UBC Certificate in International Development wins prestigious UPCEA program award

The University Professional & Continuing Education Association (UPCEA) has awarded the 2013 International Program of Excellence Award to the University of British Columbia Continuing Studies’ Certificate in International Development program.

The International Program of Excellence Award recognizes innovation, creativity, and commitment in achieving international impact and furthering the internationalization of the field of professional and continuing education.

Since 1953, UPCEA has recognized its members’ outstanding achievements by presenting annual awards in innovative programming, marketing and promotion, community development and services, and research and publications. There are over 350 UPCEA member institutions, including most of the leading public and private colleges and universities in North America.

Created in 2005, the UBC Certificate in International Development was developed to meet the growing need for trained professionals to gain additional skills and knowledge to work successfully in global environments. The 100% online curriculum (with the exception of the field study elective course) allows students to learn whenever and wherever they may be around the world.

“Because our program is offered online, students from different countries are able to discuss everything from health, education and best practices to project management, leadership and multicultural teamwork. It provides flexibility and accessibility to all students,” says Joenita Paulrajian, Program Manager, UBC Continuing Studies Centre for Intercultural Communication.

Another unique aspect of the program is the field study elective course, which in 2012 was held in Natal, Brazil. The week-long study gave students the opportunity to learn hands-on training in development issues from the perspective of Brazilian theorists and practitioners. “It’s inspiring to see people from diverse backgrounds, exploring different approaches and seeking practical solutions to development problems,” says Joenita. “We are honoured to receive this prestigious award and we hope our program will continue to grow and serve the diverse needs of students and communities in this field.”

For more information, please see www.upcea.edu.
Background

About the University of British Columbia
UBC, established in 1908 and located in Vancouver, is one of North America’s largest public research and teaching institutions. It is ranked 25th among the world’s top 100 universities, according to the 2012 Times Higher Education Reputation Rankings.

About Continuing Studies
As an academic unit within the University, UBC Continuing Studies collaborates with a wide range of campus and community partners to offer academic programs for adult learners. With over 13,000 students annually, UBC Continuing Studies offers a diverse array of programs that include more than 90 online courses and over 20 professional certificate programs.

For more information, view cstudies.ubc.ca/int-dev.

If you’d like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Joenita Paulrajan, please contact Madeleine de Trenquale at 1.604.822.1466 or email madeleine.detrenquale@ubc.ca.