



## The Vertically Integrated Projects (VIP)

### Program and Consortium:

Engaging the World via  
Large-Scale, Long-Term, Multi-D Projects  
that Support Innovation

Director: Ed Coyle

Co-Director: Randy Abler

Assoc. Director VIP Consortium: Kitty Vogt

Asst. Director: Julie Sonnenberg-Klein

Program Manager: Chris Malbrue



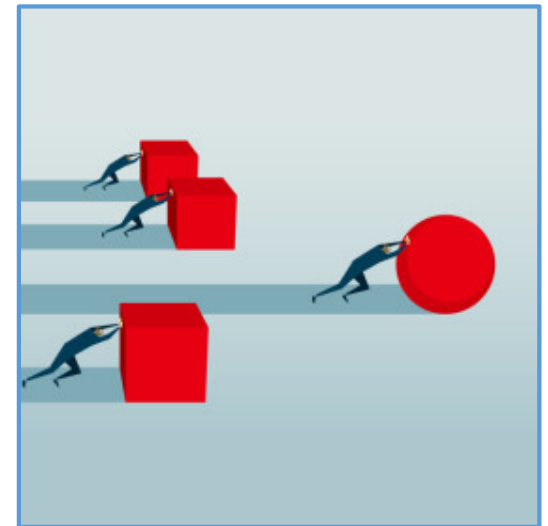
# Goal: Involve Everyone on Campus in Innovation

## What is Innovation?

“The development of novel products,  
services, and processes  
for the benefit of society”  
(Too Narrow!)

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“Inspiration plus Execution”  
(Works in all Disciplines!)



# Barriers: The 3 Forms of Fragmentation

## Fragmentation By Mission

*Innovation/Research:* Discovery, Design, Creativity, ....

*Education:* Pass on Knowledge, Skills

*Service:* Create Partnerships, Enable Economic Development

## Fragmentation By Time

Semesters

Academic Years

## Fragmentation By Discipline

Scholarship, “Thinking”

Budget Lines, Culture



# The VIP Approach: Integrate Research & Education

*Foster Innovation by Involving Students in Challenging Projects Embedded in Faculty Research*

**Ensure Success by Providing:**

Time



Context

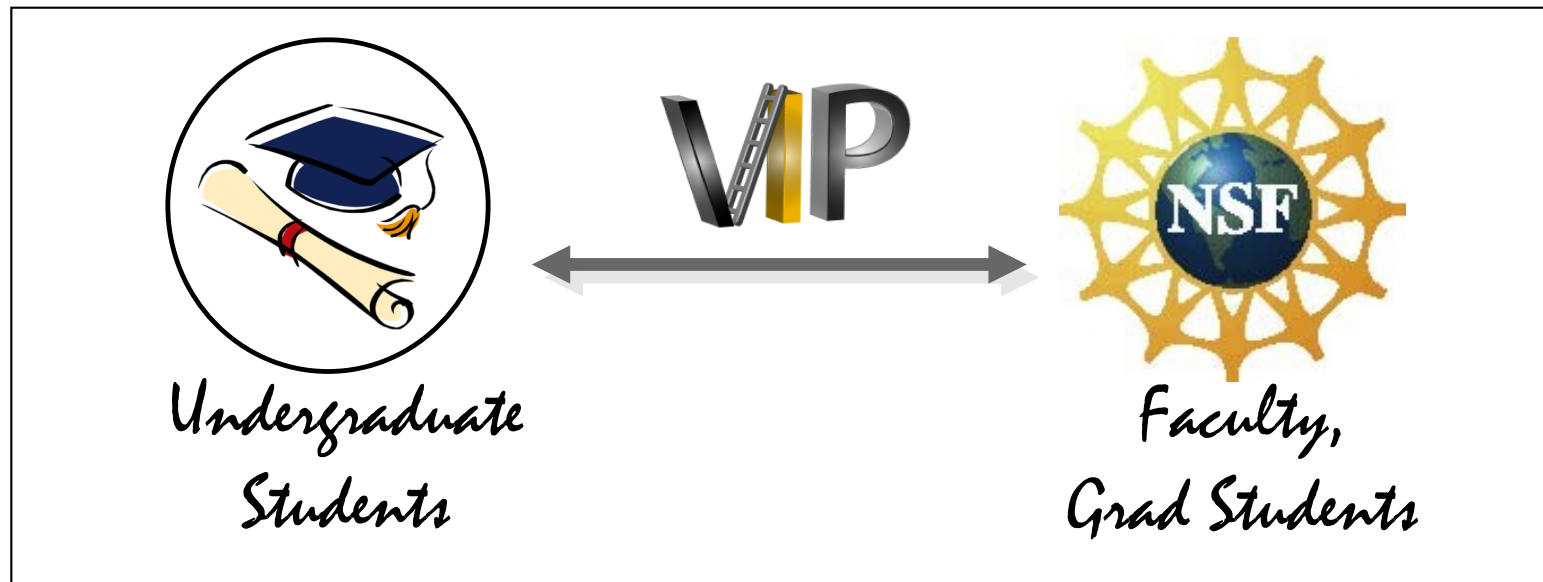


Mentoring





# VIP: Bringing People Together



Students need Real Projects  
in which they Experience  
the Innovation Process

Faculty can Benefit from  
Help at all Levels of  
the Innovation Process

# VIP Program Architecture: The Basics

## Enable Long-Term, Large-Scale, Multidisciplinary Teams

- Projects led by faculty; embedded in their research
- Large teams: 10-20+ undergraduates; 1-4 grad students
- 2<sup>nd</sup> year through 4<sup>th</sup> year students on every team
- Long-term participation – up to 3 years per student
- New students replace those who graduate
- Students drawn from *all* disciplines needed by the project
- Teams continue for years, *decades*
- Academic credit each semester

