

INVENT FOR THE PLANET

THE SUN NEVER SETS ON INNOVATION

February 16-18, 2024

April 16-18, 2024

Howdy!¹

We would like to invite you to join us in a unique event called Invent for the Planet (IFTP). IFTP is a globally-hosted Intensive Design Experience based on the [Aggies Invent](#) program we have held at Texas A&M University for the past ten years. To learn more about Aggies Invent, please visit our [website](#) or watch our informational [video](#).

Here at Texas A&M University, our students are called Aggies – therefore we call it Aggies Invent. When implemented by other universities, they typically call it [U] Invent™ and they substitute their own name for the [U]. In February 2018, we created Invent for the Planet and [U] Invent™. The inaugural event had roughly 800 students from several dozen universities located in 14 countries. Since then, more than 3,000 students from over 60 universities located in 30 different countries have participated. IFTP 2024 will be the sixth event of its kind and promises to be bigger and better than ever as we all watch these amazing students from around the world use their innovative skills to help the world!

Local IFTP will be held on February 16-18, 2024. Each university hosts its own event where students form teams and tackle a common set of [Need Statements](#). After the local event, each university will submit a video of the first-place winning team's final presentation to be evaluated remotely for the opportunity to be among the top 5 selected to participate in the IFTP Finals. IFTP Finals will be held on April 16-18, 2024, and participants will have the chance to win up to \$10,000 in prizes. The location for IFTP Finals will be announced shortly.

¹ “Howdy” is a traditional greeting used in Texas to convey warmth and friendship to everyone we meet!

We had big dreams for IFTP when we created it in 2018, but it turns out our dreams weren't big enough. Winning teams from each event have pushed their projects into further development and some have launched startups. To learn more about our past events, please see the following videos from the inaugural [IFTP 2018](#) and the most recent [IFTP 2023](#).

For IFTP 2024, we will be forced to limit participation to the first fifty universities that register, and we hope yours will be one of those! Once your university is registered, we will provide your university with an operational handbook, facilitator training, and marketing support to help prepare for the weekend. Please don't worry about the local event facilitation... you can do this and we will help you! The registration deadline is Monday, November 27, 2023.

Local IFTP is held in multiple locations across the globe simultaneously but based upon local time zones. Each host university kicks off the event at 4:00 pm local time on Friday, the 16th and then wraps up around 5:00 pm on Sunday, the 18th. Universities join the innovation race as time travels across the world. Student teams working on the provided need statements have the opportunity to connect with peers across the globe. The energy and excitement is undeniable and builds throughout the weekend!

During the weekend students will:

- Engage with a diverse group of students across the globe
- Collaborate on best practices and student outcomes within this university network
- Create commercial solutions worthy of further development
- Develop critical skills which they will take into their professional lives
- Earn global recognition for their participation

If you're ready to join us for IFTP 2024, please fill out the [registration form](#). Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at jimdonnell@tamu.edu, Frederico Pifano de Rezende (fredpifano@tamu.edu), or Stephanie Amaya (stephanie.amaya828@tamu.edu).

We're excited about working with you and are ready to help in any manner you need. Let's solve some of the world's problems together.

All the best,



Jim Donnell '82

Professor of Practice and Director, [Engineering Entrepreneurship Program](#)
Texas A&M University