



Letter from the Officers:

Dear Parents, Members, and Alumni,

After four weeks of build, the team has made great progress in all divisions. Mechanical has finalized the CAD over the course of the week while electrical is hard at work wiring and programming the robot. The chassis is complete; and electrical has programmed and field tested the chassis.

Operations is busy working on award essays including the Chairman's essay, Dean's List, Woodie Flowers Award and Entrepreneurship Award. We are fortunate to have Vinay Venkatesh, a 2010 alumnus, helping us with Chairman's. If anyone has advice that we should keep in mind when submitting these awards, please let us know. Additionally, grants and media animation are being completed. We will be working hard these next couple of weeks as we start to near the end of build season.

Thank you, and we look forward to an exciting season.

The MVRT officers

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MVRT team members work on robot design

PLANNED COMPETITIONS

March 12 – 14, 2015 Utah Regional
Salt Lake City, Utah

April 2 – 4, 2015 Silicon Valley Regional
San Jose State University

April 22 – 25, 2015 Championships
St. Louis, Missouri

Upcoming Events:

-End of build: February 22, 2015



Division Updates:

Mechanical:

- Finished chassis and tested
- Completing mechanical drawings
- Building elevator assembly

If you have any questions about mechanical, please email mechanical@mVRT.com

Electrical:

- Wired first chassis
- Tested basic drive code
- Worked on driver-robot interface

If you have any questions about Electrical, please email electrical@mVRT.com

Engineering Documentation:

- Organizing driver station
- Planning scouting sheet
- Documenting build and planning for upcoming design review

If you have any questions about Engineering Documentation please email engineeringdata@mVRT.com



MVRT electrical members work on robot programming



MVRT members study designs



Public Relations/Outreach:

- Updating MVRT's FIRST Aid Kit
 - Finalizing awards
 - Hosted FLL Demo to Ohana Club
 - Organizing 2nd Semester ThinkFIRST at Lincoln
- If you have any questions about Public Relations or Outreach, please email publicrelations@mVRT.com or outreach@mVRT.com

Finance:

- Revising the team business plan for Entrepreneurship Award
 - Begun work on grant applications for Dell and GoPro
- If you have any questions about Finance, please email finance@mVRT.com

Media:

- Finalizing team button design
 - Working on T-shirt design
 - Modeling and storyboarding animation
- If you have any questions about Media, please email media@mVRT.com

Documentation:

- Finalized theme and working on Chairman's video
 - Rewriting Chairman's binder
 - Redesigned MVRT banner
- If you have any questions about Documentation, please email documentation@mVRT.com

Website:

If you have any questions about website, please email webmaster@mVRT.com



MVRT members demo FLL robots to Ohana Club



MVRT media members work on animation with Media Director Sophia Cao



Meet the Mentors: Mr. Laitinen

Mauri Laitinen has been working with the robotics team since Fall of 2004 when his daughter, Eileen, was on the team. MVRT would like to thank Mr. Laitinen for helping the team when we needed it most, which is always. We thank him for lending his expertise to our engineering, design, and programming needs as well as putting up with us day in and day out.

He is truly an inspirational role model for all members of the team, and is the image of patience, honesty, and knowledge that MVRT strives to achieve. Without him, the team would be incomplete! We appreciate all the time and effort he puts into making MVRT the best it can possibly be.

Thank you Mr. Laitinen and all our mentors!



Operations Rookie of the Week: Thank you Amithab Arumugam!



Electrical Rookie of the Week: Thank you Aarushi Shah!

Parents' Booster Club:

Dear Parents,

We appreciate any snack donations!

Parent volunteers for carpooling to the San Jose Airport for the Utah Regional are needed!

Please contact utoprani@yahoo.com if you are interested in being part of a MVRT parents' club.



Mechanical Rookie of the Week: Thank you GauthamGujjula!



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 2/15/15 - 3/1/15

Webb Institute	Full tuition renewable (\$42,740/year)
Elbit Systems of America	\$5,000 non-renewable – STEM majors
University of Toronto	CAN \$2,000 non-renewable -- Engineering
Steve Sanghi Scholarship	\$4,000 renewable up to \$16,000– engineering or science major
Southern Cal Reg Robotics Forum	\$1,000 non-renewable –STEM
Macquarie University	\$20,000 non-renewable -- Any course of study
University of Ontario Inst. of Tech	CAN \$3,000/year up to \$12,000 -- Engineering
Bradley University	\$2,500/year up to \$10,000
Colorado State University	\$1,000/year up to \$4,000 – Electrical or Computer engineering
DePaul University	\$5,000 non-renewable – College of Computing and Digital Media
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical U-FL	\$5,000/year up to \$20,000
Farmingdale State College	\$1,000/semester up to \$8,000 – Engineering, Science, Computer or Math
Florida A&M University/Boeing	\$5,000/year up to \$20,000 – Engineering: Minority, econ disadv, female student
Georgia Institute of Technology	\$5,000 non-renewable – Any course of study
Indiana Univ Purdue Univ	\$1,000 renewable—Any program School of Engineering & Technology
Kettering University	\$5,000/year up to \$22,400 – Any course of study
Lawrence Technological Univ	\$12,000/year up to \$48,000 – Engineering (nominated by FIRST team)

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