THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY PRESENTS THE 2008-09 GOUTMAN LECTURE:

THE EGALITARIANISM OF HUMAN RIGHTS

ALLEN BUCHANAN DUKE UNIVERSITY

There is a dramatic upsurge in philosophical theorizing about human rights. Most philosophers now recognize that modern human rights are not the same as the natural rights of the Enlightenment and some have emphasized that modern human rights are "more egalitarian" than natural rights. In this lecture I (1) analyze the senses in which modern human rights are egalitarian, (2) argue that the chief contemporary philosophical theories of human rights cannot accommodate the egalitarianism of modern human rights, and (3) articulate the different roles which appeals to equality can play in the justification of claims about the existence of modern human rights.

Thursday, November 6, 2008

4:00 p.m. Marvin Center 405 805 21st St N.W. Washington, D.C. Refreshments will be served.