

## **DEVISING A CURRICULUM FOR THE GLOBAL ENGINEER: RECENT CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES AS A GUIDE**

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### **Abstract**

Engineers Without Borders (EWB) is a rapidly expanding network of independent national organizations carrying the EWB title, as well as intra-country networks of Student and Professional Chapters within various countries. There has been considerable interaction recently between visiting teams of professional members of EWB-USA and faculty and student members of EWB-India's Student & Professional Chapters at Hyderabad, India. The visiting EWB-USA teams are engaged in a post-tsunami recovery and reconstruction project on the southeastern coast of India. In addition, EWB-India took the initiative to organize an International Workshop on Technologies for Sustainable Rural Livelihoods, conducted by the faculty of National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad. The workshop was attended by local EWB-India student and professional members and a number of foreign EWB members.

The paper describes, discusses and analyzes the experiences and of several individuals from U.S.A., U.K., and India, who have been exposed to deep cross-cultural interaction with one another, as well as with members of rural communities and grassroots workers in India.

Implications and conclusions drawn from these close encounters, interpreted in the context of a complex, interdependent world striving to resolve its cultural, social, political, economic and technological divisions, indicate an urgent need for equipping engineering students in various countries with new forms of knowledge, skills and sensitivities beyond the pale of traditional engineering programs.

The paper includes specific recommendations on core components of a specifically designed program: Curriculum for the Global Engineer.