# Notre Dame staffers safe after earthquake devastates Haiti

Aftermath a testimony to the spirit of humanity, says Father Streit

#### BY SHANNON CHAPLA, PUBLIC INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION

"I feel like I have my second life," says Rev. Thomas Streit, C.S.C., founder and director of Notre Dame's Haiti Program.

For Father Streit, the "horrific" experience of surviving the Jan. 12 earthquake that devastated Haiti was also a testimony to the spirit of humanity. "I saw people with limbs torn from their bodies screaming in pain," he says. "I saw children wandering who perhaps had lost their parents, bodies stacked four or five deep, and the churches were all gone...yet at night the people were praying and singing. They were holding hands—as perhaps the only thing they could hold onto without food or water. They turned to God."

When the magnitude 7.0 earth-quake struck on Tuesday, Jan. 12, Father Streit was at a meeting at Port-au-Prince's Hotel Montana with colleagues Sarah Craig and Logan Anderson and post-doctoral student Marie Denise Milord. The group was in the capital to attend the semi-annual partner's meeting for the Neglected Tropical Disease Initiative, along with some 25 Haitian colleagues.

The meeting had concluded, and when the earthquake hit, "we were all on different rooftop terraces," says Father Streit, who had been standing below another terrace but

managed to step out from underneath seconds before the collapse.

"The building around us came down, and we were all thrown to the ground," says Sarah Craig, Haiti Program manager, who was on a fourth-floor balcony. "We held on to literally nothing because we were on a tile floor. The building below us just collapsed, and we could feel it going down each floor until we ended up somewhere between the first and second floors, with the rubble beneath us."

The four sustained only minor cuts and bruises, but one colleague "had a double fracture to his leg," Father Streit says. "Others from the meeting were trapped in the rubble and were buried in the building for a few days but were found unhurt."

"I was thinking this was something I see on TV, not something I experience," says Logan Anderson, the Haiti Program's financial manager. "Sarah, who is formerly an emergency first responder, went right into first aid mode. I took off my shirt and we started tearing it up into strips," he says. "We found two sticks, and I helped hold (the colleague's) leg while Sarah splinted it."

After helping carry injured people from the hotel and assisting with first aid, the four found a grassy spot near the hotel to rest and spend the night. "I could hear people praying and chanting," Anderson says, "and the sound of more buildings coming down during the aftershocks. You could just hear thousands of people screaming. That will stay with me for a while."

The next day, U.N. troops arrived

at the hotel and the four walked with them to the U.N. Embassy, then to the American Embassy, where they spent another night. Craig, Anderson and Milord were flown home, while Father Streit stayed behind to help his Haitian



He came away with an experience he would not have wished for, Father Streit says. "But one that has shown me the strength that we have in the human spirit, and that spirit is so clearly sustained by our belief and our faith."

"Haiti needs our help now more than ever," says Haiti Program manager Sarah Craig. "Our pro-

gram is a mainstay in the community and we need to make sure we help where we can. After we help get the community settled, we can then address our global health program."

Notre Dame's Haiti Program, based in Léogâne about 30 kilometers west of Port-au-Prince, has worked since 1993 in conjunction with Hôpital Sainte-Croix on a major initiative to eradicate lymphatic filariasis, a debilitating mosquitoborne disease that affects some 120 million people around the world and manifests itself as elephantiasis. For

now, the program's focus will shift from public health to relief.

"There's a Haitian expression 'paz a pa' (step by step)," Father Streit said. "We've been set back quite a bit, so we need prayers, financial support and involvement. The people of Haiti really depend on their faith that has gotten them through 200 years of difficulty, so I would urge anyone planning relief efforts not to forget this important element of nourishment for the Haitian psyche and spirit...that is faith."

At top, Rue la Croix in Léogâne shows the extent of the devastation after the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti.

Above, Father Streit's rectory was attached to Ste. Rose Church in Léogâne.

Read more about the crisis in Haiti on page 5





Rev. Thomas Streit, C.S.C., Sarah Craig and Logan Anderson





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Bengal Bouts Page 7



The Science of Avatar

Daga

**Footprint of Food** 

RFK at Notre Dame

## From brainstorms to breakthroughs

Power of people drives the Institute for Theoretical Sciences

#### BY BILL SCHMITT, NDWORKS

The "Catalytic Materials by Design" workshop, held on campus Jan. 27 to 30, had a design of its own—a distinctive approach that spoke volumes about its organizer, the Institute for Theoretical Sciences (ITS).

The ITS—a joint Institute of the University and Argonne National Laboratory, housed in the University's Nieuwland Science Hall—brought together for the workshop senior experimentalists and theorists in physics, biochemistry, computer science and other disciplines from

around the world, plus younger researchers and graduate students.

The workshop focused on cuttingedge science in catalysis and materials that can make a difference in today's urgent challenges such as energy sustainability, marshalling a critical mass of people, technologies and perspectives needed to accelerate solutions.

"I think of the institute as a rapid reaction force in the natural sciences," says ITS director and physics professor Boldizsár Jankó. Whereas typical academic conferences often dwell on research that is already "old news," the goal of ITS is to form and nurture ongoing connections among the experts in a field who get busy sharing their latest findings and ideas in real time, not only keeping pace with discoveries but setting the pace to meet society's need for a synthesis of learning.

The ITS brings invited guests and visitor groups to Notre Dame and

Argonne, providing the time and resources for interdisciplinary research.

Typically, a group will be headed by a particularly distinguished visitor who stays for a few weeks or months, plus a few handpicked colleagues and graduate students.

The seeds of even wider-

The seeds of even widerranging networks of people are planted at the ITS's major workshops. Projects that might have overwhelmed a single skill set can gain new life from perspectives that break down barriers.

