Blood Donation Equipment Workshop

In cooperation with Global Medical Aid (GMA) and Vingmed A/S, EWH DTU received two kinds of blood donations equipment. The aim was to test the donated devices and to ensure proper functionality before it is sent off. Before testing the function of the devices, it was a necessity to make sure that all the components of the devices were included. An inventory document for each device was prepared by the 10 participating EWH DTU members. The functionality test of the devices could not be fulfilled as planned, because several parts were lacking. The members showed a great commitment and wanted to solve the problem. Now we are working with a biomedical engineer from GMA, who wants to help with the functional testing. The plan is to arrange a continuation of the workshop in February, to finish the testing of the devices so they can be send to Sri-Lanka.

Summer Institute

Morten Lindhardt Madsen, Design and innovation student

This summer I was in Tanzania on Engineering World Health’s Summer Institute. Two months in a developing country working with medical equipment. In the first month we were taught the basics of the locale language Swahili and taught how to repair medical equipment. The second month I was working at a hospital repairing their medical equipment. After the first month I was sent to the town of Moshi, to work at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Center, together with two American girls, Lauren and Amy. The hospital is the third biggest in Tanzania with just under 1000 beds and 22 departments. We encountered so much equipment that we only had time to work in one of the departments. We found a huge graveyard of equipment behind the surgical intensive care unit with enough equipment for our entire stay. We managed to fix 65 pieces of equipment. The 10 operation rooms (ORs) in the hospital had only one functional automatic anaesthesia machine they had to share when we first arrived; otherwise they used manual ventilation balloons. When we left, all of the ORs had their own functional automatic anaesthesia machines with quick start guides. We also tripled the amount of functional defibrillators from 1 to 3 on the hospital. One-third of the work at the hospital was to be an engineer and to understanding the equipment, all the different parts and modules and to understanding the function of the broken parts. Two-thirds of the work was to be a fundi (Swahili word for handyman) and actually inventing a spare part from a broken tyre, a peanut butter jar or what ever you have lying around. However, the most important part was to earn the trust of the local staff, where basic Swahili was a good tool, and to be open minded and say “Ndiyo” (yes) to whatever came around.
Want to Use Your Science & Engineering Skills To Make A Difference?

Photograph: Adam Garff 2015

Engineering World Health’s Summer Institute is the service abroad program for you! Through the DTU-EWH Summer Institute Nepal, students will help repair much-needed medical equipment in Nepal as the country continues to recover from devastating earthquakes. This program is only open to previous EWH program participants (EWH Alumni) and new students from Nordic Five Tech schools (Aalto University in Finland, Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, Technical University of Denmark, Royal Institute of Technology in Sweden and Norwegian University of Science and Technology). New students will complete a 3 week preparatory course in June 2016 at Technical University of Denmark (DTU) in Lyngby, near Copenhagen. Read more about this course at www.kurser.dtu.dk/31598. If you’re interested in finding out more about this program, visit EWH’s www.ewh.org/nepalsummer or send an email to emailnepal@ewh.org.

Annual General Meeting 2015

At the annual general meeting held the 21st of October 2015 the new board members were elected:

- David Kovacs (Chairman)
- Semira Hissabu (Vice chairman)
- Mikkel Marcussen (Treasurer)
- Martin Guul
- Tine H. Petersen
- Rana Al-tayar
- Morten Lindhardt Madsen

In addition to the board members there were elected coordinators for each of the four committees in EWH DTU to integrate as many students as possible. EWH DTU say a thank you to everyone who showed up for a successful meeting.

Contact informations:
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Operation Lamps Workshop

In fall 2015 EWH DTU started a project with Haldor Topsøe A/S, one of the world’s leading companies within the field of heterogeneous catalysis. Haldor Topsøe A/S had several medical equipment stocked, which EWH DTU had to test, before sending it to a hospital in Nepal. We had a list with all the different inventory that needed to get tested but our main focus was to test the operation lamps. Within two days, 5 EWH DTU volunteers managed to test all 16 operation lamps, of which 8 of them worked. We are still working on finishing up the last things, so we can send the working equipment to Nepal as soon as possible.

Sign Up Today!

Do you want to take part in our organisation and events? Or do you want to become a volunteer in a developing country through EWH? Join today on www.ewh.dtu.dk/Bliv-Medlem and engage in one of our four groups. Membership costs 100 kr. per year.

Member Benefits

1. Get involved in one of EWH DTU’S committees; Education, PR and Networking, Projects or Fundraising.
2. Possibility of financial support from EWH DTU by attending Summer Institutes.
3. Voting rights at the General Assembly.