



AS A RODEN SCHOLAR YOU WILL...

- ❖ **LEAD NEW CAMPUS PROGRAMS**
- ❖ **BE AN AGENT OF CHANGE IN THE WORLD AROUND YOU**
- ❖ **MEET SUCCESSFUL LEADERS**
- ❖ **BECOME A BETTER ENGINEER**

This application is an opportunity. By applying to the Roden Leadership Program, you are welcoming the chance to join a student organization that will change the way people think about engineering students on this campus. As a member, you will also greatly refine your leadership and teamwork skills. Please take a moment to read about our activities, our history, our mission, and how to become a part of our future.

History & Mission:

Endowed with a gift from Mr. Ted Roden (B.S.Ch.E. '43), the Roden Leadership Program was created under the Clint W. Murchison, Jr. Chair of Free Enterprise in the Fall of 2001 to develop students with strong potential and interest in leadership. Under the guidance of advisor Dr. Steve Nichols, Director of the Murchison Chair of Free Enterprise, the organization developed this mission statement:

“To make a positive impact on the world around us by developing leadership in ourselves and inspiring leadership in others.”

To achieve this, the Roden Leadership Program commits to:

1. Cultivate the skills necessary to address real world problems.
2. Stimulate creativity and new perspectives to promote innovative contributions to society.
3. Provide experiences and resources that will initiate and drive changes.
4. Ensure that members place integrity at the forefront of all their actions.

Through these commitments, our 21 members strive to serve and improve the Cockrell School of Engineering and The University of Texas at Austin.

What we do:

The 21 members of the Roden Leadership Program, known as Roden Scholars, create and provide a variety of programs that the group hopes will be sustainable, worthwhile events. Newly selected undergraduate members will have the opportunity to create and implement these and other programs, which will benefit not only students in the Cockrell School of Engineering but throughout The University of Texas at Austin. Our membership is capped at 21 members, so each member plays a key role in the organization.

Roden programs include:

- *The Roden Scholars' Case Study Competition:* In March 2009, the Rodens hosted a university-wide case competition for undergraduate students. Participants formed teams to submit a business plan and make a presentation to solve a hypothetical business problem. The 3-week event was the first case competition at UT for engineering students, and it exposed students from the Cockrell School to aspects of accounting and finance, business plans, and interdisciplinary teamwork.
- *Rodeninnovations:* The goal of Rodeninnovations is to encourage students to employ a diverse set of knowledge and skills to positively impact the Cockrell School of Engineering. In Fall 2006, the Rodeninnovations competition was held to solicit ideas for The Vector, the Cockrell School's student newspaper. Teams were required to consider content, design, layout, administration, funding and other aspects for an updated Vector. In Spring 2009, the Rodeninnovations competition was held to solicit ideas for outdoor improvements in the Engineering area of campus.
- *The Roden Freshman Engineering Workshop:* In August 2008, the Roden Leadership Program hosted a workshop for incoming freshman engineering students. Roden Scholars shared their advice and answered questions on topics that included student activities, internships, campus benefits, study abroad, and research. The event was entirely driven and executed by Roden Scholars, and over 180 freshmen attended.
- *Dean's Welcome:* In October 2008, the Roden Leadership Program hosted Dean Fenves' first official address to the Cockrell School student body. Engineering student leaders got the chance to meet each other, as well as hear the Dean introduce himself and his vision for the Cockrell School.
- *The Roden Debates:* During E-Week, the Roden Leadership Program hosts a debate competition. Members of competing engineering organizations are given a wide variety of topics related to engineering and asked to debate over one of the topics with little preparation time. The event teaches engineers effective and persuasive communicating techniques and discredits a common myth of the engineer as a poor communicator. The event is judged by faculty members and has become a staple of E-Week at UT Austin.
- *The Roden Interdisciplinary Dinner:* In March 2007, the Roden Leadership Program hosted a university-wide interdisciplinary dinner. It was attended by the Provost, the Dean of Engineering, distinguished faculty, and students from UT's 15 academic units. The dinner succeeded in bringing together a diverse group of people and enabling them to develop innovative interdisciplinary projects. The dinner also provided a unique networking opportunity.

Requirements for Membership:

We are seeking people who have a commitment to developing leadership in themselves and in others. To be eligible for the Roden Leadership Program, you must:

- Be a full-time Cockrell School of Engineering student in good standing.
- Have demonstrated leadership, teamwork ability, and integrity.
- Graduate in May 2010 or later.

Please note: If you are interested in joining the Roden Leadership Program but you plan to study abroad or co-op in the fall, we still encourage you to apply.

Once selected, Roden Scholars are expected to participate in the program by:

- Actively participating in weekly general and committee meetings.
- Realizing and pursuing their own leadership goals within the context of the program.
- Committing to the development of the program's larger projects.
- Making a significant contribution to the University through their participation.

*Please note: Meeting times are scheduled for **Mondays from 8:15-9:30 pm.***

How to Apply:

Send a scanned copy of the last page of this application along with your essay responses and involvement list to ankita.kaul@gmail.com, by **4:59 pm on Friday, April 10.**

If you have any questions, please contact Ankita Kaul, Roden Chair, at (832) 407-3839 or ankita.kaul@gmail.com.

Contact Information:

Name: _____

Day Phone: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

Academic Information:

Major: _____

Date of first long semester
at UT (*i.e. Fall 2008*) : _____

Expected graduation date: _____

Short Answer Questions:

Please attach typed responses to the following questions. In total, your responses should not exceed two pages.

1. Why do you want to join the Roden Leadership Program?
2. Identify one major problem, be it academic or social, facing The University of Texas at Austin, and describe how you would go about solving this problem.
3. Pick **one** of the following questions:
 - a. Of your many personal experiences, describe one that gave you the feeling of greatest achievement or satisfaction.
 - b. On a separate 8 ½” by 11” blank sheet of white paper, draw yourself 5 years from now.
 - c. Discuss a student at UT (who is not a Roden) who you admire, and explain why.

Experience and Activities:

Please provide a typed list of activities including campus involvement, work experience, awards and honors, community service, and anything else you find relevant. You may submit a resume for employment, but **leadership experience and ability** are most important in the selection process. Please limit your list to one page. Letters of Recommendation are not needed, and will not be accepted.