

University of Evansville Students to Present Final Designs for Dominican Republic Construction

Civil Engineering students from the **University of Evansville's** College of Engineering & Computer Science will present their final designs Wednesday for two humanitarian structures that will be built in the Dominican Republic.



Before the beginning of the academic year, the students – 10 civil engineering seniors and one senior mechanical engineering student – traveled to Santiago, Dominican Republic, to conduct a field study for their work with Louisville-based G.O. Ministries. The Ministry owns land in Santiago, on which it plans to build a church, a feeding center, and a sports complex; the UE civil engineers were asked to do the engineering and site plans for those jobs, while the mechanical engineer was tasked with creating a solar water heating system.

On Wednesday, April 29, the UE students will present their final designs for these projects in room 133 of the Koch Center for Engineering and Science, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

The plans are being created as senior projects by the students.

"This has been an amazing opportunity for our students, not only to gain real-life engineering experience, but to do so while visiting and experiencing a completely different culture and way of life," said Brian Swenty, chair of UE's Department of Civil & Mechanical Engineering. "So not only did they get this tremendous real-world experience, but they had to take what they have learned about civil engineering and apply it to an environment where all the state-of-the-art tools and technology were not available for the project."

"So a big part of this project involved taking what they know and adapting it to help people who truly are in need of this kind of aid."

Since returning from the Dominican Republic, the students have spent the academic year using the information collected to perform engineering calculations and create their engineering and site plans. They will present these on Wednesday; if approved by G.O. Ministries, these plans will assist the ministry in constructing the church, feeding center, and sports complex in Santiago.

All media are invited to see these final presentations, and to speak with the students involved.

For more information, please contact UE Director of News Services Joe Atkinson at (812) 488-2562.