Collaborations like these have already produced a track record of success for the young institute. The work of visiting fellows has generated numerous high-profile journal articles and other publications and hundreds

of citations by others.

A 2005 initiative focused on room-temperature superconductivity, a field rich in basic science and the promise of applications. A team of researchers led by Jankó in 2006, supported by a \$1.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation, probed the mysteries of fluorescence intermittency, or blinking molecules. They helped point the way to a next generation of bio-imaging and other progress in the inherently interdisciplinary field of nanoscience.

Research on terahertz spectroscopy led to scenarios for applications in bio-imaging and airport security checkpoints. Separately, exploring ways to visualize statistics in physics helped to increase awareness of a field called econophysics—enhanced analysis of the complex structures and randomness in economics and finance.

The expectations are just as high for the institute's initiatives in catalysis, another field that bridges energy and environmental sustainability, nanoscience and materials science.

"It is my strong belief that this



Above, ITS director and physics professor Boldizsár Jankó.

institute is one of the most effective ways of achieving some of the strategic goals the University has formulated," says Jankó. A premier international research university must be constantly attracting expertise in key, cutting-edge areas. These networks of high-impact scientists will include members of all generations, inspiring one another.

He recalls that ITS fellows have included physics Nobel laureates Alexei Abrikosov and Anthony Leggett, as well as chemistry Nobel laureate Rudy Marcus. World-class scientists "act as a magnet" because they bring excellent colleagues as part of their visitor group. They inspire the students and post-docs who interact with them.

"That's an experience of a lifetime," Jankó says of the young people nurtured by ITS activities. "It can have a tremendous impact on the graduate and undergraduate experience here."

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The deadline for stories is 10 business days before the following 2009-2010 publication dates: July 23, Aug. 13, Aug. 28, Sept. 10, Sept. 24, Oct. 15, Nov. 5, Nov. 19, Dec. 10, Jan. 7, Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Feb. 25, March 18, April 8, April 22, May 6, May 20, and June 17.

#### **NEWS BRIEFS**

# 2010 EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS DISCOUNTED FOR EMPLOYEES AND SPOUSES

Executive Education in the Mendoza College of Business offers non-degree business programs that are open to the public. Notre Dame employees and spouses receive a 20 percent discount on program fees.

The Certificate in Executive
Management (begins March 8) is
for managers, department heads and
directors, or those aspiring to move
up to management and seeking a
foundation or a refresher in core
business management topics. Sessions
are weekly on Monday evenings for
10 weeks in the spring and 10 weeks
in the fall.

The Supervisory Development program (March 9 and 10 or Oct. 27 and 28) is a two-day program for supervisors, managers and team leaders looking for practical skills in dealing with day-to-day supervising challenges.

For more information visit **executive.nd.edu** or contact Chris Cushman, 631-5285 or **ccushman@nd.edu.** 

#### PAUL BOSCO REMEMBERED

Colleagues in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures were saddened to learn of the death of emeritus professor Paul Bosco, 95, on Christmas Day. Bosco taught for more than 50 years at Notre Dame, and attended lectures and seminars in the department up to a few weeks before his death. "Paul was an inspiration to us," says department

chair Ted Cachey, "for his insatiable curiosity about all aspects of Italian language and culture."

Born in Vasto, Italy, in 1914, Bosco was the youngest of nine siblings. He served in military intelligence in WWII, and began teaching at Notre Dame in 1947. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Vittoria (an emerita professor in Romance Languages), four children and five grandchildren—as well as many friends and students.

#### **ANNUAL REPORT NOW ONLINE**

As part of the University's commitment to sustainable business practices, Notre Dame's Annual Report, highlighting the University's financial profile—and the economic challenges and opportunities of fiscal year 2009—is now available online. The multimedia format allows video clips and links to be embedded. To view the report, visit **controller.nd.edu.** 





ON CAMPUS, EVEN THE BIRDS ARE INTO RECYCLING

Photographer Eric Nisly spotted this bird's nest—with its creative use of found objects—outside the Snite Museum of Art.

#### SUSTAINABILITY

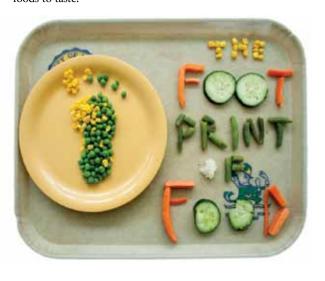
#### Third Annual Green Summit

Focus on food

#### BY RACHEL NOVICK, OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Green Summit III: The Footprint of Food, sponsored by the Office of Sustainability in collaboration with ND Food Services, takes place Monday, Feb. 22, in the Joyce Center Monogram Room.

Each year the summit brings together hundreds of faculty, staff and students to develop a shared vision for how to expand sustainability efforts at Notre Dame. This year, participants will rotate through tables on five topics: food and climate change, sustainable seafood, local food, food waste and bottled water. At each table there will be displays, discussion and delicious sustainable foods to taste.



Green Summit III will open with welcoming remarks from Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves, followed by a keynote address by Executive Chef Don

Miller.

"After participating in the past two Green Summits, I am convinced it is one of the premier events on campus," said Assistant Vice President for Development Micki Kidder. "The Summit provides an opportunity to engage with students, staff and faculty and always results in innovative yet practical

Registration and further details are available online at the Office of Sustainability Web site, green.nd.edu; the registration deadline is Friday, February

#### LANDSCAPE SERVICES

# To get us to work on time, their day starts at 2 a.m.

Keeping roads, sidewalks clear is a lot of work

#### BY CAROL C. BRADLEY. **NDWORKS**

A big thank you from all of us who work—and park—on campus to the dedicated Landscape Services staffers who labor to keep campus sidewalks, roads and parking lots cleared of snow and ice.

