

IE Summer Projects Program:

Creating Meaningful Professional Opportunities for Students in a COVID World

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PROJECT SUMMARY

Project summary

Teams of 1-3 Industrial Engineering Undergraduate and Master's students participated in 8-10 week faculty- or industry-driven projects to offer meaningful professional experience. Projects were completed remotely with an IE faculty or PhD student mentor. Teams produce a 15-page technical report and poster as a deliverable for course credit.

PROJECT IMPACT

Project impact

The IE Summer Project Program was our response to the fallout of COVID-19. Roughly 75% of students had their expected summer plans impacted due to COVID-19 (47% altered, 28% cancelled).

"It gave me an opportunity to continue working on my skills, even when I thought that opportunity had been lost for the summer."

PROJECT DETAILS

Project details

We had 79 IE students (56 undergraduate, 23 Masters) complete 25 projects (29 total teams).

- April 24th IE Undergraduate Student Town Halls
- May 6th Program application open to IE student population
- June 1 Projects launched
- August 3 Final project report and poster is due
- August 14 competition video submissions due
- August 17-21 virtual poster competition

FUTURE PLANS

Future plans

We would like to make this a reoccurring summer program.

Next steps include:

- Create documentation for expectations
- Students
- Mentors
- Faculty
- Industry NDAs

 Fundraising to support mentor compensation, student resources, and industry involvement