

# CDIO – Engineering Education for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Professor Johan Malmqvist**  
Chalmers University of Technology  
Gothenburg, Sweden

September 1, 2018

- **What is CDIO?**
- **Case: CDIO in Chalmers' mechanical engineering programme**
- **CDIO development directions**

# WHAT IS CDIO?



- An **idea** of what engineering students should learn and how: To become “Engineers who can engineer”
- A **methodology** for engineering education reform: The CDIO Syllabus and the 12 CDIO Standards
- A **community**: The CDIO Initiative with 140+ universities as members

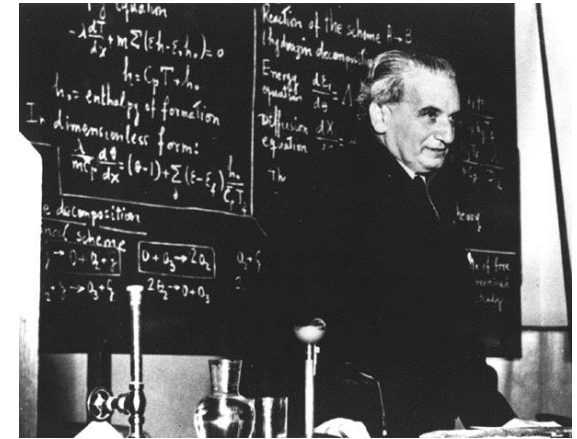
**WHAT SHOULD ENGINEERING STUDENTS  
LEARN?**

**HOW SHOULD THEY LEARN IT?**

# THE PROFESSIONAL ROLE OF ENGINEERS



**"Scientists investigate that which already is.  
Engineers create that which has never been.  
- Theodore von Karmann**



**"What you need to invent, is an  
imagination and a pile of junk"  
- Thomas Edison**

**”Engineers Conceive, Design, Implement and Operate complex products and systems in a modern team-based engineering environment”**



## Lifecycle of a product, process, project, system, software, material

- Conceive:** customer needs, technology, enterprise strategy, regulations; and conceptual, technical, and business plans
- Design:** plans, drawings, and algorithms that describe what will be implemented
- Implement:** transformation of the design into the product, process, or system, including manufacturing, coding, testing and validation
- Operate:** the implemented product or process delivering the intended value, including maintaining, evolving and retiring the system



*Duke University*

- **A generalized list of competences that an engineer should possess**
  - **Program specific (1) and general (2-4)**
  - **Created and validated by alumni, faculty and students**
  - **A "complete" reference model**
- 1 Disciplinary Knowledge & Reasoning:**
    - 1.1 Knowledge of underlying mathematics and sciences
    - 1.2 Core engineering fundamental knowledge
    - 1.3 Advanced engineering fundamental knowledge, methods and tools
  - 2 Personal and Professional Skills**
    - 2.1 Analytical reasoning and problem solving
    - 2.2 Experimentation, investigation and knowledge discovery
    - 2.3 System thinking
    - 2.4 Attitudes, thought and learning
    - 2.5 Ethics, equity and other responsibilities
  - 3 Interpersonal Skills**
    - 3.1 Teamwork
    - 3.2 Communications
    - 3.3 Communication in a foreign language
  - 4 CDIO of Complex Systems**
    - 4.1 External, societal and environmental context
    - 4.2 Enterprise and business context
    - 4.3 Conceiving, systems engineering and management
    - 4.4 Designing
    - 4.5 Implementing
    - 4.6 Operating
    - 4.7 Leadership
    - 4.8 Entrepreneurship

**CDIO Syllabus contains 2-3 more layers of detail**



# VISION FOR A CDIO-BASED EDUCATION



**An education that stresses the fundamentals, set in the context of **Conceiving – Designing – Implementing – Operating** systems and products:**

