



What is PennSustains?

PennSustains is an inaugural sustainability design competition funded by the generous donation of Andrew Rachleff, meant to foster the “joy of building things” and the fun of problem-solving. Participants will engineer a solution within the broad category of sustainability. The idea can be a composition-of-matter, device, design, process, power system, application, etc. This can range from an app designed by CIS students, a housing plan created by MEAM students, or an environmental procedure detailed by CBE students. Because sustainability rests on three pillars: people, profit, and the planet, deliverables can include technical reports, business plans, blueprints, and drawings.

Eligibility

PennSustains is open to any Penn student, regardless of school or division. Undergraduate and graduate students are welcome to compete. Teams can consist of up to four people, but one member must be in Penn Engineering.

Judging

A panel of esteemed judges, including IGEL’s own Joanne Spigonardo and Dr. William Braham of Penn Design’s graduate school, will select the winners based on the innovation and creativity in application, technical soundness, organizational plan and management structure, scope, and analysis of sustainability of the solutions.

Timeline

September 16th, 2013 – Kick-Off Event – Wu and Chen Auditorium

Mid-September – Team Building Event (don’t know many engineers?) and Idea Generation Events

Late September – Deadline to register for competition

October 19th – Presentations and Judging, Award Ceremony

Prizes

Over \$6,000 in cash prizes will be awarded to the overall winning teams, as well as corporate gifts and round-trip tickets on Southwest Airlines, generously donated by IGEL. Certain sub-categories, such as real estate and building design, biomedical sustainability, energy technologies, and people’s choice, will also have specific prizes.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact pennsustains@gmail.com!