Students reach out to Nicaragua

Hurricane Felix damages partner university in Central America

In the early hours of Sept. 4, Hurricane Felix roared ashore, devastating the Caribbean coastal region of Nicaragua and prompting the University of Manitoba Women's Studies department into action.

Since 1996, the women's studies department has offered a travel study program in conjunction with the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN). Every two years, a group of between 12 and 25 students travel to the isolated area for the month of July to live and learn alongside their Nicaraguan counterparts.

When Susan Heald, acting coordinator of women's studies and founder of the Women in Nicaragua/Women in Canada program, heard about the almost complete devastation of the URACCAN campus, she began to look for ways to help.

"It's an area for which we have a lot of affection," Heald explained. "So many people have lost everything.'

Heald said information she has received from contacts at the university have told her 80 per cent of the campus has been damaged. The surrounding area, including roads and a regional hospital, has also been devastated.

The University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua is a central hub of services and support for the isolated communities which surround it, said Heald. If the university is not





Left, students from the University of Manitoba's women's studies department take part in a travel study program at the University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua. At right the Nicaraguan university was hit hard by Hurricane Felix on Sept. 4.

functioning, area residents will suffer, too.

The university's garden filled with traditional medicines was decimated, for example, as were crops used to feed surrounding communities.

Since the hurricane. Heald has heard from numerous University of Manitoba students anxious to find a way to help. Over the last number of weeks,

Heald has worked with advancement services which has agreed to accept donations directed at supporting the rebuilding of the URACCAN campus.

Anyone wishing to support the campaign is encouraged to send their donations to advancement services, 179 Extended Education, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2.



CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL AND APPLIED ETHICS UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

2008 ETHICS RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics invites applications for Research Fellowships for the 2008-2009 academic year from University of Manitoba faculty members holding tenured or probationary appointments. The Centre is housed within the Department of Philosophy and has a mandate to promote interdisciplinary research on applied ethics in all areas of practical and professional life. Funding for these Research Fellowships is provided by: the Mary Catherine Cartwright Endowment of the Department of Philosophy and the Imperial Oil Ethics Endowment Fund.

Successful applicants will be appointed as Research Associates of the Centre and will be granted release time stipends for 3 hours of teaching or the equivalent. Recipients will be required to present their research findings at a public seminar/lecture sponsored by the Centre. A final written report describing the outcome of the research must be submitted within two months of the end of the term of the fellowship.





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Two Research Fellowships are available. One is open to all University of Manitoba faculty members, and the Centre wishes to encourage applications from researchers in all areas of inquiry. The other is open only to members of the Faculty of Arts.

The Executive Committee of the Centre will act as the selection committee. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the Centre's Web Site for further information: umanitoba.ca/centres/ ethics/scholar2.html. You may also wish to contact the Director for additional assistance.

Applications, and all supporting material, must be submitted not later than December 14th, 2007, to:

> **Professor Arthur Schafer, Director Centre for Professional and Applied Ethics** University College, University of Manitoba 220 Dysart Road, Winnipeg, MB, R3T 2M8 Phone: (204)474-9107; Fax: (204)261-0021 E-mail: schafer@cc.umanitoba.ca

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