

Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering 2025 Design and Manufacturing Expo May 9, 2025





RUTGERS-NEW BRUNSWICK School of Engineering Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

Course Coordinators

Prof. Xi Gu Prof. Assimina A. Pelegri

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Teaching Assistants

Design Specialists

Seminar Speakers

Mr. Milan Simonovic *Rutgers MAE* Prof. Stephen Tse *Rutgers MAE* Dr. Merrill Edmonds *Siemens* Mr. Alejandro Ruiz *Rutgers REHS* Prof. Richard Dool *Rutgers School of Communication & Information*

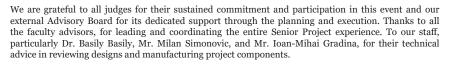


NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

We are very delighted about the 2025 Design and Manufacturing Expo. During this year's Expo, 42 groups will present their exciting projects, guided by our faculty. In addition, this event is a unique opportunity for our students to showcase their talent, innovation, ingenuity, teamwork, and engagement.

The Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department is a vibrant academic community offering three undergraduate degrees in Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, and Applied Sciences (Packaging Engineering concentration). In addition, the Department offers graduate/advanced programs leading to M.S., M.Eng., and Ph.D. degrees.

Our close to 40 full-time faculty members educate more than 1,000 undergraduate and 180 graduate students. Our thriving community of students, faculty, alumni, and industry partners is devoted to collaborative work at the highest standards of research and innovation. Our faculty members are dedicated to enabling our students to achieve success and become problem solvers and innovators. Students have access to a wide range of classes that train them in the core principles of mechanical and aerospace engineering. In addition, they can participate in research projects as undergraduates, allowing them to gain experience in real-world applications comparable to research conducted by industry. Our faculty has achieved distinction among their peers and as fellows of professional engineering societies, including the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA), American Physical Society (APS), Acoustical Society of America (ASA), and American Academy of Mechanics (AAM). Our Department has an exciting and multidisciplinary research portfolio, which includes advancing scientific knowledge and technology in various areas, including nanostructures, hypersonics, autonomous robotics, electro-hydrodynamics, fluid interactions, energy science, and advanced materials, among many others.



To our students, we are very proud of your efforts and accomplishments! We wish you a successful and rewarding career. Stay in touch!

Assimina A. Pelegri, Ph.D. Professor and Chair Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

NOTE FROM THE COORDINATORS



We would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department at Rutgers! In the following pages, you will find the Senior Design projects for AY 2024-25. During these projects, students have the opportunity to work with industry and faculty advisors, gaining experience in real-world engineering. Many of these projects can lead to new technologies or other innovations outside of academia, and they help our students transition to life after graduation.

To our seniors, we celebrate your accomplishments and appreciate your efforts. Your class achieved record numbers in engaging in professional and educational development activities, including internships and co-Ops, JJ Slade fellowships, and undergraduate research opportunities. You are now at the finishing line, ready to explore the many "tomorrows" to come. Many of you will continue your education in the BS/MS program at Rutgers or pursue higher degrees at other institutions, and many of you, at the time of this letter, have secured jobs. We are very proud of you and what you have accomplished in the last four years. We know that this was not easy for many of you, but again you raised to the occasion, and you showed how innovative, entrepreneur, and resourceful our young MAE engineers are. Use the inspiration and ingenuity you exhibited in your classes to propel you in the next chapters of your lives!

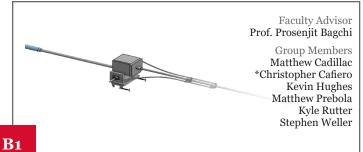
We would also like to express our gratitude to the course teaching assistants, George Gianoukakis, Rituparna Mohanty, and Zhizhuo Zhang, whose hard work and dedication made senior design experience possible.

This brochure is a record of your achievements! Congratulations, Class of 2025!

Xi Gu, Ph.D. Associate Teaching Professor Dept. of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Assimina A. Pelegri, Ph.D. Professor and Chair Dept. of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering



ELECTRICALLY POWERED WATERCRAFT

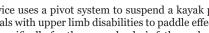


This project is Rutgers University's inaugural entrance into A.S.N.E.'s Promoting Electric Propulsion competition in Virginia Beach, VA in April 2025. The design consists of a long-tailed electric outboard motor designed for a manned watercraft.

