# **EWH CHAPTER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION REPORT**

Chapter/University Name: EWH at Virginia Common Wealth University (VCU)

Date: 4/1/2014

#### PROGRAMS/PROJECTS DESCRIPTION

## **Design Projects:**

In our first year as a student chapter of EWH, members have started working on an otoacoustic emission system for testing infants too young for audiometer exams for hearing loss. The design interfaces with Android smart phones and focuses upon affordability and portability. This system is being designed by junior members of the chapter under the oversight of senior members and graduate level engineers.

#### **Kit Builds and STEM:**

The VCU School of Engineering hosts a series of community oriented STEM activities throughout the year. EWH-VCU was heavily involved in these events, presenting young, aspirant engineers with kit builds: on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2013, a little over 50 girl scouts between the ages of 12 and 15 attended VCU School of Engineering's Girl Scout Outreach Day, where EWH-VCU was heavily involved, hosting a phototherapy kit build STEM activity; on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013, around 30 middle school students attended the MathScience Innovation Center's "Let's Innovate!" STEM event, at which EWH-VCU hosted a phototherapy kit build; after hosting these two events, the Department of Biomedical Engineering has incorporated our phototherapy STEM activity and EWH kits into the lab portion of VCU's EGRB 102 Intro to Biomedical Engineering class helping us reach more than 60 students.

#### ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

## **Chapter Structure and Statistics:**

EWH-VCU was accepted as an EWH chapter on May 20, 2013. Since then, we have had 35 VCU engineers join us as student chapter members along with five National members. We have monthly general body meetings open to all members and students with over 20 people attending on average, as well as weekly Executive Board meetings in which our officers plan activities, assign tasks and discuss current events as well as future directions with six officers attending on average.

In order to adequately run this sizable, multifaceted organization, EWH-VCU features a unique committee based system where events and tasks are designated as fund-raising, design, outreach or membership and assigned to their appropriate, student-run committee. Each committee is headed by a committee chair who is in charge of organizing and leading the

committee.

Six members of EWH-VCU applied to the 2014 EWH Summer Institute Program, and among those six members, five were accepted. As of April 2014, EWH-VCU and the applicants have gathered \$15,000 through scholarship and crowd funding to help pay for this experience, and we are working towards \$20,000. Additionally, EWH-VCU students who travel will receive VCU course credit for their time abroad.

## **Fundraising approaches:**

EWH-VCU has approached fundraising through several mediums: letters were sent to many local businesses to introduce our chapter and ask for donations, yielding an income of \$400 thus far; in response to the STEM activity EWH-VCU presented to the MathScience Innovation Center, EWH-VCU was presented with an honorarium of \$150; we are holding an event at a local frozen yogurt store where we are given a portion of the sales for the evening; EWH-VCU is hosting a Formal Dinner event, with guest speaker Leslie Calman, in order to raise awareness and funds; we are providing the VCU School of Engineering with EWH-VCU advertisements that they can take with them when they solicit major corporations for donations; finally, we have set up a crowd funding webspace to provide information about the EWH Summer Institute program and the EWH-VCU members who have been accepted into it.

# Other chapter activities:

In addition to the Formal Dinner and frozen yogurt events described above, EWH-VCU has been very active in VCU's social events. We have attended the VCU SOVO Fair, a university wide student organization recruiting fair in order to bolster our numbers; 130 students signed up to be added to our emailing list as a result. EWH-VCU also attended the Engineering Freshman BBQ, a School of Engineering event geared towards new engineers entering the university, and this event added 50 more emails to our listsery. In addition, we have attended four separate Engineering Open House events at the School of Engineering to introduce prospective students to the plethora of departments and student-led organizations within the School of Engineering.

Outside of recruitment and orientation, EWH-VCU served hot chocolate to students during the VCU School of Engineering E-Week (Engineering Week). We are currently planning "Study Break," an event organized jointly with other VCU student organizations: the purpose of this event is to give students a place to unwind while studying for their finals, and we plan to feature stress balls, board games, video games, massage therapists, baked goods and ice cream to help VCU students relax. We also are planning a T-shirt Design competition for our EWH-VCU members, offering a chance for them to win free membership for the next year if their EWH-VCU T-shirt design is chosen. Finally, we have also hosted guest speaker Ben Fleishman, the EWH Student Programs Manager, to speak to our general body about the Summer Institute Program and plan to feature EWH CEO Leslie Calman at our Formal Dinner event.

