VEX Flattens the World

 I have always fostered an interest in technology and mathematics through classes offered in school, and VEX has done nothing but affirm my career goals. Yet, the teamwork and cooperation involved in VEX robotics is education beyond what a classroom environment can create. Textbooks do not and never will provide solutions to the challenges we face in life’s reality. VEX provides me with a skill set—communication, leadership, problem-solving, sportsmanship—I otherwise would never learn, and it is these unique talents I acquire that will complement my technical abilities to make me immeasurably more successful.

Thomas Friedman once said “the world is flat” to describe the ever increasing interconnectedness of the world. The scope of VEX is wider than I initially imagined. Within a year of my exposure to robotics, I have come to understand that VEX is beyond a mere school club. Over the course of my participation in robotics, I have interacted with peers around the world with the same interests as myself. I feel that VEX has greatly deepened my perception of global society: VEX is connecting the world.

 As such, VEX’s value extends beyond engineering knowledge that will help me in my career. While undeniably beneficial on a personal level, it is such technology as that involved in VEX that brings the world ever closer together. Perhaps in VEX, we—or, I dare say, *I*—will unlock the future of humanity.

Lawrence Liu

Saints Robotics 1899