
PURDUE EWB

January/February/March 2014

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Recent News

Welcome back as we venture into a brand new semester and calendar year. Due to unforeseen snow days, Purdue's EWB chapter was not able to have a few of their meetings. But not to fear, that did not stop the EWB from

making progress these past two months. The progress included trips to local bio-digesters, deciding on a travel team and group socials. Here is the first newsletter of this semester.

Summer Assessment Trip

Due to unforeseen events, we had to postpone our trip over winter break. Due to students graduating we had to select new traveling members for the upcoming summer assessment trip. The new traveling members will be joining Katherine Schmotzer and Michael Frank who were selected last semester. The selected members are Julie Woodworth and Lauren Reuland. Julie is a sophomore in Civil Engineering and is really hoping to grow as an individual and better understand a different part of the world. Lauren is a freshman who plans on studying Industrial Engineering. Lauren is passionate about traveling to different countries

and learning about other cultures and is really looking forward to the opportunity to use the resources available here at Purdue to help others that can really benefit from our help. Aside from Julie and Lauren, we have also selected alternates. The alternates include our president Thalib Razi and Anna Voyles. Thalib is a junior in Mechanical Engineering and Anna Voyles is a planning on studying Civil Engineering. Congratulations to all the members selected! With a new trip advisor, we hope to move forward with the project!

February Trip to BioTown Ag

Members met up with the Cincinnati chapter of EWB due to similar project interests and research. After meeting up, Purdue EWB traveled to BioTown Ag, a short 30-minute drive to Reynolds, IN, and visited the facility to learn more about biogas digesters. BioTown Ag has 6 1MG engines, with the goal to have 5MG engines later on. This form of energy generation is 100% sustainable. This specific facility has 4000 cattle, which in turn create 100 tons of manure to be used. The process takes approximately 21 days to turn the manure into energy.

Purdue hopes to take the information they gained from



their visit and apply it to the current project. With connections to BioTown Ag and fellow university chapter in Cincinnati, Purdue EWB Chapter hopes to move forward after the initial assessment with greater knowledge. These connections are very important to have at the beginning stages as we move forward.

Travel Team Announced

The issue Purdue's chapter came across was finding a travel mentor to accompany the students to Uganda. This semester we were able to find a mentor, Roger Ward, whose background is below:

Roger is a senior technical adviser for drinking water and wastewater projects. He retired after 40 years of service to HNTB where he was national leader of the water services practice, HNTB Fellow, and performed project engineering and management on a wide variety of municipal and industrial water, wastewater and sludge handling projects. He is a life and honorary member of the Indiana Water Environment Association, participates on the Engineers Without Borders Technical Advisory Committee, is a Board Certified Environmental Engineer of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists, and is a registered Professional Engineer in Indiana, Ohio and Florida. He has also served as an adjunct professor in environmental engineering at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. He has B.S. Biological Engineering, Rose-Hulman and M.S. Engineering from Purdue. Roger's project bio-gas design, construction and operation experience includes seven municipal wastewater treatment plants with design treatment capacities ranging from 2 to 40 million gallons per day. Each plant has anaerobic digestion, digester gas handling and safety equipment and digester gas-fired boiler heating. One plant also included digester gas-fired engine electric generators.



Meet Our Members Katherine Schmotzer

Name: Katherine Schmotzer

Hometown: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Class & Major: Sophomore in Civil Engineering

Why did you join EWB? I joined EWB so that I could have an impact on the world to use my skills to help others that I wouldn't be able to help otherwise. I think it's really amazing that as a student I can help people halfway across the world, and change their lives forever while also helping to change mine.

What do you hope to accomplish at your time at Purdue? While at Purdue I want to make the most of my time with all that I do. I want to work my hardest to be the best student I can be so I can obtain a great degree to prepare me for a future career. But I also want to make the most of my college years by spending it busy with new experiences and activities while being surrounded by great friends.

What are your plans for after college? After Purdue I hope to become a successful civil engineer specializing on building and construction projects, possibly someday opening my own design build firm. I also hope to continue working with Engineers Without Borders throughout my professional career.

Favorite Purdue memory so far? I can't pinpoint a specific favorite memory but I love the nights spent staying up late (doing homework of course) and just laughing and talking with my friends and roommates. This happens almost every night, which is probably why I never get much done.

We'll be sure to catch up with her after she gets back from Uganda! Best of luck to her!

Contact Information

Officers:

President

Thalib Razi, arazi@purdue.edu

Vice President

Emily Briggs, briggs3@purdue.edu

Treasurer

Dan Ellinwood, dellinwo@purdue.edu

Secretary

Ana Valenca, avalenca@purdue.edu

Communication Manager

Ellen Wright, wrigh185@purdue.edu

Events Planner

Rachel Lucas, lucas27@purdue.edu

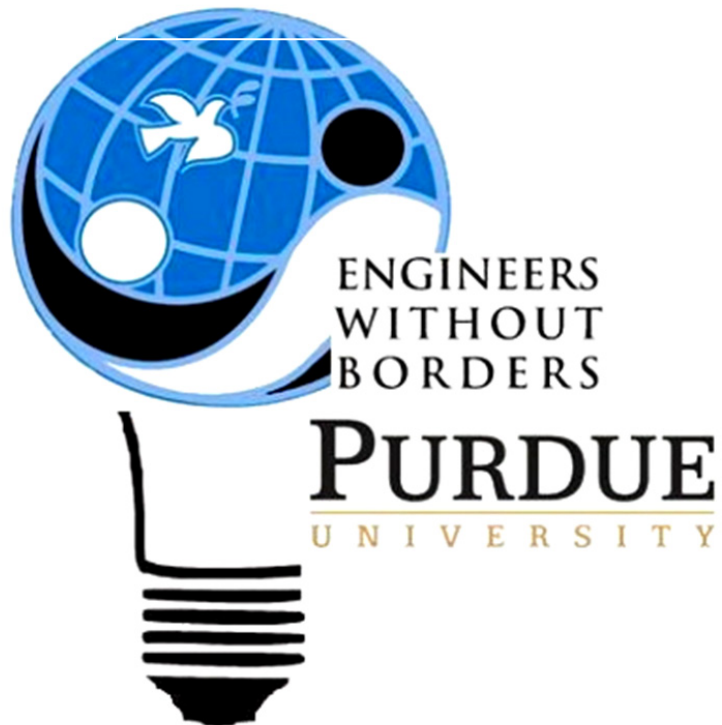
Advisors:

Mary Schweitzer

Program Manager, Global
Engineering Program
marygs@purdue.edu

Dr. Riall Nolan

Professor, Department of
Anthropology
rwnolan@purdue.edu



Global Engineering Program

Hampton Hall of Civil Engineering, Room 1259
Purdue University
550 Stadium Mall Drive
West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA