes that resounded throughout the conference. These themes centered on the problems of global poverty, world trade, and sustainable development.

Several presentations focused on the teaching of business ethics, especially in the undergraduate curriculum. Papers explored new pedagogies, such as service-learning as effective in this endeavor.

Articles in this volume represent a cross-section of the topics and issues covered in the conference presentations.

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