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The Final Round

University of Dayton

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NEWS



Tuesday March 1, 2016

The Final Round

Six teams will compete in the final round of the 10th annual University of Dayton Business Plan Competition at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 5, in Miriam Hall's O'Leary Auditorium for the chance to win \$65,000 in cash prizes to help launch their startups.

For the first time, the competition will include a team from China, selected from nearly 60 entries in

the inaugural Entrepreneurship in China contest held at the University of Dayton China Institute. The other finalist teams have advanced through the elevator pitch and cameo rounds, and each team includes a University of Dayton student or alumnus.

“During the last five months, each of these teams has modified their plan, and moved toward a successful launch of their business,” said Vincent Lewis, director of the Crotty Center for Entrepreneurial Leadership. “This is truly the essence of our competition, creating a virtual accelerator for startups, and giving them the resources and coaching they need to launch their business.”

Winners will be announced April 5.

Finalists are:

Aer: home device that allows cystic fibrosis patients to monitor their lung function and determine whether a hospital visit is needed.

Automated Growing Rod: a therapeutic orthopedic device for pediatric scoliosis correction and external fixation application.

Slap Wrap Straps: patent pending, auto-wrapping lifting straps for fitness, competitive sports weight training and rehabilitation.

Axial Capillary Fibers: an advanced materials technology for ballast water treatment in the shipping industry.

LYGENT iStrab: the first automated device to accurately screen and measure strabismus, or crossed eyes in children.

Drama Loving Wedding Cartoon Customization Service: from the winner of the Entrepreneurship in China contest. As part of the prize package, two team members won free travel to Dayton for the final round.

Each team received 10 hours of free legal advice from the University of Dayton Law School's Entrepreneurship and IP Clinic.

Last year's winner, audiologist Jeremy Smith, said the cash prizes and other benefits helped him launch his company, You Tune Hearing Protection. The company's mission is to “change the negative stigma associated with hearing protection devices and provide adjustable noise reduction technology,” he said. **You Tune** has raised more than \$50,000 with its ongoing Kickstarter campaign.

“The University of Dayton's strong mentorship program has been an invaluable resource to assist us with launching versatile in-ear technology,” Smith said.

This year’s winner will receive \$25,000; second-place \$15,000; third \$10,000; and fourth, fifth and sixth: \$5,000 each.

The top three teams will also win an additional 15 hours of free legal advice and support. The first-place winner also receives two hours of free sales training through the University of Dayton Center for Professional Selling.

More information about the Business Plan Competition is available online.

For more information, contact Meagan Pant, assistant director of media relations, at 937-229-3256 or mpant1@udayton.edu.

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