EmPOWER the Miner M Design Competition

For the past 40 years the Miner M located on Sun Bowl Drive has been a source of tradition and pride for The University of Texas at El Paso and El Pasoans.

UTEP’s “EmPOWER the Miner M” design competition is an opportunity for students to give the Miner M a construction makeover using solar technology to light the “M” every night of the year. This competition is open the entire UTEP student body.

A team consisting of a maximum of 4 people will write a project design and implementation proposal with an estimated budget of $65-75K. Students must come up with a plan on how to straighten the lines on the “M”, reinforce it with concrete walls, incorporate solar PV’s, energy storage, LED lighting, and create a maintenance and sustainability plan.

This is an excellent opportunity for students to be exposed to a real-world project. Workshops will be given to prepare students to write their proposal, contact vendors, create budgets, and design a proper system design. During this competition students will also work closely with mentors consisting of UTEP Faculty, Staff, Graduate students, and other experts managed by the IEEE and the RCES Center. The winning team design will be announced February 11, 2013.

The winning team will receive an award of $2000.00 to be divided equally among each team member. The award is being donated by the Student Government Association Appropriations Committee in effort to promote the project through the student initiative.
To be enrolled in the competition the teams will need to submit a letter of intent and a resume of each team individual to email address rces@utep.edu by October 26, 2012 before midnight. Twelve teams will be chosen and will be announced on October 30, 2012. A general information meeting is scheduled on October 31, 2012 to brief teams on the project requirements and tasks. Final proposals must be submitted by midnight Monday, February 4, 2013.

For more information on the Miner M Project contact:
rces@utep.edu

Or go to our website:
minerm.utep.edu