



**COBEC Winter Conference 2018 February 1-2, 2018**  
**Venue: Best Western Belize Biltmore Hotel, Belize City**  
**Hosted by: Wesley Junior College (WJC)**

Participants Present on February 1 and 2, 2018 (no) asterisk, (\*) asterisk indicates attendance only on February 1, 2018 and (\*\*) asterisks indicates attendance only on February 2, 2018

LName	FName	Institution	LName	FName	Institution
Adamson	Nancy	SUNY-CORTLAND	Aird	Eve	Galen University
Asini	Tutaleni	Oklahoma State University	Alfaro	Melisa	Centro Escolar Mexico Jr. College
Bateman Jr.	Rick	Bossier Parish Community College	Aragon	Javiola	Ministry of Education
Blanton	Melanie	The Citadel	Barrow	Dorian	Galen University
Bradshaw	Geoff	Madison College	Bennett	Jane	UWI Open Campus, Belize
Brennan	Michael	Hillsborough Community College	Brown	Marlon	Corozal Junior College
Catapano	Susan	University of North Carolina Wilmington	Castillo	Lusiola	Belize National Library Service and Information Systems
Daniel	Larry G.	The Citadel			
Flinchum	Betty	University of North Florida	Cattouse	Sylvia	Galen University
Hodge	Emilia	University of Florida	Ellis	Gustavo	San Pedro Junior College
Hodge	Warren	University of North Florida	Gibbs	Sherry	Galen University
Ilagan	Guy	The Citadel	Gilharry	Froylan	San Pedro Junior College
Jacobson	Bert H.	Oklahoma State University	Gillett	Eleanor	Wesley Junior College
Kemppainen	John	University of North Florida	Gonzalez	Hugo	Centro Escolar México Jr. College
Klima	Carrie	University of Illinois, Chicago	Quiros	Francisco	San Pedro Junior College
McDade	Kelly	Bossier Parish Community College	Linarez	Marita	Independence Junior College
Nikolov	Ivan	Valdosta State University	Luttmann	Christine	High Commission of Canada to Belize and Embassy of Canada to Guatemala
Popkey	Megan*	Northeast Wisconsin Technical College			
Lopez	Carlos*	Murray State University	Marin	Perla	Centro Escolar México Jr. College
Wynne Womack	Carlise	University of North Georgia	Martinez	Karen	Stann Creek Ecumenical Jr. College
Cal	Astrid	Sacred Heart Jr. College	Munoz	Judy	Galen University
Higginson	Bonnie	Murray State University	Pixabaj	Pedro	Stann Creek Ecumenical Jr. College
Montero	Miguel	Corozal Junior College	Saunders	Sharmayne	UWI
Ysaguirre	Joy	Belize National Library Service and Information Systems	Satchwell	Deryck	Ministry of Education
			Stuivenberg	Arnold	Stann Creek Ecumenical Jr. College
Syverud	Susan	University of North Florida	Scott-Young	Marie	Independence Junior College
Eammonds	Patty	Bridgewater State University			

## **CONFERENCE DAY 1**

### **1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY**

The official opening ceremony was held in the Best Western Belize Biltmore Hotel River Hall commencing at 9:15 a.m. Director of Event was Mrs. Anne Palacio. The program started with the National Anthem of the USA, followed by the Belizean National Anthem sung by Wesley College Choir. The Reverend C. David Goff offered the invocation

### **1.1 GREETINGS FROM MAYOR OF BELIZE CITY**

Mayor Darrel Bradley warmly greeted the participants. He mentioned that the sustainable development goals would offer the best quality of life; to eradicate poverty, to create meaningful economic opportunities and to protect our environment. He explained that leaders need to equip people with knowledge and capacity to allow them to advance themselves to better serve our world. For Belize as a developing nation, he elaborated that this would really challenge how an education system and institutions of learning are catalysts for change. The spirit of innovation would promote relevant learning and empower people and communities, to respond to the countries' ever growing developmental challenges in a system of education that provides skills and tools to enable people to be master of their own destiny.

He emphasized that the key ingredient to address these issues was the idea of collaboration with meaningful and sustainable partnerships that would bring together the best minds to shape our education system.

Mayor Bradley recognized that COBEC had provided the framework for significant improvements and advancements in our education i.e. in providing scholarships, capacity building opportunities and opportunities for meaningful engagement. He concluded by saying that he would like to encourage members to continue to work together and he expressed gratitude on behalf of the citizens for the tremendous ongoing work that COBEC has been doing to advance national development and wished this gathering every success.

