



Engineers Without Borders February Newsletter

We are the University of Rochester Chapter of Engineers Without Borders USA. Our organization designs and executes engineering projects to find sustainable solutions for problems faced by developing communities. Our chapter's current project is a clean water system in Don Juan, Dominican Republic.

WHAT WE'RE UP TO
THIS MONTH

Our Project

This past January our travel team went on a second monitoring trip to Don Juan. The main goal was to test the previously implemented water chlorination system and install a backup solar-powered system, allowing access to potable water during power outage periods. The bacterial tests conducted on our system came back negative for both E. coli and coliform.

Our team also hosted an educational program with the students demonstrating how solar power works, and a workshop with community leaders and school maintenance on setting up the backup system.

Andrew Balogh, tells us more about his experience in this reflection ([link](#)):

“This was my first engineering trip, and I can say it made a huge impact on me. As I continue my collegiate career and continue beyond, these memories will stay with me and motivate me - they remind me why I am pursuing an engineering degree. The experiences drive me to find a path that is as fulfilling as that week in the Dominican Republic.” Read more at our [website](#).

NAE Grand Challenge Project

Our club has resumed working on the Flint Water Project for the NAE Grand Challenge Competition initiated by the Hajim School of Engineering. The team is grateful for the mentorship of Professor Jacob Jorne from the Department of Chemical Engineering whose advice regarding a lead detecting system was valuable. We're currently working on the executive summary and poster presentation for April and May. Read more on our page on the [grand challenges](#).

Meet the New Eboard



We are happy to announce our newly elected members!

- President: Fatou Diop
- Vice President: Emily Schiller
- Secretary: Joshua Batres Wang
- Business Manager: Ahmed Boutar
- Fundraising Coordinator: Aaron Gindi
- Events Coordinator: Mauricio Araiza Canizales
- Program Coordinator: Andrew Balogh
- Project Lead: Emmanuel Debessa
- PMEL: Leonor Teles

Our Events and Fundraisers



The Alasita Fundraising

As part of ramping up our new project, we wanted to bring a bit of the country's culture back to Rochester. In Bolivia, the yearly Alasitas festival brings vibrant street fairs to the capital. Starting January 24th and lasting for a month, small figurines and miniatures are sold to represent wishes for the year to come. For instance, buying a house miniature means that you will gain real-estate in the coming year, and if you purchase a cute llama figure then you can bet you'll come across one in real life. We brought these festivities to Rochester with a miniature sale, and our fuzzy llama miniatures sold out within hours!

**READ MORE ON OUR FACEBOOK
PAGE!**

AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



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