Greetings from Belize:

I am an ecologist and enthobotanist from Belize, Central America. My research looks at how Creole people in Belize have used plants for medicinal and cultural purposes. I am also very involved in the management of Belize’s protected areas. In the past I have taught at the university level and worked with many international student groups.

I am now working with the Institute for Sustainable International Studies (ISIS) to offer, with other faculty, some exciting field courses for the summer of 2011. This is an excellent opportunity for students to earn college credit, gain valuable practical experience, and of course, do it all in Central America’s conservation capital, Belize. Our summer field program includes the following courses in ecology, botany and horticulture (and we offer more in other areas):

- Tropical Forest Ecology and Eco-systems
- Ornithology in the Tropics – Birds of Belize
- Introduction to Tropical Horticulture and Botany
- Natural Toxins: Flora and Fauna of Central America

Our courses combine classroom lectures with field work and field trips. Students have many opportunities for hands-on learning, including plant collection and identification (with the Belize Botanic Gardens), learning to identify birds by sight and sound, rapid ecological assessments, working with communities on conservation, and trips to many types of environments across Belize.

This year’s summer program is offered during in two sessions over June and July. The courses are described in more detail in the attached flyer. Students take two intensive courses over the period of one month. The fee for the program is $3975, which includes tuition, field trips, housing and local transportation. Please circulate this flyer to others who may have an interest in botany, ethnobotany, forestry, horticulture, or ecology. The syllabi are available online through the organization with which I work, the Institute for Sustainable International Studies (ISIS), www.isisbelize.com. Cynthia Reece, our Program Manager with ISIS, will respond to questions related to housing, travel planning, course costs, and custom programs, creece@isisbelize.com

There are also opportunities with ISIS for faculty to teach or bring their
own students groups to Belize. I will be happy to answer any academic or professional questions you have, so please feel free to email me, cyoung@isisbelize.com.

Sincerely,
Colin Young, Ph.D.
Ecologist and Ethnobotanist