### **1.2 WELCOME FROM CHAIRPERSON OF WJC BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**

Bishop Roosevelt Papouloute, Chairperson of WJC Board of Management, extended words of welcome to all present. He mentioned that the board offered its full support to Dean Eleanor because they viewed that the work of COBEC had significant impact on higher education in Belize. Wesley Junior College wanted to be a part of this initiative and so the Dean worked hard to make sure everything was in place for the safety of the delegates and for the conference success. He pointed out that COBEC was celebrating 30 years of partnership and 30 years was the age of maturity, therefore, it was clear that COBEC was a seasoned organization with the interest and the will to improve on that collaboration and solid foundation for assuring quality in higher education.

Bishop Papouloute simply reminded members to cherish the partnership and pledged to support the creation and strengthening of strategies, innovation, policies and collaborate with all the stakeholders to facilitate the end results of COBEC in general.

### **1.3 WELCOME FROM COBEC CO-CHAIRS**

Dr. Karen Martinez, Belize Co-chair, greeted and welcomed colleagues and visiting friends from universities and colleges abroad who came to observe and support the great venture. Dr. Martinez gave special recognition to the founding members of COBEC, both local and international for their hard labor over the three decades. Members such as; Dr. Betty Flinchum, Dr. Prichy Smith, Mr. Ernest Raymond, Dr. Tracey Harrington (deceased), Dr. Eve Aird, Mrs. Jane Bennett, Dr. Cynthia Thompson, Mrs. Brenda Armstrong and many others who helped to keep the consortium alive as we celebrate our 30 years. Dr. Martinez concluded by challenging all members to continue collaborating and working diligently on the strategic plan to ensure that we maintain our fitness of purpose and fitness for purpose.

Dr. Emilia Hodge, US Co-chair, welcomed and greeted colleagues. She thanked Wesley Junior College, Dean Eleanor and her team for making all the preparations and putting together such a meaningful and substantive conference. It was also extended to all the institutions that attended and applause was given to the long-standing institutions that have kept the consortium strong. She explained that the goals of COBEC of professionalizing higher education in Belize, internationalization of members' institutions in Belize, and strengthening in the organizational capacity were key areas for COBEC to continue its mission and challenging work. She mentioned that when she looked at the consortium and thought about 30 years of success, it was because of strong relationship in a spirit of love, caring and trust that continued to grow and strengthen the consortium.

### **1.4 KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

Hon. Patrick Faber, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports and Deputy Prime Minister of Belize, expressed warm welcome from the hearts of our Belizean population to everyone present. Hon Faber gave special recognition to the founders of COBEC namely; Mrs. Enid Mckoy, Mr. Ernest Raymond, Dr. Jorge Walker, Dr. Matthew Cline, Dr. Jim Booth, Dr C Tracey Harrington, Ms. Cecilia Wall, Dr. Bobby Malone, Dr. Bill Price, Dr. Pritchard Smith, and Dr. Betty Flinchum. Hon Faber went on to further recognized Dr. Betty Flinchum, Dr. Arita Pitts, Mrs. Mary Ann MacClivy, Dr. Rodger Pancrats, and Dr. Bill Helker. He mentioned that Dr. Betty Flinchum was honored with Belize's patriotic award, the highest award, the honour of distinction in Belize. Other key players recognized were Sir Colville Young, Governor General of Belize and Dr Angel Cal.

The Minister of Education emphasized that the contributions of COBEC to Belize's education system have been immeasurable and the relationships created between institutions in our country and junior colleges, are admirable and can serve as a model. Hon Faber questioned: "What is it that cause COBEC to stand so strong for 30 years?" He explained that it was the kind of relationships that existed among individuals and institutions which might be very hard

to find in any other organization in the world. He gave a narrative of his involvement with COBEC at an early age in his life. Additionally, he highlighted other relationships that existed between Belizeans counterpart and foreign Professions from COBEC institutions that have laid the foundation to succeed at this wonderful collaboration.

Honorable Faber mentioned that he honored his professors; Dr. Warren Hodge and Pritchey Smith, who retired from the University of North Florida. He expressed thanks to all other COBEC universities who have assisted tertiary education in Belize. Minister Faber emphasized that the goals and the objectives outlined 30 years ago by those founding members spoke of greater collaboration like what is needed today. Minister Faber challenged members to explore ways of collaborating to strengthen the existing relationships so that 30 years from now at our 60th anniversary we would be able to say that we have made the kind of movements, to achieve the goals of this wonderful consortium.

