Welcome Note

The Jodsaas Center Board Members would like to welcome all students who returned on campus in Fall semester to continue their studies. With the pandemic continuing to be a concern, we encourage all students to follow the UND guidelines and policies and practice social distancing when on campus. We are pleased to continue serving students this year with a wide range of activities, similar to the past years, to enhance their business related skills. We welcome any suggestion and recommendations to present activities of interest to students.

To facilitate the attendance of students in Jodsaas Center activities in current situation, we are offering all programs online this year and any on-campus event will be done strictly according to the UND guidelines for social distancing. The board members also hold their bi-weekly meeting online Mondays at noon.

Workshop Series

This year, we continue to offer a number of workshop series. Some topics are new compared to the last years and some have been modified based on the comments received from students. The following 9 topics will be offered this academic year:

- Aug 2020: Digital CliftonStrengths for Students
- Sept 2020: Empathy Mapping
- Oct 2020: Ethics
- Nov 2020: IP for Engineers Patent and Trade Office
- Dec 2020: Jump Start
- Jan 2021: Time Management
- Feb 2021: Mock Job Interview
- March 2021: Understanding Negotiation
- April 2021: Personal Finance

The first workshop series was presented on Aug. 27 by Stephanie Lee, the coordinator of Student Organizations & Programs, Student Involvement & Parent Program. The workshop discussed the CliftonStrength, which is an online assessment of normal personality from the perspective of positive psychology.

Invented by Don Clifton, the CliftonStrengths assessment presents individuals with 177 items, each consisting of a pair of potential self-descriptors. Think “I read instructions carefully” vs “I like to jump right into things.” The individual chooses the descriptor that best describes themselves and the extent to which that chosen description describes them. Think “What do I prefer 99.9% of the time” or “What do I do 99.9% of the time.”
Big Idea Challenge

The Big Idea Challenge will continue this year. We expect to run one challenge for the Fall and one for the Spring Semesters. The topic for the Fall semester is “Design COVID Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)”. UND students (individual or teams) are invited to participate in this challenge. “Out of box designs” & rough drawings are encouraged.


Idea submission sent to: surojit.gupta@engr.und.edu.

Selected ideas will participate in bi-weekly check-ins that include training starting October 15th with Dr. Whitney, Director, Center for Innovation and Dr. Surojit Gupta from Mechanical Engineering.

Big Idea Challenge Pitch Competition: November 30, 2020

Grand Challenge Scholar Program (GCSP)

GCSP has accepted 5 new CEM sophomores to be a part of the program at UND, from Chemical, Electrical, & Mechanical engineering disciplines. Current participants had their spring semester cut short due to the UND shutdown, but at least a few of them were able to complete a service project in Guatemala as part of the Engineer’s Without Borders chapter at UND. Other students have been working on taking entrepreneurship courses, tutoring, and completing research projects, with plans to pick up where they left when UND went remote last spring.

Student-Run Enterprises (SRE)

On the September 28 JC Board Meeting, Tyler Sletten, an Entrepreneur Coach and Start-up Specialist at the Center for Innovation (CFI) presented a brief overview of student-run enterprises. The JC board members collectively supported a partnership with the Center for Innovation to establish an engineering focused SRE. Students will run all aspects of the CFI Foundation owned legacy business and will identify small scale engineering projects from new technological ventures across the state and the local community. The JC and CEM partnership enables access to JC faculty mentors and CEM labs where needed. Are you interested in being a student founder? Contact Tyler Sletten at tyler.sletten@und.edu.

Internship or ENGR 490 Opportunities

Following the announcement in the previous issues regarding the new opportunity available for students to work in the new full scale drilling & completion lab (DRACOLA) we encourage those students from all department who are interested in this opportunity to discuss with their advisors to enroll for Spring semester 2021 ENGR 490 course. Students from all programs can do hands on and practical projects in the future as an internship, elective course or ENGR 490. Mr. Harry Feilen, who is managing this lab will be the instructor of the course and help students work on different equipment set up and run projects in their areas of interest. To obtain further information or enroll in summer courses please contact Harry.Feilen@UND.edu or Vamegh.Rasouli@UND.edu.

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