

**UWI Regional Conference: Institutionalising Best Practice in Higher Education**  
*Showcasing Evidence of Good and Promising Practices*

# Community Service Learning Project

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering  
Faculty of Engineering  
The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine

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JUNE 25, 2015

# What is Community Service Learning (CSL)?

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“ ...that subset of community engagement activities in which students, with the support of other stakeholders, collectively apply discipline-specific knowledge in a tangible manner to a particular community need, in order to obtain academic credit, as part of the Teaching/Learning associated with their programme of study<sup>1</sup>”

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<sup>1</sup> “Are You Engaged? Are We Engaged? – A Community Engagement Framework for The UWI at St. Augustine”, p. 13 – The University of the West Indies 2012

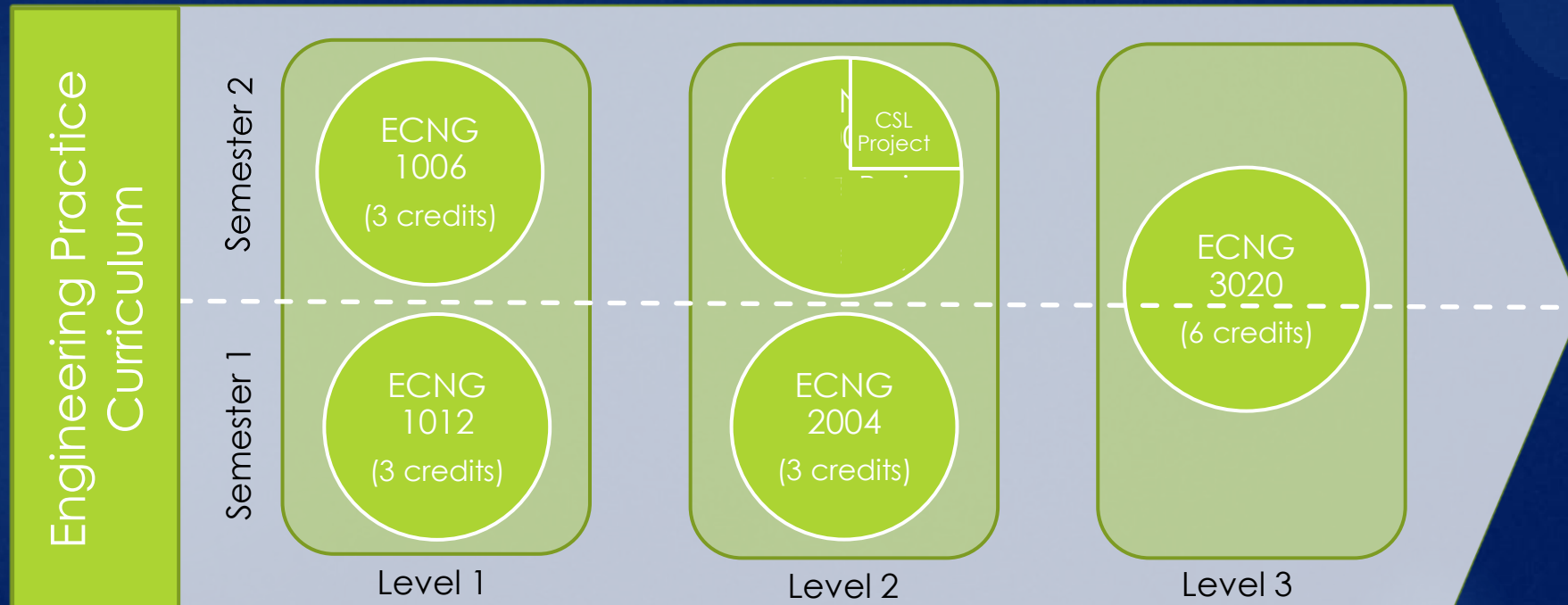
# Why is it Best Practice?

- ▶ Enables students to apply their acquired skills to meet basic social and economic needs taking account of local and regional considerations
  - ▶ a key component of our graduate profile and IET requirement (for accreditation purposes)
- ▶ Facilitates active participation in a meaningful and fulfilling activity
- ▶ Builds key attributes in the distinguished UWI graduate



# CSL in Teaching & Learning

- ▶ First introduced into the BSc Electrical and Computer Engineering programme in January 2009
- ▶ Community-based group project