## Example: The 17 year old Stadium-IoPT Team

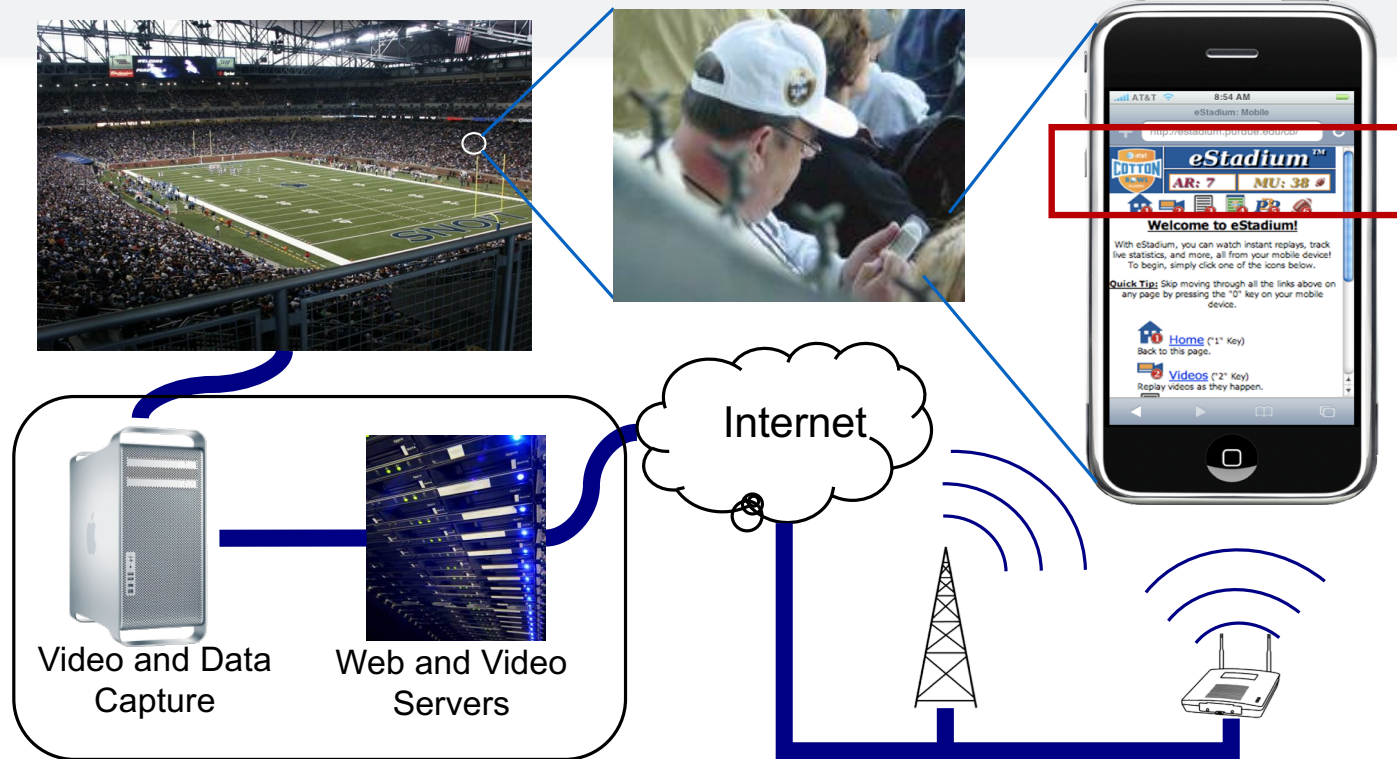




# The Stadium-IoPT Team's Testbed: Bobby Dodd Stadium



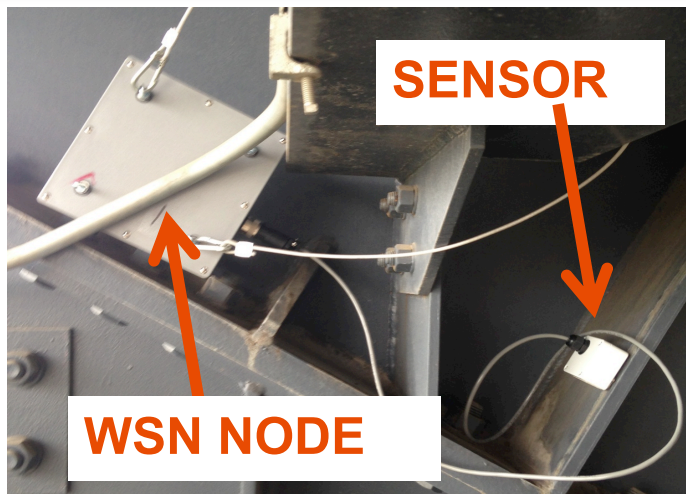
# People and Information: In-Stadium Web Apps in 2001



Video clips, stats, tracker on your phone during a game:

<http://estadium.gatech.edu>

# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject

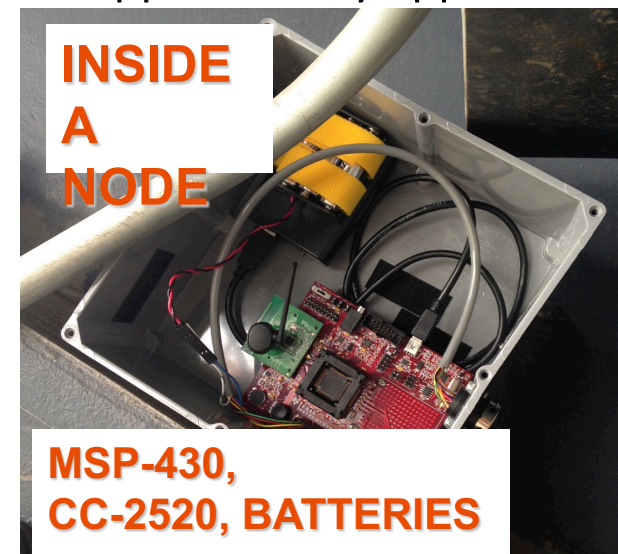


## Sensing Tasks:

- Vibration, Audio, Spectrum
- Sensors vary node-to-node
- Processing tasks differ
- Energy varies node-to-node

