



Education Empowers A Nation

# UB BULLETIN

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## Contents

### Page 2

- UB student in Colombia
- UB student participates in CSME workshop
- New SG Members
- New Mr. & Ms. UB

### Page 3

- PM Barrow at UB Grad
- UB wins 1.2m EU Grant
- Orientation
- New Student Portal

### Page 4

- Sports

### Page 5

- UBFSA's new president
- New OPI Officer
- BA in Spanish Education

### Page 6

- Approved research grant proposal
- UBAA's AGM
- UB & BTB Tour Guide Training
- Graduation Honours

### Page 7

- Dr. Cal @CSUCA
- NOVA update
- Sharon in UQroo
- Central Farm Dormitories

### Page 8

- Calendar of Events

## Prime Minister Dean Barrow...Guest Speaker at UB's Belmopan Graduation Ceremony



*"...I welcome you graduates to your new -or at least amplified-role as enablers, sustainers and champions of the life, work and development of our great nation."* (Story on pg 3).

## UB Signs onto \$20 million Solar Project for Clean Energy Promotion



*Signing on behalf of the University was its President, Dr Santos Mahung; Chief Executive Officer, Mr Cadet Henderson, Ministry of Works; Financial Secretary, Mr Joseph Waight, Ministry of Finance; and on behalf of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Mr Toshiaki Kobayashi, the Team Leader of the Consultants of the Preparatory Survey Team of Nippon Koei Company Ltd.*

The University of Belize (UB) is poised to become a leader in solar project energy promotion. This is as a result of a BZ \$20 million project funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). UB has agreed to construction of a system of photovoltaic panels on the northeast section of its main campus in Belmopan. (Cont. pg 3)



## UB Wins Bid for EU Grant of BZ\$1.2 million for Education and Training to Banana Belt Communities

The University of Belize has won a competitive bid for a project, funded by the European Union, to provide education and training support services to schools in the Banana Belt communities in southern Belize. The three-year project is scheduled to come on stream immediately, and will target teacher training for primary level teachers, early childhood education and training support, as well as community training for parents and education leaders in these communities. It is also aimed to contribute significantly towards increasing the number of trained teachers in the primary schools of these communities, and also improve the quality of primary education for children of the Banana Belt communities. (Cont. on page3)



Stephen Sho

## *UB students- Keeping in touch*

### **UB student represents Belize at National University of Colombia**

Kudos to the Spanish Department of the UB's Faculty of Education and Arts and to UB's President of the Association of Student Governments, Stephen Sho, In May of this year, the Spanish Department presented an application form and documents of Stephen who is in his last semester in the Bachelor's Degree in Primary Education to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia in the frame of the Colombian Cooperation Strategy for the Caribbean Basin in order to obtain a scholarship to participate in the Exchange Program with the National University of Colombia (NUC). Coordinator of UB's Spanish Department, Mr. Jhon Flores, obtained the results from NUC that Stephen has been selected to represent Belize and UB in the Exchange Program. The course, was held from June 21<sup>st</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup>. This is the first time that a UB student obtained a Colombian scholarship. Congrats Stephen!

### **UB Student participates in CSME sensitization workshop in St. Lucia**

Belize CARICOM Youth Ambassadors Kera Bowen and Dylan Williams participated in a two-day CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) sensitization workshop in May in St. Lucia. The workshop focused on the CSME and its importance for the regional integration and included the following topics: Living the CSME, Establishing a Business in the CSME and Providing Professional Services in the CSME. The Belizean Youth Ambassadors described the workshop as informative and educational. They added that the materials covered were presented in a youth friendly and familiar way and that they are extremely confident and positive about the way they represented Belize and the Belizean youth. Kera, Dylan and other CARICOM Youth Ambassadors from across the region benefited from presentations on a variety of topics. Organized by the CARICOM Secretariat with funding provided by the 9th European Development Fund (EDF), Caribbean Integration Support Program (CISP), the workshop is part of the Secretariat's on-going efforts to engage the youth of the region in the implementation of the CSME. Kera currently works as a part time student production assistant at UB's Office of Public Information (OPI). We take this opportunity to say Kudos to her.



