CAPSTONE DESIGN PROGRAM

CSU, Chico Mechanical & Mechatronic Engineering
When Industry and Academia Team Up to Solve Problems, Powerful Things Happen

The CSU, Chico College of Engineering Capstone Design Program partners senior-level engineering students with industry sponsors to design, build, and test solutions to real-world problems.

Engineering faculty members oversee all design projects, bringing to bear their own research and expertise in key engineering disciplines. Students gain valuable experience as they apply theory to practice, while industry sponsors benefit from introductions to young talent and the innovative solutions they present.

Such collaboration prepares our students for positions with top companies, advances our faculty’s cutting-edge research and professional practice, provides innovative solutions to our industry sponsors’ most pressing problems, and makes the world a better place to live as project solutions are implemented for the public good.

CSU, Chico engineering graduates are aggressively recruited by the nation’s top companies for their solid technical and collaboration skills as well as their ability to solve real-world problems.
BECOME A CAPSTONE DESIGN PROJECT SPONSOR

Modest sponsorship fees are required to support fabrication, testing, and other educational objectives of the program. Because each Capstone Design Project is unique, sponsorship fees vary. Fees are determined through collaboration with the sponsor to ensure sufficient funding for completion of the project.

Ownership Rights
Capstone sponsors retain ownership rights to all intellectual property developed by students as a result of their work on the project. Liability, intellectual property, indemnification, nondisclosure of confidential or proprietary information, etc., is all governed by legal agreements that are executed before the project begins.

Sponsorship funds provide support for

- Materials for fabrication
- Off-the-shelf components
- Fabrication support from technical staff
- Testing of the design solution
- Faculty supervision of project design concept, production processes, prototype construction, and testing

Program Timeline

1. THE EXPERIENCE BEGINS...
   Project sponsors are recruited and project plans finalized twice each year prior to the start of classes in the fall and spring.

2. THEN ACCELERATES...
   Student teams are formed, initial solutions identified, and designs begin to take shape during the first semester.

3. GATHERS MOMENTUM...
   Prototype construction and testing takes place during the second semester.

4. AND CULMINATES...
   The College of ECC Design Expo at CSU, Chico gathers industry sponsors, faculty, students, and the public to review, discuss, and celebrate design solutions.
Teamwork and the application of engineering concepts to real-world problems are key components of the engineering program at CSU, Chico. These, along with service to the community, form the backbone of what we call the ‘Chico Experience’.

**Benefits for Students**

- Practical, hands-on experience
- Development of teamwork and problem solving skills
- Project management skills
- Meet and work with industry partners

**Benefits for Project Sponsors**

- Initiate research projects
- Collaborate with CSUC faculty
- Innovative solutions
- Improved manufacturing processes
- Potential employee recruiting