


FIU'S HAITI INITIATIVE

DOING OUR PART

FIU'S SUSTAINED RESPONSE IN HAITI:
A REPORT OF FIU'S ACTIVITIES

JANUARY 2011

FIU | FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



WAGLER
VITAL
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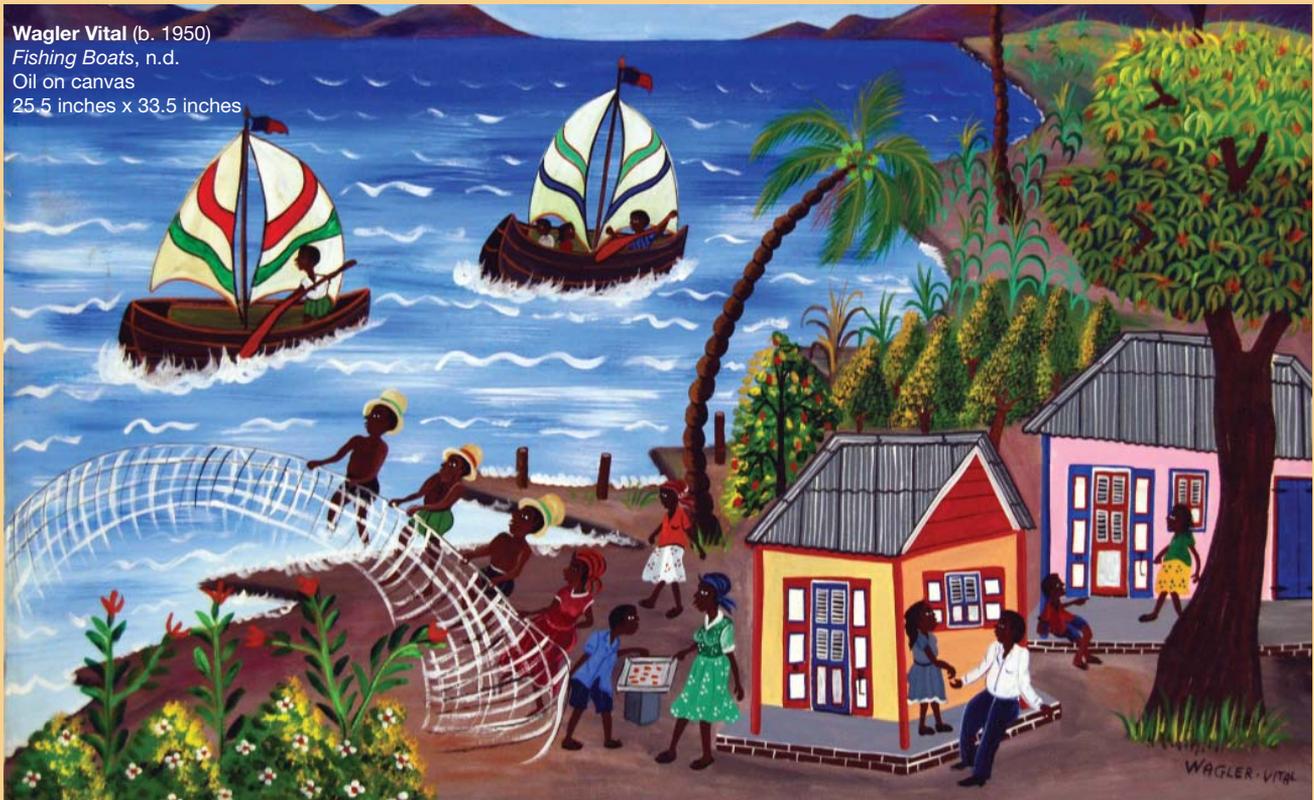
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Wagler Vital (b. 1950)
Country Scene, n.d.
Oil on canvas
25.5 inches x 33 inches

Wagler Vital (b. 1950)
Fishing Boats, n.d.
Oil on canvas
25.5 inches x 33.5 inches



INTRODUCTION

Recognizing the devastation of the January 12, 2010 earthquake in Haiti, Florida International University (FIU) has committed to helping the Haitian nation rebuild its educational infrastructure, protect its patrimony, and improve the quality of life for its people by addressing pivotal social, health and economic development needs. FIU will continue to leverage its strengths through various professional schools to reconstitute and enhance Haiti's educational programs and serve as a driving force for economic development in Haiti. FIU is also committed to assisting its students, faculty and staff with ties to Haiti who are experiencing hardship as a result of the earthquake.

Through numerous initiatives in arts and culture, education, fundraising, the local community, legal services, medicine, rebuilding, research and volunteering, FIU is deeply invested in the long term recovery of the Haitian people, both locally and abroad. The FIU community is proud to support the Haitian nation as it rebuilds and strives to improve the quality of life of its people. Some of the highlights from our activities include:

- Taken leadership role in an international initiative to save Haitian patrimony through the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC). The **Protecting Haitian Patrimony (PHP)** initiative supports Haiti's libraries in recovering and protecting their valuable historical and cultural resources.
- Partnered with the University of Haiti through the development of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**. This partnership enables FIU to assist in re-developing the curriculum for the institution by harnessing the knowledge and skills of FIU's faculty, staff and students.

