

## A Few Thoughts and Lessons

**EDSGN Lessons-** I came in to this class with the expectation of finally figuring out what it would be like to be in a real engineering problem situation, and I got just that. I was pleasantly surprised at how early on in my education I got to be put into true engineering problems and got to be a part of finding a solution. From this I learned of how in depth and technical a seemingly simple solution to a problem could actually be. The best thing I think I could have learned was the AHP Matrix that helps you prioritize the features and uses for your design solution. The best skill I developed was the use and understanding of the program SolidWorks. When I came in to the class I had an understanding of the basic 2-D CAD program, which I have been using for years now, but it was cool to learn how to apply that understanding to a new discipline and come out with some good results. I really look forward to the strengthening of my skills in SolidWorks.

**Siemens Project-** Siemens provided us with a possible opportunity to participate in their efforts to create more sustainable campuses throughout the world. Our group thought long and hard about this and our best angle for this was not to install all of these fancy devices that cost lots of money and time, but rather to change the culture and thinking about sustainability with the student body. Most colleges throughout the country do have programs to the goal of sustainability but very few have one that educates and makes students think about it directly. There are though a few precedents to our approach at other schools such as ASU and CMU. For more info on this tactic I have provided links below:

- <http://www.sustainability.umd.edu/content/community/SSCC.php> -one of the notes of inquiry is the change of culture
- <http://cm.asu.edu/>