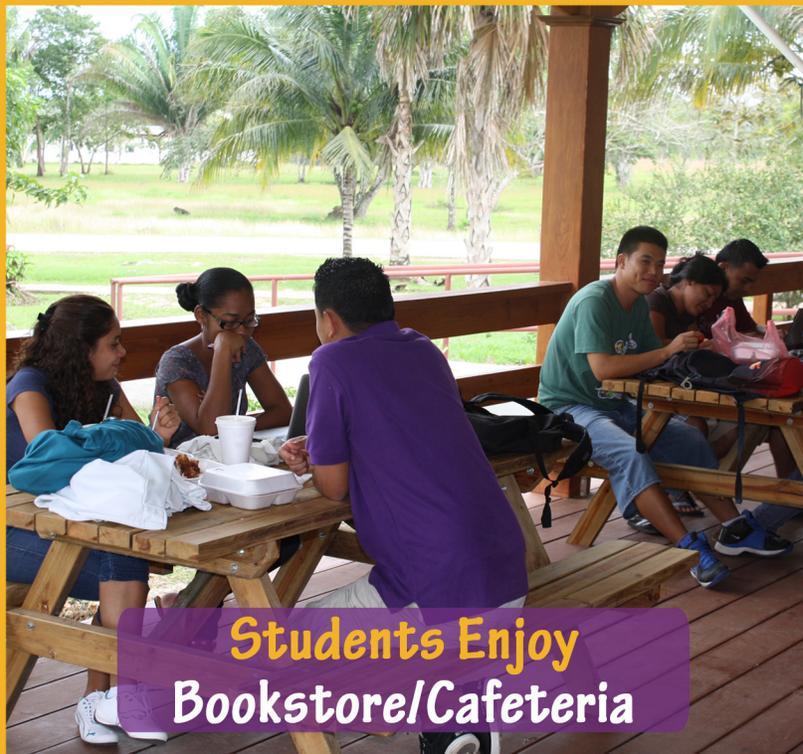




Student Registration for January 2013 exceeds number for January 2012



From Negotiation to ICJ



Students Enjoy Bookstore/Cafeteria

Student Registration Exceeds number for January 2012



The University of Belize welcomes the 3,925 students who have registered to pursue careers in the fields of Information Technology, Accounting, Management, Nursing, Education/teacher training, Social Work, and other programs at the University of Belize.



The number of students who have registered for the 2012-2013 academic year has exceeded the number for the second semester of 2011-2012.



Registration of new students for 2011-2012 Semester 2 is 331 compared to the registration of 203 students for the same period in 2011.



The University continues to emphasize its contribution to accessible and affordable education in Belize.



Academic Achievement

The Faculty of Education and Arts under the leadership of Dr. Priscilla Brown-Lopez held a Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) workshop in January, at



the Jaguar Auditorium. The workshop was presented by Dr. Aileen Hale, Professor at the Boise State University, USA, a specialist in International Education. The SIOP Model was introduced to Belizean educators at UB, as a means of improving the Academic Achievement of English Language Learners. Approximately 30 lecturers from the three campuses attended the workshop.

ABOUT SIOP

The SIOP Model (Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol) is a model supporting the Academic Achievement of English Language Learners. It is a research-based Professional Development Model that has proven particularly effective with English language learners who are studying content topics, while acquiring English.

It was introduced to the Education faculty at UB to determine the value it may offer to Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) training at UB, as well as for professional development of existing teachers (especially those with little TESOL training).

If implemented as a Professional Development model for teachers with High School &/or Associates degrees, it has the potential to benefit teachers across Belize. It could also be instituted as an addition to the existing teacher training program at UB.

From Negotiation to the ICJ

The Office of Student Affairs hosted its first Divergent Discussion for the semester with the title: "From Negotiation to the International Court of Justice (ICJ)." Guest

Speakers

included Ambassador

Stuart Leslie, Ambassador James Murphy, and Dr. Herman Byrd.



This is the start of a series of presentations leading to the National Referendum on October 6, 2013.

Canadian University: Lakeland leads new agricultural training project in Belize

Chilly temperatures didn't deter the warm collegial spirit between Lakeland College officials and guests from Belize at the Vermilion campus in January. Dr. Gordon Holder of the University of Belize and Ms. Yvonne Palma from the Belize Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, were at Lakeland to begin putting together a framework for a new three-year \$440,000 project that will enable Caribbean countries to develop training programs that align with the needs and demands of its agriculture industry.



During their visit, the Belizean team guests met with representatives from Lakeland's International and Distance Learning department, the School of Agricultural Sciences, and the Curriculum Development and Faculty Training department. They also toured the college farm and met with various local agricultural-based companies. Areas of greatest interest were the livestock handling facilities, grain storage and feed mix systems, as well as the crop production system. They also researched the student managed farm concept.

“The focus of the project is to help Caribbean countries revamp the post-secondary agricultural education system so that it is more responsive, applied and demand-driven with industry needs,” says Mark Butler, director of international and distance learning. He adds that Lakeland is the lead college and, in addition to ensuring that the project's structure and delivery is sound, will provide support for curriculum development and instructor training. Additional partners were also in attendance during the week included Bow Valley College and Parkland College. They will work on developing counseling and support systems for students, helping with industry engagement, as well as a social media component.

Initially, project work will begin at a regional level at the University of Belize. The university is currently rebuilding its agricultural school after a two-year closure from 2006 to 2008. It wants to revamp its educational programs - which include crops and livestock production - so that they are relevant to current and future industry demands. It also wants to develop its current university farm operation along the lines to Lakeland's Student Managed Farm.

