



engineers without borders
ingénieurs sans frontières
Canada

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS

This summer, I represented the Queen's Chapter of Engineers Without Borders in Malawi in East Africa, through the Junior Fellowship Program. With the support of the Applied Science Class of 1962, I worked with EWB's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Coordination venture and supported the institutionalization of the Sector Wide Approach (SWAp) to governance in Malawi's water sector.

WASH Coordination is one of two new ventures that have emerged from years of work carried out in Malawi by the former Water and Sanitation (WatSan) venture. For years, WatSan has worked at all levels of the WASH sector to lead systemic change. By aligning donor groups' investments and NGOs' activities with government priorities and the general public's needs, WatSan has catalyzed a shift from "projectized" approaches to a sustained service delivery model. Now, WASH Coordination and its sister venture WASH Catalysts are working towards an exit strategy that will ensure government ownership of an adaptable and effective WASH sector.

Since I joined Queen's EWB as Vice President of Member Learning and Development a year and a half ago, this organization has become a central aspect of my life. Last year I engaged chapter members by organizing weekly 'No Borders' meetings, frequently shared articles for discussion and debate, and organized various other learning opportunities for my peers.

Leading up to my summer placement, I worked with the chapter's incoming executive to develop a strategy to include and engage Queen's EWB members in the Junior Fellowship experience. This strategy aimed to create opportunities for students to connect with EWB's ventures overseas and in Canada. I believe one of my primary responsibilities is to foster healthy critical discussions about our work so that we may stay focused and ensure that our values are reflected in our impact.

Now, I am bringing new perspectives back to the Queen's chapter and continuing the work I did this year at a higher level. Whenever possible I look to initiate valuable learning opportunities and spark ideas for meaningful action. Specifically I have run several workshops so far, I am co-leading the chapter's new food systems portfolio, and I will be involved with hiring and mentoring next year's Junior Fellow. Throughout the year I will continue the discussion that began last year regarding ways to optimize the effectiveness of the Junior Fellowship program for future leaders within our chapter. Finally, I will do my best to guide our chapter forward in the complex world of engineering and development, and identify and mentor new leaders to carry our work forward in subsequent years.

My participation in the 2015 Junior Fellowship program and all of the benefits this brings to our chapter would not have been possible without the generous support of the Applied Science Class of 1962. I and all the members of Queen's Engineers Without Borders are sincerely grateful to all of those who have made this possible, and we look forward to collaborating again in the coming year.



Sincerely,
Brett Crowley

Returned Junior Fellow,
Engineers Without Borders
Queen's University Chapter