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BESS Newsletter

Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science  
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9-15-2008

## **BESS 9/15/08**

Department of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Sciences

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## Alumni.... planning to attend AgDay, Oct 18?

If so, please let us know so we can look for you!

Just e-mail Darla - [doneill1@utk.edu](mailto:doneill1@utk.edu) or call 865.974.7128

## STUDENT PROFILE



**BOBBY EVANS** is a senior in Environmental & Soil Science, Soils concentration. Last summer he participated in a week-long trip to La Fortuna, Guatemala, planned by BESS Faculty, to build 3 water collection systems for the small village. Bobby is extremely proud of the group's work. He knew it would be a great opportunity to travel, learn, and make new friends. He also understood it would be hard work, but knowing that the group would improve the lives of many in the village made it worth the effort. This trip gave Bobby a greater appreciation for his education. "Being a student in Soil Science has been great for me! All students would benefit by having international experience. I am fortunate to have been able to have such a great experience through UT and BESS."

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## DEPARTMENT HEAD'S COMMENTS:

### WHY A NEWSLETTER?

We created a newsletter with two goals in mind: a) to provide internal information to the BESS faculty, staff and students, and b) to share department news and happenings with alumni and friends. ([continued here...](#))

## Engineers without Borders

(EWB) met Sept 11 to discuss potential future projects. We had a good turnout including some Biosystems Engineering and Environmental Soils students.

The group is considering a return trip to Guatemala next year (Spring Break or after exams in May). The next meeting is Thursday, Sept 25, 5:15 pm.

217 Perkins Hall (CEE Conference Room). to discuss timing for the next project and plan fundraising efforts.

You do not need to be an engineer to participate – all are welcome!



You are particularly welcome if you have Spanish language skills!

If interested in learning more about EWB contact **Adam Teg**

([ateg@utk.edu](mailto:ateg@utk.edu)), the UT student chapter president and plan on attending the next meeting. The UT student chapter advisors are Dr. John Schwartz (CEE) and Dr. Forbes Walker (BESS).

## GOOD NEWS!

**Doug Hayes** has been invited to be an associate editor of the Journal of Surfactants and Detergents

## Sponsored Research Awards announcements:

**Xiaofei Ye and Leming Cheng**; Smithbucklin Corp (United Soybean Board); "Efficient Acrolein Production from Crude Glycerin Using Supercritical Water Technology."

**Forbes Walker and Neal Eash**; USDA CSREES; "Collaborative Research with the University of Lesotho and experiential learning for Tennessee faculty and students in the development of conservation agriculture."