

CMU Business Department: HR Students Rock at Regional Case Study Competition!



3rd Place Winning Team. Right to left: Travis Fox, Krissy Neumann, Danielle Pena, Kayla Reece, Kagen Jones, Dr. Pat Schutz

Undergraduate Division

- 1 University of Phoenix
- 2 Brigham Young University
- 3 TIE: Colorado Mesa University and San Diego State University**
- 4 Texas State University – San Marcos
- 5 Utah Valley University
- 6 University of Nevada – Reno
- 7 Texas A&M University – San Antonio
- 8 University of San Francisco
- 9 California Polytechnic State University – Pomona
- 10 University of Central Oklahoma
- 11 California State University – Bakersfield
- 12 University of Nevada – Las Vegas
- 13 Texas A&M University – College Station
- 14 Weber State University
- 15 California State University – San Bernardino
- 16 Utah State University
- 17 California Polytechnic State University – San Luis Obispo

Several CMU Business students who are majoring in Human Resource Management matched their wits and their HR knowledge against university peers from the Western U.S., on March 13 and 14 in Ontario, California. The Society for Human Resource Management Regional Case Study Competition and Student Conference challenged students to participate in a sophisticated case study competition. CMU students Travis Fox, Kagen Jones, Krissy Neumann, Danielle Pena, and Kayla Reece accepted the challenge.

After working on trying to crack a complex HR case until the late hours of the evening for several days, they were ready. All university teams received the same case study in their email and faced a deadline for submission so that their written findings could be graded by SHRM several weeks before the actual conference. On Friday, March 13, the CMU HR team presented their findings, and possible solutions, to a three-person panel of experts at the California conference.

They had only fifteen minutes to display their understanding of the complex case study, and make recommendations for remedies to severe turnover problems among nurses, low organizational morale, problems within the HR department, and poor community relations in a general hospital setting.

On Saturday, when the competition was all but over, the placement of the top 10 university teams was announced, starting with the 10th place team. There was no speaking at the CMU team table as the remaining school names and respective finish places were read. When the 4th Place team was announced, the feeling of apprehension among the CMU group was palpable. And then the announcer proclaimed the 3rd Place winner – rather, the 3rd Place winners: Colorado Mesa University tied with San Diego State!

The CMU table erupted with applause while everyone congratulated each other for a remarkable showing, in a grueling competition, with their peers from many excellent universities in the Western U.S.

Go CMU! Go Business Department! HR students Rock!



2015 CMU HR Conference Attendees:

Left to right, front row: Heather Brown, Krissy Neumann, Kayla Reece, Danielle Pena, Dr. Pat Schutz.
2nd row: Travis Fox, Edgar Ramos, Kagen Jones, Jacob Todd