



For Immediate Release

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Talent in Western Michigan—Western Michigan University Wins the ACG Cup *Winning team earns the Cup and \$5,000 Prize*

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., (March 24, 2010)—After months of preparation, hours spent practicing with team members and consulting with business professors, Western Michigan University was announced the winner of the Association for Corporate Growth Western Michigan (ACGWM) Cup and a combined \$5,000 prize at last night's Outstanding Growth Awards.

MBA student teams from Western Michigan, Grand Valley State and Davenport Universities took part in the two-round business case study competition. Students analyzed challenging case studies and provided comprehensive advice regarding mergers and acquisitions, finance and more. After two rounds, Western Michigan University won by demonstrating an understanding of fundamental issues within the case, providing solid recommendations and being able to distill and organize information into a clear, successful presentation.

Judges for both rounds of the ACG Cup competition were recruited from high positions within the business community to help analyze and evaluate the teams' presentations.

Nick Adamy, of Adamy Valuation partners and a judge for the ACG Cup final round, said teams were able to, "under hard questioning, think quickly on their feet and demonstrate knowledge of fundamental principles."

While the teams all presented solid strategies and advice, judges felt that Western Michigan University gave the best solutions to the case.

"All three of the teams at the final round did a very nice job," Tom Olive, President of Elan Nutrition and judge for the second round, said. "They did a lot of work and presented well. We're really pleased to have students that were willing to put that much time and effort into this case study."

The Association for Corporate Growth Western Michigan hopes the ACG Cup competition will remind local businesses that talent is still in West Michigan and encourage them to look more closely at local university graduates when seeking new employees.

About ACGWM

Founded in 1999, ACGWM is focused on domestic and international new business and market development, joint ventures and alliances for West Michigan corporate and service members. Approximately two-thirds of ACG members are the primary decision-makers in their organizations. Mergers and acquisitions and corporate growth, including the use of new channels and technologies, is a center of interest for membership. Chapter meetings provide an excellent forum for the exchange of ideas and the opportunity to develop networks of like-minded corporate growth professionals. Each month industry experts and members exchange experiences about successes and problems in dealing with growth issues.

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