

# COBEC DISPATCH

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *Ole Miss Ready for COBEC in July*
- *Be sure to request “the COBEC rate” when you make your hotel reservations*
- *The link to register for the conference is: <http://outreach.olemiss.edu/cobec/summerconference.html>*

## Sacred Heart Hosts COBEC to Record Attendance in San Ignacio

**February 2012 (San Ignacio, Belize)** - Sacred Heart Junior College hosted the 2012 COBEC Winter Conference to a record number of attendees. With the majority of the folks staying at the San Ignacio Hotel, access to all the meetings was conducted with ease.

During the meeting, Mrs. Barbara Thummalapally, the wife of U.S. Ambassador Vini Thummalapally, shared with COBEC her project on literacy and the impact it is having on literacy in Belize. Below is a brief description from Plus TV Belize that tells the story of “Pat the Great Cat” a Belizean jaguar that found its way to the Milwaukee Zoo.

*The story is about a wonderful Belizean cat who went from Belize to the Milwaukee Zoo and the story is all brought together by Nancy Kennedy who took it to Mrs. Marlene’s camp here and together with some educators, we put the whole book together and the idea of the project. It is actually a three phase project; the first part happened already and the second part is finished, where Nancy and some other educators, especially people from the Belize Zoo went out into the Belize schools and in the Milwaukee schools and they told the simple story of “Pat the Great Cat” and the students loved it and they were happy to respond. Since the literacy event, they had to respond to the teachers with their writings and their drawings and their inspirations of all kinds and Nancy went through all of those and put them together and that’s what you will find in the book.*

**COBEC members showed a great interest with many wanting to know how they might be able to contribute.**



**Dr. John Kempainen, Hon. Patrick Faber, His Excellency Sir Colville Young, Dr. Betty Flinchum, Dr. Larry Daniel, and Dr. Pritch Smith.**



**Dr. Pritch Smith and Dr. Betty Flinchum, UNF Professors Emeritus and Founders of the UNF/UB Master's Degree Program**

**UNF HOSTS ALUMNI EVENT AT CHATEAU CARIBBEAN HOTEL**

**February 4, 2012. (Belize City, Belize).** The University of North Florida hosted its second ever alumni reception in Belize at the Chateau Caribbean Hotel. More than 100 UNF alumni, spouses and friends attended to some very tasty hors d'oeuvres provided by the Chateau Caribbean staff. The alumni heard words of praise and encouragement from Dr. Larry Daniel, Dean of the College of Education and Human Services at UNF as well as from His Excellency, Sir Colville Young, Governor General of Belize and the Honorable Patrick Faber, Minister of Education and Youth for the Government of Belize and UNF alum. Also in attendance were Mr. Elodio Aragon, Assistant Commissioner of Police in Belize and a UNF Alum, Dr. Betty Flinchum and Dr. Pritch Smith, long-time friends and UNF faculty coordinators of the UNF/UB Master's degree program that has produced more than 350 UNF alums working in educational settings throughout Belize. Dr. John Kempainen, U.S. COBEC Co-Chair, long-time friend and advisor to the many UNF alumni in Belize, served as Master of Ceremony for the evening. It was noted that many Belizeans have earned bachelor and master's degrees through UNF and Drs. Amelia Williams and Alberto August were present and acknowledged for being the first two to earn their doctorates from UNF. Both were present at the reception.



**Rosiemae Mangar, Maureen Arnold and Erlett Homas, UNF Alumni**

## NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR COBEC SCHOOLS IN BELIZE

Thanks are to be extended to Dr. Ivan Nikolov at Valdosta State University for bringing to COBEC's attention the RFP submitted by the U.S. Embassy in Belize for a program on Building Safe Communities through Community Policing. This appears to build on efforts currently established in many U.S. communities known as Neighborhood Watch Programs that have had great success in reducing crime and making our communities a safer place to live. This would be a wonderful project where Belizean and U.S. COBEC schools could partner which could then go a long way in the sustainability of the program in Belize. As suggested by Rick Bateman, the deadline for submitting proposals is not far off. Schools interested should collaborate soon and initiate a proposal to the appropriate source. We have heard from Sacred Heart Junior College and Wesley College in Belize as two tertiary schools interested and I have already been contacted by our Chairperson in our Criminal Justice program at UNF that he too is interested. Michael Brennen has indicated that Hillsborough Community College is interested as is Valdosta State University per Ivan Nikolov. Let's see what we can do as COBEC schools to assist Belize in this new initiative.