- Clear, detailed programme learning outcomes that express a holistic view of engineering
- A curriculum organised around mutually supporting courses, with CDIO activities highly interwoven
- Rich with student design-build projects
- Integrating learning of professional skills such as teamwork and communication
- Featuring active and experiential learning
- Taught by teachers with scientific, engineering and pedagogic competence
- Constantly improved through quality assurance process with higher aims than accreditation

## **Retask current assets and resources in:**

- **Curriculum**
- **Teaching and learning methods**
- **Design-implement experiences and engineering workspaces**
- **Learning assessment methods**
- **Faculty competence**
- **Program evaluation**

**A systematic approach is needed to address these issues!**

# ***THE CDIO EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGY***

# CDIO DEVELOPMENT METHODOLOGY



- CDIO syllabus – **WHAT**
- CDIO standards – **HOW**
- CDIO curriculum design process – **from WHAT to HOW**
- CDIO standards self-evaluation – **HOW WELL**

- 1. Disciplinary Knowledge & Reasoning**
  - 1.1 Knowledge of underlying mathematics and sciences
  - 1.2 Core engineering fundamental knowledge, methods and tools
- 2. Personal and Professional Skills**
  - 2.1 Analytical reasoning and problem solving
  - 2.2 Experimentation, investigation and knowledge discovery
  - 2.3 System thinking
  - 2.4 Attitudes, thought and learning
  - 2.5 Ethics, equity and other responsibilities
- 3. Interpersonal Skills**
  - 3.1 Teamwork
  - 3.2 Communications
  - 3.3 Communication in a foreign language
- 4. CDIO of Complex Systems**
  - 4.1 External, societal and environmental context
  - 4.2 Enterprise and business context
  - 4.3 Conceiving, systems engineering and management
  - 4.4 Designing
  - 4.5 Implementing
  - 4.6 Operating
  - 4.7 Leadership
  - 4.8 Entrepreneurship

**1. The Context**  
Adoption of the principle that product, process, and system lifecycle development and deployment are the context for engineering education

**2. Learning Outcomes**  
Specific, detailed learning outcomes for personal, interpersonal, and product, process and system building skills, consistent with program goals and validated by program stakeholders

**3. Integrated Curriculum**  
A curriculum designed with mutually supporting disciplinary subjects, with an explicit plan to integrate personal, interpersonal, and product, process, and system building skills

**4. Introduction to Engineering**  
An introductory course that provides the framework for engineering practice in product, process, and system building, and introduces essential personal and interpersonal skills

**5. Design-Implement Experiences**  
A curriculum that includes two or more design-implement experiences, including one at a basic level and one at an advanced level

**6. Engineering Workspaces**  
Workspaces and laboratories that support and encourage hands-on learning of product, process, and system building, disciplinary knowledge, and social learning

**7. Integrated Learning Experiences**  
Integrated learning experiences that lead to the acquisition of disciplinary knowledge, as well as personal, interpersonal, and product, process, and system building skills

**8. Active Learning**  
Teaching and learning based on active experiential learning methods

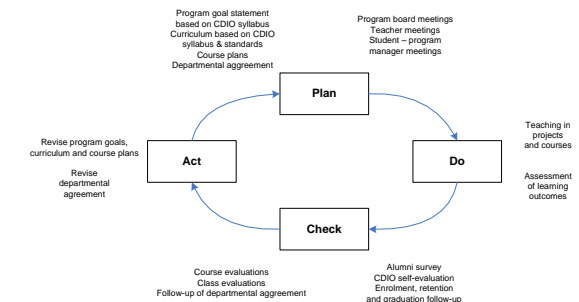
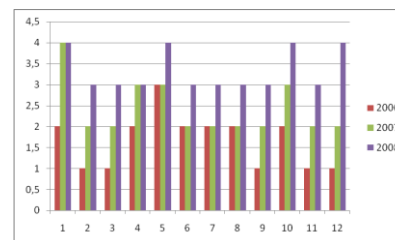
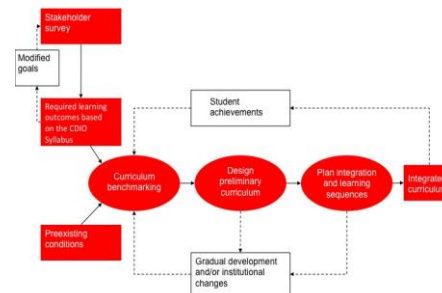
**9. Enhancement of Faculty Skills Competence**  
Actions that enhance faculty competence in personal, interpersonal, and product and system building skills

