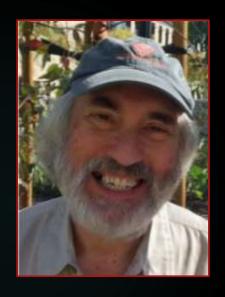
### January 14, 2020 Creating Assistive Technologies - Understanding the Problem

# The state of the s

### ENGR110/210 Perspectives in Assistive Technology



David L. Jaffe, MS
Instructor

14

Years

# Attendance Sheet, Evaluation Form, and Meet with Dave Signup

### For all students:

- Sign Attendance Sheet important to verify your attendance
- Sign up to meet with Dave for lecture makeup and Individual Project approval

### For everyone:

Fill out Class Session Evaluation Form

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### Pre-lecture Discussion Topics



### Select all topics of interest

### 





- Consider the these options:
  - Assistive technology topic
  - Paper design of an assistive technology device
  - Work of art
  - ► Aftermarket aesthetic, functionality, usability design
- Interview an individual with a disability. This could include: a family member, a friend, a classmate, a community member attending class, or others that I can suggest
- Report on their lives, challenges they have faced, successes they have achieved, desires for their future, assistive technology they use, and problems they have experienced with them.
- Meet with Dave to agree on project

## Team Project Selection Policies



- Ok for the two Magical Bridge Playground teams to share background tasks
  - Driving to the facility
  - ▶ Interviewing project suggestors and users



### Project Documentation

- Lab notebooks are not required
- Optional diary for your Individual Reflection
- ▶ Take photos and short videos:
  - Your team working with a person with a disability
  - ▶ Illustrating your design process
  - Prototypes









## Work with Diligence

- ▶ Time is your team's most precious resource
- 7 weeks of class left to work on your projects
- ▶ Mid-term team presentations in 4 weeks!





### Miscellany

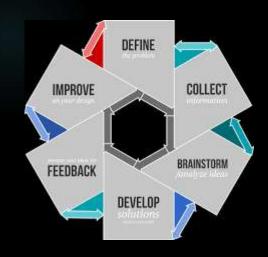




- 1. Weblinks, videos, and photos linked from lecture webpages
- Anonymous Suggestion Box for comments and rhetorical questions
- 3. Sign up for PRL Safety Orientation & Shop passes
- 4. Last bits:
  - ▶ I have difficulty remembering names
  - ▶ I am on your team
  - ▶ I am on your side
  - ▶ I want to award good grades



### Formed Project Teams



- Team MDM Project with Magical Bridge Playground
- The Banana Slugs TravelScoot Camping Project with Abby
- The Second Team with No Name Photography Access with Paul
- Team Unrestrained Wheelchair Restraint for Danny
- The Fourth Team with No Name Laptray for Ben
- The Fifth Team with No Name Laptray for Abby
- ► The Sixth Team with No Name WHILL Visibility with Abby
- ► The Seventh Team with No Name Arm rest Project with Nick
- The Last Team with No Name Project with the Magical Bridge Playground

### Other Items

- Your team project effort is self-directed
- ► Your project budget is \$200
- ▶ Your class participation is appreciated









## Questions?







## Design Process



- Gayle & I have similar but not identical thoughts about Design Process
- ▶ I have an engineering outlook based on teaching this course



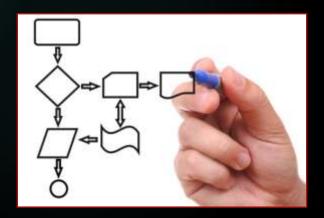






Using a structured process increases the chances of

success.

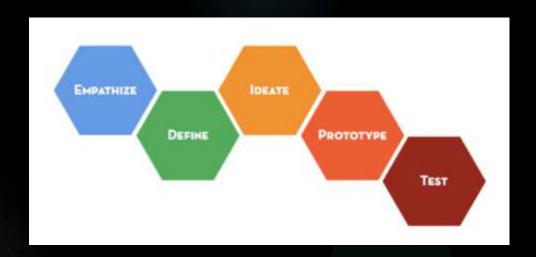


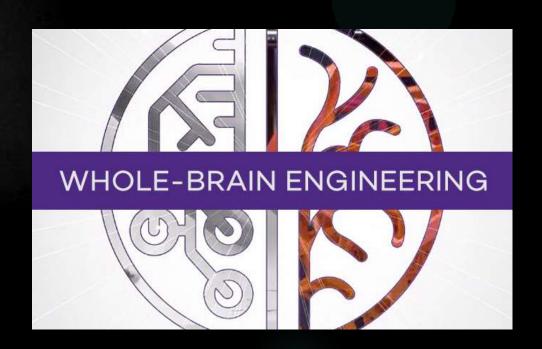




## Design Processes

- Design Thinking d.school
- Whole-Brain Engineering Northwestern
- ▶ Human-Centered Design
- User-Centered Design
- Empathetic Design
- Compassionate Design
- Co-Design
- Cooperative Design
- Bystander Design