- **Raised over \$100,000** for Haiti related initiatives including the preparation of medical kits with vaccines and supplies necessary for working in disaster zones.
- Exposed **over 1,900 people** in the community to discussions of the country's economic, political, and social reconstruction, as well as its cultural preservation and public health issues through **Teach-Ins and public lectures**, including a lecture with the U.S. Ambassador to Haiti, Kenneth Merten.
- Received **Federal funding for four research projects** that will address some of the critical medical and mental health needs confronting residents of Haiti and the Haitian community in Miami in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake including:
 - Public Administration is working on an initiative to measure the emotional stresses of relief and early recovery workers in Haiti and to determine any long term consequences of such work;
 - Social Work through *Operation Help Haiti at Home* is assisting community-based agencies here that are working with Haitians in South Florida and in Haiti;
 - Nursing and Health Sciences is working on a project involving the rehabilitation of amputees;
 - The College of Medicine will extend the new NeighborhoodHELP™ program to include Little Haiti neighborhood in Miami, Florida.

As you can see, throughout FIU, numerous departments continue to identify and harness the knowledge and skills of faculty, staff and students to address the medical, infrastructure, legal and other relief and recovery needs for Haiti. FIU has also maintained its commitment to assisting our Haitian students, faculty and staff.

Additional information on all Haiti related activities can be found at <http://news.fiu.edu/fiuhaiti/>.

For a listing of our Haitian experts along with media coverage received by FIU, please visit <http://news.fiu.edu/fiuhaiti/experts/>.

We welcome your comments and ideas as we continue to assist in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Rosenberg
President
Florida International University



Sandra Gonzalez-Levy
Senior Vice President, External Relations
Chair, FIU Haiti Task Force

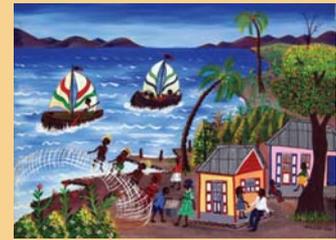
ARTS AND CULTURE



Yvens Leger, *Tap-Tap*, ca. 1983, Papier-mâché, 20 x 30 x 5 1/2"
Wagler Vital (b. 1950), *Country Scene*, n.d., Oil on canvas, 25.5" x 33"



Lionel Simonis, *Tap-Tap Patience*, 1982, Papier-mâché, 21 x 24 x 4 1/2"
Wagler Vital (b. 1950), *Fishing Boats*, n.d., Oil on canvas, 25.5" x 33.5"



FIU's Patricia and Phillip Frost Art Museum, under the direction of Professor Carol Damian, hosted an exhibition titled "**TapTap: Celebrating the Art of Haiti**" from May 26 to September 5, 2010. For more than 50 years, the art of Haiti has been celebrated. This exhibition, an expression of *joie de vivre*, was born with the realization that Haiti had lost so much of its cultural patrimony and that the Museum had numerous examples of work by entire generations of Haitian artists. FIU embarked on a very special project: to have an exhibition of some of our works (a small percentage of FIU's holdings) in preparation for their return to Haiti when the time is right.



The FIU Libraries and the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC), under the direction of Dean Laura Probst, are leading the **Protecting Haitian Patrimony (PHP) Initiative**. This is an international initiative to support Haiti's libraries in recovering and protecting their valuable historical and cultural resources. In February and June, dLOC coordinator, Brooke Wooldridge, traveled to Haiti to assist the libraries and archives in planning the next phase of recovery. The Initiative is working to raise awareness, financial resources and in-kind donations, and to partner with the Haitian libraries on grants to further strengthen the collections. The PHP Initiative's goals are to encourage collaboration, coordinate technical and in-kind assistance and raise money to support recovery and preservation

projects in Haiti. Computers donated by FIU's College of Business Administration and other units are being used for cataloging materials for the libraries and archives, digitization projects and for public access to the computers and Internet.

The team has made significant progress and continues to work to repair facilities, restore the collections, and work to reopen to the public. The Initiative continues to grow strong and deliver results with the support of many individuals, institutions and professional associations. PHP has raised more than \$9,000 which has been allocated to cover emergency supplies, compensation for food for volunteers helping to recover documents immediately after the earthquake, repairs to shelving and shipping costs for in-kind donations. The **emergency protection of many collections** has been achieved and the real preservation work is just beginning. New needs for preservation supplies and training are becoming more concrete, and it is vital that the PHP continue to raise monetary, in-kind and technical assistance for the libraries and archives.

