Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics in Financial Services Update

CARY M. MAGUIRE LECTURE
On June 10, friends and supporters of the Cary M. Maguire Center for Ethics gathered at the Park City Club in Dallas for the Fourth Annual Lecture in Applied Ethics. This year’s presenter was Dr. Anthony Catanach, the Cary M. Maguire Fellow in Applied Ethics. His presentation, Re-engineering the Ethical Culture in Financial Reporting, highlighted the practices that render financial statements less than meaningful to investors. Dr. Catanach’s presentation revealed that many companies are manipulating their financial statements, using the same tricks and tactics that generated previous crises in financial reporting. Dr. Catanach’s background in business and academia provides him with a unique set of tools to understand and then explain the complicated issues in financial accounting. He explores these issues with his inimitable style in his blog, Grumpy Old Accountants, which also features interesting video segments. Check out his blog at http://grumpyoldaccountants.com/.

CORPORATE MEMBERS-ONLY RETREAT
One of the most valued benefits of our growing Corporate Membership program is the opportunity for member companies to send up to two representations to our Corporate Members-Only Retreats. The spring/summer retreat, our second of the year, was held July 16-17 at the Radnor Hotel in Saint David’s, Pa. The topic was Supporting an Ethical Agency Culture. Discussions considered topics such as designing a principles-driven compensation system, creating effective ethics training programs, and recruiting and retaining good people. Participants are provided a set of notes that they can share within their organization. Our next retreat is scheduled
for November 11-12. If your organization is interested in learning more about Corporate Membership, please contact Julie Ragatz at (610) 526-1354 or email her at julieanne.ragatz@theamericancollege.edu.

FORUM ON ETHICAL LEADERSHIP IN FINANCIAL SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE
An edited version of the proceedings from the 13th Annual James A. and Linda R. Mitchell/The American College Forum on Ethical Leadership in Financial Services is available both online and in print. This year’s case study centered on the ethical issues raised by the persisting low interest rate environment. Relevant and thought-provoking ethical dilemmas drawn from the experiences of our executive participants and insightful questions from the attending academics supplemented the prepared case. To access the online version, please go to http://ethics.theamericancollege.edu/forum-on-ethical-leadership/proceedings. If you are interested in receiving a complimentary print version, please call Leah Selekman at (610) 526-1356 or email her at leah.selekman@theamericancollege.edu.

NEW BENEFIT PACKAGE FOR INDUSTRY FELLOW MEMBERS
In addition to our Corporate Membership program, the Center for Ethics also offers membership at the Industry Fellow level. Our Industry Fellow members are agencies interested in supporting the Center for Ethics mission. We have added to our benefit offerings for this level of membership by including a three-hour customized ethics workshop by trained Center for Ethics staff. This workshop, which is eligible for State Insurance CE, CPE and CLE, helps leaders raise awareness of ethical issues among their agents and staff. Workshops are also a wonderful way for leaders to demonstrate, to the attorneys and accountants within their centers of influence, their commitment to doing business according to ethical principles—providing agency leaders with an opportunity to lead from the front. For more information, please contact Julie Ragatz at (610) 526-1354 or julieanne.ragatz@theamericancollege.edu.