



**COBEC SUMMER CONFERENCE**  
**Oklahoma State University**

*Collaborative Leadership: For the Now and the Future*

**ATTENDEES – FACE-TO-FACE:**

<b>Complete Name</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>	<b>Complete Name</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>
Wesley Hickey	University of Texas at Tyler	Gustavo Ellis	San Pedro Junior College
Yanira Oliveras-Ortiz	University of Texas at Tyler	Paul Kelly	San Pedro Junior College
Hugo Gonzalez	Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College	Roberto Canche	San Pedro Junior College
Perla Marin	Centro Escolar Mexico Junior College	Karen Martinez	Ecumenical Junior College
Marlon Brown	Corozal Junior College	Sharmayne Saunders	University of West Indies Open Campus
Cynthia Eve Aird	Galen University	Eleanor Gillett	Wesley Junior College
Yvonne Palma	MoECST	Marie Scott-Young	Independence Junior College
Jeannie Garbutt-Franklin	MoECST	Joe Terrantino	Oklahoma State University
Rocio Carballo	Sacred Heart Junior College	Allison Martin	Bossier Parish Community College
Luis Carballo	Sacred Heart Junior College	Lusiola Castillo	Belize National Library
Fermin Magaña	Sacred Heart Junior College	Kirk Fontenot	Bossier Parish Community College
Vincente Palacio	University of Belize	Felene Cayetano	Belize National Library

Ethel Arzu	UT Permain Basin	Andy Novobilski	Delta State University
Sharon Hudley	Campbellsville University	Jen Saunders	Oklahoma State University

**ATTENDEES – ZOOM:**

<b>Complete Name</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>	<b>Complete Name</b>	<b>Organization/Institution</b>
Rick Bateman	Bossier Parish Community College	Betty Flinchum	UNF / Emeritus Member
John Kemppainen	UNF / Emeritus Member	Warren Hodge	UNF / Emeritus Member

**AGENDA:**

**1.0 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m. by Mr. Hugo Gonzalez, COBEC Belize Co-Chair.

**2.0 WELCOME**

Mr. Gonzalez welcomed the membership to the summer conference business meeting hosted by Oklahoma State Univeristy.

**3.0 SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

Dr. Rick Bateman, Chancellor at Bossier Parish Community College, joined the meeting via Zoom to make a donation of a Belize flag which was presented by Mr. Kirk Fontenot.

**4.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted by the membership as tabled.

**5.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2023**

The minutes of the winter conference business meeting of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 were accepted as tabled by the membership on a motion made by Dr. Oliveras and seconded by Dr. Saunders.

## **6.0 STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **6.1 CAFÉ COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Hudley gave an overview of the committee's discussion. She highlighted the need for effective strategies for competency-based instruction and assessment, subject-specific methodologies and seminars. Emphasis was made on program reviews for effective faculty evaluations that are evidence-based. Dr. Oliveras called for faculty who might be interested. Dr. Saunders asked for training sessions for counsellors and librarians.

### **6.2 RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Arzu shared that the Committee has reviewed the Committee's strategic plan and asked the membership to take some time to read it. The strategic plan will be posted on the COBEC website. The membership will be asked to approve it at the next conference. The goal is to raise \$50,000 for research.

Other areas raised included:

- A. Ten (10) doctoral students are being mentored by the Research Committee.
- B. Univeristy of Belize (UB) Journal; the membership was asked for volunteers to review manuscripts. Dr. Hickey will send out an email with information on how to volunteer.
- C. Request for thesis to be housed at Belize National Library.
- D. IRB process at UB is now fully implemented.

### **6.3 STUDY ABROAD COMMITTEE REPORT**

Dr. Oliveras asked that concept notes be shared including different models for 2023. She asked the membership not wait until minutes are sent out and to include visas requirements.

### **6.4 COLLEGE FAIR COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mrs. Marin reported that the College Fair will be held in the City of Belmopan on Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Letters will be sent out in August to increase participation. Data will be collected from participating institutions. US institutions were encouraged to sign up early. CAFÉ workshops will be hosted the same day as the College Fair in the City of Belmopan.