Additionally, LACC (the Latin American and Caribbean Center) launched the first phase of its dLOC Digital Art Archive Initiative in the Fall of 2010. This project provides funding to develop digital content holdings for dLOC in the area of the arts, while promoting Haitian Creole language. The equipment has been purchased and interviews will commence in Spring, 2011.

The School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC) assisted the **Consul General of Haiti with strategic communication**, through the efforts of a writing and media relations team of volunteer students. **The School is currently seeking funding to develop and expand a pilot program to use flipcams and blogging to document** life after the earthquake both in Haiti and the Haitian community in Miami through digital storytelling and to provide strategic communication skills to Haitian college students entering or returning to the job marketplace. In summer 2010, the SJMC **donated more than 50 textbooks and novels** to those affected by the storm in Haiti and in the local South Florida Haitian community.

FIU's College of Architecture and the Arts is supporting an art project proposed by artist Antuan, in collaboration with Fundacion Manos del Sur and Step by Step Foundation to create classrooms for children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The team is working with L'Athletique D'Haiti (LADH) which served as an after school sports program before the earthquake and is now serving more than 2,200 families who are currently residing on their fields. The project brings ten international artists to work on one tent each, sharing their perspective of Haiti and using the tents as a canvas. Models of the tents were exhibited at FIU's Frost Art Museum in December, 2010 and the ten actual tents were exhibited in January, 2011 on the FIU campus.



Tent by Edouard Duval Carrie

Quickly after the exhibition at FIU, the tents will be transported to Haiti and serve as new classrooms for these children lacking educational centers.

EDUCATION

FIU welcomed **University of Haiti (UEH)** Recteur Jean Vernet Henry and Vice-Recteur Wilson Laleau to the February 23, 2010 meeting of our task force. This visit resulted in the execution of a **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** with the University of Haiti to ensure successful execution of a sustained effort. Pre-dating this MOU with UEH, an agreement signed in 2009 between the Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work and the *Groupe Haitien d'Etude du Sarcome de Kaposi et des Infections Opportunistes* Centers set the framework for collaboration in public health, training and research which will now also extend to this commitment to the University of Haiti. The University has begun identifying opportunities for collaboration:

- FIU's University Libraries are working with local vendors of online database and e-journal content to provide **free access to library resources** for UEH and leading an international initiative to save Haitian patrimony through the Digital Library of the Caribbean (dLOC). The UEH community will connect to these resources through the servers and network maintained by the FIU Libraries.
- FIU's College of Business Administration will provide **services for small- and medium-size enterprises** in Haiti. Assistance will be provided via market research and training (through webinars which will be translated to Creole) on how to develop entrepreneurial skills, business plans, marketing and financing.
- Paula Gillespie, Director for Center for Excellence in Writing in the Department of English, proposed to offer **online tutoring** in English for the University of Haiti.

The program would also include a tutor training program enabling UEH students to become peer tutors.

- FIU's University Graduate School will also work with UEH to assist students with a bachelor's degree from UEH, who are Haitian citizens on an F-1 or J-1 student visa or in Temporary Protected Status, **apply to FIU's graduate programs**. Support includes fee waivers, discounted translation services, conditional admission, and assistance with promoting the hiring of these students as Graduate Assistants.
- Professor of Earth Sciences and Geologist, Florentin J. Maurrasse, in FIU's College of Arts & Sciences is working with the UEH to help **reconstitute their geology program** in light of the dire need to have trained professionals in this field. This collaboration includes advising UEH on organizing the structure for the program and identifying possible partnerships with U.S. Universities. He is also **assisting UEH to rebuild the University's library**, particularly through donations of publications from U.S. and foreign geologist colleagues, scientists of different fields and other professional organizations that can contribute their surplus materials. Finally, Professor Maurrasse is helping UEH to **assess the proposed site for rebuilding the campus facilities to determine its geologic safety**.

This summer, FIU's LACC hosted one of the largest **Haitian Summer Institutes** since the program began in 1997. This year's program featured intensive Haitian Creole language training at the basic, intermediate and advanced levels. Daily Creole classes were supplemented with a number of guest lecturers in Creole on Haitian religion, history, education, psychology, international relations, folklore, visual arts and dance. A number of the participants in the six-week program were professionals who completed the program and headed directly to Haiti for relief and reconstruction work.

LACC will also be launching its Less Commonly Taught Language (LCTL) Training Seminar to help coach faculty from other National Resource Centers on integrating technology into the **teaching of Haitian Creole**. LACC will provide travel funding for FIU's Nicolas Andre, Adjunct Professor of Modern Languages, so that he may receive training in support of LACC becoming a testing center for an official Haitian Creole proficiency exam. The projects are co-sponsored with the University of Miami.

LACC is hosting **University of Haiti professor Watson Denis** as a visiting professor for Summer 2010 – Spring 2011. Denis is a scholar of Haitian thought, international relations and Caribbean history. While at FIU, he is continuing his research on earthquakes in Haiti and the Dominican Republic and their impact on education, economic development and decentralization. He is also serving as an advisor to FIU students working on Haiti and supporting Haiti-related LACC initiatives, including helping LACC strengthen its partnerships in Haiti and the diaspora.

