



**For Immediate Release**

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**WAKE FOREST STUDENTS TO REPRESENT THE U.S. IN KPMG INTERNATIONAL CASE STUDY COMPETITION**

**NEW YORK**, February 7, 2011 – A team of business school students from Wake Forest University took first place in the national round of KPMG’s International Case Study Competition and will advance to represent the United States in the international competition in Istanbul, Turkey, on April 6-8.

This is the third year that colleges and universities from the United States have participated in the International Case Study Competition.

“At KPMG we believe early exposure to global business is essential for students in this rapidly globalizing business environment,” said Stacy Sturgeon, KPMG’s national managing partner, university relations and recruiting. “The KPMG International Case Competition is a unique way for us to help students develop a global mindset by putting them in the shoes of business leaders to address real life issues faced by international companies. In addressing these issues, students are challenged to think outside of their country borders and take on an international perspective.”

Wake Forest was among 18 colleges and universities from across the country to participate in the competition. Winning teams from each school advanced to the regional phase of the competition, held in six locations across the country earlier this year. The six regional team winners, representing Boston College, University of Maryland, University of Texas, University of Illinois, University of Washington, and Wake Forest, competed against each other in New York City on February 4.

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This is the second year in a row that Wake Forest has won the national competition. The Wake Forest team includes accountancy major Megan Petitt, finance majors Tim Rodgers and Swayze Smartt, and business and enterprise management major Afton Vechery. They were given three hours to read a business scenario and form observations and recommendations that they then presented to a panel of KPMG partners serving as judges for the competition.

“This competition requires quick critical thinking, business acumen and team-work, and we congratulate the team from Wake Forest for standing out among some terrific presentations and effort,” said KPMG’s Sturgeon. “We wish the Wake Forest team the very best in Istanbul. We were very impressed with the level of effort and professionalism from each of the teams.”

Anna Cianci, Wake Forest assistant professor of accounting and faculty advisor for the KPMG competition team, felt very proud of the team’s accomplishment. “This is a tremendous accomplishment by these four extraordinary students,” she said. “Their achievement is especially impressive in light of the fact that they competed against some of the best and brightest students from other great universities and came out on top. Their dedication, hard work and talent are to be admired and applauded.”

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