



*Graduating Class June, 2011... Developing human resource capacity
for Nation-building ... pages 3-5*



*Historic milestone...
UB offers first Masters Program
... page 2*



*Early Childhood Education...
Investing in the future ... page 7*



HISTORIC MILESTONE... UB OFFERS FIRST MASTERS PROGRAM

The University of Belize unveiled the first home-grown Masters degree in Biodiversity Conservation & Sustainable Development on June 9 at its Central Campus, Belmopan.

The Master's Program will be offered by the University of Belize in partnership with the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago, the University of Guyana and Anton de Kom Universiteit van Suriname.

Evaluations and approvals of student's research projects and thesis will be conducted by external examiners of a world-class external partner, the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom.

President Emeritus and Acting President, Dr. Corinth Morter-Lewis in her remarks said "students will be exposed to highly qualified UB Professors and experts in the field who will expose them with experiences and mutual learning that will foster creativity, progress and cultural diversity."

Guest Speaker, Minister of Education and Youth, Hon. Patrick Faber congratulated the administration of the national University for its historical achievement in developing a graduate program that is relevant to meet the needs of Belize and the region.



Guest Speaker Hon. Patrick Faber (second from left at head table)

"This is the kind of quality of education that is being demanded by our Ministry and by this nation...we deserve no less, we deserve the best in this country," said Minister Faber. "I am pleased that the University of Belize is at the helm of delivering that high quality education."

Courses will be offered via online distance learning (ODL) and students from the Caribbean region will have the opportunity to meet and participate in a field course of their choice in either Suriname or Belize.

The mixed-mode program which will be offered in September is geared towards building and strengthening capacity in environmental management, biodiversity and sustainable development issues in the region. It is also designed to target professionals and technical staff employed in land, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, freshwater or marine resource management activities from public agencies, NGOs, the private sector, other stakeholders and persons who wish to pursue careers in land and natural resource management, forestry, agriculture and marine resource management and sustainable development.

At the launch, the Executive Director of Protected Areas Conservation Trust (PACT), Ms. Sharon Ramclam announced PACT's Environmental Fellowship Award.



President Emeritus & Ag. President Dr. Corinth Morter-Lewis



Dr. Lewis and Minister Faber with A-team faculty.

"Evaluations and approvals of student's research projects and thesis will be conducted by external examiners of a world-class external partner, the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom."

DEVELOPING HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY WITH ACADEMIC



Guest Speaker, Dr. Carla Barnett.

The University of Belize (UB) held its Thirteenth Commencement Exercises for 489 graduates on 18 June at the University's Central Campus in the nation's capital and the day after the UB Toledo Campus.

Once again the females outnumbered the males by a margin of 312 to 177 males representing 64 and 36 per cent respectively of the total student population of graduates for June 2011 commencement exercises.

The number one Faculty with the highest number of graduates by Degree/Certificate is the Faculty of Education and Arts with a total of 153, followed by the Faculty of Management & Social Sciences totaling 152, the Faculty of Science and Technology 116, and the Faculty of Nursing, Allied Health & Social Work totaling 68. Graduates represented 45 programs delivered through the four faculties.

Guest Speaker for both graduation exercises was Dr. Carla Barnett who spoke on the critical importance of the Role of the University in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals. She said key among these roles are "developing human resource capacity and creating knowledge."



Dr. Lewis : "knowledge-based society for national development"

Dr. Barnett also encouraged students to not tolerate mediocrity and to pursue excellence. "Excellence sets you apart and places you on the road to success," remarked Dr. Barnett.

In her remarks to proud achievers, President Emeritus and Acting President, Dr. Corinth Morter-Lewis said the "development of a nation is dependent on a knowledge-based society for national development and in this context the national tertiary institution is fulfilling its obligations by molding the lives of the country's human resources with academic excellence, high standards and quality for nation-building."

During the commencement exercise, several students received the University's official white, gold and purple honour chords. The *tri-cable white* honour chords recognize those graduates with honours (Cum Laude); *gold* honour chords for graduates with high honours (Magna Cum Laude); and *purple* honour chords distinguish graduates with the highest honours (Summa Cum Laude). Honour graduates totaled 58.

The theme for this year's 2011 Commencement Exercises: "University of Belize, The Premiere National University...Preparing The Way Forward."



Top GPA student, Brianna Penner, receiving award from UB Board of Trustees Chair, Mrs. Imani Fairweather-Morrison.



Dr. Lewis presenting Top Associate GPA to Huei-Neng He.



