With the highly successful execution of recent events, these last few weeks have truly provided an understanding of what a united team can achieve. Sol Invictus' first networking night occurred on the 27th of May, with more than 140 guests in attendance including ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr, Vice Chancellor and Nobel laureate Brian Schmidt, ANU staff and representatives from local industry and government.

The night was a fantastic event that gave the team the opportunity to network with industry and establish ourselves as a Canberra based project, as well as providing a great opportunity for the team to show everyone the work we have done, where we plan to go, and asking for help along the journey. With a moving introduction from team lead Alan Babaei, Mr. Barr took the stage to speak about his experience at ANU, and voiced his support for the team as part of an innovative Canberra. Prof. Brian Schmidt continued by speaking for the tenacity of the students, and the need for external support:

“A university is ultimately made up of people, and the people that ultimately drive change are students... they do not know the limits of what is possible and that’s why they end up changing the world”

Other notable speakers of the night included the dean of CECS, Prof. Elanor Huntington, and Jonathan Couldrick of Nova. Both spoke highly of the team, and presented an inspiring backing for those attending to support the team. As the first event of its kind from Sol Invictus, the launch could not have gone any better. Its reception has also been overwhelmingly positive, with various media outlets including 666 ABC Canberra, The Canberra times, ACTEW and Woroni covering the events of the night and working with the team for future events.

We have been keenly working through interviews for the expanded Tech Team. We are very excited to be sharing this incredible project with the university, which has already received so much support. We will be finalising the team (both Technical and Operations) for the rest of the year straight after exams.
FROM THE TEAM LEAD

Sol Invictus has officially been launched and with the combined support of Brian Schmidt, Elanor Huntington, Andrew Barr and all our foundation sponsors we will be expanding the team and preparing for the huge task at hand in 2017. The new regulations have now been released and has already begun sparking innovative and brilliant ideas within our technical team. There has never been a more exciting time to be an ANU student and with Sol Invictus we all now have a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference in Australia’s sustainable and renewable future.

ENGN4221 TEAM (TACDOS)

The ENGN4221 team has now completed and presented the Conceptual Design for the EV. This is an excellent achievement that puts the project on the path to completion. Despite the looming exams there was a great turnout to the design presentation by a keen audience, giving support to the project. The Conceptual Design (the components of the EV system and how they will interface) from the team will lead us through Technical Design in Semester 2 (technical drawings and specifications from which the EV can be built), to the build cycle in Semester 1 2017.

GET TO MEET THE TEAM: SARAH CALLINAN

Sarah is a first year student completing her Bachelor of Engineering (R&D) and Business Administration, and hoping to major in mechanical and material systems. She was one of the few ASCA members selected to attend the recent networking night and has been enjoying her role thus far, even attaining a potential mentorship opportunity from Nova Systems. A lover of all things space and NASA (and caramel Tim Tams), Sarah hopes to become more involved with the solar team in upcoming months.