



# Senior Design Program

## Project Review Meeting Feedback

Team Emulation of Aerospace Actuation Systems

Date 10/25/2021

Our team has met with: ☒ Molly Johnson   ☐ David Farrell   ☐ Susan Hunter   ☐ Peter O'Neill   ☐ Jake Sauer

**To help us fine-tune Project Review meetings in the future, please provide answers to the following questions:**

- **What do you think about today's meeting?**

This meeting was a great way to walk through the team's goals, plans, and challenges with a neutral and unbiased audience. The meeting was positive and we received a lot of great affirmation in our project management style, as well as the ways in which we are addressing challenges regarding communication and technical ability. Molly seemed happy with our current status and trajectory and is supportive of the methods we are taking to achieve high level project goals.

- **What important info did you obtain during the meeting?**

We received a very important suggestion to create quad chart style progress reports for our weekly meetings with our project advisor and EiR that include sections for weekly goals, weekly accomplishments, general challenges, and the goals for the next week. This will allow us to maintain a constant stream of communication with our EiR, who is often unavailable for our weekly tagups, and also keep us on a constant path towards our overall system level goals as defined in the project schedule. We also learned the importance of knowing when to stop investigating one small component of the problem and when it's good to cut your losses and move on. For example, we can't spend the rest of the year learning all of C, we have to triage and focus on the elements that are most important to success of the project so we can accomplish the high level requirements.

- **What part of the review was your team's weakest point? Why?**

Molly was happy with the entire plan, so there was not much discussion of a weakest point, but the biggest challenge our team faces is not having enough of a technical background in the C language and with embedded systems to overcome the major learning curve of working with a microcontroller that is relatively undefined. A lot of the documentation TI provides for our microcontroller is vague, and there aren't a lot of people we can consult to figure out how to make it work. Since most of our team's foundation is in Assembly and hardware design (not so much C and embedded systems), we have to work together to make sure we can all tackle the problem as a team and use the resources available to us wisely and efficiently so we can achieve project goals.

- **How we may improve these reviews in the future?**

This session was very helpful and in our experience there isn't much room for improvement. One suggestion is to start the meeting with the evaluator showing the team a color-coded rubric of how their project plan was evaluated. Some initial feedback corresponding to a defined layout that would help the team immediately understand the quality of our report by section and where they could have improved would be useful.