

At AquaPack Robotics, we foster a community for our members to develop their passion for robotics outside the classroom and allow them to build their careers through our provided networking opportunities. All members, guided by our leadership team, take pride in engaging with the next generation of robotic enthusiasts and engineers.

Every semester, AquaPack Robotics leads in educational outreach at university recruitment events such as the University and Engineering-specific Open Houses, Packapalooza, and POP Back. Reaching at least 100 attendees at each event, we actively engage with current and prospective NC State students to educate about robotics, share the technology we create, and recruit new talent to the team. Our main goal is to draw attention to engineering and robotics, helping students discover new interests and passions. At the ECE Bits and Bytes Dinner, we spoke directly with new ECE students about the various opportunities in robotics for electrical and computer engineers. Also, to increase the presence of robotics among women engineers, we partnered with Women in Science and Engineering (WISE) to showcase and introduce prospective women in STEM to engineering student organizations at NC State. Many of these events push members to think critically about their own work; fielding questions and presenting during our community outreach forces a deeper understanding of vital features and systems of our AUVs.

One of our highlight events this semester was presenting at NC State's first-ever robotic research symposium. As part of the robotics initiative at NC State, many clubs, faculty, and researchers have come together to showcase the university's robotics strengths and discuss where the initiative could head. Members were invited to present their work in AquaPack and talk with other student organizations to see a diverse range of real-world, robotics applications. Exposure to faculty research groups allowed members interested in pursuing robotics research to explore potential research pathways.

AquaPack's reach extends beyond the university, as we have participated in various off-campus events. We have attended NC State sporting events like basketball and football, where we set up a table with our AUV and some of its sub-assemblies. Through these events, we have been able to connect with people of all ages, sparking their curiosity and even drawing attention from sponsors, which has enabled us to build stronger relationships with local technology companies and communities.

Strengthening our community also means bridging the gap between our members and the industry. This past year, we hosted two tech talks for Multi-Dimensional Integration. These sessions provided our members with a direct way to interact with employers, learn about the industry, and discover employment opportunities. We also hosted a resume workshop for Analog Devices. Members polished their resumes and had them reviewed by professional recruiters from ADI.

Looking ahead, AquaPack will continue to expand its presence in the local community through professional development events and university outreach. Community engagement will continue to be our key focus in future years and remain central to who we are.