## Sensor Net Sub-Project:

- Many sensor motes
- 6-month football season
- Supports many applications





# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject

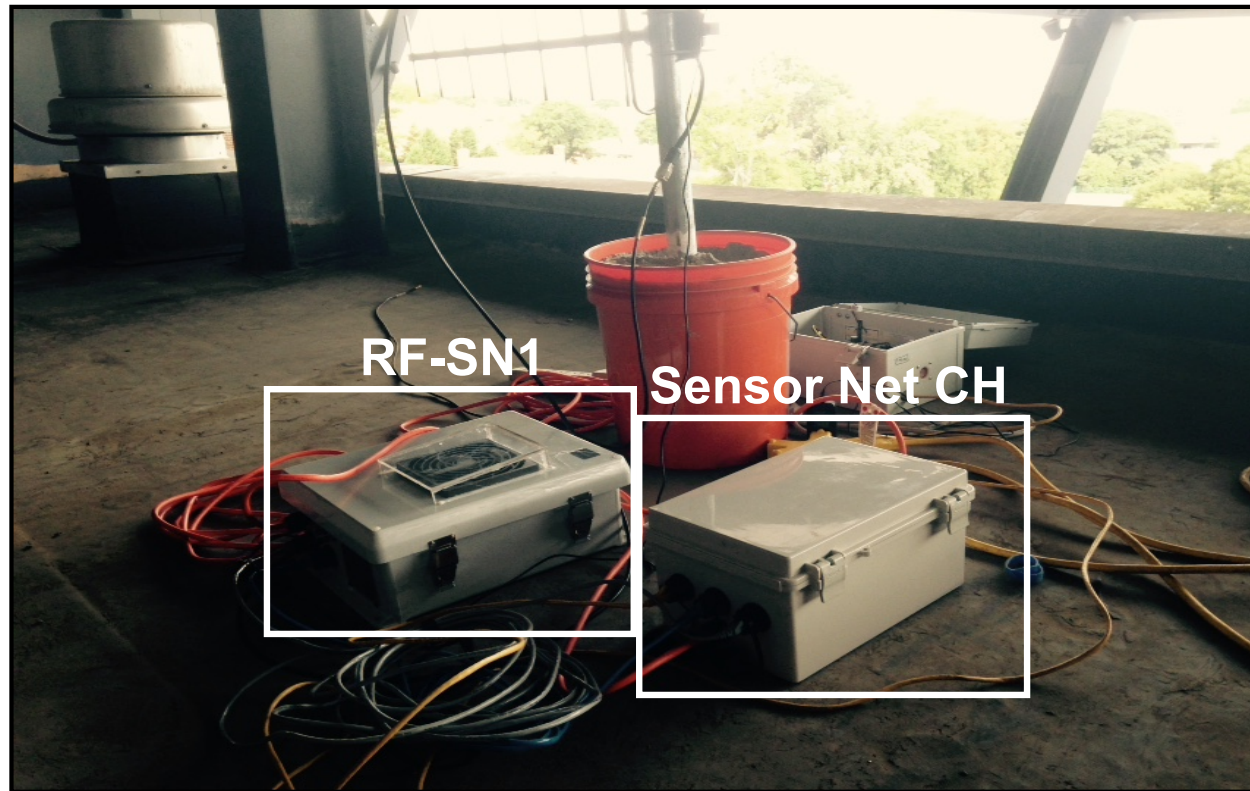


# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject

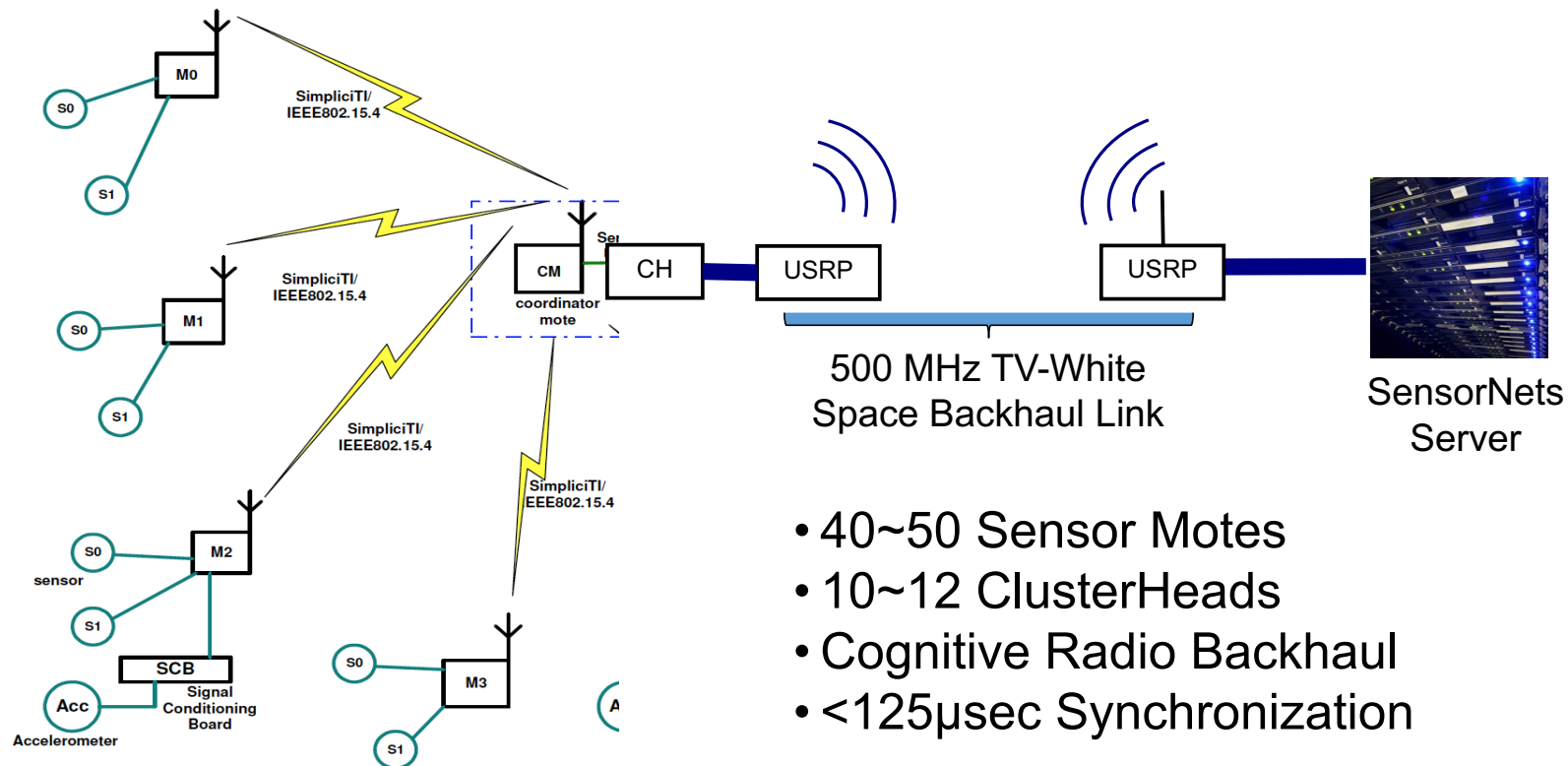




# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject



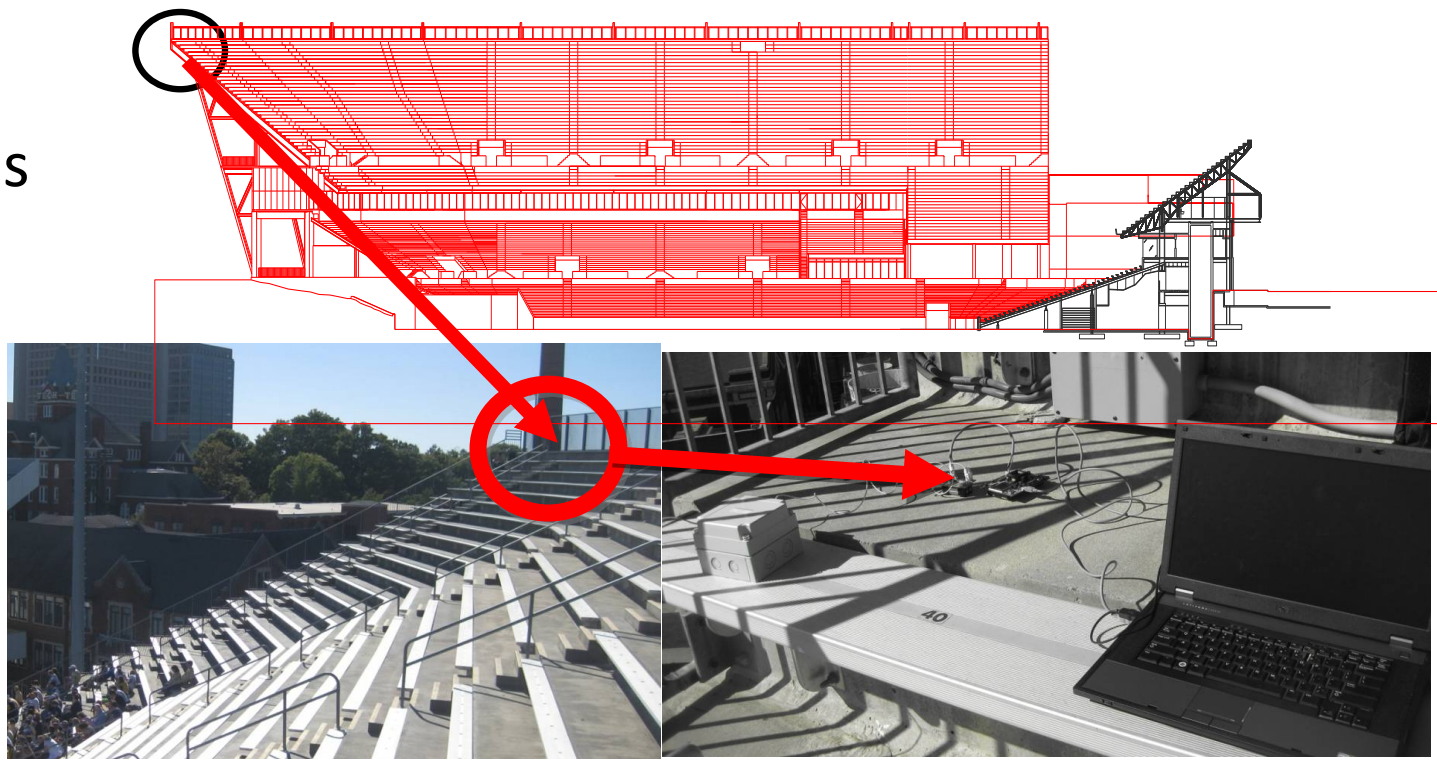
# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject



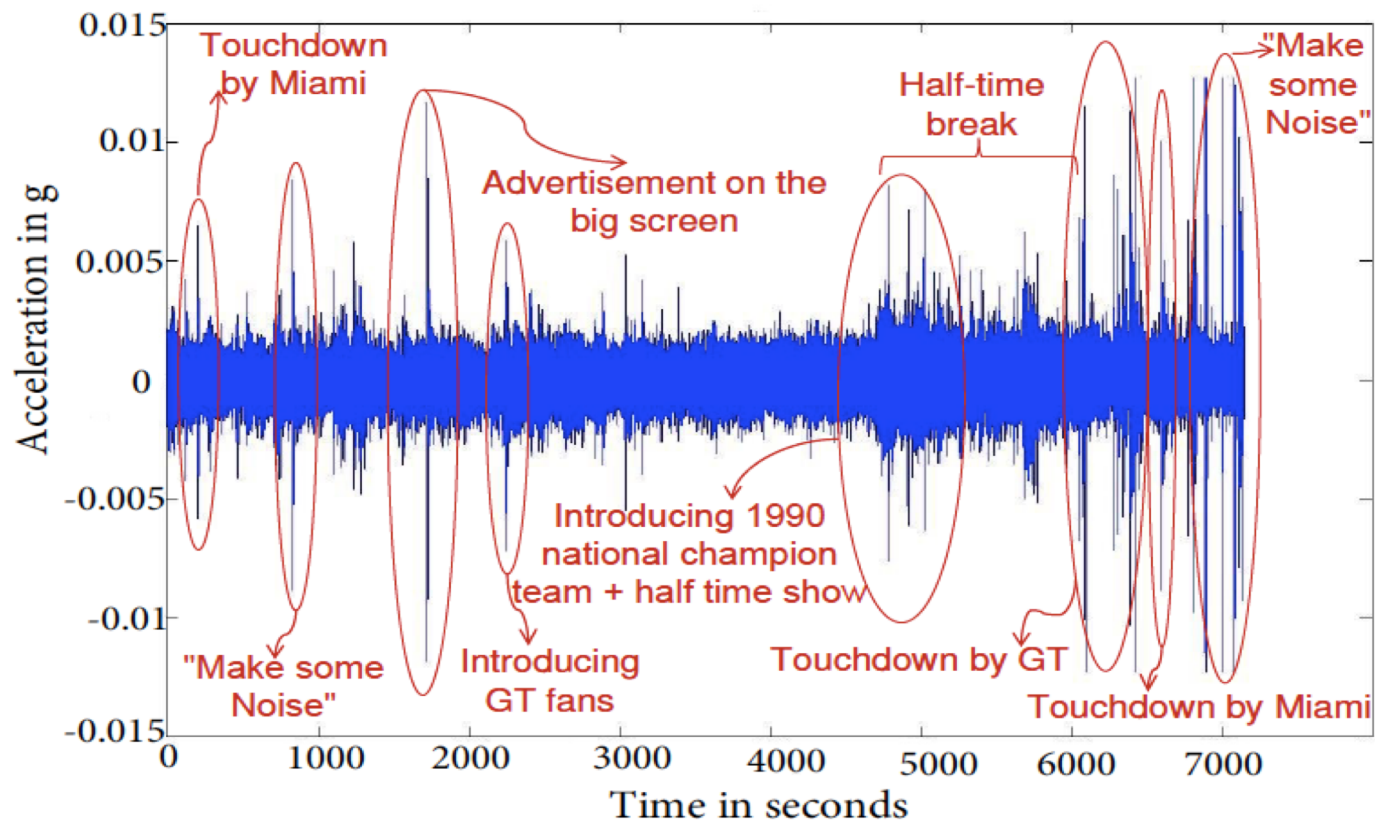
- 40~50 Sensor Motes
- 10~12 ClusterHeads
- Cognitive Radio Backhaul
- <math>125\mu\text{sec}</math> Synchronization