He concluded by expressing congratulations and thanks to the consortium on its thirtieth anniversary on behalf of the Prime Minister the Right Honorable Dean Oliver Barrow, the Cabinet and the wider Belizean people.

## **1.5 EVOLUTION OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND THE ROLE OF COBEC OVER THE YEARS**

Dr. Eve Aird gave an account of the evolution of tertiary education in Belize and the impact of COBEC from 1988-2018. She mentioned that in the early years a two-tiered system had existed (2+2 system). In the newly Independent Belize, grant funding had become available from USAID and USIA for inter-institutional collaboration between US and Belizean institutions and several US institutions were working on funded projects with the Ministry of Education, UCB, and the Belize Teachers Training College. They recognized a need for coordination and rationalization on educational development in partnership with COBEC which was a “bi-national effort recognizing the value of international educational exchange and the benefits of collaborative efforts” which committed its membership to “cooperative development of educational programs and activities in Belize. At that time she explained that COBEC aims were: to disseminate knowledge and information relative to the development of education and to each member’s activities in Belize; to collaborate in research, teaching, curriculum and library development; to facilitate the transfer of students; to promote faculty, staff and student exchanges; to support and encourage systematic and comprehensive educational development; to assist in the acquisition of resources required to meet expressed needs of higher education institutions in Belize; to solicit funds for COBEC activities; to facilitate the transfer of credit among institutions of ATLIB; and to facilitate the international recognition of ATLIB programs of study and the eventual accreditation of member institutions.

COBEC has impacted Belizean institutions in several ways; faculty and staff development for Belizean institutions, CAFE workshops in targeted areas, Administrator workshops during

summer meetings, ongoing QA training, library development, transfer of students to the US and networking of institutions and institutional leaders.

Dr. Aird proposed areas for continued improvement: collaborate on teaching, research and curriculum development; share knowledge and information relative to the development of higher education in Belize; encourage systematic and comprehensive planning for educational development; engage the Ministry of Education (MOE) more meaningfully in COBEC; have representation within our MEMBERSHIP in: Teacher Education Development Services, Employment, Training and Education Services (ETES). In conclusion, she mentioned that “COBEC” should be seen and treated as a vital resource within the MOE and COBEC should regard itself as being the MOE’s natural partner in its planning. She urged COBEC to work on membership retention, establish a coordinated mechanism that ensures follow through and COBEC activity between meetings, and a shared Secretariat with ATLIB.

## **2.0 PRESENTATIONS**

Following the opening ceremony presentations were made. These are:

1. Dr. Angel Cal, Associate Professor, University of Belize and Mr. Nigel Incalada, Director of The Institute of Social & Cultural Research (NICHE) explored the need for a National Research Council for Belize.
2. Mr. Mark Usher, Founder and CEO of PROTO Foundation and Mrs. Samantha Humes, Executive Manager PROTO Secretariat presented on the foundation mission “People Reaching Out to Others” and set the stage for long term collaboration with COBEC.
3. Mr. Kevin Geban, Senior Lecturer, University of Belize, examined tourism training at the Tertiary Level in Belize and presented how COBEC Partners can help.
4. Mayor Darrel Bradley presented on the perspective of Law in Belize
5. Dr. Carly Womack-Wynne, Associate Director, Center for Global Engagement, University of Georgia-Gainesville Campus, Mr. Deryck Satchwell, Ag. Director, Tertiary and Post-Secondary Services, Ministry of Education and Jeanne Link, Assistant Dean Sacred Heart Junior College presented on COBEC Partners and Expertise collaborating to build Quality Assurance Capacity in Belize.

## **3.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING FOLLOW UP**

Dr. Larry Daniels, chair of the strategic planning committee, facilitated the further planning session for the success and sustainability of the consortium. The information was compiled by the secretary and forwarded to the committee to consolidate the information and to report at the next summer meeting in July 2018.

## **CONFERENCE DAY 2**

### **STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

At the opening of the second day of the Conference, the committees met to discuss matters.

## **COBEC BUSINESS MEETING**

### **1.0 CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 The meeting was called to order at 9:45 am by Dr. Emilia Hodge, US Co-chair.