During the winter, the crews work three shifts, but a big snow means the whole crew gets called in at 2 a.m. "We have to start at 2 a.m. to get the major lots done by 7 a.m.," says Pat McCauslin, superintendent of Landscape Services. "We try to get as much coverage as we can. Everyone has a route."

The crew operates 2.5-ton trucks to plow big parking lots such as the library lot. A 1-ton truck does medium-sized lots like the bookstore and Stepan Center. A fleet of pickup trucks plows service drives and loading docks.



Landscape Services staffer John Rehmels clears snow from sidewalks near Flanner Hall.

Toolcats with rotating brush brooms (they can also switch to snow blades or small buckets) manufactured by the Bobcat Company are used to keep sidewalks cleared, and can spread sidewalk melter or liquid ice melter at the same time.

In their line of work, McCauslin says, "We miss holidays and times at home. But they come in and put the University first. You can't find better people."

#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

## New HR sites launched

#### Sites are more functional, visually consistent

#### BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

The newly revamped Office of Human Resources Web site (hr.nd.edu) debuted in early January with a new look and a more functional design, says Todd Hill, director of HR information systems and HR strategy. The site was designed and built by AgencyND, agency.nd.edu.

"It's better organized," Hill says. "Most information can now be accessed within two or three

The site is one of the most heavily trafficked of the University's Web pages. Most of the site's traffic—75 percent—is generated externally. The front-page link "Why ND" is aimed at that audience of prospective job applicants, and includes a link to a virtual tour of campus. Under "Why ND," the "Community Connections" link answers questions out-of-town applicants might have about what it's like to live and work in

the South Bend community. The site is also dedicated to improving customer service for existing employees. A new "Faculty and Staff Resources" link includes forms, policies, toolkits and FAQs. "We want to give people information when they need it," Hill says.

A useful addition to the page is a list of the top five questions received by askHR, ("My ID card is not working.

What should I do?"). Making information more accessible online means fewer calls to the askHR helpline. "It gets people information quicker, and frees up the phones to focus on more complicated questions," he says.

A redesigned jobs page, nd.jobs, has also been launched, with a look consistent with the HR and **nd.edu** sites. "The **nd.jobs** site is more visually appealing, and looks more like Notre Dame," says Erin Putt, HR senior recruiting consultant.

One big change—applicants can now use the "back" button, something



that was missing in the previous jobs site. There's also a link to the newly created LinkedIn group, Notre Dame Jobs Network, which offers career advice and tips. "It's a great way to receive career advice and job search tools," Putt says. "Recruiters have a chance to connect with applicants in a different way."

The new HR site will continue to evolve, Hill adds. "We want to keep it fresh and exciting. There will be additional changes as we learn more and get feedback."

# Links of the Irish

Many faces of campus now on Facebook

#### BY BILL SCHMITT, NDWORKS

Many faces of Notre Dame can be found on the social networking site Facebook.

You can join the "Notre Dame Faculty and Staff" group page, or become a fan of the Notre Dame Alumni Association or Notre Dame Magazine. Or keep up-to-date on general news as a fan of the University of Notre Dame page, which currently has more than 13,000 members.

How do you find facebool that particular page, overseen by the Office of Public Affairs and Communication, even though a number of "University of Notre Dame"-related pages emerge when you do a search using that key phrase?

"Look for the page with the most fans," explains Julie Flory of the OPAC public relations team. "It should come up at the top in a search, but if not, you can scroll through and look for the picture of the Main Building.'

Other campus-related Facebook fan pages include the Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore, Notre Dame Game Day, the Notre Dame Shakespeare Festival and the Center for Social Concerns—and the list is growing every day.

But Facebook is not the only

online resource the Notre Dame community is using to allow others to connect to life on campus. For example, vocation.nd.edu is a site that has been thriving among folks interested in learning more about the Congregation of Holy Cross—in particular, among folks discerning whether they have a vocation to the Holy Cross priesthood.

The Rev. James Gallagher, C.S.C., director of the Office of Vocations for the Indiana Province and Eastern Province in the Congregation, reports: "Since launching the new site in the spring of 2008, there have been over

other end of the country to see how we celebrate our important events without having to buy a plane ticket."

Another major resource conveying aspects of the Notre Dame story has made the leap to online delivery in order to become more accessible. In this case, it's the University's annual report. Go to the Office of the Controller at controller.nd.edu, and click through to the 2009 annual report. You'll find a cuttingedge presentation that incorporates videos and offers a more sustainable

> alternative to previous practice—a massive mailout of printed annual reports.

For a more intimate online experience of the place called Notre Dame, don't forget to check out tour.nd.edu, where you can take a "virtual tour" of

Notre Dame via videos, panoramic images, photos and texts. It will bring you as close to many of the campus's buildings as you could get without venturing into this season's snowy weather.

One email comment received from a site visitor said, "Hi. I love all the tour locations. They are all so beautiful and I look at them often. My son graduated from Notre Dame but he met with a tragic death several years ago. I know how much he loved ND and we do hope to get back there one more time. We have a bench out there with his name on it. Again, we love looking at all these beautiful places."

47,000 visits to the site, averaging about 100 hits a day. We receive about 10 to 15 new contacts each month through the Web site." Some of the more popular areas of the Web site include the Gallery with pictures and videos from past liturgies—Ordinations and Final Vows ceremonies. Visitors can also link to the Vocation YouTube page, which has received more than 2,500 visits since its launch

"It's not always an easy thing to admit that one has a vocation to the religious life, so to be able to think about it while researching on the Web is important," Father Gallagher told us. "Also, it allows someone from the

about a year ago.

# Making God known, loved and served

#### A Holy Cross family

#### BY GENE STOWE, FOR NDWORKS

Holy Cross priests presenting "Men In Black 2" to a full auditorium in Geddes Hall flashed family photos on the stage's twin screens, underscoring the point that they understand family.

