



Univ.-District of Columbia Prepares to Compete at Honda Campus All-Star Challenge National Championship

Student team will challenge the best and brightest HBCU students

[Washington, DC], March 12, 2015 – Brainpower from America’s Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) will be on display at the 26th annual [Honda Campus All-Star Challenge \(HCASC\)](#) National Championship Tournament. HBCU students have spent the school year diligently preparing and qualifying to compete in the national championship of this unique academic tournament, March 21-25, 2015, on the campus of American Honda Motor Co., Inc., in Torrance, California.

This year’s [road to the championship](#) began in the fall, with 76 HBCUs vying for the final 48 slots. Through countless hours of study, drills and practice, elite teams emerged, knowledgeable and ready to take on the competition.

“Every one of the students that qualifies for the ‘Great 48’ is a champion in their own right,” said Steve Morikawa, Vice President of Corporate Community Relations at American Honda. “Honda is proud to welcome this year’s class into an exceptional community of HCASC alumni that comes together each year to celebrate academic excellence.”

UDC’s 2015 team is Andreas Smith, Captain, a sophomore from Washington, DC; Robin Gilbrecht, a senior from Cupertino, CA; Nequil Taborn, a freshman from Washington, DC; and Ollie Waldon, a sophomore from Washington, DC. Everett Burwell Jr. coaches the team. Dr. James E. Lyons, Interim President, will accompany the team.

HBCU Alumni in the Los Angeles Area are invited to attend the Round Robin Games on Sunday, March 22nd from 8:30 am – 7 pm at the South Bay Marriott. Click for [HCASC NCT Guest Information](#).

The 2015 finals will be live-streamed on Monday, March 23rd starting at 12:00 ET on [HCASC.com](#) and other websites.

For more information on the 2015 HCASC, including a full list of the 48 qualifying teams, visit [www.hcasc.com](#). Connect with HCASC via social media for updates on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/HCASC](#)) and Twitter ([www.twitter.com/HCASC](#)), using #HCASC.

About Honda Campus All-Star Challenge:

Celebrating HBCU excellence, Honda Campus All-Star Challenge is one of Honda’s largest and longest running philanthropic initiatives in the United States. Since 1989, the program has awarded more than \$7.5 million in grants to participating HBCUs, impacting the lives of over 100,000 students across 22 states. HCASC’s impressive roster of past participants includes engineers, lawyers, doctors and professors. A number of high profile former HCASC participants have been inducted into the HCASC Hall of Fame, including Clark Atlanta University alumnus and ESPN anchor, Bomani Jones, who participated in two HCASC competitions between 1999 and 2001, serving as team captain in 2001.

For more information, contact:

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UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FACT SHEET

- 2015 is UDC's 24th consecutive year competing in HCASC.
- 2015 marks the 23rd time UDC has qualified for the National Championship Tournament.
- UDC has won a total of \$111,000 in grants to date.
- UDC teams advanced to the Elite Eight playoffs in 1994, 1996 and 2002.
- UDC advanced to the Final Four playoffs in 1992 and 2007. The team won \$15,000 in each of those years.
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For more information, go to:

www.hcasc.com

Team rosters for each year, and winnings by year, are at:

<https://www.hcasc.com/schoolhistoryrptdlg.asp>

Final Four history is at:

<https://www.hcasc.com/arch/nct.asp>