

The Center for International Programs presents
PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF

HAITI and CHILE

Haiti has receded from full scale media attention, and focus on the earthquake disaster in Chile has begun to fade as well. Yet both countries remain in need of international assistance as they struggle to overcome the tragic earthquakes that have recently ravaged their lands and people. What are the challenges that confront international aid workers and other volunteers who have tried to assist these countries? How can the many impediments to international

assistance be dealt with and overcome? Join us for a campus colloquium at which two speakers who have recently returned from Haiti will share their experience with us and their insights into the problems of relief and assistance in natural disasters of the Haiti dimension. A third speaker will also discuss comparisons and contrast between Haiti and Chile as both similar and yet quite different examples of earthquake disaster.

Paul Vigeant - Special Lecturer, Oakland University

Professor Vigeant teaches human geography at both Wayne State University and Oakland and has worked as a expert consultant in urban geography related to a variety of projects. Over our recent semester break, Professor Vigeant travelled to the Dominican Republic and Haiti as a consultant to Catholic Relief Services, to assist that organization in developing effective strategies for getting food, medicine and other vital goods and services into Haiti.

**Khalid A. Rao, MD.
William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak,**

From January 23 - 31, Dr. Rao was treating earthquake victims in Haiti as part of a delegation from the Islamic Medical Association of North America. He will speak first hand about the on-the-ground medical dimensions of the crisis in Haiti and share his experience of trying to provide basic medical assistance to the myriad number of injured earthquake victims.

**Mary Karasch: Professor of History
Oakland University**

Professor Karasch is one of the most widely respected historians of Latin America in the United States and has frequently taught a course on South America's "southern cone," which includes Chile. She is well equipped to provide valuable and provocative comparative insights between the Chilean earthquake disaster with that of Haiti, which it followed.



**Thursday, March 25, 2010
Gold Room C, Oakland Center
12:00 to 1:30 p.m.**

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