



## **MEDIA ALERT**

### ***UAH team takes first in 2023 NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge***

**What:** [A team from The University of Alabama in Huntsville \(UAH\) placed first](#) in the 2023 NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (HERC) this year. Visit campus to learn more from UAH student team members as they show the rover, machine shop, and assembly room where the rover was prepared and built.

**When:** Friday, April 28, 2023 from 10-11 a.m.

**Where:** Olin B. King Technology Hall on the west side of the building, closer to Wynn Drive.

**Why This is Important:** In support of coming Artemis missions to the moon and beyond, HERC encourages research and development of new technology for future mission planning and crewed space missions to other worlds. The UAH rover is nicknamed 'HERCules,' and was guided by a two-person crew, competing with 49 teams from 20 states and eight countries.

**About:** The HERC competition, held April 20-22 at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center Aviation Challenge area, tasks college and high school teams from around the nation and the world to design, develop, build and test human-powered rovers capable of

negotiating difficult terrain, as well as a task tool for completion of various mission tasks. This marks the first time the event was held in person in four years, due to the advent of the pandemic in spring 2020.

The HERC competition is part of a senior design class in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department at UAH, a part of The University of Alabama System.

**Additional Information:** Click [here](#) for a campus map.

The following individuals will be available for on-site interviews:

- David Fikes, Team Advisor and Senior Design Instructor
- Student members of the UAH rover team

**Media Contacts:** Kristina Hendrix, 256-824-6341 or Elizabeth Gibisch, 256-824-6926

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