

UB BULLETIN

Volume 7, Issue 3

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UB ORIENTATION: 1,400 new students accepted

It is here! The 8th year of serving the Belizean community begins on August 20th with the first day of classes. The 2008-2009 Academic Year is seeing the largest intake of students at our national university. As always, the Office of Student Affairs organized a fantastic Orientation Program for the new intake at the Belmopan, Belize City and PG campus sites. Dr. Jean Perriott, Dean of Students, and Sharon Palacio, Coordinator of Student Services, had a blast working with the volunteer OGLs (Orientation Group Leaders) as they enthusiastically welcomed tomorrow's leaders today! Indeed, the theme for this year's orientation was UB: Poised for New Horizons: Empowering Tomorrow's Leaders. Of course, we will not know how many of those accepted actually register until the official UB Census Day for Semester One, which is September 1st. However, the Records Office shows statistics that indicate approximately 70-85% actually register...so...we're looking good!



SCOTIA Loans and Center

Scotiabank has begun a tertiary-level scholarship program. Secured loans will be available for students at 1% less than the going APR (thus at 13% as the current APR is 14% for secured loans). Unsecured loans will be available to students at 10% less than the going APR (thus at 17% as the going APR is 27% for unsecured loans). Students begin paying back on the capital 6 months after graduation, with interest payments beginning one month after they access the loan; students can draw down on the parts of the approved loan amount as they need the money, thus cutting down on the monthly interest they pay. Students, of course, need to meet regular loan criteria; for example, first time borrowers who are not working need to have a parent or guardian meet the criteria as the principal borrower. Within another month, Scotiabank will also be opening a Retail Service Center at the Central campus and, already, students can pay tuition and fees online at any Scotiabank.

2008 GRADUATION STATS

Belmopan and Belize City campuses:	504 graduands
Punta Gorda campus	58 graduands
Regional Language Center	35 graduands



Top Students

Associate's Degree =	Abel Castaneda - Tourism Mgmt.
Bachelor's Degree =	Martin Friesen - IT
Paralegal =	Javier Miguel Wong

UB CELEBRATES ITS 8th ANNIVERSARY

UB's Human Resources Office hosted its annual celebration of faculty and staff at the Jaguar Auditorium on August 1st, the date when UB was officially inaugurated eight years ago through the amalgamation of five previous institutions: The Belize Teachers' College, The Bliss School of Nursing, Belize Technical College, University College of Belize, and the Belize College of Agriculture. As has become customary, faculty and staff who reached five years of service at UB received the hallmark UB service pin, which was presented by veteran UB educator Steve Wright. Additionally, Human Resources Director Yura Monsanto announced new assignments and new faculty and staff joining UB. The occasion was also used to launch an exciting initiative from Human Resources: the Exemplary Employee Award which will first be given at the August 2009 anniversary. Four awards with a cash prize of \$500. dollars each will be given to the following: For Tenure Track and Tenure Lecturers, based on teaching, service and research; for Support Staff, For Physical Plant, and for Public Safety: the latter three will be based on their job description and execution of work. Entertainment was provided by the Our Lady of Guadalupe Steel Band, along with light refreshments.



Engineering lecturer Steve Wright presents UB pin to Dr. Menakath Menon, Assoc. Prof. in the Faculty of Science/Tech



Our Lady of Guadalupe Steel Band is always a UB favourite!

Look out for more information on new appointments
and on new faculty and staff in our next issue!

New Appointments at UB



Dr. Wilma Wright (center) is the new Dean of the Faculty of Education and Arts. Dean Wright holds a Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership from the University of Louisville in the USA. She is well-known in education circles and brings much expertise in teacher education and distance learning. Additionally, Dean Wright has worked with hundreds of Belizean educators in the past two decades. As she takes up her new post, Dean Wright's faculty is also spearheading the university's first 2008-2009 academic lecture, which will serve to launch the new Bachelor of Social Science with History major. Her faculty will also be working closely with the Ministry of Education's TEDU (Tertiary Education Development Unit).

