Assessment Visit to Liberia

March 21 – 30, 2009

Participants:

Tania Vitvitsky, Sabre Foundation

John Archibald, Sabre Foundation and Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia

James Costa, Sabre Foundation Advisory Committee
Liberia: established as a republic in 1847
Population: 3,441,790
GDP (PPP): $500/year
Literacy rate: 57%
Languages: English 20%; 20 ethnic group languages
Focus on three educational institutions:

The University of Liberia, Monrovia and the Fendell campus

CREDO, Sabre’s NGO partner organization, Monrovia

Ricks Institute, Virginia

Plus, the Firestone Rubber Plantation
Downtown Monrovia
Street scene near the Cape Hotel and U.S. Embassy
Inauguration of Dr. Emmet A. Dennis, as the Thirteenth President of the University of Liberia, Main Campus, Monrovia

Monday, March 23, 2009

First established as Liberia College in 1851 and initially financed by the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, the university was chartered in 1951. Currently, the university has about 17,600 students in six undergraduate colleges.
Podium at the Inauguration
Academic Procession
President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf at the Inauguration
Our own John Archibald
Tania Vitvitsky, President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf and James Costa
John Archibald with UL President Emmet Dennis at the $22M Fendell campus construction site funded by the Chinese government.
Meeting with CREDO staff and board of directors
John Archibald with William Harris of CREDO
Sabre books being delivered to the university.
Ricks Institute, established in 1888, serves 500 day and boarding students.
Ricks Institute, main campus
American Corner, Ricks Institute
Ricks Institute Library with Internet access through satellite dish
Typical road-side scene
Firestone Plantation, established in 1926. With 8 million rubber trees, on 200 acres, the plantation is the world’s largest natural rubber operation.
Firestone Rubber Plantation