



# WOW! CHALLENGE 2015

## **WALL OF WIND MITIGATION CHALLENGE**

**Competition at FIU's Engineering & Computing**

**Center on Wednesday, May 20th, 2015**

10555 W. Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33174

### **WOW Challenge General Overview**

Updated: 04-23-15

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#### **Project Description:**

- Teams of high school students, will research, identify, illustrate, design, construct, demonstrate, test and communicate a wind mitigation problem and solution; each high school will be allowed to enter one team; it is up to each teacher from each school to determine how many students will participate as a Team for this competition; **however, on the day of the Challenge competition, only 4 students from the Team will be allowed to compete; less than 4 can compete, but not more;** all other teammates, teachers and family will be welcomed to attend the *Challenge* and watch the competition.
- Students will prepare three components for the competition: a physical test, an oral presentation and a written technical paper.
- The objective for the 2015 WOW Challenge is to design a wind mitigation barrier that will provide the best wind mitigation for a Miami Beach hotel property. Imagine a six-story hotel situated along the beach, and between the hotel and the beach is an area that hotel management wants to be protected from wind off the Atlantic Ocean. **The technical details will be described in the 2015 Physical Guidelines document and will be available on the WOW Challenge web page.**
- An informational workshop on this year's competition for teachers and students was recorded and the video is available in the video section on the *WOW Challenge* web page.
- **WOW Challenge:** <http://www.ihrc.fiu.edu/outreach-education/wall-of-wind-challenge-2015/>

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- Oral presentations should effectively communicate some scientific process and analysis involved with the development of the wind mitigation solution; oral presentations should also convey the benefits and values of the mitigation solution. **The oral presentation details will be described in the 2015 Oral Guidelines document and found on the *WOW Challenge* web page.**
- Written technical papers should include any scientific or mathematical analysis involved with the development of the wind mitigation solution and describe how wind mitigation is being addressed with their solution. **The written technical paper details will be described in the 2015 Technical Paper Guidelines document and found on the *WOW Challenge* web page.**
- **Written technical papers are due electronically as a PDF document by Monday, May 18th at 12:00pm. Please e-mail your written paper to Erik Salna at [esalna@fiu.edu](mailto:esalna@fiu.edu).**
- Oral presentations and physical tests will be conducted live at the FIU Engineering & Computing Center on Wednesday, May 20th, 2015.
- The 3 components of the competition will be judged and scored by a panel of experts.
- Dress Code for the May 20th competition: Teams should consider wearing appropriate professional business attire for the day of competition, especially for their oral presentations.
- Special prizes and awards will be presented to student Teams.

**Judging:**

- A panel of experts will judge each written technical paper, oral presentation and physical test.
- The physical test will be mainly judged on performance; some attention may also be given to aesthetics, marketability and practicality.

**Qualification:**

- Judges will verify that each mitigation solution is within the official physical guidelines before being tested.

**Scoring:**

- Judges will use a cumulative and weighted scoring point scale for the written technical paper (25%), oral presentation (25%) and physical test (50%).

**Contact Person:**

- Direct all questions and comments to Erik Salna at [esalna@fiu.edu](mailto:esalna@fiu.edu) or 305-348-1146.