

The John A. "Jack" Blackburn Award for Ethics in College Admission was established by the Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling in 2010 to honor the late Jack Blackburn, long-time Dean of Admission at the University of Virginia. Throughout his career, Jack served as an admirable role model promoting the highest ethical standards, integrity in our profession and equity in access to higher education. This award recognizes someone who has demonstrated a commitment to the high ethical standards of college admission through sustained active involvement in the profession and a dedication to promoting equal access to higher education for all students.

Some people volunteer. Some people show up. But Jake Talmage? He builds. He leads. He creates something that sticks. Case in point, **Ethical Navigations**, Jake's brainchild and now one of PCACAC's most valued monthly publications. It was born out of the chaos of 2020. Jake stepped up with a clear purpose to help our profession navigate the murky waters of ethics in a rapidly changing landscape. He took what was once a set of case studies and completely reimaged it. He didn't just update- he revitalized ethical conversations for a whole new generation of admissions professionals! Ethical Navigations does not just live in our inboxes, it lives in our staff meetings, affiliate presentations and conference sessions across the country. Jake went from being a one-man writing machine to inspiring and motivating a team of eight contributors, expanding the reach and impact of this work.

As a former PCACAC president and admissions practice chair, Jake has guided many of us through some of the profession's most challenging transitions. In addition to all of this we cannot forget his work on the ground. At Saint Paul's School for Boys, Jake is the kind of counselor every student deserves; thoughtful honest and totally student centered. Whether he is running an application boot camp, mentoring an AP committee chair, or walking a student through the college process, Jake leads with integrity, empathy, and clarity. He's the kind of person who doesn't just talk about ethics... he embodies it.

The Blackburn Award honors those who uphold the highest ethical standards in college admission and this year there is no better recipient than **Jake Talmage**. Congratulations Jake!