inno basics

IDC quick guide

IDC QUICK GUIDE

What is IDC?

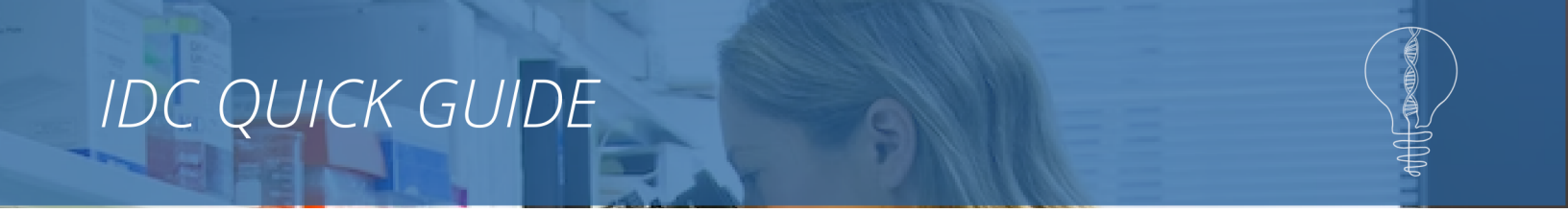
As the TL;DR for what's otherwise detailed on our IDC page: the Innovation Development Conference is a chance for all INNO students to showcase their novel products in a collaborative and competitive setting. After a year of learning all about biotechnology through our INNO curriculum, students (in groups of 1-3) will create a product to solve some sort of worldly problem through biotechnology. Students create a proposal detailing the need for their product, how it incorporates biotech concepts, and next steps they plan to take to create a fully functioning model. Students also present a prototype of their project, whether an app, website, circuit, or 3D model.

Why IDC?

IDC is a unique opportunity unlike any other for students to translate their conceptual knowledge into a tangible, entrepreneurial project. IDC is the culmination of INNO's model for experiential learning, and gives students a concrete outlet for putting their knowledge into action.

IDC Timeline

January 2023: Students ideate product ideas, conducting background research about a worldly problem, and work with INNO mentors to form a concrete project plan.
February 2023 - March 2023: Students do a "design sprint" to create a prototype for their product, and formulate a project proposal.
April 2023: IDC submissions open and the IDC conference convenes (date TBD for COVID-19 concerns).
May 2023: Winners are announced and work with the INNO patent team to file a utility patent for their product.



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Proposal and Prototyping

Your project proposal should be between 3-5 pages, and should follow this general outline:

1. Abstract (200-300 words)
    a. General overview of proposal; need for product and product idea.
2. Background Research (500-700 words)
    a. Literature review of prior research pertaining to product
    b. Any interviews/surveys conducted with end users
3. Product Summary (1000 words maximum)
    a. Description of product, including novel elements of design and materials used in prototype
    b. Description of proof of concept verification (testing with end users, etc.)
4. Product Impact (300-500 words)
    a. Description of next steps and ideal pathway for product to impact end users.

Write ups should include diagrams and visuals where appropriate. See our example project proposal here.

Your prototype should be a physical or online design of your end product, and should be tested with end users in some manner before brought to the Innovation Development Conference. Prototypes can be made with arduinos or raspberry pi computers; virtual softwares like blender and CAD; and more! The possibilities are endless.

We look forward to all of your project submissions, and wish you happy INNOvating!