

Webber FBLA-PBL Places in National Competition

For Immediate Release
Babson Park, FL

On June 22nd, Webber International University sent eight members and one advisor, Joanne Muniz, from their Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) organization to San Antonio, TX for the 2019 National Leadership Conference (NLC) where more than 2,000 students from across the U.S. competed in over 65 events!

This six-day event was the culmination of a year's worth of hard work by Webber's PBL, who competed in District and State competitions at Valencia College and at the Doubletree Seaworld Orlando Resort, respectively, to earn their places in San Antonio.

Their trip started on Sunday, June 23rd with Webber's 2019 PBL incoming president, Hunter Lonadier, and vice president, Jessica Terry, who were also Webber's Voting Delegates for this conference, attending PBL's 2019 National Institute for Leaders. During this two-day event, Hunter and Jessica attended workshops on the differences between leading and managing and being an innovator or an entrepreneur. Day one workshops included such topics as strategic planning, project management, entrepreneurial edge, communication strategies, and funding your fortune. Day two began with a general session networking activity which allowed all participants to create new friendships while utilizing their newly acquired skills. This event wrapped up on Monday, June 24th with several additional workshops relating to inspiring others, resume building, increasing your circle of influence, and interviewing skills. Both Hunter and Jessica expressed that they learned "how to get teams involved" by being an effective leader and "that you are not what you do and to keep your eye on the prize, but your head on a swivel," respectively.

Monday, June 25th saw the kickoff of the 2019 NLC when members from 41 state collegiate PBL delegations came together to participate in the Opening Ceremony and National Campaign Rally, where delegates met those vying for national offices! It was also on Monday when Webber's students were able to take in the some of the sights around San Antonio, like the Riverwalk and The Alamo, before having their first state meetings on Monday evening.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Webber's delegation competed in their performance events, which included Business Presentation (Nicolle Miranda Ortiz), Organizational Behavior & Leadership (Alejandro Dib Parada), Project Management (Henry Vu), and Social Media, Group Event (Joyce Caba & Esmeralda Fernandez). The students also competed in the following open events, which included Advertising (Hunter Lonadier), Construction Management (Henry Vu), Non-profit Organization Management (Alejandro Dib Parada, Joyce Caba, & Esmeralda Fernandez), and Supply Chain Management (Alejandro Dib Parada).

Before the Awards Ceremony on Thursday evening, Webber students continued their networking by building their LinkedIn profiles through connecting with students from such universities as Colorado Mesa, FSU, FIU, Georgia Southern, MDC, Palm Beach State, UCLA, UF, University of Nebraska, Valencia College, Virginia State, and Washington University in St. Louis! Also,

Joyce Caba vlogged the entire trip – videos are located on Webber' PBL Facebook page @ *Phi Beta Lambda – Webber!*

While this year's competition was tough, Webber is proud to announce their National Winner, Nicolle Miranda Ortiz, who received 8th place out of over 50 competitors in her category of Business Presentation! Congratulations!

In addition to the many competitions held throughout the year, Webber PBL hosted their first annual Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony in December 2018, complete with a visit from Santa; a wooden rose give-away (sales) for Men's and Women's Basketball in February for Valentine's Day; and a Guinness World Record attempt of coloring Easter Eggs in April, with a visit from the Easter Bunny too! The organization also started their own PBL Dress for Success Career Closet, where students who need business attire for interviews, for example, can go to borrow clothes for their meetings or events. Stay tuned as Webber continues to grow this closet!

This coming year will find Webber PBL expanding their efforts of community service by planning a Trick-or-Trunk event in October as well as a PBL Executive Speaker Series to discuss such topics as Business Etiquette, Professional Networking, and Career Development Tips.

As Webber PBL continues to grow, if you are interested in finding out more about their organization, or would like to join, please see either Dr. Jeannette Eberle or Ms. Joanne Muniz to get more information regarding the organization or attend one of their bi-monthly meetings which are held on Mondays, from 5-6p in Room #102!

Established in 1927 by Roger Babson as the first college chartered under Florida's then new charitable and educational laws, and one of the first schools of business for women in the nation, Webber International University now educates men and women from over 50 different nations. Degrees are offered at the associate's, bachelor's, and master's level through traditional day, accelerated night and weekend, and entirely on-line formats. Joining Webber as a branch campus in 2011, St. Andrews University (Laurinburg, NC) offers a comprehensive liberal arts program and has roots dating to 1896. The University features highly qualified faculty, highly engaged staff, small class size, and a wide array of intercollegiate sports and other extracurricular activities. The University has been recognized as a US News and World Reports Best Regional Colleges: South, a Princeton Review Best Southeastern College, and has earned Peterson's top marks for academics, value and community. The University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, and numerous programs have earned additional programmatic accreditations.