"What I've learned from this all is that I haven't lost family and home," said Rev. Ralph Haag, C.S.C, the rector of St. Edward's Hall and director of Hispanic Ministry, flashing a picture of hall residents. "I even like to think I have many sons and daughters.

'Whether I'm taking a phone call or celebrating the Eucharist, I think I'm making God known, loved and served. Ultimately what I'm helping with is helping others find rest for their heart in the Lord. This has also afforded me a chance to deepen my own faith life."

Father Haag; Rev. Paul Doyle, C.S.C.; and Rev. Timothy Scully, C.S.C., shared their experiences at the event moderated by Rev. William Lies, C.S.C., and concluded with pizza.

"We get to eat together and pray together just like a family," said Father Doyle, one of seven children in a Virginia family. After more than 40 years in Holy Cross, they are more than friends—they are brothers.

'Though my parents and my family, God has touched me richly. I couldn't imagine myself other than a religious ordered priest. My Holy Cross family is continuing to be that."

Father Doyle, rector of Dillon Hall, recounted the influence of family members—kneeling to pray, marking the sign of the cross on his forehead-in a community that had a small Catholic minority, and how his ministry did not diminish the family life.

"I was never going to be a factor in mother and dad's life," he said. "I have plenty of siblings who have stayed close. The Lord does provide if we just step out in faith. Answers come. That's my experience."

In the Holy Cross novitiate, he was asked to explain why he had joined. "I was sure it would be a good education," Father Doyle said. "I knew a lot of Holy Cross priests and knew the formation would be

"Continuing education is stressed and possible when you live in community," with the opportunity for a range of service including parish priest, military chaplain or high school teacher. "You could do more than one of those things in a lifetime," and retire to Holy Cross House with its excellent care for the elderly.

The bishop who ordained him promised that the sacrament would change him, Father Doyle recalled, and before long he found himself

preaching freely instead of memorizing note cards.

"He said make sure you expect to be changed by this sacrament of ordination," Father Doyle said. "It would be a tragedy if you truncated what God was trying to do by not expecting him to do anything."

The session was part of an annual series—"Holy Cross: Faith in Our Future"—focused on the Jan. 20 feast day of Congregation of the Holy Cross founder Blessed Basil Anthony Moreau. The tradition started after Father Moreau, who sent Rev. Edward Sorin, C.S.C., on the mission that founded Notre Dame, was beatified in 2007.

Designed to demonstrate the rich and real life of the order's members, the evening also celebrated the relationship of Holy Cross and Notre Dame.

"The way in which you support us is kind of overwhelming every day," Father Scully said. "It's just an inspiration to us the way you live your life. We are the ones who are changed all the time by your faith and inspired and edified."

Rev. Timothy Scully, C.S.C., discusses his path to the priesthood.





## Steibe-Pasalich shares 'Spirit of Holy Cross'

#### Award recognizes the contributions of lay collaborators

#### BY BILL SCHMITT, NDWORKS

Susan Steibe-Pasalich, director of the University Counseling Center, has received a 2009 Spirit of Holy Cross Award, given to lay collaborators and religious who serve with the Congregation of Holy Cross in the United States and abroad.

Steibe-Pasalich has served in her Notre Dame post for almost three

decades. Over the years, she has also supported the work of the Congregation's Office of Vocations, helping to screen applicants to Holy Cross seminary programs.

She was presented with the award on Jan. 20, the Feast Day of Blessed Basil Moreau, C.S.C., founder of the Congregation.

The Indiana Province of Holy Cross, in announcing the award, cited Steibe-Pasalich's "high level of professionalism" and her immeasurable contribution "to ensuring that the next generation of Holy Cross religious are well-rounded and wellequipped for their lives of service."

Steibe-Pasalich

Rev. David T. Tyson, C.S.C., provincial superior for the Congregation of Holy Cross Indiana Province, said in announcing the annual award that it recognizes and thanks the extraordinary efforts among "thousands of lay collaborators and others" who are "living out the Holy Cross mission."

The 2009 award went to 11 individuals in places like South Bend; Phoenix; Portland, Ore.; Santiago, Chile; and Kampala, Uganda.

Recipients have assisted the

far-flung Holy Cross ministries in educational, parish and mission settings.

Recognizing collaboration with the Holy Cross pastoral team at Saint Joseph Parish in South Bend, two other Notre Dame employees— Matt and Kate Barrett—also

received the award. Matthew Barrett is a professor in Notre Dame Law School, and Kate Barrett works in the Office of Campus Ministry. They have been involved in a number of ways as parishioners at Saint Joseph, including service on the pastoral council.

#### FROM THE ARCHIVES

#### **ROBERT F. KENNEDY VISITS NOTRE DAME, 1968**







Robert F. Kennedy spoke at Stepan Center on his presidential campaign trail on April 4, 1968. Later that day he flew to Muncie to speak at Ball State University. He was boarding a plane to fly to Indianapolis to open his campaign headquarters and give a speech when he learned that Martin Luther King had been shot in Memphis. Just a few weeks later, on June 5, after addressing his supporters at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles, Kennedy was shot by Sirhan Sirhan. He died in the early morning hours of June 6, 1968.

In late January, the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts premiered the commissioned work "RFK: The Journey to Justice," presented by the L.A. Theatre Works. The docudrama, which focuses on Kennedy's personal and political journey, opens in Los Angeles in mid-March 2010.

'We shed tears, we hurt, but know we are not alone'

#### BY MICHAEL O. GARVEY. **PUBLIC INFORMATION AND** COMMUNICATION

Since 1944, when Holy Cross missionaries first came to Cap Haitien, the congregation—the same religious order which founded the University of Notre Dame a century earlier—has established numerous educational, social, and parochial ministries throughout Haiti. Holy Cross community is now organized there as the Province of Notre Dame du Perpetual Secours with 49 professed members, including two Holy Cross bishops, 25 temporarily professed members, five novices and six postulants.