*Kera Bowen CARICOM Youth Ambassador (Belize) & Monelle Alexis Dean of the CARICOM Youth Ambassador Corp.(Dominica)*

### **Belmopan Student Government Elections**

The Belmopan UB campus on May 10th, held elections for Student Government officers for the 2010-2011 academic year. The following is a list of the new SG members-

President .....Jevon McKenzie  
Vice President.....Ruvimbo Chitungo  
Financial Controller.....Jenelle Griffith  
Administrative Officer.....Keila Mai  
Secretary of Programming..... Shahira Muschamp  
Secretary of Legislation.....Laura Friesen  
Sports Coordinator.....Dale Guzman

Each student voted for one senator to represent his/her faculty.

FMSS..... Christopher August  
FST..... Martin Iniki  
FEA.....Gershom Rodriguez ,  
FNAHSW.....Nafeesa Lemoth

Congratulations to all who took part, offered themselves as nominees and who voted. The new president will The Office of Student Affairs will advise when the Belize City and Toledo Student Government elections will occur.

### **New Mr. & Ms. UB**

Congratulations to the winners of the Mr. and Ms. UB Pageant held on Saturday, May 15 at the Belize Biltmore. They are Ms. UB Kimolyn Vernon and Mr. UB Wilbert Castillo. The runners up are Ms. Jacy Lee Pou and Mr. Pierre Escalante. Congratulations!

**Prime Minister Dean Barrow-Guest Speaker at UB's Belmopan Graduation Ceremony cont...**

The Prime Minister, Hon Dean Barrow in his address at the University of Belize 2009-2010 Graduation Season, which was held on June 19, 2010 congratulated the graduates, faculty and staff-for another successful year of operation. He went on to say that the Government of Belize, "...enthusiastically embraces its obligation not just to move the economy forward, but to do so in ways that will create a more equal, more just society." A total of 736 graduates received Certificates, Diplomas, Associate and Bachelor Degrees for the 2009-2010 academic year. "Celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: UB in Retrospect and Prospect" was the theme for this commencement exercise. This year's valedictorian was Abil Roberto Castaneda from the Faculty of Management and Social Sciences (FMSS).



From UB's Toledo campus, 53 students graduated. Guest speaker was Mr. Jeremy Enriquez, the Director of Social Policy and Planning in the Ministry of Human Development and Social Transformation. UB's Early Childhood Education Stimulation Center also held its 5<sup>th</sup> "Moving On" ceremony for 17 pre-schoolers who will be entering Infant One in the primary school system. In late May, the University's Regional Language Center issued English-As-A-Second Language certificates to 40 students from 8 different countries. Although the University of Belize concludes its 10<sup>th</sup> year of operations, the June graduation season marks the 11<sup>th</sup> commencement exercise; this is because earlier this year, UB held, for the first time in January, a ceremony for 295 graduates who completed their course of studies in July and December of 2009. Graduates represent 43 programs delivered through the 4 faculties of Education and Arts, Management and Social Sciences, Science and Technology, and Nursing, Allied Health and Social Work.

**A highlight of the June 19 and 20th ceremonies was the presentation of the national university's new under-graduate graduation gown being modeled by Maureen Navarrete to the right.**

*UB Wins Bid for EU Grant of BZ\$1.2 million for Education and Training to Banana Belt Communities cont. from page 1*

Signing on behalf of the University of Belize was its president, Dr. Santos Mahung. Signing on behalf of GOB was the national authorizing officer for EU programs in Belize, was the Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of Economic Development, Industry and Consumer Protection, Mrs. Yvonne Hyde. Funding for this project is being provided by the European Union under its Banana Support Program, through a grant of approximately BZ\$1.2 million approved to the Ministry of Education for the strengthening of the social infrastructure in the banana dependent communities. The University of Belize will utilize a combination of distance education as well as on-site support to provide education and training to teachers in these communities.

**Orientation**

The University of Belize has commenced its tenth year of student admission. Hundreds of Belizeans and foreign students are taking advantage of the opportunity to further their education in Belize's multicultural institution committed to excellence, research and national development. From the 1,896 applicants 1,663 were admitted along with the approximately 40 foreign students. During the week of orientation, students were introduced to the newly added student portal (see full story right), "whose who at UB", student life and UB's academic procedures among other presentations.

