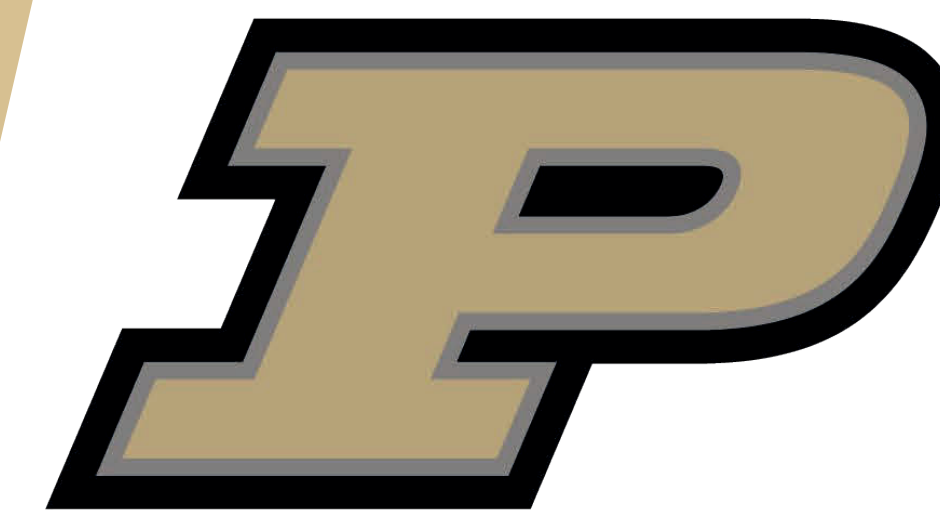


# CO-OP CHAMPIONS

Cultivating a global network of Purdue co-op alumni.



PURDUE  
UNIVERSITY®

College of Engineering

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

Office of Professional Practice lacks a standard process to strategically engage with co-op alumni. Current students and alumni speak very highly of their work experiences yet alumni predominately find their sense of Purdue connectivity to their specific major or program.

Current co-op alumni engagement is primarily hindered by fragmented connections yet struggles with identifying clear developmental ties. With a better systematic approach, alumni could easily find various ways to support and partner with OPP and the College of Engineering.

**1 in 5** students without a mentor reported they don't have access to formal mentoring.

Mentors helped students:  
**64%** Shared Career Advice  
Navigate Student Life **53%**  
**48%** Select Coursework

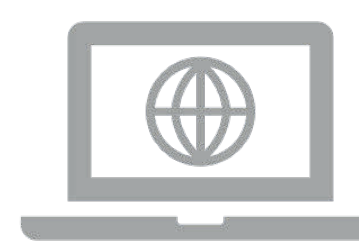
**Nearly 90%** who participated in mentoring programs were at least somewhat satisfied.



Fain, P. (2021, October 22).  
College mentor relationships reach savvy students the most. Inside Higher Ed.



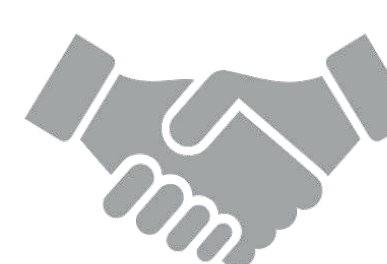
## PROJECT FRAMEWORK



Amplify engagement efforts by developing new website with lead generation and story-telling tools.



Build awareness of co-op program and bridge efforts for alumni connectivity and student access.



Support industry partnerships to showcase university impact within the Purdue community.



## PROJECT GOALS

- 1** Standardized process for students to engage with co-op alumni for professional development support.
- 2** Create easy point for alumni connection to community for cross-disciplinary impact
- 3** Drive integrated access to resources within OPP and additional campus partners.

## WEBSITE LAUNCH

Co-op Champions homepage will feature a few different elements to showcase champion spotlights and news stories about co-op, OPP, and the College of Engineering. The website will be the one-stop destination for general information and inquires about the program. Additional branding materials for further outreach including conferences, roadshows and meetups will be available.

## LESSONS LEARNED

### Progress Over Perfection

Prioritized fine-tuning details rather than forcing Fall 2024 launch to fit agenda.

