

**Charter for the  
University of Michigan  
EGL Alumni Fund for Global Leadership**

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*Summary*

The Engineering Global Leadership Volunteer Abroad program (“Program”) was initiated in 2007 for University of Michigan Engineering Global Leadership Honors Program (“EGL”) students. The goals of the Program include gaining international experience, building leadership skills, and developing bonds with other EGL students while performing meaningful service to a community in need. As of 2010, annual projects have occurred in Ecuador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Peru. Volunteer work has consisted of forestry management, rescuing sea turtles, building the foundation for a local radio station, and installing clean burning cook stoves to rural communities.

This document serves as a Charter for the “EGL Alumni Fund for Global Leadership” (“Fund”) which is hereby established to support the continuance and growth of the already successful EGL Volunteer Abroad program. The Fund will operate as a joint venture of the EGL Alumni Advisory Board (“AAB”) and the EGL Honor Society (“Society”).

*Goals of The Fund*

The Fund is intended to maximize participation in the Program by significantly defraying the cost of participation. In addition, by removing financial hurdles to participation, it is intended that more students may participate sooner in the school year and thereby contribute more time to preparing an impactful volunteer activity.

*Program Definition and Qualification for Alumni Funding*

Each year, a project (“Project”) will be chosen by the EGL students interested in attending at the beginning of the winter semester. The Project will be organized by an EGL Volunteer Abroad Coordinator (“Coordinator”) who will be elected by the Society in the fall of each academic year. It is intended that the Coordinator be a student who participated in the Program in the past, however, the student holding the position may be elected based on other credentials and experiences, as outlined by the Society’s Constitution. The trip will take place at the end of the summer (generally in the two weeks prior to the start of the Fall semester) to enable the participation of students participating in Tauber internships.

The Project shall involve a minimum of 6 days of active volunteer work in a developing country. The trip itself may be longer and include time for students to travel and explore their destination, however allocations from the Fund shall be used primarily to defray expenses that support volunteer work.

The volunteer work should allow students to utilize their engineering, cultural, and leadership skills to make an impact on a local community. The AAB will have a voice in the choice of the Project and will provide feedback during AAB meetings. If needed, a member of the AAB will be chosen to be primary liaison for the Program. If alumni or Society members express concerns that a selected Project does not meet the criteria for funding as outlined in this charter, a review process shall be initiated with joint participation of the AAB and Society. If a Project is determined to not qualify for funding then either (a) students may select a different Project, (b) the Project may be accepted and the charter be amended by the Society and AAB to accommodate an expanded definition, or (c) the Project may continue without distributions from the Fund.

### *Fundraising*

The Fund will seek donations each Fall semester from alumni of the Engineering Global Leadership Honors Program on an annual basis. It shall be noted that the Project for the upcoming year will likely not yet have been selected, thus marketing efforts will center on past Projects. Funds will be raised through appropriate university channels and will be tax-deductible similar to other alumni contributions to the university. A fundraising goal will be set each year based on the experience of prior years and next year's student participation goal. For 2011, the inaugural year for the Fund, the goal will be to defray at least 50% of participation costs for 20 students. At an expected cost of \$1500 per student, the fundraising goal will be \$15,000 ( $\$1500 * 50% * 20$ ).

If students engage in separate fundraising activity (e.g. corporations, university, parents, etc.) to further supplement Project costs, such funds will remain separate and independent of the Fund.

It is intended that some form of recognition be given to donors to the Program, such as EGL-branded trinkets and/or naming of donors in newsletters.

### *Fund Usage*

The Fund will be used to defray costs of travel, lodging, living expenses, and any applicable program fees for current students. The Fund is not intended to defray costs for any other participants on the trip, such as alumni or faculty members who may also be invited to participate at the discretion of the Society. The Fund is not intended to be used for academic scholarships, other Society functions, or to purchase materials related to volunteer work (students may engage in separate efforts to secure cash or in-kind donations to support the Project, e.g. building materials, installable technology, etc.).

It is initially intended that the Fund be distributed in its entirety each year and replenished with each annual fundraising cycle. If fundraising significantly exceeds expectations, the Society and AAB may jointly determine to begin banking funds for use in future years.

Funds will be applied equally to all student participants. Students that accept funding and then later choose not to attend the trip will be expected to return any funds, even if the money has already been

spent on travel expenses. If funds are returned due to cancelation or if a student participant declines funding, those funds may be reapplied to all other student participants or returned to the Fund for a future Project at the discretion of the Society. If extenuating circumstances exist, the EGL alumni board may select an appropriate course of action.

Any question of Fund usage not defined herein will be determined jointly by the Society and AAB.

### *Reporting*

Upon completion of the annual Project, the Coordinator shall be responsible for reporting Project outcomes to the AAB and Society. Such reporting will include (1) a financial report detailing Project expenses and Fund usage and (2) a Project report listing participants, describing the actual volunteer activities performed and associated metrics, and pictures/videos of the trip. It is intended that the Project report be distributed to alumni and students and used in marketing efforts for student participation and alumni fundraising.

### *Amendments*

Amendments to this charter may be proposed by alumni or students and be ratified by separate majority agreement of both the AAB and the Society.