

Wheelchair Shopping Cart



On Saturday, April 14, the Faculty of Engineering and the Regina Engineering Society hosted Project Day 2007. Sponsored by industry and the University, presentations and demonstrations were held throughout the Education Building, showcasing the talents and skills of the graduating class of 2007.

Project Day provides a venue for all engineering students to develop and present a comprehensive engineering project during their final semesters at the University of Regina. Students work in teams through the project development cycle in order to develop skills modeled on those of practicing engineers. Their work is evaluated by Engineering faculty members and working engineers from industry at the Project Day presentations and "Trade Show," which features displays or demonstrations of the students' projects.

One of the projects completed this year was the Wheelchair Shopping Cart. This project came to the University via the Tetra Society of North America, an association that seeks skilled individuals to design and build assistive devices for people with disabilities. Fourth-year students Andrea Bruce and Jennifer Huber met with Melissa Northe, the individual requesting the cart, to determine her specific needs and establish the design constraints. As a result, they came up with an assistive device that could (i) fit onto the front of Melissa's manual wheelchair as a basket and (ii) be pulled behind her automatic wheelchair as a cart. The students built and tested a prototype of their design (pictured above). The device is light, easy to use, and meets all of Melissa's requirements. Melissa has been using her Wheelchair Shopping Cart for over two months and is delighted with its performance. Congratulations to Andrea and Jennifer for using their engineering know-how to make a lasting impact on Melissa's life.

Project Day receives support from major corporate sponsors (Stantec, SaskPower), from professional organizations (APEGS, IEEE), and from the students themselves, through the Regina Engineering Students' Society.

Project Day is an annual event that is open to the public. Thanks to all who made Project Day 2007 a big success!

Dr. Marie Iwaniw
Doug Wagner



(L to R) Jennifer Huber, Melissa Northe and Andrea Bruce

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