

# UBC Department of Philosophy Colloquium



## **SALLY HASLANGER** MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

### **Social Movements And Cultural Change**

#### **Abstract:**

Culture frames the possibilities for thought and action so that certain morally relevant facts are eclipsed and others distorted. This results in shared practices that are unjust and oppressive. However, culture is not a rigid frame, but is a set of tools made ready for use in certain ways; not everyone uses the tools in the same way or finds them fitting for the jobs they need done. So even in cases where most participate in oppressive practices unknowingly, there will be some who are able to gain knowledge of morally relevant facts that are for others inaccessible or unavailable; this may be knowledge that the practices are morally problematic. If so, then they are entitled (even required!) to resist the practices and demand change. Resistance may be made by individuals, but there are many reasons that it is best undertaken as a collective enterprise. My talk will elaborate this view and consider when social movements legitimately demand our support.

**FRIDAY, December 1    BUCH A103    4:00 – 6:00**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
PLEASE VISIT**

**[www.philosophy.ubc.ca/  
community/colloquia](http://www.philosophy.ubc.ca/community/colloquia)**

