

# Creating a talent pipeline in biomedical engineering



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# What is Biomedical Engineering?

...

# We ask questions

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So What?

What can we do?

How can we make something?



# We work on solutions

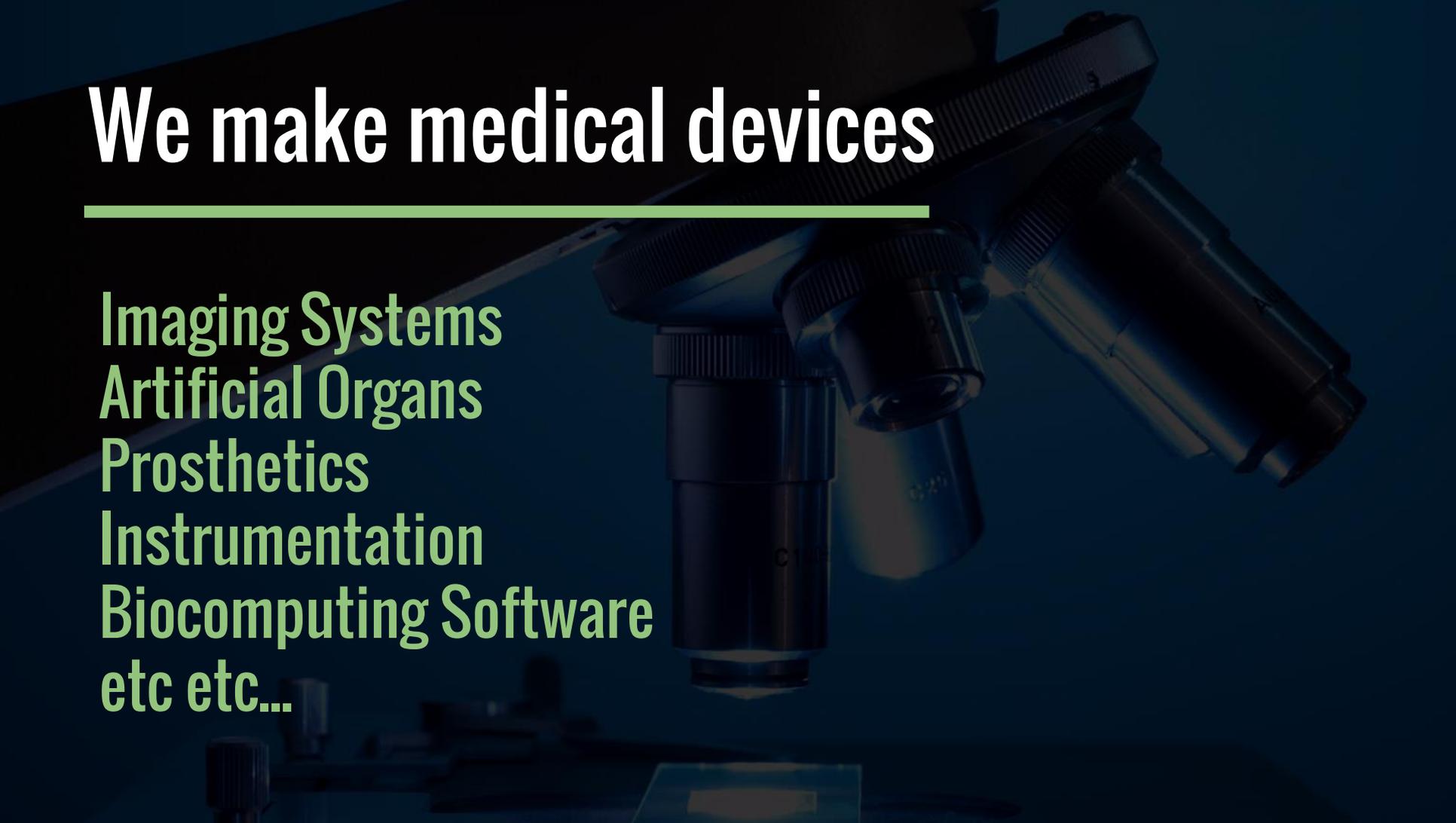
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research and DEVELOPMENT

