Kaitlin Litchfield is a PhD student in the Mortenson Center for Engineering in Developing Communities at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Her research interest is in recruiting, educating, and retaining engineers capable of meeting global challenges such as the Millennium Development Goals, and her current work has been focused on understanding engineers involved specifically with Engineers Without Borders-USA.

**Wednesday November 6th 2013**

4 - 5 PM Ballroom E

Pathways for Humanitarian Engineers:
Insight from EWB-USA Research

EWB-USA has grown to over 13,800 members since its inception in 2002. This growth has been led by extensive student enthusiasm to practice engineering, learn about other cultures, and to work with those in need to develop solutions. Despite this youthful passion, our interviews and focus groups with 165 engineers around the country have found that the transition into a professional engineering career poses challenges to EWB-USA members. How do EWB-USA members make this transition into a professional engineering career?

In this talk, I plan to share stories of engineers trying to find a balance between their passions and their engineering work. I also will invite discussion on the changing profession. What do engineers interested in humanitarian and global development work want in their profession? Where can they find that? How do we reshape the profession? Feel welcome to bring your own stories as we share ours.