FUNDRAISING

The following fundraising initiatives are currently being implemented to assist with relief efforts:

- The Batchelor Foundation donated \$50,000 in support of FIU's recovery efforts in Haiti directed toward healthcare initiatives.
- A student support fund has been created to secure donations from FIU students through a campaign with the Student Government Association. If every student donates \$1, the campaign could raise up to \$40,000 for Haiti relief efforts. FIU also obtained commitment from Columbus Network, a fiber optics company with businesses in the Caribbean, to match each dollar donated, up to \$25,000.
- The YUPA! (Young Urban Professional Alumni!) group hosted a Zumba fundraising event Saturday,

February 20. More than 100 FIU alumni came together to raise more than \$1,000 in support of FIU's Haiti relief efforts.

- The South Beach Wine and Food Festival organized Haiti fundraisers during their February 2010 event, raising \$41,000 for Partners in Health, one of the leading non-profit organizations combating disease and poverty in Haiti.
- FIU's Staff Senate, in collaboration with the Haiti Relief Task Force, hosted "The Magic of Summer Show" to raise awareness and funds for FIU's Haiti relief efforts. The Show garnered nationally renowned magicians and provided entertainment to the FIU community raising over \$600.
- Theater students who manage FIU's Summer Alternative Theater Festival contributed one dollar of every ticket sold during the Theater Festival to FIU's Haiti Relief Fund. During the summer of 2010, they raised over \$600 to support FIU's Haiti relief efforts.



FIU's Young Urban Professional Alumni (YUPA) group hosted a Zumba fundraising event.

They continue to provide assistance to the Task Force by donating the proceeds from their December, 2010 performances of *The Nutcracker* and *A Christmas Carol* towards these efforts.

- The dLOC will be hosting a Haitian Library Benefit in Miami in February, 2011 to raise support for the Protecting Haitian Patrimony Initiative to meet the needs of the libraries and archives in Haiti.



Student Government Association (SGA) MMC Vice President Nick Autiello, SGA MMC President Helena Ramirez, Columbus Networks President and COO Paul Scott and SGA BBC President Christin "Cici" Battle, launched the \$1 per student fundraising campaign.

- National Pan-Hellenic Council at FIU, with collaborative efforts from the Black Student Union and Haitian Student Organization continue fund raising, increasing awareness, and collecting donations of essential items for the people of Haiti. They are determined to continue this outreach to those affected by the earthquake here at FIU, as well as those still struggling in Haiti. This group of students is coordinating a Step Show in March, 2011 to raise funds for FIU's Haiti relief efforts.



TPS training was held at FIU's College of Law.

LEGAL SERVICES

FIU's College of Law continues to service those in need of **applying for Temporary Protected Status (TPS)**. Students from the College participated in an alternative spring break experience organized by the law schools at Florida International University and the University of Miami to help Haitians in South Florida apply for temporary protected status (TPS) and other immigration relief. FIU law students, who have staffed TPS clinics since Haitians were first granted the status, are providing ongoing technical expertise and support. In addition, the FIU law clinic is providing logistics support for the visiting students, including translator training and coordination. Over 200 Haitians have been serviced by FIU students since the earthquake.

LOCAL IMPACT

On January 20, 2010 FIU students, faculty and staff gathered to show solidarity with the victims of the tragedy in Haiti. During the **day-long commemoration titled "Haiti: Doing our Part,"** attendees sang, prayed and consoled those who had lost loved ones in the earthquake. The student leaders from the Black Student Union, Haitian Student Organization, National Pan-Hellenic Council, Multi-faith Council, Student Government Association and Campus Life joined forces to coordinate this event which included a mass, a balloon release and a candlelight vigil.

FIU's leadership has reached out to about **600 students and 100 faculty and staff who were born in Haiti or are of Haitian descent** to let them know we understand the impact that this event has had on them and their families and to offer support. Our TLC Brigade, through the Division of Human Resources, has reached out to employees and alumni to offer any assistance the university can provide. The university is also working with students who have been affected by the earthquake to help them meet their financial obligations.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) notified FIU that **four of the five FIU international students nominated for the Haiti Emergency Assistance for Students grant have been selected** to receive funds. Two students were awarded the maximum amount of \$2,000 each while the other two students were awarded \$1,000 each. IIE continues to work with donors to secure additional funds to assist those students who were not awarded at this time.

The College of Education assisted the Miami-Dade County school district in helping Haitian children who relocate to South Florida cope with the trauma of the event. FIU students **tutored displaced children** in several local schools during the spring semester and offered to expand this program as needed.

The University has hosted a series of **public lectures** since the earthquake to address various topics of concern regarding Haiti's recovery and reconstruction.



FIU students, faculty and staff came together on January 20, 2010 for a day-long commemoration for Haiti. The day's events concluded with a candlelight vigil.

