

PARTNERS IN PROGRESS

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Interview with Mr. Ralph Richardson Collaboration Committee and Community Education and Development Sub-Committee

An influential member of the B.TEC team, Mr. Ralph Richardson, Executive Director of the ACE Foundation, has been a major contributor of time, energy, and resources over the years. He is a member of the B.TEC Steering Committee, Co-Chair of the Collaboration Committee, and Co-Chair of the Community Education and Sub-Committee. He believes that B.TEC has played a key role in helping him to understand the dynamics of Private Public partnerships. He also finds that he is keenly interested in the development of the students in our public schools. He also feels that a significant benefit of being a

member of the Community Education and Development Sub-Committee is its primary role in introducing potential partners and stakeholders to BTEC, saying, "The committee is a wonderful opportunity for those who enjoy promoting success amongst our students".

Mr. Richardson is a firm believer in a good education. He is ecstatic to see the successes of the students first hand. "It is always a joy to see young people succeed when they may not have had a chance". He is proud of the efforts of all those who have laboured to make B.TEC what it is today. Mr. Richardson believes that B.TEC can help



students in all aspects of their lives and stating, "Technology is the way of the future. Those who have not developed skills in information technology will simply be left behind. B.TEC is helping to level the playing field for public school students hoping to achieve further education or entering the workforce". In describing the work of B.TEC, Mr. Richardson affirms "Advanced Learning via Technology Training".



Interview with Ms. Diane Gordon Community Education and Development Sub-Committee

Diane Gordon has been an integral part of the B.TEC family for the last two years. As Executive Vice President of the Bermuda Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Community Education & Development Sub-Committee of B.TEC, Ms. Gordon views IT as a critical element in the education of Bermuda's children. She is therefore committed to encouraging and supporting their future. She also has a personal interest in the island's youth; "I have been involved in education for a considerable period of time and I believe, as a consequence, I have value to add to B.TEC." Ms. Gordon's hand has been seen often in the work of B.TEC and the results have been

extraordinary. When asked how she feels about the success of the students taking B.TEC courses she told us, "Immense pride is what first comes to mind. Success of the students is what it is all about and the reason we, the private sector and other organizations, commit the time and energy into this initiative." Ms. Gordon believes wholly in B.TEC and stated that "A first hand visit to any of the students in the B.TEC courses would allow you to see the confidence, passion and pride which the students demonstrate as a consequence of their interaction with B.TEC." Ms. Gordon summed up the B.TEC program very concisely as "An Investment Into the Future!"





B.TEC/BSBDC Website Design Program

Nine students from the Berkeley Institute and CedarBridge Academy signed contracts with nine local businesses to provide website development services over the summer.

This was the result of a partnership between the Bermuda Technology Education Collaborative (B.TEC) and the Bermuda Small Business Development Corporation (BSBDC).

The students who have all taken courses in the B.TEC curriculum and Business studies courses used those computer design, web

development and marketing skills to assist the small business with their website development and marketing efforts.

Each student signed a contract with a local small business to provide these services.

Logic Communications, Gateway Systems and Sbi are three local companies that pledged to provide assistance to the students.

Gateway Systems offered their content management system to assist the students to structure and organize their workflow, while Logic

Communications and Sbi offered to assist with the more technical aspects of the website development.

Dr. Lynn Bak, B.TEC Steering Committee Co-Chair and a key driver of the concept, states, "our partnership with the BSBDC is a significant example of how successful collaboration efforts can be in promoting the talent of our youth in Bermuda. This partnership provides a way for B.TEC students to gain invaluable experience by offering their technology skills to small businesses in Bermuda. It is a win-win for all!"

DID YOU KNOW?

This is the 4th year that the BizCamps have been held in Bermuda!

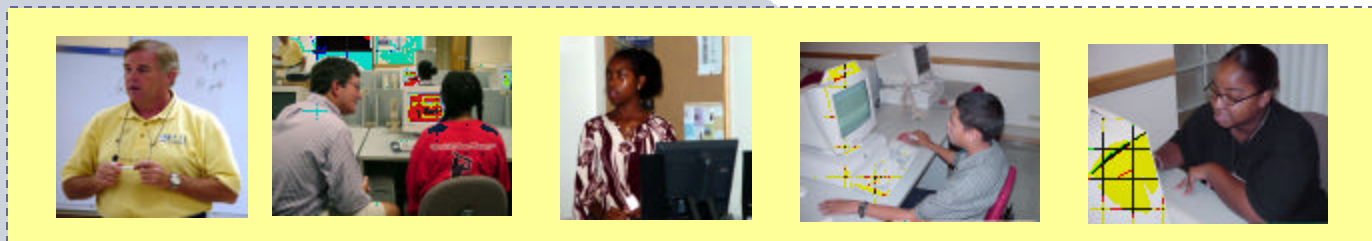
BizCamp 2004, A BIG SUCCESS!

