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THP Limited continues to support the engineering industry with its recent relationship with the University of Cincinnati Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Student Chapter. THP was asked to mentor the EWB engineering students to help them design and construct buildings to aid in the education and wellbeing of people living in third world African communities. The following is an interview with THP's Julie Cromwell, P.E., mentor to the EWB UC Student Chapter.



**How did THP get started in EWOB?**

I was approached at the UC SAS Advisory Board meeting and asked if THP would be willing to mentor the student chapter of EWB.

**What is the current status of the project?**

The project is still in the design phase. The student leaders involved in the Burere project will be leaving for Africa in two weeks to get their materials tested and to begin the implementation of the building. Construction will hopefully begin by the end of the year.

**Who specifically is THP working for?**

THP is mentoring the UC Student Chapter of EWB.

**Where is the project located?**

Mara Region, Tanzania

**What is the project?**

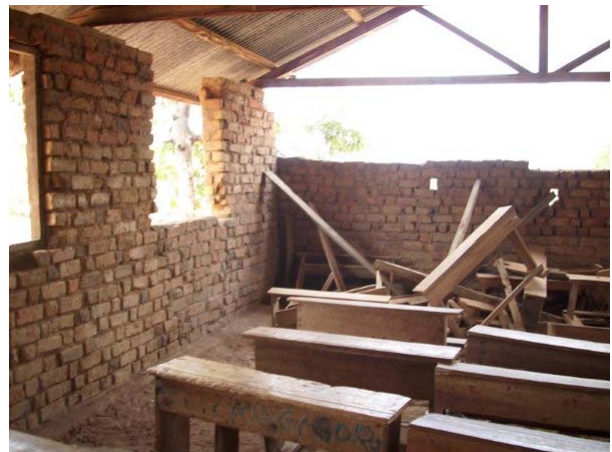
The EWB-UC obtained the Burere School Project from the Village Life Outreach Project (VLOP) in 2008. The existing school house has begun to deteriorate and parts of the building have already collapsed. Many parents will not let their children go to school because the structure is unsafe. There are no other buildings in the village to use as a schoolhouse, so EWB-UC is designing a new schoolhouse and then they will work with local builders to construct the new building.

**What is THP's role?**

THP is helping mentor the students on how to both design and detail a building. We are reviewing the structural design calculations and design drawings for the schoolhouse and are giving guidance and recommendations as the design progresses.

**Who is THP's staff working on the project?**

Myself and Jason Jones, P.E., Principal



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**What engineering challenges have been encountered?**

Becoming familiar with the local building materials and their availability and then using those materials for design. It is challenging to determine the structural capacity of the materials. We are still early in design so I am sure there will be more challenges to come.

**What materials will be used to build the building?**

Local materials including wood trusses, reinforced concrete, and a local ISB material which is a “rammed” sand-cement mixture or a “rammed earth will be tested and used.

**About EWB**

EWB partners with communities in developing countries to implement sustainable long-term solutions. These projects heavily involve education and health to assure projects can remain functional for years to come. Students from all jobs develop practical knowledge in their fields while gaining valuable leadership skills and becoming internationally responsible professionals.

**To donate, sponsor or contact EWB UC Student Chapter:**

**Email Jim Moyer, [president@ewb-uc.org](mailto:president@ewb-uc.org) or go to the website: <http://ewb-uc.org/>**



Photos provided by EWB UC Student Chapter

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