



ARVP

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST, 2024

Moving Forward!

Letter from Nathan Chong (Project Co-Lead)

Hey Folks,

Apologies for the delayed update! A lot has happened in the past couple weeks, so I felt it was best to cover everything in one go.

As of last update, ARVP was going into the RoboSub 2024 Finals. Unfortunately, during our practice finals run Arctos' hull was breached and fully flooded. The entire team pulled together and worked for five hours straight, but we were unable to get everything operational in time for our finals run. Consequently, we were ranked 7th overall. That said, I'm incredibly proud of everyone's work. RoboNation staff commented that any other team would have given up, so our perseverance is in a class of our own.

I'd also like to highlight our achievements at RoboSub. The tasks Arctos completed during the practice finals run (while flooding) would have guaranteed ARVP first place. We also won the overall best design documentation award, encompassing our video, technical report, presentations, and website. Additional monetary awards were given to ARVP for video, presentation, and data sharing quality.

Despite not getting the end of the year that we wanted, I really want to emphasize how proud I am of everyone on the team. I genuinely believe that our Admin and Software teams are the best in the world. The Electrical team grew in every conceivable way this year and I'm so excited to see what they'll do next. The Mechanical team developed the only proven working torpedo and claw systems at RoboSub, and did their best to fix and maintain Arctos' legacy hull design; I'm confident the new upcoming hull design will be immaculate, so stay tuned for that.

The passion, drive, and ingenuity of every single member shone this year and it's important that it's recognized. For all the members reading this, thank you for your effort; the growth and groundwork this past year will pay dividends into the future.

Our sponsors also deserve recognition. Their in-kind and cash contributions are the lifeblood of ARVP. Unsurprisingly, it's not cheap to fly a robot across the continent, nor is it possible for Arctos to function without highly specialized hardware and software. ARVP covets the generosity of our sponsors and we hope to further our ties in the future. We would like to specifically acknowledge the University of Alberta, Altium, Aramark, the ESS, Nortek, Copperstone Technologies, Gitlab, Rail Shop Services, and Calvary Fence for all their support. Information on all our sponsors can be found at our website at arvp.org.

I'd also like to mention that I, like the majority of my executive team, will not be returning to ARVP next year. Instead my focus will go toward my job supporting all Engineering Project Teams/ICE Incubator Startups and my Business Minor. While I'm not leaving the team exactly where I wanted it, I'm leaving it in capable hands. Daniel Falatous will be taking my role on the planning, management, and administration side of ARVP.

Over the past year Daniel and I have worked together expanding ARVP's funding, acquiring a new larger lab space just for ARVP, handling competition logistics, creating the ARVP 2024-2025 Roadmap, and (recently) planning the restoration efforts for Arctos. Throughout this work, I've learned that Daniel is an incredibly meticulous, driven, curious, and process driven person. I believe Daniel and his new exec team are exactly what ARVP needs to leverage our resources, flesh out testing procedures, and come back strong for RoboSub 2025. I'll be cheering everyone on from the sidelines. :)

On a personal note, running ARVP has been a life highlight for me. I joined ARVP in second year because I was frustrated with my university experience and, quite frankly, lonely. The team gave me skills, friends, and network - just as it did for so many of our alumni. I don't think I did everything right, but I hope I've been able to pay back what ARVP gave me. Working with such talented, dedicated, and fun friends has been an honor. Thank you to everyone on the team and the ARVP community. I wish you all luck going forward!

Cheers,

Nathan Chong (Ex Project Co-Lead)



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