



January 13, 2005

How is UNC-Chapel Hill responding to the needs of Southeast Asia

Home

About CCPS

Serving the State

Grants

Bryan Fellowships

Awards

Service Scholars

Trainings

Get Involved

Donate Now

Contact CCPS:

Bank of America Center
Suite 201, CB# 3142
137 E. Franklin St.
Chapel Hill, NC 27599
[Directions](#)

ccps@unc.edu

919.843.7568 phone
919.843.7379 fax

The entire UNC community joins others around the world in expressing our concern and support for those so dramatically affected by the earthquake and subsequent tsunami that ravaged Southeast Asia. At this time the pressing need is for funds to support relief efforts. We encourage anyone who wants to support these efforts to visit the [USA For Corps](#) website which houses a complete list of organizations working on humanitarian relief and provides information on sending donations.

Currently several UNC departments and student organizations are investigating ways in which the Carolina community can respond to the needs of the victims. We will provide more detailed information on UNC's response to this crisis as it becomes available. below.

[Minesweep 2**5: Project Landmine Benefit for Sri Lanka, 1/24/05 Great Hall, 7pm](#)

[ITS: Carolina-Sri Lanka Relief Fund, 1/12/05](#)

[Sangam called meeting for tsunami relief, 1/12/05](#)

[A letter from the Chancellor, 1/04/05](#)

Minesweep 25: Project Landmine benefit for Sri Lanka, 1/24/05 at 7pm in the Great Hall**

One of the many after effects of the tsunami disaster has been the unearthing of thousands of active landmines. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go towards demining efforts (disarming and removing landmines) in areas such as Sri Lanka. Come to this charity entertainment show benefiting the United Nations Association - USA's Adopt Minefield which is charged with de-mining in tsunami-affected areas. Enjoy food sponsored by local restaurants and campus organizations as well as performances by Opeyo! Modern, the Clefhangers and more. There will also be a guest speaker, Peggy Pope, a Foreign Affairs Officer with expertise in Mine Action from the State Department. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be obtained at the side of the Pit from Tuesday, Jan. 18 or from a Project Landmine member. Tickets will be sold at the door, but seats are limited. Reserve your seats by contacting minesweep@unc.edu.

ITS would like to share information about the Carolina-Sri Lanka Relief Fund and how campus members can contribute to one relief effort underway.

While many ITS staffers were still relaxing with family members Christmas weekend world away whole families and entire villages were wiped out by a tidal wave generated by a 9.0 earthquake in the Indian Ocean. Lalith Perera of ITS Research Computing is from Sri Lanka, one of a dozen nations devastated by the tsunami. Fortunately, Lalith's family and friends live inland and are safe, and a friend who was traveling in Sri Lanka last week arrived home a couple of days ago. But the death toll, now over 140,000, continues to climb. Tens of thousands of people are missing, perhaps never to be found. And those who survived the initial onslaught may yet succumb to starvation and disease. The news can be overwhelming. It's easy to feel paralyzed and helpless in the face of such an utter disaster. While many agencies are working to provide money and other help, Lalith and some of his friends, who have the advantage of knowing people in Sri Lanka, are trying to target specific needs in specific areas. "Local people can get into areas that are unreachable to outsiders," he says. "We have reports from friends there of what's really needed and where." "The requests vary from one area to another," Lalith said. "Some places have food but need medicine, especially for cholera and diarrhea. Others need everything--food, clothes, medicine, pure water." Besides helping to coordinate a shipment of medical supplies from UNC Hospitals, arranged by Dr. Aravinda de Silva of Microbiology, Lalith and his group have also established the Carolina-Sri Lanka Relief Fund to receive monetary donations. "The short-term relief efforts are well underway," Lalith reports, "but the return to normalcy will take months and years. With ongoing contacts in the region, Lalith's circle will be able to direct the money to where it is most needed. Donations to the Carolina-Sri Lanka Relief Fund can be sent to Lalith at CB #3455 or to Bank of America. For more information, please contact: Megan R. Bell Acting Asst. Vice Chancellor of Communications Information Technology Services (ITS) The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Campus Box 3450 P: 919.843.9922 F: 919.843.3016 E: megan_bell@unc.edu

Sangam called meeting for tsunami relief, 1/12/05

Sangam called a meeting for everyone who wants to work on tsunami relief. Student organizations were strongly encouraged to send representatives to this meeting. The meeting was held Wednesday, January 12 from 5-6pm in room 3203 in the Union.

A letter from the Chancellor, 1/04/05

Dear Carolina community,

As the devastating events in Southeast Asia have unfolded over the past several days we have received numerous questions about how the Carolina family can help advance humanitarian relief efforts. In light of the university's global presence and considerable faculty expertise, Dr. Bill Roper, vice chancellor for medical affairs and chief executive officer of the UNC Health Care System, consulted with his friend, Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, about the best contribution we can make together. We know that some people want to travel to the affected countries to provide care to ease suffering. However, Dr. Gerberding's suggestion – echoed by representatives from the major disaster relief organizations – is that the most effective way we can help is by encouraging faculty, staff and student colleagues to make cash contributions to the agencies providing services and goods to victims. Cash is easier to transport than goods and people, it ensures that the exact, appropriate items get to who need them, and it supports local economies. For more information on donating to the USA Freedom Corps Web site at www.USAFreedomCorps.gov As relief efforts continue to evolve, there may be more direct ways for some of us to help. We will continue to monitor this situation and welcome a robust campus conversation on this topic. With the many experts among our Carolina family, we may be called upon for direct service. Thank you for your willingness to do so. Many of you will remember a few years ago when it was North Carolina on the news – with images of Hurricane Floyd's devastation across the eastern part of our state. Although that disaster was not as large in scale as the current tsunami calamity, to the people and communities involved it was shattering. I was very proud of the efforts made by university faculty, staff and students to help our fellow North Carolinians. Let us now pull together again to help people across the world regain control over their lives at this tragic time. And let us keep all those affected in our thoughts, as well as those providing relief and rescue, in our thoughts and prayers now and in the months ahead.

Sincerely,
James Moeser
Chancellor