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Caribbean & Latin America GLOBE News

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III GLOBE Coordinators Meeting in Argentina

The second South America & Caribbean Coordinators Meeting that took place on July 1st, 2006 at the “Universidad de Ciencias Empresariales y Sociales” in Buenos Aires, Argentina was an example of what Latin America can do working together as a group and with a little help from our Spaniards and American friends. The organization of the event was a big plus for the Latin Region, with 13 countries participating and international

associations presenting their on going projects, experience with GLOBE, and the proposals and projections for the New Generation of the program. The “Lights of Buenos Aires” illuminated a new road of cooperation and partnership among the countries in a collaborative environment where teachers, students, scientists and friends made a successful mix for the benefit of our planet.

Caribbean & Latin America GLOBE Consortia at last!



After many years of meetings and panels the Caribbean and Latin American GLOBE partners constituted a consortia that will support and promote the projects, investigations, environmental awareness activities and cooperate in solving the problems, like funding, that affect the Latin GLOBE schools, they will also focus their interest in the use of their Spanish language

protocols that have meaning for the Region. The Committee decided to be a collaborative one so they will work as an interactive group with no directors, they will reach consensus decisions through cooperation of all the members, the consortia is divided in departments with a coordinator chosen according to his or her abilities and areas of expertise



"Due to a labor strike, problems with the system batteries, and weather conditions, the launch at Vandenberg Air Force Base didn't occurred..."

With A Little Pixie Dust: A Satellite Story

By María Lorraine de Ruiz-Alma

I met Dr. Debbie Krum in the 7th GLOBE Conference in Chicago back in 2002, she was so optimistic about a project called CLODSAT that she got all the attention of the international country coordinators including myself. Dr. Krumm was recruiting schools around the world to make an educational network that will help reveal the secrets of the clouds.

Many times the launching of the satellite was postpone, but every time we had a good feedback from the CLOUDSAT team with new activities and information. The expectations were great about the project.

The CALIPSO satellite joined the adventure and was going to be launched together with CLOUDSAT, a chat took place and the

GLOBE community was anxious with news about the future new members of the A-Train. Due to a labor strike, problems with the system batteries, and weather conditions the launch at Vandenberg Air Force Base didn't occurred as expected and the predictions were low for the next launching day. I wrote an e-mail to Dr. Krumm trying to raise the spirits of the team and told her that what they needed was a happy thought and a little pixie dust. She replied with renewed hope and assured me that she will sparkle some magic dust in the project. The next day the rocket launching was a total success, and we are now receiving reports from both satellites. A lot of work from the science team and a little bit of faith completed the job.

One Day in Los Andes

By PhD. Manfredo Langer

Hello dear friends, I send to you some pictures of our school's study site, it is a mountain zone in Los Andes of Central Chile, a zone that possesses a Mediterranean weather, the dominant vegetation of the site is an Sclerotic Forest we can find species like: the Peumo, the Quillay, the Litre, the Alcaparra, the Colliguai, the Tebo, among others, this species share the characteristics of been evergreens, of having lustrous and hard leaves and a high grade of endemism. The students had done their studies of land cover, soil analysis, and had taken interesting hydrology measurements that they sent to the GLOBE server.

Generally the sites we choose are between the 800 and 1,100 meters above the sea level, the geographic coordinates are 36° South and 70° West.

On Saturday, September 2nd on our

hydrology site we had the following measurements: water temperature 8 °C, pH of 7,5 with an absolute transparency on the turbidity tube and the dissolved oxygen reached the 8 ppm (mg/l). In the school's weather station the maximum temperature was 17 degrees Celsius and the minimum of 7 , the humidity was 42%, and the sky was covered with altostratus with a 90% cloud cover. I hope we can share more information with our friends in Uruguay.