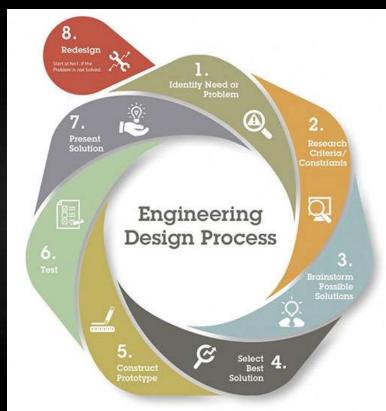




## The Engineering Design Process Activities

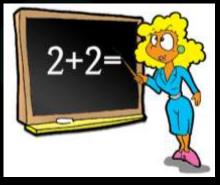
- ► The Problem (5 sub-activities)
- Brainstorming
- Selecting Design Concepts
- Prototyping (5 sub-activities)
- Communication (4 sub-activities)
- Role of the User













## The Design Process The Problem

- 1. Search for the Problem
- 2. Identify the Problem
- 3. Describe the Problem
- 4. Understand the Problem
- 5. Determine the Need













## The Design Process Search for the Problem

- ▶ Pick a field, user group, technology
- ► Employ ethnography, observation, discussion, interview techniques





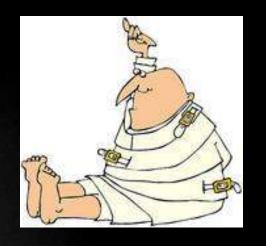




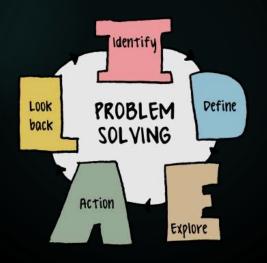


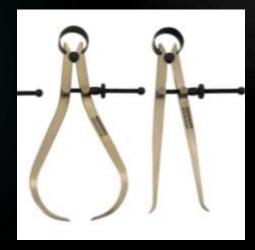
# The Design Process Identify the Problem

- ▶ Identify a specific challenge
- ► Identify the customers / stakeholders
- ▶ Identify resources and technologies















## The Design Process The Problem Statement

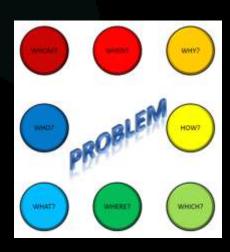




Compose a written problem statement that includes:

- ▶ Project Title
- ▶ Background
- ▶ Problem
- ▶ Goal / Aim
- Design Criteria
- Other Information
- ▶ Contacts





insert title here

## Problem Statement Example Enhanced Visibility Project

- Background: The WHILL Model A is a mobility device meant to give wheelchair users a sleek alternative to standard products, which often lack aesthetic appeal and thereby reinforce stereotypes of weakness or helplessness.
- Problem: While the WHILL has built-in lights that are designed into the rear wheel cover, they are insufficient to provide adequate visibility (to see and be seen) at night.
- ▶ **Aim:** Explore designs that will enhance the night time visibility of the WHILL and thereby increase user safety.
- ▶ **Design Criteria:** The design should:
  - not alter or permanently deface or damage the physical structure or operation of WHILL
  - ▶ integrate well with WHILL's appearance
  - provide forward illumination (like a car's headlights)
  - enhance both side and rear visibility
  - automatically operate based on sensed ambient lighting
  - include a manual override
  - optionally include a light show mode
- Links:
  - Whill
  - Ashley's Passion to Redefine Accessibility
  - Whill's back light

### Contact:

- Whill contact
- User contact





- Clarify goals and objectives
  - Incorporate users' perspectives and standards of care
- Gather information
  - ▶ WWW, library, journals (research)
  - Product catalogs (existing products)
  - Stakeholders
  - Experts & health care professionals















- Often called "Empathy"
- Find out as much as you can
- User's specific background and situation
- Review information on the disability condition
- Solicit the perspectives of people with disabilities and older adults, family members, friends, health care professionals, colleagues, researchers, engineers, product suppliers
- Query professionals via online listservs















"While a user may have a good handle on The Problem, he/she may not fully appreciate the benefits and limitations of technology."

"Since each person has his/her own circumstances, desires, and sense of aesthetics, a solution for one user may not be applicable for the entire user population."















### Research current solutions

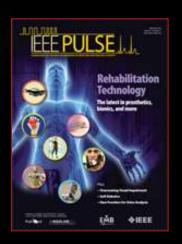
- ► Published research
- ► Articles in popular media
- ► Previous student projects
- ► Product catalogs













### Research current solutions

- ▶ What products currently address the problem?
- ▶ What products are most commonly used?
- ▶ What is considered the standard of care?
- You may not want to reinvent what already exists or has already been tried

"Sometimes the only problem is a lack of awareness of a suitable existing solution."











