What is the Emory Global Health Case Competition?

The Emory Global Health Case Competition (EGHCC) is an innovative student learning program that brings together students from multiple disciplines to address a critical global health challenge in both a competitive and collaborative environment. The EGHCC borrows its format from business school case competitions where student teams formulate recommendations for a business case. The EGHCC is unique in that it requires students to work in multidisciplinary teams to analyze a real-world global health challenge that requires an interdisciplinary approach.

Competition History

The inaugural Emory Global Health Case Competition, held in spring 2009, was initiated and coordinated by the Emory Global Health Institute’s Student Advisory Committee (SAC), a multidisciplinary group of engaged students representing every school at Emory University. Forty Emory students comprising eight multidisciplinary teams presented their best strategies for alleviating severe acute childhood malnutrition in Ethiopia.

In 2010, the Emory Global Health Institute expanded the competition regionally by including three guest teams located in the Southeast. This resulted in 12 multidisciplinary teams developing recommendations for the mock government of Gujarat, India on how to reduce tobacco-related health and economic burdens while recognizing that tobacco product manufacturing is one of the state’s largest industries.

In 2011, EGHI’s SAC took the competition national and included multidisciplinary teams from 12 universities across the United States and eight Emory teams. These 20 teams developed programmatic priorities for the East Africa Regional Office of the UN’s High Commissioner for Refugees, which had just suffered from a 40% budget cut and was responsible for the welfare of 800,000 refugees living in Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda.

In 2012, EGHI and its SAC coordinated two global health case competitions. One competition was an intramural competition reserved for Emory students. Twelve Emory teams analyzed the childhood obesity epidemic in Mexico and developed strategies for addressing it. The winning team from the intramural competition went on to compete against 22 guest university teams in EGHI’s first International Emory Global Health Case Competition. These 23 teams developed recommendations to address the health and social disparities that exist among Sri Lanka’s Sinhalese and Tamil populations. EGHI and its SAC repeated this model in 2013, hosting 12 Emory teams for its intramural competition and 23 guest university teams and an Emory team for its international competition. 2013 intramural teams developed health care reform recommendations for France’s defeated Union for Popular Movement Party, while 2013 international teams developed and presented foreign aid

“The case was extremely complex and multi-layered and truly mirrored a policy challenge of the future. It needed solutions on multiple levels and made us think hard to devise a workable plan. In essence, the case was a problem solver’s delight and we would like to thank the case writers at Emory for presenting us with a cracker of a case.”

Nidhi Khurana
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
2013 International Competition Winning Team Member
recommendations to the government of the People's Republic of China. The 2013 international case subject, set in the near future, required teams to make recommendations regarding specific sanitation interventions and investment countries.

2014 Emory Global Health Case Competitions
This year, EGHI and its SAC will again host two global health case competitions: an intramural competition reserved for Emory students and an international competition that will include the first-place Emory team from the intramural competition and 23 guest university teams from across the world. The 2014 Intramural Emory Global Health Case Competition is scheduled for Saturday, February 1, 2014, and the international competition will take place on Saturday, March 29, 2014. Both competitions will be held on the Emory University campus. The intramural competition will include twelve teams, and the international competition will include 24 teams. Cash prizes will be provided to the top three teams and to the team that demonstrates the most innovative idea.

Who can participate in the Intramural Competition?
Graduate and undergraduate students from across Emory University are encouraged to participate in multidisciplinary, multi-school teams. Teams will be comprised of six students from at least three or more Emory schools. Post-graduate and post-doctoral fellows are not eligible to participate.

2014 Case Subject and Evaluation
The 2014 case subjects are yet to be determined, but recommendations responding to any global health case subject will require a multidisciplinary approach including but not limited to perspectives from medicine, public health, nursing, law, business, and theology. A panel of judges from multiple disciplines selected by EGHI will evaluate the teams’ recommendations on the selected case.

Important Dates

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<tr>
<td>Saturday, February 1, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 29, 2014</td>
<td>International Emory Global Health Case Competition</td>
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WE HOPE TO SEE YOU IN 2014!