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‘Where did you get that made up?’ - Professions of an engineering ethics ‘trail paver’ - Joseph Herkert

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Abstract

This essay highlights the experiences during the first 30 years of my career that led me to participate in the field of engineering ethics including "my brief exposure to STS as an undergraduate engineering student; experience of different ways of knowing and expressing through creative writing and teaching English composition; work as an engineer that schooled me in both technical and non-technical aspects of engineering and the "microethical" dilemmas that sometimes arise; graduate research and teaching in engineering, policy, and ethics that laid the groundwork for my interest in "macroethics;" interdisciplinary faculty appointments that provided me the opportunity to teach and publish in engineering ethics, engineering ethics educations, and STS; the opportunity to work with academic programs at two institutions that sought to integrate engineering and the liberal arts; and the chance to meet and collaborate with colleagues through such organization as IEEE, ASEE, and APPE. In addition, the essay discusses some of the contributions I have made to the field throughout my career.

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