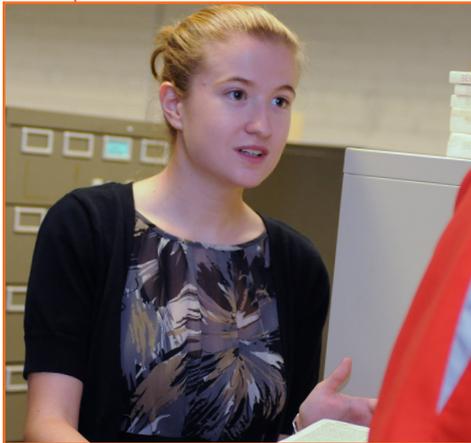


## THINKING CRITICALLY. ACTING ETHICALLY.



Courtney Dixon '12 was better prepared than she realized when she began her search for law schools. "I was very skeptical about the possibility of getting into an Ivy League school," said Courtney. But Courtney, Yale Law School class of 2015, was armed with skills beyond many of her peers – reading, writing, analyzing and critical thinking – skills she attributes to her four semesters with Clemson's award-winning Ethics Bowl team.

Clemson's Ethics Bowl team is a Creative Inquiry collaboratively offered by the Department of Philosophy and Religion and the Rutland Institute for Ethics. In her time on the team, Courtney learned to look at ethical issues with a trained, critical eye. "Ethics Bowl required learning and researching a topic – usually one I didn't have any previous exposure to – developing an argument, responding to counter arguments, thinking on my feet. Those are valuable regardless of what major or career you might choose," reflected Courtney. "One scholarship that I interviewed for was a program with NYU Law for first-generation students going into graduate or professional schools. About eight of us interviewed with a panel that included Justice Clarence Thomas." Every interviewer had a copy of her application, essays, recommendations and resume. The first thing they asked Courtney about? Her experience with the Ethics Bowl.

Already, Courtney has put her training to work in the Yale Law clinics that allow students to perform legal work under the supervision of an attorney. As Courtney explained, "We do a wide range of work with professional responsibility issues. It has been nice to have a forum to engage in ethics issues with extremely practical significance, such as for a client faced with the death penalty whose attorney may have violated ethical requirements." By facing the tough issues head on, Courtney is putting her training in ethics to work for those who can benefit most – her clients.

### Leading Ethics Education

At Clemson University, strong character and honor have been mainstays of education since the University's inception. In 2001, a gift from business leader Robert J. Rutland '64 positioned the University to expand its ethics focus with the creation of the Rutland Institute for Ethics.

The Rutland Institute spearheads Universitywide efforts to help students develop not only intellect, but also character. We work to foster integrity by giving students tools to address life's challenges while considering the impact of their decisions on others.

Emphasizing the significance of ethics in all aspects of public and private life, the Rutland Institute also uses a comprehensive approach to integrate ethics awareness into the community. The institute actively cultivates and supports civil discourse, ethical and effective decision making, and an environment in which citizens, government and business can work together effectively.

## The Need

The Rutland Institute's efforts are far-reaching. Yet, our impact relies on the support of our private partners – corporate, civic and student partners working to strengthen bonds among businesses, communities and the institute. Additional private funding is critical to continuing our work:

- Promoting ethics across the curriculum so all students can demonstrate the required competency in ethical judgment: the ability to identify, understand and deal with ethical issues responsibly
- Supporting the International Center for Academic Integrity's (ICAI) efforts to advance interinstitutional academic-integrity discussions, develop best practices and encourage ethical behavior in K-12 classrooms
- Conducting continuing education programs, on-campus forums and ethics events for professionals and community members
- Reaching out to middle- and high-school students with the Academic Integrity Survey and through partnered learning projects
- Enabling institute Director Daniel Wueste and ICAI Director Teresa Fishman to continue to promote ethics via national and international workshops and presentations

## The Impact

The Rutland Institute's unique programming promotes a culture of responsibility and community-minded decision making. As a result, we are changing the way our current and future leaders engage ethics. Additional funding is vital to helping the institute continue its efforts, which benefits the entire University and community and encourages the kinds of ethical behavior essential to a healthy economy and culture.