

NATIONAL INVENTORS HALL OF FAME FOUNDATION

MCMASTER UNIVERSITY STUDENTS INVENT DEVICE TO ASSIST CPR

Corey Centen, Nilesch Patel win undergraduate prize in Collegiate Inventors Competition

Pasadena, CA (November 2, 2007)—Corey Centen and Nilesch Patel, of McMaster University in Canada, are the 2007 undergraduate winners of the Collegiate Inventors Competition, a program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame Foundation. They were announced as winners during a Thursday evening ceremony.

Centen and Patel have created the CPRGlove, a wearable device that can assist those who are learning or administering CPR. The idea began as a senior project, when they realized that neither of them could remember precisely how to administer CPR despite previous training. They receive a \$15,000 prize, and their advisor, Dr. Hubert de Bruin, receives \$5,000.

Centen, 22, and Patel, 21, presented their invention to a final panel of eight judges, including inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame. During the research phase of their project, the team found that CPR quality was well below the levels it should be, even when administered by health care professionals.

Convinced that there was a real need for a device to assist with CPR, they first outfitted a store-bought glove with various electronics. Soon, their design has progressed to a custom-made glove with sensors and an LCD screen to give instructions and feedback. The glove can provide information on the rate, depth, force, and angle of compressions as well as the heart rate. It also speaks, providing verbal cues for the user.

What began as a senior project for them has turned into a business. Along with a fellow electrical and biomedical engineering classmate from McMaster, they formed Atreo Medical, Inc. to refine and market the device. They've received support and funding for working on the glove from Canadian sources, and they are making headway in the U.S. as well.

Centen grew up in Ottawa, Ontario. Always interested in inventing as a youngster, he recalls continuously working on his own projects, even turning the dining room of his home into a mini-lab for his work. "My parents," he remembers, "were very generous." After graduating from Immaculata High School, he found things similar as a student at McMaster, where he created an unofficial lab in the corner of his dorm room. Centen graduated earlier this year with a degree in electrical and biomedical engineering and is the CEO of Atreo. The CPRGlove is an exciting project for him as he thinks about the lives that could potentially be saved. "Right now," he says, "we're focusing on a final prototype for clinical trials, and then we'll work on FDA approval."

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Patel is from Toronto where he graduated from West Humber Collegiate Institute. He looks forward to graduating from McMaster with his electrical and biomedical engineering degree in 2008. Patel was also inventive as a child, once using a cardboard box, a solar panel, and some LEDs to create a solar house. He sees the importance of the three main uses for the CPRGlove—to train individuals in CPR, to test their knowledge of it, and to use in emergency situations. Patel is also thrilled to know that the glove has been receiving positive attention. He notes, “After a story ran about our work with the glove, we were actually contacted by the lead researcher of a 2005 CPR study that we had researched.” Patel is currently the chief technical officer of Atreo.

The additional 2007 winners are:

John Dolan, The Dolognawmeter: An Instrument to Quantify Pain Induced Oral Dysfunction, University of California, San Francisco (Graduate Category)

Ian Cheong, Liposomase for Generalizable Drug Delivery, Johns Hopkins University (Grand Prize Winner)

Final judging took place on October 31st, with four undergraduate teams competing for the \$15,000 prize, seven graduate teams competing for a \$15,000 prize, and all eleven teams competing for the \$25,000 grand prize. All eleven teams made presentations before the final panel of judges. In total, entries from over 70 colleges and universities were received for this year’s competition. A first round of judges reviewed entries in order to select the eleven finalists, evaluating each entry on the originality of the new idea, process, or technology, as well as the potential value and usefulness to society.

The Collegiate Inventors Competition is a competition designed to encourage college students to be active in science, engineering, mathematics, technology, and creative invention. This prestigious challenge recognizes and rewards the innovations, discoveries, and research by college and university students and their advisors for projects leading to inventions that can be patented. Introduced by the National Inventors Hall of Fame in 1990, the Collegiate Inventors Competition has annually rewarded individuals or teams for their innovative work and scientific achievement through the help of its sponsors. For more information on this year’s sponsors, the Abbott Fund and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, visit www.abbott.com and www.uspto.gov For more information on the Competition, www.invent.org/collegiate.

The National Inventors Hall of Fame is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to recognizing, honoring, and encouraging invention and creativity. The primary activity of the Hall of Fame is honoring the men and women responsible for the great technological advances that make

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human, social, and economic progress possible. Founded in 1973, the Hall of Fame now makes its permanent home in Akron, Ohio. In addition to the Collegiate Inventors Competition, another popular program of the Hall of Fame is Camp Invention®, a summer day camp for elementary-aged children. For more information, visit www.invent.org.

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