

GLOBAL BUSINESS CASE COMPETITION Participants Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What internet connectivity will I have access to at the hotel?

A: The hotel will have DSL and wireless connectivity. Please bring your own DSL cord. The Command Center in the hotel will be open from the time the teams receive the case until the final presentations. The Command Center will be equipped with two desktop computers, and printers, as well as four DSL lines intended to be used for downloading large files and quantities of information during the case analysis.

Q: What technology access will we have on the UW Campus?

A: You will receive a UW NetID & password upon arrival. Your UW NetID serves as your identification as a UW student or guest. This will allow you access to UW libraries, networks, and other resources. If you bring your own laptop – with UW NetID and password, you can access wireless internet on campus. If you do not bring your own laptop – with UW NetID and password, you can log onto computers on campus.

Q: Will I have access to the UW library databases?

A: Yes, when you log onto computers in UW libraries with your UW NetID, you will automatically be allowed to access library databases. You can research more in advance on the UW Libraries Homepage or at the homepage for the Foster Business Library.

Q: Will I have access to printers?

A: Yes, teams will be provided access to additional computers and printers in the Command Center of the hotel.

Q: Will I have access to a presentation clicker?

A: Yes, during the preliminary and final rounds, teams will be provided with a presentation clicker.

Q: What hardware and software will I have access to?

Various computer centers on campus will have different software installed. However, you should be aware that these additional programs will not be installed on the presentation computers and should only be used to interpret data, not present results.

Q: Can I bring my own laptop and use it on campus?

A: Yes, you are required to bring your own laptops as we will not be providing laptops. You may not use your personal computer for the presentations on Saturday. GBCC laptops will be provided on Saturday for each presentation room. You will bring your presentation on a thumb drive.

Q: What peripheral equipment is needed?

A: Please keep in mind that the US has a 120 volt electricity system. If any of your equipment is programmed to function with a different system, please bring your own converters and adapters.

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Q: What if my technology question has not been answered?

A: For answers to other technology- related questions, please contact the GBCC Co-Chairs.

Q: Where can I find the competition rules?

A: Please visit the Competition Guidelines page to view the competition rules. It is your responsibility to know them.

Q: Will our faculty advisor be able to assist us while we prepare for the case?

A: No. The faculty advisor may not help team members during preparation of the case analysis or on the Day of Competition. This rule applies to any non-team member i.e. staff, ambassadors, other students/faculty. Only the four participants of each team will be allowed to work on the case material.

Q: What can I do to prepare for the competition?

A: To prepare for the competition teams may want to practice analyzing past GBCC cases or other business cases such as Harvard Business School Cases.

Q: Will we need to bring our own supplies?

A: Teams will be provided with a small packet of office supplies to help them prepare their case analysis. If you anticipate having special needs as you prepare, please bring those items with you. If you find you need more office supplies than what is provided, there are several stores nearby where you will be able to purchase a variety of items.

Q: Will our presentations be recorded?

A: Presentations will be professionally videotaped and distributed to all teams after the competition. No additional video or audio recording of presentations will be permitted.

Q: What expenses are covered by GBCC?

A: The competition covers all meals and transportation for April 13 - April 17.

Q: What expenses are not covered by GBCC?

A: The GBCC does not cover any personal expenses or expenses related to activities outside of the Event Schedule. Additionally, it does not cover:

- Hotel accommodations
- Additional materials and supplies related to your case preparation
- Additional food or snacks outside the scheduled meals
- Optional events and associated expenses
- Transportation to the airport for departure
- Long Distance phone call
- Hotel room services: food, movies, etc.

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Q: How does a university receive an invitation to participate?

A: The University of Washington Foster School challenges selected schools from across the globe to compete in the annual undergraduate Global Business Case Competition. Invitations are sent out in the summer. Contact us for more information. See Archives for schools who have participated in the past.

Q: What is the agenda for the week?

A: The week's schedule has a variety of competition-related and social events.

Q: How many team members are allowed per team?

A: We allow four undergraduates to participate in the competition. No alternates are allowed.

Q: What is the length and nature of the case that will be analyzed?

A: We recommend that you examine the previous years' cases. This year's case will approximate the length of previously used cases. The issues, of course, will be different.

Q: How are the cases distributed?

A: The competition begins when teams receive their cases on Thursday morning. Distribution will be staggered in exactly the same way as the preliminary presentations, to allow exactly 48 hours for each team to analyze and prepare their PowerPoint presentations.

Q: What software is used during the competition?

A: The presentation computers will be installed with Microsoft Office 2007, and PowerPoint is required during presentations.

Q: How many advisors are there for each team? What is their function?

A: We permit one advisor per team. These advisors are invited to participate in many of the activities held throughout the week, including the corporate tour. The advisors are not allowed to assist in the case analysis. They may be available during the 48-hour analysis period only to help with non-case-related issues, such as bringing up food and water.