

Ethics Editorial



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A Warm Introduction

An interview with the newest executive member of CHANGE

M eet Emeline! Emeline Niyibitanga joined CHANGE in the spring of 2023, representing the College of Behavioral, Social, and Health Sciences as a Junior Anthropology Major. As she takes on her first year in CHANGE, we are excited to welcome her as our Chief Marketing Officer and VP of Historical Context. “I joined CHANGE because of the many opportunities we have to plan and host different events that will allow students of all majors to interact with ethics as it pertains to them. I believe small moments of engagement and discourse are capable of showing great impact beyond the classroom,” Emeline says.

Coming into her first CHANGE meeting in May, Emeline did not hesitate to join our executive board, eager to serve CHANGE with her skills in marketing and graphic design. She said, “Immediately I felt this synergy with the team and the way we work together, and that feeling encouraged me to join the board.” Her time so far has been exciting, especially as the organization continues establishing relationships with different campus organizations. She believes these partnerships are crucial to engage the overall student body as organizations tend to have members from various majors and experiences that will allow them to engage with diverse perspectives.

“I believe small moments of engagement and discourse are capable of showing great impact beyond the classroom.”

When speaking about partnerships, Emeline said, “The partnerships, I think, allude to the presence of ethics in our everyday life, especially as they appear in the things we value. In this case, organizations.”

Emeline is excited for what this year in CHANGE has in store. From new members that have been inducted and the events that have been planned, she thinks this will be the best year yet. Emeline cannot wait to continue ethical discussions all across campus.



Clemson Takes 1st Place!

This year, the Rutland Institute for Ethics sent two juniors in the Wilbur O. & Ann Powers College of Business, John Phillips and Emma Pereda, to the Eller College of Management International Collegiate Ethics Case Competition at the University of Arizona. Competing against 25 other colleges and universities from across North America, John and Emma placed 1st. Their hard work paid off and we are happy to congratulate them on this achievement.

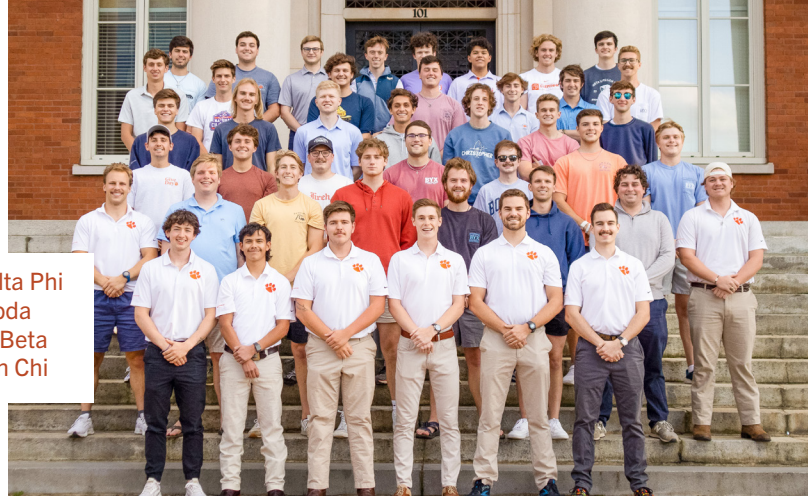


Emma and John with Dr. Michael Fricke, Associate Director of Leadership Ethics at Eller College of Management





Left: Delta Phi
Lambda
Right: Beta
Upsilon Chi



Meet our Greek Partners!

The Rutland Institute for Ethics has partnered with two Greek Life organizations

The purpose of the Rutland Institute for Ethics Greek partnerships is to recognize and cultivate outstanding ethical leadership within Greek organizations serving the campus of Clemson University. Our Greek Partners are campus leaders who exemplify ethical leadership and have an outstanding commitment to service. Our partners this year are Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity.

Delta Phi Lambda

Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. (DPhiL) advocates for Asian awareness, empowers women leaders through its values-based programs, and forges Everlasting Sisterhood through diverse shared experiences. Their vision is that Delta Phi Lambda will be recognized by universities and among the greater fraternal community for its progressive initiatives that aim to develop women into strong, independent leaders. By partnering with the Rutland Institute for Ethics, Delta Phi Lambda hopes to enhance ethical thinking at Clemson.

The sisters of DPhiL understand that in order to have a positive impact on Clemson University, the entire Greek Community has to work together ethically and morally. Their hope is that their partnership with the Rutland Institute for Ethics allows them to reach more people and improve the Clemson community as a whole.

