

A Virtual Reality Sky View of The Ohio State Campus
By Yuting Yang



To discover every place on The Ohio State campus might take you hours of footsteps and the right apparel, but if you do it from the sky, you can view the whole campus within 15 minutes.

Up in the air, glancing at the whole campus through Virtual Reality (VR) equipment, the Ohio Stadium is not big at all. Moving crowds and cars are more like scampering house bugs.

You will be surprised that the noisy school daily will feel idle when you look at it from a bird's-eye-view. Only if you are speeding up, all the buildings flash away and escape quickly from your view.

"The speed could reach 60 miles per hour," said Jimmy Gaydos, the President of The Ohio State Drone Club.

People don't need to know how to operate a plane to sky-view the campus, with the help of Virtual Reality techniques, a drone can take you up in the air easily.

"With the First Person View goggles attached, I feel like I am sitting in the drone cabin, and immersing into the speed and power. This is incredible," said Ye, the Vice President of the Ohio State Drone Club.

Within the past several years, most drones have adapted to Virtual Reality hardware pretty well enabling a more accurate flying experience.

"Because VR provides more accuracy, all the racing drones have adapted to this hardware within the past few years," said Ye.

Ye just got a second place for Ohio State University at the intercollegiate indoor drone race, which is hosted by the Purdue Drone Club, the largest collegiate drone club in the country.

"We need more experienced people to join our team to compete with universities such as Purdue University or the University of Illinois," said Ye.

Gavdos tries to promote a system, which allows a different angle of the first person vision. It gives more possibilities for drone racing.

"I am trying to build a system to allow me to switch button so that I see different things while I am flying," said Gavdos.

Besides the bird's-eye view of the campus, he is also trying to make the equipment cheaper for OSU students.

"We are working with those shops to see if they would allow us to loan out equipment," said Gavdos, "we want to make access to this hobby easier."

The winter is finally drifting away, and the OSU Drone Club is official having their first outdoor flying practice for the first of this year.

"I am sure there will be crashes," Gaydos said.

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