St. Vincent and the Grenadines Book Drive to Promote Literacy
Literacy in St. Vincent

- CIA Factbook literacy rate 96%
- Red Cross literacy rate 58%*
- 95.3% of pop. Age 5-15 attends school
- 65 primary schools and 23 secondary
Literacy in St. Vincent

- 66.9% have not studied beyond the primary or basic school level
- 18.5% progress to secondary level
- 2.4% reach post-secondary vocational training and university education
- Remaining 10% of population has no formal education and must be deemed functionally illiterate.
Ecological Challenges

• Disaster-prone area
• Large prevalence of devastating hurricanes
• 1980: Hurricane Allen devastates banana crop
• Dec 1979: Major eruption of Mount Soufriere volcano, 2/3 of the island evacuated
Economy in St. Vincent

- Unemployment rate 15%
- GDP per capita $3,594
- 26% live below national poverty line
- Economy based on primary crop export- bananas
- In 2006, removal of Britain’s Caribbean banana quotas St. Vincent loses
- Current need to diversify economy- looking to tourism
Tourism in St. Vincent

• Stable, democratic government
• Eco-tourism available
• Described as “best sailing grounds anywhere in the world”
• But there are several detriments to tourism...
Detriments to Tourism in St. Vincent

- Lack of international airport
- Few large hotels
- Lack of Americanization on the island
- Strong hurricane season
Our Project

• Considering the current wages of a laborer, the cost of a single paperback book can be an entire day’s wages.
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• The Dittman family was asked by a Peace Corps volunteer to supply the small town of Fancy, a primitive village in the north, with books.
Our Project

• We are collecting children’s books and the funds to ship the books to St. Vincent and the Grenadines
What you can do

• Donate children’s books
What you can do

- Donate children’s books
- Or any fiction or non fiction books as well, because we can exchange them for children’s books!
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• Donate children’s books
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• Donate children’s books
• Or any fiction or non fiction books as well, because we can exchange them for children’s books!
• Or donate funds through our swipe machines
• Or swipe home a book in the children’s section of the bookstore
When we are collecting...

- We will have a swipe machine to collect funds for shipping the books
  from 7-9pm on Tuesday
  and 12-2pm Wednesday through Friday
  In the Commons
When we are collecting...

• We will have a swipe machine to collect funds for shipping the books from 7-9pm on Tuesday and 12-2pm Wednesday through Friday in the Commons.

• Boxes will be in the commons atrium, the living room, and the Law School anytime.
Alternative Spring Break in St. Vincent and the Grenadines

• Sara Mueller is turning in a brief proposal to NSL’s Alternative Spring Break chair.
Alternative Spring Break in St. Vincent and the Grenadines

- Sara Mueller is turning in a brief proposal to NSL’s Alternative Spring Break chair.
- NSL has been looking for a service opportunity abroad
- And is looking towards 2008!
Proposal for Shepherd Poverty Internship in St. Vincent

• The internship is “hands-on”, working directly with the disadvantaged population and will be education focused
Proposal for Shepherd Poverty Internship in St. Vincent

- An agency provides a position description
- Contact at internship position needed
- Arrangements for host family would need to be arranged with all contact information
THANK YOU!