**10. Enhancement of Faculty Teaching Competence**  
Actions that enhance faculty competence in providing integrated learning experiences, in using active experiential learning methods, and in assessing student learning

**11. Learning Assessment**  
Assessment of student learning in personal, interpersonal, and product, process, and system building skills, as well as in disciplinary knowledge

**12. Program Evaluation**  
A system that evaluates programs against these 12 standards, and provides feedback to students, faculty, and other stakeholders for the purposes of continuous improvement

THE CDIO CURRICULUM DESIGN PROCESS



# THE 12 CDIO STANDARDS – THE GUIDELINES FOR CDIO DEVELOPMENT



Context &  
goals 1,2

- CDIO as Context
- CDIO Syllabus Outcomes

Teaching &  
Learning  
7,8

- Integrated Learning Experiences
- Active Learning

CDIO  
curriculum  
& space  
3,4,5,6

- Integrated Curriculum
- Introduction to Engineering
- Design-Build Experiences
- CDIO Workspaces

Faculty  
development  
9,10

- Enhancement of Faculty CDIO Skills
- Enhancement of Faculty Teaching Skills

Evaluation  
11,12

- CDIO Skills Assessment
- CDIO Program Evaluation

***CASE:***

***MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AT CHALMERS  
UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, SWEDEN***

# PLANNING THE CHANGE AT CHALMERS



<b>Identify needs &amp; opportunities for change</b>	<p><b><i>Strengths</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project-based courses</li><li>• Design courses</li></ul> <p><b><i>Weaknesses</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• No design-build-test projects, lack of authenticity</li><li>• Employer requested better communication skills, project leadership &amp; initiative</li><li>• Poor links between maths and engineering subjects</li></ul> <p>+ More</p>
<b>Establish vision &amp; strategy</b>	CDIO was selected as basis for a program vision & strategy
<b>Identify early successes</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> year design-build-test competition-based projects were focused (Formula Student, Autonomous vehicles)
<b>Set up system for measuring the change</b>	Self-assessment vs CDIO standards

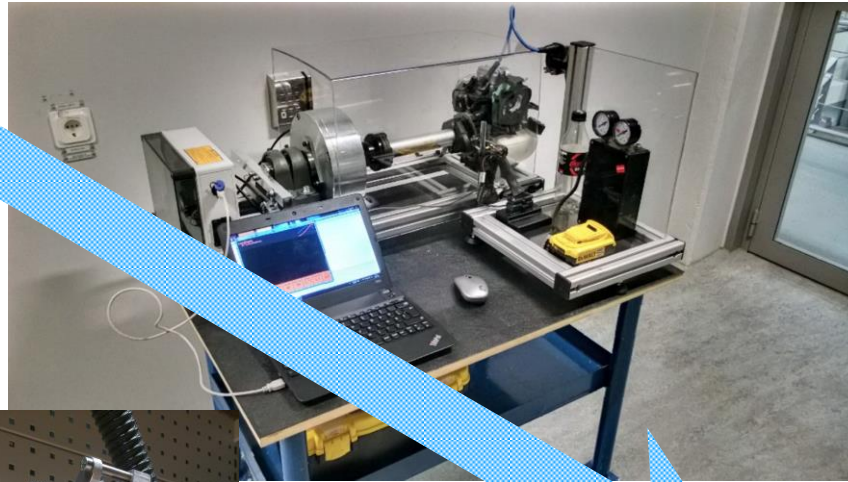
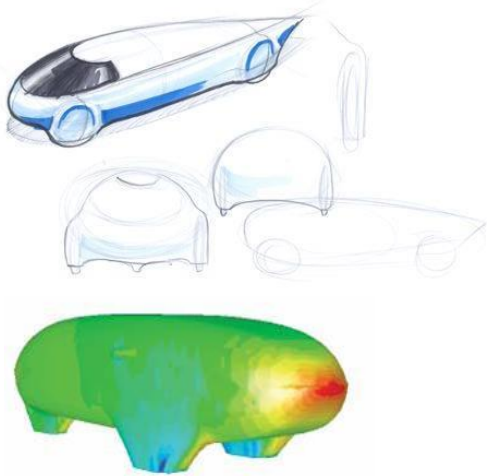
**Design-implement experiences** are instructional events in which learning occurs through the creation of a product, process, or system