# We make medical devices

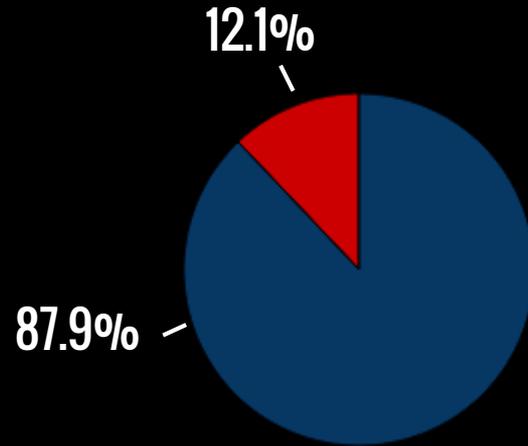
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Imaging Systems  
Artificial Organs  
Prosthetics  
Instrumentation  
Biocomputing Software  
etc etc...



# We're not getting any younger...

2010

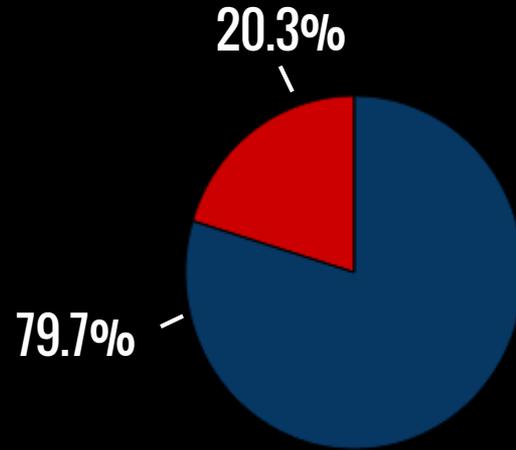


■ 0-64

■ 64-Older

# We're not getting any younger...

2030



■ 0-64

■ 64-Older

# Biomedical Engineering by the numbers

# 26.6%

Projected employment change in Biomedical Engineering from 2012-2022 the Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates to meet future demand

# \$53,800

Starting salary for **Biomedical Engineers** according to the BLS.  
According to [Forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com) this makes it the **#1 most valuable college major**.

# Program Examples

(Middle School, High School, College)



I

What are our objectives?

How do we engage key stakeholders in overall program design?

How have we defined our student learning outcomes?

What successes and perceived barriers have been encountered?

# Middle School



Pilgrim Park Middle School, Elmbrook School District

# Why biomedical engineering for middle schoolers?

Introduces students to the process of engineering

Provide all students experience in engineering - especially the area of biomedical engineering - unfamiliar to many students.

From this experience...

- Students use critical thinking, problem solving, and interpersonal skills
- Increases engagement for students who know they like engineering
- Some students discover interest once exposed to engineering - especially for some because it connects to areas of interest, such as the human body.
- Students authentically apply standards to project - creates more in-depth learning