# Stadium-IoPT: Sensor Net Subproject

Sensing  
Vibrations



# Stadium-IoPT: Game Vibrations

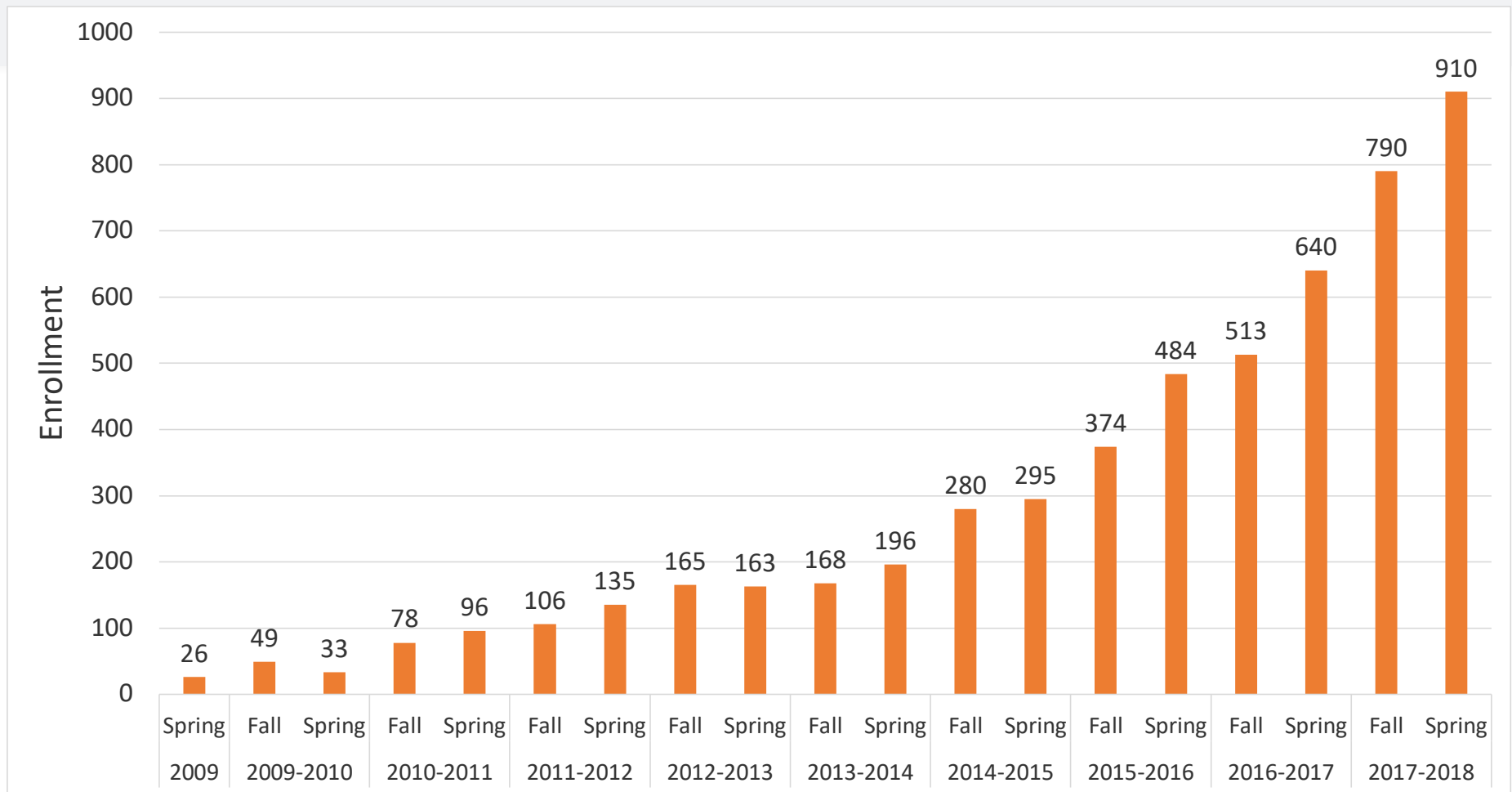


## Georgia Tech VIP Teams: Fall 2017

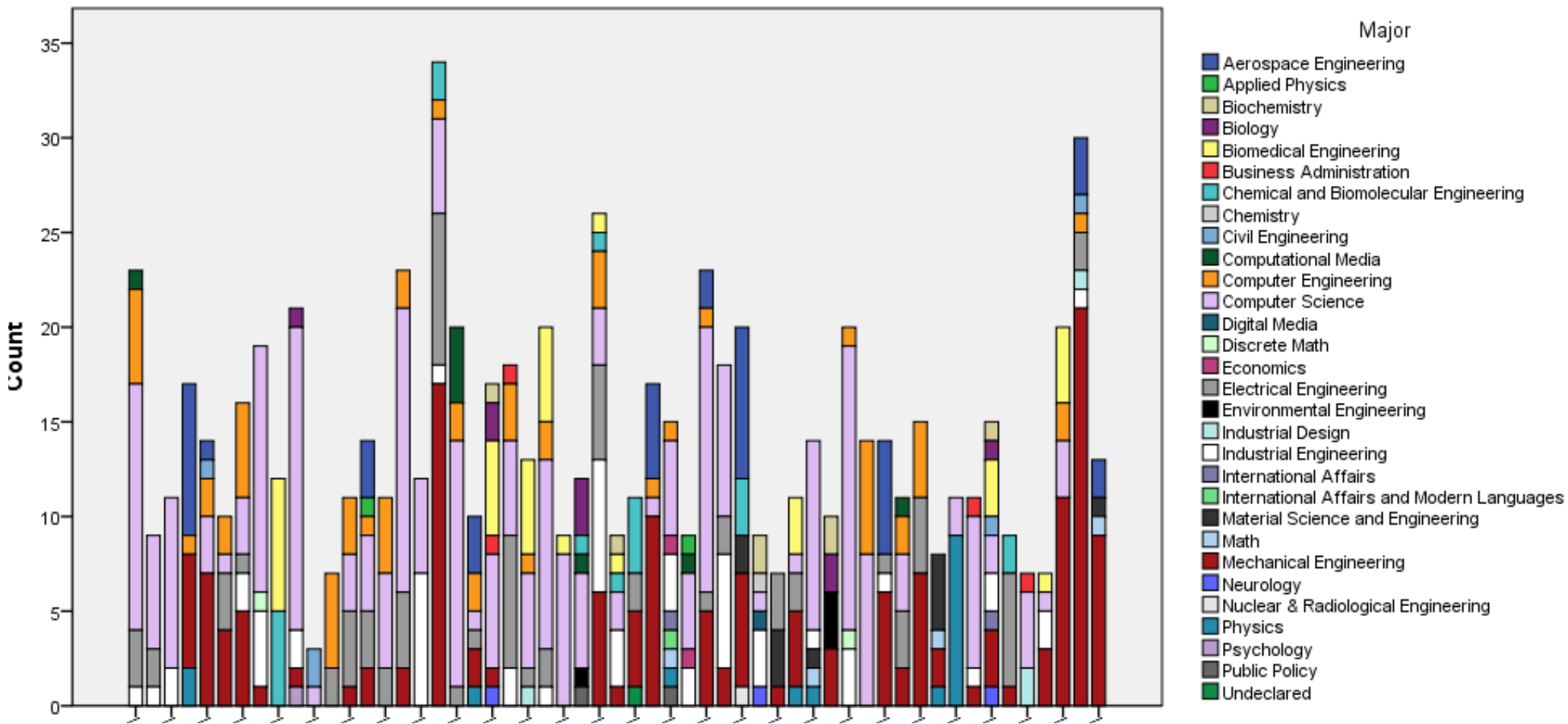
- 58 Teams in Spring 2018; 900 Undergraduates Enrolled
- Students and Faculty from Every GT College: Architecture, Business, Computing, Engineering, Liberal Arts, and Science
- List of GT VIP teams. Click on any team's icon to see a one-page description of that team and the list disciplines from which that team is seeking students:

