Reinhardt McCamish School of Business

Supported by the Peter Knox Foundation

Ethics Essay Contest 2011

Guidelines

Awards:
- First Prize - $500
- Second Prize - $400
- Third Prize - $300
- Honorable Mention - $100 each

Eligibility: Registered full time Reinhardt undergraduates.

Purpose: The McCamish School of Business Ethics Essay Contest is a competition designed to challenge university students to analyze the current and urgent ethical business issues in today’s complex world. Students are encouraged to write thought-provoking personal essays or research papers that raise questions, single out issues and are rational arguments for ethical action. If writing a research paper, there must be a substantive summary that addresses your conclusions from your findings as well as your opinions.

Suggested Essay Topics:
- What does your own experience tell you about the relationship between politics and ethics and, in particular, what could be done to make politics more ethical?
- Articulate with clarity an ethical issue that you have encountered and analyze what it has taught you about ethics and yourself.
- From a personal viewpoint, how does globalization impact your view of the “others” in society and in the world?
- Clearly analyze the relationship between religion and ethics in today’s world.
- How does a recent political or cultural event shed light on the ethics of rebellion/revolution?
- Culture’s role in global business ethics and your view of a single standard of a global ethics business standard.
- Is preventing further global warming a responsibility of the corporation? Is it a social responsibility? Is it an ethical responsibility? Or an economic decision? Or all of the above? Explain
- Discuss your view of the role of corporate ethics and relate your view to some industry such as “Wall Street.” Your discussion will include some creative/innovative suggestions and or positions.
- What are the current ethical issues in business or universities? How can these issues be prevented or dealt with? Explain.
- Discuss the concept of corporate social responsibility and relate your view to the behaviors of business.

What the Readers Look For:
- Clear articulation and genuine grappling with an ethical dilemma
- Adherence to guidelines and carefully proofread essays
- Originality and imagination
- Observation of rules for Standard English usage (grammar, punctuation, mechanics) in writing and revising your work
- Eloquence of writing style
- Thoroughly thought-out, tightly focused essay/research
- Intensity and unity in the essay
- Writing in APA/MLA style format
ESSAY FORMAT:
- In 3,000 to 4,000 words, students are encouraged to raise questions, single out issues and identify dilemmas.
- Essays may be written in the formal or informal voice, but most importantly, an individual voice should be evident in the essay.
- The essay should be developed from the student’s point of view and may take the form of an analysis that is biographical, historical, literary, philosophical, psychological, sociological or theological and must be related to business ethics/social responsibility.
- Essay must be the original, unpublished work of one student. Only one essay per student per year may be submitted.
- Essay should be titled, typed in 12-point font in English, double-spaced with 1” margins and numbered pages.
- Submissions will be judged anonymously. Hence, no name or identifying references (i.e. your name, school, or professor) should appear on the title page or in the manuscript. Dr. Hyatt will put a code on your essay.

FACULTY SPONSOR:
- All SOB faculty are encouraged to use this as a graded assignment within the context of their classes. If the student submits the paper to Dr. Hyatt it will be evaluated by the committee unrelated to the grade or interaction with the class it was written for.
- This is a school-wide contest and all faculty are asked to encourage their students to enter.
- Students entering the contest are required to have a Faculty Sponsor review their essay and sign the cover page indicating they have read the essay and support its submission.
- Faculty members should only endorse thought-provoking, well-written essays that fall within the contest guidelines.

SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS:
- Please submit three (3) copies of your essay stapled.
- In addition, be sure to enclose a cover page that has your name, student ID number and the signature of your faculty sponsor and your statement indicating this essay is your original work with your signature.
- Entries must be submitted no later than March 7, 2011 at noon. Late essays will not be accepted. Place the three copies in an envelope in the box outside of Dr. Hyatt’s office (second floor Lawson). No faxed or e-mailed entries will be accepted.
- Please note that due to the volume of entries, no materials will be critiqued or returned.

CONTEST DEADLINE: MARCH 7, 2011, NOON.

Please complete the submission checklist on the Entry Form and give all materials together to Dr. Katherine Hyatt.

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