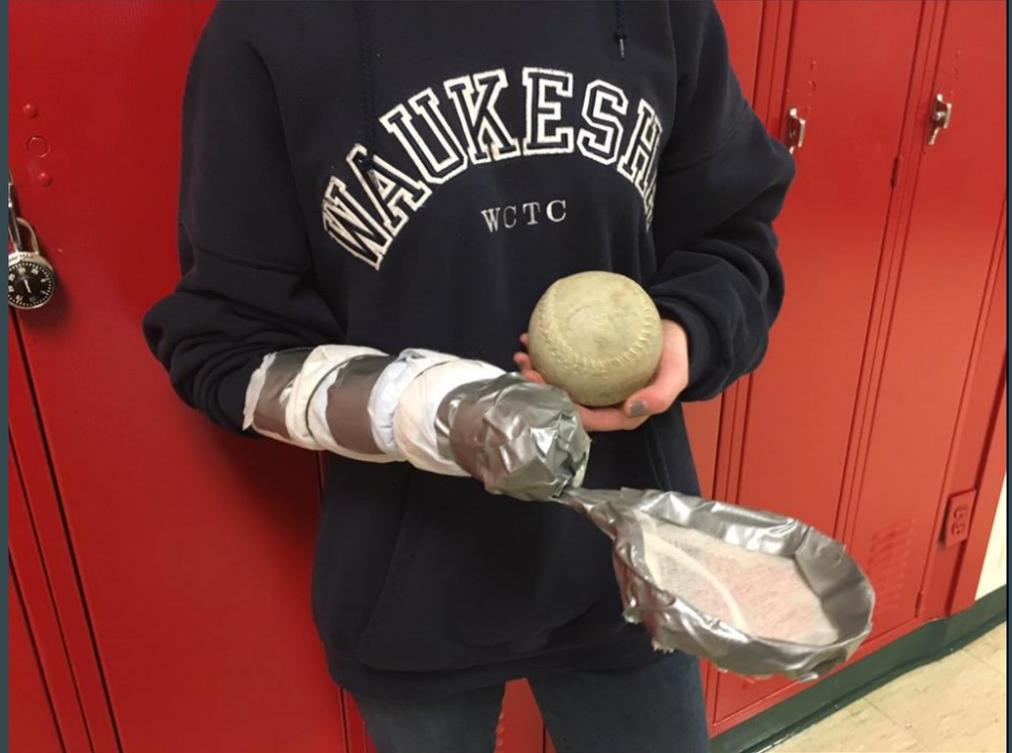
# What works...

Students choose a project.

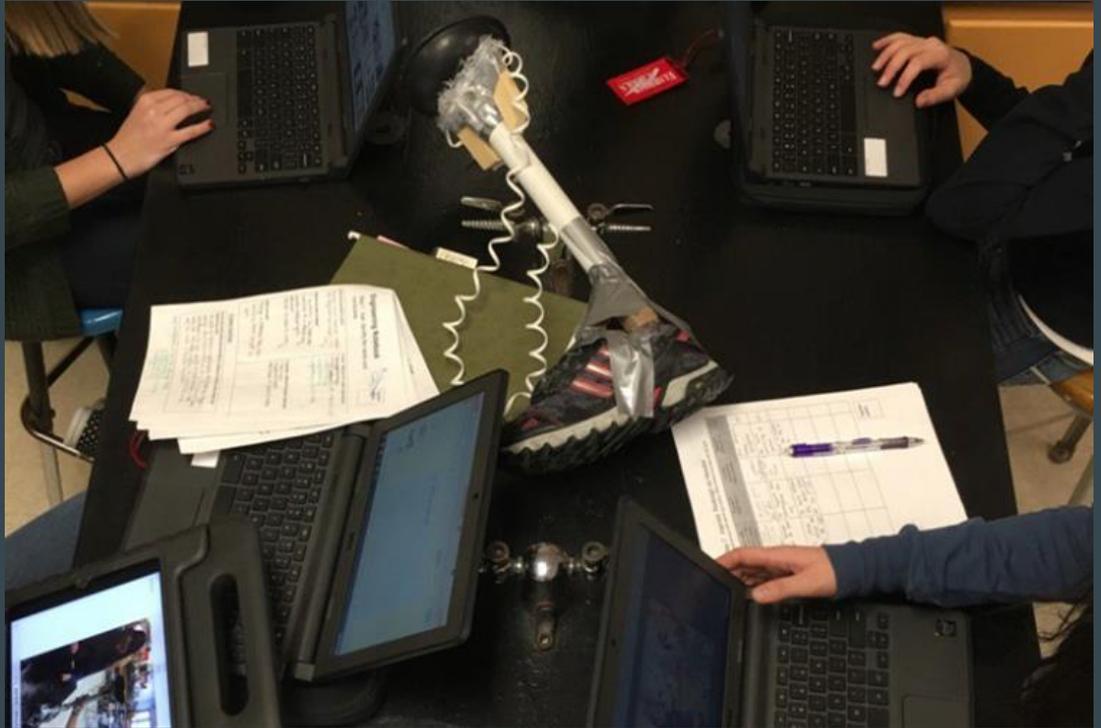
Choices I've used for this unit:

- Prosthetic leg
- Artificial Heart Valve
- Facemask
- "Pill" coating
- More...