## **2.0 ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

The areas added on the agenda under Matters Arising from the Minutes were: Website redesign and Research (Ad Hoc committee); and under Any Other Business were: Listserv and Term of office for: US Co-Chair, BZ Co-chair, and BZ Secretary/Treasurer; and after Small Grant Discussion, Membership fees and Types of Membership and categories of membership would be discussed. A motion to accept the agenda with the addition was made by Dr. John Kemppainen, seconded by Dr. Larry Daniels. All accepted the agenda with the additions.

## **3.0 ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES**

Dr. Emilia Hodge mentioned that minutes were circulated months in advance and corrections were emailed and minor edits were done.

A motion was made for the acceptance of the minutes with the minor changes by Dr. Nancy Adams, seconded by Dr. Bonnie Higginson. All members were in favor.

## **4.0 TREASURERS' REPORT**

**4.1 BZE TREASURER/COBEC SECRETARY**, Mrs. Marie Scott-Young, Secretary/BZ treasurer reported that the closing balance as of December 2017 was \$3484.68. The expenses for the year were: allowances for secretary/treasurer and co-chair and bank charges. All membership dues were collected from institutions for the last academic year. Members were reminded that effective academic year 2018-19 the membership dues would be \$300 BZ according to the approved minutes.

A motion was made to accept the budget as presented by Jeanne Link, and seconded by Mrs. Eleanor Gillett. All were in favor.

**4.2 US TREASURER, Dr. Ivan Nikolov**, reported that financials were strong. The expenditures were from mini grant project such as; UNG, the Citidel, program related to history and the impact on COBEC and wreaths. The balance was US \$20,370.23. Dr. Nikolov cited that of the 32 members institutions only 13 paid for 2018 fiscal year and he mentioned that this issue was related to the change in the administration. Therefore, in the future he would like to run a list of all the US member institutions present at this meeting to email them this bill. Some members were present, and their institutions had not paid their fees, so he explained if members fall in this category then they were a non-member and would need to pay a different fee. In closing, he mentioned that members need to bring their institutions in good standing, especially if the conference was in Belize. Dr. Emilia Hodge noted that according to the bylaws if you have not paid within two years or have not attended 2 consecutive meeting then you are not in good standings.

It was suggested for Dr. Nikolov to send bill to the fiscal person and a copy to the person at the conference. Secondly, to include on the registration form a box to say if members were in good standings.

A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report by Dr. John Kempainen and seconded by Dr. Carly Wyne Womack. All were in favour

## **5.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **5.1 Website redesign**

At the July meeting in 2017, Dr. Rick Bateman volunteered to work on redesigning the COBEC website for which he had solicited members' input in the form of a survey. Dr. Bateman reported that the website redesign was a little further along but urged members to complete the online survey which would be available until the 6<sup>th</sup> of February. Members requested that he resend the link for the survey on the listserv.

A suggestion was made to put a little tag on the website for contribution or donation to COBEC. The box would indicate that we are tax exempt.

### **5.2 Research (Adhoc Committee)**

Dr. Emilia Hodge reminded members that at the last meeting the minutes reflected that a committee was formed but nothing came out of that initiative. A discussion ensued, and members agreed on three areas for the research committee: 1. Identify funding for research, 2. Set up a Research Board for the approval issues, and 3. Seek access to relevant articles and publications.

Dr. Daniels made a motion that the committee would be charged to address the three (3) areas listed and give a report at the next summer meeting in July 2018 which would be voted on. Members were asked to identify research areas and send those suggestions to the committee. The motion was seconded by Dr. Kempainen. All were in favor of the motion. Members who were nominated to the committee were: Eve Aird, Ministry of Education Representative, Sheryl Gibbs, Warren Hodge, Susan Syverud, Ivan Nikolov, Mirna Manzanara, Susan Franco, Carly Wynne, Jane Bennett, and Brian Pope.

A suggestion was made for the members of the committee to meet immediately after conference so that ideas would be put together.

## **6.0 COBEC SMALL GRANTS: recipients; proposal, & guidelines**

Dr. Emilia Hodge reported that since the July meeting the small grant committee convened and discussed the draft guidelines proposed by the committee. Award recipients were: 1) Innovative Course design development for enacting virtual cultural and educational exchange opportunities between Belize and Louisiana – involving BPC and Galen University which resulted in a pilot program that was delivered in real time and was embedded within existing course offerings. The budget included travel for Belizean counterpart to BPC. This was funded for \$1,000; 2) "Supplemental instruction for Remediating Under-resourced, underserved populations: Sharing BPC's open campus courses" involving BPC, Stann Creek Ecumenical Jr.

