Oct. 17, 2015,

Hi everybody,

I’m going to take a moment to reflect on the projects after the talks last week. In general, I find myself a little frustrated that there is little connection with people in collaborative communities. I want to be clear, that I’m speaking about my own feelings here, and not the quality of your work. It has always been difficult to make things happen for other people, so I understand that this may not happen, and it will not reflect on your grade if you can’t connect with someone in a collaborating community… of course, it’s difficult to call them “collaborating” if you’ve never communicated with them; maybe we’ll call this a “target community” if you haven’t started communication with them. However, connecting with others is in my opinion fundamental for this class, so if you have not made a connection, I would like to see this effort. Please look up and find out about how another community lives. I’d like to see more pictures on the website and discussion of how people live and what their challenges are.

Solar Gardens, please learn more about Ghana and present it on your website. What is it like for people there? I trust you are communicating with David.

Biochar, I like that you are looking critically into biochar and considering possible negative consequences. Your webpage is well set up, but could use more information as you learn more. Can you find out how a group of people live? Is there a connection with someone?

Sanitation, I encourage you to make contact with someone working with composting toilets, such as SOIL in Haiti. How do people live? What are their challenges? What might we help them with? Is someone doing this in the USA (besides me, but you can visit me too). Have you connected with risk management at Cal Poly? This is a very important step. How will Cal Poly receive this? How will it work at the SEF? Where will this be composted, or what will be different?

Drinking Water, Thanks for the interview on your website. Your goal is good, but how might you go about this? I encourage you to ask the people from Water for Cambodia how you might help them? Is there any challenge that you could work out… besides fundraising? Is there something we could do at Cal Poly? Could we lend a technical hand?

Mama Group, I like how you’ve found a community to work with in Salinas. I would like you to also learn about challenges elsewhere and have put Curtis in contact with a former student in the PC in Nepal. I don’t think that a package will be effective for a new mother. Over the years, students have proposed to make pamphlets with important information to solve problems. What do *we* do with pamphlets? I encourage you to think creatively about how to address this with for instance a community support network or political, or legal, or something.

PVE Ghana, - Please visit our FB page: <https://www.facebook.com/cpscheffler> for more information about the technology. There is a link to a video where I discuss the technology. You could have a few diagrams on it. Additionally, please contact David, Nathan, or Abbie from Ghana. Please find out what it’s like to live there. Get some pictures if you can, and put them on the website, and incorporate them in your next presentation. In my opinion, your presentation focused too much on the details of the calculations (which were important I give you! Thanks for that) and should look more at the way people live and what the challenges are.

PVE Rwanda – Please provide a diagram of the technology we’re looking at. Additionally, please read the FB page for Sunzu (mentioned in the proposal I sent you). Please find out what it’s like to live there. Get some pictures if you can, and put them on the website, and incorporate them in your next presentation.

Ishesi Entrepreneurship, Please start with an introductory statement on your website about what you’re doing and why. I’m curious if Burro actually makes things, or if they contract things to be made from companies in China.

Coffee, It seemed as though you were not sure of what you were saying. I expect that folks will get together and practice giving a talk a few times before the presentation. **Your webpage in my opinion is really well set up**, and I like how you did research into the reason why Haiti is in such a difficult state. I encourage the other groups to visit your webpage as a model. Please continue your efforts to learn about what it’s like in Haiti.

Waste Management, I think you did a lot of research and made some good points. I would like you to find a connection with some people. I think your project has good technical support of why it may be a good idea, but doesn’t talk about people on several levels: (1) What about reducing, recycling, reusing waste and composting? How will people respond? I am curious about this. What about Cal Poly’s efforts here? (2) What is the situation like in developing countries? One thing that’s different is that they produce so little waste, it may not be practical to do this. Also, importing trash from developing countries to the US for WTE doesn’t work as an appropriate technology on several levels. It is important that any technoloty be accessible to the local people – that it is “intermediate technology”. Please try to connect with people somewhere. How are they living?