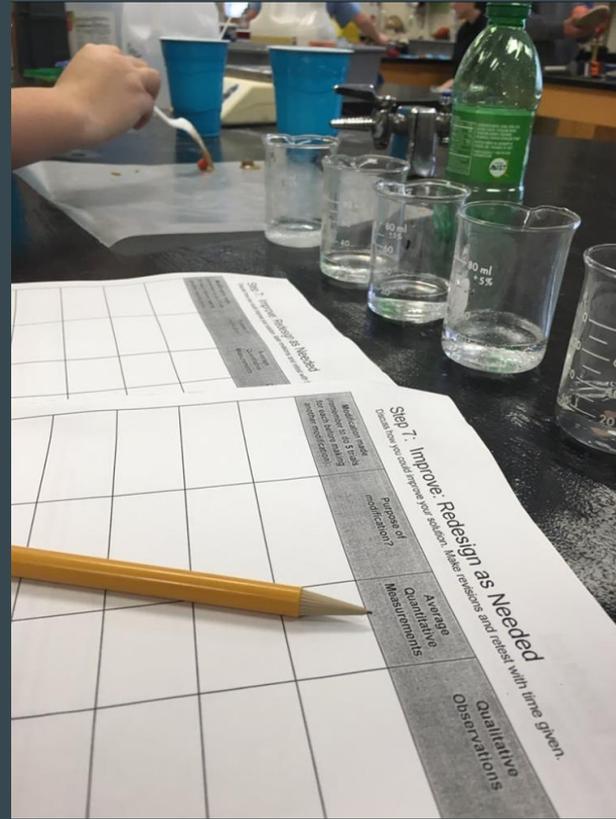
(projects were modified from [Teachengineering.org](http://Teachengineering.org))



Students collaborate around a common, high interest goal.



Students are required to collect data.



Students  
compare and  
tests designs.



Students  
present  
process and  
end result to  
each other



# Let's hear from the students!

This group of students is composed of

- A student who struggles with attention and organization
- A student who does does often reach her full potential
- A student who feels lost in school.
- A student who rushes through things to just get them done.



# Barriers and how to overcome

Assure that students are also learning content and not simply engineering a product

Students making a presentation that connects content their product.  
These students had to explain how the structure of the related (and product) organ helps its function.  
Jig-saw this.

# Barriers and how to overcome

Time. When adding major projects like this, there is less content that can be covered

We cut out specific body systems we used to include in the unit. Instead, students focus on big ideas (structure-function & levels of organization) and apply big ideas to one body system.

# Barriers and how to overcome

Students often use “trial and error” and don’t really think through what they are doing.

Include an engineering notebook. Do not let students move on to the next step in the process until current step has been approved. Require students to think ahead of time what data they will collect and hold them to it!

# Barriers and how to overcome

You will have chaos.

Set up guidelines from the start.

- Groups set up their own norms.
- Students directly address conflict with each other (teacher helps).
- Set up a “danger zone” for cutting/sawing/drilling.



