Key Information for Potential Sponsors
Penn State Harrisburg Capstone Design Engineering Projects

PROJECT SCOPE AND NEEDS

- Projects are scheduled according to academic semesters and vary depending on the major in which the student is enrolled. All engineering, engineering technology, and computer science programs align their projects with the academic year starting in August and finishing in April.
- Typically, teams of two to five senior students work on each project.
- A faculty advisor mentors student for each project and meets regularly with them.
- Sponsors may assign an industry advisor who will communicate regularly with the student team and provide technical support when needed.
- Projects should be designed for approximately 300 to 600 hours of student project work depending on team size.

TYPICAL TIMELINE

- Project Proposals are due by July 15.
- Final student selection of projects occurs by October 15.
- Fall semester activities --- project selected, team formed, engineering requirements established, preliminary design initiated, initial design review conducted.
- Spring semester activities --- detailed design and design reviews, testing and verification conducted, project reports developed, projects presented.

FINACIAL SUPPORT

- A minimum donation of $2,500 is requested for each project. This gift to the University directly benefits our students with the purchase of materials for projects, student travel to visit with industry sponsors, and helps with costs associated with the Capstone Design Conference.
- If needed, to complete a selected project, the students must have reasonable access to specialized equipment on the company's premises. If special equipment or parts need to be purchased for the project, it is the responsibility of the sponsor to do so.

PROPRIETARY INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- Prior to the start of any project, the sponsor shall indicate to the University any information subject to nondisclosure restrictions.
- Since students, of the University are not employees of the University, the University cannot negotiate or approve any agreements on behalf of the students that are originated by the sponsor. However, if confidentiality is to be maintained, students, faculty and the sponsor may sign Penn State's *Capstone Project Confidential Information Disclosure Agreement* only.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- Senior projects are viewed as a special experience by Penn State University. All intellectual property generated from student projects typically belongs to the student unless the students and sponsor sign a *Special Intellectual Property Agreement* assigning IP rights to the sponsor at the start of the project. Note: Students are not required to sign the agreement and if they request, are assigned to other projects where an IP agreement is not required.

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS

- All student teams present the results of their work publicly at the Capstone Design Conference. Alternative nonpublic presentation arrangements can be made for those projects containing confidential information.

If you are interested in sponsoring a project, complete the project proposal form. If you have questions about sponsoring a project, please contact Dr. Fariborz Tavangarian, School of Science, Engineering, and Technology, by phone, 717-948-6125 or by email to pshcapstoneproj@psu.edu .