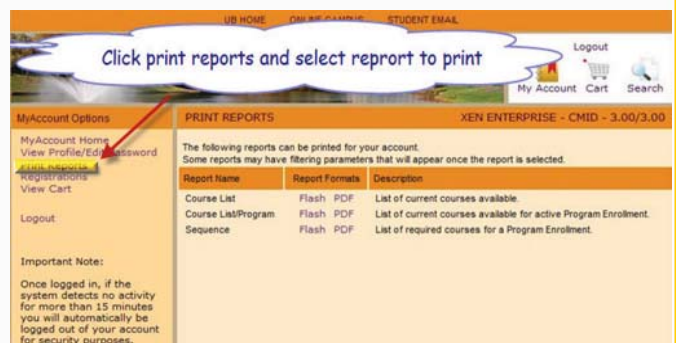


**UB Signs onto BZ\$20 million Solar Project for Clean Energy Promotion cont. from page 1**

JICA and the Government of Belize culminated initial discussions for this clean energy solar project with technical notes signed on July 1st. The schedule set forth in the Technical Notes is for completion of the installation of the photovoltaic panels by March 2012, with training in the use of the system to follow shortly thereafter.

**UB's NEW Student Portal -Online access**

The University of Belize is proud to announce that students are now able to access their grades via the University of Belize Student Portal. The Student Portal empowers students not only to print their grades reports, course list, and program sequence, but it also gives them the opportunity to view their academic progress while attending the University of Belize. For more information or to access the Student Portal click ([www.ub.edu.bz](http://www.ub.edu.bz)) and find the icon on the home page of the Website.







## UB's Recreation and Sports: Volleyball, Basketball, Softball, Football, Canoeing



### Intramural and Extramural Events Leading to ATLIB Tournaments



#### **Intramural Volleyball-**

Punta Gorda: September 6, 2010  
Belize City: August 30, 2010

#### **Extramural Volleyball-**

October 16, 2010  
ATLIB Selection (Male & Female)

#### **ATIB Volleyball Nationals**

November 13 2010 hosted by S.J.C.J.C.

#### **Intramural Basketball**

Punta Gorda: October 11, 2010  
Belize: September 27, 2010



#### **Extramural Basketball-**

November 27, 2010  
ATLIB Selection (Female)

#### **ATLIB Basketball Nationals-**

January 28-29, 2011 hosted by S.P.J.C.

#### **Futsal Tournament-**

February, 2011

#### **Extramural Football-**

Mid February, 2011

#### **ATLIB Football Regional-**

March 19, 2011 hosted by S.H.J.C.

#### **ATLIB Football Nationals-**

April 2, 2011 hosted by C.J.C.

### Other UB Sports and Recreational Activities

#### **Pool and 8 Ball Tournament-**

September 17, 2010

#### **Chess Tournament-**

November 5, 2010

#### **Dominoes Tournament-**

September 24, 2010

#### **UB Relathon-**

Registration starts: December 6, 2010  
Starts: March 13, 2011

#### **Darts Tournament-**

October 8, 2010

#### **Canoeing-**

Registration Starts: September 6, 2010  
Practice Date Starts: September 25, 2010

#### **Table Tennis Tournament-**

October 22, 2010



### **Black Jaguars Blast Belmopan Bandits Twice!**

The UB Black Jaguars male basketball team stole the Belmopan Bandits thunder on Wednesday, July 28 and Friday July 30<sup>th</sup> inside the Belize City Center in the first and second games of the playoffs in the "Digicell Ballin for Life" tournament. The match was organized by the Belize District Basketball Association.



## Faculty and Departmental News



Dr. Isabel Tun Ph.D.



