

From: [Chelsea Salinas](#)
To: [Faculty Senate](#)
Cc: [Leslie Light](#); [Joel Bach](#)
Subject: Signature Student Experience Proposal
Date: Monday, November 2, 2020 3:44:02 PM
Attachments: [2020-11-02 Senate Signature Students Experiences LOI-Salinas-Light-Bach.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)

Dear Faculty Senate,

Thank you for the opportunity to present our proposal for a Vertically-Integrated Design Studio. Please find the attached 150 Letter of Intent proposal herein.

We look forward to the next steps in the process.

Thank you,
Chelsea Salinas

Chelsea Salinas, PhD
Teaching Associate Professor
Design@Mines-Engineering, Design & Society
Human Centered Design Studio
csalinas@mines.edu



Chelsea Salinas and Leslie Light, Engineering, Design, and Society

Joel Bach, Mechanical Engineering

Expansion of the Studio Model of Capstone towards a 4-year Vertically-Integrated Design Studio

The Human Centered Design Studio has grown as an alternative model for Capstone Design. The model provides project and team flexibility comparable to industrial design firms and has revolutionized the one team, one project nationally accepted Capstone program model. This dynamic approach to Capstone has created a unique, and valuable, learning experience for our students. We propose to vertically integrate the design studio model across the years for a new approach to design education. We propose to start with a bridge between Freshmen (Design I) or Sophomores (Design II) and Seniors (Capstone Design), with other years added subsequently. Entrepreneurship and Innovation will complement the signature experience providing exposure, varied mindsets and knowledge bases to this distinctive, vertically integrated program. The new Vertically Integrated Design Studios would create a Signature Student Experience completely novel to Mines and will serve as a model for additional parallel programs focusing on different topic areas.