2008 Nicaragua Team

Socio-Economic Reality in Central America
May 13 to 24, 2008
This year's team

Breanne Boldt
Trisha Breen
Steve Carlson
Kate Daniels
JP Helgens
Josh Mahoney
Molly McKim
Jessica McNaul
Tory Medinger
Kelly Nessa
Natalie O'Neill
Schuylar Oordt
Tiffany Shafer
Michelle Thomas
Jenny Wagner

Instructor Chris Schrage
TESOL Intern - Holly Gleich
Departing and Arriving
First Day Speakers

✦ Meeting team leaders
Harold Blandon and Kayon
✦ Gilberto Aguirre shares about Nicaragua’s history
✦ Anita Taylor shares about CEPAD’s vision
Zip-lining over a volcanic lake in Managua
Plaza de Paz
Fair Trade Zone Cooperative

Twelve women built a cooperative organization for making organic cotton t-shirts and baby clothing. Now the only free standing Fair Trade Organization worldwide.
Welcome to Siares

🎉 Pastor Antonio
🎉 Angela Kuant
🎉 Lester Hernandez
🎉 Wilfredo Hernandez
🎉 - Interpreter-Kayon
Guadalupe

- Meeting with the Psicosocial group that works with abused and under performing children
- Presentation of more books for the UNI library funded in 2007
CEPANA Training Facility

New training auditorium
Learning how to improve soil naturally
New water purification system

Located at Samulali
Angela Kuant’s Farm

Learning about organic coffee processing, diversification of farm produce for balanced (albeit low) income.
Participation in local church

On Sunday morning the group participated in one of Nicaragua’s deep cultural traditions—attending church. The group sang four songs during the service.
Reforestation Project

Over a 3 day period the UNI students, teachers and students of Ruben Dario #2 School in Siares, and parents of the school children worked to plant 640 trees. The young trees were seedlings grown by older students in Siares over the previous 9 months.

Not only did the dry season end with a wonderful rain just hours after planting the last tree, the school was given an award for the project.
Teaching English

To begin a 10 week English training, the group helped Holly Gleich with the initial lessons. Holly stayed in Siares until July 25. She continued teaching the initial group and also a small group of youth on Saturday mornings.
Host Families

Maria Hernandez and her six children, Lenin, Jr., Jaquelin, Caitlin, Gerald, and Hazel shared their home with Bre, Natalie, Trish, and Molly.

Angela Kuant graciously let nine of us stay in her home—Kate, Kelly, Tiffany, Holly, Michelle, Chris, Jessica, Tory, and Jenny.

Lester and Paola Hernandez opened their home for the “guys”—Josh, Steve, Sky, and J.P.
2008 Capstone in Nicaragua
Francisco, founder and director of Rancho Ebenezer shared how the agricultural training center works. An area known as PATIO, which is the typical amount of land a family would have to grow their nutritional needs is set up for teaching. Information was also shared on the biogas project turning hog manure into gas for cooking.
Last night- finally PIZZA