



CAMPUS JOURNAL OF UNIVERSITÉ ESPOIR LATREMBLAY

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A ministry of Calvary Chapel-Port-au-Prince

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THE FALL SEMESTER: A TENSE END

The fall semester of the year 2022 came to an end in November. However, due to precarious socio-economic conditions, the administration was considering continuing classes and even launching an intensive session from November to December. Unfortunately, the daily massacres on the return routes were causing concern among the students. As the end of the semester approached, their anxiety reached its peak.

In this tense context, the authorities were faced with a difficult dilemma. On one hand, they had to consider the security needs of the students by keeping them on campus for their education. On the other hand, they had to ensure their psychological well-being by allowing them to reunite with their loved ones after over four months of confinement in a country plagued by violence. However, keeping the students on campus also posed the risk of the criminals operating in the neighborhood entering the university grounds and committing criminal acts.

Indeed, according to the testimonies of some neighbors, these criminals were not only targeting the university because it provided free water every week. It was then that a long-awaited event, namely the World Cup, came to favor the departure of the students. While it offered an opportunity for relaxation, it also posed a significant distraction from continuing classes. After all, what was the point of risking keeping the students if all their attention was focused on this championship?

Evacuating them now became the most rational option. However, this delicate task required great caution and meticulous logistics.

It was effectively done without any issues over a period of three days, with groups of a maximum of fifteen people. To avoid attracting attention, the main road was avoided as much as possible, and a van was used as the means of transportation instead of a bus. The students were advised to take only what they could carry to avoid overcrowding the vehicle. If things calmed down, the University considered sending the rest of their belongings to Calvary Chapel. In the best-case scenario, they could return to campus for the January session. However, with the current situation in Latremblay, starting this new session seemed nearly impossible.



JANUARY SESSION: A CHALLENGE MET BY THE ADMINISTRATION

The expression "Pa gen kanpe" made waves on social media, but its true meaning resonated with us when the administration took steps to save the January session under particularly challenging circumstances. Indeed, the road to Croix des Bouquets was impassable, the Latremblay campus was out of the question, the September to December session at Calvary was canceled due to insecurity, and students living too far from the capital or in lawless areas were unable to travel to Calvary.

Faced with this situation, the administration decided to organize an intensive session from January to February and invited some students who were unable to go to Puits Blain to stay at the guest house of Calvary Chapel. Although this provided relief for some, there were still greater challenges ahead. For students accustomed to living at Latremblay, traveling to Calvary multiple times a day proved to be a difficult task due to insecurity and the high cost of transportation. Additionally, some students were confined to Fond Parisien and unable to undertake the back-and-forth journey between the capital and their homes.

To address this, the administration took extraordinary measures by converting several classrooms intended for Sunday studies into sleeping quarters, in order to accommodate more students. Although these measures are temporary, no one knows how long they will last. The socio-economic and security situation in the country remains precarious, and the conditions for the normal resumption of university activities have not yet been met. However, thanks to the efforts made by the administration, students were able to continue their learning.



GRADUATION CEREMONY: ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR UESPOIR

The graduation ceremony on May 13th for the Symbiose cohort was a significant event for UESPOIR University and the graduating students themselves. With over twenty graduates from computer science and business

management, this graduation ceremony symbolized a victory over the numerous challenges faced by the university community along the way.

Representatives from each administrative branch took the stage to share their journey and highlight the accomplishments of the graduating class, despite the challenges faced. Joseph Wesley and Pierre Robert, faculty representatives, expressed their pride in the graduates, emphasizing their dedication and perseverance in their learning journey. Pastor Seige R. Poteau, the university president, delivered words of encouragement to the graduates, urging them to be role models for other students and society, and above all, to ensure they give glory to God in all they do (1 Cor 10:31). Lastly, Donna Isidor, the class mentor, shared touching anecdotes about their journey and personal growth.

The ceremony was accompanied by the Proclaimers group, who, after performing two songs, added an emotional touch to the event. This graduation ceremony marked the end of an important chapter for the graduates, but also the beginning of a new step in their life where what they learned would be put to practice in the professional world.