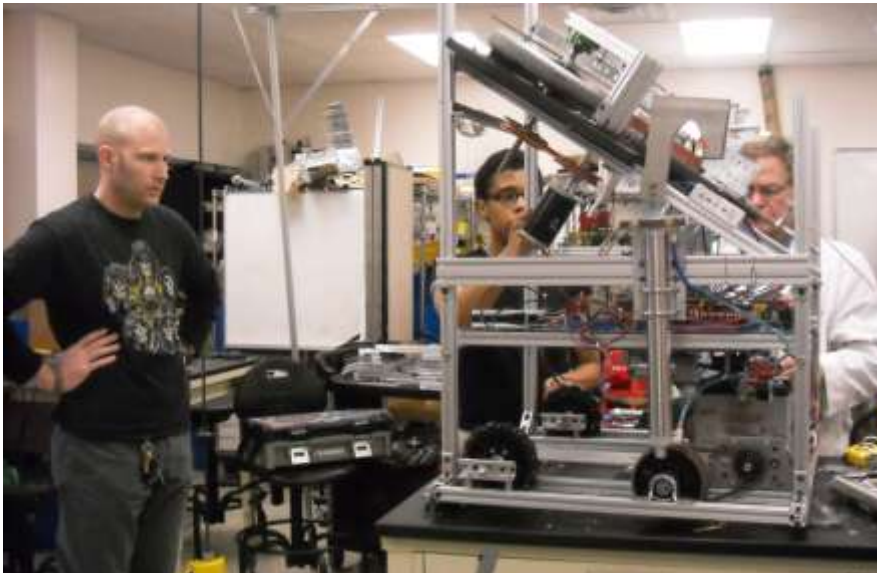


PCCC HEADLINES

Posted March 19, 2013

PCCC Robotics Team Wins Innovation Award Team Takes Second Place at Qualifying Round of 2013 FIRST Robotics Competition



Adriano Peña (center) adjusts Stop & Go, the Frisbee-tossing robot entered by the PCCC team in the FIRST 2013 Robotics Competition.

Professor Brian Holton, the team advisor (right) lends a hand while Ted Reinhardt, PCCC physics major and team mentor, looks on.

The PCCC Robotics Team took the number two spot last weekend in the initial qualifying round for the 2013 FIRST Robotics Competition held at The College of New Jersey in Ewing.

The team also won the *Innovation in Control* award, a prestigious prize sponsored by Rockwell Automation to honor innovation in unique machine functions.

“We’re really excited and looking forward to the next week’s qualifying round in Mt. Olive,” said Professor Brian Holton, a physics professor and advisor to the team.

If successful in Mt. Olive, the PCCC team will progress to the Mid-Atlantic Robotics Regional Championship in Pennsylvania next month.



Adriano Peña (left) and his brother Adrian Peña are Paterson residents and students at Garret Morgan Academy.

Both participate in their school's STEM studies and are on the PCCC – GMA robotics team.

"It's pretty cool," said Adrian, a ninth-grader. Adriano, a senior, hopes to attend Stevens Institute of Technology to study computer science and engineering.

FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) is a 20-year-old organization founded by an MIT professor to provide today's youth with role models in the fields of science, engineering and technology

The FIRST Robotics Competition is an annual event attracting teams from around the world who build robots that compete in a variety of games.

The PCCC team is composed of PCCC college students and students from the S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) program of an area high school.

Garret Morgan Academy in Paterson is the 2013 participating high school. The school was named for American inventor Garret Morgan who devised the traffic signal, so this year's theme is Stop & Go. With that theme in mind, the team built a robot that tosses Frisbees.

Stay tuned for competition updates.

[See the team prep](#)

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