Forty students participated in BizCamp 2004 at the Bermuda College during the first two weeks of July. The students spent 45 hours each week composing business plans, which they presented to a panel of judges from the business community. Education Minister, the Hon. Terry Lister and Telecommunications and E-Commerce Minister, the Hon. Michael Scott attended that awards ceremony and presented prizes. Joe Mahoney of the Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative of Bermuda handed out certificates to the students. A teen magazine for Bermudian girls, a boutique,

and a candy company won top honours at BizCamp. 'Gurl Magazine's Allison Tucker and Tiffany Trott from Teen Trends captured the senior school awards. In the middle school week, Matthew Tavares and Chris McCarron earned an award for their company, Sweet Things, a business that is already producing hard candies. The Ministry of Education and Development, the Ministry of Telecommunications and E-Commerce, the Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative of Bermuda and the Bermuda Technology Education Collaborative coordinated this year's event. Corporate sponsors



were the Bank of Bermuda Foundation, XL Foundation, Allied World Assurance Company and Renaissance Reinsurance. David Lang, Bank of Bermuda Foundation spokesperson said, "The BizCamps are a great way to give practical encouragement to future Bermudian entrepreneurs and we are happy to support them."



Upcoming Events... *Mark your calendars!*

2004

September

- School Orientation Presentations

October

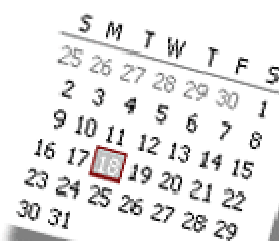
- 23rd - Education Expo 2004 at CedarBridge Academy

November

- 8th & 9th Teacher Professional Development Days

December

- 17th End of Term for Students



TeleBermuda Provides Free Internet to All Public Schools

TeleBermuda International has agreed to extend the provision of free Internet services to Bermuda's public schools for another two years. TBI first agreed to provide free Internet services to the schools in June 2001. This two-year extension represents a total investment of \$650,000 in public education over five years. This investment will go a long way to assist teachers as they continue to provide children with first class instruction using the most modern tools available.

Initially four (4) T1's of free Internet bandwidth was

provided to CedarBridge Academy. This served as the network hub. From there the Internet was distributed to all primary, middle and senior schools. Over the first three-year period from 2001-2004, this free Internet service represented a corporate contribution of approximately \$500,000 by TBI to the Ministry of Education and Development.

After productive discussions with officials from the Ministry of Education and Development and B.TEC, TBI have agreed to extend this offer for another two years. This represents a

further investment in public education of approximately \$150,000.

The Ministry of Education and Development and B.TEC are committed to enhancing the learning experiences of students. This extension of free Internet services allows for the continued system-wide rollout of network and Internet connectivity. This means that students have access to a technology-rich learning environment, a requirement in today's world.



Mr. Jim Ivey, I.T. Substitute Program

Jim Ivey, Director of Marketing at TeleBermuda International, has been involved with the I.T Substitute Program from its inception. He choose to become a part of the program due to his interest in working with the students, and to give back to the community by sharing and accelerating technology knowledge within the Bermuda public school system. TeleBermuda has also contributed with its donation of high-speed Internet bandwidth to the schools for the past three years and a further extension of the donation for an additional two years. Mr. Ivey has been a tremendous advocate in his work with the students and teachers. When asked does he enjoy being an IT substitute he said, "Being an IT substitute is thoroughly enjoyable. The students demonstrate a keen desire to learn and that is reflected in the work that they produce and the questions they ask. You can tell the students appreciate what you are sharing with them and that makes it all the more worthwhile."



Mr. Ivey has received positive feedback from the Computer Science teachers regarding the program and his participation in it. They feel that the program is well structured and advanced, in some cases beyond expectations. The involvement of the IT substitutes brings a sense of real-world application into the classroom, which helps to engage the students and provides a sense of purpose for the information that is being taught.

Mr. Ivey hopes that the students will gain a broad understanding of technology and its application, regardless of the career paths they choose. For those that do want to focus on a technology related career, he hopes they will have established a solid foundation through the B.TEC course work.

