

# The WPI Bioengineering Institute's DAEDALUS\* INNOVATION COMPETITION

The BEI announces the Daedalus Innovation Competition. This competition is designed to encourage all undergraduate and graduate students at WPI to think broadly about how research in their own discipline can positively impact society, including human health and the environment. The competition is particularly focused on generating cross disciplinary thinking and innovation in the sciences, engineering, management, the social sciences and the humanities and arts.

To compete, you should identify a challenging problem we that you believe your experiences as a WPI student in the laboratory and in the classroom have prepared you to solve. The definition of a challenging problem is something that by its nature requires special effort and is stimulating, interesting, and thought-provoking. In keeping with WPI's motto of "Lehr und Kunst" or "Theory and Practice", you should then provide a solution to this problem that is founded on sound scientific and engineering principles, that is creative and innovative, and that can potentially be "reduced to practice" as a product that can be commercialized.

Here is what you need to submit in order to compete.

- 1) **The problem.** Describe in a maximum of 2 sentences the challenging problem you have identified.
- 2) **The solution:** Describe the technical approach to the solution (in 200 words or less).
- 3) **The Innovation:** Describe why your creative solution is innovative and how it will significantly outperform the current state of the art. (in 200 words or less)
- 4) **The plan:** Provide a brief outline of the research and or development that will be undertaken to reach the goal including specific, quantitative milestones. (in 200 words or less)
- 5) **\$\$:** Estimate how much it will cost to provide proof-of-concept and justify this cost? (in 200 words or less)
- 6) **Commercialization:** Give a brief description of the product, the market into which it will fit and how the product will be commercialized. (in 200 words or less)
- 7) **The Team:** Give a brief summary of the key personnel and what they bring to the project. (in 200 words or less)

Entries should be submitted to [estepien@wpi.edu](mailto:estepien@wpi.edu), in pdf format and marked Daedalus in the subject line before 5:00 pm Monday March 15<sup>th</sup>. Several finalists will be chosen from among the entries. These finalists will then be asked to present their ideas to a panel of judges. Three monetary prizes will be awarded. (1<sup>st</sup> Prize is \$1,000).

\*In Greek legend, Daedalus invented wings from wax and feathers and escaped captivity by flying to safety.