Call for Proposals: Capstone Design Projects
School of Visual Arts
Studio for Sustainability and Social Action (SoVAS³A)
https://sites.psu.edu/sovas3a/

Call for Proposals:
Seeking Faculty to Sponsor Capstone Design Projects on Art and Sustainability

We are looking for arts and design-based projects that address issues of sustainability and require engineering-based responses.

1. Background/Introduction
Following the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, The School of Visual Arts Studio for Sustainability and Social Action (SoVAS³A) has focused on sustainability and a call to social action through artistic practice. SoVAS³A aims to reveal essential characteristics of what the arts do and to promote arts-based social action, environmental integrity, and economic equity.

2. Project Goals and Scope of Services
One of the four initiatives of SoVAS³A is to develop courses and curriculum throughout the University Park and commonwealth campuses that is centered around art, sustainability, and social action. One of our target areas of curriculum development is focused on the Engineering Senior Design Capstone course. SoVAS³A will provide funding to faculty members from a Penn State campus (University Park, Altoona, and Abington) to sponsor art and design-based sustainability projects for engineering students. We are currently seeking proposals for projects for spring 2020 that integrate engineering-based problems with artistic practices to address issues of sustainability.

3. Anticipated Selection Schedule
The selection panel is comprised of members from the SoVAS³A leadership team (http://sites.psu.edu/sovas3a/people)

Request for Proposals: September 25, 2019
Deadline for faculty to submit proposals: October 25, 2019
SoVAS³A responds to proposals: November 15, 2019

4. Time and Place of Submission of Proposals
Applications will only be accepted electronically.
Submit proposals to Xalli Zúñiga at xcz1@psu.edu

5. Timeline
The timeline for completion of funded projects will follow the same semester timeline as the Learning Factory Capstone Design Projects. The required project work must be sufficient such that it may be handled by a team of 4-6 students within one 15-week semester. Project sponsors are expected to meet regularly with student teams throughout the semester. More information on projects and sponsor responsibilities can be found here:
https://www.lf.psu.edu/
https://www.lf.psu.edu/sponsors/SubmitaProject.aspx

6. Elements of Proposal
The proposal must include a 1-3 page project description, which details the contact information, objectives, motivation, and deliverables for the project.

Deliverables may include, but are not limited to, some or all of the following:
- Reports, feasibility studies, design analyses
- Solid models and engineering drawings
- Prototype hardware
- Software and data
- Presentations, videos, demonstrations
- Exhibitions, Performances
- Customized tools and equipment

For more information on what is expected from a proposal, see the link below:
https://www.lf.psu.edu/assets/docs/how-to-sponsor-March%202019-learning-factory-engineering-penn-state.pdf

7. Evaluation Criteria
The proposals will be evaluated on the degree to which the project addresses issues central to sustainability and social action, is interesting and challenging, and has an arts or design perspective as the central focus.

8. Budget
SoVAS^IA will cover the cost of registration for the successful proposals. The registration fee includes a budget of $1000 for student teams to use in order to complete the project.

Questions about intellectual property and confidentiality can be found here: