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WEST O'AHU

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**UH West O'ahu student team wins national finance competition for second consecutive year**

**KAPOLEI** --- For the second year in a row, University of Hawai'i – West O'ahu Business Administration students won the prestigious national Association of Government Accountants' (AGA) Finance Case Challenge competition. UH West O'ahu Accounting students Valerie Torikawa-Domingo, Brittinney Santiago, and Jennie Ann Christman took home the national prize this January, competing against undergraduate students from across the United States.

Torikawa-Domingo, Santiago, and Christman completed a written facilitative analysis of a municipality, and produced an oral presentation video of their findings. The team analyzed the City of Hillsborough, North Carolina and reported on the town's ability to attract companies, individual residents, and the investment community. Their analysis revealed a strong local economy, high quality of life indices, and healthy town finances.

"These are some of my best accounting students and I am very proud of them," said Faculty Advisor and Associate Professor of Accounting Dr. Franklin T. Kudo. "Valerie Torikawa-Domingo, Brittinney Santiago, and Jennie Ann Christman are individuals whose hard work ethic, perseverance and learning orientation will certainly contribute to their future success in business and life."

UH West O'ahu student team members Shena Bocalbos, Ryoko Lung, and Mamina Tahara won the AGA Finance Case Challenge competition in 2013-2014 for their analysis of the City of Garland, Texas.

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Established in 1976, **the University of Hawai'i - West O'ahu** offers quality education, small classes and personalized attention with academic programs that emphasize the exploration of interdisciplinary and cross-cultural studies. UH West O'ahu serves approximately 2,700 students at its brand new, state-of-the-art campus that opened in the City of Kapolei in 2012. For more information, visit [www.uhwo.hawaii.edu](http://www.uhwo.hawaii.edu), call (808) 689-2800 or toll-free (866) 299-8656. Find us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

The **Association of Government Accountants' (AGA)** is the member organization for financial professionals in government. The organization leads and encourages change that benefits government accounting and all citizens. AGA networking events, professional certification,

publications and ongoing education help members build their skills and advance their careers. For more information, visit <http://www.agacgfm.org>.

**PHOTO CAPTION:** UH West O'ahu award-winning students with Faculty Advisor and Associate Professor of Accounting Dr. Franklin T. Kudo and Chancellor Rockne Freitas. From left to right: Franklin T. Kudo, Valerie Torikawa-Domingo, Rockne Freitas, Jennie Ann Christman, and Brittiney Santiago.