



Here's to a season filled with warmth, comfort and good cheer from your friendly neighborhood Martians. Happy holidays from all of us on the Mars Rover Design Team!



Winter 2016 Newsletter

The fall semester has been one of the most exciting ever for MRDT! We have continued the development of our great members, both incoming and returning, by emphasizing our vision and the importance of learning new skill sets. We use this development to further our mission of providing students with the expertise to overcome today's challenges, become tomorrow's visionaries, and to keep humanity forever curious.

There has been a great deal of passion for this year's rover and for inspiring the next generation of students interested in STEM fields. In addition to being full-time students, our team has participated in over twenty outreach events and hit major goals earlier than ever before. Achieving basic rover operations before the start of spring semester will be our loftiest goal yet, and one that could not be accomplished without the endless support and encouragement we receive from the team's sponsors, family, and alumni.

From our family to yours, we thank you for your support and wish you Happy Holidays!



Member Highlights

Today

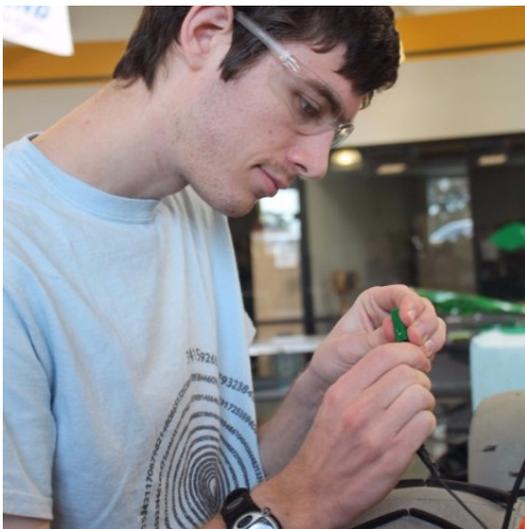
A Today Star (or Shining Star) award is given to a member of the team for helping to create and build the best rover possible.

Ellis Sansone earned the Shining Star award for conducting team trainings on short notice and helping to complete multiple boards in one week, propelling the power systems ahead of schedule!



Tomorrow

A Tomorrow Star award is given to recognize a member of the team for helping grow and inspire a fellow Martian on the journey to become the best engineer or leader they can be.

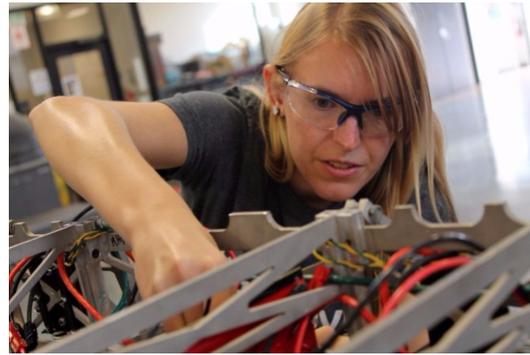


Gunnip Mueller received the Tomorrow Star award for his voracious desire to learn and his contribution to restore and re-purpose Phoenix, our 2014 award-winning rover and now serving as our development platform for testing each of our new systems on this year's rover.

Forever

A Forever Star award is given to someone who continues to inspire the next generation to pursue careers in STEM and space exploration.

Katie Brinker has been presented with a Forever Star for her passion and commitment in developing the team and its members! As a returning member, Katie has been able to inspire new members by not only teaching them our vision, but working to inspire them through her own actions.



From the CEO - Chris Lenahan

Hello again, friends of MRDT!

The holidays are quickly approaching, and our Martians are working hard to build the best gift under the tree this year: the MRDT 2017 Rover! With the close of the fall semester also comes the completion of our current step in the rover's life cycle, Basic Operations. I am always proud to see what our team can create not only within the shop, but also within their personal and professional development as individuals, and their passion that continues to inspire our shared vision into everyone they reach.

Feel free to contact me to learn more about what this team is creating. Happy holidays, and thank you for helping us to #RoveSoHard!

-Chris Lenahan
Chris.lenahan@mst.edu

Space Week 2016

Every year we collaborate with multiple aerospace centered design teams to host a week long outreach event for the Rolla community and Missouri S&T students!

Dr. Thomas Shoberg from the United States Geological Survey, started the week off with a space presentation. He took us on an expedition of some of the most interesting sites throughout the solar system. During the seminar, we also speculated on the possibilities of manned bases being installed on various worlds by engineers like us! Next, we bonded with the community by watching October Sky, a movie based on the true story of Homer Hickam, a child influenced by the first Sputnik launch. The week concluded with the Galactic Adventure, an event geared towards children 4-12 years old. The kids were able to take a tour through space with hands on activities to spark their curiosity in STEM and space exploration.



PR Spotlight

The team spent a day with the Rolla Middle School presenting to 5th, 6th, and 7th graders about the different aspects of building a rover. The members went to inspire students to continue in their aspirations and love of science, math, and space.

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**, continue to the **Student Design & Experiential Learning Center**, and select **Mars Rover (507700)**. Thank you for your support and your generosity that allows this team continue to **#RoveSoHard** !

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Thanks to our Sponsors:



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**Academy of Civil Engineers, Helene Hardy Pierce, Missouri S&T Student Council,
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