

## Opportunities for Engagement with Experiential Learning

**Experiential and hands-on learning is a cornerstone of engineering education, offering students invaluable experiences while providing industry with an opportunity to engage directly with future talent.**

Though navigating the planning and delivery of these opportunities may be challenging, the transformative impact on student development and learning underscores the necessity of industry collaboration.

Our Experiential and Professional Education team supports industry and community partners. We ensure tailored events that foster meaningful interactions and enrich student learning journeys. Together, we forge pathways that empower students with practical skills and align their education with industry demands, propelling them toward successful careers in engineering.

### Engagement Opportunities:

#### Field trips, site visits, and “Engineer for a Day” experiences

Offer students first-hand exposure to real-world environments and situations, providing industry partners with a platform to showcase their organisation while students gain practical insights.

How you can help:

- Providing worksite access, tours, and on-site activities
- Noting required certifications or qualifications
- Sponsoring transportation and accommodations

#### Sponsorships and in-kind support for student-led activities

Fuel student-led engineering initiatives while fostering practical skill development, industry connections, and personal growth. By supporting student projects, societies, and clubs, partners engage with motivated students, gain recognition, access talent pools, and contribute to skill-building.

How you can help:

- Providing financial/material support through donation or sponsorship (supplies, equipment, space)
- Advising on industry and engineering techniques, including safety standards, project and financial management, and critical design reviews

### **Hackathons and design challenges**

Immerse students in real-world problem-solving, fostering rapid skill development, networking, and portfolio building through collaborative, time-sensitive environments.

How you can help:

- Identifying industry themes/challenges
- Providing industry judges
- Sponsoring activities like food, prizes, and travel

### **Capstone and curricular design projects**

Integrate academic learning into real-world projects, offering industry partners the chance to collaborate with skilled students and professors while addressing pressing challenges.

How you can help:

- Offering a capstone project proposal
- Providing Technical Advisors (P.Eng required) to guide student groups with project details (averaging ½ hour per week)

### **Guest speaking opportunities**

Foster active learning, critical thinking, and dialogue among students, experts, and peers while facilitating authentic and collaborative conversations outside the traditional lecture format.

How you can help:

- Explore intriguing practices or concepts from your work that could benefit the emerging workforce
- Foster diverse industry voices to enrich the conversation
- Prepare to address student inquiries

Each identified opportunity above is well-positioned to support experiential learning. While our staff is on hand to support you and your initiative, limitations due to student interest, time of year, availability of professors and courses, and other complications may arise, and we will do our best to accommodate your needs and goals.

**Want to learn more?** Email [engg.experiential.learning@ualberta.ca](mailto:engg.experiential.learning@ualberta.ca).