

Formula SAE (FSAE) is an international collegiate design competition where schools from around the world design and build an open-wheel race car and compete against one another. The University of Florida's team, Gator Motorsports, finished 3rd overall at the FSAE Michigan event from May 18th-21st. Gator Motorsports placed 1st in the Acceleration event (a 0-75 meter sprint), 3rd in design (an event judged by current engineers from diverse engineering backgrounds), 3rd in Autocross (a time trial that tests the cars' dynamic abilities in a one lap shootout), 4th in Endurance (a race with all the cars present) and overall 3rd in the competition based on the results of all of the events at the competition out of over one-hundred entrants. Gator Motorsports brought home four trophies due to the efforts of all of the engineering students on the team and their hard work.

Alex Diodati (Christou group member) drove the car for the Autocross event bringing home the 3rd place trophy, and drove half of the Endurance event as the main driver bringing the car home in 4th after a hard fought battle with shifting and engine issues for most of my stint.

"I want to thank Dr. Christou for his support in letting me participate in extracurricular activities like motorsport, and appreciate his guidance as a research advisor for the last three years. I would like to thank those in my research group too, who have also supported me numerous times, picking up slack where I have been vacant due to me pursuing another one of my passions. Above all else though, I cannot thank everyone at Gator Motorsports for giving me the privilege of driving their creation, their efforts, their sleepless nights, and their passion. I owe it all to them, and I can't thank them enough for the faith they have put in me over the years. I was extremely happy I was able to give back something at Michigan this year."-Alex Diodati



