



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

## MBAX CASE COMPETITION – REPRESENTING BENTLEY AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY

### ABOUT THE CASE

This spring, four Bentley graduate students represented the university at the 29th Annual MBAX Conference and Case Competition in Washington, D.C. Hosted by Howard University, the competition challenged teams to develop and present a strategic financial acquisition framework in just eight days. We spoke with the team (Kingsolomon Ehinola, Christian Mobong, Reshma Panjwani and Lutricia Zambezi) to learn more about their experiences.



From left to right: Kingsolomon Ehinola (MSBA), Reshma Panjwani (STEM MBA - Accounting Analytics), Faculty Advisor Isaura Beltre, Lutricia Zambezi (STEM MBA - Financial Analytics), and Christian Mobong (MSA - Assurance)

### Q What was the case competition about?

#### Reshma:

“We were acting like a wealth advisory team for a young entrepreneur who had just exited their first venture and wanted to acquire a \$5M–\$15M business. We built a five-year liquidity plan that accounted for taxes, lifestyle costs, and allocations — and then stress-tested it.”

### Q

### After finding out you had been selected, what did you do to prepare for the competition, and how did you divide the work?

#### Kingsolomon:

“We had about eight days. At first, it was overwhelming. We split into pairs, worked separately, then came back together and challenged each other’s assumptions. There were definitely late nights — midnight, 1 a.m. — trying to get everything right.”

#### Lutricia:

On challenges: “We didn’t just agree to move on. We debated almost everything — but it was productive. Even when we disagreed, it made the final presentation stronger.”



**What is something you took away from the competition/are most proud of after this experience?**

**Reshma:**

“We put Bentley on the map. It was our first time participating, and we competed confidently against schools that have been doing this for years.”

**Kingsolomon:**

“Representing Bentley was huge. And personally, I learned that even if something feels outside your comfort zone, you can build the skills to contribute.”

**Christian:**

“The teams that stood out weren’t necessarily better at numbers, [but] they told a better story. That was a big takeaway for us.”



**Q****What advice would you give future Bentley teams?****Reshma:**

“Plan your time. We focused heavily on the strategy and financial model but didn’t rehearse enough. If we could do it again, we’d reserve the last few days for 8–10 full practice runs.”

**Kingsolomon:**

“Remember this is a business case competition. Strong analysis matters, but you have to carry the audience. Focus on key metrics and tell a clear story.”

**Lutricia:**

“Know it’s a serious time commitment; but [that] it’s worth it.”

**Q****Any final highlights from the experience?****Christian:**

“It wasn’t just a competition — it was a full conference. The sessions were really engaging. Even if the competition wasn’t there, the conference alone was valuable.”

**Reshma:**

“As an international student, this was a defining MBA moment for me. I’m committed to helping the next Bentley team — now we have a playbook.”

