

Notes from COBEC Study Abroad Committee Meeting

Feb 3, 2017

Co-chairs: Nancy Adamson, SUNY-Cortland and Eve Aird, Galen University

NOTES: Nancy Adamson

The following 22 members attended the winter meeting attended the Study Abroad Committee Meeting.

- Nancy Adamson - SUNY -Cortland
- Eve Aird - Galen University
- Kathaleena Monds - Albany State University
- Sherry Gibs - Galen University
- Dorothee Mertz-Weigel - Armstrong State
- Ivan Emke – Memorial University - Canada
- Michelle Perez - New Mexico State
- Blanca Araye - New Mexico State
- Jeanne Link - Scared Heart HC
- Carol Lopez - Murray State Univ
- Mike Kemp - Murray State Univ
- Joel Shoemaker - Madison Area Technical College
- Bonnie Higginson - Murray State
- Joy Wanderi - Wright State Univ
- Patty Emmons -Bridgewater State Univ
- Larry Daniels - The Citadel
- June Young - Univ of Belize
- Karen Martinez - Ecumenical Jr College
- Bernard Watler -University of Belize
- Marie Scott-Young - Independence Jr. College
- Brian Pope - College of Coastal Georgia
- Martin Cuellar - Galen University

Introductions revealed that those attending the meeting had a variety of interest in academic and learning partnerships that extended beyond the traditional definition of study abroad. They included:

- Working institution to institution with the Belize Ministry of Education
- Working institution to institution with individual college and university members of COBEC
- Bringing faculty-led student groups from a wide variety of disciplines to Belize for a study abroad experience
- Finding opportunities for North American students to do internships or participate in service learning opportunities in Belize
- Facilitating research by partnering COBEC North American and Belizean faculty.

Specific actions agreed to by the Study Abroad Committee:

- 1. Dr. Kathalenna Monds will draft a template to capture data about existing study abroad activities in Belize (including MOUs, trips, partnerships, areas of interest for the future) to allow for greater participation between COBEC members. The chairs of the Study Abroad Committee will work with Dr. Monds to collate the data and make it available to COBEC.**
- 2. The Chairs agreed to circulate the mission for the Study Abroad Committee and the “best practices” document to the attendees.**
- 3. A suggestion was made to the Summer COBEC host, Madison Area Technical College, to include 3-4 presentations showcasing what COBEC members are doing in Belize (in a variety of areas such as education, health, science/engineering, environmental) at the Summer COBEC meeting.**