### Building Safe Communities through Community Policing

#### Synopsis

#### [Full Announcement](#)

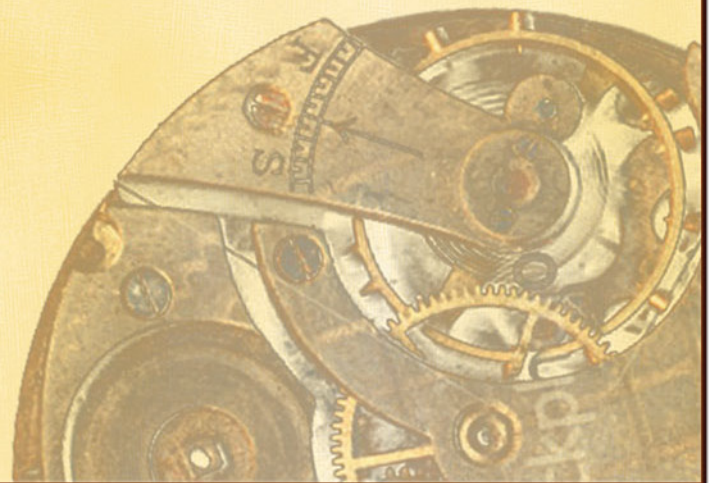
#### [Application](#)

The synopsis for this grant opportunity is detailed below, following this paragraph. This synopsis contains all of the updates to this document that have been posted as of **05/11/2012**. If updates have been made to the opportunity synopsis, update information is provided below the synopsis.

If you would like to receive notifications of changes to the grant opportunity click [send me change notification emails](#) . The only thing you need to provide for this service is your email address. No other information is requested.

*Any inconsistency between the original printed document and the disk or electronic document shall be resolved by giving precedence to the printed document.*

Document Type:	Grants Notice
Funding Opportunity Number:	S-BH200-12-CP
Opportunity Category:	Discretionary
Posted Date:	May 11, 2012
Creation Date:	May 11, 2012
Original Closing Date for Applications:	Jun 10, 2012
Current Closing Date for Applications:	Jun 10, 2012
Archive Date:	Jul 10, 2012
Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Category of Funding Activity:	Community Development
Category Explanation:	
Expected Number of Awards:	24
Estimated Total Program Funding:	\$600,000
Award Ceiling:	\$200,000
Award Floor:	\$25,000
CFDA Number(s):	
Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement:	No



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### Eligible Applicants

Public and State controlled institutions of higher education Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education Private institutions of higher education Individuals

### Additional Information on Eligibility:

#### Agency Name

U.S. Mission to Belize

#### Description

US Embassy Belmopan invites organizations to submit proposals to advance the Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) goal of building safe communities through community policing. Community policing is both a philosophy and an organizational strategy that recognizes the importance of collaboration between law enforcement, all branches of government, and the citizens of a community. This program seeks to advance the practice of community policing as an effective strategy in communities' efforts to improve public safety. The grant program will focus on collaboration between law enforcement and community members to ensure success in advancing community policing strategies. In order to prevent youth involvement in criminal activity, this grant may be used to fund, support, and/or coordinate community and/or youth group initiatives, such as but not limited to neighborhood watch programs, sports programs, life skills, and prevention and intervention strategies. Innovative and creative initiatives are encouraged. Proposals should outline how they intend to accomplish their goals in collaboration with the Belize Police Department. Selected applicants will be required to provide reports of their activities and updates to [belmopangrants@state.gov](mailto:belmopangrants@state.gov). The U.S. Embassy in Belmopan plans to award a total of \$600,000 USD for a project period of one to three years. Applicants may apply for amounts of \$25,000 USD up to \$200,000 USD. The U.S. Embassy may award up to twenty four grants which do not exceed the total of \$600,000 USD. The Embassy reserves the right not to award any funds based on the quality of the proposals received.

