

RECOGNITIONS

Some of the more significant recognitions related to the CDE and the EEE included:

- **2009** - Sam Walton Business Plan Competition (team of 2 EEE students, the only Inter American University students to receive this recognition)
- **2009** - EEE was recognized as the most distinguished student association at the Metropolitan Campus
- **2009 to 2015** - Internships (16 EEE students have been awarded with (10) local, (4) national and (2) international internships)
- **2009, 2011 & 2012** - Grupo Guayacán, Inc. Enterprize Idea Competition (4 EEE winners)
- **2010** - Outstanding Young Persons of the World 2010 TOYP award (awarded to Myraida Anderson's work with the initiative The Family Tree initiative.
- **2010 to 2014** EEE was recognized as the most entrepreneurial and creative student association at the Metropolitan Campus
- **2011** - Banco Santander Business Plan Competition (team of 2 EEE students won the 1st Santander Business Plan Competition)
- **2012** - EEE students were selected to assist each one of the candidates running for Governor of PR during the Manufacturer Association of Puerto Rico Convention
- **2011 & 2014**- Tiger Venture Competition (Results: 2 EEE students won first prizes and Coca-Cola Puerto Rico Bottlers' interships, and 6 EEE students were selected as finalists)
- **2013** - The CDE assisted and advised Huerto Isleño's founder Arturo López, Enterprize Next grand prize winner, and also winner of the agriculture special award. (This is the 1st time the CDE helps a member of the community win this prestigious competition). Also, Rodolfo Crespo, EEE student and Mr. Héctor Ramos were selected finalists)
- **2014**- Official presentation, at the Chamber



of Representatives of PR (CRPR), of a law project regarding the introduction of entrepreneurship into high school classrooms in Puerto Rico. The project was written by Ángel Velázquez (“EEE” student), and presented, as a petition on behalf of Velázquez, by the President of the CRPR, Hon. Jaime Perelló Borrás.

- **2014-** The “EEE” was recognized by the Future Business Leaders of America Puerto Rico’s Chapter for the students’ service, collaboration and commitment to the development of high school students in PR.
- **2014-** The CDE assisted and advised Rodolfo Crespo, Shanelle Arzuaga, Desiree Soto and Stephanie Rivera (Peggy), winner of Premio Santander 2014, Manuel de la Cruz, Ricardo Gutiérrez, Annety de la Cruz, Gloria Carrasquillo y Paola L. Viruet (one1book.com), José Antonio Rodríguez Adrián Malabet, Yamilette Méndez Mercado y José Alvelo (Royalty Live), and José Antonio Rodríguez, Giovanni González, José Gabriel Alvelo, Emmanuel Soler, and Jouseph Santiago (Daiboken) also received three additional special awards in Premio Santander 2014. (This is the 1st time the CDE won 4 of the 6 Premio Santander awards. It is the second time in three years that an EEE member wins Premio Santander Competition’s 1st place award). Jeniffer Pérez (Bean Coffee Bar) was awarded a special recognition.
- **2014 -** EEE students assisted Governor of PR, Hon. Alejandro Garcia Padilla during the Manufacturer Association of Puerto Rico Convention. The EEE members were responsible for a variety of activities and actions related to the MAPR convention. The students from Metro and Fajardo campuses were in charge of the registration tables, video recording of activities during the three days event, interviewing and posting of pictures, videos, and interviews in social media, served as runners, collaborated with some of the exhibitors, and also, promoted the University at the Metro campus booth. Some of the students involved were Manuel, Paola, Wan Hui, Alejandro, Ricardo, Felver, Jeniffer, José,



Bryant, Miguel, Rodolfo and a group of eight Fajardo EEE students.

- **2014-** In November YEES, Inc., sponsored by the government, executed the finals for the 1st “Justas Empresariales Universitarias”. In November 29, at the Puerto Rico Convention Center, over 450 students from 14 universities participated to win one of the five \$10,000 cash prizes for the best business plan in five categories (Health, Food, Environment, Technology, and Other). The Inter American University was represented by the San German and Metro campuses. The Metro campus teams were selected in a semi-final competition held at the campus. Each one of the categories was represented by an EEE student mentored by professor Alex Rodriguez, Dr. Freddy Medina, Dr. Ernesto Torres, professors Juan Borrás and Edgar Lopategui.

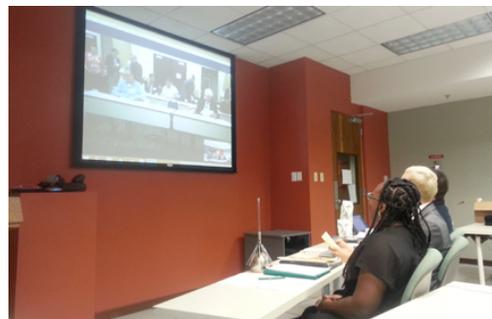
The students that participated and their business ideas were Dalilys Quiles (Life Punch), Rodolfo Crespo (PEGGY), Kristina Mangual (Inside Nature), Manuel de la Cruz (Fresh, Tasty, and Grill Restaurant), Alvin Batista (Nación Deportiva). Each of the students had 3:20 minutes to present their business plans to judges. After all students from all the universities presented, the judges deliberated and the host announced the winners. Metro EEE’s students (Dalilys, Kristina, and Rodolfo) won three of the five categories earning \$33,000 for themselves and \$3,000 for the mentors.

