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Entrepreneurship Club wins national competition

ST. PETERSBURG, FL (March 29, 2012) — Members of the fledgling Entrepreneurship Club at USF St. Petersburg won a prestigious national competition this week and will be recognized at the 2012 National CEO Conference in Chicago.

The 2012 CEO Startup Simulation Challenge consisted of taking a new business and making the necessary decisions to out-perform 25 other teams from across the country. The computer simulation took two months to complete and the winners were announced Wednesday.

It is a particularly impressive achievement for a club that was formed only 18 months ago with the founding of USF St. Petersburg’s first entrepreneurship program, said William T. Jackson, director of Sustainable Entrepreneurship & Innovation at USFSP.

"We are very excited and proud to bring this recognition to the University of South Florida St. Petersburg," said Mark Lombardi-Nelson, a member of the team and student body vice president. "It is a great day for USFSP and the Entrepreneurship Program."

The other team members, who will share a $1,000 prize, are Lazar Anderson, Michael Anadiotis, Brown Charite and Christopher Carpentier (see attached photo).

The competition is sponsored by the Collegiate Entrepreneurs’ Organization (CEO), the nation’s premier entrepreneurship network, with chapters at over 240 universities. With a diverse global network, CEO informs, supports and inspires college students to be entrepreneurial and seek opportunity through enterprise creation.

The top three teams will receive personalized mentorship from some of the best entrepreneurs in the CEO network.

The runners-up were from Louisiana State University and the University of Nebraska-Omaha.