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[WVU Robotics](#) – [Interactive Robotics Lab](#) – [Blog](#) – [YouTube](#) – [Google Scholar](#)

Goal

Experience no less than 10 significant failures or rejections each year.

Personal Qualities

Nearly face blind, forgetful of names (since childhood), limited memory capacity (forgetting as fast as learning), lacking depth of knowledge, weak muscles, socially awkward.

Education

- Only started to learn robotics at age 37.
- Did not get a “B” in all college sophomore classes (hint: no “A” either), 1993-1994.
- Rejected by top-choice universities and the hope to study particle physics, 1992.
- Failed to pass the high school entrance exam (by a large margin). Audited high school for all three years, 1989-1992.

Employment

Spent four years (2008-2012) finding a tenure-track faculty job, with 244 applications submitted, 18 phone interviews, and 10 on campus interviews.

Competition

Failed to qualify for the University Rover Challenge (URC) onsite competition for three years, 2018, 2019, 2020.

Publication

Did not publish a first author journal paper until two years after Ph.D.

Journal Articles (selected):

- One manuscript rejected by IEEE RAM, 2024.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE RA-L, 2023.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE TRO, 2021.
- Two manuscripts rejected by IEEE RA-L, 2021.
- One manuscript rejected by AIAA JGCD, 2019.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE RA-L, 2018.
- One manuscript rejection by AIAA Journal of Aircraft, 2017.
- Two manuscripts rejected by AIAA JGCD, 2015.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE TRO, 2014.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE TRO, 2011.
- One manuscript rejected by IEEE TGRS, 2010.
- One manuscript rejected by AIAA JGCD, 2010.

Conference Papers (Selected)

- Two manuscripts rejected by IROS, 2023.
- One manuscript rejection by IROS, 2021.
- One manuscript rejected by ICRA, 2022.
- *Five out of five* manuscripts rejected by ICRA, 2020.
- One manuscript rejection by IROS, 2018.
- One manuscript rejection by ICRA, 2018.
- One manuscript rejection by IROS, 2017.

Research Proposals

Research Grant Proposals (87 total):

- Six proposals rejected, 2023.
- Eight proposals rejected, 2022.
- Two proposals rejected, 2021.
- Two proposals rejected, 2020.
- Two proposals rejected, 2019.
- Four proposals rejected, 2018.
- Three proposals rejected, 2017.
- Six proposals rejected, 2016.
- Eight proposals rejected, 2015.
- Seven proposals rejected, 2014.
- One proposal rejected, 2013.
- Five proposals rejected, 2012.
- Two proposals rejected, 2011.
- Four proposals rejected, 2010.
- Nine proposals rejected, 2009.

- Eight proposals rejected, 2008.
- Six proposals rejected, 2007.
- Four proposals rejected, 2006.

NSF Record (PI of 14 rejected proposals):

NSF	2336043		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Exploring Bottom-Up Problem Solving with Loopy, A Multicellular...	Declined	12/17/2023	07/12/2023	\$472,113
NSF	2320083		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Collaborative Research: NRI: Reducing Falling Risk in Robot-Assisted...	Awarded	05/16/2023	02/20/2023	\$20,000
NSF	2235575		University of Florida View SAM Legal Business Name	NSF Convergence Accelerator Track J: Enhancing Food Security...	Declined	01/08/2023	07/19/2022	\$749,211
NSF	2236681		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Decision-Making under Second-Order Uncertainties -- A Robot Foraging...	Declined	10/05/2022	07/22/2022	\$599,334
NSF	2227773		University of Florida View SAM Legal Business Name	SCC-PG: Stakeholder Engagement for Building Smart Retirement Communities:...	Declined	08/11/2022	04/27/2022	\$149,990
NSF	2132937		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Collaborative Research: NRI: Reducing Falling Risk in Robot-Assisted...	Awarded	07/27/2022	05/03/2021	\$366,796
NSF	2132804		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Collaborative Research: NRI: StickBug -- an Effective Co-Robot...	Withdrawn	07/09/2021	05/03/2021	\$900,194
NSF	2024343		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Collaborative Research: NRI: INT: Safe and Resilient Obstacle...	Declined	07/31/2020	02/24/2020	\$375,000
NSF	2021781		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRT-FW-HTF: Rural Robotics -- Transforming Rural Workforce through...	Declined	05/28/2020	02/06/2020	\$3,000,000
NSF	1939013		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	REU Site: Undergraduate Robotics Research in Human-Swarm Interaction	Awarded	07/31/2019	06/18/2019	\$16,000
NSF	1851815		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	REU Site: Undergraduate Robotics Research in Human-Swarm Interaction	Awarded	03/07/2019	08/20/2018	\$287,310
NSF	1651155		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	CAREER:Swarm of Affectable Robots (SOAR)	Declined	01/04/2017	07/15/2016	\$400,029

NSF	1637655		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Soft Autonomy	Declined	08/05/2016	03/04/2016	\$349,262
NSF	1637749		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Precision Pollination Robot	Withdrawn	07/18/2016	03/07/2016	\$1,065,010
NSF	1632062		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	PFI:BIC: Smart collaborative service breeding environment for human-robot...	Declined	06/03/2016	01/29/2016	\$975,371
NSF	1552483		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	CAREER: Conformity-Oriented Network For Operator-Robot Management (CONFORM)	Declined	12/11/2015	07/20/2015	\$400,462
NSF	1525621		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Precision Pollination Robot	Declined	06/06/2015	01/13/2015	\$962,291
NSF	1524685		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Opportunistic Robot Navigation	Declined	05/19/2015	01/12/2015	\$363,200
NSF	1426780		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Multiple Operator-Vehicle Engagement (MOVE)	Declined	06/01/2014	01/21/2014	\$399,951
NSF	1317183		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	NRI: Small: Tightly-Coupled Human Recognition and Robot Motion...	Declined	04/10/2013	12/07/2012	\$399,553
NSF	1016409		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	RI: Small: Learning How Insects Learn, and How...	Declined	05/22/2010	12/15/2009	\$318,597
NSF	0913878		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	RI: Small: Novel Framework and Tools to...	Declined	06/15/2009	12/09/2008	\$232,009
NSF	0913658		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	RI: Small: Multiple-Model Adaptive Motion-Planner (M-MAP)	Declined	04/16/2009	12/09/2008	\$281,902
NSF	0652754		WV Univ Research Corp View SAM Legal Business Name	Behavior-Based Formation Flight Control	Declined	03/02/2007	09/22/2006	\$285,829

Note: "withdrawn" projects were funded by a different agency.