

Industry Co-op Experiential Opportunities

AGRE Annual Summit

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What is an Industry Co-op Experiential Project?

- Industry Sponsored Project (1 or 2 semesters)
 - Project designed to address Corporate-specific needs and objectives
 - Interdisciplinary teams (3-5 per team)
 - May need to recruit from other departments or schools (i.e. business, engineering, computer science)
- Capstone Project for the Master's program (replaces thesis)
- Students enroll in a Master's Capstone Project course for credit (6 units/semester)

How does it work?

- Corporate Liaison defines project scope and deliverables
- Weekly conference call with Corporate Liaison, Faculty Advisor and Student Team to discuss project progress, issues with deliverables, scope creep, setbacks etc.
- Weekly Team meeting with Faculty Liaison to discuss Team issues, requests for assistance etc.
- Final confidential written report and presentation is delivered by the Student Team at the Sponsor's corporate site

Student Responsibilities

- Students develop and maintain Project Plan
 - Manage day-to-day work
 - Communicate progress and setbacks
 - Maintain updated task list using Gantt Charts or other related tools to ensure a clear understanding of tasks and responsibilities
- Student Teams will identify a Project Leader, Budget Officer and Documentation Officer (these may rotate at the end of the 1st semester)
- Each team is given a fixed budget allowance (\$5,000.00) to attend conferences related to their project, travel to the sponsor's corporate headquarters for final project presentation, purchase of databases for surveys, any other project-related costs.
 - Budget proposal is developed at the beginning of the project and approved by the Faculty Advisor

Faculty Advisor Responsibilities

- Advise Student Teams and facilitate behaviors to assure projects are:
 - Academically rigorous
 - Effectively executed
 - Carefully managed by student teams to ensure the team achieves their goals of the project plan
- Serve as a “supervisor”
- Provide “consulting-type” expertise on the topic as applicable
- Provide feedback on team dynamics
- If problems arise (scope creep, misalignment with Corporate Liaison, strategy issues etc.) work with the team to provide guidance, methods and tools to help resolve the issues

Major Project Deliverables

- Attend Project Kickoff Orientation Meeting
- Attend Project Kickoff Orientation Meeting with Liaison (Sponsor comes onsite)
- Interim written report and confidential presentation to faculty at the end of the 1st semester (showing progress and gaining faculty input)
- Attend mandatory 1 week team-project week at beginning of 2nd semester
- Non-confidential Public Presentation near end of 2nd semester (must obtain Sponsor's written approval of content)
- Confidential final written report and project presentation at Sponsor's site

Questions?

Thank you!

Team Masters Projects
2014-15 Corporate Sponsors

