ILLINOIS INNOVATION PRIZE

TECHNOLOGY ENTREPRENEUR CENTER
ENGINEERING AT ILLINOIS

Daniel Gardner is a senior studying Electrical Engineering and co-founder and CEO of Mesh++, a startup that uses efficient Internet-of-Things technology to bring flexible wireless communication networks to developing countries, festivals, construction sites, and public parks.

Daniel thinks of innovation as being able to see something in a new light, to bring out a solution that was not clear before. Mesh++ provides ground-level solar-powered access points and resource storage based on an overhead 5GHz mesh that reconfigures based on traffic. This allows them to be installed by simply placing nodes within range of each other; without the need for an electrical grid or central server. With Wi-Fi comes educational materials, e-commerce, and many other life-changing technologies.

Daniel and his work on Mesh++ won the top prize at the largest ever ECE Senior Design competition at Illinois and a spot in the iVenture Accelerator. In February, they accepted an offer from Mayor Rahm Emanuel to install networks in Chicago's Douglas Park.

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2017 FINALIST
DANIEL GARDNER
Senior, Electrical & Computer Engineering