The K-State Unmanned Aerial Systems Team — students from mechanical and nuclear engineering, computing and information sciences, and electrical and computer engineering in the College of Engineering — designs, builds and flies an unmanned aerial vehicle that performs a specific flight path, identifies ground targets and completes other tasks completely autonomously. It has three sub-teams: airframe, autopilot and image analysis.

The team has placed in the top 10 out of 40+ international teams every year it has participated in the AUVSI SUAS International Competition. This year 19 students will travel to the Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, for the event to try and better last year’s showing of fourth place overall, which included second in oral presentation, fourth in journal entry and fifth in mission. Companies such as Lockheed Martin, Northrup Grumman, NavAir and others attend the competition to recruit future employees, making it a great networking environment for students.