

The AlbertaSat-1 Team won the Best Environmental Mission award from the International Academy of Astronautics in Japan

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The Space Mission Idea Contest (MIC) is an international competition hosted by the Japan University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC), to which teams submit ideas for a small satellite mission.

This year, the second MIC was held. A call for mission abstracts was sent out from UNISEC in July, 2011. From 71 submitted abstracts, 10 finalists were selected to submit a full paper, and were invited to present their mission ideas at the UN/Japan Nanosatellite Symposium which was held last week in Nagoya, Japan.

The University of Alberta's CSDC team was selected as one of the finalists in the competition, for a paper about their CSDC project, "*AlbertaSat-1: Greenhouse Gas Monitoring for Industrial and Environmental Improvement.*" The team was represented by Jordan Backs at the conference.

Further, I am pleased to announce that the AlbertaSat-1 paper won the Best Environmental Mission award from the International Academy of Astronautics, one of the world's most prestigious space organisations. The award was presented by Dr. Rainer Sandau of the IAA.

Please join me in congratulating the authors of the paper: Jared Bottoms, Benjamin Lange, Scott Williamson, Jordan Backs and Sepehr Khaligh, and the entire University of Alberta team, for this excellent achievement.