KAYAK PADDLE ADAPTATION FOR UPPER LIMB DISABILITIES



This adaptive device uses a pivot system to suspend a kayak paddle, allowing individuals with upper limb disabilities to paddle effectively. It was designed specifically for the group leader's father, whose arm is partially paralyzed.

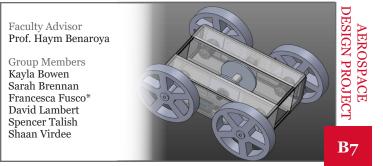


RU POWER: MARINE ENERGY COLLEGIATE COMPETITION

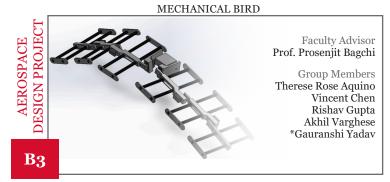


A collegiate competition centered around designing innovative devices to harness marine energy, promoting sustainable solutions for a greener future through engineering and creativity.

SKYLIGHT ACESS AND LAVA TUBE EXPLORATION



A robotic lunar rover designed to descend through a skylight, explore a subsurface lava tube, and transmit critical data, supporting future human habitation and scientific discovery on the Moon.



This project focuses on developing a mechanical bird that replicates the natural flapping motion of real birds. The design emphasizes biomimicry, aiming to mimic the movement and creating a realistic wing motion mechanism.

*Group Leader



STREAMLINED HEAVY LIFT SMALL UAS



This project aims to create a durable, lightweight, and thrust efficient drone that can carry a payload that is heavier than itself. The quadcopter design features four folding arms with each having two coaxial rotors.

STOP-ROTOR ROTARY WING AIRCRAFT

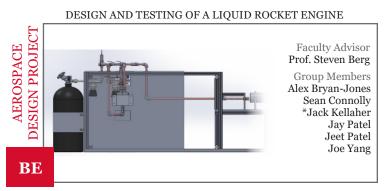


Develop a non-conventional drone that seamlessly transitions between helicopter and fixed wing mode to maximize efficiency and negate the need for a runway.

DEPLOYABLE GLIDER FOR AUTONOMOUS WAYPOINT MISSION



This project is a deployable glider capable of autonomous, targeted guidance during flight. Its objective is to complete mission 3 at the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) Design, Build, Fly (DBF) competition.

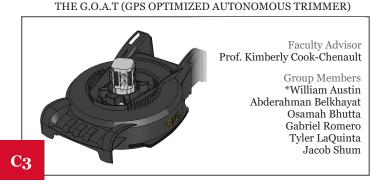


The design and testing of a scalable liquid bi-propellant rocket engine capable of producing 300 Newtons of thrust continuously for 5 seconds and a test stand capable of recording thrust and pressure.

HAND-OPERATED HYPERSONIC SHOCK TUNNEL

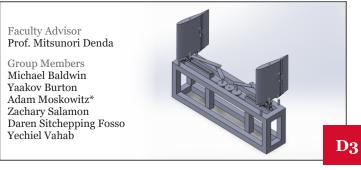


With a blend of practical and theoretical knowledge, this team was able to create a hypersonic shock tunnel driven by human force.



The GOAT modifies a lawnmower using RTK and GPS for 2 cm precision mapping, with enhanced safety features and advanced object detection. Developed by six students, funded by Honest Horticulture, and Rutgers.

BIO-INSPIRED FLAPPING WING ENERGY HARVESTER



Two mirrored airfoils with flaps move colinearly along smothless track to harvest wind energy which is then converted into electrical energy.



WEATHER MONITORING TETHERED DRONE



A tethered drone system capable of extended flight times and weather monitoring. The use of a lightweight tether and automated spooling system allows for a tensioned cable during the flight.

LIQUID-BASED PORTABLE FILTRATION SYSTEM



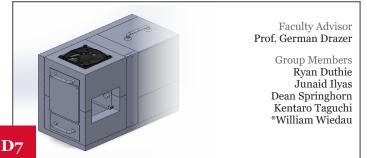
A compact, liquid-based air filtration system that uses water to capture and remove airborne pollutants, improving air quality. Designed for portability, it offers an innovative solution for cleaner and healthier air in any environment.

