

University of Maryland – College Park

Community and Outreach

Robotics@Maryland 2022

This year, we were fortunate enough to have many opportunities to showcase our robot to members of the greater DMV area. Over the past two semesters we participated in events such as the second look fair, maryland day, the opening of a new robotics lab on campus, and an event with younger students in robonation's seaperch program. Each one of these events was tailored to reach out to a different demographic of the community and maximized the impact our club had by targeting various different audiences.

During the second look fair we showcased what our club did alongside over 650 other student clubs and organizations to the 40,000 students on our campus. We showed off our quadruped robot prototype and garnered much interest from the student body in Robotics. We were able to recruit many new members from this event.

We were asked to showcase what our robot does at the opening of a new robotics lab in the idea factory on campus. This was an opportunity to excite the UMD student body about both the new STEM facility opening in UMD and some of the STEM club development here, and we were happy be part of it.

SeaPerch is an innovative underwater robotics program that equips teachers and students with the resources they need to build an underwater Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in an in-school or out-of-school setting. In the RoboNation competition suite, RoboSu is the most similar competition to SeaPerch. Our participation helped demonstrate what the ROV/AUV's might look at as they grow in complexity and ability. Students were very excited to hear us explain about our robot, and we were able to relate on many topics such as balancing buoyancy.

These variety of outreach events allowed us to both spread awareness about our club, and educate people about robotics and AUVs. Our outreach events are one of the highlights of the experience at R@M and we hope to do more in the future!