- **Train authentic engineering and decision-making**
- **Provide the natural **context** in which to teach many CDIO syllabus skills (teamwork, communications, ethics)**



# DESIGN-BUILD-TEST PROJECT EXAMPLE

## *Chalmers Eco-Marathon Vera*



# A PLANNED LEARNING SEQUENCE FOR DESIGN SKILLS

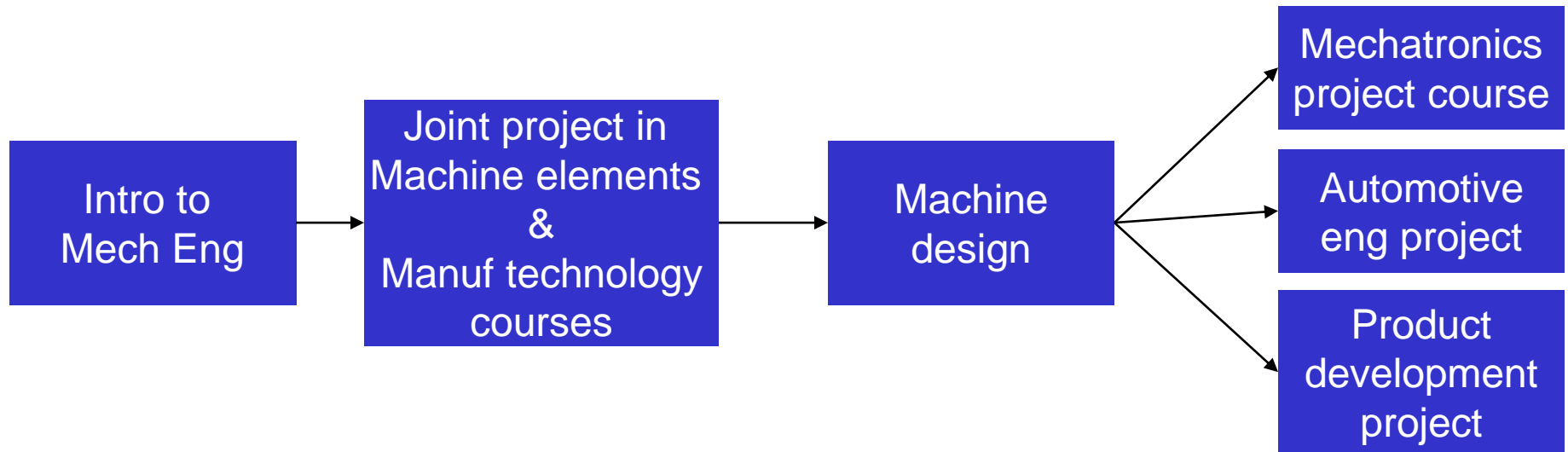


Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4



Creative,  
"conceptual" design

Design for manufacturing

Redesign  
Multiple objectives

Creative design incl  
business aspects  
Cross-dept teams

Simple prototype  
Qualitative

More advanced prototype  
Some simulation  
Company is customer

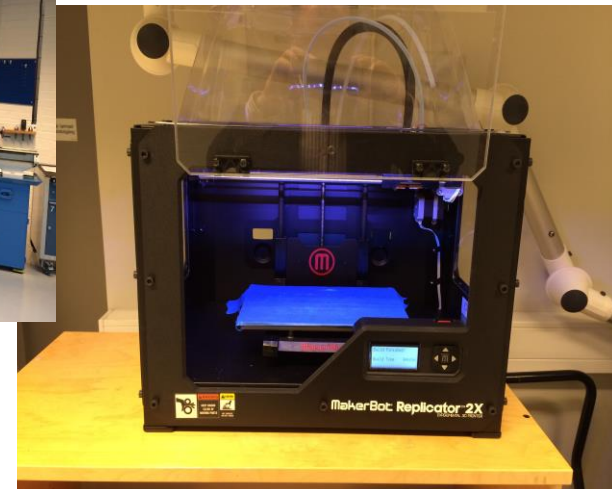
Prototype as needed  
More simulation

Prototype  
Simulation as needed  
Company is customer

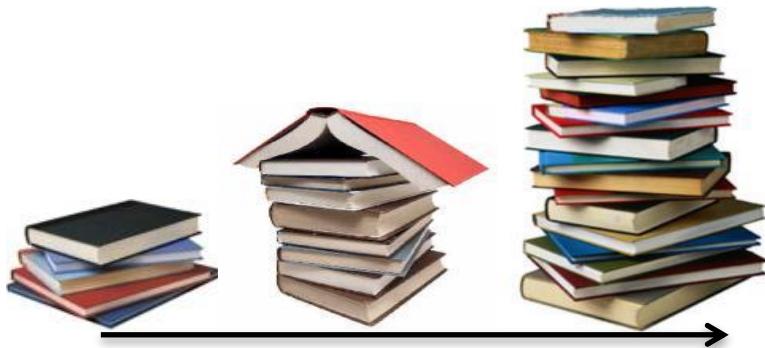
# THE PROTOTYPING LABORATORY



- 450 m2 facility where students can build prototypes
- Metal machining, woodworking, rapid prototyping, waterjet welding, electronics, composites ...
- Used in courses and projects from year 1 to master thesis projects