Beta Upsilon Chi

Beta Upsilon Chi (BYX), a National Christian Fraternity, exists for the purpose of establishing brotherhood and unity among college men based on the common bond of Jesus Christ. They are a lifelong brotherhood of committed Christian men seeking the bonds of brotherhood and unity in Christ through the avenue of a social fraternity on a college campus.

BYX hopes to serve and bring awareness to the Rutland Institute for Ethics. They look forward to working with the Rutland Institute for Ethics to help Clemson students think more deeply about good decision-making and encourage ethical discussion.

"The purpose of this partnership is to recognize and cultivate outstanding ethical leadership..."

Grady Funke
BYX

At the core, ethics is “doing the right thing when nobody’s looking.” The word ethics encapsulates an idea of moral principles that are grounded in treating all of humanity with equality. In the Greek Community, ethics is the basis of every decision we make. Part of the vision of Fraternity and Sorority Life at Clemson is to, “provide a model of unity and diversity for Clemson students.” In order to work towards and put this vision into practice, the Greek Community must make ethical decisions to foster social responsibility and leadership.

"Ethical leadership in Greek Organizations is imperative to the success of members..."

Ethical leadership is not only required by the elected members of these entities, but every member who has pledged their commitment to the ideals of the organization to lead through actions of integrity, responsibility, humility, and compassion. Our mission is to create positive change on Clemson’s campus-at-large through our members, so we hold each member to high ethical standards. Greek life at Clemson holds educational meetings to guide members regarding ethical decision-making. Ethical leadership in Greek Organizations is imperative to the success of members on a personal and professional level. While we encounter conflicts of interest on a daily basis within the Greek Community, the decisions we make define who we are as ethical leaders.

Cheyenne Seobarrat
DPhiL

Hi everyone! My name is Cheyenne Seobarrat, and I am currently a junior nursing student as well as a member of the newest class of Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. I got involved with DPhiL in my freshman year. I had been thinking about joining due to the amazing sisterhood and bond I saw between everyone, but unfortunately, plans fell through and I was unable to attend events. During the fall of my sophomore year, I decided I would commit to joining, and now here I am!

Ethics is really important to me and, especially, to DPhiL. I believe DPhiL is committed to ethical leadership through the way we run the sorority. Our executive and minor boards work well with each other, using transparency and respect as a way to work efficiently. I think this is very apparent to anyone who has an interaction with the sisters of DPhiL. I think ethics is important for Greek life because we are members of the community and must lead by example. If we are not working ethically, it sets a bad example for those around us. It can become so easy for us to be wrapped up in our own lives and forget that we set a standard on campus. Ethics, to me, is about promoting good leadership and kindness to others. Leading by example, we can foster a space that feels safe for everyone.

"Ethics is important to Greek life because we are members of the community..."



Left: Grady Funke
Right: Cheyenne Seobarrat





Engaging Ethics in the Future of College Athletics

Zion Kaauwai & Lindsay Einbinder, President & Vice President of CHANGE

As of August 2023, the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) voted to add three new universities to the athletic division. Though the ruling was passed almost unanimously, the presidents of Clemson, Florida State, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill voted against these changes. While ACC universities such as Clemson are not the only institutions experiencing said realignment, the lives of student-athletes and the general student body may be impacted for better or for worse (Witz, 2023).

The incentive for this rearrangement lies in television contracts. More competitive sports conferences are inherently more profitable in terms of media coverage (NBER, 2020). Sports programming in the ACC earns about 40 million dollars per year in TV deals, with that amount expected to only increase.

When considering differences across conferences, the gap in revenue amongst universities is evident. SEC conference schools, for instance, earn over 60 million dollars more than PAC-12 conference universities (*Sports Journal*, 2023). Ultimately, the benefits may outweigh the costs for universities to realign with a new conference. Incentives for universities to join or stay in the ACC increase by the year.

The newly approved ACC schools, Stanford, University of California, Berkeley, and Southern Methodist University, have willingly accepted lesser contract terms to become conference members. For instance, SMU does not possess any rights to media distribution during its first seven years within the ACC and will not hold TV shares for up to nine years. Instead, newly generated cash, roughly 50 to 60 million dollars, will be distributed amongst ACC members, primarily based on football success. An ACC school that achieves a football national title is eligible for up to 10 million dollars in cash (Schrotenboer, 2023).

