Guidelines for Industry-Proposed Projects
UH ECE 4335: CAPSTONE DESIGN I

We thank you and your company for your interest in sponsoring a project for the UH Electrical and Computer Senior Design class. Guidelines for sponsorship are outlined below.

Team Composition and Requirements

Senior design teams are nominally four students, who work for two full semesters on a project. Projects begin in both fall (August) and spring (January) semesters. While there are no formal technical requirements, we expect that projects will be sufficiently challenging to engage four seniors for two semesters, and that the teams will work on both hardware and software deliverables, as required. The senior design coordinators will work with you to create a proposal that satisfies these criteria.

The faculty members currently responsible for coordinating the senior design class are Dr. Len Trombetta (Ltrombetta@uh.edu).

General Guidelines

- We request a donation of $3500 to the senior design fund. The money goes to help support unsponsored projects, to create scholarships, and more generally to support the senior design experience.
- We ask that someone at the company with the appropriate technical expertise be available to advise the team. Advising can be arranged at the convenience of the company representative and the team.
- We ask that industry sponsors purchase or make available the equipment and supplies needed to complete the project.
- We ask that the company provide a brief (1 -2 page word processing document or PowerPoint presentation) outlining the project scope and requirements. We will post this information to the incoming class during the semester in which the project is proposed.
- We will announce the company and the team they are sponsoring in our publications, including the *Capstone Design Conference*, which is held each spring on the UH campus, and the ECE Capstone Design web page.

Student Commitment

- Work ~10 hrs. per week per person on the project.
- Report progress to faculty sponsor and industry sponsor as requested.
- Complete, to the best of their ability, all requested deliverables to the project sponsor by the end of each long semester.
- Provide a final report each semester to the project sponsor.

Sponsor Commitment

- Please keep in mind that this is a **design course**, and the Senior Design instructors will be coaching students in engineering design and project management. To that end, the project should have **specific engineering deliverables**, as opposed to research objectives. We ask that you help

your team develop **engineering specifications** that can be **tested** as to whether they have been met.

- Sponsors should meet with their team on a regular basis. What constitutes "regular" is something that should be arrived at between the team and the sponsor, but our experience is that when teams do not meet with their sponsors for extended periods of time, they tend to drift off track and end up producing something other than what the sponsor has asked for.

- Attend project presentations (as schedule permits). Students will inform sponsors of the presentation schedule.

- Attend end-of-year course conference/luncheon (as schedule permits).

Intellectual Property Policy

The University has agreed that intellectual property created as part of the senior design class experience is not subject to protection by UH. When work is done that is not part of a sponsored research program or carried out in a research lab, UH will allow the sponsoring company to retain IP rights. Work done on senior design projects is generally done either in the undergraduate lab facilities (not considered research laboratories) or at the sponsor's site, and is therefore not subject to protection by UH.