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USU teams win at national IT competition

Huntsman Post

USU teams win at national IT competition

By Kevin Opsahl

Two teams at Utah State University's Jon M. Huntsman School of Business took top places in an information technology competition that pitted them against colleges and universities from around the world.

They placed first and second in the 2013 Walmart IT Summit and AIS Student Chapter Leadership Conference in Bentonville, Ark., which brought together 82 teams from top universities, testing their IT skills and ability, according to USU.

A team of three Huntsman MIS students, which included Vishal Patel, Dannaea Ward and Eric Schnell, entered the "IT risk identification category" and took first place. They were asked to do a case study for a fictional health care company that was trying to decide if it should store private patient data in an online secure cloud storage system or on a more traditional protected system.

"We came to know about the risk in real life," said Patel, a graduate student in management information systems. "We used our classroom experience as the foundation to solve real-life challenges for a company like Walmart, and that was a great experience."

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