Regarding the ethics of these decisions, in 2019, Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens argued that the NCAA's control over college athletics was a violation of antitrust legislation. The case set the precedent that universities possess the ability to obtain their own press deals rather than the NCAA managing ticket sales and TV exposure (Schrotenboer, 2023). Because of this ruling, schools seek to affiliate themselves with the conferences that ultimately bring in the most money and media coverage. These new contracts can be viewed as a product of a naturally operating free market yet pose ethical challenges of their own.

The name "Atlantic Coastal Conference" is arguably no longer fitting, considering that athletes will constantly be moving from East Coast universities to the West Coast and vice versa. Though the ACC was initially a vast conference, ranging from Florida to Massachusetts, the addition of California universities makes the ACC span some of the largest territory among Division 1 schools. That being said, the ACC is not the only transnational conference, and athletic programs see this level of expansion as the inevitable future of college athletics.

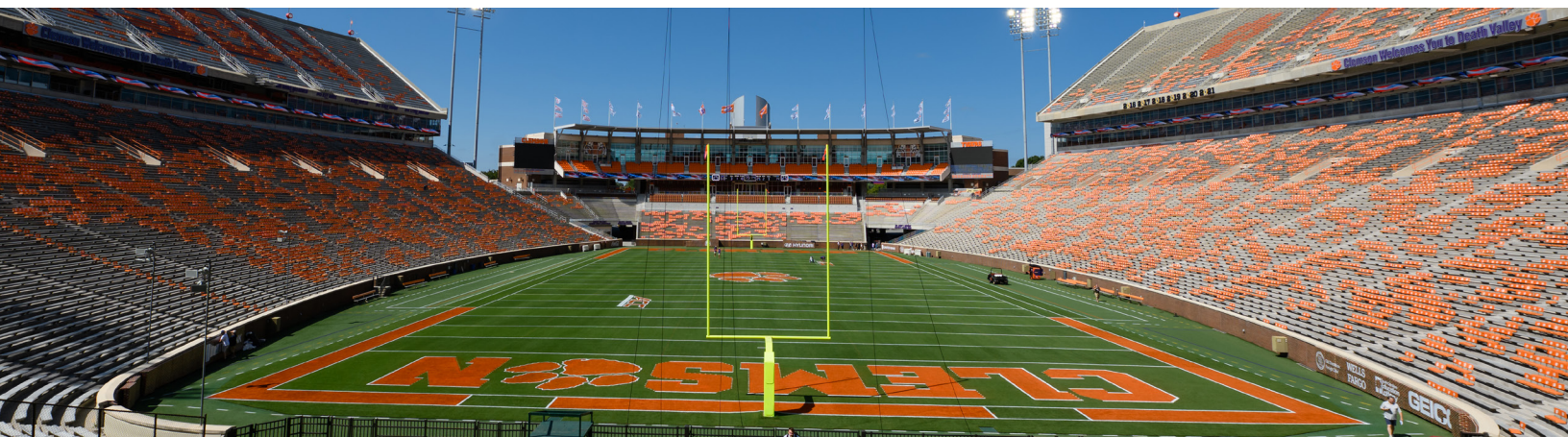
This issue of conference rearrangement can be evaluated using the ethical principle of autonomy. Universities, by law, hold the ability to vote and make decisions regarding their own endeavors, particularly in the realm of sports and media. According to the Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, autonomy is described as, "the capacity to be one's own person, to live one's life according to reasons and motives that are taken as one's own and not the product of manipulative or distorting external forces" (Christman, 2020).

Therefore, universities are enabled to prioritize their constituency by making the decisions that most benefit their own organization.

"Incentives for universities to join or stay in the ACC increase by the year."

However, this freedom of decision contrasts with the ethical concept of universalism. This principle describes that, "the welfare and risk of all parties" must be taken into consideration when devising a decision (*The Basics of Philosophy*). Student athletes' experiences will be incredibly different after this expansion. Some may argue that upholding the high standards of their program and conference is a sacrifice that is simply part of being a Division 1 athlete, though these players are still not being paid like professionals. While athlete input is not currently a factor in the decision-making process, universalism requires all parties to be considered regardless of their affiliation.

In general, the world of college athletics has transformed dramatically in recent years, and more change appears to be coming in the near future. The dilemma posed by conference rearrangement is a balance of weighing the benefits to a university or conference with the costs posed to athletes and fans. As this process unfolds, athletic leadership is called to carefully consider stakeholders and beneficiaries as well as the widespread consequences of their conference alignment.



