

Torrey Corporate Partnership Model

Our unique Torrey Corporate Partnership Model connects our Design & Innovation students to real-world problems and professionals. Since Fall 2015, we have partnered with a number of organizations to have our student design teams work on problems directly related to their field. Our student teams are experienced in various parts of the product development process and have delivered high-quality results:

Ethnographic Research

Ideation

User Testing

Market Analysis

Physical Engineering

Web & App Design

Computer Programming

Data Analysis

A typical time commitment from the partner is 5-10 hours total, including the student meetings, prep time, and pre-meetings with the Design & Innovation Staff. Many partners also request opportunities to address our larger community of students and parents.

Meeting 1: Fall (LJCDS Q1)

Introduction (in-person or virtual)

In the introduction, we aim to introduce the teams and set up the area in which the students will be working. It is useful to prepare boundaries for the students - e.g. the partner or D&I Teacher is only interested in physical products, digital products, new markets, or high-growth areas.

Meeting 2: Winter (LJCDS Q2)

Early Feedback (Asynchronous option)

We have found that it is important to provide the students with feedback earlier, when evaluating possible problems and solutions to take on, rather than later in the process. We can re-establish the boundaries decided on in Meeting 1 and guide the student teams in directions we think are feasible. This can be sometimes done asynchronously with comments and notes.

Meeting 3: Late Winter (LJCDS Q3)

Prototype Pitches (in-person or virtual)

Allow the students to practice “informal pitching” skills using sketches and early prototypes. The students are still pursuing multiple options, but need to decide on one to start engineering.

Meeting 4: Late Spring (LJCDS Q4)

Final Pitches & Feedback (in-person or virtual)

The students will be preparing for a pitch to the LJCDS Venture Capital Fund and will receive final feedback from the Corporate Partnership team.