

Debate club

The Debate Club session provided an informal environment for participants to practice public speaking, reasoning, and persuasive communication. Attendees were randomly assigned to represent either the Government or the Opposition, regardless of their personal opinions, encouraging flexibility in thinking and the ability to argue from different perspectives. Each side was given dedicated preparation time in separate rooms before presenting their arguments. During the debate, participants had six to fifteen minutes to deliver their points and respond to counterarguments, emphasizing clarity, logical structure, and rhetorical skill.

At the end, the audience acted as the judge, voting on which team presented the strongest and most convincing argument. Importantly, ChatGPT or any AI assistance was not allowed, reinforcing the focus on developing authentic critical thinking and expression.

Although the event was not directly related to robotics, there are always transferable skills for the field, such as clear communication, quick reasoning under pressure, and effective presentation of complex ideas, all of which are essential when defending technical proposals or explaining research results.