



Engineers Without Borders – UMN Chapter Constitution

PREAMBLE

We, a number of motivated and socially responsible students of the Institute of Technology at the University of Minnesota, accept and subscribe to the following Constitution and By-laws, in accordance with which all affairs of our organization shall be governed.

Article 1: Engineers Without Borders

Section 1 – Name:

The name of this organization shall be: Engineers Without Borders – University of Minnesota Chapter (EWB-UMN).

Section 2 – Mission Statement:

The mission of Engineers Without Borders - University of Minnesota (EWB-UMN) is to partner with disadvantaged communities around the world, and to improve their quality of life through implementation of engineered projects that prove environmentally and economically sustainable. Our goals are achieved through cooperation with each other, fellow institutions, and mentors on the basis of commitment, persistence and concern for the recipients of our efforts. We strive to uphold and advance our principles for international responsibility and look forward to applying the experience in our future engineering careers.

Section 3 – Relation to UMN:

EWB-UMN shall abide by the applicable rules and policies of the University of Minnesota pertaining to student organizations. EWB-UMN is designated as a University Campus Life Program (CLP). The chapter shall be directly affiliated with the department of Civil Engineering.

Section 4 – Statement of Non-profit Status:

EWB-UMN shall operate as a non-profit organization.

Article 2: Affiliation

Section 1 – National Affiliation:

EWB-UMN is a student chapter of Engineers Without Borders – USA, and will abide by the student chapter agreement between Engineers Without Borders-USA, Inc. and the University of Minnesota Board of Regents.

Article 3: Officers

Section 1 – President:

The President's responsibilities shall include presiding over all executive, general, and special meetings, representing EWB on and off campus, managing external relations of the chapter,

maintaining contact with the University, the Institute of Technology, the Student Activities Office, EWB-USA, and any other affiliated organizations, in addition to developing new university and industry contacts both as mentors and guest speakers, cosigning checks, maintaining regular communication with the faculty advisor. The President shall be the primary contact for all official business and the availability of the President shall be “on call” at all times.

Section 2 – Vice President:

The Vice President’s responsibilities shall include presiding over all executive, general, and special meetings in the absence of the President, identification and resolution of conflicts within the group, managing internal relations of the chapter, reporting project status to the executive committee on behalf of the project leaders, leading all recruitment and promotional activities, administrating the project development process by assisting Project Managers and helping meet their goals, ensure organizational needs are met, and coordinating EWB-UMN activities. The Vice President shall be “on call” at all times.

Section 3 – Financial Manager

The Financial Manager’s responsibilities shall include disbursement of funds from accounts, maintaining accurate record of transactions, collecting dues, arranging fundraising opportunities in collaboration with the President and Vice President, developing and maintaining organizational and project budgets.

Section 4 – Administrator

The Administrator’s responsibilities shall include maintaining and posting an accurate record of all organization meetings, maintaining and posting a current list of present and alumni members, maintaining the EWB-UMN website, maintaining and distributing EWB-UMN email, and assisting in all recruitment and promotional activities.

Section 5- Public Relations

The public relations practitioner shall manage and supervise the technical functions that foster UMN-EWB’s ability to strategically listen to, appreciate, and respond to those whose mutually beneficial relationships with the organization are necessary if it is to achieve its missions and values. They will be directly involved with other officers in outreach and fund-raising programs.

Article 4: Faculty Advisor and Mentors

Section 1 – Faculty Advisor:

The group will function with a volunteer faculty advisor from the Institute of Technology, preferably through the department of Civil Engineering. The responsibility of the Faculty Advisor will be to meet with officers regularly to assist with any issues that may arise and to ensure that the organization is operating in conformity with the standards set forth by EWB-UMN and the University of Minnesota.

Section 2 –Professional Mentors:

Professional mentors will be sought to mentor and advise project teams. Professional mentors will volunteer their time and efforts toward the betterment of EWB-UMN and the projects undertaken by the group.

Article 5: By-Laws

Section 1 – Propositions of By-Laws:

By-Laws may be proposed by the membership and may be adopted, with prior approval of the Executive Committee, by a majority vote of the general voting membership present.

Article 6: Amendments

Section 1 – Proposition of Amendments:

Any member of the organization may propose an amendment to the Constitution. Said amendment must be submitted in writing to the Executive Board for approval and a first reading to the General Membership at least two (2) full weeks prior to the meeting at which the proposed amendment is to be voted on.

Section 2 – Ratification of Amendments:

Duly proposed amendments shall be submitted to a vote of the general voting membership, providing the meeting satisfies the constitution requirements. A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote in favor shall be required for adoption of such amendments.