**Integrated learning experiences** develop **both** technical knowledge and “generic” skills (communication, teamwork, ethics, sustainability, etc)



*Acquisition of technical knowledge*




*Development of generic skills*

# INTEGRATED CURRICULUM YEAR 1-3



## Year 1

Intro Mathematics 7.5 ECTS	Single-variable Calculus 7.5 ECTS	Linear Algebra 7.5 ECTS	Several-variable Calculus 7.5 ECTS
Programming in Matlab 4.5 ECTS	CAD Manufacturing	Mechanics and Solid Mechanics I	Mechanics and Solid Mechanics II
Intro to Mechanical Eng 7.5 ECTS		7.5 ECTS	7.5 ECTS

 **Common  
computation labs in  
mathematics,  
programming &  
engineering science**

 **Communications**

 **Teamwork**

 **Sustainability**

 **Ethics**

## Year 2

Mechanics and Solid Mechanics I II 7.5 ECTS	Machine Elements 7.5 ECTS	Integrated Design and Manufacturing Project 7.5 ECTS	
Materials 7.5 ECTS	Materials and Manufacturing Technology 7.5 ECTS	Sustainable product development 4.5 ECTS	Industrial Production & Org 6 ECTS
		Thermodynamics 7.5 ECTS	Industrial Economics 4 ECTS

## Year 3

Mechatronics 7.5 ECTS	Control Engineering 7.5 ECTS	Bachelor Thesis Project 15 ECTS	
Fluid Mechanics 7.5 ECTS	Elective I 7.5 ECTS	Elective II 7.5 ECTS	Mathematical Statistics 7.5 ECTS

