Enactus receives National recognition

BY ADRIANNA TARIN
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The Enactus team earned the National Quarter Finalist Runner-up trophy at the 2014 Enactus National Exposition.

“Throughout the years we always wished that we could make it to the national stage,” said Miranda Kluthe, a senior business major and president of Enactus. “Through teamwork, delegation, leadership and clear communication, our wish became a reality.”

Kluthe can recall four years ago when Enactus had one returning member, and now there are 30 active members.

“Being on that stage and earning that award was a confirmation that we really are world changers,” Kluthe said. “It literally brought tears to my eyes.”

UNK Enactus team was able to achieve their goal this year through teamwork and hard work. The team has grown from one member to 30.
eyes knowing that dreams do come true if you get excited and never quit. You never know when that moment may come true.”

The UNK Enactus team and their advisors — Shawn Kaskie, director of the Center for Rural Research and Development and Kate Bombeck, director of the College of Business and Technology Career Center — recently traveled to Cincinnati, Ohio to compete against over 200 teams.

The team delivered a 17-minute presentation about their on-campus and off-campus outreach projects aimed at improving quality of life by applying business concepts learned in the classroom.

UNK’s Enactus team was rated as one of the top 80 organizations in the nation by experienced business professionals at the exposition.

The UNK Enactus team has qualified for the national competition nine out of the 11 years the organization has been on campus. The team was founded in 2003.

Enactus is an international non-profit organization that brings together students and academic and business leaders who are committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need.

Guided by academic advisors and business experts, the student leaders of Enactus create and implement community empowerment projects.

UNK Enactus organizes New Venture Adventure, which helps high school and university students develop leadership and business skills, promotes recycling and sustainability on campus, conducts an interview readiness program for residents of the Crossroads Center Rescue Mission, manages the student-run Brewed Awakening coffee shop on campus, and empowers residents of a rural Nebraska town to create entrepreneurial opportunities.

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different than getting an old couch from a relative or friend?

The era of free stuff doesn’t have to be about dumpster diving or picking stuff up off the curb. The era of free stuff is about getting free stuff because people are moving. If a friend’s lease is up and they realize there is extra stuff they don’t want in their new place, it is easy to cash in and appreciate the era of free stuff.

Personally I have experience with the era of free stuff. My freshman year I was driving around with a friend and we managed to find him a coffee table and a sweet chair to put in his living room. The only cost for those two pieces of furniture was a bit of gas and some physical effort of loading his car.

Just recently one of my friends was cleaning out his house because his lease was up and he is moving across town to a place smaller than where he was living, so he needed to get rid of some of his furniture. I got free stuff, and he is rid of things he does not need.

Although many good things can be found during the era of free stuff, not everything that is found is good. Often when people move out, they just ditch an old mattress for a new one. Generally it is a good idea to stay away from mattresses found in alleys or on the street. Mattresses get dirty rather easily outside.

Also, avoiding things with large amounts of rust is advised. A free metal desk is not worth the risk of tetanus.

Weighing options is another thing to consider during the era of free stuff. Finding a bookshelf for free is pretty awesome, but if it needs to be moved across town, sanded, refinished and needs some fixing, it may be better to save time and effort and just go buy a bookshelf.

The era of free stuff is coming up and whether I am putting stuff out to be taken or finding stuff I, like most people, will be partaking.