

Something new is happening in Haiti—actually something quite miraculous— and people in Port-au-Prince are taking notice. The Haitian Jesuits have started *Foi et Joie* schools after having formally affiliated themselves with *Fe y Alegría*, an international system of education emanating from Caracas, Venezuela (both appropriately mean in French and Spanish *faith* and *joy*).

Timeline for *Foi et Joie* / SJU Project Haiti

May 2016

For the last four years, Saint Joseph's University's Project Haiti in Philadelphia has been assisting the 17 Jesuit grammar schools and 1 vocational school throughout Haiti. Since the earthquake on January 12, 2010, whose epicenter was just outside of Port-au-Prince, the Haitian Jesuits have started a new school system, called in French *Foi et Joie*. An official document emanating from a meeting of Jesuits in August 2005, entitled in French *Projet de Fondation de Foi et Joie en Haiti* and signed by the Provincial Superior of the Jesuits of French Canada, established *Foi et Joie* in Haiti. Under the dynamic leadership of Dérino Sainfariste, S.J., Ambroise Dorino Gabriel, S.J., Jean-Maxène Joazile, S.J., and Marcos Recolons de Arquer, S.J., these schools have been built and furnished, teachers have been trained and hired, and water has been located and shared both with the local communities and made available to the *Foi et Joie* students. These children-centered schools, which have been constructed throughout the entire country, from Ouanaminthe to Jérémie, are already having a tremendous impact on Haitian education.

Foi et Joie Schools in Haiti

- 1. Centre Éducatif Simon Bolivar in Balan**
- 2. École Communautaire in Bas Canaan après Bon Repos**
- 3. Jardin Fleuri Kindergarten in Cazeau (National School)**
- 4. École Presbytérale Saint Michel Archange in Desormeaux**
- 5. Centre Éducatif Saint Ignace de Loyola in Bedou**
- 6. Centre Éducatif Mon Foyer in Carice**
- 7. École Communautaire Eben-Ezer in Dilaire**
- 8. École Communautaire Jérusalem in Welsh**
- 9. École Communautaire Saint Esprit in Bassin Grand Chemin**

10. **D'Accueil Préscolaire in Gros Sable**
11. **Dina Jésus Marie in Acadien**
12. **Doux Jésus in Colette**
13. **École Communautaire Saint-Michel in Coton**
14. **Sainte Claudine in Diondion**
15. **Visionnaire du Demain Meilleur in Fond Amadou**
16. **École Nationale in Abacou**
17. **École Presbytérale de Saint Marc in La Croix**

While too many Haitian refugees continue to live in cholera-prone, make-shift camps throughout the city, they do not see the structural and social changes so desperately needed. Financial aid poured into Haiti after the earthquake, but it is difficult to track with exactitude. Before Christmas 2011, for example, the Clinton Bush Haiti noted that the total value of damage caused by the earthquake was estimated about \$8 billion, of which approximately \$5.5 billion was lost by the private sector.

Thus the crucial question needs to be asked: What priorities should be established to bring about a transformation of the Haitian landscape and mindscape?

2004

1 January: Haiti's 200th anniversary of independence, not without anti-government demonstrations.



29 February. President Jean-Bertrand Aristide left the country (some maintain he was kidnapped) and ultimately arrived in South Africa. Boniface Alexandre assumed the role of interim President.

1 March. U. S. President George Bush announced that the United States will send U.S. troops to help stabilize Haiti. Also, the U.N. 1529 resolution authorized a three-month multinational interim peacekeeping force. It consists of troops from France, Canada, Chile, and the United States.

September. Hurricane Jeanne caused the deaths of 1,900 Haitians.

2005

6 July. More than 350 U.N. troops stormed the shantytown of Cité Soleil in a military operation with the stated purpose of halting violence in Haiti.

2006

The 2006 elections in Haiti, to replace the interim government of Gérard Latortue put in place after the 2004 Haiti rebellion, were delayed four times after having been originally scheduled for October and November 2005. The elections finally took place on February 7, 2006, with a turnout of about 60 percent. All 99 seats in the Chamber of Deputies of Haiti and all 30 seats in the Senate of Haiti were contested. Run-off elections for the Chamber of Deputies of Haiti were held on April 21, 2006, with about 28 percent turnout.