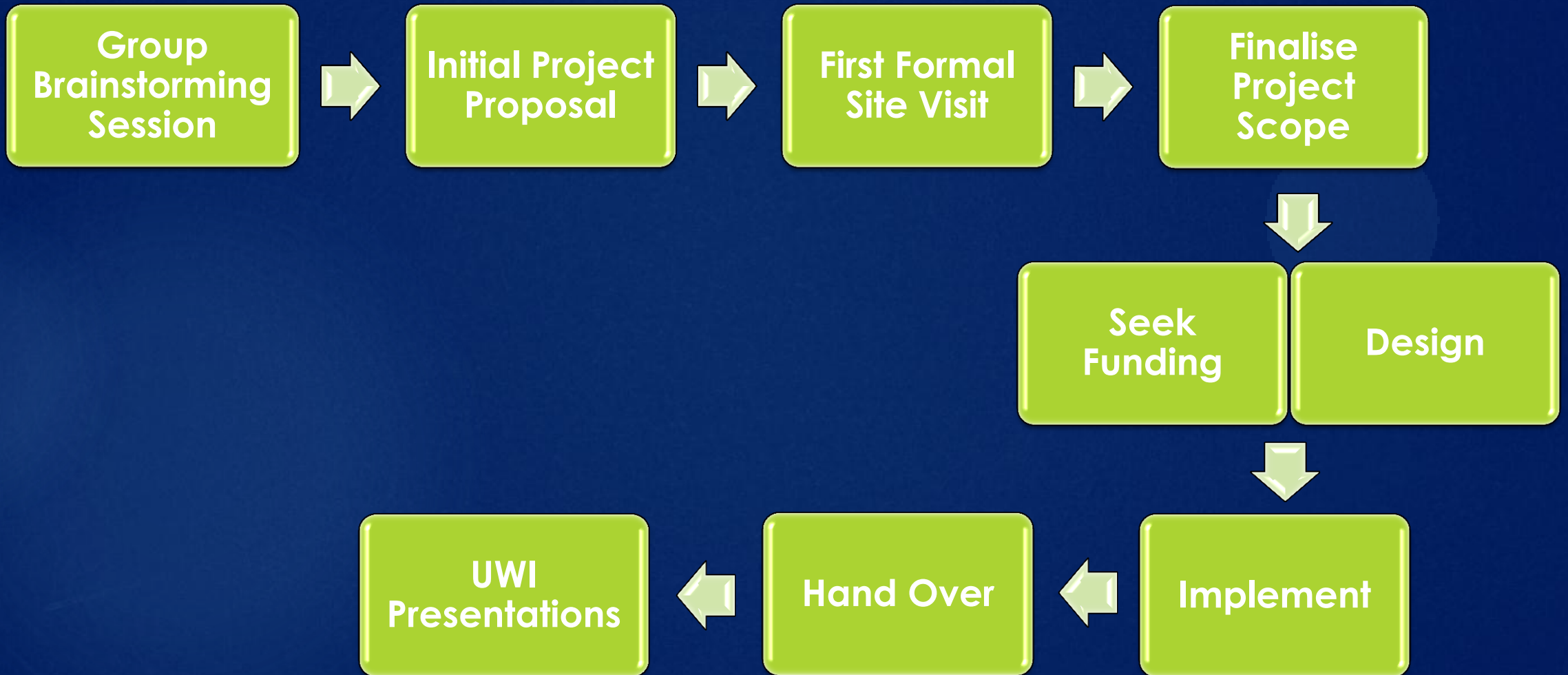
# CSL in Teaching & Learning



# CSL Main Project Objective

- ▶ to identify and solve a problem,
  - ▶ related to electrical and computer engineering
  - ▶ in a community of choice

# Process Flow









# Lessons Learned - Highpoints

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- ▶ UWI flagship project
- ▶ Impact



- ▶ Beneficiary:

*"You did too much for me to just say thank you."*

-Angela Gonzales (Society of St. Vincent de Paul)

- ▶ Students:

*"It was one of my proudest moments in life thus far..."*

- Yohan Seepersad (student - 2008/2009)

- ▶ Accreditation: "...ability to apply acquired skills to meet basic social needs..."

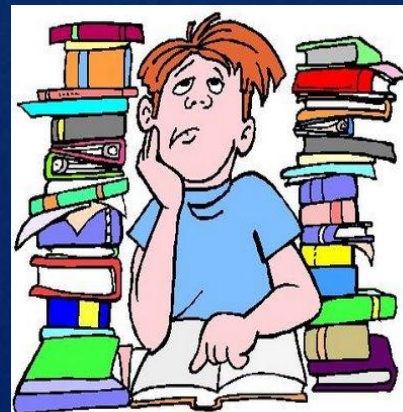
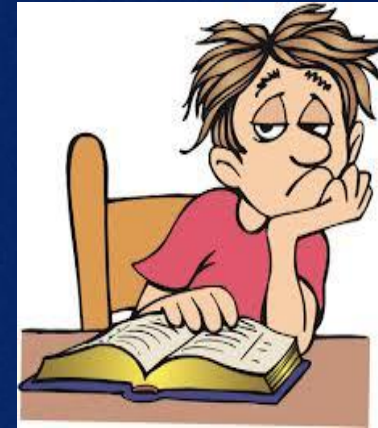
- ▶ Catalysis

- ▶ Sponsorship offers e.g. PPGPL

- ▶ Service offers e.g. Eng. Institute, Electrical Inspectorate



# Lessons Learned - Challenges





# Future Plans







Mr. & Mrs. Lewis





Thank You!

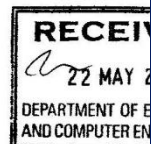


CUREPE PRESBYTERIAN SCHOOL  
Lyndon Street,  
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April 21, 2009

University of the West Indies  
St. Augustine  
Faculty of Engineering  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Attention: Lecturers – Dr. Ronald De Four and Ms. Juliet Romeo Joseph  
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering



## St. Dominic's Children's Home

Belmont Orphanage

Telephones 624-7882  
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34b, Belmont Circular Road,  
Port of Spain,  
Trinidad and Tobago,  
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May 5, 2009

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