Open-access journals have redefined the landscape of the academic publishing industry in recent years. Judging by the increasing number of traditional journals that are including an open-access option, this is not a trendy fad but rather a lasting adjustment researchers will have to consider with each manuscript. In this seminar, we will present and debate arguments for and against public-access publications and data-sharing requirements and obligations as they relate to peer-reviewed science. Our debate will be guided by Dr. James Rocha from LSU’s Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies and will encourage audience participation. This seminar is the latest installment of the successful ethics seminar series from the NSF-IGERT program at LSU.

*James Rocha received his Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of California at Los Angeles in 2007. In 2008, he joined the philosophy faculty at LSU. In 2009, he joined the faculty of LSU’s Women & Gender Studies Department. He currently serves as the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Philosophy, the Director of Undergraduate Recruitment for Philosophy, and Chair of the Awards Committee for Women’s and Gender Studies. Dr. Rocha teaches courses in ethics, applied ethics, feminist philosophy, philosophy of race, Kant, Marx, and political philosophy. He has developed courses in philosophy of law, environmental ethics, and philosophy and pop culture. He has published articles in various locations, including Journal of Applied Philosophy, Ethical Theory & Moral Practice, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, and Public Affairs Quarterly. He is currently working on a book on the morality of hooking up.