- FIU's School of International and Public Affairs, in conjunction with the Latin American and Caribbean Center, has hosted **two teach-ins** (*January 16 and March 6*) with more than 400 in attendance, on the crisis in Haiti. Each included discussions of the country's economic, political, and social reconstruction, as well as its cultural preservation and public health issues.
- On March 10, the School of International and Public Affairs, in conjunction with the Jack D. Gordon Institute for Public Policy & Citizenship Studies, provided a presentation by Edwin Paraison, Minister of Haitians Living Abroad, titled "**The Role of Haitian-American Students in the Reconstruction of Haiti**" at the Biscayne Bay Campus.
- On March 22, the Department of Modern Languages hosted a seminar on **the roles of Creole and French in the reconstruction of Haiti** with Dr. Albert Valdman, Director of the Creole Institute at Indiana University.
- On April 16, representatives from FIU served on a panel discussion concerning Haiti's history and the preservation of its heritage titled, "**Haiti Past and Present**" **A Community Forum**. Presenters included Dr. Chantalle Verna, assistant professor of history at FIU, Brooke Wooldridge, project coordinator of the Protecting Haitian Patrimony Project at FIU and the dLOC, and Adam Silva, doctoral student specializing in 20th century Haitian political economy and history at FIU.
- FIU hosted the Honorable Kenneth Merten, U.S. Ambassador to Haiti, for a lecture titled "**Mission to Haiti: The Role of the U.S. to Reconstruction**" **on September 13**. During his visit, the Ambassador toured the Frost Art Museum, and spoke with about two dozen students regarding careers in the Foreign



FIU hosted lecture with US Ambassador to Haiti, Kenneth Merten. The FIU community came together to discuss the role of the US in Haiti's reconstruction.

Service. He has committed to returning to FIU and has offered to receive any representatives from FIU who travel to Haiti.

- On October 15, FIU's African & African Diaspora Studies Program hosted the 12th Annual Eric E. Williams Memorial Lecture titled, "*The Renaissance of Haiti: A Template for Caribbean Integration.*" Former Jamaican Prime Minister P. J. Patterson, the Caribbean Community's (CARICOM) Special Representative on Haiti's Reconstruction was the featured speaker who addressed critical issues pertaining to Haiti's rebirth and the special responsibility of metropolitan countries to ensure it.
- FIU's School of International and Public Affairs, in conjunction with LACC continues to **host events for the community related to Haiti**, including:
 - Mission to Haiti: Israel's Relief Efforts after the Earthquake With Ambassador Danny Biran, Head of Israel's Advance Team to Haiti on November 4, 2010.

- Haiti and Her Diaspora: The Politics of Aesthetics and the Aesthetics of Politics on November 5, 2010.

Professor of earth sciences and geologist Florentin J. Maurrasse has been interviewed on several **radio shows** in Miami and in Haiti regarding the cause of the earthquake and any future potential threats. He has explained to concerned Haitians the **geologic situation in Haiti** and what they should expect and prepare for while clarifying concerns about an imminent major earthquake.

FIU serves on the Miami-Dade County Community Council called **An n Avanse – Let's Move Forward Coalition Council**. The Council was created through the efforts of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, the Beacon Council and United Way of Miami-Dade to facilitate communication and collaboration that will forward the healing and recovery of the Haitian people in South Florida and Haiti. This Council serves as a clearinghouse for services available to Haitians living in South Florida.

FIU has partnered with ENLACE Florida (Florida College Access Network) to serve the Little Haiti community by

engaging and empowering Haitian-American students and their families **in the pursuit of a college education**. This partnership offers resources, staff training and tools to Miami Edison Senior High, Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center, the Haitian American Scholarship Fund and Notre Dame D'Haiti Catholic Church. The program is designed to cultivate a college-going culture and build the capacity of local youth-serving organizations to deliver college-access programming.

MEDICINE

The Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine, Robert Stempel College of Public Health and Social Work, and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences are **registered to deploy to Haiti in conjunction with the State University System**. They also prepared kits that can support personnel in Haiti to provide essential services to the population. These include **vaccines, doctor kits specific to working in disaster zones and earthquake kits**. This group of physicians, nurses and professionals has also **registered with the United Nations Health Cluster**, the governing international relief agency, to be able to **provide primary and specialized care**.

FIU faculty member, Dr. Pilar Martin, has made numerous trips to Haiti, where she has a longstanding relationship with **Rose-Mina de Diegue Orphanage in Port Au Prince**. While there, Dr. Martin has provided medical care in orphanages, tent cities and at various clinics. During her trip in July, she and her team saw over 400 patients in four days. In collaboration with Haiti's General Hospital and other institutions in Haiti, Dr. Martin continues to work on **addressing medical issues** including congenital malformations, lead poisoning, cholera and overall health care policy in Haiti.

College of Medicine faculty, under the auspices of Miami Children's Hospital, led by FIU surgery professor Dr. Chad Perlin, organized a group of physicians who also provided **medical care to children in Haiti in the weeks after the earthquake**.