<http://www.vip.gatech.edu/teams>

# VIP@GT Enrollment: 2009-2018



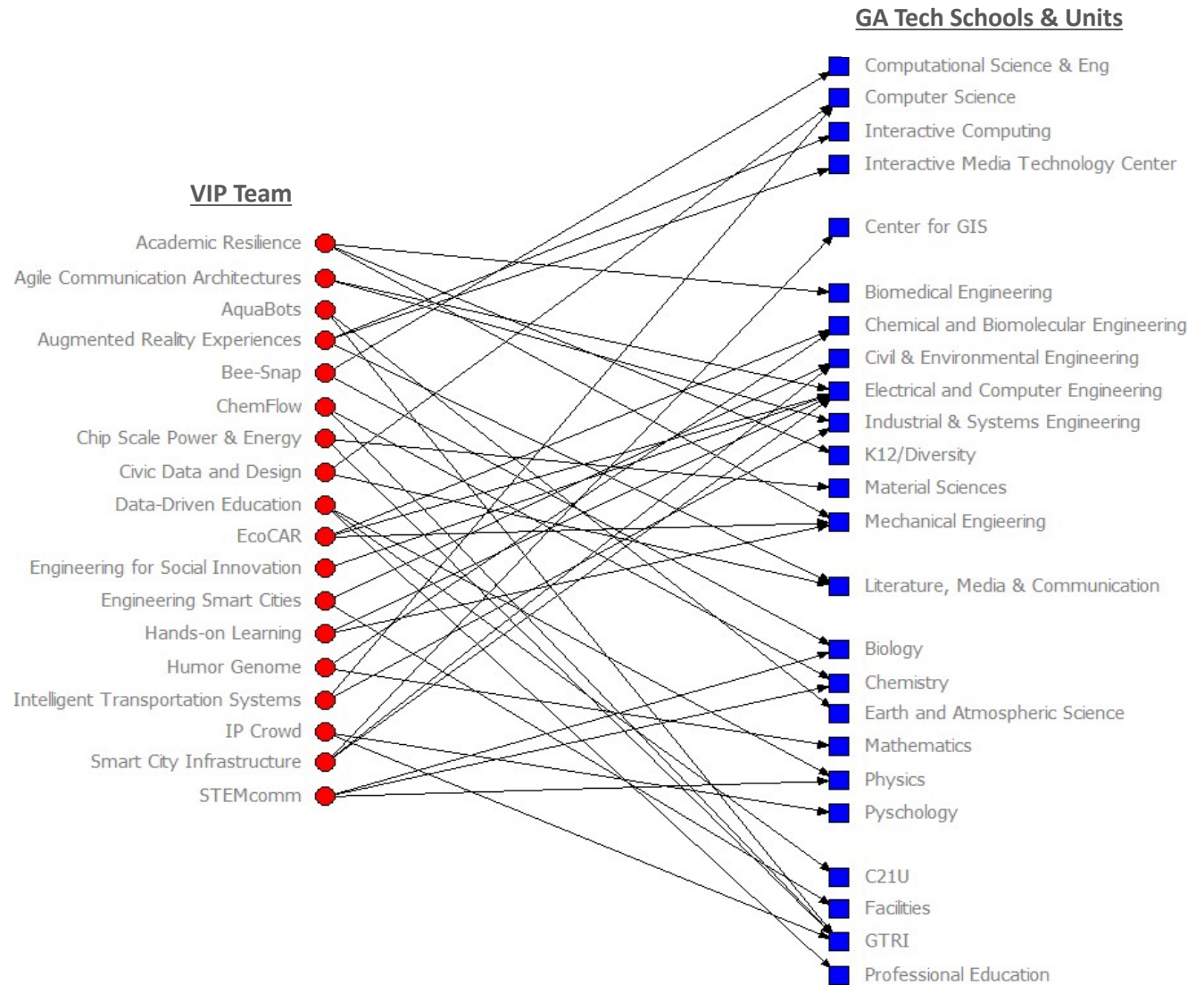
# VIP@GT Enrollment Spr '18: By Team and Major





# Cross-Campus Collaboration, GT

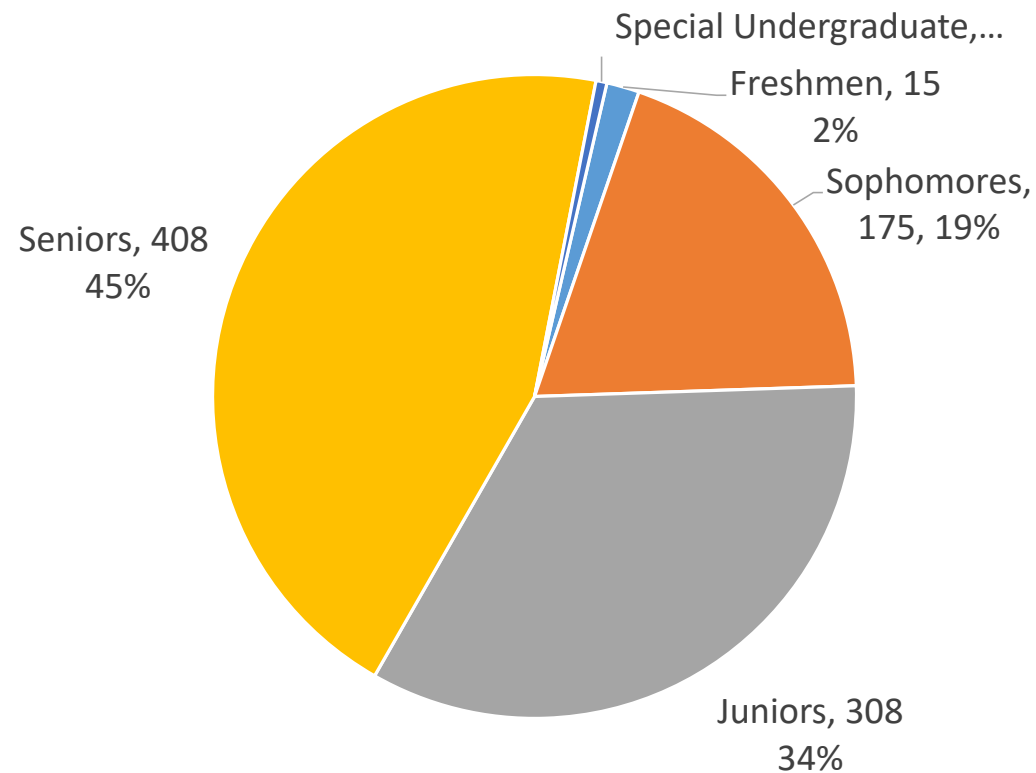
1/3 of VIP teams draw instructors from more than one GT Unit.





