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## Chile leader, Rice discuss missing PSU professor

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A missing Penn State professor was a topic of discussion Saturday between Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and new Chilean President Michelle Bachelet, a State Department spokesman said this week.

Boris Weisfeiler, a math professor at University Park, went missing in Chile in 1985, when Gen. Augusto Pinochet held power. Weisfeiler, an avid outdoorsman, was hiking in a mountainous region there.

Several members of Congress urged Rice last week to discuss the Weisfeiler case with Bachelet.

The first female president in Chile, she was inaugurated Saturday.

Justin Higgins, a State Department spokesman, said a U.S. government bureau reported that Rice did address the issue with Bachelet.

"She (Rice) emphasized the importance that the U.S. government attaches to this case," Higgins said. "And the Chilean president said it was important to Chile, as well."

Bachelet told Rice that new investigations in the former Colonia Dignidad, a German enclave, are yielding new information, Higgins said.

Weisfeiler went missing about 15 miles from Colonia Dignidad, which may have held ties to the Pinochet dictatorship. U.S. documents show a possibility that Weisfeiler was taken there.

Weisfeiler's supporters have said they're hopeful that the Chilean government may be more cooperative in releasing information now that Bachelet is in power. She was jailed and tortured during the Pinochet years.

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