

Entrepreneurship Center Friends & Family eNewsletter

News from the Entrepreneurship Center at Seattle University May. '11

BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION--v13

What a show!! It truly was the hardest contest to jury yet. Feral Motion won first place and Greenbridge Computing was 1st runner-up. The other 3 contestants (NW Hay, Rain Rock, Child Care Choices) did a great job and should come away feeling good about their efforts. Body Battery won the Best Innovative Idea, SphereUs Best Social Venture and Food Gardener Best Small Business. We also did our version of American Idol and had the audience vote for their favorite—which proved to be Greenbridge Computing. Child Care Choices earlier won the Trade Show fan vote. And to cap it off, Ben Elowitz, CEO of Wetpaint, gave a very inspirational talk. Many thanks to all our sponsors, mentors and judges who helped make this a memorable event.

I want to share just one of many quotes we received about the business plan experience. It definitely is affirming why we do this every year.

"I want to express how incredibly valuable the business plan competition has been. I feel extremely blessed to have benefited from the mentoring and intense coaching sessions. My plan is stronger, my business is stronger, and the experience has exponentially increased the value of my MBA coursework at Albers."

SU has two teams in the UW Regional Business Plan Competition Sweet 16 Round: Feral Motion (this team also has a number of UW members as well) and Punchkeeper. Also, Fluentizer is competing but it is not technically a SU team since our member is a SU alum. Good luck on the 26th.

SIFE DOES IT AGAIN, BUT EVEN BETTER YET

Leo Simpson's Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), after winning the Regional Championship at the SIFE regional's in Minneapolis went on to tie for 9th in the National SIFE Exposition. They were up against 170+ teams from around the country. This is an amazing accomplishment for a 2nd year team!! Leo's strong SIFE performance earned him Advisor of the Year. I don't where Leo will put his trophies.

CALLING ALL FAMILY BUSINESSES

We are in the process of exploring the idea of establishing another Executive Roundtable for Family Businesses, starting this fall. Check it out: Exec. Roundtable. Our current members say the program is making a profound difference in their businesses. If any of our readers want to learn more, please let me know.

A FAN OF THE CENTER ON FACEBOOK

As of this morning, we are now up to 167 people following us on Facebook—our goal is 200 by fall. Thanks for staying connected and offering your thumbs-up when you see something you like.





See you at the Albers Volunteer Recognition event on the 19th.