## VIP@GT Team Composition: By Academic Rank

UG Enrollment by  
Academic Rank,  
Spring 2018

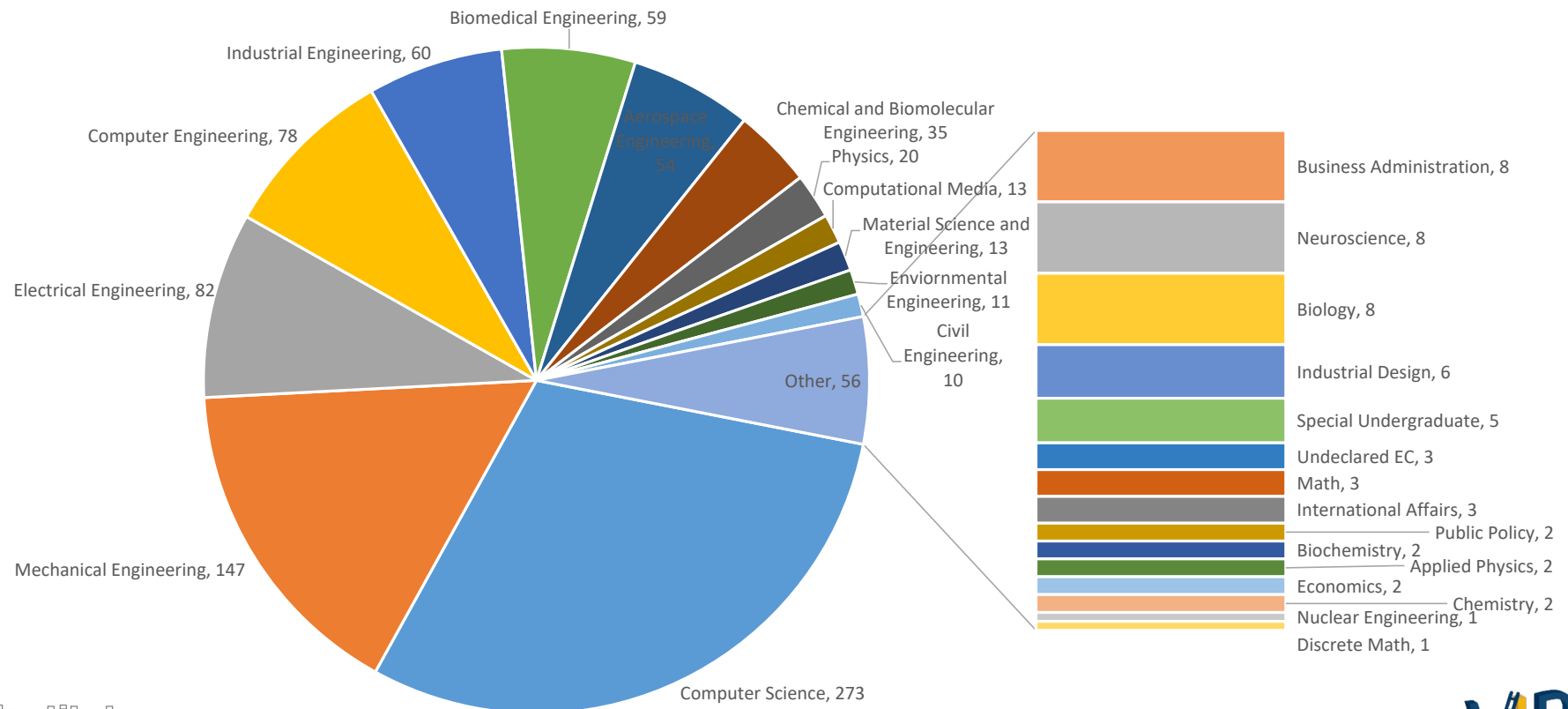


# VIP Teams: Disciplines of Advisers/Co-Advisers

■ Engineering ■ Other ■ Sciences ■ Computing ■ Liberal Arts ■ Design



# VIP@GT Enrollment: By Major, Spring 2018



## VIP@GT Course Structure: Campus-wide Courses

	1 credit	2 credits	3 credits	For pay (0 credits)
Sophomore	VIP 2601			
Junior	VIP 3601	VIP 3602	VIP 3603 by dept. request	VIP 3600
Senior	VIP 4601	VIP 4602	VIP 4603 by dept. request VIP 4813 capstone	VIP 4600
Graduate			VIP 6603	VIP 6600

- Each course can be taken multiple times
- Each team is one section of every course
- No Auditors, Volunteers, or P/F Students
- Available to all Disciplines

## How VIP@GT Credits Count: ECE/BME Example

### Provide Incentive to Participate Multiple Years

- Take 5 or fewer credits:
  - All are Approved-Elective (Free-Elective) Credits
- Take 6+ credits:
  - 3 to 6 Become Technical Elective Credits
  - Rest are Approved-Elective (Free-Elective) Credits
- VIP + VIP Senior Capstone: 8+ Credits
  - 3+ Credits as a Junior
  - 2 Credits (4811) 1<sup>st</sup>-Semester Senior Year
  - 3 Credits of VIP Senior Design (4813)

## Faculty Credit Options (Current Curriculum):

### No Course Release for Adviser(s)

- Works in Depts with Low Teaching “Loads”
- Faculty will do VIP because it helps their research

### One Course/Year *every year* for Primary VIP Adviser

- ½ Course/Semester matches actual time commitment
- 24+ distinct students/year for each year team operates
- Works if VIP counts as dept elective(s)/capstone

### One Course/Year for *first 2 Years* for Primary VIP Adviser

- Gives credit when educating team falls on adviser
- Team is providing research benefits by year 2
- Allows dept to launch a specified # of new teams each year

## Access and Diversity for VIP@GT

- Credit bearing + counts toward degrees:  
Enables *all* students to participate
- Joining teams:  
No interviews, GPA requirements, or Prerequisites
- Unique among High-Impact programs:  
%URMs in VIP = % in overall student population.
- High Participation amongst Transfer Students

## Assessment: Many Aspects

### Ongoing Study of Learning Outcomes and Impacts on Faculty, Depts, and Institutions

- Eval. Teams at Boise State, Georgia Tech, Univ. of Michigan

### Exit Surveys: 233 VIP Students; 1781 non-VIP Students:

- Ability to work in a multidisciplinary team ( $t(1982) = 4.437, p < 0.001, d = 0.313$ );
- Ability to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds ( $t(1987) = 3.271, p = 0.001, d = 0.231$ );
- Understanding of technology applications relevant to your field of study ( $t(2002) = 3.19, p = 0.001, d = 0.224$ );



