



DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION PRESS RELEASE

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Two Belizeans receive top EU scholarship awards under EU scholarship program

Two Belizeans are among recipients of top scholarship awards offered under the European Union's Erasmus Mundus program. The awardees Leo Koop and German Lopez, graduates of the University of Belize will pursue Masters Degrees in Europe which will begin in September.

Mr. Koop has been awarded a two year study at the Technische Universitat Berlin in Germany; he will major in Computer Simulation for Science and Engineering while Mr.Lopez will attend the Bangor University in the United Kingdom for a similar period of study in Sustainable Forest and Nature Management.

The scholarship awards will cover monthly allowances, tuition, registration costs and insurance costs.

Erasmus Mundus, the EU's only scholarship program, is open to graduate students and institutions across the globe. It operates under three main components, with the objective of assisting individual students, tertiary institutions and organisations active in the field of higher education. In relation to students, the main objective is to promote accessibility to Europe's top universities and help improve the career prospects of students by enabling them to study abroad at top-class institutions. The program also helps to promote intercultural understanding.

The second component which focuses on higher education institutions assists universities to implement joint programs at the postgraduate level or set-up inter-institutional partnerships between themselves and universities in Europe and targeted Third-Countries. Under the third component, organisations active in the field of higher education who wish to develop projects aimed at enhancing the attractiveness, profile, visibility and image of European higher education institutions also qualify for funding.

Mr. Koop and Mr. Lopez join several Belizeans who have benefitted from the program since its inception in 2004.

Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Jamaica and Belize Ambassador Paola Amadei extends her congratulations to both students and is urging students and institutions in Belize to seize the opportunities offered under the program.

"Erasmus Mundus illustrates the level of success that can be achieved through cooperation in education and the fact that there is no cap on the number of awardees per region or country means that more benefits can be accrued from desirable applicants."

For more information on Erasmus Mundus please access: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/erasmus_mundus/index_en.php or contact:

Jodi Brown-Lindo @jodi.brown-lindo@eeas.europa.eu
