

## EWB MID-ATLANTIC PROFESSIONALS CHAPTER MEETING NOTES

Meeting Date: February 4, 2010  
 Meeting Time: 6:30 p.m.  
 Meeting Place: 162 Curtis Hall, Drexel University

### 1. Introductions

- Walt Walker was recognized for his hard work and dedication for the past year as the president of the chapter
- Bob introduced all new present officers
  - Bob DiFillipo – President
  - Russ Turner – Vice-president
  - Rich Cairncross – Treasurer
  - Renee Philip – Secretary
  - Samantha Saggett – Student Chapter Lead (for Rowan, Delaware, and Drexel EWB student chapters)
  - Zeeshan Khadim – Student Chapter Lead (for UPenn, Villanova, and Widener EWB student chapters)
  - Finance Committee: Rich Cairncross, Vinay Sao (Rwanda representative), Matt Rutt (Philippines representative), Lisa Schneider (El Salvador representative)
  - Walt Walker – Local Projects & Outreach Coordinator
  - Project leads are the same as before
- EWB-MAP welcomed three students from Univ. of Pennsylvania to invite chapter members to a fundraising event. See the attached electronic flyer.

### 2. News and Events

- Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup> will be the next chapter meeting.
- The annual EWB Conference is scheduled March 18<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> in Denver. Early registration fee for EWB member is \$360. If you have a presentation (for example project summary) accepted, EWB will provide \$250 to help with costs. Also, reduced hotel rate of \$99 per night is available with early registration.
- Drexel is having a student panel conference on water concerns on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:30am to 5pm. It is a free event. Please RSVP on the website.
- There is a CPR certification class set up by Amanda Jacobs on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. EWB requires one member of every travel team to be CPR certified by the Red Cross. The class will hold up to 25 people, and currently, there are 10-12 members registered. The cost is \$80 per person, and the check must be made out to Amanda. Please contact Amanda if you have further questions.
- Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup> is World Water Day. In honor of this day, the Art Institute will be showing a PBS movie, "Revolutionary River" at 3pm. A reception will follow at the Waterworks center.
- Baby blue EWB-MAP polo shirts are selling at \$30/shirt. The proceeds go to the chapter. Make a check out to EWB-USA. The group wants to sell the last of these shirts to get a new design.
- Try to establish a project with Neighbors in Action. Need at least 10 people to establish a project on a potential date of March 20<sup>th</sup>.
  - A neighborhood is designated, and members help to clean it up (examples could be to clean graffiti, fix the playground, clean streets, etc.)

### 3. Project Summaries and Updates

- Brian Hamill provided a historical account of the Las Delicias water distribution project currently in the data collection and planning stage. Issues include water quality, water-borne illness, budget

for electricity limits time pump can run, and water distribution equity. Assessment trip is being planned for March or April 2010.

- Amanda Jacobs presented a summary of the Apatut, Philippines water supply project (“Water for Life”). Residents of the village currently do not have access to clean water. Water is drawn from current water source - contaminated shallow wells, resulting in water-borne illness. EWB-MAP is partnering with local (Philadelphia and Philippines) Rotary International and a University in the Philippines to develop a plan to tap into a clean natural spring water source a short distance from the town and transfer the clean water to the village. Preliminary design will include water distribution to 3 shared taps. Local University partner will perform land survey. Assessment trip planned for end of March. Fundraising has collected about \$6,500 of the estimated \$55,000 needed. A fundraising event is to be set up around the boxing match with the Filipino boxer Pacio on March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Bob DiFillipo gave a synopsis of updates with the Rwanda project. The post-implementation team is leaving next Friday and will be present in the area for 12 days. During the implementation stage, 46 latrines were repaired, and during this trip, the goals will be to educate and reach out to the community. They will also scope out the implementation in a nearby clinic, assess another village with 17 homes. They will bring all the information available back to the chapter to finalize plans of their next project.

#### 5. Newsletter

- Roll out of newsletter in late April to include updates with project teams and recent service events.
- The newsletter will be a platform to advertise for an upcoming fundraiser event for the chapter.
  - Looking for volunteers to manage/brainstorm/coordinate the event; at least 2-3 people
    - Speak to Bob if you’re interested

#### \*\*\* Next Meeting

- The next EWB-MAP Chapter meeting will convene on **Thursday, March 4th at 6:30 p.m.** Meeting place will be 162 Curtis Hall, Drexel University.