

## **Alyssa Lindsay Selected as the 2005 “Leader for the Future” At Engineers Without Borders Conference**

Alyssa Lindsay, a fourth year biological engineering student at the University of Guelph, is the 2005 recipient of the Ontario Professional Engineers Foundation for Education “Leaders for the Future” award. The award was presented by the International Institute for Sustainable Development’s Chairman of the Board, Jaques Gérin, P.Eng., at a ceremony during the EWB national conference. Alyssa, driven by an exemplary entrepreneurial spirit, has helped to transform the University of Guelph’s chapter into one of Ontario’s strongest. Three years ago, as the Public Outreach Coordinator for the Guelph chapter, Alyssa’s commitment to education and engagement led to a dramatic increase in public participation and interest within her community. Since then, filling various chapter roles, she has initiated fundraising activities, inter-chapter dialogues and weekly educational events. Her leadership and drive as the current internal president of her chapter has further inspired and motivated chapter members to continue to expand the scope of their operations. As a proven leader committed to development, Alyssa has been selected as an overseas volunteer to work in Northern Ghana where she will support the work of agricultural extension officers who provide training and market support for small scale farmers.



The Professional Engineers of Ontario Foundation for Education has partnered with Engineers Without Borders in initiating the “Leaders for the Future” scholarship program. The program, launched in November 2003, aims to recognize outstanding leadership qualities of Ontario engineering students who have been selected as overseas volunteers with EWB. In recognizing and awarding engineering students like Alyssa, the PEO Foundation for Education is helping to promote both the values of the profession while encouraging students across Ontario to use their skills to help reduce poverty throughout the developing world. “Volunteerism is an important quality in being a professional” according to Stephen Jack of the foundation who hopes that “the scholarship will encourage more students to consider how they might help those most in need to secure basic resources that are necessary for healthy and productive lives.” The goal of the award is to encourage engineering students to act as leaders within their communities, on their campuses, and within the engineering profession into which they will soon be entering. It is the hope that these future leaders will inspire engineers and students alike to consider their role and potential contributions as Western engineers to the reduction of poverty and its symptoms worldwide.