THE EXPERIENTIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION (E3) PROGRAM

The Ohio State University is one of the largest research universities in the nation. It has one of the highest levels of industry interaction through sponsored research, student workforce recruitment and technology commercialization. However, to date these activities have not been optimally leveraged to fully benefit the student population. As such, many graduates leave the university with strong academic credentials but very limited exposure to real-world learning opportunities. This void unnecessarily limits their industry career options and advancement and may significantly delay their personal pursuit of entrepreneurial opportunities.

The Experiential Entrepreneurship Education (E3) Program provides highly-motivated and hard-working students the opportunity to engage in a structured industry and entrepreneurial learning experience that enhances their academic program and ensures that graduates leave the university with the skills necessary to succeed from day one.

While The Ohio State University has several active programs and organizations which attempt to provide students with real-world industry or entrepreneur experience, none of them has fully-integrated all of the available resources into a cohesive program.

PROGRAM GOALS

Thanks to the generosity of the Claugus family through the Bernice L. Claugus Engineering Innovation Fund, the E3 Program is the first in the nation to combine state-of-the-art educational programs in product design, manufacturing, commercialization, and business modeling with advanced on-site prototyping capabilities and real-time, industry-sponsored research and development projects. This includes a Student Innovation Lab with design, rapid prototyping and light manufacturing capabilities.

The student program aims to continuously maximize the impact of the Claugus family donation through:

- Creating and executing a program which truly prepares students for their real-world careers (in industry or through start-ups) with an unprecedented combination of experiential, hands-on and academic learning
- Leveraging existing facilities, equipment, experience, and operations of Ohio State’s colleges, departments and research centers to ensure success
- Attracting a diverse representation of the best students from across a myriad of majors
- Building a sustainable entrepreneurship education program through a revenue model which incorporates industry sponsorships, paid projects, grants, and donations
- Launching successful graduates into rewarding industry careers through co-ops and/or by incubating innovative student-led technology start-ups

BENEFITS

- Prepares students to be future business leaders and high achievers (in industry or start-ups)
- Interaction and collaboration with other students and colleges from a diverse set of majors
- Students are paid for work completed on industry projects throughout the program, which offsets the costs of their academic programs
- Access to facilities, equipment, experienced mentors and industry-seasoned experts
- Certification programs that promote experiential learning and hands-on education
- Close working relationships with industry partners which provide accelerated career opportunities, including internships, priority access to hiring managers and enhanced job placement and advancement
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

The Center for Design and Manufacturing Excellence (CDME) is the manufacturing port of entry into Ohio State. With a dedicated staff of product engineers and participation by research faculty, CDME is able to move at the speed of industry while continuing to innovate. Equipment, facility and staff are all utilized in the most efficient and productive manner for any project. CDME provides industry with a simple, expeditious way to access all the technical and physical assets of the university and surrounding research community. Easy contract mechanisms and unambiguous business terms allow industry certainty around the value proposition of the engagement before any project begins.

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