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The CoHemispherical

Vol. I No. I

August 2006

Biotechnology Summer Camp 2006 (BETTeR-IC)

During the week of July 10th to the 16th of 2006, a new summer camp concept named: Biotechnology for Educational Training in Teams through Research and Interdisciplinary Centers (BETTeR-IC) was organized by CoHemis at UPR-Mayagüez. The BETTeR-IC summer camp was also sponsor by the Alliance for the Learning of Sciences and Math (AlaCiMa) and NASA Educational Research Center. BETTeR-IC had 20 secondary schools students, four teachers from local

AIACiMa public schools, and three teachers, one from United States, and two Graduate Students from Colombia. The four Educational Teams (ET; five students, one local and one international teachers), had the opportunity to participate in several talks, workshops, and field trips such a trip to Isla Magüeyes, where the participants learned about Marine Biotechnology. Also, the ET participated in an educational trip in the "Fondo de Cristal II" boat at la Parguera, Lajas. The BETTeR-IC Summer

Camp was a complete success, we are ready for BETTeR-IC 2007.



In the photo standing, the Summer Camp participants; sitting, the students mentors and CoHemis directors

International meeting of engineering at UPRM (LACCEI)

The University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM) was the host of the Fourth Annual Latin American and Caribbean Conference of Engineering and Technology offered by the Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI). The activity was held during June 21st-23rd, 2006 in the Nursing Auditorium and CoHemis was in charge of the local coordination. The main theme of this year conference was "Breaking Frontiers and Barriers in Engineering: Education, technology and Practice".

During the event the Chancellor of UPRM, Doctor Jorge Iván Vélez Arocho, was installed as president of the Governing Board of LACCEI, organization with around 50 educational institutions from America and Spain. It was also recognized the trajectory of other academic people in the educational field. The activity had the participation of over 200 people from several countries. Dr. Fernando Gilbes Santaella, CoHemis Director, indicated that this activity allows to strength the collaboration with LACCEI and perform joint activities

for the benefit of both organizations. It is sure that CoHemis will have a major role in the LACCEI activities during this coming year.



Dr. Jorge Iván Vélez Arocho, UPRM Chancellor and incoming president of LACCEI.

SciTeCC 2006: Celebrating Science and Technology

During April 27th 2006, the Center for Hemispherical Cooperation in Research and Education in Engineering and Applied Science (CoHemis) organized in the Auditorium of the Biology Building of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPR-M), the first Science and Technology CoHemis Conference (SciTeCC). The main theme of SciTeCC 2006 was: Computational and Systems Biology: An Interdisciplinary and Integrative Discipline in Research and Education. The conference has as main speakers the directors and researchers from the Computational and Systems Biology initiative (CSBi) from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

(MIT), and from the UPR-Mayagüez researchers and faculty representing the disciplines of Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry and Computer Sciences participated as well. SciTeCC counted also with the participation of faculty and students from diverse educational centers in the Island. As part of the SciTeCC main activities, research poster exhibitions from the Industrial Biotechnology Program and the Biology Department students Associations which included: Industrial Biotechnology Student Society (AEBI), Biology Students Society (AEB), Biology Honorary Society (Beta, Beta, Beta), Industrial Microbiology Students Society (SEMI), Puerto Rican Mycology Society -

Student Chapter (SPM). The activity was transmitted "life" thought the web cast, allowing the members of our Consortium in the whole hemispheric, to have a direct access .



Dr. Nika Stoop was describing the educational opportunities in Computational and Systems Biology at MIT, to the interested students that attended SciTeCC 2006.

Coming Soon!