February. René Préval of the Lespwa coalition is elected President of Haiti and will remain in office until May 14, 2011.

June. A democratically-elected government headed by Prime Minister Jacques-Edouard Alexis took office.

Foi et Joie set up an office in Port-au-Prince.

2007

January. U.N. troops launched another tough new offensive against armed gangs in Cité Soleil.

Foi et Joie initially decided to build three schools, in Ouanaminthe, Jacmel, and Croix-des-Bouquets.

2008

April. Food riots. The Haitian Government announced emergency plans to cut price of rice in bid to halt unrest. Parliament dismissed Prime Minister Alexis.

May. The U.S. Government and the World Bank announced extra food aid totaling \$30 million. In response to a plea from President Préval for more police to help combat wave of kidnappings-for-ransom, Brazil agreed to boost its peacekeeping force.

2009

May. Former U.S. President Bill Clinton is appointed as U.N. special envoy to Haiti.

Foi et Joie continued to build schools and hire teachers.

July. The World Bank and the International Monetary Fund canceled \$1.2 billion of Haiti's debt (80 percent of the total) after judging it to have fulfilled economic reform and poverty reduction conditions.

2010

12 January. A major earthquake, registering 7.0 on the Richter Scale, killed over 250,000 people. Serious damage to buildings and infrastructure in and around Port-au-Prince. Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive estimated that 30,000 commercial buildings were seriously damaged and should be destroyed. About half of the schools in Haiti were in ruins after the earthquake.

23-29 May. Terrance Furin, SJU Coordinator of International Education Programs; Mrs. Carol Boyer-Yancy, Director of SJU Student Services; Matthew Yancy, her husband; Mrs. Evelyn Minick, Director of the SJU Drexel Library, and Patrick Samway, S.J., Professor of English, traveled to Haiti. Meeting with James Boynton, S.J., Claude Souffrant, S.J., and seven English-speaking faculty at the Collège Saint Ignace in Croix-des-Bouquets, a suburb of Port-au-Prince, they discussed possible forms of

collaboration between Saint Ignace and Saint Joseph's University. No specific decisions were made.

October. An epidemic of cholera struck Haiti.

2011

16 January. Former President "Baby-Doc" Duvalier returned to Haiti with impunity.

18 March. After seven years of exile in South Africa, the Aristide family returned to Haiti.

April. Michel Martelly, a former musician, is selected as the 56th President of Haiti. He took his oath of office on May 14th.



Mid-October. Four SJU faculty and administrators (Terrance Furin; Joseph Cifelli, Director of Certification, Accreditation, and Partnership; Aimée Terosky, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership, and Patrick Samway, S.J.) traveled to Port-au-Prince, where they met with

six Haitian educators who comprise Foi et Joie's professional development team. The Saint Joseph's professors listened intently as this team, which had extensively prepared themselves for the meeting, described their needs. The SJU group visited the Foi et Joie schools at Balan and Canaan. When the group returned to Philadelphia, Professor Terosky led the discussion with the SJU Project Haiti committee. It was then decided not to seek a formal affiliation with Collège Saint Ignace but to invite members of Foi et Joie's professional team come to Saint Joseph's University in March 2012.



October. President Martelly appointed U.N. development expert Gary Connile as his Prime Minister, after Parliament rejected his two previous nominees.

2012

January. President Martelly proposed reviving Haiti's army, which was disbanded in 1995 because of its role in coups and its history of human rights abuses.

February. Prime Minister Gary Connile resigned in protest at the refusal of many of his ministers and the presidential administration to cooperate with a parliamentary inquiry into dual citizenship among senior officials.