Holy Cross religious are a vital presence in this already beleaguered nation, 80 percent of whose population are members of the Catholic Church. And neither the Church nor the Holy Cross order was spared when the earth began to shudder.

Returning to Notre Dame after having miraculously survived the collapse of the Montana Hotel in Port-au-Prince, Rev. Thomas Streit, C.S.C., founder and director of Notre Dame's Haiti Program, describing the apocalyptic horror he had witnessed in the rubble of the city and noted that "the churches were all gone, all of them. Places that I had prayed in, places that mean so much to the nation's people. That was their source of hope.'

Recognizing Father Streit as a priest, one surviving woman bellowed at him accusingly as he wandered the ruins, "The church fell down on the people as they were praying!"

"She and many others were clearly

angry," he said. "I can't blame them. But they were the exceptions. I came away with an experience I would not have wished for, but one that has shown me the strength of the human spirit, and that spirit so clearly sustained by our belief and our faith."

Father Streit is unlikely to stay

to forget this important element of nourishment for the Haitian psyche and spirit: Faith. We can provide immediate needs, medical needs and nutritional needs, but we've got to find ways to help people find that old support which has gotten them through 200 years of difficulty and



A Mass of healing for Haiti, concelebrated by 30 Holy Cross priests, took place in the Basilica of Sacred Heart on Monday, Jan. 18. The Holy Cross Order has numerous educational, social and parochial ministries throughout Haiti that were devastated by the earthquake that hit Tuesday, Jan. 12. "We come with heavy hearts to pray," said President Rev. John I. Jenkins, C.S.C, as he opened the Mass. "We are joyful because some of our students and faculty have come back. But our hearts are with those who have died and still suffer.'

away from Haiti very long.

"I just can't fathom what the next step is," he says, "but I expect that all of us together will do what Haiti has done for so long, which is to lean on our faith, our families and our friends and move forward.

"I would urge all the people who are planning relief efforts now not

that is their faith. I think both Holy Cross and the larger church have a very important role to play in that."

Suffering and hope are similarly intertwined in the emails from Holy Cross communities in Haiti to their brothers and sisters worldwide. One, in French, from Rev. Michel Eugène, C.S.C., confirmed that a still unre-

trieved corpse buried among many others beneath the debris of the University Quisqueya was indeed that of "notre confrere" Emmanuel Jacques Guillaume, C.S.C., whose parents were being notified. Another, from Sister Maureen Fuelkell, C.S.C., reported the arrival of a Holy Cross

priest from Port-au-Prince in Cap Haitien. "He said he could walk on the main street for blocks and blocks and look at the sea," Sister Maureen wrote. "That is how flattened the city is.

"Thanks to everyone for your prayers and solidarity," she continued. "We shed tears, we hurt, but know we are not alone. Many things will be changed forever, but life will go on because we know we are loved by a Divine Presence in our midst."

As they correspond with, pray for and organize relief efforts for the victims of the disaster, the members of the Holy Cross community in this country express a striking appreciation of their kinship with those in Haiti. "Our constitutions tell us that 'It remains only for us to find how even the cross can be borne as a gift,"

says Rev. David Tyson, provincial superior of the Indiana Province of Holy Cross. "Haiti may end up teaching us that very thing. For now, I remember the charge of our constitutions that 'we are men with hope to bring.' I want to do that for my Haitian confreres.'

# Ways to help Haiti

The University has experienced an outpouring of interest in assisting earthquake victims in Haiti and Notre Dame's Haiti Program.

For those looking for ways to contribute, links to various relief agencies can be found at haitidisaster. nd.edu/giving; the Observer's Web site. observer.nd.edu. has a link to global relief effort Hope for Haiti Now, which allows online donations.

Many have specifically asked about supporting the Notre Dame Haiti Program, directed by Father Tom Streit, C.S.C., which works to eradicate lymphatic filariasis, often called elephantiasis.

The Haiti Program is not a primary care provider, and its staff and affiliates are not part of the relief effort. The program's facilities and the surrounding community have been affected by the earthquake, although the full extent of the impact is not yet known.

If you'd like to help the Haiti Program rebuild, you may make a gift by calling Carol Hennion, director of donor services, at 631-9385, or use the online donation feature "Make a Gift" at supporting. nd.edu, designation: Earthquake-Haiti Program.

Donations may also be sent to the University of Notre Dame Development Department, 1100 Grace Hall, Notre Dame, IN 46556, Attention: Earthquake-Haiti Program.

In addition to the Haiti Program, the Congregation of Holy Cross has a strong presence in Haiti, and the destruction has had a devastating impact on their work. If you wish to support the Congregation, please send donations in care of Holy Cross Mission Center, P.O. Box 543, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

# RESEARCHING THE BENEFITS OF WELLNESS A holistic approach to a healthier campus running several times a week and losing two or three pounds. Popending on the severity of the profile that's generated about you, they schedule calls from these coaches to help you along with your wellness goals. They can identify whether you're art risk for diabetes, depression, obesity. The research extends to new fields The research mis South Bend, discovering among other things that convenience stores substitute for grocery stores for some families. "It's been enlightening for me," he says. "There's so many social and socioeconomic ways of considering this problems. "It's been enlightening for me," he says. "There's so many social and socioeconomic ways of considering this problem. Nobody's figured out



College of Business is leading studies to find out how Noter bame can do better at being well. Angst, who came to Notre Dame can do better at being well. Angst, who came to Notre Dame can do better at being well. Angst, who came to Notre Dame can do better at being well. Angst, who came to Notre Dame faculty and staff and measure how health helps.

"The save science," Angst says Notre Dame size on that surveys of chronic conditions." The community with the benefits of wellness."

The effort includes Health-Quotient, an extensive online questionnaire in a special Notre Dame part on WebMD com that scores the employee based on an tack for improving health.