FIU faculty member, Dr. Pilar Martin and her team provided medical care to hundreds of patients in Haiti.

Our interim Dean for the College of Nursing and Health Sciences, Sharon Pontious, is a **member of the Advisory Board to the Haitian American Nurses Association (HANA)**. This group has **provided emergency services**, including support of an Episcopal School of Nursing in Leogane. More than 40 members of this group, many of whom are FIU alumni, went to Haiti several times in the weeks immediately following the earthquake. Dr. Pontious is working with the Association on solidifying collaborative efforts through a sustained partnership. HANA will be included in FIU's medical response team when the State University System gives the approval to deploy.

REBUILDING

During the spring semester, FIU's College of Architecture and the Arts teamed up with Architecture for Humanity, a non-profit organization, to assist with Haiti's reconstruction. Ten graduate and undergraduate students participated in the **design and planning of earthquake-resistant housing and schools**, providing construction expertise.



FIU's College of Business Administration hosted Digicel's Entrepreneurship conference in November, 2010 to provide leadership development opportunities to 24 CEOs and entrepreneurs from Haiti.

Eventually, students will be able to participate in on-site design/build construction projects. The project and the partnership is planned to continue as long as the hardship and the need exists. Students will receive internship credit while they work on projects that will help in the rebuilding of Haiti's devastated infrastructure.

Dr. Sylvan Jolibois, from the College of Engineering and Computing, served on the **Earthquake Engineering Research Institute's field reconnaissance team in Haiti** which included representatives from several universities and consulting engineering firms. The College of Engineering and Computing has also identified a number of students who are qualified Haitian-American, Creole and/or French speaking engineers (civil/industrial/mechanical/electrical), planners, and construction managers to support a major Federal contractor and global provider of engineering, planning and disaster response services working in Haiti.

Dr. Yong Tao, former FIU professor of mechanical and materials engineering, had the opportunity to travel to Haiti in April through the sponsorship of a local entrepreneur who requested his assistance to inspect a damaged hospital, CDTI hospital, **provide expert opinion** along with registered practicing engineers, and **discuss a local reconstruction project** where the reconstructed homes will have solar panels and integrated water systems. Dr. Tao was also instrumental in working with a group of students to test a solar powered medical clinic at FIU's Engineering Campus which was transported to Haiti is now located in one of the camps.

Professor of earth sciences and geologist Florentin J. Maurrasse is working on a long-term initiative with the government of Haiti to help develop a **geologic knowledge-base system of risk maps** that will provide multi-risk zones in the country. This request supports Professor Maurrasse's work with the Bureau of Mines and Energy (BME) who has

requested a reorganization plan. In collaboration with UEH, the BME will focus on updating and making **small-scale geologic maps of critical areas of high population density** in order to inform about **geologic risks associated with these areas**, and how to best mitigate the effects of natural hazards to be expected. Given the geologic complexity of Haiti – it is transected by numerous dangerous fault lines - the long-term objective will be to cover the entire country.

Professor Maurrasse has also been providing geologic information to numerous private individuals, non-profit and commercial organizations on the geologic safety of areas in Haiti. These inquiries are coming from concerned individuals, scientists and contractors working or planning to work on recovery and rebuilding plans in Haiti. The January 12 earthquake has brought a heightened sense to the **importance of the geology of Haiti and its related complexity to plate tectonics**.

Professor Maurrasse is also providing proper geologic information to the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). The SFWMD is working to **install freshwater supply wells for orphanages** in the towns of Leogane, Carrefour, and Gonaives and will use Professor Maurrasse's information to determine **suitable sites for the water wells**.

Professor Jerry Haar of the College of Business Administration worked with a nine-person Master of International Business (MIB) project team to identify **5 Haitian industries** that have great prospects for **increasing exports**. In addition to assessing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to these industries, given the current economic, financial and regulatory environment in Haiti, the student team has been **identifying wholesalers and retailers across the United States** in these 5 product categories that may be interested in importing from Haiti. By conducting focused, telephone interviews with these prospective importers, the student teams will garner detailed information, in addition to company/person contact information, that will be shared with small and medium-size Haitian producers of these products.

The second phase of this project involves travel to Haiti to **meet with, counsel and assist 10 companies**. Two “best practice” businesses in each of the 5 categories will be selected to take advantage of the export opportunities the student team has identified. The team is being assisted by Mr. Mathias Pierre, a highly accomplished Haitian entrepreneur, who is a board member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Haiti. The students will also be coordinating with USAID in Port au Prince. In addition to assessing the 10 firms through a readiness indicator developed by the team, the students will **explore the feasibility of the development of online catalogues and search optimization** for the firms to enhance the marketing and sales of their products.