14-22 March. Six Foi et Joie administrators (Clauder Estamphil, Ocenia Benjamin-Pompy, Tamara Auguste, Sister Rosemay Bontemps, Sister Marie-France Nau Pichonneau, and Ambroise Dorino Gabriel, S.J.) traveled to Philadelphia as guests of SJU Project Haiti. They visited the Gesu School, the French International School, Waldron-Mercy Academy, Archmere Academy in Delaware, and Wyncote Elementary School in Cheltenham. In addition to visiting the Franklin Institute, they attended a reading by the Haitian-American fiction writer, Edwidge Danticat. Furthermore they participated in a number of seminars devoted to grammar-school pedagogy. As guests of SJU Project Haiti, the Foi et Joie group were invited by their American hosts to join various faculty and administrators at SJU for a number of convivial dinners. At this time, too, a formal document was signed by SJU Project Haiti and Foi et Joie formalizing the partnership they had already established.¹

16 May. Parliament approved Foreign Minister Laurent Lamothe as Prime Minister.

October. Hundreds protested against the high cost of living and call for the resignation of President Martelly. They accused the President of corruption and failure to deliver on his promises to alleviate poverty.

12 December. The *New York Times* reported that in spite of \$7.5 billion being promised or allocated for Haiti after the earthquake, only about half went actually to save the victims. Unfortunately, some of the funds promised or collected went from one bank account to another, but were not used for save lives or alleviate the misery of all too many Haitians.²

2013

April. Terrance Furin, Coordinator of International Education Programs, was awarded the Hawk of Honor for his work with SJU Project Haiti.



Early-January. Patrick Samway, S.J., and Vincent McCarthy, Professor of Philosophy, traveled to Port-au-Prince to demonstrate to teachers at the Canaan School how to use FOSS (Full Option Science System) kits. In addition, they conducted after-school professional development teacher-training sessions concerning the Foi et Joie science curriculum.



3-10 March. Professors Furin, McCarthy, Cifelli, and Terosky traveled to Haiti (this time also visiting several schools in the North) to explain in more detail to the assembled teachers how to use the FOSS curriculum. "The goal was not only for the students to get exposure to this new type

of learning, but for the teachers to watch us model lessons and get involved,” explained Terosky.

8 March. Former President Aristide is summoned to court to be questioned in the 13-year-old murder of Jean Dominique, a noted journalist and critic of Haitian politics.

11 May. Ambroise Dorino Gabriel, S.J., received an honorary doctorate at the Saint Joseph University’s graduation ceremony.

In addition, the Haitian Professionals of Philadelphia and Ms. Florcy Morisset presented Foi et Joie with a gift of \$5,000.



Construction continued at various Foi et Joie schools, particularly at Canaan.

16-20 August. Ms. Jennifer Cush (SJU '14); Professor Joseph Cifelli; Janine Firmender, Assistant Professor of Undergraduate Teacher Education, and Patrick Samway, S.J., went to Haiti to train 30 Foi et Joie teachers how to use the FOSS science equipment. SJU Project Haiti gave Father Gabriel a check for \$6,080 to pay the expenses of this seminar, plus a per diem for each of these teachers.



23 September. A request in French was made for a \$62,000 grant from the Papal Foundation.

October. The National Palace in Port-au-Prince was completely torn down.

22 October. Father Ambroise Gabriel acknowledged the grant of \$25,000 from the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities to Foi et Joie, which has been used and will continue to be used primarily to

**Haïti aux Haïtiens:
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(Volume I)



**Ayiti pou Ayisyen:
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(Volim I)



Patrick Samway, S.J.

purchase science material for the Foi et Joie schools.³

October. Patrick Samway, S.J., received a gift of \$3,000 that was designated by the donor for the creation and production of his civics textbooks in French and Creole for the Foi et Joie students. To date, one such textbook, geared for students in sixth grade, is finished. A mock-up copy has been given to Father Gabriel and another to his leadership team. Father Samway will also show his proposed book to experts at SJU to get their feedback and suggestions. Once all have had a chance to evaluate this proposed book, Saint Joseph's Printing Services will run off 250 bound copies that can be shipped to Haiti. In addition, Father Samway has started Volume Two of this book.

2014

12 January. According to National Public Radio (Washington, D.C.), approximately 150,000 Haitians are currently living in 271 official tent cities, as a result of the earthquake four years ago.

6 February. President Martelly met in person with U.S. President Barack Obama at the White House. He also met with Secretary of State John Kerry and members of the Congressional Black Caucus.

