



# News Release

For Immediate Release

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## MSU CASE STUDY FINALISTS PREPARE FOR FINAL FOUR

Six years of competition. Six final four appearances. Three national titles. One Program of Distinction: Murray State University's Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM).

On March 30, 2012 a team of four TSM students, selected by the International Telecommunications Education and Research Association (ITERA), from Murray State University will head to Indianapolis, IN for the annual ITERA Conference. At the conference, the team will compete in the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual ITERA National Student Case Study Competition. MSU is the only university to be named a finalist every year since the competition began. Other schools competing include, James Madison University, Ball State University, and University of Oklahoma-Tulsa.

The team is comprised of four TSM graduate students, Joshua Blanton, Brandon Dick, Randall Joyce and John Young. The students prepared for the case study while completing their capstone course in the TSM Masters Program. The team worked under the direction of TSM graduate advisor, George Rice, to complete the case study.

“We all worked full time jobs, attended school and collaborated on the case study.” Joyce said. “We divided responsibilities early and communicated primarily through email. It was hard work but we’re really excited to present at ITERA and hopefully bring home the fourth national win.”

This year’s case study prompted the team to create a start-up company tentatively called ITERA Technology Group. The purpose of the company is to help small businesses get started and become successful. The graduate team’s specific company is to provide essential voice and data services at an affordable price.

For more information about the case study or conference visit [www.itera.org](http://www.itera.org).