Ms. Juliana Pasos is the new Chairperson of the Faculty of Science and Technology. She holds a Master's degree in Science, with a focus in Chemistry/Analytical Chemistry. Her area of interest is in using different instruments in researching cardiovascular phenomenon, with respect to the distribution of cholesterol oil (good and bad) and in using IT in the teaching of Chemistry. Additionally, Ms. Pasos hopes to get students to be more culturally-orientated other than just academically-orientated with what's going on in Belize; she wants to develop students' community outreach.



Dr. Ismael Hoare takes over as the Dean of the Faculty of Nursing, Allied Health and Social Work. He holds a Ph.D. in Public Health from the University of South Florida, an accomplishment that has armed him with the ability to review programs from a systems viewpoint and not just from an individual program viewpoint. His research area was on motor vehicle crashes in Belize and the attitudinal factors related to this. Dean Hoare also recently returned from a one-week course in "Survey of Methods in Health Service Research" at Harvard University, which was sponsored by PAHO/WHO Belize.



Mr. Jerome Ellis is holding over as the Physical Plant Supervisor at the Belize City campus. Mr. Ellis served as a Captain in the BDF for 19 years; he also held the post of Project Manager for the U.S. Embassy's Security and, before that, he was a primary school teacher. Incidentally, Mr. Ellis has become famous among faculty and staff for his excellent singing voice.

UB RECREATION & SPORTS: AN INCLUSIVE AFFAIR:
Interested in sports? Contact Kirk Smith at 822-3680, ext. 439.



(L) Coach Kevin Siroki
(R) Claude "Too Taal" Jones

* **For tryouts for the new UB Black Jaguars football team, contact Mr. Ian Sangster at 822-3680, ext. 200**

NEEDED: Female students to **canoe** in the Ruta Maya in Semester II. Workouts begin in Semester I. Contact Claude "Too Taal" Jones at 822-3680, ext. 439.



- ◆ Volleyball
- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Softball
- ◆ Football
- ◆ Canoeing



(R) Kirk "Shabba" Smith, UB's Sports Director, receives FIFA "Laws of the Game" Booklet from Bertie Chimilio (L), FFB President at the Aug. 14 friendly game against the Ntl. Under-20 team.

MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Belize's Office of Recreation & Sports functions to improve personal growth by promoting good health practices. This will be accomplished with the use of state-of-the-art equipment alongside coordinated services, provided by a full-time staff. The University's sports programmers will focus, just as the facility, on maintaining a physically active lifestyle, through both individual and group activities.

OBJECTIVES

- Provide opportunities for young Belizean athletes to develop their skills, both physical and intellectual
- Provide sporting opportunities for students
- To increase students' knowledge of physical education and sports
- Use the University colors and the Black Jaguar mascot to endorse school sports
- To generate creative means to financially maintain sports programmers
- To formulate an effective system of selection for UB Varsity Teams
- To train and support UB Varsity Teams
- Provide equipment that will support the goals of the facility



Plus TV interviews the UB Black Jaguars Senior Coach, Paul Morgan



The 5-month old team plays a friendly game

Erasmus Scholarship Program

PRESS RELEASE

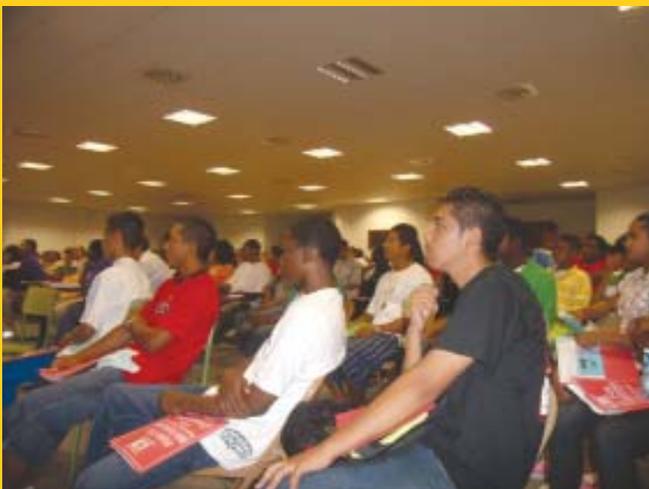
UB Joins European Union Scholarship Program

