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## Engineering change

Third World

By MATT KIELTYKA, 24 HOURS

UBC engineering students were given a giant plane ticket yesterday and \$30,000 to send them overseas to help poor communities.

The money, donated by Vancouver's Amec engineering, will send students to developing communities over the next five years through the Engineers Without Borders program.

"The whole point is to fund young engineers to travel overseas and work on projects that will make life better for people just a bit less fortunate than us," said Amec vice-president Bob Stanlake.

Third-year student Danny Higginson went to Tanzania last year, where he helped set up irrigation technologies that let local farmers double their harvests and said all the people need are a hand.

"The people in Tanzania are impoverished not for their lack of ingenuity," he said. "What they need is a little help from people like us."

He said being able to help farmers pay for their children's education is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty that exists in many Third World countries.

Nick Jimenez, also a third-year student, has been chosen to take part in the program next year.

"We're given the responsibility to do this," he said. "Hopefully along the way we can influence other people to do the same and if everyone lends a hand, it can make a huge difference."

Engineers Without Borders was set up in 2000 and are currently involved in over 30 projects around the world.