



Fall 2016 MRDT Newsletter

After a long year of hard work and countless man hours, MRDT is proud to announce that we are the first ever champions of the Phobos Division of the University Rover Challenge! In addition, we were also honored as the recipients of the John Berenka Science Award, an award given to teams that show exemplary intuitiveness in progressing strategies for ethereal soil analysis for our journey to Mars! This placement will further motivate us for the 2016-2017 season as we aim to inspire innovation, solve new problems, and reach new heights.

2016's University Rover Challenge was also a wonderful learning experience for our team. We were able to gain a better understanding of our team dynamic and see where we can improve. In order to keep pushing the boundaries of engineering, we have decided to completely redesign our rover and restructure the technical branch of our team. We are so excited to see what this year has in store for us and we're ready to take on the challenges we may face. But, making our ambitions a reality would not be possible without you! Thank you so much for all of your support and encouragement and we can't wait to make you proud!



Rover Recap

Akers:

Spring 2012: MRDT becomes an official design team

Spring 2013: The team hosts first ever Rover Reveal

May 2013: MRDT competes in the University Rover Challenge for the first time and takes 10th place



Phoenix:

Fall 2013: Motivated from their first competition, MRDT takes on redesigning their rover completely

November 2013: The first ever Spaceweek is hosted

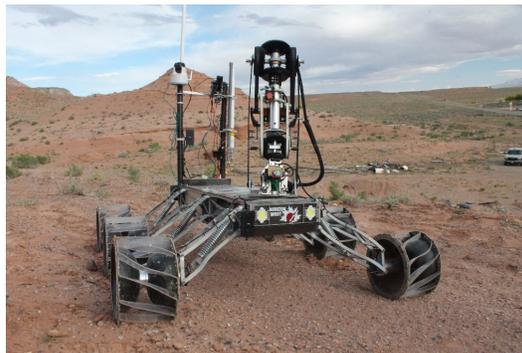
May 2014: The team competes in URC and leaves with the title of 2nd in the world

Horizon:

March 2014: MRDT becomes the first organization to crowdfund on campus and raises over \$19,000

May 2015: The team competes in the University Rover Challenge for the 3rd consecutive year

September 2015: MRDT becomes the first ever American team to compete in the European Rover Challenge



Zenith:

November 2015: MRDT becomes one of the most interdisciplinary S&T design teams with 16 different majors represented

May 2016: MRDT takes first in their division at URC and wins the John Berenka Science Award!

From the CEO - Chris Lenahan



I am very excited for the progress we have already made for the 2016-2017 season! After placing first in our division for the 2016 URC, we have challenged ourselves further in our goals, in our design, and in our operations as a team. As we tackle today's challenges, we hope to further our own understanding of what it takes to build the next generation of Mars rovers, as well as improve the understanding of these challenges to everyone that we reach. This is an exciting time to be a part of the race to put a society on Mars, and I can't wait to see what lies in store for our team tomorrow. We appreciate all the support

Team Structure Changes

We've completely restructured the technical branch by organizing groups by rover systems rather than major. Instead of the 'Mechanical, Electrical, Powertrain, and Telemetry' sub-teams, we now have six interdisciplinary technical teams:

- Ground Support Systems (GSS)
- RoveCore
- DriveTrain
- Power Systems
- Manipulators
- Science

These groups are organized in such a way that reflects the natural interface points between different rover systems, allowing for more efficient communication and documentation throughout our design process.

Additionally, each group contains all of the members and skill-sets necessary to deliver a functional product. Already we are seeing this new structure pay off in the amount of collaboration happening

you have given us, and know that we could not succeed without your contributions to the team.

Please reach out to me with any questions, I could talk about this team forever.

Chris.Lenahan@mst.edu

between students of different majors, as well as the quality of the designs for each sub-system. As the year progresses, we hope to see the benefits continue with our ambitious schedule, and strive towards our goals of building the best rover, the best engineers, and the best team yet!



PR Spotlight

The team enjoyed many of the Homecoming festivities, including the Homecoming Parade, while reminiscing with some of the team's alumni that were able to come visit. Thank you to everyone that stopped to say hi and look at our award winning rover.

Left to right: Nicole Moon, Alexandar Lorenz, Josh Reed, Andrew Rausch, Jonathan Boyson, Olugbenga Osibodu, Ashley Reisig

Join Us On:



Support:

MRDT could not continue to innovate without the support and contributions of our sponsors, family, and friends. If you would like to make a donation, please click the link below, and under **Designations**, select **Mars Rover (507700)**. Thank you for your support, and your generosity, that lets this team continue to [#RoveSoHard](#) !

[Donate](#)

Thanks to our Sponsors:



**Academy of Civil Engineers, GGPE Department, Engineering Management & System
Engineering Department, Helene Hardy Pierce, Missouri S&T Innovation Team**

Copyright © 2016 Mars Rover Design Team, All rights reserved.

|IFNOT:ARCHIVE_PAGE| *|LIST:DESCRIPTION|*

Our mailing address is:

|HTML:LIST_ADDRESS_HTML| *|END:IF|*

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

|IF:REWARDS| *|HTML:REWARDS|* *|END:IF|*