The University of Belize has secured nine scholarships for its faculty, staff and students through signing on as a partner institution with the Erasmus Mundus Cooperative Scholarship program, which is sponsored by the European Union (EU) through its International Institute for Geo-information Science and Earth Observation. The EU divides its scholarship program by groups, and Belize joined the ACP, or African, Caribbean and Pacific group last week when its President Dr. Santos Mahung and Vice President Dr. Geraldo Flowers attended the start-up 2-day meeting held in the Netherlands.

Six of the EU scholarships are for pursuit of Master's degrees, tenable at universities in France, Germany, Portugal, Spain and Sweden for up to two years; three of the scholarships are for one-month staff exchanges. The scholarships cover tuition, books, travel and accommodation. UB's President Dr. Santos Mahung adds that it is anticipated that the EU scholarships will be renewed in the future for doctoral and postdoctoral study.

In addition to the new EU scholarship opportunities, UB announces that eleven of its faculty and staff completed degree or certification programs this past year, and thirteen others are currently pursuing doctoral studies. The University of Belize also takes this opportunity to remind the public that the new academic year begins with Orientation for new students happening this week from August 6th – 8th, Registration occurring the week of August 11th to 15th, and classes resuming on Wednesday, August 20th.

Vignettes of Orientation 2008



**Mr. Caesar Ross is the new
Coordinator of the History
Department, FEA**

NEW APPOINTMENTS (CONTINUED from page 3)



Dean Sylvia Cattouse

Ms. Sylvia Cattouse takes up the post of Dean of Enterprise Development and Administration. She most recently held the post of Director of UB's Adult and Continuing Education Ctr, and was a tertiary educator in business subjects since the mid-1980s. She is also a doctoral candidate in the Nova Southeastern University/UB doctoral program. Her background includes business development and management in the private and public sectors in both Belize and the U.S.A. Look out for much more about this office in future bulletins.

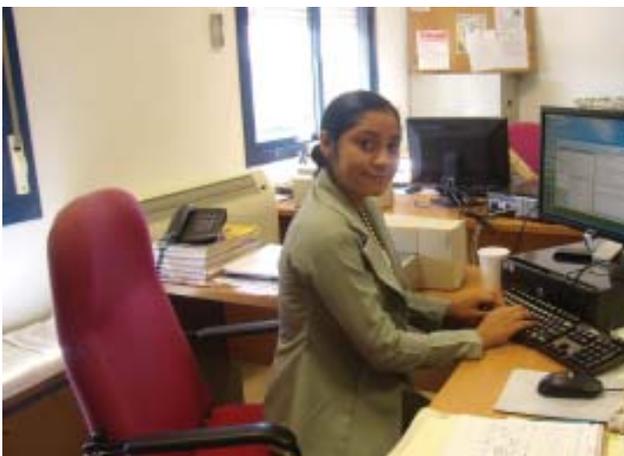


Silvana "Kriol Gyal" Woods

Ms. Silvana Woods heads the Office of Public Information (OPI) for the Academic Year 2008-2009. This office, formerly called the Public Relations Office, continues to have its main desk at the second floor of the Administration Building at the Belmopan campus. Silvana brings over 25 years of experience in communication and media, and her substantive post is Lecturer, FEA, to which she will return in due course; she is a doctoral candidate in the Nova program, and is also a community activist for the development of the Kriol language; Silvana is popularly called "Kriol Gyal." She thanks outgoing PR Officer Paco Smith for his great work.

Office of Public Information

The new name reflects the new focus of this office, which seeks to reach out equally to the internal UB community as well as to the external UB community, including the media. The office envisions working closely with the ICN Department, the website server, which is University Management Ltd., with the Admissions Office, and with the Office of Student Affairs. Naturally, all faculty and staff, through the Provost's Office, the Deans, and the Human Resources Office, also feed into the OPI's outputs. The Office now comes under the direct responsibility of the President. The OPI office number in Belmopan is 822-3680, ext. 204 or 205. The email is opi@ub.edu.bz You can also reach Silvana directly at 610-2560 or at swoods@ub.edu.bz Two student production assistants help Silvana; one has already begun: she is Sefania Villacorta, who is trilingual (English, Spanish and Kriol); she is a business student and is largely responsible for typesetting this issue of the UB Bulletin.



