

Bike Trailer Fourth in Hong Kong Business Contest

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This bike trailer needs its own trailer to haul home all the awards it has won.

Four engineering graduates from McMaster placed fourth at the inaugural [PolyU Innovation & Entrepreneurship Student Challenge](#) for the business plan they developed to market the [Crosstown Collapsible Bicycle Trailer](#).

Lindsey Kettel (mechanical engineering & management), inventor of the trailer that folds up onto a bicycle's rear pannier when not in use, her development partner Cory Minkhorst (mechanical engineering & management), Deborah Lee (chemical engineering), and David Russell (software engineering & management) received a Commendation award and a Theme award in Environment & Sustainability for their Urban Idea submission. They took home US\$2,000 for their efforts.

This is the fourth award the Crosstown trailer has received. The invention, which started out as a final-year capstone project for Lindsey and Cory, won a [James Dyson Award](#) last year as the top university student engineering invention. It won the Innovative Design category at the [Ontario Engineering Competition](#) in February 2009 and placed second at the [Canadian Engineering Competition](#) in April that year, where it also won the environmental award.



Members of team Urban Idea, marketer of the Crosstown collapsible bicycle trailer, with their award at a Hong Kong business competition. Left to right, MacEng grads: Cory Minkhorst, Deborah Lee, Lindsey Kettel and David Russell.

[The PolyU entrepreneurship competition](#) is organized by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and ran from June 5 to 13. It attracted 180 entries from university and high school teams worldwide. That was pared down to 28 teams in the semi finals and then six finalists in each division, culminating with the selection of the winning teams. A team from John Hopkins University won the university division and a team from Korea won the secondary division.

The competition was originally launched in 2009 but was postponed one year due to concerns over the spread of the H1N1 virus. Information is now posted for [entering the 2011 competition](#)