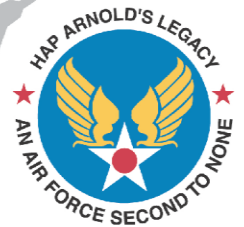




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Andrew Fist and Joseph Majdalani wins top prize in international AIAA competition



Andrew Fist and Dr. Joe Majdalani, accept a \$1,000 check as winners of the top prize in the International Graduate Competition for their research paper on "Improved Mean Flow Solution for Solid Rocket Motors". (Photo by Bill Petros)

By Dr. Joseph Majdalani
Auburn University

Andrew Fist, graduate research associate, and Joseph Majdalani, department chair in Aerospace Engineering at Auburn University, took first place for their research paper in the international competition of the masters division at the 52nd American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics

(AIAA) sciences meeting, or SciTech 2014.

The award-winning paper, "Improved Mean Flow Solution for Solid Rocket Motors," was presented by Fist and coauthored by Majdalani. This paper introduced a groundbreaking framework for modeling the steady-state motion associated with internal burning cylindrical rocket motors. The paper was writ-

ten based on research that Majdalani performed under a National Science Foundation grant.

"For seven papers to have won 10 awards in four consecutive years at this level of competition is truly a remarkable and tremendous achievement," said Christopher B. Roberts, dean of the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering at Auburn University.

"This is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and high quality research from Dr. Majdalani and his assistants, and clearly their efforts are paying off. I am proud his team is placing the department, and Auburn University, in the spotlight for the industry to take notice and recognize," he said.

The competition, held in January, in National Harbor, Md., featured fi-

nalists from all regions of AIAA (Northeast, Southeast, Central, South Central, Midwest, Western, and international regions). To qualify, Fist and Majdalani had to first compete and earn first place in the masters division of the 64th AIAA southeastern regional student conference. With a total of 170 delegates from 16 universities across the Southeast, participation

was at a record all-time high in Region II, which also happens to be the largest within AIAA.

Fist is from Dayton, Ohio with a BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Dayton. He is presently a turbine engine test manager at AEDC, pursuing his graduate education in Mechanical Engineering with Dr. Majdalani as his major advisor.