



The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges

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Virginia Students to Debate “Ethics and Education” Top Business & Community Leaders to Judge Student Team Arguments

Richmond, VA –The Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges (VFIC) and Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation will sponsor the 11th annual statewide collegiate Wachovia Wells Fargo Ethics Bowl on February 14-15, 2010, on the campus of the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va. Serving as Co-Chairs for the event are **Roger Mudd**, author and former journalist for CBS and The History Channel, and **Ken Garren**, President of Lynchburg College. **The theme of the 2010 Wachovia Wells Fargo Ethics Bowl is *Ethics and Education*.** Student teams from 15 of Virginia’s leading independent colleges and universities will participate in the competition and debate a variety of case studies highlighting education-based dilemmas.

The two-day event is made possible by The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation. “Wachovia Wells Fargo continues to be an enthusiastic supporter of the VFIC Ethics Bowl,” said **Anna Powell, Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation Community Affairs Manager for Maryland, Virginia, and D.C.** “This event allows top business and community leaders to interact with talented students, the citizen leaders of the future. The topic of education will provide for an energetic and engaging sharing of ethical perspectives and values.”

Teams of three to five students from the 15 VFIC colleges will be paired in head-to-head competition that will be judged by panels of distinguished leaders from across Virginia. Many notables from the business sector, law, education, finance, journalism and other fields will listen to team presentations and offer reactions to students’ presentations.

“The Ethics Bowl is a unique forum that allows some of Virginia’s most promising students to work with many of the state’s most recognized business and community leaders,” said **Ned Moore, president of the VFIC**. “The topic of the 2010 program is timely and right on target for the students who undoubtedly face moral and ethical issues during their undergraduate years.

The Ethics Bowl program will commence with an opening session on Sunday, February 14 at 3:00 p.m. at the University of Richmond’s Tyler Haynes Commons, Haynes Room with the first round of debates scheduled for 3:30 p.m. A special reception and dinner will follow with lead sponsorship from BAE Systems of Arlington, VA. On Monday, February 15, rounds 3 & 4 will begin at 8:30 a.m. The final round of competition will take place at 11:30 a.m. in the Tyler Haynes Commons, Haynes Room. The public is invited to attend the debate sessions free of charge. There is a cost for the reception and dinner Sunday evening. The winning team will be announced at 12:45 p.m. on Monday. The team from Washington and Lee University took home the trophy at the 2009 Ethics Bowl.

Founded in 1952, the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges is a nonprofit fund-raising partnership supporting the programs and students of 15 leading private colleges in the Commonwealth: Bridgewater College, Emory & Henry College, Hampden-Sydney College, Hollins University, Lynchburg College, Mary Baldwin College, Marymount University, Randolph College, Randolph-Macon College, Roanoke College, Shenandoah University, Sweet Briar College, University of Richmond, Virginia Wesleyan College and Washington & Lee University. For additional information on the VFIC, visit www.vfic.org.

About The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation

The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation is a private foundation that provides grants to eligible 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organizations to support four primary focus areas: Education, Community Development, Health and Human Services and Arts and Culture. The mission of The Wachovia Wells Fargo Foundation is to build strong and vibrant communities, improve the quality of life, and make a positive difference.

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