About the Authors

Zion Kaauwai, CHANGE President



Zion Kaauwai is a Master's of Real Estate Development student and the President of CHANGE. Zion graduated in May of this year with a B.S. in Financial Management and was elected as

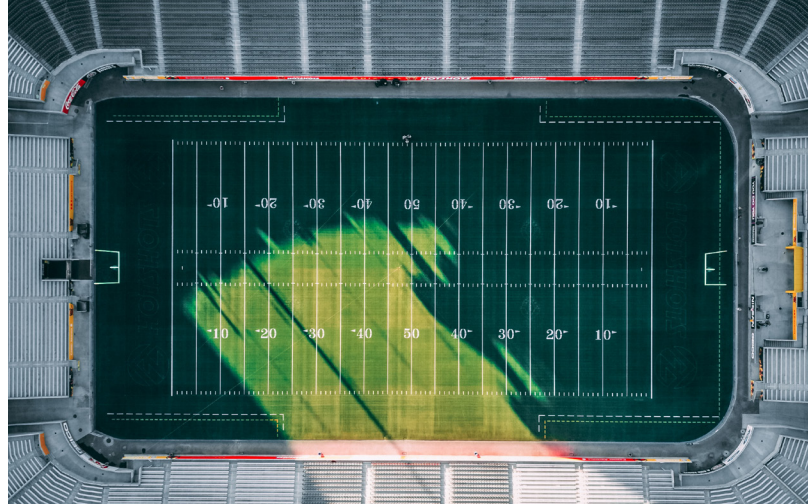
President for his second term. He has been an active member of CHANGE since he came to Clemson in 2019, and has been working hard to further ethical decision-making on Clemson's campus.

Lindsey Einbinder, CHANGE Vice President



Lindsay Einbinder is the CHANGE Vice President. She is a senior majoring in Economics, with a minor in Biochemistry. She worked as an emergency medical technician in the Boston area and her

dream is to attend physician assistant school post graduation. She loves to explore ethics in relation to healthcare as well as healthcare policy.



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Welcome our New Members!

This fall, we inducted 11 new members to CHANGE. We are excited to have them with us!



Slade Bibb
CBSHS



Mia Elizabeth Burgess
CBSHS



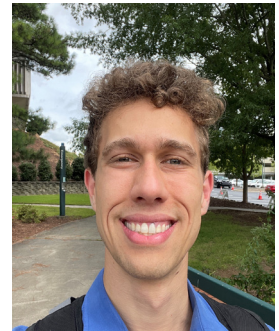
Seth Harding
COB



Lucy Hart
CBSHS



Bryce Havens
CECAS



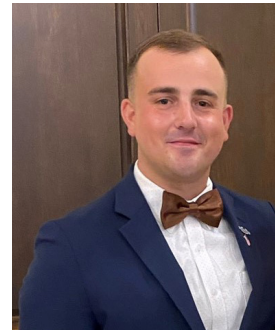
Charles Hawes
COE



Gretchen Highberger
CECAS



Skyler Holland
COS



Brian Reute
CBSHS



Caroline Rhodes
COB



Emily Shewchuk
CECAS

Join
CHANGE!

Dilemma!

Jasmine Sampson, CHANGE Member

We interviewed several Clemson students to explore the ethical dilemmas they see on campus. Here's what they had to say...



Krishna Patel
Biochemistry, 2023

Balancing Ethics and E-Scooters

A moral dilemma that I'm passionate about is scooter regulations on college campuses. Should universities regulate the usage of electric transportation devices, such as e-scooters and hoverboards, and do they have the control to do so? This is important because people who ride around campus have injured pedestrians and themselves. It has become a serious public health concern, with injuries and fatalities tripling in the past decade. Scooters are private property, and students should have personal freedom to ride them. However, safety should always be a university's priority.

"Safety should always be a university's priority."

Mastering the Art of Generative AI

As a Computer Science student, data collection for AI training has always been a significant policy concern of mine. Considering user data privacy, AI-driven marketing campaigns for personalized TikTok feeds and targeted advertisements makes you wonder what other things large corporations might track. Training generative AI on art, music, and publications requires laws that further protect the intellectual rights of artists and creatives.

"... makes you wonder what other things large corporations might track."



