

For immediate release
News from the University of Southern Indiana

Illinois student on USI accounting team that 'threepeats' in statewide competition

Amy Oglesby of Galatia, Illinois, and a junior at the University of Southern Indiana is a member of the team of accounting students from the USI College of Business that won first place in the annual Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Case Study Competition. Oglesby is the daughter of Becky Spurlock and Greg Oglesby and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Buddy (Betty) Pool and Hannah Murphy and Glen Oglesby.

The team made an oral presentation in Indianapolis and was recognized as the winner of the competition at the organization's CPA Celebration at Union Station on November 3. USI's team made history as the first team in the seven-year history of the competition to win for three straight years.

The USI team qualified as one of six finalists to give an oral presentation after preparing a written case study. Teams from 11 universities throughout the state entered the competition.

Other members of the team include May Flores, senior, of Newburgh, Indiana; John Hayden, senior, of Evansville; and Adam Knepp, senior, of Montgomery, Indiana. Flores also was a member of last year's winning team.

Each of the USI team members received a \$1,000 award from INCPAS.

After the USI win was announced, Oglesby said the competition timekeeper told them that she knew "when they walked in with those matching suits and name tags that they meant business."

Oglesby transferred to USI this fall after earning an associate degree in business administration at Southeastern Illinois College, where she was a member of a Phi Beta Lambda team which won a first place in national competition in the organization's American Enterprise program.

Jeanette Maier-Lytle, USI instructor in accounting and faculty coach of the accounting team for the third year, also was recognized at the CPA Celebration. INCPAS selected her as 2006 Outstanding Accounting Educator.

Maier-Lytle said, "I think many factors contributed to the team's success again this year: their extensive research in the area of peer review, their excellent presentation skills, and their ability to field every question the judges asked. They worked many long hours over the past three weeks.

"Also, I believe they were driven by the fact that no other school has had a 'threepeat' in the history of this competition. They had mentoring and coaching from past winners, Donovan Sexton (2004) and Andrew Eddmenson (2005), as well as an advisor who wouldn't let up on them. I knew they were a first place team, and I challenged them to raise the standard again this year. Lastly, they had a lot of cheerleaders backing them from USI, and they were determined to bring home the win."

The case study for this year's competition was on the topic of peer review. The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants requires that its member firms participate in a practice-monitoring or "peer review" program.

The USI team's most prominent recommendation was the creation of a certification process similar to the AACSB International accreditation for colleges of business and the ISO 9000 certification used in the manufacturing industry.

The students researched the topic through professional journals and publications as well as through interviews with members of USI's Accounting Circle and accounting faculty. They also interviewed people who have served as peer reviewers.

The accounting team representing Butler University placed second in the 2006 INCPAS competition. Each team member received \$750. Third place winner was the team from Manchester College with each team member receiving a \$500 award.

Other teams in the finals represented Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Purdue University-Calumet, and Valparaiso University.

Teams from Indiana University-Bloomington, Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne, Saint Mary's College, University of Indianapolis, and University of Notre Dame also participated in the competition.

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Montgomery student on USI accounting team that 'threeps' in statewide competition

Adam Knepp of Montgomery, Indiana, is a senior at the University of Southern Indiana and a member of the team of accounting students from the USI College of Business that won first place in the annual Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Case Study Competition.

The team made an oral presentation in Indianapolis and was recognized as the winner of the competition at the organization's CPA Celebration at Union Station on November 3. USI's team made history as the first team in the seven-year history of the competition to win for three straight years.

The USI team qualified as one of six finalists to give an oral presentation after preparing a written case study. Teams from 11 universities throughout the state entered the competition.

Other members of the team include Amy Oglesby, junior, of Galatia, Illinois; John Hayden, senior, of Evansville; and May Flores, senior, of Newburgh, Indiana. Flores also was a member of last year's winning team.

Each of the USI team members received a \$1,000 award from INCPAS.

Knepp holds the Edgar W. and Lucile E. Schergens Endowed Presidential Scholarship at USI. He said the team competition helps participants learn to work well with a group.

"You find out what each other's strengths and weaknesses are. You learn where you need to pick up," he said.

Knepp also said that the practice presentation helped the team prepare for the question and answer session that followed their 20-minute oral presentation.

Jeanette Maier-Lytle, USI instructor in accounting and faculty coach of the accounting team for the third year, also was recognized at the CPA Celebration. INCPAS selected her as 2006 Outstanding Accounting Educator.

Maier-Lytle said, "I think many factors contributed to the team's success again this year: their extensive research in the area of peer review, their excellent presentation skills, and their ability to field every question the judges asked. They worked many long hours over the past three weeks.

"Also, I believe they were driven by the fact that no other school has had a 'threep' in the history of this competition. They had mentoring and coaching from past winners, Donovan Sexton (2004) and Andrew Eddmenson (2005), as well as an advisor who wouldn't let up on them. I knew they were a first place team, and I challenged them to raise the standard again this year. Lastly, they had a lot of cheerleaders backing them from USI, and they were determined to bring home the win."

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Newburgh resident on USI accounting team that 'threeps' in statewide competition

May Flores of Newburgh, Indiana, is a senior at the University of Southern Indiana and a member of the team of accounting students from the USI College of Business that won first place in the annual Indiana CPA Society (INCPAS) Case Study Competition.

The team made an oral presentation in Indianapolis and was recognized as the winner of the competition at the organization's CPA Celebration at Union Station on November 3. USI's team made history as the first team in the seven-year history of the competition to win for three straight years.

The USI team qualified as one of six finalists to give an oral presentation after preparing a written case study. Teams from 11 universities throughout the state entered the competition.

Other members of the team include Amy Oglesby, junior, of Galatia, Illinois; John Hayden, senior, of Evansville; and Adam Knepp, senior, of Montgomery, Indiana. Flores also was a member of last year's winning team.

Each of the USI team members received a \$1,000 award from INCPAS.

Flores said, "The early preparation was an important part of our success. Even before they announced that we were finalists, we were making our PowerPoint presentation."

Flores is considering job offers from Indianapolis offices of two of the big four accounting firms. She moved to Newburgh from the Philippines when she was 15 and graduated from Castle High School in 2002.

Jeanette Maier-Lytle, USI instructor in accounting and faculty coach of the accounting team for the third year, also was recognized at the CPA Celebration. INCPAS selected her as 2006 Outstanding Accounting Educator.

Maier-Lytle said, "I think many factors contributed to the team's success again this year: their extensive research in the area of peer review, their excellent presentation skills, and their ability to field every question the judges asked. They worked many long hours over the past three weeks."

"Also, I believe they were driven by the fact that no other school has had a 'threep' in the history of this competition. They had mentoring and coaching from past winners, Donovan Sexton (2004) and Andrew Eddmenson (2005), as well as an advisor who wouldn't let up on them. I knew they were a first place team, and I challenged them to raise the standard again this year. Lastly, they had a lot of cheerleaders backing them from USI, and they were determined to bring home the win."

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