FIU's College of Business Administration was selected to serve as the host institution for a three-day retreat in November 2010 for **24 CEOs and entrepreneurs from Haiti** with Digicel, the largest mobile telecommunications operator in the Caribbean. The seminar was organized around a series of topics that are critical to the success of new entrepreneurial firms, particularly those in an unstable and uncertain environment. This **leadership development conference** provided a combination of academic presentations by faculty with significant business expertise and discussion sessions run by seasoned entrepreneurs and venture capitalists to bring an ideal mixture of concepts and practical examples to the audience. The events included a recognition dinner sponsored by the Green Family Foundation with ambassador Steven Green and his family in attendance.

RESEARCH

The Office of Research continues to explore ways to provide assistance to Haiti through existing programs and contracts that various professors and colleges at FIU have. Professors have applied for additional grants and contracts to assist in relief and recovery efforts. FIU's Center for Drug Abuse and HIV/AIDS Research on Latinos in the United States (CRUSADA), directed by Dr. Mario De la Rosa, professor in the School of Social Work, has received supplemental funds

from the National Center on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NCMHD) for four research projects that will **address some of the critical medical and mental health needs confronting residents of Haiti and the Haitian community in Miami** in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake. The four approved proposals include: Public Administration is working on an initiative to measure the emotional stresses of relief and early recovery workers in Haiti; Social Work through *Operation Help Haiti at Home* is assisting community-based agencies here that are working with Haitians in South Florida and in Haiti; Nursing and Health Sciences is working on a project involving rehabilitation of amputees; and the College of Medicine has extended the new NeighborhoodHELP™ program to include Little Haiti neighborhood.

Dr. Emel Ganapati, Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration, was recently awarded an NSF research grant in the amount of \$45,441 for a project titled **“Re-Housing Urban Haiti After the Earthquake: The Role of Social Capital.”** The objective of the research is to: (1) Document the pre- and post-disaster social capital in three diverse Port-au-Prince communities; (2) Document the housing recovery process in three selected Port-au-Prince communities; and (3) Assess the impact of pre- and post-disaster social capital on the speed and quality of housing recovery in these communities. The selected communities are Pétionville (a high-income area), Delmas (a middle-income area), and Canapé Vert (mainly a squatter area).

Professor of earth sciences and geologist Florentin J. Maurrasse worked with the Bureau of Mines and Energy, the University of Haiti and Columbia (Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory) to submit a grant proposal to the National Science Foundation (NSF). The goal of the project is to complete **detailed seismic surveys in the Gulf of Port-au-Prince** in order to assess the exact position of faults that may be the cause of serious risks to the populated areas in case of future earthquakes. The project will also prepare Haitian professionals and **provide training** to graduate students in the field of seismology.

On April 16, President Bill Clinton highlighted FIU student's commitment to action during the opening plenary session of the third annual Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU) at the University of Miami. The commitment, **Rasin Lavil Bay Lavi**, is a collaborative project proposed by FIU graduate student **Ann Marie Warmenhoven** and Camille Kremer, a University of Miami graduate student. The project was highlighted by President Clinton as an “exemplary approach to addressing a specific global challenge”. Rasin Lavil Bay Lavi, Haitian Creole for ‘Urban Roots Give Life’, connects a Haitian community with training, technology, and tools to create small-scale urban gardens. Warmenhoven, a graduate student in LACC's M.A. in Latin American and Caribbean Studies program, came up with the idea of expanding urban agriculture in Haiti during the course of her Master's research on Haiti's agricultural and food systems. Through research, fundraising, and community education, the project will work to expand one pilot garden into 10 multiple family plots within one year.

Our Federal Relations office in Washington, D.C. **coordinated FIU visits with agencies, international organizations and foundations to identify possible opportunities** for collaboration. Additionally, the office has been monitoring the President's Haiti Relief Supplemental Bill, which should infuse the Department of State and other international relief organizations with additional resources. Meetings held on FIU's behalf included the U.S. Agency for International Development, Organization of American States, Pan American Health Organization and the Inter-American Development Bank. Early on, this was to advise them of the breadth of FIU's response, and specific interest in the University of Haiti's rebuilding efforts. Potential opportunities were outlined which included developing a proposal for funding an Emergency Scholarship Program for the University of Haiti through the Organization of American States. Meetings with the Clinton Foundation and the Clinton Global Initiative resulted in FIU President Dr. Mark Rosenberg's participation in the convening of American and Haitian University presidents in Miami on April 17.



More than 200 FIU students, faculty, staff and community leaders gathered on January 24, 2010 to sort and pack relief supplies for Haiti.