Sefania Villacorta

Campus Refurbishments and 100 New Computers

Welcome to the new academic year! Your comfort is important, and although budgetary constraints do not make all things possible, the offices of the President, Provost and Physical Plant have been hard at work over the summer to address some of the more pressing physical needs at our campuses. Unless otherwise specified, all the following should be in place by the end of August 2008.

Belize City campus – F.M.S.S.

1. Mr. Jerome Ellis has been reassigned as Supervisor of Maintenance of the Bz City campus site.
2. The library has been tiled and the ceiling and a/c fixed.
3. The staff lower level bathroom in the first building is being renovated, and the student lower level bathrooms will soon be addressed (may not be in time for Aug. 20th)
4. Drapes have been ordered for several faculty offices.
5. New a/cs are being installed in the general faculty room.
6. The building has been painted.
7. 10 new computers are being installed.

Belize City campus – F.E.A.

1. The building has been painted
2. The staff room has been tiled.
3. Fumigation is occurring for the flea infestation.
4. Nursing rooms' concerns: a meeting has been convened to discuss this.
5. 10 new computers are being installed.

Belize City campus - Engineering

1. 10 new computers are being installed.
2. The two back bldgs UB uses are being renovated.
3. The front bldg will be torn down shortly and ACE will relocate.

Central Farm campus

1. All the classrooms and the library are being renovated.
2. The dorms have been refurbished.
3. The new computer lab is being finished with 15 new computers being installed.
4. The cafeteria is being renovated and will be reopened under new management
5. The faculty offices are being renovated.
6. A new satellite system will be place shortly to facilitate reliable Internet.
7. A biopropagation facility is to installed by Dec 2008.

Belmopan campus

1. 70 new computers are being installed.
2. The RLC building has been painted and cleaned and the roof will continue to be fully fixed.
3. The library has been painted.

Toledo campus

1. The Campus Administrator is in discussion about the painting of the new building .
Similarly, discussions are underway for the refurbishing of the new Science Lab.



President Dr. Santos Mahung: at the helm!



Calendar of Events

AUGUST 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 UB's 8th Anniversary	2 Belmopan Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 UB Black Jaguars Football team VS. Belize National Under-20 Football team; 3:30 at FIFA	15	16
17 Public Lecture: Prof. Hill on "Garveyism in Bz": 6:30 p.m. at Bliss,	18 Extended Registration (No Late fee)	19	20 Classes Begin -Drop/Add period begins	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 11:00 a.m. Prof. Hill's UB history lecture, Jaguar Aud. 2:00 p.m. Student Government Swear in/Jaguar Aud. in	28	29	30

**Centralized
Calendar System**

You are reminded of the University Calendar. If your faculty or university group is planning a meeting, activity or event, call the OPI Office at 822-3680, extension 205. Through the use of this system we can best support one-another in our efforts.

UB Mission:

The University of Belize is a national, autonomous and multi-location institution committed to excellence in higher education, research and service for national development. As a catalyst of change it provides relevant, affordable and accessible educational and training programs that address national needs based on principles of freedom, equity, transparency, merit and accountability.

UB Bulletin

All UB faculty, staff and affiliates are asked to submit articles or information for publication in the UB Bulletin. All submissions can either be sent via e-mail to opi@ub.edu.bz or forwarded on diskette (in Rich Text Format), to Silvana Woods, Public Information Officer c/o: the Administration Building—2nd floor, Central Campus, Belmopan.



September 3:

Disaster Preparedness Forum: Bmp campus, 2 p.m./Jaguar
Semester Kick-off: Bz campus
11 a.m.—5 p.m./ FMSS

September 4

Semester Kick-off: BMP campus
11 a.m.—5 p.m.