



Bluefield State Robotics Places First at the IGVC Competition

For Immediate Release:

Bluefield, WV – June 5, 2018 – The Bluefield State Robotics team and their robot “Apollo IV” traveled to Oakland University in Michigan to compete in the AutoNav division of the annual Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC) from June 1-4, 2018. The IGVC hosted numerous international teams as well as many prestigious universities from across the country (for a listing of schools who registered for the competition, click [here](#)).

Not only did BSC compete, but they were successful in obtaining the prestigious Paul Lescoe trophy, signifying their first place over-all achievement in addition to placing first in the main event of the competition. “Apollo IV” was able to complete the obstacle course by navigating the set GPS coordinates while not exceeding five miles per hour in the best time. While the honor is shared with Hosei University in Japan who is internationally known as a major robotics center, it does not hasten any excitement from Bluefield State.

“This rigorous international competition highlights Bluefield State’s strong commitment to excellence displayed through the outstanding work of our students and their faculty mentors,” exclaims President Marsha Krotseng. “I am extremely proud of the team for their top ranking. An accomplishment such as this truly places BSC on the world’s stage as a premiere institution for robotics.”

Chairman of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Michael J. Farrell offered, “Congratulations to your students and faculty. Success in international competitions provides a benchmark for all others. Robotics is the future and Bluefield State has made all West Virginians very proud.”

Dr. Bob Riggins, team advisor added, “BSC has challenged themselves for twenty years to excel at robotics and gain the international spotlight associated with winning the Paul Lescoe trophy at the IGVC. Fortunately, BSC has had a legacy of exceptional students to build this program on.”

Joseph Hazelwood, faculty advisor to the team includes, “The BSC robotics students have surpassed my expectations. The effort they have put into this international competition will be evident to the employers who are fortunate enough to have them in the future.”



From left to right: Chris Knight, Clayton McChesney, Samuel Bauer, William Lambert – Team Captain, Dannii Fowler, Adam Hammond, Shonte Cargill, Evan Rees, Dr. Riggins, Joseph Hazelwood

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