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Fullerton College, with the full support of the North Orange County Community College District's (NOCCCD) Board of Trustees, donated 160 desktop and 30 laptop computers to Haiti Tec, a private trade school founded in 2000 to provide the country with a skilled workforce.

A few months ago Fullerton College President Dr. Rajen Vurdien met Haiti Tec's Technical Advisor, Michaele Saint-Natus, and learned that much of the Haiti Tec campus was leveled and equipment destroyed after the 7.0 magnitude earthquake two years ago. "I was moved by Haiti Tec's story," Dr. Vurdien says, "and knew there had to be some way Fullerton could make a difference."

With the help of Fullerton's Instructional Technology Manager Bob Morison, a plan was developed to donate several of the college's computers to Haiti. "Like many colleges, Fullerton has a computer replacement plan which ensures our students have access to the latest technology," says Morison. "We phase out the older computers and send them to surplus."

On Friday, January 27, Dr. Vurdien and NOCCCD Chancellor Dr. Ned Doffoney flew to Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital city, to participate in the unveiling of the computers and a master planning session. Saint-Natus opened the day with the comment, "Today, we have not a promise, not a pledge, but 190 computers from Fullerton College."

The majority of the computers are currently being installed in labs at Haiti Tec, while others are being distributed across the country to the Teachers' Training College, National University of Haiti, Food for the Poor, The Salvation Army, and various government ministries.

"The extraordinary generosity of NOCCCD is evident in our donation to the Haitian people and to Haiti Tec," says Dr. Doffoney. "These computers will enable a new generation of Haitians to enhance their lives and the development of their country."

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