



Dear Parents, Members, and Alumni,

After five weeks of build, the team has made great progress in all divisions as Bag and Tag creeps up on us in just one week. Mechanical has been working on the CAD and construction of manipulation devices such as the elevator carriage, and claw. Meanwhile, electrical is working on adding PEM nuts to the chassis and finalizing the code for robot operation.

Operations is busy working on award submission essays including the Chairman's essay, Dean's List, Woodie Flowers and Entrepreneurship Award. Additionally, grants and media animation are being completed. We will be working hard for the next week as we near the end of build season. We'd be pleased if any parents, mentors, and alumni could review our awards essays and offer suggestions.

Additionally, you can help support the team by donating water bottle cases for the team members! As build season nears its end, students are going to be staying at robotics late during the February Break, if parents can provide dinner for the team it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you, and we look forward to an exciting season.

Here is the build schedule for the last few days:

Sun 2/8 – 1-6 PM  
Mon 2/9 – 3-8 PM  
Tue 2/10 – 3-9 PM  
Wed 2/11 – 3-9 PM  
Thu 2/12 – 3-6 PM (electrical only)  
Fri 2/13 – 1-9 PM  
Sat 2/14 – 9-9 PM  
Sun 2/15 – 9-9 PM  
Mon 2/16 – 9-9 PM  
Tue 2/17 – 9-9 PM

The MVRT officers

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Sophia Cao (Director of Media) [media@mVRT.com](mailto:media@mVRT.com)  
Sydney Howard (Director of Documentation)



MVRT electrical wires the robot

#### PLANNED COMPETITIONS

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| March 12 – 14, 2015 | Utah Regional<br>Salt Lake City, Utah                |
| April 2 – 4, 2015   | Silicon Valley Regional<br>San Jose State University |
| April 22 – 25, 2015 | Championships<br>St. Louis, Missouri                 |

-End of build: February 22, 2015



### Division Updates:

#### **Mechanical:**

- Finished elevator
- Finished carriage
- Finished claw
- Working on pistons and motors for elevator

If you have any questions about mechanical, please email [mechanical@mVRT.com](mailto:mechanical@mVRT.com)

#### **Electrical:**

- Working on final code for robot operation
- Finalizing vision filters
- Adding PEM nuts to the chassis

If you have any questions about Electrical, please email [electrical@mVRT.com](mailto:electrical@mVRT.com)

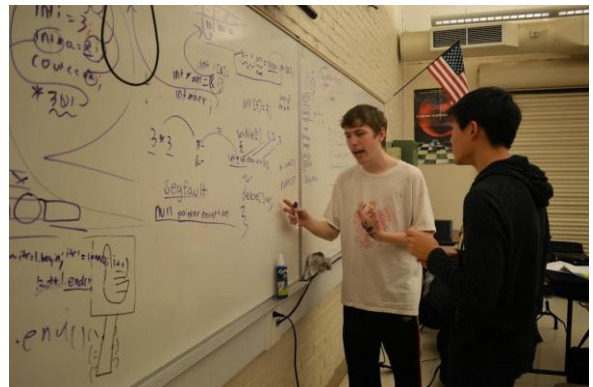
#### **Engineering Documentation:**

- Repairing Power Distribution Panel for robot
- Planning scouting sheet
- Documenting build

If you have any questions about Engineering Documentation please email [engineeringdata@mVRT.com](mailto:engineeringdata@mVRT.com)



MVRT mechanical members work on CAD



MVRT electrical members discuss layout



**Public Relations/Outreach:**

- Finished updating MVRT's FIRST Aid Kit
- Finalizing awards
- Organizing India Outreach Program

If you have any questions about Public Relations or Outreach, please email [publicrelations@mVRT.com](mailto:publicrelations@mVRT.com) or [outreach@mVRT.com](mailto:outreach@mVRT.com)

**Finance:**

- Finalizing the team business plan for Entrepreneurship Award
- Applying for grant applications for Dell, GoPro, Motorola Solutions

If you have any questions about Finance, please email [finance@mVRT.com](mailto:finance@mVRT.com)

**Media:**

- Finished button design
- Finalized T-shirt design
- Modeling animation

If you have any questions about Media, please email [media@mVRT.com](mailto:media@mVRT.com)

**Documentation:**

- Story boarding Chairman's video
- Interviewing mentors

If you have any questions about Documentation, please email [documentation@mVRT.com](mailto:documentation@mVRT.com)

**Website:**

If you have any questions about website, please email [webmaster@mVRT.com](mailto:webmaster@mVRT.com)



**MVRT members work on Finance Division Grants and Awards**



**MVRT media members work on modeling for animation**





#### Meet the Mentors: Mr. Easton

MVRT would like to thank Mr. Easton for supporting the team for many years. We are grateful for all you have helped us with during this busy season. We thank him for lending his time and knowledge of software and electronics to the team and providing his input.

