



THE VIEWFINDER

Photographer
Anthony Bolante



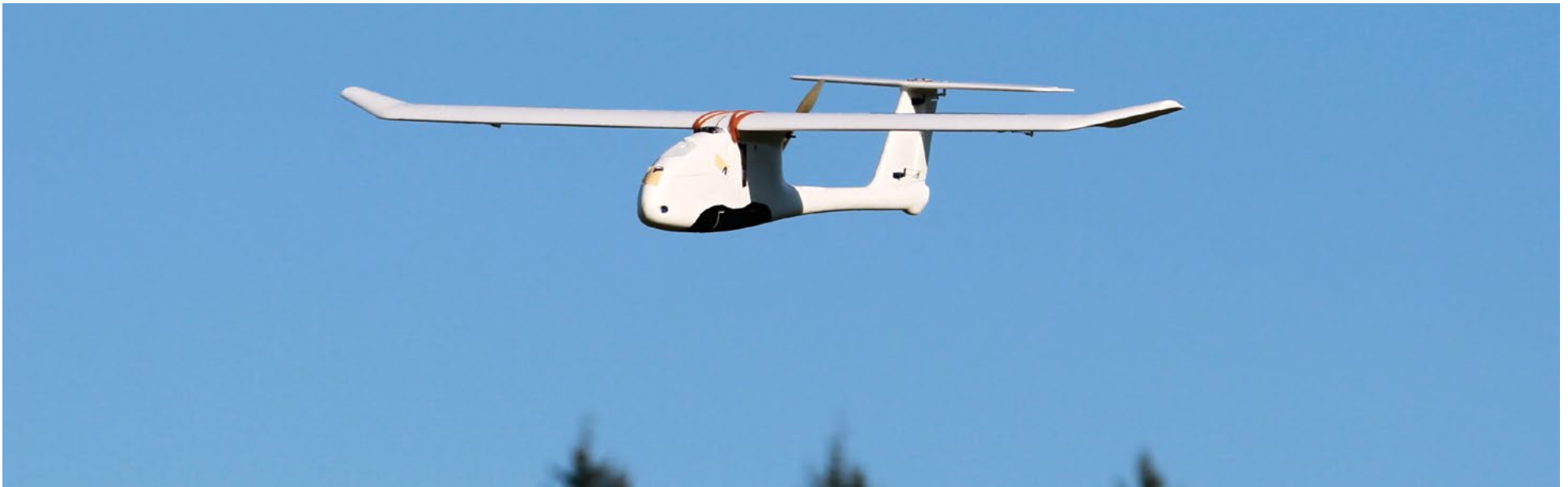
ABOLANTE@BIZJOURNALS.COM



206-876-5423



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TO INFINITY AND - WAIT, NOT THAT HIGH

An unmanned aircraft – popularly known as a drone – soars above the treeline at 60 Acres Park in Redmond Nov. 15 on its first day of testing. The prototype was created by the University of Washington's Autonomous Flight Systems Laboratory, a research group of about 25 undergraduate and graduate students led by research scientist Chris Lum. The group has been developing an unmanned aerial system that can operate without using GPS technology. The students are excited

about their creation.

"It could fly until you can't see it," said undergraduate Al Creigh.

Unmanned aircraft are becoming popular for everything from taking real estate property photos to disaster response. But the FAA is still hashing out what's permissible for pilotless aircraft.

– Sarah Aitchison



University of Washington aeronautical engineering student Melanie Clark (center) works on the prototype while fellow students look on.



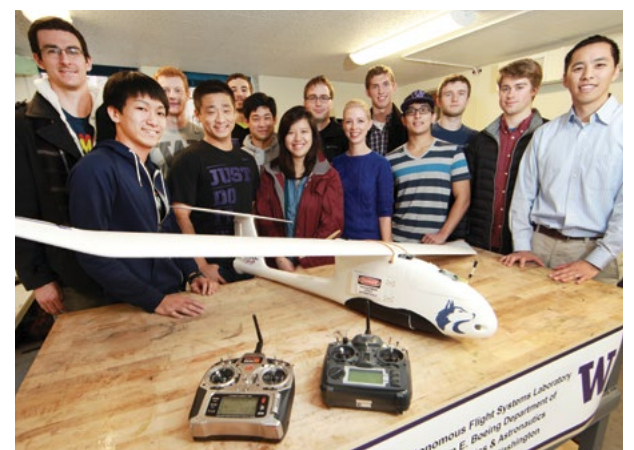
Students (left to right) Mitchell Hubbard, Al Creigh, Aleksandr Tereschenkov and Keisuke Tsujita work in the University of Washington aeronautics research laboratory to develop the unmanned aerial system.



Student Brendan Doyle-Wade (left) works on the UW Unmanned Aerial System prototype with the help of aeronautics research scientist Chris Lum.



Aeronautical engineering students Kevin Ueunten (left) and Melanie Clark work in the research laboratory on the UW campus.



Research scientist Chris Lum (right) joins his students behind the working prototype in UW lab.