# High School



Kettle Moraine High School  
Kettle Moraine School District



<sup>2</sup>

High School of  
Health Sciences

# High School



Kettle Moraine High School Campus  
Kettle Moraine School District

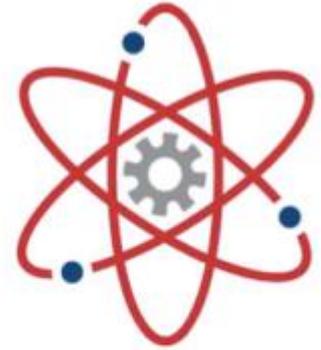


**KMGlobal**

SCHOOL FOR GLOBAL LEADERSHIP & INNOVATION

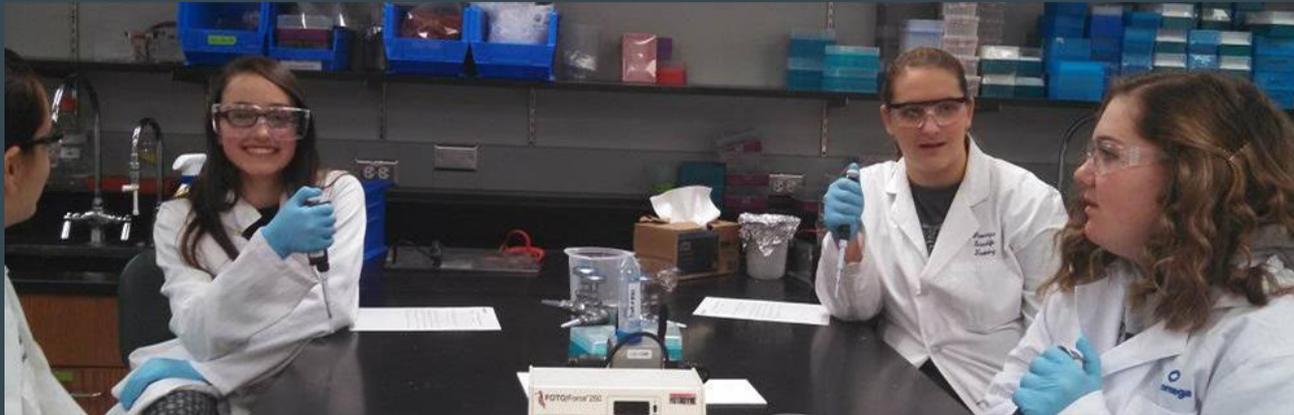
# Biomedical Science Objectives:

- ❖ Providing Transformative Learning Experiences
- ❖ Design solutions real-world problems
- ❖ “Work” as a biomedical professionals



PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

**PLTW**

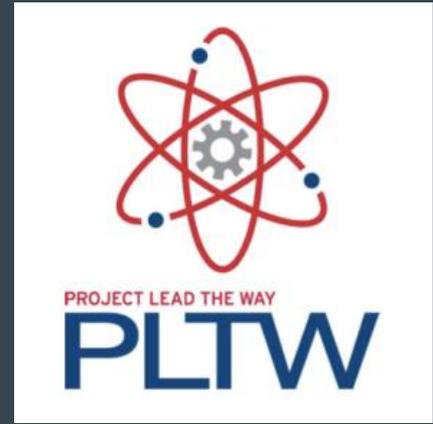


# Outcomes:

Experience as a biomedical professional

Build relationships with community partners

Practice working in teams

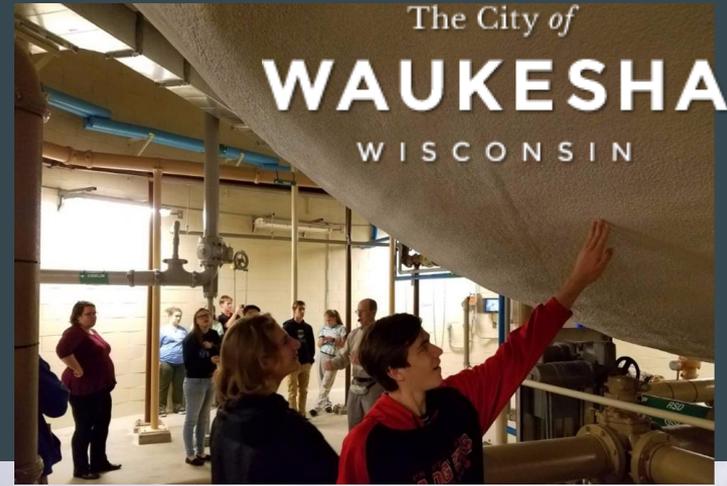


Design innovative solutions for  
preventing, diagnosing, and  
treating disease  
more...

