

NAU Collegiate Wind Competition Team Fact Sheet



- NAU submitted a proposal to the U.S. Department of Energy in January 2013, and was selected as one of ten teams for the inaugural competition.
- The team has three challenges:
 - Develop and present a business plan for a small wind turbine
 - Design the turbine and bring it to competition for testing
 - Present on an issue critical to today's wind industry
- The team includes 23 undergraduates:
 - 18 electrical and mechanical engineering students on three Capstone teams
 - 3 business students, majors in finance, economics, marketing, and management
 - political science/environmental studies major and environmental sciences major
 - an additional 31 business students contributed to the team's business plan in the Fall 2013 semester, when this project was the main assignment for their class
- The team is managed by NAU faculty and is supported by more than a dozen individuals and organizations in the Flagstaff community.
- The team will travel to the national WindPower 2014 conference in Las Vegas in May to compete, presenting to industry judges and testing their turbine against other teams.

Quotes:

- "All the leadership and design work is applicable to larger challenges" – Nathan Croswell, mechanical engineering, May 2014
- "The most exciting part of this project is the fact that we are creating a product that can potentially help someone in their time of need" – Lukas Loehr, business management, May 2014.
- "I hope the competition will get more young people interested in wind energy" – Anna Manning, mechanical engineering, December 2014.
- "What I hope to get out of attending the competition and participating in the team is to ... learn from the best in the industry what we missed, and what we did well" – Ian Mason, electrical engineering, December 2014.
- "A real life design project is very, very different from sitting down and doing homework problems" – Jonathan Pepper, electrical engineering, May 2014.
- "I find the competition inspiring as a future entrepreneur" – Samantha Stansbery, business management, December 2014.
- "Considering the large group of team members that are working on the project, one of the most important things I've gotten out of it is how to deal with madness of it all" – Carlos Tarango, electrical engineering, May 2014.
- "Holding a manufactured blade I helped design will be very exciting!" – Gabriel O'Reilly, mechanical engineering, December 2014.