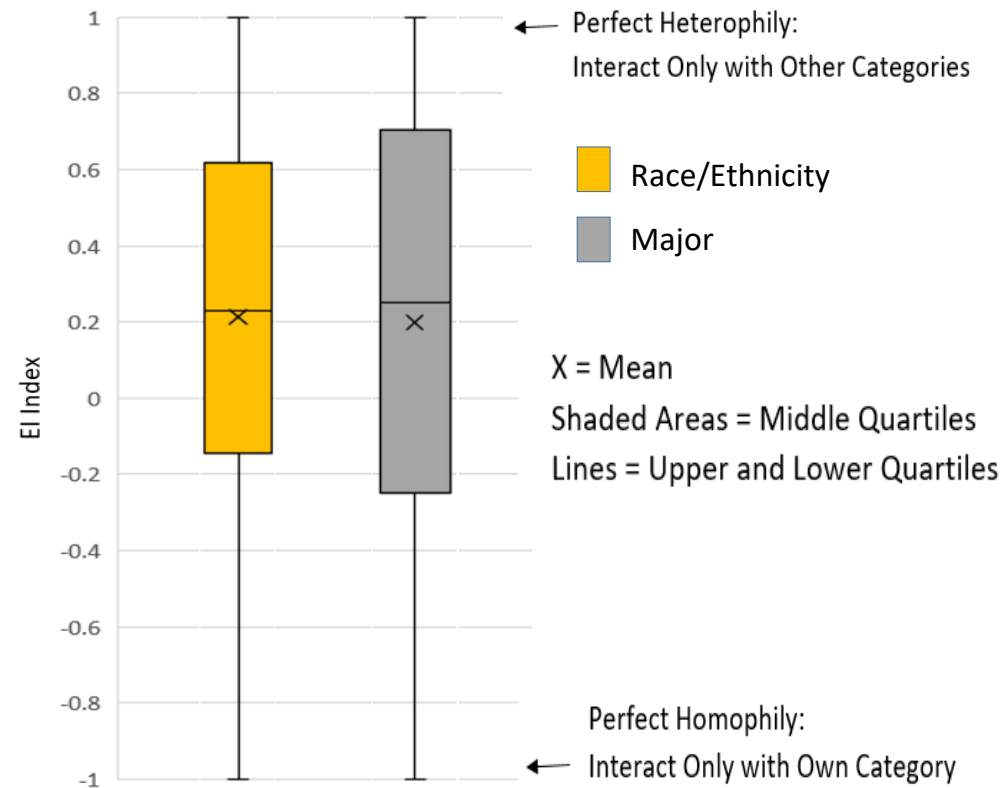
# Assessment: Peer-Eval. Based Social Network Study

On average, students interacted more often with:

- Other races/ethnicities
- Other majors

At team level:

- Greatest clumping by major (6 of 24 teams)
- Clumping by race/ethnicity on one team
  - New faculty workshops



# Assessment: Continued

## Social Network Analysis of VIP Teams:

- Peer Evaluation Tool Used for Grading Twice a Semester
- Students Indicate Who/How-Often They work with Each Peer
- Linked with VIP Database of Students + Registrar's Database
- Enables Monitoring of Teams Health
- Helps Identify Best Practices in Team Management for Advisers
- EI Index Computed for Populations of Interest

## VIP: Benefits for Students

- Realistic Team Experience
- Opportunity to Learn/Master different Roles/Skills
- In-Depth Experience in their Field
- Long-term Multi-Disciplinary Experience
- Knowledge Exchange across many Boundaries
- Provide a Compelling Reason to be on Campus
- Preparation for Work / Grad School
- Understanding of the Innovation Process

## VIP: Benefits for Faculty

- Better Organized, More Effective UG Research
- Continuity of Knowledge and Experience on Team
- Enthusiastic Minds and Hands
- Beneficial Education & Broader Impact for Grants
- Recruiting for Graduate School
- Adds New Dimension to Research Capability
- Peer Leadership and Management Reduces Workload

# VIP: Benefits for Universities

- Enhances Student Learning
- Enhances Faculty Research
- Enables New Partnerships
- Creates Multidisciplinary Opportunities
- Compelling Reason to have a Campus
- Everyone Participates in Innovation
- Deepens/Broadens the University Community

# The VIP Consortium: 28 Members So Far.....

## Domestic

- Arizona State University
- Boise State University
- Colorado State University
- Drexel University
- Florida International University<sup>URM</sup>
- **Georgia Tech**<sup>AAU,1</sup>
- Howard University<sup>URM</sup>
- **Morehouse College**<sup>URM</sup>
- New York University<sup>AAU</sup>
- Purdue University<sup>1</sup>
- Rice University<sup>AAU</sup>
- Texas A&M University<sup>URM, 1</sup>
- UC Davis<sup>URM, AAU</sup>
- University of Delaware

- **University of Georgia**
- University of Hawaii<sup>URM</sup>
- University of Michigan<sup>AAU, 1</sup>
- University of Washington<sup>AAU</sup>
- VA Commonwealth University
- Virginia Tech

## International

- Natn'l Dong Hwa University
- Natn'l Ilan University
- Universidad del Norte
- Riga Technical University
- Inha Univ.
- Malmö University
- University of Pretoria
- University of Strathclyde<sup>1</sup>

## Pending

- **Georgia State University**
- Iowa State<sup>AAU</sup>
- NCA&T<sup>URM</sup>
- Notre Dame
- Reykjavik University
- Tuskegee University<sup>URM</sup>
- UC Riverside

AAU: Member Institution

URM: Underrepresented  
Minority Institution

1: Program in place prior to  
Consortium establishment

**Bold: Georgia Institutions**

# The VIP Consortium: Annual Meeting



# The VIP Program: Essential Characteristics

- VIP Program Led by Faculty
- Projects embedded in Professors' Research Efforts
- Large-Scale Projects Lasting Years/Decades
- Multidisciplinary Teams Possible/Encouraged
- Program is Curricular; All Students Graded
- Incentives for Students to Participate for 2+ Years
- Classroom and Meeting Space Supporting Teams
- Learning Outcomes Include Disciplinary *and* Professional Skills



# The VIP Consortium: Essential Characteristics

- All Institutions Have a Professor-Led VIP Program
- Program Must Have Essential Elements of VIP but Adapt as needed to Local Conditions
- Share Resources/Tools/Processes/etc.
- Everyone Contributes What They Can
- Participation in Evaluation and Dissemination
- Publish Papers and Write Proposals Together

# What could you do if you had a VIP team?



<http://www.vip.gatech.edu>

Ed Coyle, [ejc@gatech.edu](mailto:ejc@gatech.edu), +1-609-751-1781