"Based on that survey, WebMD coming pour health," says Angst, 40, who is in good health but aims at with leafth quotient and surprisingly strong correlation between poor knowledge of the statistical possibility."

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## HUMAN RESOURCES

# Administrative assistants update skills through continuing education program

"We can all continue to learn"

#### BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

There are more than 500 staffers in administrative assistant positions across campus—and a new education program, Today's Administrative Professional (TAP), is designed to help them develop their professional skills, says Kara McClure, manager of learning and organizational development in the Office of Human Resources.

Administrative assistants, McClure notes, "carry a lot of weight. This is a great use of resources to develop a group that's already strong. We can play on their strengths, and develop new ones." Administrative assistants, she adds, want information. "And they want to cut to the chase and get the skills they need."

"I think it's wonderful that the University is giving us this opportunity, not only to learn and expand on our basic knowledge, but we also get



Kobek

to give input toward future TAP programs," says participant Sue Kobek, senior administrative assistant in the Office of Academic Mission Support. "There's a real sense of empowerment for the people who are participating. It's a real affirmation of all that we do. We can all continue to learn."

TAP is aimed at administrative

assistants who want to update their skills and learn new technical, interpersonal and management competencies. Modules include listening skills, verbal and non-verbal communication, organizational skills, project and time management, business writing and conflict management.

An advisory team of administrative assistants from all areas of the University came up with the idea of including technology summits as part of the program, offering training modules in areas such as Web and software applications. Participants take a baseline proficiency pre-test, and are tested after training "to see how much the needle has moved," McClure says.

Participants in the 19-session program are divided into two groups of 35, meeting two sessions a month in either the morning or afternoon. "They can't be away from the office for a whole day," McClure says.

There is no charge for the program, but very strict attendance requirements are enforced. At the end of the program, a certificate and continuing education credits are awarded through Rockhurst University, a national continuing education program.

Response to the program, Mc-Clure says, has been overwhelming. "Not just in numbers, but in the level of energy and enthusiasm. We owe a big thanks to their managers, who continue to observe the process and provide helpful feedback on new skill application."

For those interested in participating in TAP, registration for the upcoming session will take place in early summer through Endeavor. Those currently serving in full-time, non-exempt administrative staff roles supporting at least one faculty or staff member are eligible for the program.

For more information on this and other learning opportunities, visit **hr.nd.edu** and click "career development."

### AVATAR

continued from page 8

that it was a typical James Cameron wish-fulfillment fantasy."

Still, he was impressed that Cameron had thought about the biota of his imaginary planet—how a whole world's plants and animals would look.

One thing he noticed immediately is that Pandora seems to have roughly the same gravity as earth. "People walk around pretty comfortably," he says. But in Earth's gravity, a tree could never grow to the size of the immense Home Tree.

California's redwoods, at 130 meters, are about as tall as a tree can get, because "there are physical constraints in getting water up there," he says. "There would also be serious structural problems for a tree that size made of wood"—although he notes that Jake Sully, the movie's hero, suggests that the tree is somehow reinforced.

When McLachlan saw the movie with his wife Beth Archie, assistant professor of biology and an animal biologist, she pointed out that many of the coolest Pandoran plants steal ideas from animals—those spiral plants that pull back when touched resemble marine tube worms, and the seeds of the Tree of Life are wind-dispersed but move through the atmosphere a lot like jellyfish move through the water.

"There are plenty of seeds with adaptations for dispersal," McLachlan says. "But no seeds that do that."

But in our own forests, he adds, plants really do communicate. Not by electricity, like computers, but plants in forests connect to each other. The filamentous strands of mycorrhizal fungi, for example, can penetrate into the cell walls of tree roots and transmit nutrients. "If you kill the fungi, the plant won't live," he says.

Beyond the botany, Cameron does have a message about how land use, development and colonialism are being played out, though it's simplistic, McLachlan says. "But I give him credit for imagining a whole world and how it works."

Still, he wonders, what's up with those hanging branches (flowers?) that look like strings of Christmas lights on the Tree of Souls?

"I'm with Dr. Grace (xenobotanist Grace Augustine, played by Sigourney Weaver)," he says. "We need some samples of that!"



#### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

# 'Learning at work' graduates first class

Staffers can earn technical certificate or associate degree at work

#### BY CAROL C. BRADLEY, NDWORKS

In December the Notre Dame/IVY Tech Community College **Learning at Work Skills Academy** has graduated the first class of students in the technical certificate program. The program offers regular full- and part-time employees the opportunity to earn a technical certificate or an Associate in Applied Science Degree through courses offered on the Notre Dame campus.

The 30 students who earned technical certificates all plan to continue the program, and will graduate next year with an associate degree. The accelerated curriculum fits four classes into a regular semester, plus two classes in the summer. The University pays for students' tuition, books and technical fees.

"I feel that what's good about the program is that my staff has been able to enhance their skills, which in the long run is going to prove very productive for our offices," says Kevin Cannon, director of the Office of Student Financial Services. "We're always looking for employees to grow as much as possible."

The associate degree in applied science is one of many Learning at Work programs that are offered through Human Resources. New enrollees are added in the fall. For information on this and other Learn at Work programs, visit **hr.nd.edu** and click on the Learning and Development tab, or call the askHR help line, 631-5900.



From left, Mary Nucciarone, associate director of financial aid, Kevin Cannon, director of student financial services, Janine Meersman, senior administrative assistant, her husband Kevin Meersman, and Christy Miller, senior student services representative. Janine Meersman and Christy Miller received technical certificates at the recent graduation ceremony.

