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How do you help the auto manufacturing industry be more energy efficient? You bring together a team of Duke undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty with outside experts. Working directly with General Motors, Nissan, and Toyota, Duke students and faculty developed creative solutions to analyze energy use in the manufacturing process, explored using renewable energy at plants, and developed models to understand how the weather impacts the amount of energy used to paint vehicles. The students now plan to present their findings at a national industry conference. All of this was made possible through Bass Connections, a new initiative that brings students from different disciplines together to solve complex problems.

At Duke we’re tackling local and global challenges every day. The Duke Forward campaign will help us develop future leaders who understand the importance of working together to solve real-world issues. Our goal is to raise $3.25 billion for strategic university priorities, including $100 million for Bass Connections to elevate Duke’s commitment to hands-on, problem-based learning. We’ll also focus on core priorities like financial aid and faculty support. Join us and help make a difference. Every donation to Duke, including gifts to all schools and programs, helps us reach our goal.

To make a gift to Duke Forward, visit dukeward.duke.edu