

NERC 2017 Highlights

National Engineering Robotic Contest (NERC) is the most prestigious and oldest national level robotic contest in Pakistan which is held annually at EME, NUST Rawalpindi.

Theme of 2017 Contest

This year the robots had to supply water, food, medicine and hygiene kits to disaster stricken areas. They could drop these supplies at “houses” denoted by colored boxes. Two of the supplies were supposed to be transported to houses that could only be accessed by crossing a bridge. Initially the bridge was broken and the robots were required to find a way to cross the bridge and reach the other side. Once there, the robots could deliver the remaining aid to the right locations. In each match between two teams, the robot which delivered all the aids and crossed the bridge with lesser time was declared the winner.

Participation form Chakwal Campus of UET Taxila

This year, 168 teams of thirty different institutions from all over Pakistan participated in the contest and eight teams participated from Mechatronics Engineering Department of UET Taxila, Sub-Campus Chakwal. Four out of these eight teams reached in the final round. Three teams qualified for top-16 round, and finally a team named “Suicide Squad” secured a position in top eight for quarter finals. This team won the Best Design & Performance Award of Souvenir along with cash of Rs. 20,000/-.

This year, there were twenty three different prizes for the participating teams. NUST offers a unique award every year titled as “EME Award” to one of the participating institutions for overall best participation and performance. This award was given to UET Taxila, Sub-Campus Chakwal on the basis of maximum number of teams and overall best performance in the event. It was received by the Campus Director “Dr. Amir Sultan” from the Rector, NUST, Lt. Gen. (R) Naveed Zaman HI (M)

Participating students, faculty members and staff from Chakwal Campus

The success at this national level competition was not possible without the individual and combined efforts, enthusiasm, motivation and teamwork of all the participating students. Particularly, the students Safeer Ahmed from 2013-MCT, Tanzeel Ahmad Fazal from 2014-MCT, and Azeem from 2015-MCT showed a great spirit of team work and helped out all the teams in this event.

There is always a technical, moral and motivational support from faculty members which makes the students capable for such technical events. **Engr. Muhammad Asif and Engr. Muhammad Naeem Zafar** of Mechatronics Engineering Department particularly put their efforts throughout

the semester to supervise the teams. They put their efforts with sleepless days and nights for the preparation of robots in the labs.

Our students work on machines on their own and do not prefer the ready-made parts. Such habits enhance their skills at a great extent making them capable to test and troubleshoot their robots at any time. Whenever problem occurred in the robots, they disassembled the robots, sorted the problem out and assembled the parts again within no time. Workshop Lab and Mechatronics System Design Lab were remained busy at late night for students to work for preparation of robots. Lab staff Engr. Arqam Razzaq, Mr. Awais Safdar, Mr. Hafiz Muhammad Saqib, and Mr. Shahid Iqbal also helped out the students for the preparation of their robots.

It is worth mentioning that Chakwal Campus was able to successfully participate in this event only because of the sincere cooperation of Campus Director, Chairman, and all faculty members under the great patronage of the worthy Vice Chancellor.