Chloe Crozier
Computer Science, 2025



Shriya Patel
Accounting, 2024

Securing Your Digital Footprint

An ethical dilemma that is interesting to me is data privacy in today's world. At what point do organizations draw the line on being transparent with their customers but also maintain confidentiality? We want the convenience of online shopping, social media, and personalized recommendations, but we're also worried about who can view our data and what they might do with it. This is interesting to me because I feel like our personal information is out there for the world to see, and we should continue to find ways to maintain confidentiality.

"We're also worried about who can view our data and what they might do with it."

"College is a time for self-discovery"

To Ghost or Not to Ghost?

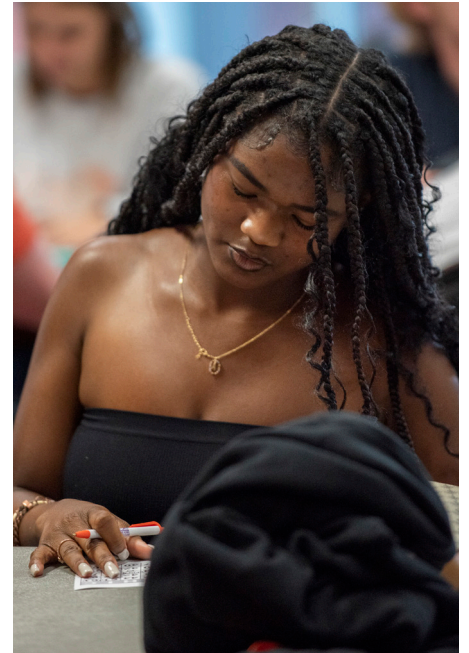
One moral dilemma I think about often is deciding whether or not to "ghost" someone. College is a time for self-discovery, and the common way to achieve this is by exploring the dating scene. However, most people don't expect to find their soulmate in college. So, after one awkward date or a simple change of heart, one might decide whether or not to ghost someone. This is a moral dilemma I face the most because while I want to have fun and meet new people, they are still people whose feelings I may end up hurting. By ghosting someone, you can be seen as a bad person. You may feel like you don't owe someone you don't really know an explanation, but you can imagine if you were the person being ghosted and how it might feel. Ghosting presents an ethical dilemma to many people and is something that doesn't seem to have a right answer.



Arwen Antaran
Biological Sciences, 2026

CHANGE Bingo Night

On August 25th, 2023 we hosted our first CHANGE event of the semester: Bingo night at Hendrix Student Center. It was a success! We were able to raise awareness for CHANGE and teach students about ethics. We had a lot of fun hosting this event, meeting new faces, and giving away over \$500 in prizes.



Be the Change You Want to See

CHANGE

CHANGE student ethics committee is a designated student organization. Among its activities, CHANGE is the creator of the Rutland Institute for Ethics bi-annual newsletter.

For more information about CHANGE and to learn how to join, scan the QR code or contact Emily-Elizabeth Castelloe at eecaste@clemson.edu.



Distinguished Ethics Scholars Program

The Distinguished Ethics Scholars Program allows students to earn one of two designations accompanied by an item to enhance your regalia at graduation: Ethics Scholar (Graduation Cord) or Distinguished Ethics Scholar (Graduation Medallion). Students will also receive a co-curricular transcript; giving them a competitive edge in the professional interviewing process upon graduation. Scan the QR code to enroll now!



Annual Ethics Day 2023

On October 18th, 2023 Rutland hosted Annual Ethics Day. Dr. Lyric Jorgenson, the Acting Associate Director for Science Policy at the National Institutes of Health, presented on The Role of Science Policy in Addressing Global Health Challenges. There were three events this year: a student panel, a faculty panel, and the keynote session.



Lyric Jorgenson, PhD
Acting Associate Director for Science Policy
National Institutes of Health

Student Panel: 2:00 pm - 2:45 pm
Faculty Reception: 3:45 pm - 4:15 pm
Faculty Discussion: 4:15 pm - 5:00 pm
Keynote Session: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

Scan the QR code to view the Keynote Session:





A Message From the New Assistant Director

Emily-Elizabeth Castelloe shares her thoughts on all things CHANGE and the Rutland Institute

Hey there, Tigers! It's great to be back on campus. As the new Assistant Director for The Rutland Institute for Ethics and a Clemson alumna, I find myself constantly reflecting on how much the campus has changed since I've been gone. I've returned to find that a new Tiger Walk has been built, Library Bridge has reopened, and there is a new Humanities Hall with some of the best views of the reflection pond. The newest Clemson Tigers have been taking campus by storm with an infectious sense of optimism that can't be missed. It is good to be home.