Ms. Silvaana Udz



Mr. Selwyn King

### UBFSA's New President

The Office of the Provost announces Dr. Isabel Tun as the New Faculty Representative to the UB Board of Trustees. The election was held in May. Dr. Tun who is an Assistant Professor at UB has been the recipient of several awards including an Organization of American States Fellowship, a Fulbright/LASPAU fellowship, and a Central American Peace Scholarship as well as writing and service awards. Her work history includes facilitating workshops on public sector reform, and monitoring and evaluating NGO projects specific to youth, HIV/AIDS and family life planning. Dr. Tun also worked as an editor and a columnist producing over 55 informal articles on education, technology, politics, youth, and the environment in less than a year. An educator since 1974, she has taught English and Professional Technical Communication in universities both in Belize and the USA, and has presented conference papers in Belize, the wider Caribbean region and the United States.

### UB's Office of Public Information

Ms. Udz moves on and Mr. King takes over.

As of August 1<sup>st</sup> 2008 Ms. Silvaana Udz has been UB's public information officer but as of Monday August 2<sup>nd</sup> she will be returning to her substantive post as lecturer at the University of Belize and to continue her final year of her doctoral studies with the NOVA University program. Silvaana brought to UB's public information office over 25 years of experience in communication and media work. She is a community activist for the development of the Kriol language; hence the popular nickname "Kriol Gyal." With Silvaana's great influence OPI was able to position UB as an educational, training, community and research leader in the Belizean society. On July 30<sup>th</sup> Silvaana passed the baton to the new Public Information Officer-Mr. Selwyn King. Mr. King has extensive knowledge of Belize and regional media and once served as News Director at the then Broadcasting Corporation of Belize (BCB). With his innovative ideas UB through OPI will continue to build on the pillars Silvaana has established, taking the institution to a new dimension in research and information gathering as the OPI continues to maintain and uphold the public image of the University by continuously reaching out equally to the internal and external UB community, including the media.

### BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN SPANISH EDUCATION



The University of Belize is pleased to introduce its new Bachelor's Degree in Spanish Education. for students who have an interest in the fields of Spanish education, linguistics, cultural studies, literary research, and translation. Students who graduate will be prepared for: teaching Spanish as a Second Language, while understanding the influence of first language in second language learning/teaching, at the primary or secondary levels as well as teaching Spanish for Specific Purposes; researching on Spanish teaching, literature, linguistics, and cultural and interdisciplinary studies, affirming a special commitment to scholarly research leading to the development of new knowledge and to the enhanced standing of the University of Belize; assisting in Translation/Interpretation services; assisting in consultation/research on Spanish syllabus revision/development and teaching material design. Beginning in the academic year 2009-2010. The Bachelor's Degree Programme in Spanish Education will provide Belize, Central American, and the Caribbean with fully qualified trained Spanish teachers at the primary and secondary levels as well as Spanish educators for specific purposes. The new Bachelor's Degree in Spanish Education will also provide Belize with fully prepared bilingual professionals that will contribute to the development of the nation and Belizeans to embrace the opportunities of CSME. In addition, it will prepare and provide researchers and instructional professionals in linguistics, Hispanic literature, Spanish teaching methodologies and material design, as well as in Spanish/English Translation/Interpretation Services. For more information interested person's can contact Mr. Jhon Flores @ 822 -3680 Ext. 105

**Representatives from the Embassy of Mexico and Instituto Politécnico Nacional from Mexico City presented over 40 boxes of Spanish textbooks to the Provost Dr. Ismael Hoare on Monday June 1st. Present for handing over were Chief Librarian, Mr. Erwin Woodye and his staff!**

## *APPROVED- RESEARCH GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATIONS 2009-2010*

The University of Belize is pleased to announce its Approved– Research Grant Proposal Recipients. They are Dr. Joaquin Urbina, of the Faculty of Science and Technology, with the research title “Huperzine A co-crystals: Aiming to enhance to form and function of pharmaceutical compounds of tropical plant origin.” Mrs Pricilla Brown-Lopez, Faculty of Education & Arts and Dr. Nicole Webster, Department of Agriculture & Extension, Pennsylvania State University with “ An Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Associates Degree in Primary Education in Belize”; and Dr. Joaquin Urbina, Mr. Rolando Caballero, Mr. Enrique Caliz, Ms. Karen Link, Ms. Juliane Pasos, Dr. Leopold Perriot, and Mr. Eden Garcia, all from the Faculty of Science and Technology with “Establishment of a Science Multicomplex Building to strengthen UB’s Institutional Capacity”. Each of the three approved proposals will receive two thousand dollars per individual investigator or five thousand dollars per team of two or more investigators. The funds are to be used as seed money to prepare research grant proposals for submission to funding agencies. As highlighted in the call for grant proposals, all the approved proposals are aimed to benefit to UB and Belize.