22 February. Pope Francis appointed Monsignor Chibly François Langlois, Bishop of Les Cayes, as a Cardinal of the Catholic Church.

April. SJU Project Haiti sent \$5,082 to Foi et Joie for the express purpose to purchase cloth so that local women can make uniforms for the Foi et Joie students.



20 April. According to the *New York Times*, 8,652 Haitians have died of cholera since October 2010.

23 April. The Minister for the Haitians Living Abroad (MHAVE), François Guillaume, launched a new initiative for the 2 million Haitians living abroad to establish closer ties with their homeland.

18-24 May. *Patrick Samway, S.J., and Professor Joseph Cifelli traveled to Port-au-Prince to continue the training program for a small group of Foi et Joie teachers, who will serve as a core group to teach other teachers about the FOSS science kits.*



November. Jean-Maxène Joazile, S.J., accepts the position of Interim Director of *Foi et Joie: Haiti*.

2015

February. Marcos Recolons de Arquer, S.J. who has had considerable experience with *Fe y Alegría* in South America and with *Foi et Joie* in Italy, accepts the position of Director of *Foi et Joie: Haiti*.

4-8 April. Father Samway met with Father Recolons de Arquer to discuss his future plans for *Foi et Joie: Haiti*. They discussed the finances of the schools, the administrative team he wishes to put in place, possible future cooperation with the Haitian Ministry of Education, and ongoing plans for the curriculum of the *Foi et Joie* schools. They also talked about ways in which SJU Project Haiti could further assist the *Foi et Joie* schools from the viewpoint of pedagogy. Finally, Father Samway gave Father Recolons de Arquer the first edition of the second volume of the bilingual civics book.

**Haïti aux Haïtiens:
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(Volume 2)



**Ayiti pou Ayisyen:
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(Volim 2)



Foi et Joie: Haïti

2016

24-28 April. The new Director of Foi et Joie in Haiti, Marcos Recolons de Arquer, S.J., and his assistant, Sister Matilde Maria Moreno-Muñoz, R.S.C.J., visited Saint Joseph's University. The met with members of SJU Project Haiti to discuss how SJU can assist the Foi et Joie schools in Haiti, especially concerning pedagogy. In light of this, Father Recolons de

Arquer and Sister Moreno-Muñoz visited four grammar schools in the Philadelphia area: 1. French International School, to see bi-lingual education (French and English) in action, since Haitian students learn both French and Creole; 2. Wyncote Elementary School, to see the use of state-of-the art educational materials in classroom situations; 3. Gesu School, to see firsthand the education given to students who come from the immediate area of this inner-city school; 4. Belmont Hills School, to see how students with special-needs, some of whom have autism, are integrated into the general student population. At each of the four schools, our two visitors from Haiti sat in on classes and sometimes participated in the activities of the students. In addition, they were hosted to several dinners and had a tour of Philadelphia.



¹ In their willingness to promote a system of education in Haiti, “Foi et Joie: Haiti” and “SJU Project Haiti: Learning and Growing Together” agree to enter into a partnership since both institutions take their inspiration from the Ignatian vision of Christian faith and social justice. For its part Foi et Joie: Haiti, in its desire to build up a school system in Haiti based on the principles and vision of Fe y Alegría, takes seriously its desire to educate not only the youth of Haiti but any Haitian who wishes to receive an education to build up the country of Haiti. For its part, Saint Joseph’s University, an American, Jesuit institution of higher learning, intent on instilling a love of learning together with the highest intellectual and professional achievement and a moral discernment reflecting Christian values. The University’s Ignatian identity derives from its founding by the Society of Jesus in 1851 and from the subsequent shaping of the University’s development by the evolving world view of the Society. Thus Saint Joseph’s University espouses the educational priorities of the Society of Jesus, which include searching for God in all things, pursuit of the greater good, the service of faith together with the promotion of justice and the effective compassion for the poor and those in need.

² See also the April 2013 report of the Center for Economic and Policy Research, Washington, D.C: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/haiti-aid-accountability-french-2013-05.pdf>.

³ To: The Raskob Foundation for the Grant Given to Saint Joseph’s University for Assisting in the Work of Foi et Joie: Haiti

From: The Reverend Ambroise Dorino Gabriel, S.J., director of Foi et Joie: Haiti.