 **Integrative project  
in design &  
manufacturing**



# REFORMED MATHEMATICS EMPHASIZING SIMULATIONS

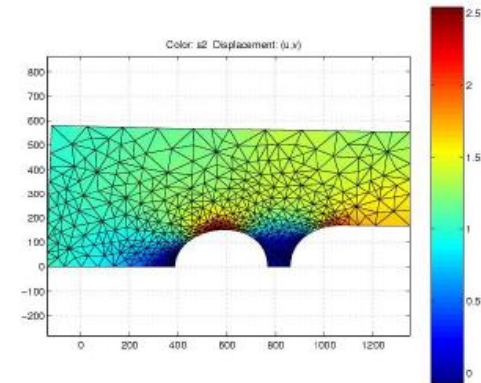
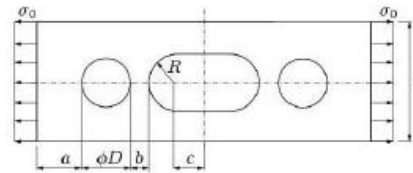


- Motivate importance of mathematics and applied mechanics courses
- Realistic engineering problems
- Working method based on modelling, simulation & analysis
- MATLAB programming
- Visualization of mechanical behaviour

## Year 1 lab example

### Analys av plan elastiska skiva med fyra hål

Beräkna spänningskoncentrationsfaktorn. Avgör om spänningshöjningarna vid hålen samverkar. Symmetrier skall utnyttjas.



# A CULTURE OF CHANGE



Pre CDIO	CDIO planning	CDIO basic design & piloting	CDIO implementation	CDIO +
-2000	2000-2001	2001-2004	2004-2008	2009-2013
<p>M2000 reform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project courses</li><li>• More design</li><li>• Early eng experiences</li><li>• Master-like profiles</li><li>• No design-build-test</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Set project goals</li><li>• Concretize CDIO concept</li><li>• Benchmarking</li><li>• Design-build-test pilots</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prototyping lab</li><li>• Multiple design-build-test projects</li><li>• Integrated learning</li><li>• 3+2 education structure adapted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mathematics</li><li>• Sustainability</li><li>• Bachelor project</li><li>• English on master level</li><li>• HSV Excellence center</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Virtual learning environment for math stat</li><li>• Integrated sustainability Material science courses with product focus</li><li>• Set new goals</li><li>• Visiting committee</li></ul>

- **Entrepreneurship for the few and for the many**
- **New technologies & materials**
- **Preparing for global collaboration and competition**
- **Ethics**
- **Blended learning**
- **Challenge-based learning experiences**
- **Composites fabrication**
- ...



## ***CURRENT CDIO DEVELOPMENTS***

# DIGITAL LEARNING OF CDIO SKILLS



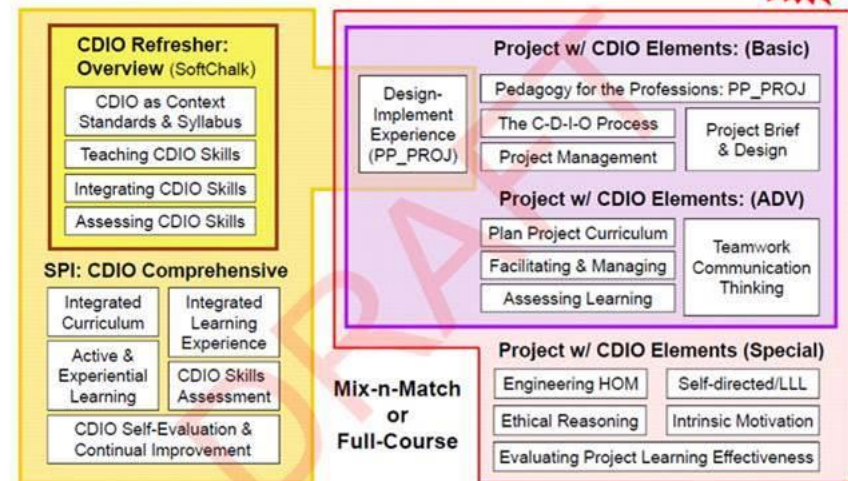
**Library for on-line learning of design methods developed for use across multiple design courses (Chalmers)**

*Under development*

<b>Conceive</b>	PEST analysis	SWOT analysis	Customer needs elicitation	Requirements specification	Benchmarking	Questionnaire design	Market identification and selection	...
<b>Design</b>	Function structure	Morpho-logical matrix	Pugh matrix	Kesselring matrix	Matlab optimization	STL model validation	FMEA	...
<b>Implement</b>	Design of experiments	Prototyping lab machine tutorials (multiple)		...				
<b>Operate</b>	...							

