

Alumni News

FPS has amazing Alumns!

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What can you do?

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Alumni as evaluators!

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Two alumni at Australia's 25th National Finals performed a skit on the 1989 Future Scene - Internet! Simon (the blonde with a mullet) serves as Evaluation Director and Stephen is a teacher and coach of FPS in his school.



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Marianne and April attended the Australia National Finals from October 17-19 and were AMAZED at the tremendous efforts from the Alumni!

Here is how they were part of the event (and other activities in Australia FPS):

- *Writer of Future Scene*
- *Grant writer*
- *Evaluation Coordinator*
- *Presentation of Action Plan Coordinator*
- *Presentation of Action Plan Judges*
- *GIPS Evaluators*
- *Assist with memento sales*
- *Assist with set-up, registration, events, and break-down*

Events of this photo are described in article below - **AMAZING** work one FPS alum is doing in Texas!



FPS has amazing Alumns!

A special thank you to Lisa Quintana for the inspirational article below!

As a former FPS student who works in Marketing, I can say with confidence that Future Problem Solving has enabled me to be successful in the business world. FPS taught me how to look at the big picture and determine how a situation can affect each division of a company. It has also taught me to be more strategic, giving me the ability to assess short and long-term implications of industry trends. I am truly passionate about how the program equipped me for my career.

- *FPS coach*
- *Writer of articles about FPS for educational journals*

The success of FPS is enhanced by the support of our alumni - as you are living proof of the importance of FPS. Please consider how you can support FPS in your area!

Visit [Find FPS in your area](#) to contact an Affiliate Director.

ALUMNI AS EVALUATORS

In the last Alumni news, we requested those interested in becoming a certified evaluator to contact FPSPI.

In a response to those interested who need evaluator training - FPSPI is working on a training via Moodle!

Thanks to those who have expressed interest - our training should be ready mid-January.

If you did not respond to that initial request, please email april@fpspi.org and you will be added to the group!

Because of this, I wanted to find a way to give back to the program that impacted my career. I currently volunteer in the FPS classrooms at Prestonwood Christian Academy in Plano, TX, helping the students with their skill sets and sharing case studies of how the Problem Solving Process fits into my every day job. However, I wanted to go beyond just showing them how it applies and allow the students to practice their skills on a real-life case study. The first practice problem topic, "Impact of Social Media," was a great opportunity to give them a situation to tackle that would be fun and engaging.

Ray Mallouk, the owner of BreakAway Sports Marketing, was willing to participate in the FPS case study. His agency handles the marketing for the National Championship Trophy for the College Football Playoff. Because of the changes to the playoff system and the introduction of a new trophy this year, his agency was presented with many challenges. Ultimately, he needed to increase recognition of the new trophy among football fans through social media so that the trophy would become the icon of college football. Social media is a critical part of the marketing program since there is only one trophy and it is limited in its ability to be seen each week during the football season.

In September, Ray presented the situation to over 100 of Prestonwood Christian Academy's 7th- 12th grade Future Problem Solving students. He also surprised the students by showing them the actual National Championship Trophy, which will be presented to the winning team in January. The students were given the opportunity to utilize the 6-step process to determine the underlying problem and then generate solutions that could impact the social media for the trophy this year and beyond. Each team then chose their best short and long-term solution based on a set of criteria questions. On October sixth, each team presented their ideas.

Ray Mallouk commented, "The students impressed me in their ability to analyze the situation in a professional manner. Their solutions were valuable and potentially effective ways to tackle the situation." BreakAway Sports Marketing is open to implementing several of the solution ideas that align with the current strategy as well as potentially using some ideas in the future college football seasons.

"This real-life case study is the pinnacle of what we are trying to accomplish with the FPS program," Shannon Lichty, a FPS coach at Prestonwood Christian Academy commented. "By making the process relevant and applicable to a real-life situation, it showed the kids that FPS isn't just something they learn in school, it is something they will use in life."

I was excited to have the opportunity to impact the Future Problem Solving Program by providing PCA students with a practical way to apply their creative thinking skills and to help them realize the value of what they are learning. I loved seeing the motivation the students had to take the situation seriously. I encourage other Alumni, who have experienced this same passion for the program, to volunteer in the classroom and potentially bring a case study to the students within your field of study. If you have any situation, big or small, that would benefit a group of eager FPS students, please contact FPSPI at april@fpspi.org and they will get you in contact with a local FPS program director near you.