August, 22, 2013

International Sustainable Campus Competition finalists announced

Edmonton—MacEwan University is pleased to announce that it has been named one of three finalists in the Sustainable Campus International Competition (SCIC). The other finalists are from McGill University and the International School of Management, Dakar, Senegal.

MacEwan University’s submission, the Solar Greenhouse Test Module shows that a lot of food grown in Alberta comes from commercial greenhouses which need to close down in winter months due to high heat and lighting costs. The Solar Research Test Module is a research greenhouse used to develop methods of sustainable heating and lighting that will make it feasible for greenhouses to operate throughout the year.

The MacEwan University team consists of three students: Derek Reid, Misha Bazelevskyy, and Andrew Talviste. As part of their research for the project, they discovered that the use of aquaponics and passive technologies in greenhouses would significantly reduce the amount of energy required for year round operation. The Solar Greenhouse Test Module would also be used to research carbon reduction methods of growing food to create ways for businesses to operate all year, allowing for sustainable job opportunities.

The SCIC aims to recognize and support the value of sustainability in higher education. In its first year the competition received 13 submissions from seven universities across five countries and three continents.

Dr. Michel Richard, Head of the UNESCO chair in education, training and research for sustainable development (FRANCE) accepted the role of International Jury president. The winning submission will be announced on August 29.

To review MacEwan University’s submission, go to: http://sustainablecampusic.com/solar-greenhouse-test-module/

To review McGill’s submission, go to: http://sustainablecampusic.com/improving-macdonald-campus-of-mcgill-universitys-waste-management-system/

To review the International School of Management submission, go to http://sustainablecampusic.com/greenact/

Founded in 1971, MacEwan University is a comprehensive university offering more than 65 programs including undergraduate degrees, applied degrees, diplomas, certificates, continuing education and corporate training. Its philosophy of inspiring minds, academic excellence, and providing career opportunities continues to be its guide as it serves the educational needs of students across Alberta, Canada and the world.

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