Designing the future of electric racing

As Formula E grows in popularity and raises the profile of electric vehicle racing, the need for entry-level electric race cars has become more evident.

Oxford Brookes University (OBU), in partnership with racing car manufacturer Dallara Automobili, is developing a new electric race car that will give enthusiasts a taste of what electric racing is all about.

Plugging the gap
In 2014, Dallara approached OBU’s Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mathematical Sciences with the idea of developing a more affordable electric racing vehicle. OBU accepted the challenge and began one of its most ambitious ventures: the Formula Club-E Development Project.

The project was scheduled for four years and is now midway through completion. More than 100 postgraduate MSc students will have collectively contributed over 60,000 hours to this project by the end of the fourth year.

The winning Formula
Every detail of the vehicle, from chassis dynamics and battery safety to the business model, is being developed by OBU's MSc students, guided at every step of the way by experts at Dallara. This is an excellent learning opportunity for the students, and crucially prepares them for employment.

More than a concept
The project still has some questions to be answered and components to be finalised. As emerging technologies can now be rapidly simulated and evaluated, the team is actively looking for partners to help contribute to the project.

If you would like to learn more about the Formula Club-E project, or find out how you can contribute to this venture, please contact mems-enquiry@brookes.ac.uk with the subject 'Dallara'.