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For immediate release

Ouachita Enactus team named regional champions, advances to national competition

By Katie Smith

April 26, 2018

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ARKADELPHIA, Ark.—Ouachita Baptist University's Enactus team was named Regional Champion its annual regional competition in Dallas, Texas. The team will move on to compete at the Enactus National Exposition in Kansas City, Mo., May 20-22. The competition includes a detailed, scripted presentation highlighting the various projects conducted by Ouachita's Enactus organization.

Seven teams from around the region competed against each other in seven leagues, and the top four teams in each league move on as Regional Champions to compete in the national competition.

"The faculty at Ouachita, especially in the Hickingbotham School of Business, support Enactus wholeheartedly," said Ouachita Enactus President Victoria White, a senior accounting major from Powderly, Texas. "Our success at regional competition is a direct result of their guidance and encouragement as we work to have one of the best student-led organizations on campus.

"Bryan McKinney is our faculty advisor who has laid the foundational work for OBU Enactus' success," she added. "Without his leadership and expertise, student leaders like myself, our project leaders and our active members would not be able to impact as many people through our projects."

Enactus is a global entrepreneurship-focused program with a presence in 36 countries on more than 1,700 college campuses. Enactus challenges students to use business to help solve social issues locally and globally. Members create and run various programs through university Enactus chapters and then present their work at regional and national competitions. Winners of each national competition present at the Enactus World Cup Competition. The next step for the Ouachita team is the Enactus U.S. National Exposition May 20-22 in Kansas City.

"Our team wants to use entrepreneurial skills to make life better for others," said Bryan McKinney, dean of the Hickingbotham School of Business and faculty sponsor of Enactus. "Enactus is a secular organization, with teams found literally across the globe. Yet, the mission of Enactus globally is so similar to our mission as a faith-based university. We, too, want to use the gifts God has given us in order to

make life better for others. That's really our goal. We also want to compete well and represent OBU with distinction!"

This year, Ouachita's Enactus team presented several projects at the regional competition, including Dr. Jack's Coffee, Generation-U, Mission 58:10 and Bridges. Dr. Jack's Coffee is an initiative that sells coffee on and off campus to raise proceeds for an orphanage and farmers in Honduras. Generation-U allows students to donate gently used dorm furniture and supplies to local high school students attending college. Mission 58:10 works to raise awareness of Arkadelphia's high food insecurity rate and to provide food for students in local schools. Bridges works with entrepreneurs who present a problem or goal to a panel of students who help provide solutions.

Enactus is a program in Ouachita's Hickingbotham School of Business, but students of all majors are invited to become members.

"We had multiple students from various majors outside of the business school join us for the regional competition," McKinney explained. "Students learn to work on a team. They do good for others. And they have an opportunity to network with other very bright students and some of the best companies in the world."

For more information, contact Bryan McKinney at mckinneyb@obu.edu or (870) 245-5513.

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