# Community partners and innovations



Students use community experience to create ideas for their own!



# Define Success

Creativity

Community Involvement

- a. Job Shadowing
- b. Volunteer work
- c. Patents

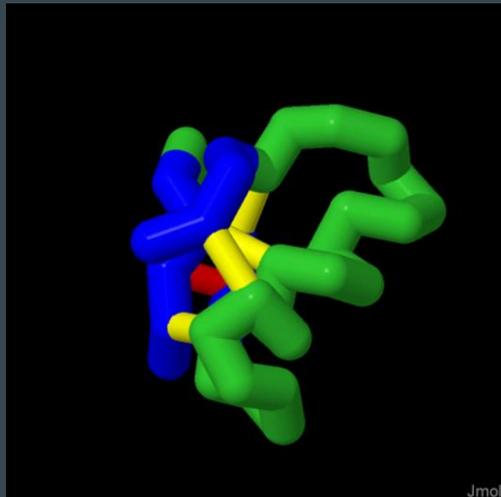
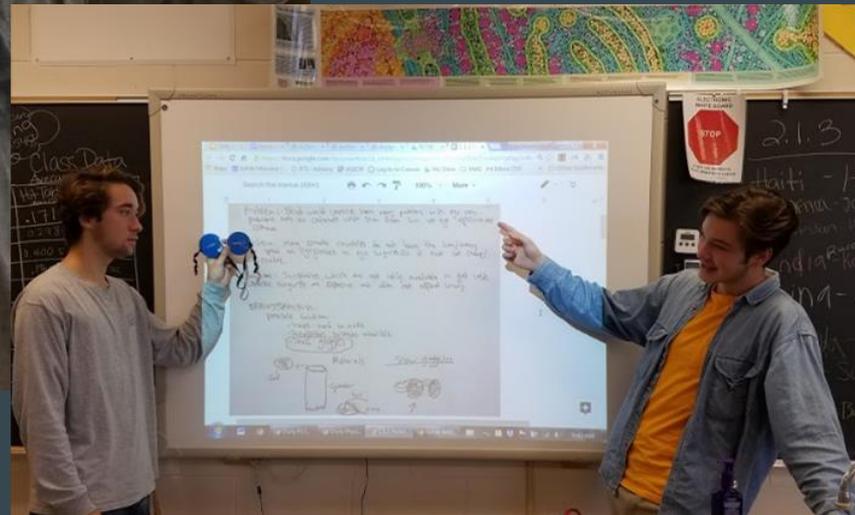
Biomedical Skill development

Career Interest/Paths





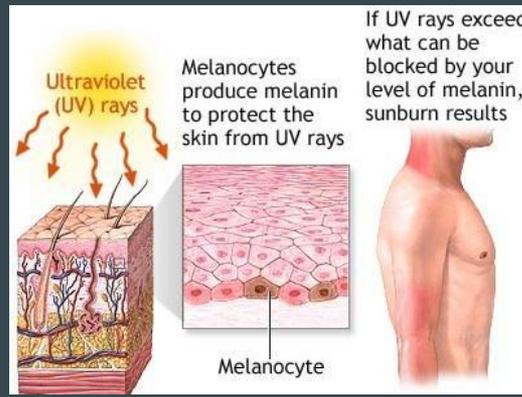
# Team Building, Innovations, and Research/design



