



EWBQUARTERLY

northwestern chapter

GUATEMALA ASSESSMENT TRIP



by Raj Patel

A group of 5 students from Northwestern's chapter of Engineers Without Borders and a professor from the Civil Engineering department travelled to Guatemala to assess a ravine for the future construction of a bridge. Senior Brandon Tanner and Sophomore Raj Patel led other EWB members Celia Chagnovich, Kelly Davis, and Taylor Reyes.

The group spent a total of 7 days abroad, taking a clinometer and other measuring equipment with them. They met with the COCODES, or local leaders, of the Los Llanos community on the outskirts of Joyabaj. The COCODES agreed to a partnership, leaving the bridge design and construction oversight to members of EWB-NU.

The bridge will provide the local communities quicker and

more efficient access to Guatemala City, saving them about 1.5 hours for each journey. This time saved can be especially helpful when accessing the hospital and medicine found in the capital.

Professor David Corr served as mentor of the group as EWB-NU members scaled a sharp ravine to take physical measurements of the bridge site. Using a clinometer and total station, EWB-NU collected valuable dimensional data which can build help their models of river flow and overall designs of the bridge.

With the support of the locals in Los Llanos, the municipality of Joyabaj, and the NU chapter of Engineers Without Borders, EWB-NU hopes to go back and implement a bridge over winter break 2018.

WELLNESS SPOTLIGHT

by Emily Patnaude

The VP of Wellness is one of the newest of the executive positions within the EWB team. At the beginning of the 2016-2017 academic year, EWB implemented someone to serve the organization as a resource and leader in promoting positive mental, physical and emotional wellness. I, Emily Patnaude, took on this role and have been in this position since then. Initially the role was very undefined, and many different approaches were taken to find the perfect formula that fit our organization. First, I tried small 5 minute segments to discuss issues such as stress management during the general meetings, but this was very ineffective. Then, I tried running an event during the general meeting, but this cut into the time set for working on our organization's projects and was also deemed ineffective. 2 years later, a plan of action has been put in place that seems to be working very well! Every month there is a wellness event outside of set EWB meeting times, sometimes it's on campus, at places like ARTica, and other times it's in a more causal place like my apartment. Whether it is holding a game night, painting mugs, or watching movies, the role of VP of Wellness has helped bring members of EWB together and created a more close-knit community.

CHECK US OUT!

 /EWBNU

 @EWBNU

<http://ewbnu.org>



EWB QUARTERLY

page two



MENTORSHIP UPDATE

by Patrick Bomher

This winter, EWB-NU's Mentorship team has been hard at work getting kids excited about Science and Engineering! We have been taking weekly visits to McCutcheon Middle School on the North Side of Chicago, where we have been helping science teacher Gerard Kovach prepare for the start of a cool new program called FUSE. In this new series of science challenges, the middle schoolers will get to pick what challenge they want to independently pursue, with help from both Mr. Kovach and the EWB mentors. Some challenges include making a 3D mold of their

face with a 3D printer, designing a "Dream House" using CAD software, and building the fastest marble roller coaster possible out of recycled materials. To help put this program into action, our mentors have been helping students select projects, setting up 3D printers, and installing the necessary software onto new laptops for students to use. We are looking forward to learning just as much as the kids will about these cool and exciting topics!

Our presence, according to Mr. Kovach, is really helpful to the kids. We have been able to save the staff at McCutcheon a lot of valuable time

with the laptop and hardware set-up. Kovach also said that mentors merely being there at the school helps motivate the students and get them involved.

We are looking forward to using the money we earned in the Catalyzer campaign this past fall to bring the McCutcheon students to campus in the spring, as well as another student group from Waukegan. The group, Waukegan to College, has very similar goals to our own mentorship program with McCutcheon. Finally, we are working on developing our relationship with Frank Reilly Elementary. Stay tuned for more updates in the spring!

**COMING
UP FOR
EWB!**

- **Blaze Profit Share: 3/3 (5-8 PM) 1737 Sherman Ave**
- **Wellness Board Game Night: 3/17 (7-9 PM)**
- **EWB Great Lakes Region Workshop: 4/7-4/8**