VOLUNTEERS

FIU has developed a **Creole-speaking volunteer database of more than 261 individuals from around South Florida.**

The volunteers have been activated with numerous internal and external requests. Some of these include an urgent request for 70 volunteers to serve as translators during on-going Temporary Protected Status (TPS) clinics yielded 35 translators in two days. Another request supported St. Thomas University's efforts during their on-going TPS clinics. Associate Professor Leonard Elbaum in the Department of Physical Therapy is working with the International Society of Prosthetists and Orthotists, who is actively supporting volunteer prosthetists with many organizations on the ground in Haiti. They requested assistance with translating a number of educational materials to be used to train local craftsmen and women and/or technicians to help fabricate and deliver prosthetic devices. Twelve volunteers from the database quickly responded to the need and have translated these documents. Another request provided an opportunity to

showcase Haitian artists who sold their art at Macy's Heart of Haiti event. The latest request for translation came through the Green Family Foundation during a dinner event on November 11 in honor of Haitian entrepreneurs at the Modesto A. Maidique campus.

More than 200 FIU Panthers – including trustees, the president, vice presidents and deans – turned out Sunday, January 24, 2010 to a warehouse in Doral to **sort and pack relief supplies for Haiti.** The event was organized at the request of the Miami-Dade County Office of Emergency Management. FIU Trustee and alumnus Alberto Maury attended and volunteered Leon Medical Center buses to transport participants.

The AT&T Pioneers teamed with FIU's bachelor in Business Administration program cohort 27 students, staff, Gentiva Health, and Sytec USA to **sort and deliver nine truckloads of sorted clothes and miscellaneous items** to His House, Sisters of Charity, Notre Dame D'Haiti Catholic Church

and Project Medishare. At the FIU South Campus Ryder Business building six truckloads of clothing and miscellaneous items were sorted, bagged and labeled. Four truckloads were dropped off at Notre Dame D'Haiti Catholic Church and two truckloads were dropped off at His House.

Student organizations within the College of Engineering and Computing worked with the Miami Heat to **collect supplies**. Faculty, students, alumni and partner businesses also lent their expertise to the Miami Herald's Crisis Camp, a collaboration on digital projects aimed at assisting Haiti relief efforts.

The University Graduate School **collected medical supplies to support the Friends of Petit Goave**, a non-profit organization whose objective is to increase the number of healthy Petit Goavians in Haiti by organizing free clinic, vaccinations and distributing free medications.

ONE YEAR LATER

As the world remembered the earthquake in Haiti, FIU commemorated the culture, history and lives of the Haitian people. FIU's recognition on January 12, 2011 began with an exhibit of **Base Paint Tents**, a project of goodwill for the children of Port-au-Prince, Haiti from artists around the world. Ten international artists worked on one tent each sharing their perspective of Haiti, using the tents as a canvas. The tents will serve as classrooms, a library and workshops on the property of L'Athletique d'Haiti in Cite Soleil in Haiti. FIU's Frost Art Museum exhibited the **Base Paint Tent Models** during Art Basel on December 5th and the actual tents were on display at the Modesto A. Maidique campus during the month of January before being installed in Haiti. Numerous events were held in conjunction with this exhibit. Additional information can be found at www.basepaint.org.

In the afternoon, FIU hosted the third Teach-In for the community titled **Haiti: One Year Later** from 2-4pm in the MARC Pavilion. Guest speakers included FIU faculty

members Grenville Draper, Professor, Department of Earth and Environment, Juan Pablo Sarmiento, Co-Director, Disaster Risk Reduction Program and Alex Stepick, Professor, Global and Sociocultural Studies among others.

The FIU community was invited to visit the Art Gallery in the Graham Center student union to view an exhibition titled **Kenbe Pa Lage (Keep Strong)**. This collection was curated by artist Fred Thomas and highlights Traditional and Contemporary Haitian Art. Artists included in the exhibit were Fred Thomas, Dominik Ambroise, Alexandra Barbot, Levoy Exil, and Donald Obin. Haitian art is rich in its content; within it we see daily living, religious symbolism, social commentary and historic documentation. This exhibit represents the spirit, the love of life and the strength of the people and remained open until January 31, 2011.

At 4:53pm, FIU students, faculty, staff and friends came together in the Graham Center student union for a **moment of silence** around the world. FIU students planned a cultural celebration to close the day's activities at 6pm in the Graham Center Ballrooms. **Haiti: A Night of Commemoration** served as a celebration of independence, a celebration of overcoming and a celebration of life hosted for the FIU community and sponsored by FIU's Haitian Student Organization.

CONCLUSION:

Haiti has years of work ahead of it and FIU is committed to assisting our hard-working neighbors as they rebuild. We understand the need for a sustainable presence and will continue to focus on long-term solutions for Haiti's future. "We will be there for Haiti as long as there is a need. We are in this for the long run," said President Mark Rosenberg. Additional information on all of FIU's Haiti related activities can be found at <http://news.fu.edu/fuhaiti/>.



FIU HAITI TASK FORCE MEMBERS

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Architecture + the Arts

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Phillip Church, Associate Professor, Theatre and Dance

Arts & Sciences

Kenneth Furton, Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

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The Beacon Council

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce

United Way of Miami-Dade

Base Paint (Tents for Haiti)

Catholic Charities

Clinton Global Initiative-University

ENLACE Florida

FIU Haitian Student Organization

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