

Robotics is not limited to just building and programming robots. VEX gave me an understanding of team dynamics, strategic thinking, and seamless execution. The competitions helped me realize that knowledge is not to be retained but rather to be shared. I found myself helping other teams besides my own, even if I was competing against them. Through this, my team made friends with our competitors and we created a community. Our sole motivation was to learn, and by creating a relationship with other teams, we learned more from each other than we would have alone.

VEX robotics has changed my perspective of life. It has assured me that clichés like “where there’s a will, there’s a way” are not fantasies. The will to achieve an aspiration lies within an individual jurisdiction. Furthermore, although we won the VEX World Championship in 2009, our inspiration did not derive from our desire to win it. We attended the competition in anticipation of exposing ourselves to a new way of thinking and to meet people from around the world who share the same interests we do. Thinking on this, I realized that if one pursues success, the chance of achieving it is slim, but if one strives to be enlightened by the world and seeks knowledge, success will come by itself. One can live life to the fullest with utmost satisfaction and fulfillment with dedication of mind, body, and soul to the pursuit of knowledge and to a discipline that one finds interest in.