
SEDS-Canada and its partners select four student teams to compete in the second CAN-RGX challenge

December 4, 2017

Toronto, ON - Four university teams were selected last Friday after SEDS-Canada and its partners, the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) and the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) deliberated over the proposals submitted for the Canadian Reduced Gravity Experiment Design Challenge (CAN-RGX). The competition, now in its second year, challenges post-secondary student teams in Canada to design and build an experiment to be flown on board the NRC's Falcon 20 aircraft, modified for parabolic flight in collaboration with the CSA. The top four teams were selected based on their proposed experiment's technical feasibility, scientific merit, project management and outreach.

This year, SEDS-Canada's Call for Proposals particularly encouraged students from all disciplines to apply given that all four selected teams from last year's CAN-RGX challenge were composed of students from engineering backgrounds. The campaign successfully drew applications from faculties of medicine, as well as biomedical and life sciences. The finalists are (in no particular order): Team FAM (Fluids Affected by Magnetism) from the University of Toronto's department of Engineering Science, Team Astroplastic from the University of Calgary in association with iGEM Calgary, Team QVIP (Queen's Vorticity Innovation Project) from Queen's University, department of applied mathematics and engineering, and Team QRGX (Queen's Reduced Gravity Experiment) also from Queen's University, department of life sciences.

The next milestone for the four teams will be to prepare a preliminary design with full systems specifications, along with a prototype of their experiment which will be presented to a review committee composed of experts in microgravity sciences from the NRC, the CSA, and Canadian industry partners in February 2018.

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About SEDS-Canada

SEDS-Canada is a national, student-run, non-profit committed to supporting and empowering student space enthusiasts, advancing the Canadian space sector, and promoting the peaceful exploration and development of space.

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