### Focus on the Mission

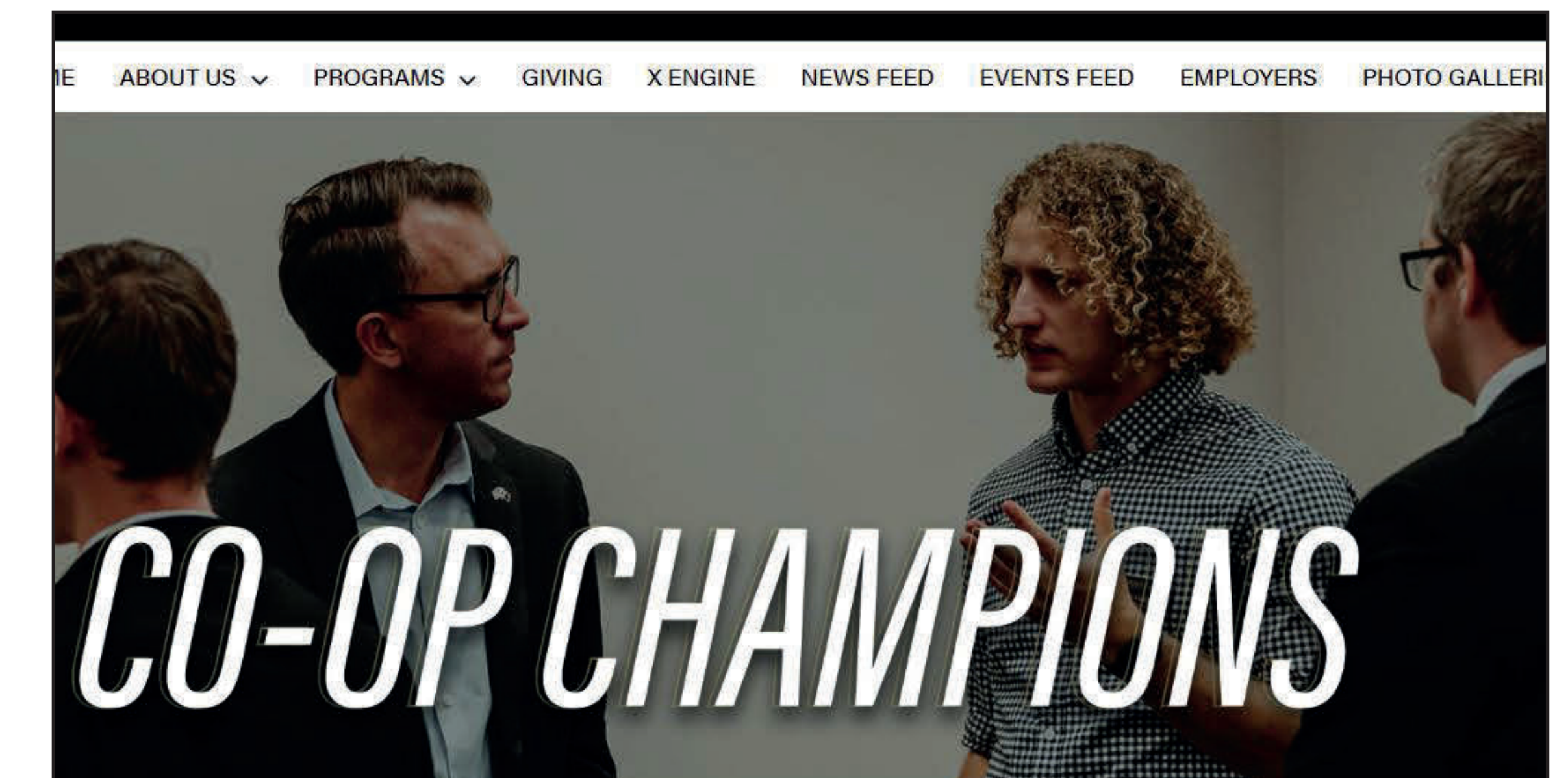
Committed less time "finding" champions and focused on building the system. Project aligns with Vision 2030.

### One Project, University Impact

Adaptation to my work style of building a process knowing it will likely be passed off.

### Indianapolis Ideation

Similar community-based program launching in Spring 2025.



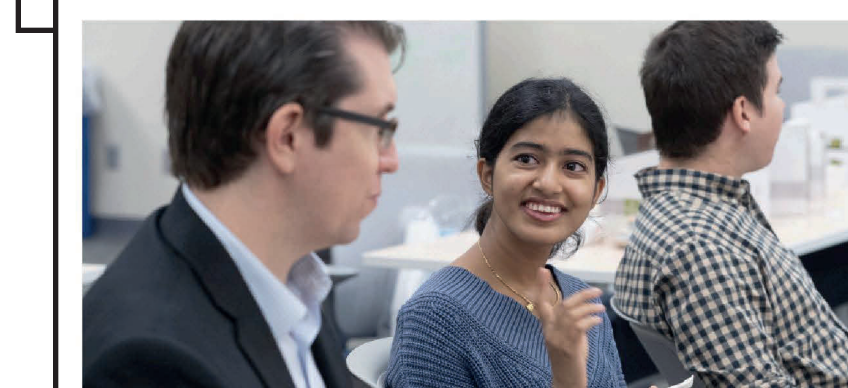
### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**Co-op Champions** is a dynamic networking program designed to connect Purdue University alumni with the Office of Professional Practice. This initiative fosters deeper connections among prospective students, current students, OPP team members, and faculty/staff of the College of Engineering. By linking students with alumni for mentorship and advice, and facilitating connections between co-op alumni and OPP staff for recruitment and engagement, Co-op Champions aims to build a stronger, more organized network of co-op alumni. Emphasizing both internal and global relationships, this program celebrates the unique experiences of each co-op journey and enhances Purdue's community connections.

BECOME A CO-OP CHAMPION

#### Become a Champion

Please fill out the form below and a member of our team will be with you shortly.



Name

Company

Major

Year Graduated

City/Region

Preferred Email Contact

LinkedIn URL

Provide a brief description of your Co-op experience at Purdue.

Please select the ways you are interested in becoming a Co-op Champion from the list below.

- ☐ Co-op Student Mentorship (In-Person)
- ☐ Co-op Student Mentorship (Virtual)
- ☐ Co-Campus Events
- ☐ Annual Steering Committee
- ☐ Hiring Purdue Co-op Students

Submit

*The "Become a Champion" lead generation form offers instant access to new contacts and ability to develop pipeline of prospective engagements.*

*Outcomes of the form will not only create new leads for mentorship but will mutually allow for new guest lecturers, student recruitment opportunities and targets for long term development.*

## NEXT STEPS

### Official Launch

January 28th- Co-op Champions Event after Co-op Career Fair

### Website Development

Location-based search for Purdue co-op alumni  
Strategic Calendar of Events 2025-2026

### Transfer to Ambassadors

OPP staff to provide oversight and offer stewardship  
PPA to leverage and enhance student experience  
Research project for students on impact of mentorship at Purdue

**Patrick Francis**  
Associate Director, Industry Engagement & Partnerships  
Office of Professional Practice



OPP.PURDUE.EDU/CO-OPCHAMPIONS

**Purdue Engineering Staff**  
Leadership Academy (PESLA)  
Cohort 4.0