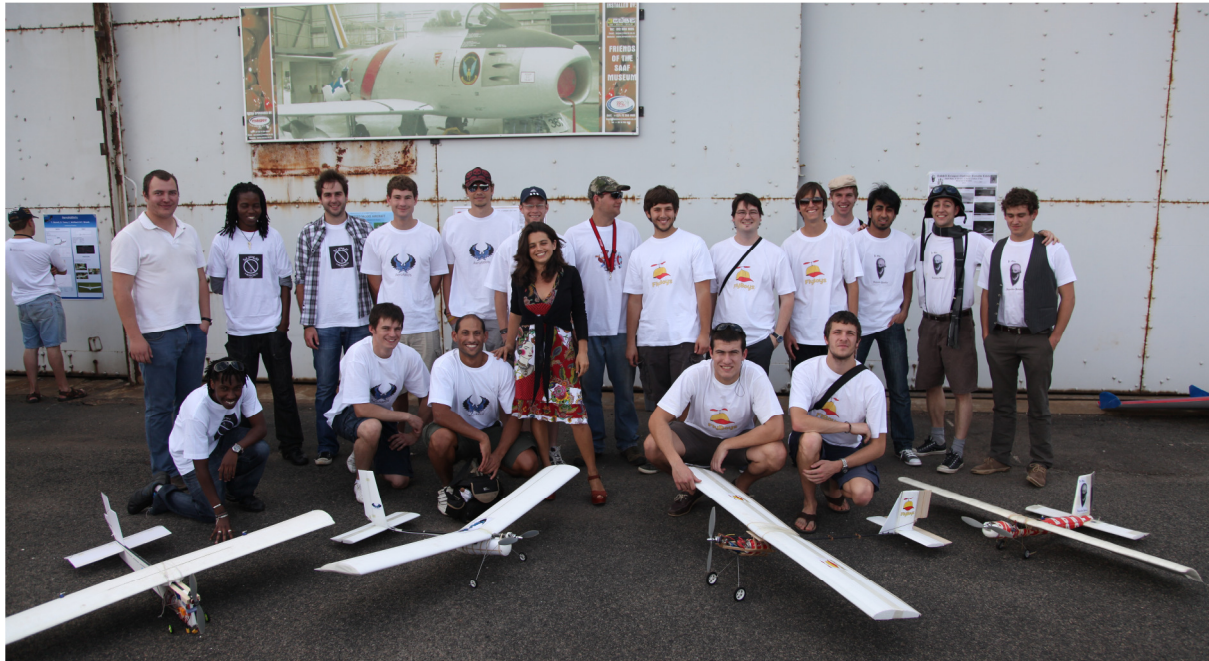


On Saturday the 27th of October the Aeronautical Society of South Africa (AeSSA) hosted the annual intervarsity RC model competition at Zwartkop Air Force base. The competitors had to design an aircraft that was capable of as short a take-off run as possible and also to be able to fly as slow as possible within an assigned 200 meter course.

Five teams consisting of 22 students represented the University of Pretoria. Four teams successfully participated in the competition after the postgrad team happened to crash their aircraft the day before the competition. The teams hanged their posters on the wall and parked their aircraft below them.



Tucks Teams with Adam, the pilot and B.Huyssen, the Aeronautics lecturer.

On the day of the competition there were a total of eleven participating teams: four teams from the University of Wits, two teams from the University of Potchefstroom and another group not affiliated to any university. The weather on the day was great. There was a lot of excitement in the air. Parents, girlfriends and lecturers were waiting for the magic time.



The Wits teams decided to go first with their delta wings and unluckily for them, none of them actually managed to take off or fly! Sadly for the other teams as the day progressed the wind started picking up and was gusting at more than 10m/s which caused the rest of the flights to be postponed until the next day. The Potchefstroom team decided to fly disregarding the wind due to the distance they had to travel just to participate in the competition and actually did pretty well.

The weather on the Sunday was much better with clear skies and just enough wind to actually help the teams fly a little slower while still maintaining control of the aircraft. That Sunday seemed to be the perfect day for Tuks as they all performed well! The first team to fly was Super Heroes who managed to take off in only 0.8m. Their happiness and satisfaction was on their smiling face and on their energetic jumps!



Super Heroes amazing short take-off.

The second team was Fly boys that managed to stay longer in the air, 1 minute and 20 seconds.



Super Heroes flying



Fly boys RC flying in the clouds.

Unfortunately the Reynolds Rebels did not managed to take off, maybe because of the gust the wing was on stall. It was lunched by hand and it flew shortly before crashing. They were really disappointed.



Reynolds Rebels RC take off attempt and after hand launched.

Anyway the team members were stunning in their team costumes!



Reynolds Rebels team with their RC

The Aero Addicts made an astonishing aircraft that performed well, especially in its up down acrobatic flight proving great manoeuvrability and stability. All the spectators clapped their hand in the admiration.



Aero Addicts RC after take-off.

Finally the first prize was given to Superheroes for best flight and poster.



The winner team's prize given.

Potchefstroom team got the best design prize. Mrs B.Huyssen deserved for the third time in a row the prize for the overall winning University!

Special thanks goes to our great Tucks pilot, Adam v.Renssen which flight and RC building experience gives to our teams a great advantage!

Once again Tucks demonstrated the ability to transform in reality what you can study from a boring book.

WELL DONE STUDENTS!