

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UCF Rosen College Student Designs 'Zero-Waste' Space for Global Meetings

ORLANDO, June 4, 2010 – Recycled and repurposed shipping containers could be future international meeting spaces. That's according to Renea Anderson, a student in UCF's Rosen College of Hospitality Management.

Anderson was recognized as a future meeting industry talent at a global competition in Germany last month.

Anderson's winning case study involved designing the "next generation" in exhibit space, creating a setup that focuses on sustainability. Made from 95 percent reused materials, it could be the first-ever space fully committed to zero waste, she says.

Many countries have these containers, Anderson said, but due to trade imbalances, these steel boxes are piling up around the globe and are starting to pose an increasing storage problem. "Environmentally speaking, using containers as building elements makes sense," she said.

For her work, Anderson received the 2010 IMEX Meeting Professionals International (MPI) Future Leaders Forum International University Challenge Award and the IMEX-MPI Foundation Student Scholarship Award. IMEX is a worldwide exhibition for incentive travel, meetings and events.

"I am honored by this recognition," she said. "It offers such a unique opportunity to voice innovative ideas for the future of this industry. I am humbled that they would ask for my vision, and I am happy to have a platform to share."

The Future Leaders Forum program jointly run by IMEX and MPI has been developed to showcase the knowledge of the best and brightest students in the meetings and incentive travel industry.

Anderson serves as president of the student chapter of MPI at the Rosen College.

"The Rosen College is the reason that I performed as well as I did," she said, explaining how her class work prepared her to successfully sell her idea at the conference.

About the Rosen College of Hospitality Management: Located in the heart of the tourism and hospitality industry, the Rosen College of Hospitality Management is dedicated to the values of professionalism, leadership and service. The mission of the Rosen College of Hospitality Management is to develop future generations of global hospitality and tourism leaders representing all industry segments in the hospitality capital of the world, through innovative academic programs, cutting-edge research and strong industry and community partnerships.

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