Mr. Easton is truly an inspirational role model for all members of the team, and we will treasure your help forever. Without him, the team would be incomplete!

Thank you Mr. Easton and all our mentors!



**Operations Rookie of the Week: Thank you Sydney Ty for contributing your ideas and working diligently!**

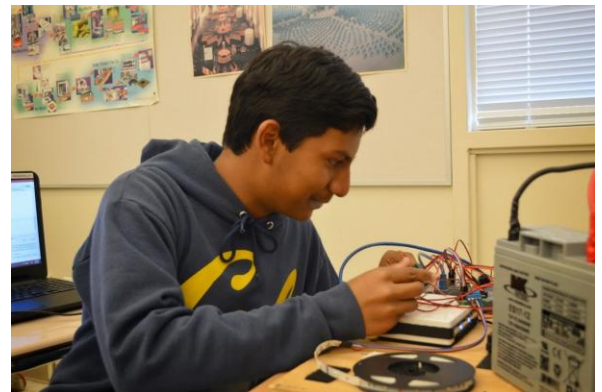
#### Parents' Booster Club:

Dear Parents,

We appreciate any snack donations! We are currently in need of water cases.

Parent volunteers for carpooling to Utah are needed!

Please contact [utoprani@yahoo.com](mailto:utoprani@yahoo.com) if you are interested in being part of a MVRT parents' club.



**Electrical Rookie of the Week: Thank you Ishan Mitra for all you have done for us!**



**Mechanical Rookie of the Week: Thank you HariSenthilkumar we are grateful for your hard work!**



FIRST Scholarship Opportunities (for juniors and seniors):

Every year, over \$20 million in scholarships are available to robotics team members through FIRST. These are underwritten by universities and businesses. Some scholarships are specific to a college or major; some are general. Not only does it benefit the team members, it also enhances the image of the team to be well represented with FIRST scholarships.

The majority of FIRST Scholarships require that a participant submits an application during his/her senior year of high school. There are, however a few FIRST Scholarship Providers who accept applications during an applicant's junior year, and even more importantly, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute requires that an applicant apply during their junior year.

Please visit the FIRST Scholarship page: <http://www.usfirst.org/scholarshipsearch.aspx>

Deadline 1/31/15 - 2/15/15

**Tulane University** \$15,000-\$30,000/year up to 4 years – science or engineering

**Bart Kamen Memorial FIRST Scholarship** \$10,000 renewable - Biomedical Engineering or Premedical Studies, or medical school prep major (Biology, physics, Chemistry etc.)

**Boston University** \$20,000/year up to \$80,000, plus research opportunity - College of Engineering

**California State University, Los Angeles/Boeing** \$5,000/year up to \$20,000 – engineering

**College for Creative Studies** \$1,000/year up to \$4,000 - Any course of study

**Florida Institute of Technology** \$13,500/year up to \$54,000 - Any course of study

**Johnson & Wales University** \$2,500/year up to \$10,000 - Any course of study in the School of Engineering & Design

**Milwaukee School of Engineering** \$3,000/year up to \$15,000 over 5 years - Any course of study

**Missouri University of Science and Technology** \$500/year up to \$2,000 - Any course of study

**Oregon State University** \$1,500 non-renewable - Engineering

**Portland State University** \$3,000/year up to \$12,000 - Oregon resident planning on studying Engineering or Computer Science

**Rochester Institute of Technology** \$7,000/year up to \$28,000 - Any course of study

**Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey** \$5,000/year up to \$20,000 - Any course of study

**Seattle Pacific University** \$5,000/year up to \$20,000 - Any course of study

**SUNY Polytechnic Institute** \$1,000 to \$5,000/year up to 4 years - Any Science, Technology, Engineering, or Math major

To learn about the other benefits, such as internships, that become available once you become a FIRST Alum! <http://www.usfirst.org/alumni>