

LANDSCAPES OF HONDURAS

Howard S. Muscott, Ed.D.*



Spring in Honduras 2006. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.

It was a particularly vivid spring this year.



On the Road to Olancho. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.

The three-hour drive from Tegucigalpa to Juticalpa, Honduras offers frequent views of foothills and peaks in one the most mountainous countries in the world.



Crossing the Ojustal Bridge. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.

The town of Ojustal is one of the yearly stops for the Mary Queen of Peace Mission Team trips. Three of the children in this community are deaf and attend the Escuelita Nazareth. Team members cross the wobbly bridge over the Ojustal River in March of 2005 after delivering supplies.



Dusk Over Honduras. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.

On the first day of my first trip to Honduras, the truck loaded down with more than a ton of supplies from New Hampshire had a flat tire on the 140 km drive from the airport to our residence at the Universidad de Catolica. The bad news was that we had no spare and there was no place to buy one. The good news was this emerging sunset at a fish hatchery where we pulled over to assess the tire damage. I had one minute to take the picture before Mary Roy hustled me back into the pick-up accompanying the truck. The Mission Team convey moved on with 7 working tires out of 8 and this photo in my camera.



Tree at Padre's Oasis of Hope. Photograph by Howard S. Muscott.

This beautiful tree sits on the educational campus in Juticalpa I call "Padre's Oasis of Hope." Common to Honduras, its majestic form is enhanced by the vultures and other birds that use it as a strategic vantage point.

* **Dr. HOWARD S. MUSCOTT** is professor of education and director of undergraduate special education programs and graduate programs in emotional and behavioral disorders (EBD) in the department of education at Rivier College. Dr. Muscott currently co-directs the New Hampshire Center for Effective Behavioral Interventions and Supports, a statewide technical assistance and training network aimed at promoting positive and preventive school discipline systems and improving the emotional well-being of all children including those with emotional/behavioral disorders. Muscott received his doctorate in educating students with EBD from Teachers College, Columbia University and joined the Rivier faculty in 1992. He has more than 30 years of experience in education ranging from preschool through high school and higher education. He has been a special education teacher and principal of three different schools for students with disabilities. He has been nominated for two national awards, United States Professor of the Year and the Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service-Learning, and was honored with an Excellence in Education Award by the New Hampshire College and University Council as the New Hampshire Professor of the Year in 2000. Muscott was named Distinguished Alumnae from the State University College at Buffalo, New York in 2003 for his lifelong commitment to special education. In 2004, the New Hampshire Chapter of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI-NH) honored him with their Outstanding Special Educator of the Year Award. Dr. Muscott is nationally known for his work and publications in the fields of educating students with emotional/behavioral disorders, schoolwide discipline, and service-learning. A frequent keynote speaker and consultant to schools, he has delivered more than 250 presentations to educators and families in both New Hampshire and across the country.