



Commonwealth of Kentucky Public Protection Cabinet

Department of Financial Institutions

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EKU Students Win National Case Study Competition

DFI Congratulates Team on Winning Community Bank Research Contest

FRANKFORT, Ky. (May 10, 2018) – The Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) congratulates the student team from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) for taking top honors in the 2018 Community Bank Case Study Competition. The 2018 competition focused on how bank management utilizes technology to streamline processes and better serve their customers.

EKU seniors Lorelei Nguyen, Dalton Stanley and Aaron Schmidgall will each receive a \$1,000 academic scholarship, have their work published in an academic journal and will be invited to present at the sixth annual Community Banking in the 21st Century Research and Policy Conference, held in St. Louis this October.

“It was a phenomenal learning experience,” said team faculty advisor Maggie Abney, Executive-In-Residence at EKU’s College of Business and Technology. “The more they studied, the more interested and driven they became. It was an enlightening and gratifying project for the students.”

The EKU students completed a financial analysis comparing Lexington’s Central Bank to 371 peer banks using FDIC data online. The students prepared questions and completed one-on-one interviews with community bankers and DFI Commissioner Charles Vice. The project culminated with production of a [10-minute video](#) documenting how technology has changed and how a community bank is using technology to compete with national banks.

“These students put in a lot of hard work, which resulted in a high-quality product that provides valuable insights into the community bank business model,” said Vice. “It’s also an exciting opportunity for these students to connect with professionals in the banking industry, including the opportunity to present their findings at the Community Bank Conference in St. Louis this October.”

This is EKU's first year participating in the contest. This fourth year of competition produced a record-breaking number of entries – 51 student teams from 45 colleges and universities across the nation. Murray State University was among those competing.

The competition is open to undergraduate students in all fields of study as an opportunity to gain valuable first-hand knowledge of the banking industry. The case studies underwent three rounds of judging by three separate panels of banking experts. The top three winners were announced on May 10 during the Conference of State Bank Supervisors State-Federal Supervisors Symposium in Jacksonville, Fla.

For more information on the 2018 Community Bank Case Study Competition, visit www.csbs.org/bankcasestudy. To find out more about Banking and Finance at EKU, visit <http://banking.eku.edu>.

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