

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES



Dr. Paulette Kerr, BA, MA *UWI*, PhD *Rutgers*
Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

During the academic year 2013–14 the Department continued to review and enhance the quality of its offerings, focused on implementing aspects of year 2 of its Operational Plan, while addressing matters of the Action Plan of the Quality Review. A number of initiatives which were started in 2012–13 year were completed. Highlights of the year include:

- DLIS/UNESCO Experts Meeting towards developing a graduate Programme in Archives/Records Management
- Hosting of two Research Fora to showcase LIS research
- MPhil/PhD Programme overhauled and reinstated
- Research on Media and Information Literacy funded by the Mona Principal's Research Initiative Grant
- Staging of the 3rd Ken Ingram Memorial Lecture

Department of Library and Information Studies

- Participation in UNESCO MILID Student Exchange Programme
- Articulation discussions with Council of Community Colleges in Jamaica re DLIS and Associate degree in LIS.
- Curriculum review and enhancement
 - o Created new graduate course in Legal Information Resource Management
 - o Overhaul of graduate course in management to meet recommendations of the Quality Review
 - o Continued overhaul of technology courses: Developed new course in Information Architecture
 - o Created new undergraduate course in preservation management
- Departmental Retreat which included a one-day workshop on Holistic Rubric Setting and Grade Descriptors
- Outreach activities to the Caribbean

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Curriculum Review and Enhancement

The Department continued the review of courses to satisfy the demands of the QAR and to ensure that students are equipped with requisite competencies for the LIS profession.

New Courses Offered

As part of the process of updating and creating technology courses, the following courses which were developed in 2012–13 to replace existing courses were approved and offered:

- Information Technology for Information Professionals
- Technology in Libraries: Database Design and Management

New Courses Developed

- Information Architecture: Web access and Usability
- Preservation Management for Information Units

B.Ed School Librarianship Programme

Following recommendations from the QAR, the Department did a complete review of the B.Ed. School Librarianship programme (69 credits) in consultation with the School of Education. While DLIS had developed a 90-credit programme as recommended, at a meeting on November 13, 2013 it was decided that this would not be feasible based on the requirements of the new Education Code for the practice of teachers and teacher/librarians. Persons would need to complete over 100 credits with the majority being education courses. The decision was therefore taken to put this programme on hold. Subsequent to this, the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education advised that further investigation should be done with the School of Education.

Articulation of courses with the Council of Community Colleges in Jamaica (CCCJ)

After a series of meetings with representatives of the CCCJ, plans towards articulation between the Associate Degree in Library and Information Studies and DLIS are soon to be formalised. A process of rigorous course examination was carried out by the DLIS with support from the Departments of Modern Languages and Literatures, and Language, Linguistics and Philosophy. Dr. Christine Marrett from the UWI's Central Office for Regional and International Affairs (CORIA) provided advice on the University's perspective in the process. Based on the UWI requirements the Evaluation Form for Associate Degree Courses must now be completed for each of the courses in the programme to be articulated. The completion of the evaluation form requires a number of documents that must be submitted such as: examination questions, sample scripts and teacher profiles. The submission of these documents is now in progress, after which the lecturers ratifying the courses will be given the documents to complete the form.

Archives/Records Management Programme

The UNESCO funded Experts Meeting towards developing a Programme

in Archives and Records Management was held September 9–10, 2013 at the Mona Visitors' Lodge. The team, led by Prof. Jeannette Bastian of Simmons College, USA, included the UWI Archivist, Mr. John Aarons; Assistant Archivist, Dr. Stanley Griffin; Mona Campus Records Manager, Ms. Sonia Black; the Government Archivist, Ms. