

Robotic Arm Bested by High Schooler

March 9 2005



High school senior Panna Felsen arm wrestles an artificial arm built by a group of students at Virginia Tech ([read more here](#)). It's one of three arms she defeated on March 8 during an international competition organized by Dr. Yoseph Bar-Cohen, a senior researcher at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

When he issued the challenge, Bar-Cohen wanted to jump-start research in electroactive polymers, also known as artificial muscles. He didn't expect to see the challenge fulfilled for at least a couple of decades. "Given the technology we had in 1999, I thought it would take at least 20 years before we could do it," said Bar-Cohen, who has been called the "Artificial Muscle Man."

One of the robotic arms lasted almost 30 seconds against the 17-year-old San Diego student. Bar-Cohen is hoping the technology will eventually be improved so the robotic arms will win the contest.

Image Credit: NASA/JPL

More about artificial muscles at www.physorg.com/news3213.html

Citation: Robotic Arm Bested by High Schooler (2005, March 9) retrieved 13 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2005-03-robotic-arm-bested-high-schooler.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.