## **7.0 CONSIDERATION FOR EMERITUS MEMBERSHIP**

An application for emeritus membership was received on behalf of Mrs. Allison Martin who is retiring from the Bossier Parish Community College. Dr. Hickey expressed his recommendation. Mr. Gonzalez seconded the recommendation. Mr. Magana spoke about Allison's work and the impact of her work in Belize. Mr. Brown expressed his appreciation for all she has done for CJC and COBEC.

Dr. Aird motioned to approve her status as an emeritus member. Dr. Palacio seconded the motion. The membership approved the motion.

Dr. Hickey expressed the members' love for Allison who shared that belonging to this group is the best part of her professional career.

## **8.0 CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP**

No application was received.

## **9.0 FINANCIAL REPORTS - BELIZE & US TREASURER**

Mr. Brown reported that the beginning balance as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 was \$10,146.18. He noted that \$4,919.71 was spent on the College Fair. He added that COBEC US granted COBEC Belize \$1,400.00. Unfortunately, the cheque couldn't be deposited due banking issues. Eight (8) members paid their membership dues. The Belize National Library made its first membership dues payment. ATLIB will refund COBEC for some CAFÉ expenses. The ending balance as at June 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023, was \$6,059.47. Dr. Saunders asked for a copy of the spreadsheet.

Mrs. Young motioned to accept the Belize treasurer's report. Mr. Magana seconded the motion. The membership approved the motion.

No US treasurer's report was made.

## **10.0 CONSIDERATION FOR MINI GRANTS**

No application for mini grant was received.

## **11.0 CONSIDERATION FOR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP**

No application was received.

## **12.0 CONSIDERATION FOR US CHAIR**

Mr. Gonzalez shared that a call was made for nominations for US Chair. Dr. Wes Hickey was nominated. Dr. Kemppainen motioned to accept Dr. Hickey as the US Chair. Dr. Terrantino seconded the motion. The US membership unanimously approved the motion.

Dr. Hickey shared that it is an honor to serve and that he is looking forward to serving another term. A lot of great work has been completed but there is the need to continue to look for ways to grow.

## **12.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

A. Affiliation with the International Council of Professors of Educational Leadership

Dr. Hickey shared information about the Executive Director of ICPEL and benefits for COBEC to join. Dr. Palacio has been thinking about relevance. How do we attract more disciplines to COBEC. It is important to expand and bring in other disciplines. Dr. Arzu shared the need to present at conferences, so that research is included in the literature. Next year's ICPEL conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas. Graduate students could present their work at the conference.

B. Student membership

Dr. Hickey shared the idea of adding a student membership category. Dr. Aird suggested that a membership committee be formed to draft the roles and responsibilities of members and that those included in the by-laws. Dr. Kemppainen expressed interest in serving on the Committee.

C. Promotion of membership

It was suggested to create a package explaining the benefits of joining COBEC. If the need arises, a virtual meeting can be called with potential new US members. There is the need to do a better job at informing others who what COBEC does – success stories, videos.

D. Increase Registration fee

Dr. Saunders suggested the need to increase the Belize registration fee to \$150.0 US which would allow attendees breakfast and lunch together.

E. Head Stone

Dr. Aird proposed that COBEC Belize adds a head stone where Dr. Misser's ashes are located. Mr. Gonzalez asked Dr. Palacio to request permission by our quarterly meeting so arrangements can be made.

### **13.0 UPCOMING COBEC MEETING / CONFERENCE**

A. Quarterly meeting for members – October 18, 2023, 1:00 p.m. (Belize time)

B. Winter conference – University of Belize (Belmopan Campus), February 1 to 3, 2024

Dr. Palacio asked the technical committee to explore artificial intelligence & the Blue Economy as possible workshop topics. He asked the COBEC Co-Chairs to have at least a draft of the compendium of COBEC successes.

C. College Fair – January 31, 2024 University of Belize (Belmopan Campus)

D. Summer 2024 conference – Bridgewater State University, July 24 – 26, 2024.

#### **14.0 THANKS TO OSU**

A heartfelt thank you was given to Dr. Terrantino and team for planning and organizing an excellent conference.

#### **15.0 ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:09 p.m. on a motion by Dr. Arzu and seconded by Mr. Magana.

Prepared by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlon Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marlon Brown  
Secretary.