College, Independence Jr. College, and Sacred Heart JC was also funded for \$1,000. These were the two proposals that were funded after the July meeting.

Dr. Hodge informed members that the current proposal that has been submitted amounted to \$3,000, which was double the amount set in the proposal guidelines. As such, the review team felt it only right to bring this proposal before the membership. The proposal titled "Quality Assurance in Belize" describes work done by Carly Wynne from Univ. of North Georgia over the past two years with Sacred Heart J.C.; Ecumenical J.C., Independence J.C., and the MOE.

After the report by Dr. Emilia Hodge members discussed the proposal. Then a motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Higginson who moved that if members take a Yes vote signified approval of a onetime exception for the grant of \$3000.00 dollars and a No vote signified approval of the grant at \$1500.00 and seconded by Dr. Eve Aird.

The results from the voting were:

Yes- 9 institutions + 4 other institutions that would vote for themselves (UNG, IJC, EJC and SHCJC) totaling 13, and No-6 institutions

Majority of the vote said yes. So, the project funds were approved.

Several suggestions were tabled for consideration;

1. For the by-laws to reflect exemption for exceptional cases
2. It was agreed for a grant writing seminar to be included on the program at the next COBEC conference.
3. For a more detailed contribution to be included in the future COBEC proposal guidelines

Dr. Ivan Nikolov thanked his committee members: Dr. Kemppainin, Dr. Daniels and Dr. Bateman, for putting together the guidelines. Members agreed for the amended funding guideline be circulated to membership, at the July meeting in 2018, for approval and suggestion.

## **7.0 REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**

### **7.1 College Administrators/Faculty Experience (CAFÉ)**

Dr. Sharmayne Saunders reported that the CAFÉ workshop was held on the Wednesday before the conference and it had approximately 92 persons participating. She thanked Dr. Carly Womack Wynne and SHJC Assistant dean, Ms. Link, for collaborating in a very instrumental session regarding the Quality Assurance Process at SHJC. She mentioned that the evaluation forms would be collated and used for future planning. Information was already shared with Bossier State College from the COBEC administrators' workshop in the summer. This year no training was done for librarian or counselors, but they identified their own training that was successfully done. ATLIB voted NO to having its summer professional development training so Belize membership are relying heavily on COBEC for the summer administrators' workshop. Dr. Saunders also informed members that ATLIB paid the food and COBEC paid the administrative cost for the CAFÉ workshop.

## **7.2 College Fair Committee (CFC)**

Ms. Jeanne Link reported that the name of the committee was changed in 2013 to College Fair Committee. This year the college fair became Belize 2, which means Belize tertiary options and opportunities, where the college fair committee integrated with the Belize two. The committee discussed how the fair unfolded and shared some feedback. The feedback and suggestions are as followed;

1. The fair was not organized by levels, so it was suggested for the fair to be broken up in two groups, 9 am -1 pm for high school and 1 pm – 5 pm for Junior College and above
2. It was helpful that the students were aware of different applications procedure and the kind of support they would be expected from embassies and learning agents.
3. The Saint Catherine’s auditorium was very appropriate for future fairs. The only concern was affordable food. It was suggested for the hosting institution or an identified school to sell food at the venue.
4. Transportation was a concern for out district students, so it was suggested that we could set up little centers at the different district, so we have a schedule for each institution to present their information that would be broadcasted live to these different locations or centers so students can ask questions and get immediate responses.
6. The greeters were very good at the entrance of the fair.
7. It was noted that Information on that day said that application fees would be waived for the different institution, but the committee would like that such information be clearly communicated for students to come prepared with reference letters and other application documents.
8. For technological sharing the app that was suggested was ZOOM since it works well on low band width.
9. It was suggested for Business community, Ministry of Public Service and the Chamber of Commerce to be invited to participate in the fair.
10. It was suggested for COBEC website to have a link to COBEC institutions website for students to know what program are available.

Jeanne agreed to be the Belize counterpart with Megan on the committee for CFC.

**7.3 Study Abroad Committee:** Dr. Nancy Adamson and Dr. Eve Aird, co-chairs, reported that Mr. Hugo Gonzalez sent out a WhatsApp message to ask Belizean institutions to indicate the kinds of interest that they might have to collaborate with US institutions. It was clear that they had interest in ongoing projects, new projects, ongoing partnership and continued partnerships where interns were brought to Belize and placed in colleges such as, SHJC and CJC. There is a lot of interest in study abroad, whether they go to US or come to Belize.

