We Need YOU!

A Call for Mentors at the UofM – FIRST Robotics Detroit Center

Who do you need? What will I do?

- The FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is a mentor based program which allows students to participate in real-world engineering by working with professional engineers and technicians. Engaged, enthusiastic mentors are the core of all successful FIRST Robotics teams.
- Mentors are needed with experience in engineering, fabrication, marketing, PR, computer programming and animation, business and project planning, fund raising, public speaking and finance. (More info for non-technical mentors at www.firstnemo.org)
- Mentors lead the development of trust, respect, and accountability within and between teams; have many roles including coach, teacher, motivator and facilitator; and are responsible for having the students do as much work as possible and providing support and mentoring to other mentors.
- There are three different ways you can participate as a mentor at the Detroit Center:
  o Dedicated Detroit Center Mentor: You will be identified as a mentor to a specific team and provide subject matter mentoring to all teams. These mentors must commit to work consistently with the teams: 2-3 days/week when the teams meet after school and on weekends at the Detroit Center during the Jan 9 to Feb 24 build season and attend 1-2 events (Fri – Sat) during the March to Mid April competition season.
  o Programming and Electrical Workshop Mentor: We are looking for mentors with experience in programming and electrical/electronics to help with the workshops to be held every Tuesday and Thursday at the Detroit Center during the build and competition seasons. We ask mentors to commit to attend one workshop each week. All Detroit area teams are invited to bring in their programming and electrical/electronic problems to the workshops.
  o SWAT Team mentors: The SWAT team will consist of mentors (and experienced students) who would be available to come down to the Center for 2-3 days and help teams with specific problems get back on track. This “help” will consist of working with the team to figure out what they need to do to get out of trouble – not necessary doing it for them. We’ll need experts for all aspects of FRC – strategy, work-planning, robot design brainstorming, motors, drivelines, mechanisms, pneumatics, Chairman's award, animation, etc. SWAT team mentors will be on call and expected to work at the Center as their schedule permits.
- Contact Ken Snodgrass (248-851-7618 nosvamos@twmi.rr.com) to sign up or for more info.

Rev 1 November 24, 2009