BIO-INSPIRED FLAPPING WING ENERGY HARVESTER



Scientists discovered that birds use advanced flapping aerodynamics to move through the air more efficiently than man-made aircraft. The goal of this project is to use this phenomena to harvest energy from the wind.

LIQUID-BASED PORTABLE FILTRATION DEVICE TO IMPROVE IN-DOOR AIR QUALITY DURING SMOKE EVENTS

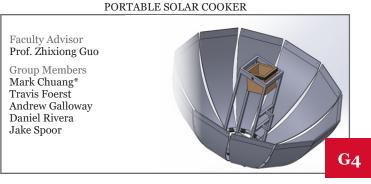


Our project develops a portable air filtration device that uses water to capture harmful smoke particles (PM2.5), improving indoor air quality during wildfire events. This affordable, efficient system offers safer breathing environments for everyone.

AUTOMATIC GANTRY SYSTEM FOR FRONT DIFFERENTIAL



A gantry system is an overhead framework for heavy material handling in industries. When assembling a differential, steps include cleaning parts, applying lubricant, installing gears, adjusting shims, and ensuring proper alignment for smooth operation.



Our project is a solar cooker that is efficient yet portable. Our design allows for easy removal and storage of sunlight concentrators without sacrificing efficiency.



DIGITAL DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING OF CUSTOMIZABLE KNEE IMPLANTS



This project focuses on creating an upgraded knee implant prototype tailored to individual patient needs, addressing challenges in cost, customization, and implant longevity through digital design and additive manufacturing technology.

CONCENTRATED SOLAR POWER



A small-scale solar collector designed to heat household water efficiently. It captures sunlight, converts it to thermal energy, and warms water for daily use, offering an eco-friendly, cost-effective solution for domestic hot water needs.

WIND ENERGY AND STORAGE SYSTEM



A wind driven water system that stores and pump water for agriculture irrigation system implementing wind turbine, centrifugal pump, Arduino controlled valves, and automated water supply system.

DESIGN OF TEST STAND FOR ELECTRIC MOTORS FOR RC AIRCRAFT



A motor generator test stand utilizing brushless DC motors and an Electronic Speed Controller to analyze power transfer, torque, efficiency, and performance characteristics in an experimental setup.

DESIGN OF TEST STAND FOR ELECTRIC MOTORS FOR RC AIRCRAFT

Faculty Advisor Prof. Doyle D. Knight

Group Members Douglas Doyle Ahmed Elshamaa Masih Ganjvar Timothy Kubik Shlok Majmundar*



A test stand for RC electric motors measuring torque, power, current, and RPM. It includes an IR sensor, Arduino-based data collection, a power sensor, adjustable motor and IR sensor mounts, and an aluminum frame, ensuring accurate, repeatable performance evaluation within budget constraints.

3D PRINTER MOVING BED FOR THERMOPLASTIC PELLET-FED 3D PRINTER

Faculty Advisor Prof. Jennifer Lynch-Branzoi

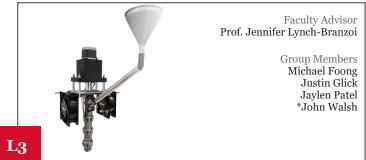
Group Members James Bragg Feng Huang Samay Mehta Geries Zalzal*



A cost-effective thermoplastic pellet-fed 3D printer featuring a moving heated bed and stationary extruder, designed for enhanced scalability, material diversity, and sustainability in additive manufacturing.

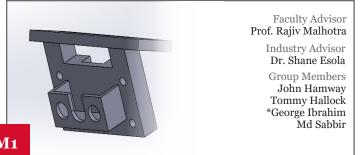


EXTRUDER FOR A THERMOPLASTIC PELLET-FED 3D PRINTER



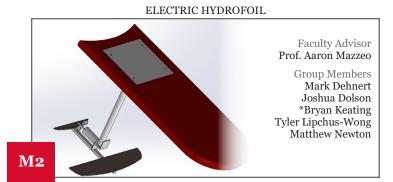
An extruder for a thermoplastic pellet-fed 3D printer designed for materials research, enabling customized feedstock usage while reducing waste and achieving a greater operating range with temperatures reaching up to 400°C.

