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MICHAEL AUSTIN



## 11. Gowned and ready to go

In April, leaders from M Health Fairview asked College of Science and Engineering professor Steven Saliterman for help designing disposable isolation gowns for health care workers. Within two weeks, 17 of his biomedical engineering students had created a safe, functional gown design that could be rapidly manufactured.



STEVEN SALITERMAN

Students, working mostly from home and through videoconferencing, created drawings and prototypes; worked with M Health Fairview doctors and nurses, and faculty from the College of Design to finalize the design; sourced a Food and Drug Administration-certified material; and found a local manufacturer to produce the gowns.

“The exposure I gained in this project was as valuable as any course work I’ve done here at the University,” says Sam Newell, ’20 B.S., a scholarship recipient who was in charge of manufacturing for the initiative.

The manufacturer, Red Fox Innovations, made more than 30,000 gowns for M Health Fairview and local nursing homes. Additional manufacturers have since begun making them.

**BY KIM KISER, JUSTIN HARRIS, AND AMY SITZE**