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Spatial Training

The University of Belize in collaboration with the World Bank and the LIC/MNRA hosted the first GeoNode Training for Pilot stakeholders. It was aimed to build capacity among stakeholders to develop/improve in their geonodes and better understand the Spatial Data Infrastructure components. The training was held at the Natural Resources Computer Lab from January 30, to February 1, 2013.



The Belize National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) is a national project that is being lead by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Agriculture. The purpose of the NSDI is to develop a platform for stakeholders to create, develop and sharing spatial data, which is vital for decision-making and the sustainable development of Belize.

Ready to Serve

The UB Bookstore/Cafeteria is now open for service to the UB community. There are stationery and memorabilia items available for sale at the Bookstore at low prices.

Stationery:
pens,
pencils,
erasers,
folders,
sheet

protectors, filing folders, tape, USBs, calculators, staplers, CDs, external hard drives, acrylic paint and more.

Memorabilia:

Mugs, hand- sanitizers, pens, key holders, pins, USBs, t-shirts for moms and dads, water bottles, tumblers and more.

Opening hours are Monday to Thursday: 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. and from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.



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“Ultimately, our goal is to have a workforce that has the skills required by employers for current and future jobs throughout the Caribbean,” says Holder. “We view training to be much more valuable if it is done in a productive, hands-on environment. Lakeland also prepares its students to think critically so that they can make the right decisions for managing farming operations. This is the same approach that we want at the University of Belize.” Holder adds that once the project is underway regionally, its outcomes will expand to benefit other countries in the Caribbean. “We want the system to be sustainable. It’s important for our global economy,” says Holder.

The project is part of the CARICOM Education for Employment Program which is funded by the Canadian International Development Agency. It is also supported by the Association of Canadian Community Colleges.

A Fun Way to Learn Math and Physics

Retired senior lecturer from the University of the West Indies, Dr. Michael Ponnambalam, through the Faculty of Science and Technology's Mathematics program held a one-day workshop for tertiary level lecturers in January, 2013. The first session was focused on "Incorporating computer simulations into university, high school, and middle school Mathematics" while the second one focused on "Incorporating computer simulations into university, high school, and middle school Physics". The workshops served to provide training in using technology to enhance the teaching and learning experience in Mathematics and Physics.



During Dr. Ponnambalam's visit to the University of Belize he was also involved in the FST's outreach initiative which promoted science at the primary and secondary level institutions. On his visit to the primary and secondary schools in Belmopan where he met with over 800 students, he informed them that science is a fun subject and encouraged them to pursue the study of science.

Dr. Ponnambalam has worked at the University of the West Indies for 25 years and has been promoting science in the primary and secondary schools of Jamaica for the past 15 years.



The Faculty of Science and Technology thanked Dr. Michael Ponnambalam for sharing his wealth of knowledge and experience in incorporating technology into Mathematics and Physics to enhance the learning experience of students at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels. The FST would also like to thank Dr. Thippi Thiagarajan for hosting Dr. Ponnambalam during his stay with us.

Welcome to UB Family

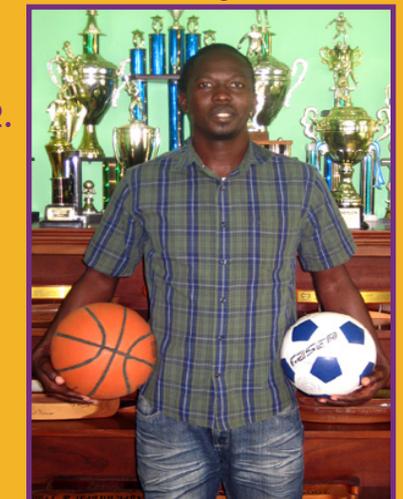
The Office of the President of the University of Belize, Dr. Cary Fraser is pleased to announce the appointment of **Mr. Dudley Heredia, MBA, as Internal Auditor of the University of Belize.** Mr. Heredia's appointment will serve to strengthen the management structure within the University and his role will focus upon ensuring that there is a continuous process of evaluation of institutional performance. He obtained his Bachelor Degree in Accounting and a Master Degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Internal auditing both from Louisiana State University, United States of America.



Mr. Heredia served as the Internal Auditor and as Treasurer at the Belize Electricity Limited, Chief Internal Auditor at COCESNA, and has held senior positions as Finance Officer at CARICOM Regional Fisheries Mechanism, and the Belize Audubon Society. His work experience spans in excess of 17 years both nationally and regionally.

Among other diplomas and certificates he has also received the title of Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Stanley V. Humes, Coordinator of Recreation and Sports, earned his Associates Degree in Building and Construction Technology from the University in 2004. He is a seasoned footballer and in 2006 departed to Cuba to study Sports and Physical Education, graduating with his Bachelors in 2012. After returning from Cuba, he worked as the Physical Trainer for the Belize National Football Team.



One of Stanley's goal is to develop the Recreation department as an excellent opportunity to foster and enhance a healthy lifestyle of students, faculty and staff - the UB community through sports, and to build the reputation of University of athletic program which would ensure that our athletes of all sporting disciplines represent Belize at national, regional and international events.



Abelardo Mai, Assistant Bookstore Manager, graduate of both Muffles High School and Muffles Junior college. He became a resident of Belmopan and is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree with a major in Accounting at the University of Belize.

Prior to the appointment at the University, he managed a branch of one the telecommunication companies in the country.