

JONI VALENCIA MILLER

Caye Caulker, Belize
Belizean Resident Status. Dual Canadian and American Citizenship

EDUCATION

- 2005 **Master of Education – Educational Policy Studies**
University of Alberta, Alberta, Canada
Thesis: An examination of developing skills and attitudes of Canadian pre-service teachers who taught a first practicum overseas in Mexico and Trinidad, and their second in multi-cultural multi-linguistic Canadian classrooms.
- 1997 & 1998.
Sept-Jan **Certificate – Advanced Spanish Language**
Escuela Cabaguil, Antigua, Guatemala
- 1996 **Post-Degree Professional Program – Secondary Teacher Education Degree**
University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
- 1993 **Bachelor of Arts – First-Class**
Double Major: French Language and European History
University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada
- 1990 **Certificate – French Language, History and Culture**
La Sorbonne Université IV, Paris, France

EDUCATION ADMINISTRATOR

- 2008-present **Founder of Caye Caulker Ocean Academy, Belize, Central America**
The first and only community high school on Caye Caulker: www.cayecaulkerschool.com
As co-founder and volunteer, I have assumed multiple ongoing roles and responsibilities:
- Grant Writer and Fundraiser
 - Public relations: e-newsletter, press releases, annual report and blog webmaster
 - Teacher interviewer and hirer
 - Instructional leader and professional development trainer
 - Coordinator of Volunteers: international individuals and groups, and Belizean students
 - Faculty Advisor and founder of Interact Club of Ocean Academy (Rotary movement)
 - Classroom teacher: Spanish, Social Studies, I.T (both students and Adult Night Classes)

SERVICE-LEARNING PROJECT LEADER

- 2011
to present **Project Leader:** Belize and Costa Rica
Peacework.org, USA
- The Peacework International Village Network links Universities, Corporations and Communities to alleviate conditions of poverty and promote peace and prosperity through economic development partnerships.
- 2010
January-May **Country Director** for University of Vermont (UVM) Belize Semester Abroad Program
Community Development and Applied Economics Department, UVM
- Instructor for *Maximizing Your Belizean Experience*: culture shock, cross-cultural interactions and reflections. Co-Instructor of *Applications of Sustainable Development* ESCI-375 with Galen University and advisor for eight student-led service-learning projects in the Cayo area of Belize. I managed a \$33,000 USD budget, and co-organized three overnight field trips.

2008 March, July, August
Country Director: Havana, Cuba
Blyth & Company, Canada

High school students from across Canada volunteered at the CUJAE University in Havana, Cuba. Daily tasks: painting an HIV/AIDS clinic, photography literacy projects, cross-cultural activities with Cuban students. I managed two sessions, each with a \$4300 USD budget.

2007 July to Sept.
Project Leader: Alto Choco Cloud Forest, Ecuador
International Student Volunteers, USA

Daily tasks included using machetes to remove invasive species, reforestation of native species, making adobe bricks, teaching environmental principles to school children, and hiking to monitor wildlife. I led seminars 3x/week on themes of conservation and community development and submitted University-credit grades to a UCLA affiliate professor.

2001 to 2007
Teacher and International Trip Leader: Global Perspectives Career Preparation Program
Stelly's Senior Secondary, Saanichton, British Columbia, Canada

- 2007 Accha Baja, Sacred Valley, Peru. Construction of a community preschool
- 2005 San Ignacio, Belize. Assisted with construction of cancer clinic
- 2004 Hopkins Village, Belize. Built preschool and park playgrounds; literacy camp
- 2003 Havana, Cuba. Revitalized community playground and mural
- 2002 Toronto, Canada. Organized cultural activities for children at Romero Refugee House
- 2001 Costa Rica. Conducted leatherback turtle research; Reforestation project

1997-2003 July & Aug.
Leadership Team (Administration): Student Services and Activities
Saanich Summer English Language Academy, Victoria, British Columbia

I worked collaboratively with four activities staff and ten teachers to organize and lead group excursions and socio-cultural activities for 150 teens from Quebec, Mexico. Responsible for Community Volunteering Workshop, training and supervising local teen volunteers, publishing the activity calendar and student handbook.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS RELEVANT TO MANAGING PROJECTS IN BELIZE

- Speak fluent English, Spanish and French. Understand Belizean Kriol. Know a few phrases of Garifuna.
- Research Assistant for Moon Handbooks Belize 8th Edition (2009) and 9th Edition (2011): San Pedro, Caye Caulker, Belize City chapters
- Wilderness First Aid (40 hours training) and Emergency First Responder
- PADI Rescue Scuba Diver, PADI Advanced and Open Water, Coral Conservation and Fish I.D. certifications
- Board Member and Volunteer Coordinator with FAMRACC (Forest and Marine Reserves Association of Caye Caulker , 2009-present (www.famracc.org)).
- In-Country contact for Belize Literacy Project (2010-present). Liason between Belize Ministry of Education, Belize Rotary Clubs and Rotary District #5370 in Alberta, Canada

EDUCATOR

2011- Current
Faculty Associate with the Institute for Sustainable International Studies, ISIS Belize, San Ignacio, Belize

2008- 2010
Teacher: Spanish, Social Studies, Computers, Swimming (Forms I and II)
Adult Night-Class Instructor: Introduction to Computers and I.T., Spanish
Ocean Academy, Caye Caulker, Belize

- 1997 –
to 2008 **Teacher: Spanish, French, English, Global Perspectives (equivalent to Forms I-IV)**
Stelly's Senior Secondary, Saanichton, British Columbia
- 1993-1994 **English Language Teaching Assistant: Ministry of Education**
Toulouse, France
- 1993
July & Aug. **Cultural Activities Leader: Adult Summer English Language Program**
University of Victoria English Language Centre, British Columbia
- 1992-1993 **French Language Monitor: Computer Assisted Language Lab**
University of Victoria French Department, British Columbia

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FACILITATOR

- August 31
2011 **Professional Development Facilitator: School-Wide Behaviour Management Plan**
Caye Caulker Roman Catholic Primary School Administration and Staff
- August 8-19
2011 **Professional Development Facilitator: Curriculum, Assessment, Behaviour, Engagement**
Caye Caulker Ocean Academy Administration and Staff
- August 1-5
2011 **Professional Development Facilitator: Curriculum, Assessment, Behaviour, Engagement**
Belize Literacy Project and Ministry of Education
BelizeCity: 31 Primary-School Principals and 15 New Teachers
- July 6-15
2011 **Project Leader: Financial Literacy Training Camps**
Peacework, Belize Ministry of Education, PwC (Price Waterhouse Coopers)
Belize City primary-school students
- 2004-2005 **Student-Teacher Supervisor**
Stelly's Senior Secondary, Saanichton, B.C. , Canada
- 2003-2005 **Head of Department for Modern Languages**
Stelly's Senior Secondary, Saanichton, B.C., Canada
- 2004
August **“Global Education Institute for Workshop Facilitators and Curriculum Development Mentors” organized by CIDA/BCTF, Vancouver B.C.**

(Canadian International Development Agency; British Columbia Teachers' Federation)
Workshop presenter to colleagues: “Global connections in & beyond the classroom”
Lesson plans created for www.bctf.ca/social/GlobalEd/GlobalClassroom/