Team 7

Meeting 05: Project Meeting 1 with Professor Yadav

horizontal line

**06 OCTOBER 2020 / 6:30 PM EST / ZOOM**

# **ATTENDEES**

Professor Yadav, David Rak, Radhey Patel, Victoria Lara-Aguilar, Isabelle Goode

# **AGENDA**

## Discuss with Professor Yadav our new top 3 brainstormed ideas

* + Get her feedback
  + Are these ideas viable as businesses?
* Ask any questions we have so far about the project, business model, etc.
* Plan agenda for next meeting

# **NOTES**

* After we realized that our very initial project idea (autonomous rideshare) was pretty much already being done by Uber, we knew that it would be too hard to break into that market
  + We met to brainstorm as many new ideas as possible
    - Didn’t particularly love any idea
    - Settled on the recyclable power cord because we thought that it would be a good idea and could apply to a lot of things, didn’t discuss much of the business side
  + We met again to brainstorm even more ideas, and have picked our top 3
* Discuss with Professor Yadav our 3 top brainstormed ideas for the project
  + Small-scale boat to clean up trash and oil
    - Reusable sponge collects oil from water, can be wrung out and put back into the water immediately
    - Could be good for coastal cities that want to clean up their water
  + Mini water towers on tops of buildings for energy storage
    - Pumped-storage hydroelectric power systems
    - New form of energy storage
    - Could be particularly good for cities or city campuses, like BU
    - We need to do more research on whether this idea is viable on a small scale.
  + UV light sanitation wand/box
    - Idea based on post-pandemic fundamental shift rather than climate change
    - Uses UV light to kill bacteria
    - Could be used in office buildings, schools, gyms
* Professor thinks that these ideas are good, and much better than last week’s idea (recyclable power cords)
* Professor encourages us to do more research on all of these ideas so that we can further discuss them in the business (not engineering!) context
  + What is the market for each of these? How big is it?
  + Who would be the ideal customer/ customer base?
  + How big of an investment do these businesses require to succeed?
  + Do rivaling products currently exist?
* We will do more research on these ideas so that we can have a better understanding of which is best for our project from a business perspective and discuss at our next meeting.
  + Whatever we decide upon will be what we base assignment 14 (project update #2) on
* No one had any outstanding questions about the project.

# **DECISIONS MADE**

* We will meet at our regular meeting time to discuss research we have completed on our top 3 ideas so we can have a better conversation about which is going to be the best for this project.
  + Isabelle and Victoria will do research on UV light sanitation devices
  + David and Radhey will do research on mini water towers for energy storage
  + David will also add to our document some information about the small scale boat that can clean water with a special sponge technology
* We are looking to gather information about:
  + Feasibility of implementing the service/product
  + Existing similar products
    - How can we make ours different?
  + Predicted market size
  + Predicted customer base
  + Predicted costs or investment size
* We are going to meet on Friday 10/9/2020 from 2:30-3:30PM EST if we can in order to avoid meeting over the long weekend
  + If this doesn’t work out we will default to our usual time (Sunday 10/11/2020 from 4:00-5:15PM EST)

# **ACTION ITEMS**

1. David- Research more about mini water tower storage idea, potential costs, required investment, efficiency and adaptability of the service. Also research information about small-scale boat for cleaning oil from oceans, predicted investment, predicted market size, etc.
2. Isabelle- Research UV light sanitation devices, predicted costs, potential barriers and competitive forces. Clean up and submit meeting minutes.
3. Victoria- Research UV light sanitation devices, current designs and devices on the market, predicted costs, potential barriers and competitive forces
4. Radhey- Research more about mini water tower storage idea, potential costs, required investment, efficiency and adaptability of the service.

# **NEXT WEEK’S AGENDA**

* Meet on Friday to discuss our topic research and pick an idea to use for the project
* Work on assignment 14 ( project update #2)