Richards College of Business Announces “Big Night” Winners
Business Students present Research to Panel of Judges and Colleagues

CARROLLTON, Ga. – The University of West Georgia Richards College of Business hosted “RCOB Big Night 2013” on March 13. This annual competition provides an opportunity for undergraduate business students to showcase and present their recent research activities to their peers, professors, family and more. A panel of faculty and guest judges then evaluates the presentations, and the winner goes on to present at the campus-wide “Big Night” on Tuesday, April 2, at 7:00 p.m. in the Campus Center Ballroom.

This year, the first place award went to Tyler Reid for his project titled “Forecasting Emergency Room Visits with Google Trends.” Dr. William J. Smith, UWG Associate Professor of Economics, sponsored Reid’s project. In total, 9 students presented 7 presentations during the event. M. Shawn Brown from Snap Technologies, Inc., and Lou Loquasto from Global Lending Services, LLC, served as guest judges from the UWG alumni and business community. Faculty judges Dr. Bruce Bird, Professor of Accounting and Finance, and Kim Holder, Lecturer in the Department of Economics, also joined the panel.

A full list of “RCOB Big Night 2013” a listed as follows:

**First Place**
Forecasting Emergency Room Visits with Google Trends
Presented by: Tyler Reid
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. William J. Smith
Department of Economics

**Second Place**
“I’m Sorry” Laws and Malpractice Insurance: Estimating the Impact of Apologies in Medical Misadventures
Presented by: Borja Arino
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. William J. Smith
Department of Economics

**Third Place**
Fund Management Structure and Rates of Return: An Examination of the Mutual Fund Market
Presented by: Carlos Cano
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. William J. Smith
Department of Economics
The University of West Georgia is the land of opportunity for approximately 12,000 undergraduate and graduate students in 97 fields of study. The university is known for its innovative approach to scholarly achievement, creative expression, and service to humanity. It is recognized by U.S. News & World Report magazine as the #46 public university in the South.

Founded in Carrollton, Ga., in 1906, UWG also offers classes at its Newnan and Douglasville centers and online. For more information, please visit westga.edu.