## **8.0 ASSESSMENT TEAM REPORT**

Dr. Emilia Hodge reported that the team had been working on the assessment report of the consortium had set backs last year because one of the leading player was dealing with some health issues. However, the team was pleased to report that they had made advances and that the final report was on the verge of being completed. She acknowledged and thanked the assessment team that comprised of: Dr. Betty Flinchum, UNF, Dr. Warren Hodge from UNF, Dr. Emilia Hodge from UF, Dr. Eve Aird from Galen, Dr. Cynthia Thompson and Dr. Ethel Arzu from

UB, Dr Kathaleena Edward Monds from Albany State and Deborah Davis from Valdosta State University.

## **9.0 EMERITUS NOMINATIONS**

No emeritus nominations

## **10.0 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS (Full and Associate)**

Dr Emilia Hodge reported that she received intent for membership from Campbellsville University from Dr. Beverly Ennis who was recommended by Mr. Fermin Magana and Dr. Karen Martinez for directing the formulation of early childhood education in Belize.

Request for membership information were also received from Dr. Drew Gephart, Peralta Community College District's Office of International Education (Oakland, CA) and from Dorian Arnold, Belizean expat and professor at Emory University (Atlanta, GA). Mr. Egbert Higinio was an observer at the meeting. All the universities would submit an official membership application at the July 2018 COBEC conference.

An application was submitted from University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) that was to be voted on for membership. UIC's College of Nursing's Center for Global Health had operated a study abroad program in Belize since 1992. They hoped to expand their areas of study abroad and professional development with member institutions. Letters of endorsement for the application came from The Citadel and from Stann Creek Ecumenical Junior College. Dr. Carrie Klima, Clinical Professor and Director of Midwifery & Women's Health Nurse Practitioner Programs reported that the University had been coming to Belize since 1992. They have been doing educational program for nurse practitioners and on nurse midwifery in Corozal and Orange Walk. They partnered with the rural hospital and conducted preschool screening throughout these districts in the month of March. Dr. Klima explained that the university was the first in midwifery to be collaborating in the world and it continued to have a robust health education program.

A motion was made by Dr. Bonnie Higginson for the acceptance of the University of Illinois at Chicago as COBEC member and seconded by Dr. Ivan Nikolov. All agreed, and it unanimously passed and accepted

Dr. Karen Martinez acknowledged Dr. Neal McCrillis for bringing his new institution into COBEC. We highly appreciate it.

## **11.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **11.1 List SERV**

Membership agreed that the LISTSERV was appropriate for easier communication but those affected by the list serve would be resent an email.

It was suggested for a list of the US COBEC institution representatives be placed on the website.

### **11.2 Term of office**

Dr. Emilia Hodge, U.S. Co-chair, reported that her term of office ended at this meeting, winter 2018. She expressed her willingness to continue as Chair until next year. Dr. Bateman made a motion from the US caucus for Dr. Emilia Hodge to serve for another term as US Co-chair, and was seconded by Dr. John Kemppainen. No discussion or objections were made to the motion. All agreed, and congratulations was expressed to Dr. Hodge.

Dr. Karen Martinez, BZ Co-chair, explained that she has been the BZ Co-chair since the February meeting hosted by Galen. As a result, she reminded Belizean membership to prepare for election next summer.

Mrs. Marie Scoot-Young, BZ Treasurer/Secretary, informed members that she has been serving for about six (6) years and that her post was up for election.

### **11.3 Categories for Membership**

A motion was made for the discussion of the categories of membership to be tabled at the July meeting was made by Dr. Rick Bateman and seconded by Dr. John Kemppainen. All agreed to the motion.

### **12.0 FUTURE COBEC CONFERENCE MEETING VENUES**

Summer 2018 – Bossier Parish Community College (25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018)

Winter 2019 – San Pedro Junior College (February 6, 2019 College Fair, February 7 & 8, COBEC Conference)

Summer 2019 – University of North Florida

Winter 2020 - UWI

Summer 2020 – North East Technical College

### **13.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The Co-Chairs extended a hearty thank you to Mrs. Eleanor Gillett, Dean of Wesley Junior College and her team for hosting the conference.

At 12:30 a.m. a motion to adjourn the Business Meeting was made by Mr. Gustavo Ellis and seconded by Mrs. Jane Bennett. All members agreed.

Recorded by,  
Marie Scott Young  
Recording Secretary