



DBF 2015 winners: First place went to the University of Ljubljana (middle), the first time an international team has won DBF; second place went to University of California, Irvine (left); and third place went to Georgia Institute of Technology (right). The Best Paper Award, sponsored by the Design Engineering Technical Committee for the highest report score, went to Georgia Institute of Technology.

DESIGN/BUILD/FLY COMPETITION ATTRACTS ENGINEERING STUDENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Hannah Thoreson, AIAA Communications, and Stephen Brock, AIAA Membership

The 19th annual Design/Build/Fly (DBF) Competition was held 10-12 April at TIMPA Airfield near Tucson, AZ. Sponsored in conjunction with Raytheon Missile Systems and Cessna Aircraft, the annual contest is held by the AIAA Foundation in either Tucson or Wichita during alternating years. This year's contest welcomed over 650 students from 25 U.S. states, as well as from 15 other countries.

The students arrived at the competition with their aircraft in pieces and had to assemble their projects onsite. The teams competed in four separate missions: three in the air and one on the ground. This competition was the culmination of months

of dedicated work to design a plane that could meet this year's challenges and prepare a technical report outlining their design and testing processes.

In the end, the day truly belonged to the international students, as many of them ranked very highly in the competition. The University of Ljubljana from Slovenia had a large presence on the airfield with 21 students in attendance. They also led all teams in overall score. Tel Aviv University and Beihang University also placed very highly. There was even one student who made the long voyage from Cairo to represent an entire team that had been unable to secure visas. She was able to successfully pass the technical inspection and complete the ground mission.

The AIAA Foundation thanks all of the students and volunteers who contributed to making DBF 2015 one of this year's most successful programs. We look forward to the 2016 event in Wichita.

AIAA SOUTHWEST TEXAS SECTION AND UT'S AIAA STUDENT CHAPTER HOLD INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING DAY

On 28 February, in celebration of Engineering Week, the AIAA Southwest Texas (SWTX) Section partnered with University of Texas's (UT) AIAA Student Chapter members and Sigma Gamma Tau student members to participate in UT Austin's 14th Annual Women in Engineering Program, known as Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (Girl Day). Over 1,660 1st-8th grade girls from across the state took part in the event at UT. With the assistance of 952 volunteers, 96 activities were facilitated that included booths and demos hosted by 113 student organizations, corporate partners, community organizations, schools and college/university partners. AIAA South Central Regional Director Jayant Ramakrishnan and SWTX Section Chair Joan Labay-Marquez were proud to be a part of this remarkable international event.

Thanks to the leadership provided by Zach Basset, vice president of the AIAA student chapter, and Shivani Patel, vice president of Sigma Gamma Tau's student chapter, dozens of enthusiastic AIAA student members volunteered their time, talents, and resources

to inspire and engage girls, their parents, and teachers, with hands-on engineering. Participants learned about the concepts of Newton's Law of Motion, friction, jet propulsion, and air resistance by designing and constructing their own balloon-powered rocket car using empty water bottles and a variety of materials. AIAA student chapter members encouraged the future engineers and offered them innovative ideas to help them overcome design challenges and improve the aerodynamics of their vehicle. One of the most popular areas was the Design Station where the girls explored their creativity and imbued the arts in their design. The SWTX section is looking forward to making this an annual section STEAM event.

