



Howdy!¹

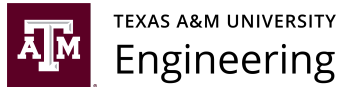
We would like to invite you to join us in a unique event called Invent for the Planet (IFTP). IFTP is a globally-hosted Intensive Design Experience (IDE) based on the [Aggies Invent](#) program we have held at Texas A&M University for over ten years. To learn more about Aggies Invent, please visit our [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 4,000 students from over 60 universities located in 30 different countries have participated. IFTP 2025 will be the seventh event of its kind and promises to be bigger and better than ever as we all experience these amazing students from around the globe use their innovative skills to help the world!

Local IFTP will be held on February 7-9, 2025. 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 for the opportunity to be among the top 5 selected to participate in the IFTP Finals. IFTP Finals will be held on April 8-10, 2025 at Texas A&M University, College Station, TX., and participants will have the chance to win up to \$10,000 in prizes.

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

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



Meloy Engineering Innovation & Entrepreneurship Program

startups. To learn more about our past events, please see the following videos from the inaugural [IFTP 2018](#) and the most recent [IFTP 2024](#) which was held in Aix-en-Provence, France.

Once 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 Friday, November 29, 2024.

Local IFTP is held simultaneously in locations across the globe but based upon local time zones. Each host university kicks off the event at 4:00 pm local time on Friday, the 7th and then wraps up around 5:00 pm on Sunday, the 9th. 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 2025, please complete the [registration form](#).

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Fred Pifano (fredpifano@tamu.edu), David Schupick (david.schupick@tamu.edu), or me at jimdonnell@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!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Jim Donnell'.

Jim Donnell

Professor of Practice and Executive Director, [Meloy Program](#)

Texas A&M University