- **2015-** In February, professor Alex Rodriguez, CDE Director, received the news that the project he presented in October, titled *Creation of a Center for the Development of Entrepreneurs*, has earned him the 2015 Leavey Award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education in the United States granted by the Freedom Foundation. Freedom Foundation has selected, for the past 37 years, the best ten



entrepreneurship initiatives nationwide among high schools and universities. This is the 38th year and professor Rodríguez becomes the first Puerto Rican to be recognized. The award recognized the work performed by Rodriguez that involves the education and promotion of an entrepreneurship concept during the past seven years. Rodríguez will receive the award in November, during the Leavey Summit at New Orleans, and will join an exclusive group of some 500 educators in the United States. He will be presenting the project to academicians from all the United States at the Summit. This award is a great recognition for the work, dedication, and collaboration of students, professors, and administrative personnel that made it possible for Inter-Metro to create the first CDE at the University.

- **2015-** In May the EEE, IEA and the Roots & Shoots members received recognitions from the Inter Metro Campus and the Manufacturers Association of Puerto Rico for their work during the last year. The EEE was recognized, for the 6th consecutive year, as the most entrepreneurial student association in the Campus. Roots and Shoots was recognized for the organization of Jane Goodall's visit to PR. The IEA received a certificate for their strong beginning as an association.
- **2015-** A team of four EEE and IEA students, mentored by professor Rodríguez, competed for the first time in the Network International Business School international business plan competition against 10 universities from The Netherlands, Ireland, Belgium, Finland, Croatia, Hungary, Peru, United States. In May 21, the LITVAK team (James Litvak, Bryant Guardado, Daliza Huggins, and Marc Ortiz) presented through Skype to NIBS judges in Missouri. After deliberation, the judges awarded second place to Litvak and the team became the first in the Americas to achieve second place in NIBS competition. They appeared in the picture with chancellor Wayland, Director Soto, and mentor, professor Rodriguez.



- **2015-** Coca-Cola Tiger Venture Competition 2015 (fifth year of the competition) was won by 5 Inter American students. The judges awarded the first place (cash prize and Coca-Cola internship) to Gabriela Colón. She is an Inter Metro EEE member, Entrepreneurship Fundamentals course ENTR 2200 student and was mentored by professor Rodríguez.

Gabriela's idea was named Solaris Tech Glass and resembled the transition technology apply in glasses. The business idea is to implement the same technology to car windows, front and back glasses. Gabriela appears in the first picture with Manuel Fernós, IAUPR president, her parents, Mr. Adrian Rivera and Adrid Cruz (Coca-Cola Puerto Rico Bottlers, Inc.), judges, and Manuel de la Cruz, Inter Metro finalist. In the second picture, she appears with Chancellor Wayland, and professor and mentor Rodríguez.



- **2015-** Collaboration with Manufacturers Association of Puerto Rico convention at El Conquistador Hotel. Twenty-two students were involved in the registration of guests, runners, ushers, and representatives of the Inter American University at the Inter-Metro booth. The students were directed by Manuel de la Cruz, EEE president.

The students that participated were Glori, Gustavo, Jovanny, Paola, Thony, Wan Hui, Grace, Miguel, Jubee, Dalilys, José, Rodolfo, Rodrigo, Astery, among others.



- **2015-** Participation and collaboration in the 2nd consecutive Chamber of Commerce of Puerto Rico Convention. The participation included learning from entrepreneurship experts about how to begin start-ups.

In June, the students that participated in the



convention were business idea and plan competition winners (James Litvak, Bryant Guardado, Daliza Huggins, Rodolfo Crespo, Dalilys Quiles, Gabriela Colón) and Jovanny Peña, Miguel Prestamo and Gustavo González.

- **2015-** In May, the CDE Director was invited to participate from various training workshops organized by ECHAR PA'LANTE in order to strengthen his entrepreneurship knowledge, teach students new entrepreneurial ideas, and to serve as a trainer for high school professors. The first workshop was delivered by Carl Rust and David Byron from Georgia Tech entrepreneurship program and Innovation Entrepreneurship Institute.



The second work shop was offered by Gary Schoeniger. Mr. Schoeniger, a self-made entrepreneur, designed a system titled ICE House. The program help students and professors develop their entrepreneurship mind-set following eight steps and a series of strategies and exercises that assist users understand the process of defining a problem to developing a solution and brand it with the purpose of enhancing community and economy.



- **2015-** November was a month full of recognitions for the work of the entrepreneurial students that study at the Metro Campus and that are part of the EEE, IEA, Roots & Shoots, and FBLA-PBL associations.

Also the CDE Director was recognized for his services in the creation of the CDE.



Recognitions came from institutions such as ECHAR PA'LANTE, the Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation and the Freedoms Foundation.

The recognitions and awards included the passing of the Expo Emprende Puerto Rico 2016 Trophy, the participation in the "3er Encuentro de ECHAR PA'LANTE" were Mr. Schoniger expressed that the future is in the hands of the students and the video that was presented finished with the picture of the EEE and IEA students in the Expo.

Finally, the professor Rodriguez's Leavey award for Excellence in Private Enterprise Education awarded in Leavey Award official ceremony in New Orleans.

