

# Business Plan Competition Awards \$10,000

The Muskingum County Business Incubator, Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce and Tech Growth Ohio honored the winners of the 2008 Muskingum Business Plan Competition on Tuesday May 13th at the monthly Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce meeting.

## About the Winners:

The 2008 Grand Prize Winner in the field of Technology was "Alot-Moore Designs, LLC," owned by Frank and Amy Moore of Zanesville. Their winning concept was to apply innovative technology to create custom, computer generated designs for three dimensional surfaces.

The first place winner in the non-technology category was "Cookies From Emily," owned by Mary Ann Murphy of Zanesville. Her winning concept was to prepare tasty, home-baked cookies that are free of common food allergens.

Runner up in the technology category was "XDP, Inc.," owned by Jim Drake and Phil Sies of Zanesville, with a software platform featuring an interactive, multi-layered calendar.

Runner up in the non-technology field was "KD Guest Ranch," owned by Dave and Kari Burkey of Adamsville. Their concept of "Bringing the West to the East" featured a working dude ranch for western-style retreats.



(l to r) Amy Moore, Frank Moore of Alotmoore Designs, LLC and Doug Wistendahl of the Voinovich School, Ohio University.

## About the Competition:

The 2008 Muskingum County Business Plan Competition was a contest for startup or emerging businesses that are located in Muskingum, Belmont, Guernsey, Noble, Morgan or Coshocton Counties. Each participant submitted a business plan of original work that was judged on the basis of concept, marketability, industry impact and capital needs. Competitors made 10-minute presentations before a panel of judges and answered questions regarding their business concept. The winner in the field of technology was awarded the grand prize of \$10,000 in operational assistance as well as 6 months of free residency in the Muskingum County Business Incubator, a value of approximately \$6,000.

## About the Sponsors:

The event this year was co-sponsored by Tech Growth Ohio at Ohio University's Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs, which supports entrepreneurs with technology-based businesses by offering operational assistance and access to early-stage capital under Ohio's Entrepreneurial Signature Program sponsored by the Ohio Third Frontier Program; the Muskingum County Business Incubator, a non-profit business incubator that assists entrepreneurs with development of their business concept; and the Muskingum County Chamber of Commerce.

## About the Judges:

Judges for the 2008 Muskingum Business Plan Competition consisted of: Don Wietmarschen, Attorney and Board Member of the Muskingum County Business Incubator; Tom Selock, Regional President of Huntington



(l to r) Emily and Mary Ann Murphy of "Cookies From Emily"

Bank; Larry Triplett, Owner of Resource Systems and Chair of the Muskingum County Business Incubator Board; Mark Butterworth, Manager of ECOTAF and Doug Wistendahl, Attorney and Director of the Entrepreneurial Signature Program at the Voinovich School, Ohio University.