### **UBAA Hosts Annual General Meeting**

The University of Belize Alumni Association (UBAA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) this year at UB’s Belize City Faculty of Management and Social Sciences compound. Highlights at this year’s UBAA meeting was an entrepreneurial display by alumni which began with the election of officers who will serve for the next 2-year term. The special Guest Speaker was US Ambassador to Belize His Excellency Vinai Thummalapally. UBAA is comprised of all graduates of UB, including all who graduated from former institutions that amalgamated in 2000 to form UB. These are: Belize Technical College, the Bliss School of Nursing, the Belize College of Agriculture, Belize Teachers’ College, and the University College of Belize. UBAA held its last AGM in 2008, at which time Dr. Cynthia Terry, alumnus of the former University College of Belize (UCB), was elected as president and Mrs. Elma Arzu as the vice-president. Apart from alumni matters, UBAA serves to link graduates, assist with scholarships, and contribute to the University’s development.



**L-R:** Mrs. Elma Arzu, Ambassador Vinai Thummalapally, and Dr. Cynthia Terry.

### **UB Tour Guide Training**

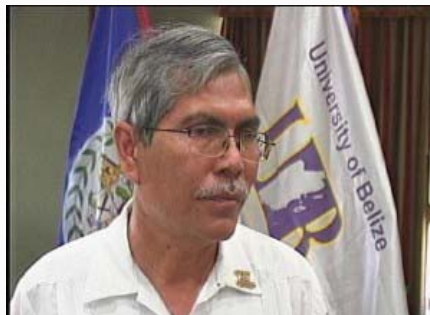
UB's Adult and Continuing Education Center conducted another Tour Guide Training Program for the Belize Tourism Board. The 10-week session was offered at UB's Belize City Engineering Campus from April 19 - July 3, 2010. According to the BTB Tour guides are an essential part of our country’s tourism network, given their direct interaction with the many visitors to our country. The network of tour guides is, therefore, crucial to the viability and long-term sustainability of Belize’s tourism industry. At some point during their stay in Belize, nearly all visitors make use of the services of Belize’s tour guides – from their arrival at the airport, to participating in selected day tours or multi-day itineraries throughout the country of Belize.

### **GRADUATION HONOURS**

The university will give special honours to only bachelor degree graduates who complete their academic programs with excellence, and will recognize graduates who achieve cumulative grade point averages between 3.50 and 3.64 as graduated Cum Laude, 3.65 and 3.84 as having graduated Magna Cum Laude and will mark this distinction on their diplomas. The university will also recognize graduates who achieve cumulative grade point averages from 3.85 to 4.0 as having graduated Summa Cum Laude and will mark this distinction on their diplomas.



## UB at CSUCA's 90th Regular Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico



**Dr. Angel Cal**

UB was represented at CSUCA's 90<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Council of the 19 CSUCA universities and a special meeting hosted by the Ana G. Mendez University System of the Free Commonwealth State of Puerto Rico, USA in May. At the meeting Dr. Angel Cal represented President Dr. Santos Mahung, and participated in a lively discussion on "Progress and Challenges on the Implementation of strategies, actions and goals for the harmonization of higher education in Central America." It was noted that an agreement for the way forward has been proposed (copy translated and available) and CSUCA universities were to review and to send in comments. Among many other beneficial discussions, it was emphasized that student representation at these meetings is required by CSUCA statutes. However, only 5 of 19 student representatives attended this meeting. It

should be noted that UB is in the process of exploring opportunities to fund student participation of its student representative to CSUCA meetings. In other related news, over 80 persons from CSUCA universities are participating in an online course intended for officers who provide technical support to the university community in grant proposal writing and marketing.

