











## Journal of Humanitarian Engineering (JHE)

The Journal of Humanitarian Engineering (JHE) is an open access publication that publishes outcomes of research and field experiences at the intersection of technology and community development. The field of "humanitarian engineering" describes the application of engineering and technology for the benefit of disadvantaged communities. This field spans thematic areas from water to energy to infrastructure; and applications from disability access to poverty alleviation. The JHE aims to highlight the importance of humanitarian engineering projects and to inspire engineering solutions to solve the world's most pertinent challenges.

For more information, visit: www.ewb.org.au/journal.

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### INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

EWB respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Country on which we work. To learn more about our commitment to reconciliation, read EWB's Reconciliation Action Plan.



## My name is Dani, and I'm addicted to toilets



Let me introduce myself more clearly. I am an academic who specialises in water, sanitation and hygiene. More commonly, I'm referred to as 'the pool ady'. I've been around the EWB Australia traps for several years, and have worked as both a practitioner and researcher in the field of international development.

Towards the end of 2013, Julian O'Shea sweet-talked me into taking on the role of Editor-in-Chief. After I had gotten over the flattery, I realised what a daunting task this would be. Thankfully, the amazing Emily Wisniewski (our Managing Editor) was around to show me the ropes.

A lot has happened at the JHE in the past twelve months. As well as continuing to guide papers through the submission and review process, we have recruited a team of Associate and Assistant Editors and a Graphic Designer to help us continuously improve the journal and broaden our impact. We now have an online system that makes life easier for our authors and editors, as well as our very own logo. We recently put out the call for our first special issue on Humanitarian Engineering Education and are strengthening our ties with other chapters of EWB, NGOs, and academic institutions around the globe.

The journal is close to my heart as experience has taught me that the only way to bring about sustainable and positive change in the development arena is through partnership. As a practitioner, I needed access to the latest research, and as a researcher, I need practitioners to keep me grounded to community needs and aspirations. This was one of the main reasons for the launch of this journal in the first place: sharing. It seems that what we learnt in the playground also applies in real life. The aim of the JHE is to enable world class research and practice to be showcased throughout the international development sector, able to be accessed by all who are interested, so that we can build off of one another's strengths. Although I know it is a cliché, we hope that the JHE helps us all "be the best that we can be".

Enjoy this issue and please keep your thought-provoking submissions coming.

#### Dani Barrington

Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Humanitarian Engineering

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