August 17th, 2006

Welcome Meeting for the students of Olé-RUM returning from Spain

August 29th, 2006

Olé RUM Orientation
Cafeteria Annex
Student Center

September 21st, 2006

Olé RUM Orientation
Industrial Engineering Auditorium

September 29th, 2006

Fourth Meeting of Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems

October 2nd-6th, 2006

Accreditation Workshop in Peru

October 17th, 2006

Olé RUM Orientation
Cafeteria Annex
Student Center

October 19th, 2006

Science and Technology Seminar (SciTeCC)

November 11th-13th, 2006

CoHemis Anniversary



November 30th, 2006

Farewell activity for the students participants of Olé RUM 06-07

December 2006

Bulletin CoHemis...Update

January 9th-12th, 2007

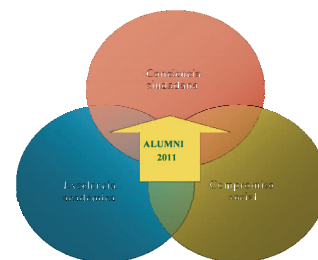
EPA's Water Quality Workshop

Making the difference: ALUMNI 2011

To provide to the students at UPR-Mayagüez with the tools and educational experiences to develop leadership, civic consciousness, social commitment, and professional excellence; a team of faculty from UPR-Mayagüez have developed **ALUMNI 2011**. This project will begin with 2006-2007 freshmen students to promote in the students, the generation of initia-

tives towards the well been, and the development of professional with ethical principles in diverse socio-cultural contexts. The **ALUMNI 2011** theme is *Towards the Educational, Professional and Personal Success*. Our Co-director, Dr. Carlos Ríos Velázquez is a member of the faculty team involved in this effort. This activity will be used as a model to provide support to

freshmen students at international educational centers.



Hacia el éxito educativo, profesional y personal

Sustainable development: renewable energy sources

In March 29 of 2006 we carried out a Forum of Sustainable Development: Alternate Energy Sources in the Auditorium of the Civil Engineering Department. This educational event was organized by CoHemis and gathered over one hundred people. Doctor Fernando Gilbes Santaella, CoHemis Director and moderator, pointed out the importance of reducing the pressure on the environment and the non-renewable resources. The informative journey started with

the lectures of Doctors Gerson Beauchamp and Agustín Irizarry from the Department of Computing and Electrical Engineering, and Jorge González from Mechanical Engineering. Doctor Neftalí García, Director of "Servicios Científicos y Técnicos, Inc." and Doctor José Colucci, Dean of Research in the Engineering Faculty, also participated. The government perspective about this topic was offered by Doctor Javier Quintana, Administrator of the "Administración de

Asuntos de Energía". During the forum, the resident from the town of Rincón, Juan Luis Valentín, described his experience with windmills.



In the photo, Dr. Fernando Gilbes Santaella welcomed the forum attendees.

CoHemis directors travel to Spain: Olé RUM project

During February 26 to March 3 of 2006 doctors Fernando Gilbes Santaella and Carlos Ríos Velázquez traveled to Spain to visit the Universities that are part of the study program in the University of Puerto Rico, and denominated at UPRM as Olé-RUM. On this trip they visited Universidad de Salamanca, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, and la Universidad

Carlos III de Madrid. The CoHemis Directors also visited the Office of the University of Puerto Rico in Madrid and the Office of Commerce of Puerto Rico in Madrid. Two meetings were coordinated with UPRM students, one in Salamanca and other in Madrid, to talk to them and learn about their impressions of the study experience in Spanish institutions. This trip by the Directors has provided working tools to improve this important

initiative of the University of Puerto Rico.



The directors got together in a dinner with the students participants of Olé RUM in Madrid.

Fifteenth Anniversary of CoHemis

CoHemis was founded in November of 1991 during a conference sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. After NSF funding was finished, the University of Puerto Rico has continued funding CoHemis, together with the collaboration of cooperating institutions. In 1992, CoHemis began to form a hemispheric network of institutions committed to collaborate with the Center's mission and objectives. Actually, the CoHemis Consortium includes 47 institutions (35 universities and 12 institutions of science and technology) from 19 countries of the Americas, the Caribbean, and Spain. In November of 2006, CoHemis celebrates its Fifteenth Anniversary and multiple activities are planned. Stay tune to further details about our main celebration.