- Determine why current "solutions" don't work
  - ▶ Important to find limitations of current products:
    - ► High cost, weight, reliability, etc
    - ► Ineffectiveness
    - ► Non-compliance or non-use
    - ▶ Poor aesthetics, functionality, durability, fit
    - ▶ Does not take advantage of current technology
- Why a new solution may not work "The old shoe is more comfortable." Barbara (age 92)









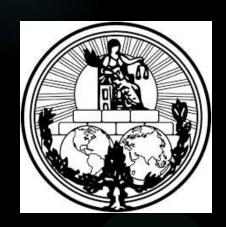




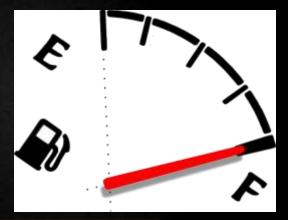


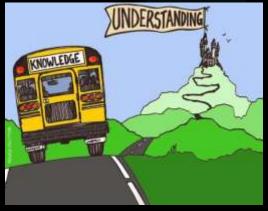
# The Design Process Judge the Need

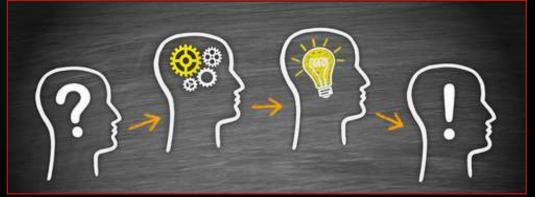
"Judge what is needed from a full understanding of the problem."

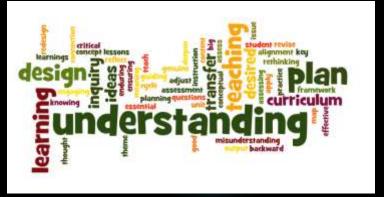












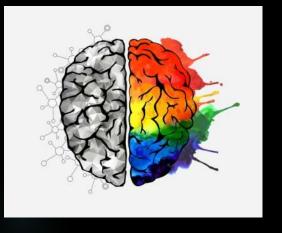


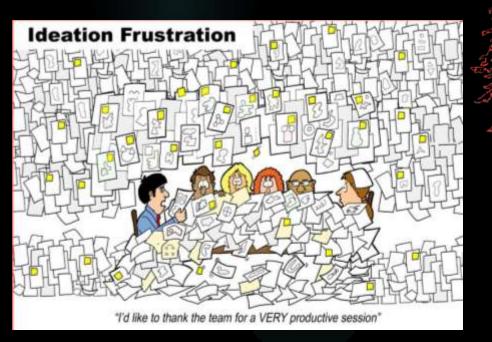
# The Design Process Brainstorming

- Idea Generation also know as "Ideation"
  - Morphological charts
  - Brainstorming
  - ▶ Other techniques
- Develop multiple preliminary ideas, concepts
- Don't get stuck on your original idea Anchor Effect









# The Design Process Survey Technology





Seek out technology - including existing products - that could be brought to bear on the problem











How to interact with users

- Observe the problem / challenge firsthand
- Encourage them to tell a story
- ▶ Understand what a solution should do, but not how to do it
- ▶ List design features don't forget the "coolness factor"
- Recognize that you may not be aware of the limitations and benefits of technology
- ▶ Interact with user / suggestor



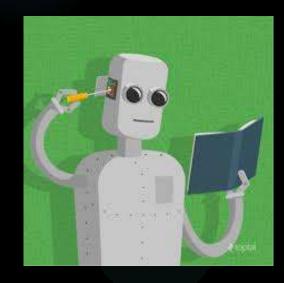






## Engineering Design Process

- ▶ Does not include:
  - ▶ Building to another's vision
  - Making incremental improvements
- ▶ Utilize project resources and team skills
  - ▶ PRL and Room 36 (equipment and TAs)
  - ► Person who suggested project
  - ▶ Course resource people
  - Classmates
  - Dave





Make and justify all your project decisions



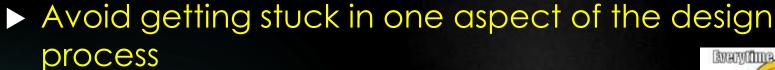
### Other Observations







- Assistive Technology is a highly fragmented market
- ► A small market means high prices



"It's not a failure if you learn something."













## SUMMARY

- Outline main points

  What is a summary?

  SUMMARY
- Pizza Hut WE HAVE PIZZA





- Understand the problem
- Survey technology that addresses the problem
- Very few design concepts make it to market
- Advice for student engineers:
  - ► Employ users, caregivers, heath care providers, and experts at each stage of the design process
  - Anticipate and plan for both successes and setbacks during development
  - "Fail" early and learn from "failures"
  - ► Start prototyping with low cost materials







## Thursday, January 16th





Bridging the Gap between Consumers and Products in Rehabilitation Medicine

Deborah E. Kenney, MS, OTR/L
Stanford University
VA Palo Alto Health Care System
Foothill College

## Today





Creating Assistive Technologies - Understanding the Problem

Gayle Curtis - UX Design Consultant

## Short Break





### Break Activities

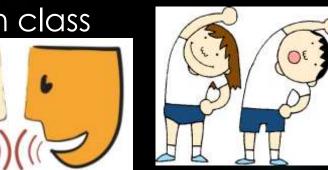




- Grab a cookie
- Stand up and stretch
- ▶ Take a bio-break
- ▶ Text message, web-surf, email
- ▶ Talk with classmates
- Reflect on what was presented in class









## Short Break





