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# **ERC Beyond NSF - Sustainability**

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# Engineering Design Research Center (EDRC)

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- Built upon pre-existing Design Research Center with decade of experience
- Design across engineering
  - All six engineering departments plus business, computer science
  - Design “stuff” (chemical, material science) and “things” (mechanical, electrical, civil)
  - NSF funding 1986-1997



# EDRC Sustainability

- Secure Funding for core
  - Initially fixed, then incentive based
- Secure discretionary funding
  - Seed new projects (PITA – state funding)
- Define personnel
  - Research faculty in Engineering College
  - Director treated as Department Head
- Define mission
  - Broadened scope, changed name to ICES (Institute for Complex Engineered Systems)



# EDRC Sustainability - continued

- Insure non-compete with departments
  - Different funding model
    - Departments – grad students
    - ICES – research funding
      - Not degree granting so no students, student funding goes to departments
  - Clearly define guidelines for handling proposals
    - ICES multi-disciplinary – seek grants that single departments not likely to be competitive in
  - Get release time from departments for faculty to teach ICES courses
- Develop unique services to attract faculty
  - Business personnel with experience with multiple agencies beyond typical department
  - Graphics designer

