

CHAPTER VI

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS & CELEBRATING LEADERSHIP

2012 Homecoming Celebrations

The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus hosted its annual Homecoming and Commemoration Celebrations during the period February 16-19, 2012. This year's celebration was of particular significance, as it marked the 50th anniversary of Jamaica's independence, as well as commemorated the 50th anniversary of the UWI's transition from being a College of the University of London established in 1948, to a full-fledged degree granting institution in its own right in 1962. For that reason, the 2012 Celebrations focused on the Graduating Class of 1962. Professor Orlando Patterson, a member of the 1962 UCWI graduating class and the John Cowles Professor of Sociology at Harvard University, emerged as this year's honouree for his outstanding scholarship and international contribution to the dialogue on issues of culture, race and society.

The annual UWI, Mona Homecoming Celebrations have traditionally been dedicated to an individual who has achieved local, regional or international recognition in his or her field, or who has made a significant contribution to the university.

Prince Harry Visits the Mona Campus

On March 6, 2012 the UWI, Mona Campus hosted His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Wales, popularly known as Prince Harry. The visit formed part of official celebrations by the British Monarchy in commemoration of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, The Queen, on the 60th anniversary of her coronation as Queen of England. During his visit, Prince Harry toured facilities at the Mona Bowl for Sporting Excellence, interacting with the Hon Usain Bolt and other athletes from the Racers Track Club and UWI, Mona track team, as well as students from schools in the surrounding communities.



Professor Orlando Patterson making a presentation at the special UWI Homecoming 2012 luncheon, held in celebration of the UWI's and Jamaica's 50th Anniversary.



Professor Gordon Shirley and the Hon Usain Bolt share a moment with Prince Henry of Wales at the UWI, Mona Bowl for Sporting Excellence on March 6, 2012.

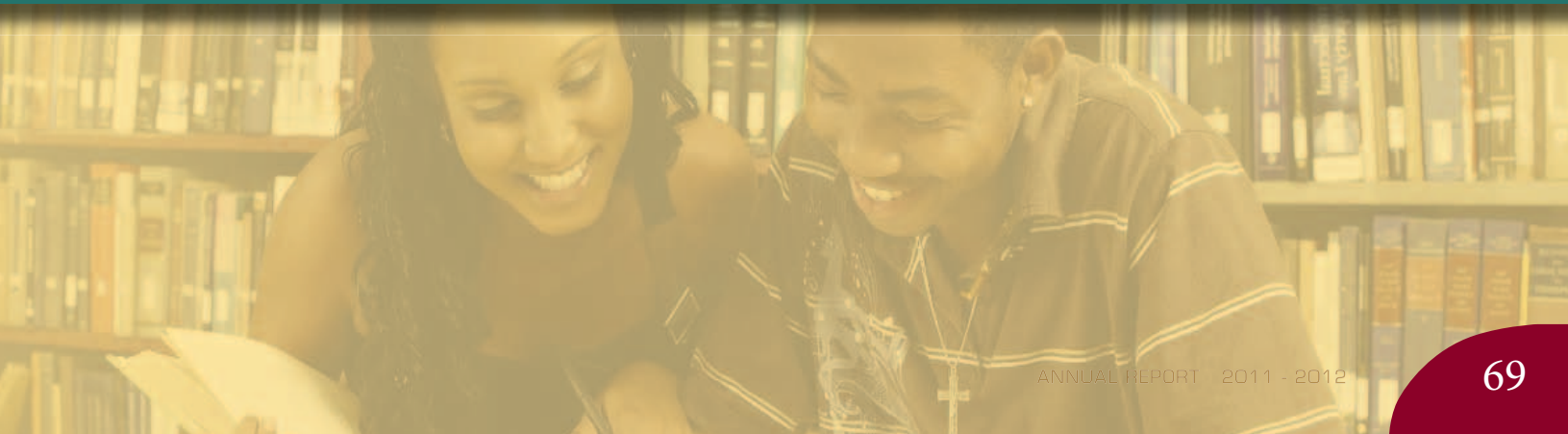


The Hon. Natalie Neita-Headley, Minister without Portfolio (Sports) in the Office of the Prime Minister and Professor Gordon Shirley, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of UWI, Mona with Prince Henry of Wales at the UWI, Mona Bowl for Sporting Excellence on March 6, 2012, on the occasion of his official visit to Jamaica to commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