# APPENDIX - PHOTOS, TABLES, SCHEMATICS AND ADDITIONAL MATERIAL



Booth at Freshman BBQ, Engineering Open House, and SOVO Fair where we talked to perspective members about our organization.



Booth at Broad Street Mile where we talked to perspective members about our organization.



Our Executive Board and Committee Chairs



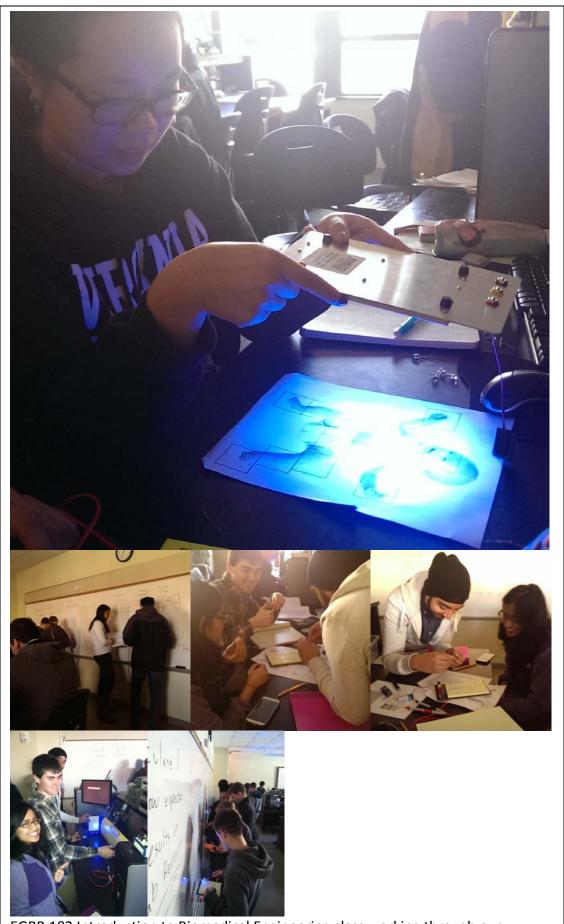
Our 1<sup>st</sup> general body meeting where we outlined out planned activities for the year and asked members to take an active role in our committee system.



MathScience Innovation Center's "Lets Innovate!" Conference where middle school students learned about engineering in the developing world with our phototherapy STEM activity.



Engineering Havoc day where Girl Scouts visited VCU's to learn about engineering. At our booth we helped the students work through the phototherapy STEM activity



EGRB 102 Introduction to Biomedical Engineering class working through our phototherapy STEM activity.







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monday, february 17th Doengineering west, 301

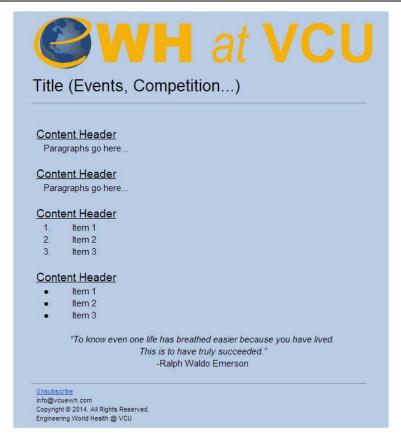
Students and faculty unwinding at our Hot Chocolate Happy Hour.



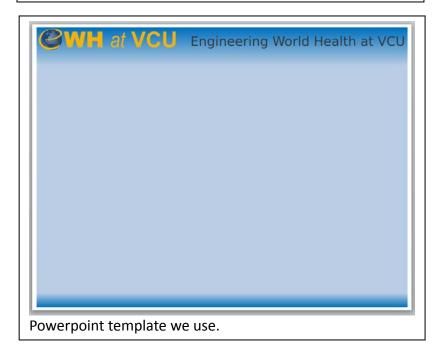
Poster presentation at VCU's Global Health Showcase conference where we showcased what we have been working on and plan to do.

