

ANNOUNCING THE KAISER ETHICS LECTURE FOR 2009

THOMAS POGGE

LEITNER PROFESSOR OF PHILOSOPHY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

YALE UNIVERSITY

HEALTH CARE REFORM FOR THE U.S. AND THE  
WORLD'S POOR

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 AT 4 PM**

CLASSROOM BUILDING, ROOM 133

RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING IN THE  
CLASSROOM BUILDING, DOWNSTAIRS LOUNGE

**ABSTRACT:** Some 18 million people die annually from poverty-related causes. The Obama administration could substantially reduce this burden by supplementing the rules that govern pharmaceutical innovation. These rules, established by the World Trade Organization, cause advanced medicines to be priced beyond the reach of the poor and steer medical research away from diseases concentrated among them. I argue that we should complement these rules with a program called the Health Impact Fund. Financed by many governments, the HIF would direct some pharmaceutical innovation toward the most serious diseases, including those concentrated among the poor. It would make all HIF-registered medicines cheaply available to all. And it would incentivize innovators to promote the optimal use of their HIF-registered medicines. These advances would engender large health gains.

**THE SPEAKER:** Thomas Pogge, the Leitner Professor of Philosophy and International Affairs, Yale University, is one of the foremost political philosophers in the area of global justice. He is the author of the seminal book *World Poverty and Human Rights* (polity press). He has also published important books and papers on John Rawls, Kant, and justice in health care. More information can be found at his website: <http://pantheon.yale.edu/~tp4/index.html>

Co-sponsored by the Department of Philosophy