

Mark Handler
Engineering 90
Topic Proposal
24 September 2004

For my senior project, I'd like to work on the fuel cell. The project was started by Dave Collins '03 for his senior project, and work was continued by Jesse Hartigan '04 for his Engineering 81 final project. Though I haven't talked to Professor Macken about the project since I first approached him as being interested, I'd assume he'd be willing to serve as my advisor for the project.

The most recent document I've been able to access regarding the project is the final paper that Jesse prepared for the project. In it he discusses the steps taken to improve Dave's design. He also briefly explains the ignition problem that Dave reported and his corrective measures, but he has not completed these measures. Thus the initial scope of the project will be to complete these design improvements and finish leak testing. If the fuel cell works at this point, then the remainder of the project will be measuring efficiency and performing other improvements. If the fuel cell is still non-functional, then getting the fuel cell in working order will precede the steps described above.