

March 2015

T&T's First NASA I² Intern to speak on his experiences

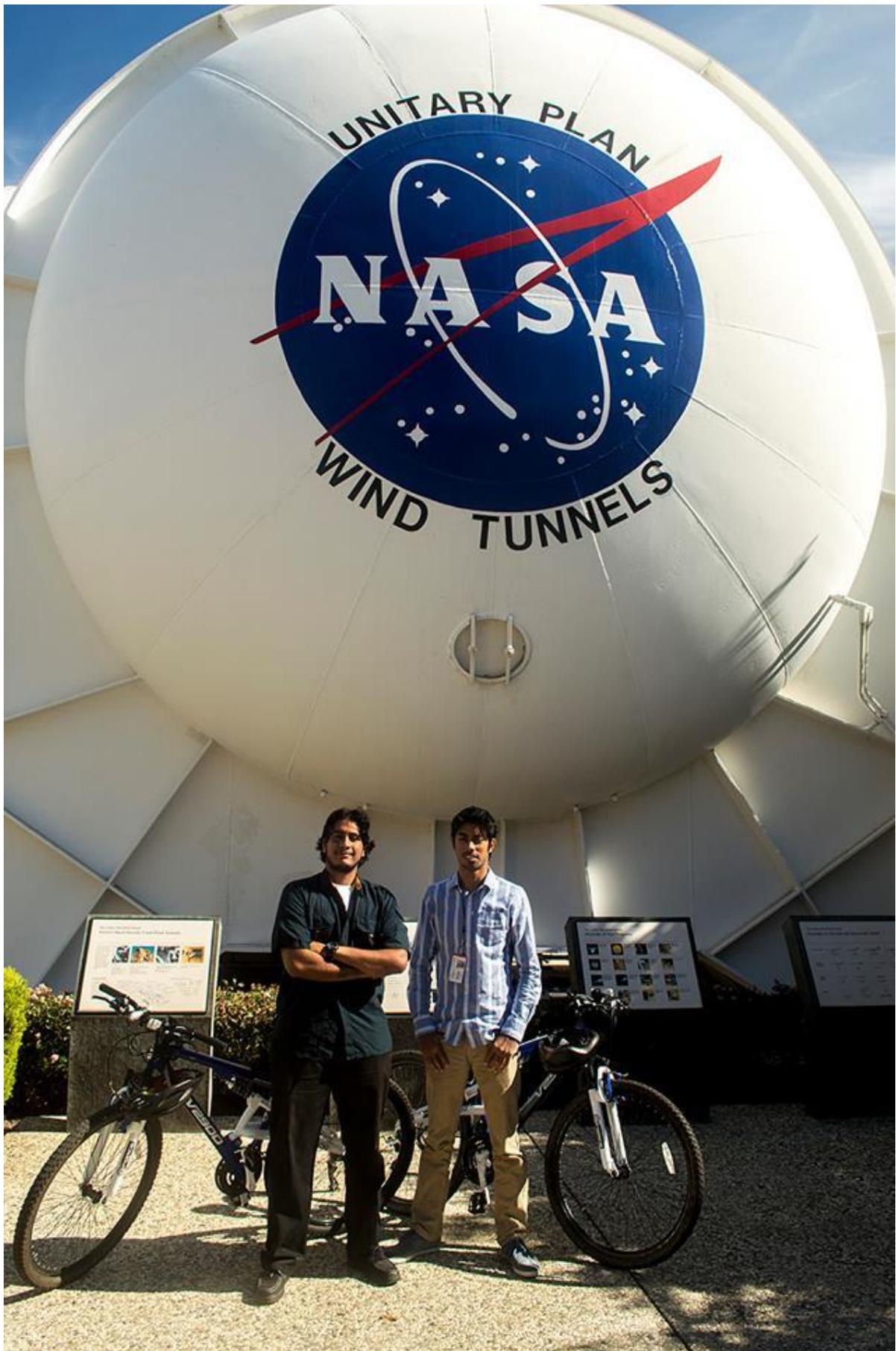
Trinidad and Tobago student, Stefan Hosein, recipient of a prestigious internship at the NASA Ames Research Centre in California, USA has returned home and will be sharing his experiences in the programme on Thursday 12 March, from 2:30pm to 3:30pm, at the Noor Hassanali Auditorium, University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine. The 21 year old Hosein from Chaguanas was awarded the internship along with another participant, following a rigorous application and interview process, which saw more than 20 of the nation's top students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) vying for the two coveted places in the NASA International Internship (I²) programme. Through a landmark collaboration between NIHERST and NASA, the first NASA I² cycle was launched locally in February 2014. Other partners in this endeavour include the U.S. Embassy, Port of Spain and UWI.

Hosein followed an intensive four-month long study program in his field of specialization which focused on Biologically Inspired Machine Intelligence. During his stay, he conducted cutting-edge research under the mentorship of senior scientists at the Ames Research Center attended lectures and seminars at leading research centres in California, visited state-of-the-art laboratories, and worked alongside some of the foremost minds in STEM today. As a testimony to his outstanding capabilities, Hosein has also been invited to return to the Ames Research Center, to continue his work.

Planning to pursue a doctorate in the field of artificial intelligence, Hosein had initially expressed his hope "to bring back all the knowledge I gain from this unique experience and help build the field of computer sciences in Trinidad and Tobago." Having returned to Trinidad, the young scientist is set to deliver public presentations on his experiences as an intern at NASA, and on the work he has done there. His first presentation will take place on Thursday 12th March, 2015.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend Stefan Hosein's presentation "The NASA Internship Experience" at 2:30 P.M - 3:30 P.M. on Thursday 12th March, 2015 at the Noor Hassanali Auditorium, University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine Campus, St. Augustine. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information on attending the presentation, please contact Jamie Lee Yuen at (868)628-2069 Ext. 3316 or email: Jamie.leeyuen@niherst.gov.tt

For more information on the NASA I² programme please call NIHERST at (868)628-4398 or e-mail NASAinternship@niherst.gov.tt



(Left to right: Jason Renwick and Stefan Hosein, NASA Ames Research Center, Mountain View, California)

About NIHERST

NIHERST is a statutory body established in 1984 to promote science, technology and higher education in Trinidad and Tobago consistent with national development goals. Its current work focuses on the development of a more diversified, knowledge-driven economy, based on the ingenuity of our people and their ability to create, adapt and use science and technology for wealth generation and national development. Many of its programmes aim to strengthen the innovative, creative and entrepreneurial capabilities of the general population. NIHERST is also engaged in research, such as in foresight and innovation, to support economic diversification;

promoting innovation and the commercialisation of technology in priority sectors; and building global partnerships.

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