

Empower and the Student Initiative Fund (SIF)

Cultivating the future leaders and innovators of our ever-changing industry



Leif Tiltins behind the wheel of the FSAE team car at an event in Michigan, USA

One of the biggest challenges engineering students face upon graduation is turning years of theoretical training into real-world practice. That's why participating in extra-curricular activities like design teams plays a crucial role in educating our students.

For Leif Tiltins (BEng '12), it was the FSAE Racing Team that brought it all together.

"We went through many roles—hustling for sponsorship or free parts one day, to drilling down deep into new vehicle dynamics software the next," he explained. "The out of classroom learning never stopped; as the culture of our team grew, so did the commitment of our members."

MADE
by McGill

"McGill Engineering is not just about the classwork and academics: it's about applying that learning, and working in teams, and by trying to have an impact outside of the classroom."

The experience proved pivotal for Tiltins, who has since jumped into the start-up world, along with three other engineering grads. Now head of Business Development for Aon3D—a start-up manufacturer of industrial 3D printers—he finds the soft and hard skills that he developed as a member of the racing team have come in very handy. "I joined the McGill racing team looking for new friends with common interests; I left with great friends and the foundation for a multidisciplinary toolkit I keep adding to."

What is Empower and the SIF Program?

The Empower program is the mission of the Faculty of Engineering to cultivate engaged engineers. These are students who will become the future leaders and innovators of the ever-changing engineering industry within our global community. The engaged engineer is proficient in cutting-edge technical knowledge and can apply that knowledge to designs that benefit society. The faculty supports students by:

- Enhancing and growing experiential learning opportunities within the faculty
- Providing support, including seed funding, to establish new experiential learning opportunities for students, student groups, clubs, or organizations who are offering or undertaking experiential learning activities

The **Student Initiative Fund (SIF)** is part of the Empower program, offering experiential learning opportunities by the Faculty of Engineering at McGill. We want to prepare future-ready researchers by giving them the chance to learn by doing.

Join us.

Made by McGill: THE CAMPAIGN FOR OUR THIRD CENTURY.

For more information, please contact:

McGill Faculty of Engineering | University
Advancement McConnell Engineering Building,
Room 744
3480 University Street
Montreal, Quebec H3A OE9

T. 514.398.1371 | E. ua.engineering@mcgill.ca



McGill

Your support matters

Each year, the **Student Initiative Fund (SIF)** supports 18 different design teams, and other events, workshops, conferences and learning experiences. We cannot meet the demand from students. Your gift helps us bridge the gap and provide the benefits of this experience to an even greater number of students.

Funding Opportunities

The Empower program covers a number of areas, including the SIF, which supports activities like the FSAE Racing Team.

Participating in design teams such as SIF have a host of benefits for students, including leadership skills development, communication skills development, community engagement and mentorship building.

There are two ways to support the SURE Program:

Forever: An endowment is a substantial investment that allows the gift to remain in perpetuity. The initial gift is invested in a fund that generates interest each year. It is with this interest that a design team can be funded each year for the duration of the program.

For now: Funds provided to the faculty are used immediately in the program. We ask for a minimum commitment of four years.

Make A Gift

Your payments may be deferred or can be made using equities or other assets. Your gift will help students benefit immediately from new opportunities to learn, in ways that go beyond the traditional classroom setting. The Empower program has already made a huge difference to students like Leif Tiltins. Your support can help us provide that experience to others like him.