Prince Harry subsequently toured facilities at the new Faculty of Law building where, during a brief ceremony, he unveiled a plaque commemorating his visit. There, the Vice Chancellor conferred on him the title of Honorary Fellow to mark the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty, The Queen, and the 50th Anniversary of the University of the West Indies as a full-fledged degree granting institution, granted by Royal Charter. Additionally, he was awarded a silver medal with the inscription, "Presented to HRH, Prince Henry of Wales, on the occasion of his visit to the UWI, Mona, Jamaica, March 6, 2012."



Professor Gordon Shirley and Prince Henry of Wales at the unveiling of a plaque in honour of Her Majesty, The Queen's Diamond Jubilee at the newly established Faculty of Law building.





Statue of Mahatma Gandhi - a gift to the UWI from the people of India



Professor Gordon Shirley, PVC and Principal of UWI, Mona and then High Commissioner of India, His Excellency Mohinder Singh Grover sign the MOU for the establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indology/Gandhian Studies at Mona.

Chair in Indology/Gandhian Studies Established at Mona

On Thursday, July 12, 2012, the UWI, Mona Campus hosted an unveiling ceremony for a statue of Mahatma Gandhi, which was erected in the Inspiration Garden at the Faculty of Humanities and Education. The Statue was a gift to the University from the people of India. It is intended to promote Gandhi's teachings of non-violence and human rights.

During this same period, the UWI, Mona Campus entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) for the establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indology/Gandhian Studies. The Chair will promote the study of the languages and literature, history and cultures of the Indian subcontinent, as well as the life and thought of Mahatma Gandhi, his predecessors and other social revolutionaries.



Professor Gordon Shirley and then High Commissioner of India, His Excellency Mohinder Singh Grover exchanged documents and shook hands after the signing of the MOU. Looking on were Professor Silvia Kouwenberg, Head, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy and Mr. Amil Saxena, Second Secretary, Indian High Commission.



The parties discussed the possibility of a training engagement between the Government of Antigua and Barbuda and the UWI, Mona Campus.

Official Visit of Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of State with Responsibility for Sports

In July 2012, Senator the Hon. Winston Williams, Antigua and Barbuda's Minister of State with responsibility for Sports, National School Meals Service and Special Projects came to Jamaica on an official visit. During the visit, the Office of Prime Minister of Jamaica facilitated meetings with selected tertiary institutions, to discuss possible arrangements for training of coaches and athletes from Antigua and Barbuda beginning September 2012.



The Government of Antigua and Barbuda was seeking to operationalise this plan through Government to Government Scholarship arrangements or direct agreements with institutions including the University of the West Indies, through its Sports Department and IAAF High Performance Centre.

Mr. Dalton Myers, Student Services and Development Manager for Sports, shake hands with Senator the Hon. Winston Williams, Minister of State with responsibility for Sports, National School Meals Service and Special Projects, Antigua and Barbuda, on his arrival at the UWI, Mona Campus, as Dr. Camille Bell-Hutchinson, Campus Registrar looks on.



Dr. Parris Lyew-Ayee, Director of the Mona Geo Informatics Institute; Dr. Derrick McKoy, Dean of the Faculty of Law; and Professor Gordon Shirley, PVC and Principal of UWI, Mona, engage in a conversation with Professor Keith Hoggart, Vice Principal (International), Kings College, London.



Dr. Barbara Carby, Director of the Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction; Mrs. Elizabeth Mullings-Smith of Kings College, London; and Professor Ishenkumba Kahwa, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology share a laugh at a luncheon hosted in honour of the visiting delegation from Kings College.

Kings College, London Delegation Visits UWI

As part of efforts to develop Kings College's global networks of research and collaboration, a team from the London, UK based university, headed by Professor Keith Hoggart, Vice-Principal (International), visited the UWI in July 2012. While here the group engaged in

discussions with UWI Vice Chancellor Professor E. Nigel Harris, PVC and Principal of UWI, Mona Professor Gordon Shirley, and members of various faculties at the Mona Campus. The discussions focussed on collaborations on programmes as well as research in sustainable development, cultural studies and in vitro fertilization, among other areas.

