

January 13, 2010

Dear members of the university community,

We continue to monitor the devastating news coming out of Haiti after Tuesday's earthquake. Our sympathy and solidarity stand with the Haitian people. I know that the FIU community is eager to help the Haitian community and the best thing to do at this time is to donate cash. We suggest you do so through the [American Red Cross](#), which is at the forefront of the relief effort.

I want to take a moment to update you on what FIU is doing to assist during this time of need.

We have about 600 students and nearly 100 faculty and staff at FIU who have family ties to Haiti. To help them in this time of need, we have set up a number of resources to meet their individual needs. The counseling center will serve to provide support for students as well as direct them to services that can help them get answers to questions about financial and academic obligations to the university. We ask that faculty understand the special challenges that our Haitian students now confront.

Also, the Human Resources Department will listen to the concerns of any staff or faculty member struck by this tragedy. Their phone numbers can be found at the end of this message.

Although we do not have a formal study abroad program with Haiti, we believe it is possible that a small number of students are in the country. I am pleased to report that two of our students who were studying in Haiti are safe and will be returning home soon. In addition, we know there are alumni in Haiti and will begin the process of contacting them.

I have already met with federal, state and local officials, including Sen. George LeMieux, Gov. Charlie Crist, and Mayor Carlos Alvarez, to coordinate our response and assist the Haitian community. A team of doctors and health care professionals from our Academic Health Center is ready to deploy as needed. We want to ensure that our community resources, including our experts, have the greatest impact possible in the recovery effort.

Please keep your thoughts and prayers with the Haitian people, both here and abroad. We must do everything possible to help our FIU family while offering our world class

experts to assist in the rescue efforts and reconstruction of Haiti. Thank you for your efforts to alleviate the suffering in this tragedy.



Mark B. Rosenberg
President

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Student support:
Counseling Center
305-919-5305 (Biscayne Bay Campus)
305-348-2434 (Modesto A. Maidique Campus)
<http://www.fiu.edu/~psychser>

Employee support:
Trudy Fernandez, Human Resources
305-348-2181

Alumni support:
Duane Wiles, Alumni Relations
305-348-4213