### Link to Additional Information

**If you have difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically, please contact:**

Barry Cuthbertson

Program Specialist

Phone 011501610533 [Email Contact](#)

**Synopsis Modification History** (There are currently no modifications for this opportunity.)

## Belize Band Fest Requesting COBEC Help

*Ms. Carmen Barrow, Manager of Multi-Media Systems in Belize is seeking assistance from COBEC schools to raise the level of Marching Band music in Belize. If you all recall, a little more than a year ago, Murray State University donated five sets of Band Uniforms to Belize to support the Governor General's request for used band uniforms. (COBEC Dispatch July 2011). I am attaching Ms. Barrow's request below. Let's see if through COBEC we can provide support for this very worthwhile program.*

Greetings from Belize:

My name is Carmen Barrow and I am the coordinator of Belize Band Fest, which is an annual activity that brings together Marching Bands from across the country, to display their musical achievements. A number of these bands are beneficiaries of the Governor General's Music in schools program.

This year's Band Fest marked the seventh anniversary of Band Fest in Belize, and saw the participation of twelve marching bands. Belize Band Fest is held under the auspices of RSV Ltd, the largest media house in Belize. The Patron is Sir Colville Young, and the Chairman is Rene Villanueva Sr., owner and CEO of RSV Ltd.  
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The purpose of my contacting you is to seek your assistance in getting the COBEC members actively involved in Belize Band Fest through the following avenues:

- Annual Band Camps for Band Directors & Band Members
- Scholarships for young musicians
- Recruitment of Judges to participate in the annual competition
- Visit of Bands to participate as display Bands during the annual competition.
- Review of the judging criteria and planning a strategy for the next five years

Since its inception Belize Band Fest has grown to the involvement of some sixteen Bands and over twelve hundred Band members. Band Fest 2012 was held in the Corozal Town, and attracted over 8000 spectators. It is probably the single biggest family activity to be held in the country.

I would be delighted to work with all of the COBEC schools to raise the level of marching band music in Belize, and it is in this regard that I write to seek your assistance, and / or your referral, to those of your COBEC colleagues who would be interested in assisting us to achieve the objectives I outlined earlier.

I am eagerly looking forward to your response.

Best Regards

Carmen M Barrow EMBA  
Coordinator

### ***“OLE MISS READY FOR COBEC IN JULY”***

I want to extend my hearty thanks to Dr. Kim Shackelford at Ole Miss for hosting our summer 2012 COBEC conference. I have already sent out the link to the registration form but will include it in the newsletter again. Just a few things to remember as we prepare for our trip to Oxford, Mississippi; first, we must fly into Memphis, Tennessee. Kim has arranged for a shuttle to pick folks up and then bring them back to the Memphis Airport, or you can rent a car in Memphis and drive approximately an hour and a half to Oxford. The Inn at Ole Miss has an excellent room rate and we would be right on campus. However, if you prefer, you can Google the area around Ole Miss in Oxford and find a number of other hotels...Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn, Comfort Inn, and Days Inn. When you register for the conference online you will need to enter just your numbers for the phone number. That is your area code or country code and the number. No dashes and no parentheses. The rest is straight forward. Kim and her colleagues at Ole Miss have put together a very interesting program. I hope to see you all in Oxford.

The link to register for the conference is: <http://outreach.olemiss.edu/cobec/summerconference.html>

Good luck all...have a safe summer and safe travels and see you in Oxford. John Kempainen

# COBEC DISPATCH



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Belize Co-chair: Jose Mai [jmai56@gmail.com](mailto:jmai56@gmail.com)

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