**On-line learning of CDIO for faculty as well as student (Singapore Polytechnic)**

## REVISED VERSION: Offering of Building Blocks



# CHALLENGE-BASED LEARNING EXPERIENCES



A challenge-based learning experience is a learning experience where the learning takes place through the

*identification, analysis and design of a solution to a sociotechnical problem.*

A challenge-based learning experience is typically

*multidisciplinary,  
takes place in an international context and,  
aims to find a collaboratively developed solution,  
which is environmentally, socially and economically  
sustainable.*

# EXAMPLE: CHALMERS C-LABS



- **Sustainability-related challenges**
- **Master-level course + thesis open to students from all of Chalmers programs**
- **Regional problem scope and involvement**
- **Lab outside of Chalmers – neutral ground**



# THE COURSE DESIGN



## Theme setting

Dialogues with stakeholders

Visioning & backcasting

Problem identification & formulation

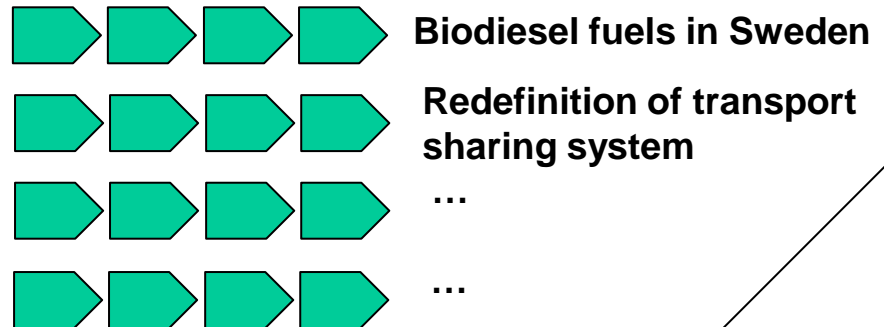
Self-leadership training

Entrepreneurship

## Conception – Design – Implementation

Set of mutually supporting projects

Theme: Urban transportation in Gothenburg region



Problem formulation phase

Jan-Feb

Conceive, design & implementation phase

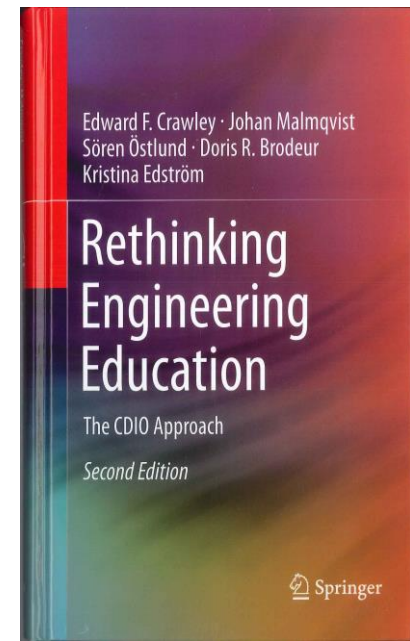
Mar-June

# TO SUMMARIZE:



**CDIO aims to educate students who are able to:**

- **Master a deeper working knowledge of the technical fundamentals**
- **Lead in the creation and operation of new products, processes, and systems**
- **Understand the importance and strategic impact of research and technological development on society**
- **To learn more, visit [www.cdio.org](http://www.cdio.org) or read *Rethinking Engineering Education: The CDIO Approach*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed by Crawley, Malmqvist, Östlund, Brodeur & Edström, 2014**



**Thank you for listening!**

**Any questions or comments?**