USE-INSPIRED BASIC RESEARCH: PROGRESS THROUGH MULTIDISCIPLINARY AND INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLABORATIONS
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Although most scholarly training is undertaken in single disciplinary communities, the complexity of contemporary problems requires input from disciplines with both close and less apparent connections to the problems for engineered solutions to be comprehensive and to be most relevant to the use context. Despite this need, progression towards multi- and interdisciplinarity in research and education is slow because it requires leaving zones of comfort and cultivating openness to continuous learning amongst researchers. In this talk, various benefits of use-inspired research will be discussed through examples of research in design, manufacturing, healthcare, cognition domains. Multi- and interdisciplinarity, use of authentic data, and difficulties and benefits of collaborative research will be discussed in relation to product/system design and development theory, sustainability, innovation, and product and supply chain research domains.

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