### Nova University

Ten University of Belize faculty and administrators are involved in an exciting doctoral cohort, a first of its kind, through Nova Southeastern University (NSU). The program, which began in July 2007, is seeing 28 candidates now completing three years of course work, and the doctoral education candidates will embark on their dissertation work. On July 26, UB partnered with NSU and hosted a conference at Belize Biltmore marking the third year of the program. Speaking on behalf of UB was Provost Dr. Ismael Hoare, and the Dean of Faculty of Nova's Fischler School of Education and Human Services, Dr. Wayne Driscoll, on behalf of Nova. Guest Speaker for the occasion was the Hon. John Saldivar, Minister of Public Service, Governance Improvement, Elections and Boundaries and Sports. Following the anniversary summary, two dynamic conference presentations were made under the theme "The Changing Face of Leadership through Purpose, Passion and Power." Nova's Dr. Driscoll and Belize's Dr. Alvaro Rosado delivered the presentations on challenges and opportunities facing leaders today. The doctoral program (Ed.D) is novel because cohort members have had the opportunity to pursue their doctorates while remaining in Belize and holding down full time jobs. Instruction is blended, using the online WebCT platform, with the Nova professors visiting for 16 hours onsite lessons in Belize for each course taken in the three years of course work. The doctoral candidates are anticipating that dissertations will take another year to complete. In the meantime, another doctoral cohort is expected to begin shortly, while a Master's degree program has already begun with Nova.



**Provost-Dr. Ismael Hoare**

### Sharon Palacio in UQROO



The University of Quintana Roo (UQROO) Student/ Language Exchange program was held from 22<sup>nd</sup> of June through July 16<sup>th</sup>. Even though the program was primarily for students, there were limited number of spaces available for faculty and staff if their work schedule permitted them to do so. UB's student services coordinator, Sharon Palacio took advantage of such opportunity and participated in the full cultural exchange curriculum. This year the three week program was sponsored by the University of Belize and the only cost the students had to incur was \$200.00, which represented fees for three field trips that were incorporated into the program. During her visit at UQROO, Sharon had the opportunity to visit the six Belizean students at the homes of their new Mexican families, and to participate in the classes that sharpened her conversational skills in Spanish through drama and role play. Sharon also had the opportunity to visit the financial aid and study

aboard offices in Mexico to see how other UB students can top into the available resources. The exchange program between the UB and UQROO is conducted annually.

### Dormitory Rooms for rent @ UB Central Farm Campus.

24hr security, Wireless internet, Taxi services Cafeteria, Library Access, Laundry facilities Recreation Facilities available **\$110.00** per month double occupancy. Contact us at [ubcentralfarm@gmail.com](mailto:ubcentralfarm@gmail.com) or call 660-8688 or 626-9245 and ask for Ms. Berny.





# Calendar of Events

## August 2010

### 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.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1-	2- Grade reports for summer sessions available -UB Anniversary -Orientation for new students ends 2-6	3- Placement tests: today and tomorrow -Registration begins for all students Aug 2-6	4- Registration continues	5-	6- Last day registration  - Library reading program concludes	7-
8-	9-Registration concludes	10-	11-	12-	13-	14-
15-	16- First Day of classes for semester one 10-11 -Drop/Add period begins Withdrawal with 100% tuition refund begin -Audit switch period begin	17-Drop/Add -4th NRMP Symposium	18-Student hour -Drop/Add -4th NRMP Symposium	19 -Drop/Add	20 -Drop/Add	21 - Drop/Add
22- Drop/Add	23- -Drop/Add	24- -Drop/Add	25- SG Swear-in Ceremony BMP Campus SG hour	26- Drop/Add	27- -Drop/Add	28- - Drop/Add
29-	30- Last day to add a class -Last day to make an audit switch -last day to withdraw with 100% tuition refund -Last day for late registration -Intramural Volleyball BZE City	31- University census day  -Withdrawal from a course with "W" begins	<b>Notes:</b>  <i>Looking for the latest updates on UB? ALWAYS CHECK the <b>UB NEWS</b> and <b>UB Calendar of Events</b> <a href="http://www.ub.edu.bz">www.ub.edu.bz</a></i>  <b>Looking towards September 2010</b> September 10: St. George's Caye Day September 21: Independence Day			



*UB Bulletin:* All UB faculty, staff and affiliates can submit information for publication. Send submissions via email to [opi@edu.bz](mailto: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.