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USU's BAP Chapter Wins Regional Deloitte Best Practices Competition - April 2015



USU's Delta Omega chapter of Beta Alpha Psi is famous for being the longest concurrent running "Superior" chapter in the entire organization which includes nearly 300 chapters throughout the United States and recently expanded into Asia and Oceania. The chapter has achieved Superior status every year since 1977 which involves meeting a high standard of at least 32 hours of professional and service activities per member, along with a number of other requirements.

They are also famous for being ambitious and competitive and this year they have kept that tradition alive by taking both a first place and third place award in the Deloitte sponsored Best Practices Regional competition in Denver, Colorado April 9 and 10. Teams that place first in the region are invited to compete at the annual meeting in August which this year will be held in Milwaukee Wisconsin.

The winning presentation was in the category "International Impact" and featured the award winning VITA Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program that benefits approximately 700 students by preparing and e-filing their tax returns. Many schools have outbound international programs and the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business has one of the best around. Nearly every Beta Alpha Psi member has participated in one of the international programs and loved their experiences. For this competition, the BAP chapter decided to focus on supporting the inbound side of Global experience by supporting and assisting the hundreds of international students who attend Utah State University and are required to comply with United States tax laws that are foreign and complex to them. The judges particularly liked that the chapter was innovative in their approach to develop new procedures that would keep students from waiting hours in the hallways for their turn to get a tax return prepared, reviewed and ready to file. The presentation team included Jacob Fryer, Josh Richards and Derek Droesbeke.

The Rocky Mountain Region has chapters from 17 different schools in Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, Montana and New Mexico and includes some powerhouse accounting programs like University of Denver, University of Utah and BYU. The third place finish was in the category of Financial Literacy and was presented by Alyssa Kohler, Stephen Brown and Eric Graves. Trevor Frank and Jeff Fielding also presented in the Effective Operations division and while they did not place, they shared ideas about how the Delta Omega chapter has refined their success to be more inclusive and leadership oriented rather than an elite organization with benefits only for a few students at the top of their class.