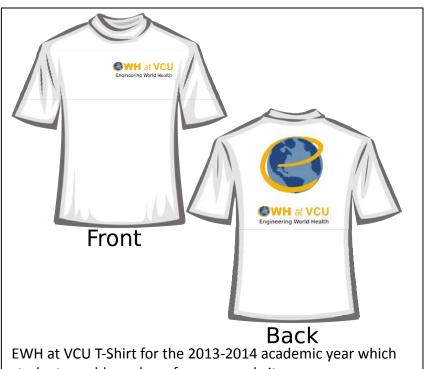


Students accepted into the EWH Summer Institute program.

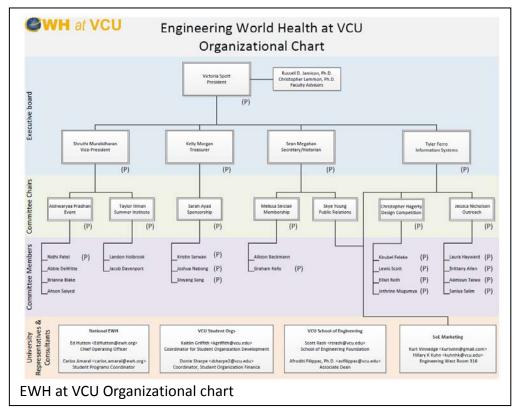


Email template used when sending messages to members to help our emails stand out from the crowed.





EWH at VCU T-Shirt for the 2013-2014 academic year which students could purchase from our website.



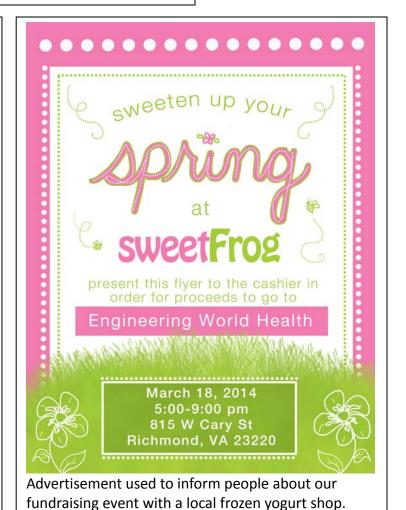


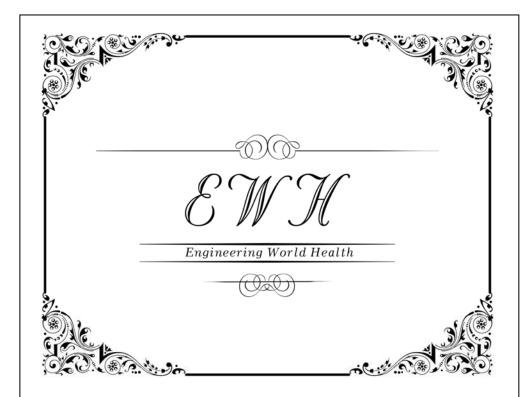
international trip to hospitals in a developing nation. Participating students will learn about the culture and technical information for one month to ultimately repair medical equipment for another month. If you are interested in more information on going on this summer's trip to Tanzania, Rwanda or Nicaragua, please contact Landon Holbrook at holbrookLT@vcu.edu as soon as possible or visit our website at vcuewh.com/travel. The application deadline is Feb 7th!

Advertisement shown on the screens in the main atrium to raise interest in Summer Institute.



Advertisement used to help raise money for out Summer Institute students.







YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO THE

1st Engineering World Shealth Formal Fundraising Dinner

TO BENEFIT THE SUMMER INSTITUTE RECIPIENTS



Monday, April 28th at 7:00pm University Student Commons- Richmond Salons 907 Floyd Ave., Richmond, VA



Join us for a special evening that includes a keynote speaker, dinner, performances, and a silent auction. All funds raised from tickets and auction sale will fund VCU students to travel to developing countries



PLEASE RSVP BY PURCHASING TICKETS AT WWW.VCUEWH.COM/DINNER FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT AYADSA@VCU.EDU

Invitations sent on paper and electronically to encourage faculty and students to attend our 1<sup>st</sup> formal diner designed to raise money for our Summer Institute students.