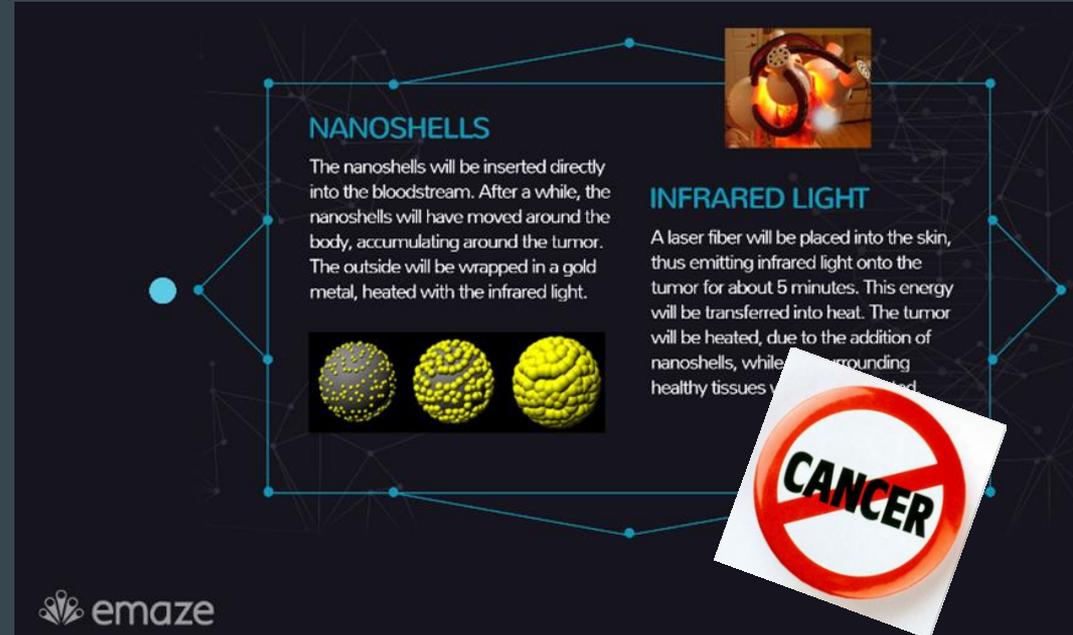


# PLTW - Biomedical Innovations

“This final project in class was an opportunity for us to research something that we were passionate about and find a way to possibly help people struggling with their health around the world.”



## Product: Melanin Enhancer



# Industry Partners



**Promega**



Center for  
BioMolecular  
Modeling



**UW-WAUKESHA**  
*Field Station*



**Aurora**  
**Health Care**®

# College



Marquette University

**Our theme**

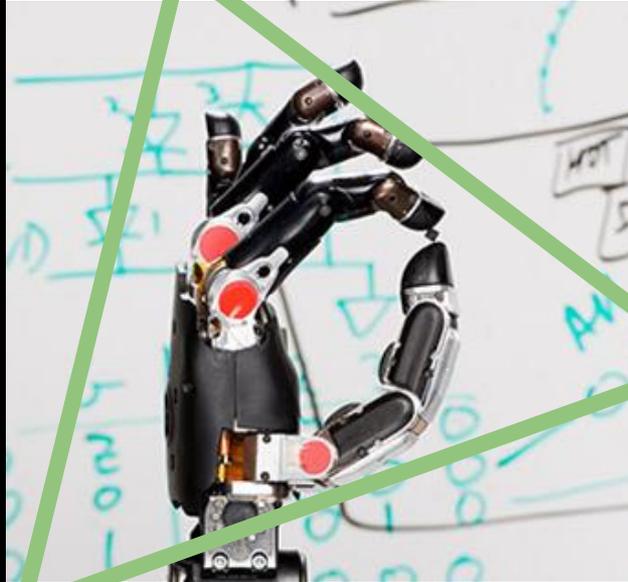
**“Curis Personalis”**

**Our objective**

**Create world class biomedical engineers**

# DARPA Built Prosthetic that can Feel

**Biomechanics**



**Bioelectronics**

**Biocomputing**

# Our Approach

Leverage partnerships  
with industry

Strong engineering core

Flexible, curriculum is  
updated as industry  
changes

Companies represented on our IAB include



**TOSHIBA  
MEDICAL**



**We define success by job  
placement.**

# 96%

Of students employed or in graduate school one year after graduation.

20 +

Number of companies hiring MU CO-OP students and interns

# Our biggest problem: competition with other majors



Biomechanics vs  
Mechanical

Bioelectronics vs  
Electrical

Biocomputing vs  
Computer Science

# Questions?

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# Contact Information



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College: [samuel.bechara@marquette.edu](mailto:samuel.bechara@marquette.edu)