For about three years, Foi et Joie: Haiti and Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia have had a most beneficial collaborative relationship. In particular, Saint Joseph's University's Project Haiti (SJU's Project Haiti) was established to support Foi et Joie: Haiti. Initially SJU's Project Haiti began by sending a team of professional educators to Port-au-Prince to listen to the needs of Foi et Joie. SJU's Project Haiti continues today to strengthen and affirm the work of Foi et Joie, both in its philosophy of education and in its day-to-day operations. Nobody who has been part of our collaboration could ever deny the richness and beauty of this experience, especially as this team, by carefully observing the poor children of Haiti, has shown itself totally devoted to helping Foi et Joie students learn to read and write well. Above all, the SJU team does not impose its own aims on Foi et Joie, but has proven that they can be careful listeners and observers, thus putting themselves in a better position to understand the dignity and respect due to these students. That's what makes the beauty of this experience!

Since our initial forms of collaboration, Foi et Joie has had several visits from the teams of SJU's Project Haiti. Each visit has had specific, well-defined goals. From the beginning Foi et Joie expressed a desire to strengthen the methodology of its entire staff particularly in teaching science, in order to bring about a change in the mindset of its teaching staff and, of course, the children. This is not an easy task. By promoting a valid scientific mentality in our schools, one that likewise focuses on ethics and civic responsibility, we hope that a transformation will take place in the development of these young Haitians—as well as the larger adult Haitian population--as they look to new, yet well-tested forms of education.

This new, science methodology, we believe, will profoundly change the magico-religious and superstitious mentality that has too long prevailed in Haiti, because the process that has developed over the last three years is sound. First, the SJU team listened and developed a regular coaching program for our teachers; such visits to Haiti allowed SJU's Project Haiti to understand our culture and the specific needs of our Foi et Joie schools. Second, these visiting SJU educators slowly and with great care shared American pedagogy in ways that our staff and teachers could understand. Foi et Joie could see what aspects of this pedagogy could be adapted to our needs. Third, such interaction led to the development of certain projects. Convinced that science education should be the first contribution, SJU's Project Haiti purchased and shipped to Haiti scientific equipment. In addition, professors from SJU's Project Haiti traveled to Haiti to give a series of seminars in French and Creole concerning the use of this equipment. I can assure you that our teachers were overjoyed to receive this equipment—and especially how to use it in their classrooms.

Through this project funded by the Raskob Foundation, Foi et Joie received Full Option Science System (FOSS) kits developed by a professor from the University of California at Berkeley and produced in Canada. These FOSS kits are a small mobile science lab. We have already had two training sessions with members of SJU's Project Haiti, one in the north of the country and the second in Port-au-Prince with nearly thirty teachers from all schools of Foi et Joie in Haiti. It was a great discovery for us who were participating in these training sessions. We realized that these sessions merely primed the pump, and all of us unanimously said they would like to have more of them. These sessions were more than a technical evaluation since the teachers could see the value of what they were doing; they were highly motivated by this type of training:

- a) The teachers expressed their enthusiasm; in the future, they want to have a full week of training to better assimilate the methodology.
- b) They want the training to be done in each of the 17 Foi et Joie schools.

c) Furthermore, they see the need for one or two monitors in each school. These monitors will continue to train other teachers and also take care of the equipment. Periodically, this equipment will need to be replaced. Where this might prove difficult, we hope that our teachers will have sufficient creativity and background to use local materials.

d) We see the need to have a separate science classroom in each school. In addition, it is important to have an annual evaluation of all who teach science in our schools. This would require at least three training sessions per year. We are most conscious of the linguistic problems (Creole/French/English) and feel that we will have the necessary personnel to deal with this.

We hope that this project can continue to find funding for the many thousands of children who will profit from a Foi et Joie education. We are most pleased that other schools that are not part of the Foi et Joie system are asking for the FOSS kits and to have the necessary training to use these kits. Clearly, word is getting around quickly.

In conclusion, let me thank all the members of SJU's Project Haiti and especially to the Raskob Foundation, our main sponsor for this project.