Though an exciting time, there is also tension as Clemson University continues to grow. With the constant drone of construction, lack of parking, and long lines at CORE and Schilleter as they hit their peak capacity during lunch, progress has its pains. When I returned to campus in May, I realized how different the Clemson Experience looks now than it did when I started school in 2014; Clemson's football team had not won a national title since 1981, and the word "pandemic" was not in anyone's immediate vocabulary.

Times have changed not only on campus but also in the world students are preparing to enter during their four or more years at Clemson. This is one of the reasons the CHANGE student ethics committee is so important. This group of students is dedicated to equipping Clemson Tigers in every college to make good decisions in the face of serious ethical dilemmas. As their advisor, I have seen firsthand their commitment to engaging in dialogue about the emerging issues that matter to students and their dedication to being the change they want to see on campus.

"I have seen firsthand their commitment to issues that matter to students..."



This fall, we are welcoming a new group of CHANGE members ready to help us put on our programming in each of the eight colleges. We also have two new Greek partners, Delta Phi Lambda Sorority, Inc. and Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity, who will help us promote and implement our programs. Further, CHANGE sponsored the student panel for Annual Ethics Day on October 18th with Dr. Lyric Jorgenson from the National Institutes of Health to discuss how science can be in service to society. Finally, we are intentionally growing our Distinguished Ethics Scholars program, cultivating passionate leaders concerned about the future of their fields. It is shaping up to be a busy and fruitful fall.

"I am excited to serve alongside this incredibly talented group of students..."

As we move into the new academic year and another football season, I am excited to serve alongside this talented group of students, especially our executive leadership team, who have shown a tireless commitment to ethical thinking and having fun along the way. No matter how much things CHANGE, ethics will always be at the core of our conversations and the heart of our community. Go Tigers!



Emily Elizabeth at the Annual Ethics Day executive luncheon and tabling for CHANGE



Bottom: Lillian King, Intern at the Office of Compliance and Ethics, Skylar Holland, CHANGE member, and Emily Elizabeth,





Meet the RIE Advisory Board

Dr. Delia B. Allen serves as the membership chair for the Rutland Institute for Ethics advisory board

Dr. Delia B. Allen has provided an invaluable perspective and variety of professional experiences to the Advisory Board of the Rutland Institute for Ethics since she was recommended to the Institute's Director, Dr. William McCoy, in 2021. A Clemson University alumnus and once a visiting professor with Clemson's College of Education, Dr. Allen serves as the Board's Membership Chair, meeting regularly with the rest of the Board to further the Rutland Institute's mission of expanding the knowledge and availability of tools for ethical decision-making. Her expertise spans the fields of postsecondary education, K-12 education, academic research, consulting, project management, and organizational leadership.

Beyond the Rutland Institute, Dr. Allen has exemplified ethical leadership and service across numerous professional roles. She currently serves as the Research Director and Senior Evaluation Consultant for the Goldstream Group. In this role, she leads evaluations of both federal and non-profit education and professional development programs, including NASA's Space Grant and the Native American Career and Technical Education Program for Kawerak, Inc., the regional Alaska Native non-profit for the Bering Strait region. Prior to her work with the Goldstream Group, Dr. Allen served as a high school mathematics teacher, an aerospace engineer, and a research associate with the Richard W. Riley Institute at Furman University where she examined policies and leadership in education finance.

Dr. Allen has also maintained an active research agenda throughout her career. Her research into the legacy of the *Brown v. Board of Education* US Supreme Court case has been featured in the prestigious Peabody Journal of Education in 2019 in her article, "The Forgotten Brown Case: Briggs v. Elliott and Its Legacy in South Carolina." Dr. Allen's professional affiliation with the National Education Finance Academy (NEFA) since 2018 has afforded her numerous opportunities to collaborate and present her research on education finance.

She was recognized for her outstanding contributions to the organization and field when she was named a NEFA Distinguished Fellow of Research and Practice in 2022. In her current position as Vice President of the NEFA Board of Trustees, Dr. Allen aspires to engage with K-12 education leadership, policymakers, and researchers to better address education financing issues across the country. Dr. Allen received her Ph.D. in Educational Administration and Policy from the University of Georgia, along with a Certificate in Education Law and Policy. She received her M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from Northwestern University, her M.A.T. from Converse University, and her B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Clemson University.

CLEMSON® UNIVERSITY

CHANGE

CREATING HABITS AND NORMS GUIDING ETHICAL DECISIONS