

UNBSJ business students attend accounting competition in PEI

Press Release

Most of them worked into the wee hours of the morning as the deadline quickly approached. Each team of two business students had to have the accounting case and their poise polished for a formal presentation to the judges early the next morning.

This wasn't just another accounting assignment. This was the Doane Raymond Atlantic Canada accounting case competition, the first of its kind in the area.

On November 2, two UNBSJ business students David Palmer and Mike Maloney, travelled to Charlottetown with their faculty advisor, Margaret Martin. There they entered the competition with other Atlantic university students to determine who would produce the best solution to a challenging accounting case.

David and Mike received the case at noon on Friday and had until 8:30 the following morning to complete the analysis for presentation to the judging panel, including two Doane Raymond accounting professionals and one university business professor. Unlike some accounting cases, this one concentrated on

broader issues and problems involving different disciplines rather than focusing only on technical rules. "It's not just number-crunching", one team member pointed out. "It's your approach and your interpretation of the problem that counts."

On Saturday afternoon, the judges announced the winners. The University College of Cape Breton team had presented the most appropriate solution and were awarded a cash prize and a silver tray to display on their campus.

Aimed at promotion of the case method and higher standards in the education of accountants, the competition gave both students and professors the opportunity to study other topics as well. "I'd recommend it to anybody," says Dereck Planetta, one of the winners. "Even if you're not an accounting major, it's educational. The competition is a lot of fun and it's well worth the weekend."

Because the competition was held during the Atlantic Schools of Business annual conference, the participants and their advisors were able to attend conference seminars where accounting professionals presented papers on issues related to the field.

Plans for next year's case competition are already underway. David Hope, FCA (Fellow of Chartered Accountants), and national professional development partner with Doane Raymond, sponsor of the event, said "competition was keen and we are confident that the 1991 event will produce another exciting challenge to the competing teams".



(from L to R) Erwin Dawson, judge; team members Mike Maloney and David Palmer; G.R. Chesley, competition chairperson.
Gord Johnston Photo

Media workshop

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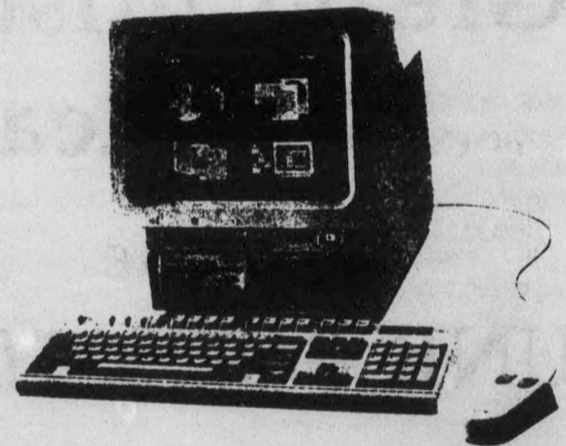
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