DESIGN SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

CAPSTONE DESIGN PROJECT FOR ENGG 501/502



April 2025

Dear Project Sponsor,

We would like to thank you for considering the sponsorship of an engineering design project for fourth year students of the Schulich School of Engineering, University of Calgary. Our fourth-year capstone design courses bring groups of students together to apply their academic and engineering skills in a single unique project. Listed below are the potential benefits of your participation via project sponsorship.

- Give back to the community and create a strong corporate connection with the University of Calgary.
- Experience personalized professional development by mentoring a group of engineering students. Note that mentoring time from participating in this program can be reported as PDH with APEGA.
- Find a new perspective on issues by working with engineering students through a disciplined engineering design process.
- Gain recruiting exposure with the graduating class of engineering students.

Through our experience connecting industry with design education, we have found the following project criteria that help both the students and the project sponsors succeed.

- Projects should involve the aspects of design, engineering analysis, and verification. Project outcomes should satisfy a demonstrable need. Projects should not have urgent or strict deadlines.
- Projects should have a scope suitable for a group of 4-6 students working over an 8-month period. The
 expected number of hours spent on all aspects of this course is 260 hours of work per student over an 8month period. This includes technical work, meetings, documentation, and project management.

If you plan to sponsor a design project, please fill in the Project Proposal Form (last page of this document), providing a clear description of the project, the expected outcome and deliverables, and the type of support (financial/technical) that your company will provide. The following are the contractual notes that regulate expectations of this sponsorship relation.

Contractual No	Contractual Notes				
Deliverables	While functional prototypes are sometimes developed through the completion of projects, the only deliverable that we can guarantee is a final report drafted by the student team working on the project. Furthermore, we cannot guarantee that the report will contain significant findings.				
Project Costs	While limited support for prototype development is available (e.g., 3D printing), we will not provide any other financial support for completing the project (e.g., any unusual or major single item expenses involved with fabrication of the prototype). Costs need to be discussed, decided upon, and borne by the student team and/or the project sponsor.				
Intellectual Property	It is the responsibility of the sponsor to take action to secure and protect any intellectual property that may arise.				

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Due Diligence	Since these projects are conducted by engineering students who have not yet been accredited with Professional Engineering status, the sponsor must perform due diligence on any design or information that arises from the course before utilizing or implementing the design. Therefore, the University cannot take any responsibility for liability.
Mentorship	A company representative should meet with the student group at least three times: two times in the Fall term and at the final presentation. It is also desirable to have a champion within the company who is interested in the successful outcome of the project and can provide ongoing support and mentorship to the students.
Confidentiality	We will not contract for confidentiality associated with the sponsorship of a project in this course. As an educational institution, we need to have the flexibility to discuss the project with the students and academic advisors. Further, we do not have the control over our students that occurs within an employee/employer relationship, making it difficult to maintain confidentiality.
Educational Mission	The mission of capstone projects is educational. While sponsors can derive great benefit from their involvement and sponsorship, ultimately the sponsor must be receptive to the course curriculum and support of the educational objectives.
Voluntary Financial Support	A design project involves various material and overhead costs (e.g., faculty / technician time, teaching assistants, course administration, building and testing prototypes, and design and simulation software). To sustain high-quality engineering design education, it is appreciated if the sponsoring companies can consider voluntary financial support.

Please do not hesitate to contact me (403-220-5599; simoli@ucalgary.ca) if you need further information. We look forward to a rewarding relationship between your organization and our students over the course of this fourth-year capstone design project.

Sincerely,

Simon Li, PhD, PEng Instructor of ENGG 501/502 Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering Schulich School of Engineering University of Calgary

PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

CAPSTONE DESIGN PROJECT FOR ENGG 501/502



Senior Capstone Design Project (ENGG 501/502)

If your project is determined to be outside of the scope of the course or the capabilities of the students, you will be contacted and provided with input to help re-define your project. You will be notified if your project has been accepted. However, we cannot confirm if a student team will be assigned to your project until after

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Phone:			Email:			
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Chemical	# of s	tudent desired:	Mechani	cal	# of student desired:	
Civil	# of s	tudent desired:	Petroleur	n	# of student desired:	
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