Perspectives on a Transformational Course

Sustainable Product and Market Development for Subsistence Marketplaces – 2009-2010

Brian Schertz First Midwest Student Conference on Sustainable Development in India DePaul University Chicago ,IL 21 April 2012



What I discovered in the course:

- International Field Experience
- Interdisciplinary Experience
- Engineering in Relation to Society



- B.S., Civil Engineering, UIUC (May 2009)
 - Minor: Business Administration
- M.S., Civil Engineering, UIUC (Dec. 2009)
 - Structural Engineering Focus
- M.S., Mechanical Engineering, UIUC (In Progress)
 - Materials Behavior Focus



How did the course do that?

- Understanding
 - Poverty US and India
 - Subsistence Contexts
 - Mutual Respect
 - Qualitative Research
- Initial Project Framing
 - Sponsor
 - Interdisciplinary Groups

- International Field Exp.
 - Interviews
 - Observing Context
- Product/Business Plan
 Formulation
 - Deep Interdisciplinary
 - Iteration
 - Comprehensive



My Experience

• Health care in subsistence

Rural and semi-rural areas

Context for my 'lessons'

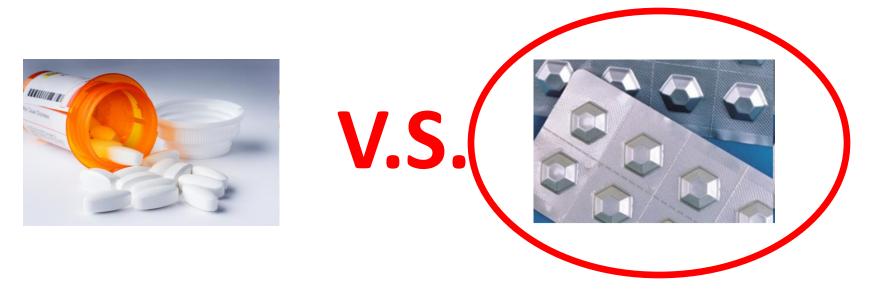


Course Lessons – Exhibit A:

How to teach an engineering student to *appreciate* qualitative research



Exhibit A – Qualitative



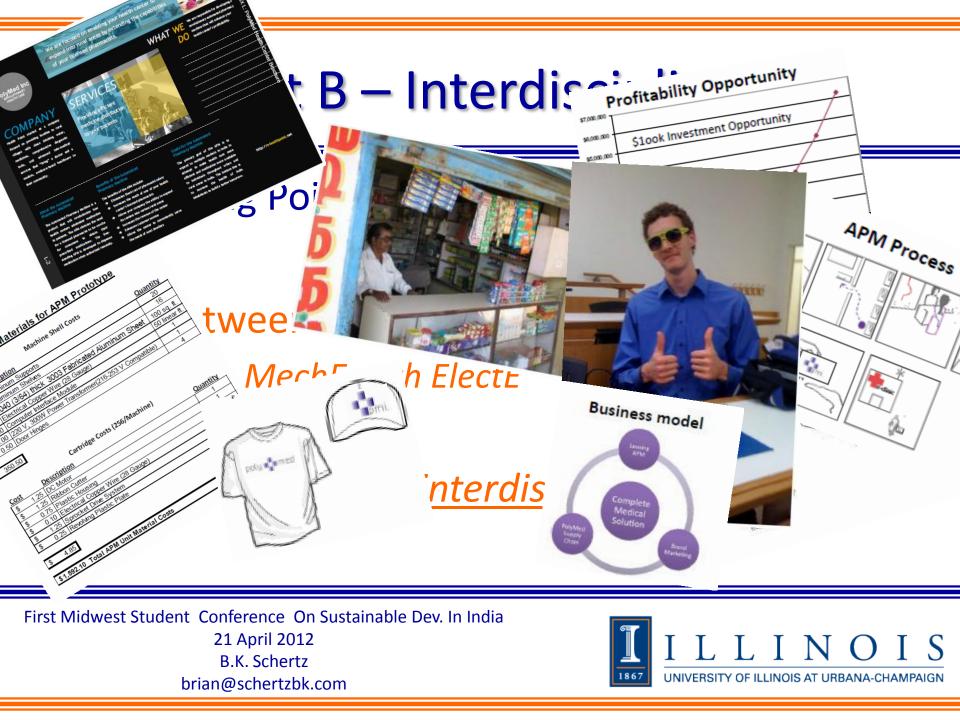
Do <u>you</u> have a preference?



Course Lessons – Exhibit B:

How to teach a engineering student what true *inter-disciplinarity* is





Special Thanks To:

- Prof. Viswanathan
- Prof. Clarke
- Sponsor: Mr. Al Hammond, Healthpoint Inc.
- Poly-Med Team Members
 - Christina Augustyn,
 - David Chonowski
 - Amanda Hansen
 - John Sartori
 - Nicolas Zea



Questions/Comments

Thanks for your attention!

