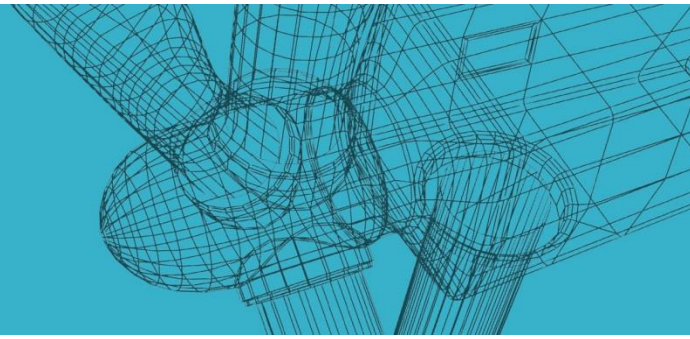




COLLEGIATE WIND COMPETITION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



NAU Team Story



Team roster (name and major for each member):

First name	Last Name	Degree	KEY:
Anas	Alkandari	ME	ME: Mechanical Engineering
Randon	Allen	EE	EE: Electrical Engineering
Hashim	Alramadhan	ME	BSBA: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Jessica	Bauer	ME	
Luke	Baxter	BSBA	
Thomas	Begay	BSBA	
Connor	Campbell	BSBA	
Nathan	Ceniceros	ME	
Norman	Clark	ME	
Michael	Coil	BSBA	
Jeremy	Cook	ME	
Nathan	DeHeer	BSBA	
Adam	DeSerio	BSBA	
Michael	Evans	EE	

Dakota	Grizzle	BSBA	
Korey	Holaas	EE	
Carl	Lambright	BSBA	
Kyle	Lyndsay	BSBA	
Nathan	McWhirter	BSBA	
James	Melton	ME	
Scott	Muente	ME	
Brock	Pellerin	EE	
Tyler	Richard	ME	
Jess	Robinson	EE	
Zachary	Sabol	EE	
Ryan	Schatz	ME	
Blake	Skorich	BSBA	
Kyle	Thompson	BSBA	
Michael	Wertz	ME	
Brayden	Worrell	EE	

Team name: Team NAU

Team website: <http://nau.edu/CEFNS/Engineering/Mechanical/Research-and-Labs/Energy/Education/Collegiate-Wind-Competition/>

Project description:

Our team is developing a turbine for deployment in multiple remote, off-grid applications that will serve communities and individuals with their electricity and communications needs.

Team strategy:

NAU's team consists of 30 undergraduate students, 18 engineering and 12 business students. The engineering students are a mix of mechanical and electrical engineers, and the business students are specialists in finance, management, and marketing. The business students are divided into two teams tackling two distinct business plans, which may be merged into a single target market/business concept. The engineering students are divided into two tunnel turbine teams and one deployment turbine team. Each team consists of students with a variety of backgrounds, and on the engineering side each student has a role for which they are the lead or content expert. Student leads meet weekly, project managers meet weekly, and engineers meet weekly, as a large group and in sub-teams, all in addition to the classes that house this project for academic credit.

Provide the reason(s) for participation in this competition (they can be individual or team stories):

NAU students selected this project because they value the interdisciplinary, real-world experience and the technical and business challenge, and they expect that the project will better prepare them for employment after college than alternate academic projects for their capstone courses.

Some students were intrigued by renewable energy and want to learn more, while others have worked previously in renewable energy and want to learn more specifically about wind energy. Many students are interested in pursuing careers in renewable energy.

“This competition sounded like one of the most hands-on projects that I would have the chance to work on for the remainder of my time at NAU.”

“I hope to learn how to work in a big group.”

“This sounded like an awesome change to collaborate with multiple teams and make a difference by supplying clean, renewable energy. I hope I can grow as a team member in a business setting.”

Describe the challenges involved in each of the five contests and which one presents the most difficulty for your team and why. Alternatively, explain which contests align with your team's strengths and interests:

Students are looking forward to building, testing, failing, and building again. They also are excited about the business development and deployment challenge, because this represents an interesting, real-world market problem and they want to gain experience in business development in a challenging setting. Several students mentioned that they feel they can be strong in the bonus challenge because it allows them to be creative.

“It will be challenging for our team to begin our research due to our lack of knowledge in the technicalities of wind turbines, however, we will be able to overcome these challenges through market research and collaboration with the engineering and other business teams.”

“In the Bonus Challenge I can be creative and think big... sometime my mind goes way out of the box.”

Beyond a win, what is the most important thing your team can take away from the Collegiate Wind Competition?

Students expressed that being a part of a team, no matter how the competition goes, is the most important thing they will gain from the event and experience of being part of it all year.

“I believe that the overall experience of competition is the most important thing our team can take away from the Wind Competition. The collaboration and team setting is definitely something I look forward to in a career and I am excited to be able to gain this experience while I am still in school.”

“Good times, great memories, and great Engineering experience!”

What opportunities can the co-location with AWEA WINDPOWER provide for your team?

Our students have identified networking opportunities, specifically for jobs but also to build professional connections, as a key opportunity. Additionally, they are excited about the possibility of attending the conference and learning more about the industry and its technical and business trends.

“This competition is a great chance to get started on a career path that might actually lead to a sense of satisfaction at the end of the day!”

“I see the networking opportunity, resume building, and a great life experience!”