



The CoHemispherical

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Teaching actively and learning as a team

During a second consecutive year CoHemis organized and offered the BETTeR-IC Summer Camp, sponsored by Alliance for the Learning of Sciences and Math (AlaCiMa) in July 7-13, 2007. The participants were 28 high school students, 4 students from the Teacher Preparation Program at UPRM, 4 international teachers, in which 3 of them are foreign students that

are part of Masters in Science Programs in our campus and a teacher representing the "Instituto Provincial de Enseñanza Media y la Facultad de Ciencias Exacta, Físicas y Naturales (Universidad Nacional de Córdoba)" in Argentina. In addition, 15 professors from different universities of Puerto Rico offered presentations in different areas of biotechnology.



Participants of the BETTeR-IC 2007 Summer Camp, photo taken in La Parguera (Lajas) during a visit to Isla Maguëyes.

Successful renewable energy conferences

The Community Alliance for Education in Renewable Energy (ACCER), in which CoHemis and the Sea Grant Program are part of the organizing committee, offered its two first conferences in February and April 2007. The successful activities took place at the Mayagüez Cultural Center. The topics presented were "Reducing the cost and consumption of Energy in the Planet and in Puerto Rico" and "Electricity

generation by Solar Energy in the Planet and in Puerto Rico". One of the special guest was Dr. José Herrero Rueda from the CIEMAT in Spain. Exhibitions were part of the conferences, in which many solar product companies had the opportunity to show their products and inform the public regarding cost and installation. Please, visit our webpage for more info: cacique.uprm.edu/accer.



Various solar product companies exhibited at the Mayagüez Plaza.

The University of Cádiz joins the Olé RUM project

The University of Cádiz in Spain joins other university centers to be part of the alliance with the Study Project in Spain known as Olé Rum. From April 14-21, 2007, Yamarie Hernández Bonet, Coordinator of the Project at UPRM, had the opportunity to visit this university that will accept students to study during a semester or an entire academic year. The city of Cádiz is similar

to our Old San Juan with its historic walls, marine strolls, cathedrals and a lot to see. The purpose of this trip was to establish an educative alliance with the University of Cádiz. Madrid was also visited, where students showed to Yamarie the Somosaguas Campus at the Universidad Complutense. In Salamanca, Yamarie and students visited the university, which is part of the old city.



Yamarie Hernández Bonet with participants of 2006/2007.

Fifteen years of research at Mayagüez Bay

UPRM faculty, graduate students and representatives of the private sector exposed some of the results they have obtained during the past fifteen years of scientific research in the Mayagüez Bay. During the event, celebrated at the Eugene Francis Conference Room, Mr. Dennis Neftalí Corales Valle received a deserved tribute. Mr. Corales Valle served as Captain for the

Research Vessel Sultana of the Department of Marine Sciences from 1991 to 2005. Most of the presenters and researchers did their work on board this ship and with the help of Captain Corales Valle. As part of the 15th year celebration, topics in marine currents, geological aspects, Plancton dynamics, optical properties and remote sensing were addressed.



Group of speakers with Dennis Corales

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Next Activities

August 18th, 2007

ACEER Conference

"Generación de Electricidad con Energía del Viento en Puerto Rico y en el Planeta"

August 23rd-25th, 2007

"Feria de Talentos" of INTEC Dominican Republic

August 28th, 2007

Welcome activity for students in Olé RUM coming back from Spain

September 12th, 2007

Learning Factory Guayaquil, Ecuador

September 20th, 2007

Olé RUM Orientation

September 21th-22th, 2007

Microbiology and Metagenomic Studies of Puerto Rican Soils (USDA-CSREES)

September 28th, 2007

Fifth Meeting of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems (PRYSIG)

October 11th, 2007

Olé RUM Orientation

October 25th, 2007

Science and Technology CoHemis Conference (SciTeCC 2007)

November 10th, 2007

ACEER Conference

"Generación de Energía con Biocombustible en Puerto Rico y en el Planeta"

November 14th-16th, 2007

UNICA Conference CoHemis Anniversary

November 2007

Farewell activity for students in Olé RUM going to Spain

Accreditation workshops in Dominican Republic

CoHemis organized two complimentary workshops assessment in the Technological Institute in Dominican Republic. On March 15-16, 2007, Eng. Lueny Morell, Director of the Latin American University Relations at Hewlett Packard, along with Dr. John Lamancusa, Director of the Learning Factory at the University of Pennsylvania, offered the first part of the workshop that was focused on the Innovation and Reformation of the

Engineering Curriculum, based on the Learning Model. On April 2-3, 2007, Eng. Morell and Dr. Jorge I. Vélez Arocho, UPRM Chancellor, offered the final part titled "Excellence through a Culture of Quality and Accreditation. The hosts and coordinators in Dominican Republic were Dr. Miguel J. Escala, Chancellor at INTEC and Dr. Indhira de Jesús, Dean of Engineering. Approx. 40 professors participated in the workshops.



Eng. Indhira de Jesús, Dr. Miguel J. Escala, and Eng. Lueny Morell with other members of INTEC (left to right).

CECA offered course of sampling and analysis of water

This course was part of an initiative between the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Panamerican Health Organization (PAHO). The course was offered from January 9-12, 2007 at the facilities of the UPRM and organized by the Puerto Rico Water Resources and Environmental Research Institute in col-

laboration with the Directors of CoHemis. The development of skills and knowledge concerning sampling procedures and techniques and the revision of Quality Assurance methods such as calibration, standardization and verification were some of the course objectives. For more information, www.ece.uprm.edu/prwreri/ceca or write to prwreri@uprm.edu.



Course Participants

Student organization SACNAS UPR-Mayagüez

CoHemis affiliated the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science while creating the Student Chapter UPR Mayagüez SACNAS. Some of the objectives of the chapter are to improve the effectiveness, enhance the public understanding and appreciation for Latinos, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, and Natives Ha-

waiians as well as under represented groups in science at undergraduate and graduate levels. Dr. Carlos Ríos-Velázquez, Biology Department and Dr. Omar Colón, Department of Mathematics, will be the Advising Professors for the chapter. Miss Karen Díaz, undergraduate student from the Department of Biology is the president of the student chapter.



SACNAS Logo

IIBI celebrates 2nd Anniversary in Dominican Republic

Dr. Carlos Ríos-Velázquez participated as panelist and plenary speaker during the Second Anniversary Celebration of the Institute for Innovation in Biotechnology and Industry in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. As part of the activities, Dr. Ríos-Velázquez presented a conference about Functional Genomic and

Proteomics Technologies and its application in Microbial Biotechnology. In addition, diverse initiatives in the area of biotechnology, which are being developed in this institute, were presented such as new instruments in forensic sciences and the development of new products with industrial, agricultural and medical importance.



Remote sensing Symposium in Costa Rica

One of the priority areas for CoHemis is Remote Sensing. Dr. Fernando Gilbes Santaella was invited to chair a technical session related to the use of this tool in the study of marine ecosystems in the 32nd International Symposium on Remote Sensing of the Environment. This symposium took place in San José, Costa Rica from June 25-29, 2007 and hosted over 500 participants from around the world. Other plenary and techni-

cal sessions covered topics in Global Earth Observations Systems of Systems (GEOSS), terrestrial ecosystems, human health, natural disasters, Lidar data and model analysis, advancements on earth observations advances, sensors systems, unmanned vehicles systems, biodiversity, hyperspectral data analysis, among others. The symposium also included various poster sessions with these topics.



During the symposium, various projects in collaboration with UPRM were