Workshop in Arica, Chile

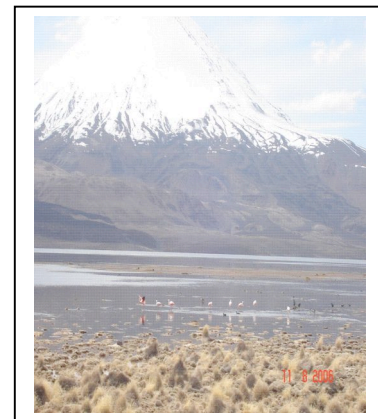
In the second week of August 2006, in Arica Chile's northernmost city, just 12 miles from the Peruvian border, city of the honorable professor Viviana Zamorano, a GLOBE workshop took place. Arica, that means *new opening*, has a mild climate a rarity in the Atacama desert.

The view and the places had an almost mystic charm with ruins of ancient cultures and the famous Lauca National Park, where the Chungara Lake is, the highest in the world with 4,500 meters above the sea. Many animal species like vicuña, alpaca, ñandú and chinchilla and old volcanoes are other attractions of the area.

The teachers where trained in the basic protocols and the enthusiasm where high surrounded with such magnificent views. Valeria Fuentealba, GLOBE Country Coordinator in Chile, made a wonderful work and didn't miss any effort so all the

teachers that participated had the best of attentions and all the requirements for making a fructiferous work.

PhD. Manfredo Langer, one of the GLOBE professors and a Master Trainer candidate, proposed that the encounters with students should be increased to shared investigations work through video conference using the SKYPE Program, to stimulate the young ones to a more compromised work and to make closer the different geographical realities of the Latin American region.



The Chungara Lake the highest in the world....

GLOBE Workshop in Santo Domingo Implemented New Schedule.

A new schedule was implemented in Santo Domingo for the GLOBE workshops, due to the difficulty that most of the teachers face when taking one week of trainings, the basic protocols workshop was divided in five consecutive Saturdays, with field trips for hydrology and soil investigations.

"It is quite convenient for the teachers and specially for the school's staff, directors and supervisors are more relax at the beginning of the weekend" said Maria Lorraine de Ruiz-Alma lead trainer of the workshop. "They can even miss one Saturday and replace it when the workshop cycle begins again".

"With this improvement we can reach the directors, deans, and science head teachers, an important asset to ensure the stability of the program in the schools."

In this workshop 5 school's principals and two deans where trained with the teachers from 6 education centers.

"I will miss my classes on Saturdays, I felt younger studying again with fellow educators, as a principal is good to be back in the classroom with hands on science activities" said Delores Sánchez a new GLOBE Principal.

One of the training techniques that made an impression in the educators was the inquiry method, where a collaborative work could be encouraged with the help of all the study group.



C.L.A.G. HERALD

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AMERICA GLOBE NEWS

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Latin Presence in Thailand at the Annual Conference

By María del Carmen Galloni

On July 29th, 2006 the International GLOBE Advisors Committee had an annual meeting in Phuket, Thailand. The Caribbean and Latin America Consortia was presented and the roles of the coordinators that integrated it as well. The New Generation of GLOBE was the central topic, focused on the regional promotion of the program and the contri-

butions of the consortia. More leadership and responsibility with the program and the importance of collaborative work in the regions will help each country develop an effective approach when implementing GLOBE. Sustainability of the program, the roles of the coordinators, consortia, agency and staff were also presented.

Uruguay GLOBE Students Won Special Mention in National Science Fair.



GLOBE students of teacher Patricia Piriz, from Uruguay won a special honor mention in the National Science Clubs Fair with their work, "Observing the Clouds". The pictures collected by the students where an international cooperation of Chile, Dominican Republic and U.S.A.

"Our teacher presented the GLOBE Program at the beginning of the year, and we started to watch clouds with a lot of enthusiasm. We had to study a lot to know about cloud cover, and cloud formation. We investigate if in other parts of the world we can see the same clouds and we contacted many GLOBE members and classified the pictures they sent us." Said Camila Massa one of the students.

On October 10th and 11th they had the opportunity to express all their knowledge of clouds and received a special award for their scientific thought, creativity, abilities, clarity and applicability in the "Science Clubs Fair" sponsored by the "Dirección de Innovación, Ciencia y Tecnología para el Desarrollo del Ministerio de Educación y Cultura". Cultivating the scientific understanding of the Earth and increasing the environmental awareness are common goals of the GLOBE Program that these students and their teacher clearly achieved with honors.