

Department of Mechanical Engineering

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Design for Community

Participation with the Design for Community (D4C) course is voluntary and limited within the parameters of being an educational endeavor to further the undergraduate education within the Mechanical Engineering Department at CU Boulder. Students participating in this course will put forth a “best effort” attempt at meeting the objectives laid out in the Project Abstract.

Project Abstract: The Project Abstract should include the most complete and thorough scope of the work for the proposed project. The D4C will accept projects on an as-needed basis for the educational mission of the course and is not required to accept a project that is outside the parameters of the curriculum or scope of the class. Acceptance of any project is determined by the course instructor and is subject to modification, with approval from the client, to ensure the project meets the timeline, scope, and detail to be appropriate for student use.

Procurement of Materials: If the D4C accepts the project proposed in the Project Abstract, the assigned team will determine the necessary supplies or fabrication required to complete the project requirements. A bill of materials (BOM) will be created by the students and will be reviewed by the course instructor to determine all necessary components for the completion of the project. The BOM will be provided to the client for review, if applicable. The client is not required to complete the project if they do not wish to procure materials necessary to complete the project abstract. The procurement of any supplies or equipment necessary for the completion of the project will be the client’s responsibility to provide within the project timeline. If a significant delay exists from the client to provide the supplies or equipment necessary to complete the project, the project may be forfeited or otherwise delayed in order to fall within the academic timeline necessary for the completion of the course.

IP/Non-Disclosure/Legal Matters: Participants of the D4C are undergraduate students in the Mechanical Engineering Department. These students are not employees of the University and are participating in coursework. As such, once the course is completed or the course instructor determines that the work for the project is substantially complete for the purposes of the course, students have no ongoing relationship or commitment with the client to continue assisting with the project. Additionally, students that generate intellectual property while in pursuit of completing the client project are determined to be the creators of their intellectual property. Students will not assign their intellectual property to outside parties in association with this course. Students are involved with the D4C course as a part of their education, and as such, are not entering an employment arrangement with the client. Students are not bound as a part of the course to not disclose information about the nature of their project. Clients are encouraged to take measures to adjust their projects in scope or limit the amount of information shared to ensure no confidential or proprietary information is transferred to students participating in the course. The protection and defense of client proprietary information is the client’s responsibility. Participation in the D4C requires that a waiver agreement is signed prior to work beginning on the project.

Any outcome or result coming from the work performed in the course is considered as-is. Students will make efforts as a part of the class to complete the project requested by the client. However, as any work

would be considered part of a coursework performed by the students, no warranty can be made as to the quality of the project output or the function of the end prototype/design. Students and the Department of Mechanical Engineering will not be liable for damage that is incurred by the students to equipment, facilities, or supplies provided by the client in association with work performed for the project.

Sponsored Research within CU: If a faculty member wishes to have students in the D4C participate in project work that is related to sponsored research, completion of an intake form is required prior to participating in the course or procuring materials. Signoff of the research administrator and/or financial manager is required prior to the procurement of any materials is made on sponsored research.