#### **NEW EMPLOYEES**

The University welcomes the following employees who began work in December:

**Joshua D. Cameron,** aerospace and mechanical engineering

**Courtney Craig,** Institute for Latino Studies **Serguei Fedorov,** Center for Research Computing

Brian Kelly, football

Brian R. Patterson, investment office

Richard L. Tegmeyer, electrical engineering

**Bianca L. Tirado,** African and African American Studies

Maureen A. Wildey, human resources





At top, graduates Dianna R. Beirne, left, administrative services representative in the registrar's office, with Roberta White, senior administrative assistant in the Office of Public Information and Communcation. Above, Dawn Denton, building support assistant in biological sciences.

# Upcoming Events

#### **ART**

"Markings: Koo Kyung Sook," a set of six prints on handmade mulberry paper, will be exhibited at the Snite Museum of Art through Sunday, March 7, in the Mestrovic Studio Gallery. A public reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, with Ms. Sook speaking at 6 p.m.

#### **Highly Personal**

Thursday, Jan. 28 through Monday, Feb. 22, ISIS Gallery, O'Shaughnessy Hall Paintings and drawings by six alumni A reception will be held from 5 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 18

#### **MUSIC**

Unless otherwise noted, all performances take place in the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit **performingarts.nd.edu** or call 631-2800. Ticket prices are for faculty and staff, senior citizens and students of all ages.

#### South Bend Symphony Orchestra (Chamber II) French Impressions

3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 Leighton Concert Hall An afternoon of French melodic music, including Faure, Ravel, St. Saens and others \$12.50/\$23/\$5

#### The Metropolitan Opera in HD: Simon Boccanegra—Verdi

7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 7 and 14, Browning Cinema Plácido Domingo makes history singing the title role in Verdi's story of a tragic father and his lost daughter. \$22/\$15, subscriber rates apply

#### Notre Dame Symphony Orchestra Winter 2010 Concert: Musical Valentines

7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, Leighton Concert Hall Presented by the Department of Music

Faculty violinist Carolyn Plummer joins the orchestra for a midwinter concert of romantic masterworks old and new. \$5/\$4/\$3

#### **DANCE**

#### Richard Alston Dance Company with Jason Ridgeway, Steinway artist

7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 4 and 5; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, Decio Mainstage Theatre
Presenting "Shuffle It Right," commissioned for the University's DeBartolo Performing Arts Center Visiting Artist Series
\$25/\$25/\$15

#### **FILM**

Unless otherwise noted, films are screened in the Browning Cinema, DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$5 for faculty and staff, \$4 for seniors and \$3 for students. For "free but ticketed" events, contact the box office, 631-2800 for tickets.

#### FTT Talks presents Sterlin Harjo

3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 Browning Cinema Harjo was selected in 2004 as one of the Sundance Institute's first five Annenberg Film Fellows. His movie "Four Sheets to the Wind" follows at 7 p.m. Free but ticketed

#### Four Sheets to the Wind (2008)

ScreenPeace Film Series 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29
Director and writer Sterlin Harjo is scheduled to be present.
A death in Oklahoma sets in motion events leading to something great, or so says a Muscogee-speaking narrator in this lovely tale of communication, family, forgiveness and "something resembling love" among a wonderfully odd-ball Native American family. Free but ticketed

#### The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo (2007)

7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 4
Director Lisa Jackson is scheduled to be present.
In the Democratic Republic of Congo's brutal civil war, more than 4 million people have died and many tens of thousands of women and girls kidnapped, raped, mutilated and tortured by both foreign militias and the Congolese army. In "The Greatest Silence," these women speak.
Free but ticketed

#### FTT Talks presents Danielle Beverly

Presented by the Department of Film, Television, and Theatre 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, Browning Cinema
Danielle Beverly will present excerpts from her works "Learning to Swallow" and "Project Rebirth" and discuss documenting trauma and finding humor in the face of tragedy.
Free but ticketed

#### Americana (2008)

ScreenPeace Film Series
6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5
Director Topaz Adizes is
scheduled to be present
The story of two American
teenagers in their last months
of high school before enlisting
in the army, juxtaposed with
conversations between Americans
and locals overseas on what it
means to be "American" and "free.
English, Vietnamese and Japanese
with English subtitles
Free but ticketed

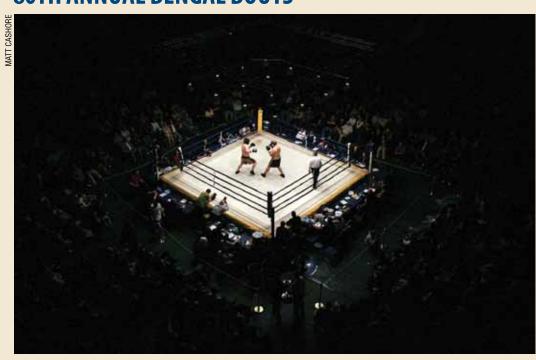
#### Pete Seeger: The Power of Song (2007)

ScreenPeace Film Series 9:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5
Chronicling the life of the legendary artist, political activist and architect of the folk revival, who was picketed, protested and blacklisted for his views on peace, unionism, civil rights and ecology Free but ticketed

#### Hunger (2008)

ScreenPeace Film Series
6:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6
Depicting the last six weeks of the life of IRA Republican hunger striker Bobby Sands
Free but ticketed

#### **80TH ANNUAL BENGAL BOUTS**



The opening rounds of the 80th annual Bengal Bouts, benefiting Holy Cross missions in Bangladesh, begin Saturday, Feb. 13, in the Joyce Center. For ticket information, visit und.com/tickets or call 631-7356.

