

Sean Wang and Nicholas Jones from the Robomechanics Lab at Carnegie Mellon University describe their environmental sampling robot project. At the Robomechanics Lab, the goal is to get robots out into the real world to perform useful tasks. Environmental sampling is currently done manually by humans and then samples are sent off-site to get analyzed. This method is not ideal because it is difficult, dangerous, and slow. Contamination of the environment can also be dangerous to humans. This is why robotic automation of this task is being researched.