

To enhance community involvement and outreach in the field of marine robotics. The Lake Superior State University (LSSU) RobotX club plans events tied to the campus, students, and local school districts. Each semester, as students flock to the Sault Ste Marie, MI campus, the university holds a club day. Since attending these club days, the last two years since the club's inception, we have continued to get underclassman involvement and club members to join. LSSU has also expanded its engineering reach by working with local community colleges to implement articulation agreements that get students involved in engineering and transition to robotics as they make their way to LSSU. As a result, Team AMORE has had the opportunity to present to colleges that are part of new articulation agreements about their respective programs and why they are a part of Team AMORE.

Also, Team AMORE has had the opportunity to attend conferences to showcase what they are currently doing and connect with professionals within the field. Most recently, in September 2023, we attended the Great Lakes Observing System Lakebed 2030 conference and the Smart Ships Coalition and Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Great Lakes / Great Rivers Section – Fall 2023 Workshop in Traverse City, MI. For up-and-coming events, we recently had two Team AMORE students submit student abstracts for the 2024 IEEE/MTS Oceans conference in Singapore, and one will submit for the 2024 IEEE/MTS Oceans conference in Halifax, NS. Once again, they will be able to showcase what the students in Team AMORE have been working so rigorously hard on over the last two years on an international stage.

And lastly, Team AMORE has been working for the past two years to connect and recruit through the local high school robotics teams. Multiple team members serve as mentors to the FIRST robotics teams, and notably, over the last few years, there has been FIRST Robotics Competitions hosted at LSSU where the teams that our team members mentor win their District and then go on to compete in the FIRST Championship. To continue with the current trend of combining robotics engineering with aquatic and terrestrial ecology, Team AMORE has started to work with the Natural Resources department at the local Career Tech Education Center (CTE), where students recruited to attend LSSU may get the opportunity work with the club as we develop projects about marine robotics. The most recent projects working with the local school districts involve an engineering senior project focused on using a WAM-V 16 for water quality monitoring in sites related to where the CTE program does water quality monitoring and doing a design and build of an autonomous kayak for zooplankton towing at the Greenwood Sanctuary in wolverine, MI. Additionally, side projects conducted by Team AMORE are student-funded through grants at the university, each of which brings more attention to the club with each project.