

{ The Experiential PhD }



Worcester Polytechnic Institute

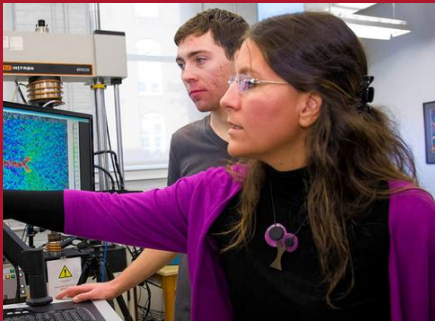


Enabling Use-Inspired Research

- WPI is **well positioned** to bring together industry partners, faculty experts, and talented PhD candidates in a new model for an experiential PhD program
- **Identifying/enabling** research in emerging trends in industry
 - **Supplying** supportive frameworks for collaborative projects
 - **Facilitating** professional growth of the next generation of industry innovators and leaders
 - **Fostering** mutually beneficial relationships that maximize return-on-investment

Working with WPI

WPI is well-known for its **flexible** and **nimble** approach to working with organizations around the world to **solve** complex global problems.



With more than **50 years of experience**, WPI is a trusted partner with a proven ability to work with industry partners to address **real-world** issues, craft **sustainable** and **viable** solutions, and prepare a **highly-capable** future workforce.

Value Proposition

Industry Partners	PhD Students	Faculty Advisors
Support professional growth of next generation of industry innovators and leaders via use-inspired research as well as obtain new knowledge in both current and emerging areas.	Conduct doctorate-level use-inspired research on real-world, challenging, technical problems to provide practical solutions while gaining industry skills and practice.	Actively collaborate with industry on real-world problems, mentor the next generation of industry innovators and leaders, and advance the state-of-the-art in one or more disciplines.

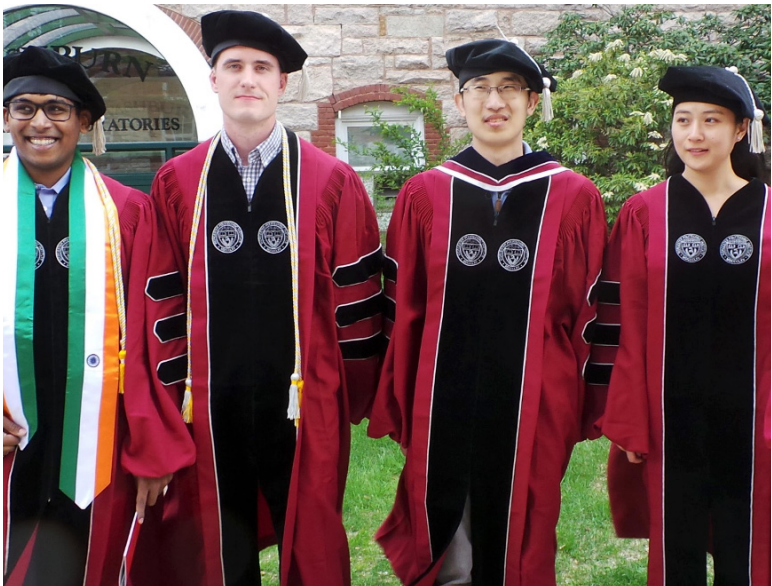
“ Working in industry during my studies at WPI provided me with perspective on my current classes and helped me build bridges with employers for after graduation. These jobs fundamentally helped me mold my class load and research to get me to the career I wanted once I completed school. As an employer of graduate students myself, work experience during college is a top criterion I look for in new hires and is something I consistently see from WPI graduates. ”

Travis Collins, ECE PhD 2016

Tailored To Industry Partner Needs

Experiential PhD Pathway	Description	Intellectual Property	WPI Engagement
Fellowship/Scholarship	Industry partner supports PhD student via tax deductible philanthropic gift to WPI	Remains with PhD student and WPI since gifts possess no expectation of products, services, deliverables	WPI faculty advisor extensively involved in research development as well as WPI equipment/resources
Sponsored Research	Sponsored research agreement established between industry partner and WPI defining contractual relationship	Amount of IP ownership (either sole or joint) can be negotiated based on amount of resources and investment introduced by industry partner and WPI	Amount of WPI faculty advisor involvement and WPI equipment/resource utilization dependent on agreed upon level of IP ownership
Course-Based	Industry partner supports PhD student as if they are taking 60 credit hours of coursework (includes dissertation research)	Generated outcomes produced is basic applied research (i.e., “Creative Works”) and usually at the level of no more than copyrighted content	WPI faculty advisor serves as educator/evaluator of PhD student as the latter pursues dissertation research within context of creative work for credit

** Cost for each pathway negotiable between industry partner and WPI*



How WPI Grad Studies Can Help

- Help set up arrangements between industry partners and appropriate WPI offices responsible for each of the experiential PhD pathways
- Assist in negotiations of costs for supporting PhD students for a specific pathway
- Support PhD student during their studies to ensure successful and rewarding experience
- Facilitate clear and seamless communications between industry partner, WPI faculty advisor, and PhD student during studies

For more information, contact Alex Wyglinski, associate dean of graduate students, at alexw@wpi.edu.



WPI

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