Congratulations Graduating Class of 2011

UB & UQROO STUDENT EXCHANGE



Belizean students in Mexico.



Mexican students in Belize.

On Monday June 20th, 11 UB students boarded a bus—final destination Chetumal, Quintana Roo—to be a part of this year's Student Exchange between University of Belize (UB) & the University of Quintana (UQROO). On that same date, 15 UQROO students were arriving in Belize to begin sessions at UB. The student exchange—now in its eleventh year—was created because both parties recognize the importance of the development of intercultural relations and the benefits that are obtained from the academic opportunities. It has been proven and widely documented that foreign language study in a country where your target language is spoken is the best way to learn a foreign language. The month-long study abroad—in both Belmopan and Quintana Roo, Mexico and during which students must stay in the host country for the entire month—is an immersion programme with enormous benefits while learning about the history, geography, culture, language, institutions and people of the host country. While on the exchange, students stay with host families and also participate in educational activities such as the cultural immersion trips, in which students will be able to interact with residents native to the country of exchange. The program provides a unique experience to help students' meet their academic, career and personal goals. Both groups—ambassadors of their respective university and country—return home country on July 15, 2011.

PSO OFFICERS... ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Our Public Safety Officers' (PSOs) role is to provide safe and secure environment for the student, faculty, and staff of the University of Belize. UB's Office of Human Resources, and the Belmopan Police Training Academy, organized a five(5) day workshop for twenty-eight (28) Public Safety



Kudos to PSO Officers... enhancement of a safer and secure learning environment

Officers (PSOs) to enhance the knowledge and skills of those officers. The PSOs were divided into two groups; the first group workshop was from May 30th– June 3rd, 2011, and the second from June 6th– 10th, 2011. Several topics were covered including: Principles of Justifiable Force, Power to arrest, Method of Arrest, Functions of the Court, and Customer relations. At the conclusion of the training, most Public Safety Officers were sworn in as Special Police Constables.

NURTURING GREAT MINDS OF TOMORROW

The University of Belize through the University's Early Childhood Stimulation Center once again on June 22, demonstrated its continued commitment in nurturing the great minds of tomorrow at its Sixth "Moving On" Ceremony for 26 kindergarteners at the Jaguar Auditorium, Central Campus, Belmopan. It was held under the theme: "Educate a child today... Transform his world Tomorrow."

The University of Belize Early Childhood Stimulation Center opened its doors in September of 2005 with only six students and today has an enrollment of 45 ranging in ages two to four.

The goal of the center remains the same and that is to provide children with hands-on activities that will stimulate their learning in an enjoyable manner.



UB BLACK JAGUARS BASKETBALL TEAM CLINCHES SUB-CHAMPION TITLE

& VOTED BEST COACH OF TOURNAMENT.



Coordinator of Recreation & Sports,
Mr. Kirk Smith

UB Black Jaguars basketball team clinched the title of sub-Champs of the Digcell Ballin for life Basketball Tournament 2011 while Coach Darren Bovell was named best coach for the tournament.

The Black Jaguars lost the first game to San Pedro Tiger Sharks 85 - UB 74 with Winston Pratt scoring 30 point and Mathew Young with 17 points in the loss. In game two, UB bombed-out San Pedro Tiger Sharks 98 to 88 with Winston Pratt 30 points and Farron Louriano 25 points in the victory.

In the third and final game San Pedro Tiger Sharks 96 - UB 84 with Winston Pratt with 24 points and Farron Louriano with 14 points and 10 rebounds .



Basketball Coach, Mr. Darren Bovell

Turning to softball, UB Black Jaguars softball team is still undefeated in the Softball Rural Competition, and on Sunday July 10th, 2011, we will be playing for the #1 Seed in the competition in Flowers Bank Village against Flowers Bank team. Even though we have a couple of back to back games to play at this point we are in the driver's seat. Come-on out on Sunday and cheer our Black Jaguars softball team to victory!



Camille Diane.



Travis Lennon.

Awards were presented to student athletes for their recognition in their contribution to sports at the university. The awards were presented by UB Board of Trustees Chair, Mrs. Imani Fairweather-Morrison at June, 2011 graduation ceremony.



Danilo Marcilio.



Vanessa Lamberts



Victoria Hyde.



Softball Coach, Mr. Claude Jones along with softball players.

UB Bulletin: All UB faculty, staff and affiliates can submit information for publication. Send submissions via email to opi@edu.bz or forwarded on a CD to the Public Information Officer, c/o UB Administration Building, 2nd Floor, Belmopan. Tel: 822-3680, ext. 236.