MCBE is sponsoring three lectures by CSUF faculty from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences this spring. Details for the second lecture follow.

LECTURE TWO:  **What Justifies Negligence Law?**  
Presented by:  Professor John Davis, Philosophy  
PLACE/TIME:  SGMH 1502, Wednesday, April 4, 7–8:15 p.m.

**Details:** The lecture will be presented to the students in MGMT 246 – Business and Its Legal Environment (Charles Smith), but students and guests are invited to attend.

Tort law is the branch of law that concerns civil wrongs that do not involve a contract. Torts typically involve the violation of legal duty owed to the plaintiff. The most important tort (at least by volume of lawsuits filed) is negligence. Negligence is the failure to exercise the care that a reasonable person would exercise under similar circumstances. Most automobile collision and malpractice lawsuits, to name two examples, allege the tort of negligence. We can ask what moral or other justification there is for negligence law. In other words, what moral or other argument is there for enabling plaintiffs to sue for damages when someone is not as careful as a reasonable person, and thereby injures or harms the plaintiff? The answer may seem obvious, but in fact philosophers and jurists have had great difficulty finding a coherent justification for negligence. Professor Davis will discuss several attempts to provide a theoretical justification for tort law.

**John Davis** (Ph.D., 2001, University of Washington; J.D., NYU School of Law)

Professor Davis’ research interests revolve around bioethics, the philosophy of law and ethical theory. He began his faculty career at CSUF in 2007. He is currently working on two papers concerning moral disagreement, as well as researching the ethics of slowing human aging. He used to practice law, but came to his senses and left the legal profession ten years ago to become a teacher.

For more information, please contact Professor Mark Hoven Stohs, mstohs@fullerton.edu