

# ***Student Projects Symposium***

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## ***ASEN 4028, Senior Projects 2: Design Practicum Spring 2014***

### **1.0 Document Purpose**

This document outlines the objectives and requirements for the Student Projects Symposium assignment.

### **2.0 Student Projects Symposium Objectives**

The symposium is a forum for describing your Senior Design project to a wider audience, including industry representatives, other faculty, family, and friends. It is similar to a professional conference, where work is described in formal presentations, but also in more informal poster/demonstration sessions. The assignment is intended to give design teams first-hand experience in communicating their work in this format, and it provides an opportunity to show off your excellent work to potential employers and to make professional contacts. The symposium will also be a public forum for presentation of this year's awards in Senior Design.

The symposium participation will not be graded, except that the quality of your contributions will affect the final peer evaluations and advisor team assessments in the course. More importantly, the quality of your effort at the symposium will reflect on your own capabilities as an engineer.

### **3.0 Requirements**

There are four required elements of symposium participation: Flyer, presentation, poster, and demonstration.

#### **Flyer**

This is a one-slide summary of the project objectives and CONOPS, conveyed primarily with pictures or graphics. Its purpose is to attract attendees to find out more about your project by attending your presentation, poster, and demonstration.

#### **Presentation**

On the morning of the symposium, each team will present a brief overview of the project to the attendees. This will be a 15 minute powerpoint presentation, usually by a small subset of team members. Its purpose is provide attendees with an introduction to the project, in a way that will entice them to visit your group during the poster session in the afternoon to learn more about your team and your project. This type of presentation is similar to the abstract of a paper.

#### **Poster**

A 36in by 28in poster will be created that describes your whole project at a high level. It should be able to describe the key elements of your project on its own, but it also serves to attract attendees to stop by and discuss the project in more detail with team members. It should be dominated by interesting graphics and reflect a strong engineering basis for the design. Key design aspects of the project should be emphasized, i.e. the poster should convey not just what was built, but why this was a good design choice and how it meets key requirements, including the results of testing. This format does not lend itself to detailed data presentation, but results should be summarized in a few key tables or plots. Text should be limited to large bullets or labels, since it is very hard to read at a distance. There are many past-year's posters displayed in the engineering center that are a good source of poster layout and graphics ideas. A good poster will live forever.

### **Demonstration**

Ideally, this will consist of a demonstration of some working aspect of the project. If this is not possible, display of project components and a discussion of how they work is acceptable. Remember, however, that looking at a thing does not usually explain much about how it works, or why it came to be in its present form. Be ready to explain this to a range of attendees, from aerospace professionals to non-technical family members. Having a clear CONOPS and FBD on the poster is a good resource for discussing project operation and design.