



News Release

For Immediate Release

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MSU'S TSM PROGRAM IS A FINALIST FIVE STRAIGHT YEARS IN NATIONAL STUDENT CASE STUDY

The International Telecommunications Education and Research Association (ITERA) selected Murray State's Program of Distinction in Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM) students as a finalist in the ITERA National Student Case Study Competition in Indianapolis, IN this April. This marked the fifth year for Murray State to be a finalist in the ITERA National Case Study Competition; four TSM students were selected. Two graduate students, Carla Johnson and Scott Taylor, and two undergraduate students, Sarah Kennedy and Vincent Johnson, make up the team this year. Taylor and C. Johnson wrote the paper that was selected as a finalist but are unable to attend. Therefore, Kennedy and V. Johnson will be traveling to Indianapolis to present at ITERA. This is the first year that Murray State has had a combination of undergraduate and graduate students competing together.

Under the direction of Graduate Advisor George Rice, Murray State has been the winner of the ITERA National Case Study Competition three out of the four years. It is the only team to make it to finals a consecutive five years. Rice is looking forward for this year's ITERA conference and stated, "I am excited about an undergraduate/graduate team representing Murray State for the first time at ITERA. Both Sarah and Vincent are very strong students and will do a fantastic job."

This year the case study focused on "Active Senior" communities. The students were asked to design a community to be constructed in an area between Phoenix and Tucson AZ in a town called Casa Grande. They were asked to develop the plan for deploying technology to meet the personal communications, entertainment, and safety needs of the residents and on-site management staff.

Started in 2004, ITERA is focused on the development and the advancement of telecommunications as an academic discipline by creating a forum for academics and industry to collaborate. Murray State has been a key player in founding the ITERA organization as it was formed from the original MSU TSM Annual Conference in Louisville, KY when many academic

attendees recognized the need for a working association between universities with telecom programs. Murray State TSM Staff continue to lead ITERA through positions on the Board of Directors or conference committees. More information on ITERA and its academic members can be found on their website at www.itera.org