

The George Washington University Department of Philosophy presents the

2009-10 Elton Lecture

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Robert Goodin is Senior Research Fellow in Bioethics at the National Institutes of Health for 2009-2010. He is founding editor of *The Journal of Political Philosophy*, having previously served as Co-editor of the *British Journal of Political Science* and, for over a decade, as an Associate Editor of *Ethics*. He is author of, most recently, *Innovating Democracy* (OUP 2008).

Against Striving

In contrast to the familiar Enlightenment ideal of "striving," this lecture suggests a model of "settling." That phenomenon is to be found at many sites: settling down; settling in; settling up; settling for. Across all applications, settling is a matter of establishing some fixed points around which we can better plan our own lives and our interactions with one another. Unless some goals are settled, we have nothing to strive for.

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