

SWOSU Receives Grant to Help with Upcoming Robotics Competition

06.15.2010

Southwestern Oklahoma State University has received an \$18,500 grant to help with the second Regional FIRST Tech Challenge robotics competition coming up later this year. Madeline Baugher (center) is investigator of the grant. Also pictured are Anita Blankenship, director of the SWOSU Office of Sponsored Programs, and Dr. Blake Sonobe, senior vice president and provost at SWOSU.

Southwestern Oklahoma State University has received an \$18,500 grant for student fellowships and supplies and support for future regional robotics competitions.

The partnership award was from the Oklahoma Space Grant Consortium and the University of Oklahoma.

SWOSU's School of Business and Technology is planning to host its second Regional FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) Competition in December of 2010. For this event, high school teams design, build and program a robot to compete as a team against other high school robot teams.

Each year the "game design" in which the robots compete changes. The game for 2009 was named Hot Shot and involved robots shooting wiffle balls into one of three goals for various points. Winners at the regional competition are eligible for national competition.

More information about the next regional competition at SWOSU is available from Madeline Baugher at madeline.baugher@swosu.edu or Brad Fitzgerald at brad.fitzgerald@swosu.edu.

The FTC project will implement the Oklahoma Space Consortium higher education objective to use NASA mission-based programs to demonstrate the integrated education applications of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics for use in student learning activities.

Baugher, instructor in the Department of Accounting, Computer Science and Entrepreneurship, is the principal investigator for the grant.