3D MONITORING SYSTEM FOR THERMOPLASTICS, THERMOSETS



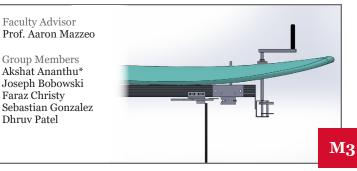
M₁

We are mounting camera which will provide view of our printing process with detection capacity. So that, we can correct the potential issues such as layer misalignments and material inconsistencies.



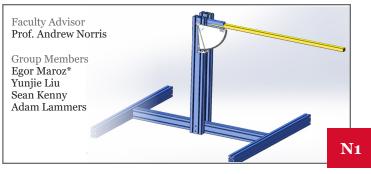
This electric Hydrofoil is made to withstand even the weight of a 100-kilogram individual while maintaining lift at a cruising speed, all this done with a budget of \$1,000.

SURFBOARD PROPULSION



The surfboard propulsion unit aims to assist beginner surfers when it comes to catching their first wave, allowing them to receive a small boost of speed at the pull of a lever.

COST EFFECTIVELY IMPROVING STRENGTHS OF 3D PRINTS



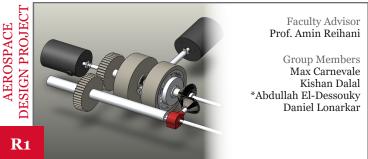
By creating a handful of 3D printable designs and testing them all with a custom designed impact tester, we can find the most ideal infill design.



Rutgers Formula Racing, the Formula SAE team at Rutgers University, is developing a custom mono-shock damper for their upcoming 2025 car, allowing for no-compromise performance of the suspension and improving the handling of the car.

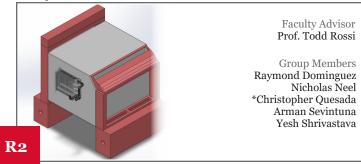


CONTINUOUSLY VARIABLE TRANSMISSION FOR WIND TURBINES AND PROPULSION



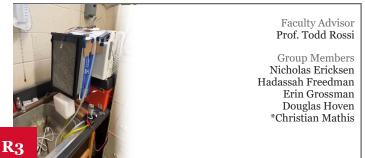
A constant speed output, high torque CVT using planetary gears for increased reliability for speed-sensitive applications such as wind turbines.

LIQUID DESICCANT MODIFICATION FOR AIR CONDITIONING



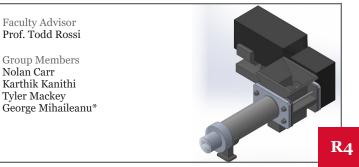
The liquid desiccant modification for air conditioning utilizes potassium acetate in a counter crossflow configuration to evaporate captured water through the latent heat of the air conditioner.

HYBRID DIRECT EXPANSION LIQUID DESICCANT DEHUMIDI-FIER WINDOW AC UNIT



Improving upon a standard ac window unit by attaching a liquid desiccant system to make it more efficient at cooling and dehumidification.

COMMERCIAL-GRADE EXTRUDER MACHINE



The Commercial-Grade Extruder is a compact, cost-effective solution for small businesses in the nutrition bar industry. It ensures consistent bar formation, improved output efficiency, reliability, portability and affordability for businesses lacking access to industrial extruders.

DRONE FOR AUTOMATED MAPPING OF FLOW GENERATED BY WINDWALL



An autonomous drone equipped with advanced sensors and control systems to map wind flow velocity in Rutgers' Windshaper wind wall, providing accurate data for aerodynamic research and simulation validation.

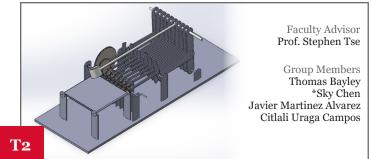
THE FAST AND THE FOOSIUS AUTOMATED FOOSBALL TABLE

Faculty Advisor Prof. Stephen Tse Group Members Muhammad Ali Aidan Choo* Maya Gharat Isabel Toro Rebecca Wisser

This project aims to enhance an automated foosball table by integrating advanced image processing, actuation systems, and game tactics to simulate a realistic, autonomous game of foosball for both beginners and experts.



