The Center for Ethics and World Societies is a forum dedicated to the study of urgent ethical issues facing the international community. Each year the Center identifies one particular issue significantly affecting human well-being and explores it in various media and activities, from diverse intellectual and disciplinary perspectives. Through sustained and wide-ranging reflection on global issues of great importance, the Center seeks to model the sensibilities and skills needed for responsible engagement of those who are and will be citizens of the world.

Climate change related to global warming will likely affect world societies both directly and, through changes to Earth’s natural systems, indirectly. Societies will respond to these changes, either proactively or because they are forced to. Proactive social responses include reductions in net emissions of greenhouse gases, mitigation of the problems caused by climate change, and planned adaptation. What are the specific options we have available if we decide to respond proactively? What are the advantages, and what would be the social costs, of each option? Who would be most affected by climate change, and who would be most affected, for good or for ill, by various social responses? What affects public opinion and social policy regarding environmental issues generally and climate change in particular? What are our individual and social ethical obligations in response to global climate change? This year the Center for Ethics and World Societies will examine these and other, related questions through lectures, panel discussions, the arts, and more. Collaborating with other Colgate institutes, departments, and programs, as well as student groups and grass root organizations, it will create and sustain a year-long focus on the problems associated with global climate change and on our individual and group responses to this urgent issue. All events are free and open to the public. Colgate University will use its partnership with Clean Air – Cool Planet to offset all greenhouse gas emissions from travel related to CEWS events.

For updates and changes in programming visit http://www.colgate.edu/cews

All events are free and open to the public.
Feb 5

**THE NATIONAL TEACH-IN ON GLOBAL WARMING SOLUTIONS**

To combat global warming through awareness and action, Colgate will be part of a network of events occurring at thousands of colleges, universities, high schools, middle schools, faith groups, civic organizations, and businesses all over the country. Faculty and students will engage in a series of panel discussions, presentations, and workshops covering everything from scientific developments for mitigation to social implications of climate change. Building off the success of last year’s Focus the Nation, the National Teach-In will engage more than a million Americans in environmental conversations leading to a solutions-driven dialogue with the Obama Administration.

**March 26**

**BARRY RABE**

Professor of Public Policy in the Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan; he also holds appointments in the School of Natural Resources and Environment and the Program in the Environment. He is a non-resident senior fellow in the Governance Studies Program at the Brookings Institution. Much of his recent research examines state and regional development of policies to reduce greenhouse gases, which has been conducted in collaboration with the Brookings Institution and the Pew Center on Global Climate Change. In 2006, Rabe became the first social scientist to receive a Climate Protection Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in recognition of his contribution to both scholarship and policy making. Recent publications include a 2004 Brookings book, Statehouse and Greenhouse: The Evolving Politics of American Climate Change Policy, which received the 2005 Lynton Keith Caldwell Award from the American Political Science Association in recognition of the best book published on environmental politics and policy in the previous three years.

(cosponsors: Department of Political Science, Environmental Studies Program)

Feb 19

**BILL EASTERLING**

Professor of Geography and Dean of the Penn State College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. His current research focuses on the potential for agriculture in developed and developing countries to adapt to climate variability and change; the role of scale in understanding the vulnerability of complex systems, especially agro-ecosystems, to environmental change; how land use change may influence the uptake and release of carbon in the terrestrial biosphere; the use of experimental long-term climate forecasts to assist decision making under conditions of uncertainty; and the development of methodologies for detecting the impacts of observed 20th century climate change on natural and managed ecosystems.

(cosponsors: Department of Geography, Environmental Studies Program)

Feb 27-Mar 2

**POWER SHIFT 2009**

From February 27th to March 2nd, thousands of young adults including a group of Colgate students will converge on Washington, D.C. for Power Shift 2009, the second national youth summit to solve the climate crisis. At Power Shift 2009, young people from across the country will take a message of bold, comprehensive and immediate federal climate action to Washington, D.C. They will leverage the momentum built through the Campus Climate Challenge, Power Shift 2007 and Power Vote to pressure our politicians to take bold, comprehensive action. Colgate student leaders will give an on-campus report of their trip in early March.

(cosponsors: Dean of First-Year Students, Environmental Studies Program)

March 5

**REVEREND RICHARD CIZIK**

Senior Fellow at the United Nations Foundation, formerly Vice President for Governmental Affairs at the National Association of Evangelicals, where his primary responsibilities included setting its policy direction on issues before Congress, the White House, and Supreme Court, as well as serving as a national spokesman on issues of concern to evangelicals. Since 2003 he has been active in a type of environmentalism he calls “creation care,” giving rise to his nickname, the “Green Evangelist.”

(cosponsors: Department of Religion, Chaplain’s Office, Environmental Studies Program)

April 13

**ALISON GANNETT**

World champion Free Skier, ski film star, and award-winning consultant for solutions to climate change. In addition to many world “extreme” freeskiing titles, endurance mountain biking titles, Rippin Chix steeps camps and avalanche courses, she has dedicated the majority of the last 20 years to saving our snow, water, and ecosystems from the devastating effects of global warming. She graduated with a BS in Environmental Studies, Magna Cum Laude, with Honors from University of Vermont, founded her first business to battle climate change in 1991, and built the first strawbale house in a National Historic District in 1997. She has led ski expeditions to many countries to document global warming. She is the founding president of several non-profits to combat climate change. She travels the world showcasing solutions to climate change in an action adventure format.

(cosponsor: Outdoor Education)

April 17

**DEBATe**

Students from Colgate’s Debate Society debate the topic of the importance of climate change policy compared to other pressing world problems.

(cosponsor: Institute for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics)