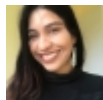


# Polytechnic University Students Take First Place in Prestigious Aerospace Competition <sup>[1]</sup>

Submitted by [Alondra Caraballo Franco](#) <sup>[2]</sup> on 12 April 2022 - 4:15pm



<sup>[2]</sup>



**San Juan , April 12, 2022** - The team composed of eight mechanical engineering students from Polytechnic University won First Place Overall and First Place Regular Class Mission Performance in the SAE Aero Design West competition organized by the Society of Automotive Engineers held this past weekend in California.

The aircraft, with a highly innovative design, performed perfectly the established flights and missions requested, which made them obtain the first places among more than 50 universities. The participating students were: Gabriel Altuz, Eduardo Siberio, Joel Lopez, Diego Ortiz, Alana Corahanis, Diego Santiago, Jammyl Andino and Sergio Urbina led by Professor Jose Pertierra from the Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering.

The team composed of students from all levels of the Mechanical Engineering program went out to the competition confident of obtaining the important victory they are enjoying today. This after their excellent participation in 2020, where they also obtained important awards. This experience allowed them to establish the competition strategy to obtain the first place and thus beat prestigious institutions in the world.

"These first prizes in a world-class competition reaffirm to us the quality and knowledge of our students and professors in the Aerospace Mechanical Engineering program and validate it as one of international excellence," commented Carlos González Miranda, dean of the School of Engineering.

"We are very proud that our students won first place in such a prestigious competition where the knowledge and talent of the best universities in the United States and the world were measured. There is no better result than to successfully put into practice the knowledge acquired in the classroom," said Ernesto Vázquez Martínez, interim president of the Polytechnic University of Puerto Rico.





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