MECHANICAL HARMONIC ANALYZER



A mechanical harmonic analyzer decomposes a periodic waveform into individual sine or cosine waves at multiples of frequency. The process simulates Fourier analysis using gears, cam arms, rocker arms, amplitude bars, and a pen mover.

NON-DESTRUCTIVE MATERIAL DISCONTINUITY DETECTION ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE DEVICE

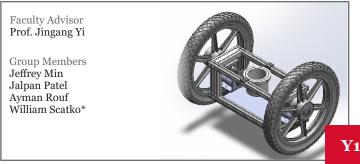


Our setup involves infrared sensors collecting distance data. The data will be processed by artificial intelligence to predict the discontinuity's size, shape, and location.

Faculty Advisor Prof. George Weng Group Members Saicharan Idhayan Jason Lee Tyler Lin David Serback Sean Sharma*

Design and optimization of a lightweight spherical pressure vessel using carbon fiber and epoxy resin, ensuring structural integrity, manufacturability, and performance for high-pressure applications in aerospace and industrial sectors.

STABLE TRANSPORTATION DEVICE



Our project aims to extend applications of two-wheeled robots by maintaining adequate balance and speed while transporting liquid payloads. Applications include the delivery of sensitive or hazardous materials in unfavorable environments to humans.

CYLINDRICAL PRESSURE VESSEL Faculty Advisor Prof. George Weng Group Members *Jack Batt John Bukofsky Amar Kharrubi Justin Miles

W1

Design and manufacturing of a lightweight cylindrical pressure vessel using carbon fiber and epoxy resin, optimized for strength, safety, and cost-effectiveness, capable of withstanding 300 psi with a safety factor of 3.

Kishan Patel

VEXU ROBOT MANIPULATING RINGS IN A DEFINED ENVIRONMENT

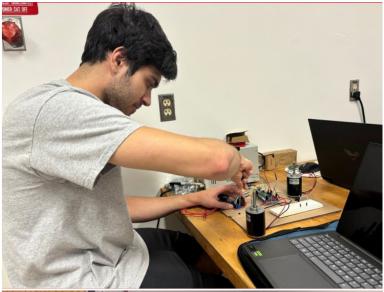


Designing, modeling, building, and operation of an autonomous robot that can manipulate rings, move mobile goalposts, and climb rungs to score points in the VEXU High Stakes Skills Challenge.



DESIGN OF STRONG AND LIGHTWEIGHT SPHERICAL PRES-SURE VESSEL USING CARBON FIBERS AND EPOXY RESIN











Cover Photos (All group members listed left to right):

Front top: Joseph Bobowski (M3)
Front bottom left: Ashleigh Jacobs (B2)
Front bottom right: Noor Hasan (D1)
Front inside left: Rishav Gupta, Therese Rose Aquino, Gauranshi Yadav (B3)
Front inside top right: Kundy Yeung, Andrew Goldberg, Ethan Chan, Noah Lewis (G1)
Front inside bottom right: Rebecca Wisser, Maya Gharat (T1)
Back inside top left: William Scatko, Ayman Rouf (Y1)
Back inside top right: Everett Murray (B4)
Back inside middle left: Spencer Talish (B7)
Back inside bottom: Mike Caruso, Abdulbasit Malik (D2)
Back: Matthew Newton (M2)



Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering at Rutgers

The Department of Mechanical Engineering at Rutgers was founded in 1908 with a focus on driving the country's industrial growth. Aerospace Engineering was added in 1965 as a certificate program with a full degree program established in 2015. It is now the only Aerospace Engineering degree offered among New Jersey's public universities. The Department is a vibrant academic community offering three undergraduate degrees in Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, and Applied Sciences (Packaging Engineering concentration). The Department has state of the art laboratories used for research leading to M.S., M.Eng., and Ph.D. degrees. Undergraduate and graduate students participate in cutting edge research funded by federal and state agencies, and industrial partners. With close to 40 full-time faculty members, the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department educates more than 1,000 undergraduate students and more than 180 graduate students. Excellence in both research and teaching is the top priority for our faculty.

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Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

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