Summer 2016 Internship Provides Critical Skills for EE Students with Local Start-Up

Tristan Powell and Jordan Smith, two juniors in the Department of Electrical Engineering, received critical job skills and gave a solid boost to Intelemed Technologies, a local start-up, during summer 2016. Working alongside both Dr. Catherine (“Cat”) Divingian, Founder and CEO of the company, and USF medical student Graig Alpert, the EE students received internship credit to develop a prototype of a medical sensor with wireless transmission and machine-learning mobile applications.

In response to the need to bring better medical monitoring and decision-support to the battlefield, Intelemed Technologies was founded by former and current military with extensive backgrounds and experience in the field. The company seeks to integrate medical support from the moment a soldier is injured, and help the military medical team provide continuity of care all the way through the process. Presently, up to 20% of soldiers lose their lives from "potentially survivable conditions".

Powell and Smith are transfers in the department from the U.S. Virgin Islands; and have both received support from the NSF Florida-Georgia Louis Stokes Alliance Minority Program (FGLSAMP) project at USF. During the summer, they learned engineering project management, teamwork, cost analysis, methods for developing schematics and printed circuit boards, and generating bills of materials. Most importantly, the interns discovered the value of maintaining a mission orientation by creating technologies that could save lives. According to Divingian, “we wanted to create an exciting opportunity for students who are mission-oriented, would enjoy learning rapid prototyping and agile development, and have a strong desire to help solve a critical need in military medicine.”