

Helping Haiti

University of Washington College of Built Environments
Architecture Hall room 147, Monday April 19th at 7:00pm

Contributors: AIA-Diversity Roundtable, Architects Without Borders, University of Washington College of Built Environments, and N.O.M.A. NW



Image taken by the American Red Cross 2010

Situation: The design community wants to apply their skills as professionals to neglected communities, with the most recent event being the earthquake in Haiti. This symposium will discuss the social and economic effects of the earthquake and discuss ways that the design community can contribute.

Goals of the Symposium: The goals of this coalition are to help the people of Haiti by
1 - Educating UW-CBE students about neglected communities, the importance of a good code in earthquake nations, humanitarian Architecture, and diversity;

2 - Creating connections between local professionals and Haitian professionals with the purpose of future student explorations in these communities;

3 – Fundraising and collecting future volunteers for this poor Caribbean nation during this event and the AIA-Diversity Roundtable Summer Solstice event Friday June 18th;

4 – Planning for future design response to be guided by professionals in Haiti.

PROGRAM

70 minutes

1 - Introduction

5 minutes - by Guido C. Seoanes, *Chair of the AIA-diversity Roundtable, & N.O.M.A. NW Students Outreach Leader.*

It will begin with the introduction of the presenters. It will incorporate a short general view of the geographical position and history of Haiti from pre-colonial times until the present. The beginning of the presentation will show timelines of events that occurred in this Caribbean nation and how it shaped the world. It will also incorporate the use of images. Most of the information came from the books *Culture & Customs of Haiti* by J. Michael Dash, *Caribbean Styles* by Suzanne Slesin & Stafford Cliff, *The Master and the Slaves* by Alexandra Isfahani-Hammond (book provided by Dr. Sharon E. Sutton FAIA), and by *Wikipedia the free encyclopedia*.

2 - Human aspect and culture

15 minutes - by Hans Bernard, *Local Haitian community representative, Microbiologist & Manager of Waid's Haitian Restaurant.*

Mister Bernard recently came back from Haiti after volunteering himself to helping victims of the earthquake in the hospitals of this Caribbean nation. He will provide his own personal account of the life of the Haitian people before, during, and after this catastrophe. This part will show cultural aspects, music, and images about this country.

3 - Structures and the importance of codes

15 minutes - by Mark R. Pierepiekarz, *PE, SE, MRP Engineering LLC.*

Mister Pierepiekarz recently came back from evaluating the damages cost by the earthquake and how structures failed in this region. He will be showing images of the disaster and the importance of code.

4 - Academic Respond

15 Minutes - Jeff Hou, PhD *Chair, Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture and Urban Design & Planning.*

Jeff will speak about the role that academics can play in disaster response, blending education with community (and world) responsibility. Jeff will give a brief overview of the China studio from last year, and highlight the impact the studio had on the community and the students. He will also touch on the benefits of establishing continuing relations between the CBE and the countries that it reaches out to.

6 - Architects Without Borders & N.O.M.A. NW: Experiences, Collaborations, and Donations

5 to 10 minutes - by Ben Spencer, *Assistant Professor UW-CBE, Architects Without Borders*

This concluding part of the event will highlight experiences that Architects Without Borders, Architects for Humanity, and N.O.M.A. have with global communities, connections with local architects in Haiti, and the donations that they are holding for the design community in order to help this Caribbean nation.

It will also address the opportunities for students to get involved with AWB, and the possibility of opening up a student branch, and/or incorporating a student on the board.

Last, it will introduce the 72-hour charrette design marathon that will be hosted this spring, by the AIA Diversity Roundtable & University of Washington College of Built Environments

7 - Questions and Answers 10 minutes (this will be after the 60 minute program)

After the lecture there will be a short question answer period for the first few guest lectures.

8 – Tables

Outside the event space there will be tables set up (one for AWB, one for N.O.M.A. NW, one for AIA, and one about the charrette .

These tables will be open for further questions, and will expand on points made during the talk.

AWB Table= Bray Hayden, *Architects Without Borders*, Rachel Minnery, *AIA, Architects Without Borders*

N.O.M.A. Table= Donald King *FAIA, N.O.M.A. NW*, and Leon Holloway, *N.O.M.A. NW, Associate AIA*, Rico Quirindingo *AIA Board Member, N.O.M.A.*

AIA Table = Stephanie Pure, *AIA Marketing and Communications Director, and other AIA leadership or committee members*

Charrette Table = Vicky, Anna, Megan, and Guido

*****Benefit for School:**

This symposium allows both students and professionals to discuss and project an appropriate humanitarian response with the goal of working closely with professionals in Haiti to enact positive change for the community.

The charrette aims to prepare students for situations that they will face as professionals during post-graduation such as making quick, effective, and creative design proposals

within time restraints while working in a collaborative, interdisciplinary, and team-oriented environment.