#### The Killing Fields (1984)

ScreenPeace Film Series
9:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6
Roland Joffé's unflinching drama
recounts the true story of New
York Times journalist Sidney
Schanberg and Cambodian
journalist and translator Dith Pran,
who found themselves trapped in
the nightmare of the Khmer Rouge
revolution in Cambodia.
English, French and Khmer
languages with English subtitles
Free but ticketed

#### **Broken Embraces (2009)**

6:30 and 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, Friday and Saturday,
Feb. 11, 12 and 13
Pedro Almodóvar's tale of a blind
writer who must heal the wounds
of a brutal car crash 14 years earlier
in which he lost his sight and
Lena, the love of his life
English and Spanish languages
with English subtitles

#### The Wild Bunch (1969)

PAC Classic 100 3 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13
The aging gunmen of Sam
Peckinpah's masterpiece break the laws of honor that bind them in this bloody and meditative tale of the American West.

#### THEATER

#### Actors From The London Stage presents Romeo & Juliet Shakespeare at Notre Dame

7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27, through Friday, Jan. 29, Washington Hall Shakespeare's tragedy of two "star-cross'd lovers" \$18/\$18/\$12

## Tim Robbins' The Actors' Gang presents "The Trial of the Catonsville Nine"

7 p.m. Thursday and Friday, Feb. 11 and 12; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 13 Visiting Artist Series; Commissioned for the University's DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. On May 17, 1968, nine men and women entered the Selective Service Offices in Catonsville, Md., removed several hundred

records and burned them with homemade napalm in protest against the war in Vietnam. The nine were arrested, and in a highly publicized trial, sentenced to jail. The events propelled the nine Catholic participants—especially priest brothers Daniel and Phillip Berrigan into the national spotlight. \$25/\$25/\$15

#### CAMPUS LECTURES, CONFERENCES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Ten Years Hence Speaker Series: "The Ascent of Money" Panel Discussion (Part II)

10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5, Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business Lecture by John W. Rosenthal, Chief Executive Officer and managing member of Rosenthal Partners Capital Advisors LLC, and Paul H. Schultz, the John W. and Maude Clark Professor of Finance

#### University of Notre Dame Diversity Conference 2010

6 to 8:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 5; 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6 The theme of the third annual conference is "Diversity and the Bottom Line: Why Diversity Matters to You." Sponsored by the Notre Dame MBA Association. Registration deadline is Monday, Feb. 1. The conference is open to the public and free to participants.

#### Poetry Reading: Jacqueline Vaught Brogan

7:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 10, Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore
Sponsored by the Creative
Writing Program
Brogan, author of several books of criticism as well as her own poetry, will read from her book "Damage."



Domingo sings Verdi in "Simon Boccanegra"



Sook at the Snite

#### Provost's Distinguished Woman Lecturer: Tolstoy and Shakespeare

5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11, McKenna Hall Auditorium, reception to follow Caryl Emerson, A. Watson Armour III University Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures at Princeton University

#### Ten Years Hence Speaker Series

10:40 a.m. to 12:10 p.m. Friday, Feb. 12, Jordan Auditorium, Mendoza College of Business Fred Dust, Partner and Practice Lead, IDEO



## **NDWORKS**

It's shown for only moments in James Cameron's movie "Avatar," but the superconducting crystalline material "Unobtainium" plays a central role in the movie.

It's the stuff the mercenaries are ready to destroy the planet Pandora—and the native Na'vi—to obtain: A substance that superconducts electricity at room temperature.

In one scene (at left, second from top) a sample of Unobtainium levitates on an invisible magnetic field.

Here on Earth, in a physics lab in Nieuwland Hall of Science, physics professor Morten Eskildsen displays a chunk of a ceramic supeconducting material. "Unobtainium," he jokes.

By supercooling the material to minus 321 degrees Fahrenheit with liquid nitrogen and placing it above a track of powerful magnets, the material levitates. "It's usually quite impressive when people see it for the first time," he says.

It may look like movie magic, but it's the same technology that makes experimental high speed Maglev (magnetic levitation) trains run on test tracks in Japan. Another common application is in magnetic resonance imaging machines (MRIs).

But in the real world, superconductors work only when they're supercooled, which is expensive. Unobtainium—a material that superconducts energy at room

At top: Neytiri (Zoe Saldana), Na'vi princess of the Omaticaya Clan

At left (top to bottom): On Pandora, the Hallelujah Mountains float on a strong magnetic field near the planet's "flux vortex;" a sample of "Unobtainium" levitates in the mercenaries' laboratory; Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), the renegade Marine who defects to the Navi, with Neytiri; on Pandora, matter forms arches following magnetic



Superconductivity, which plays a central role in the movie "Avatar," is real science, says Morten Eskildsen, associate professor of physics. Above, he shows how a superconducting ceramic material, cooled with liquid nitrogen, will levitate in a powerful magnetic field.

temperature, really would be the Holy Grail, Eskildsen says.

Still, he found the movie enjoyable. "It's not whether it's realistic, it's whether it's well done. I thought it was well done. It's like the Harry Potter books—they're so well written, you just believe it."

Agustín Fuentes, director of the Institute for Scholarship in the Liberal Arts and professor of anthropology, has mixed feelings about "Avatar."

"The biology and ecology were great. I was emotional, it was so beautiful. But the story is a joke. It's the most standard story in Hollywood—the hero's journey. Thirty seconds in, you knew everything that's going to happen."

From an anthropological standpoint, he says, the Na'vi are a hodgepodge of Native American, Balinese and West African cultures. "The natives are in tune with nature, the greater good of the universe. But who makes the best native? The colonial soldier. The white man is the savior. It's standard American mythology—Pocahontas, 'The Last of the Mohicans,' Westerns.'

"Avatar" has set a new bar for visuals and the use of 3-D, Fuentes says. "The movie is cool. But the script was very poor."

Jason McLachlan, assistant professor of biology, is a global change biologist. When he saw "Avatar," he had a similar reaction. "On the plus side, it was like flying through a Maxfield Parrish painting," he says. "On the minus side, I was disappointed

#### CONTINUED INSIDE ON PAGE 6







McLachlan

Eskildsen