

**Megan Stowers**  
**Industrial Engineering**  
**Innovation Fellows Program - University of Florida**  
**Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering/Warrington College of Business**

Megan is a junior at the University of Florida studying Industrial Engineering with a focus on human factors. She is minoring in Engineering Innovation.

As a freshman, Megan conducted research with the Engineering Innovation Institute (EII) with three other students, studying how innovation is best taught to university engineering students. This research group conducted interviews with College of Engineering professors and heads, innovation teachers across campus, innovators in the Gainesville community, and innovation experts at other universities. They also conducted a systematic literature review of the best practices. From the findings, the team has begun to create an Innovation Ambassadors extracurricular program to grow and connect the innovation culture on campus with a

multidisciplinary focus. The following school year, the team worked to soft launch the program and organized a pilot social innovation project for the organization. In addition, they mentored a new group of students in how to conduct research as that group studied the traits of an innovator.

Megan has also worked with Dr. Melissa White to conduct research on building a sense of community in an online class setting. They analyzed data from Dr. White's innovation class to analyze students thoughts on how different course activities helped them to connect with fellow class members. Dr. White and Megan published their research in the summer 2021 ASEE conference.

Megan joined Theta Alpha, a Christian sorority her freshman year and has been an active sister every semester since. She has held several different chair positions in her time in the organization, including most recently serving as rush chair. Megan currently works as a Teaching Assistant for both Engineering Innovation and Engineering Entrepreneurship. She also is currently pledging Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society. In her free time, Megan enjoys attending Gator sporting events, reading, watching Netflix, cooking, and playing volleyball.

After graduation, Megan is considering pursuing a master's degree, with the end goal of applying industrial engineering principles to the healthcare field. She hopes to make a difference in this way.

