

Student(s): Feleg Tsegaye & Andrew Sciametta

Project Faculty Advisor: John Barr

Project Description

The goal of the project is to develop an Email to SMS (text messaging) gateway that will help facilitate faster communication between those who live in Ethiopia and those who live abroad. The eventual hope is that the project will be based on the principles of social entrepreneurship (meaning that it will have a revenue stream and be able to sustain itself) but for the time being we'll be focusing on developing a system that can act as an interface between cell phones and email to reduce the amount of time it takes to communicate with those in a country like Ethiopia. The application would be web-based with an interface that would allow visitors to register for an account with their email address. They would be able to send messages via the web interface and receive responses to their email inbox. Email access is ubiquitous in developed nations but in developing countries like Ethiopia, cell phones are the primary means of communication. The project will connect both our use of email and their use of cell phones to provide a financially reasonable medium through which to communicate.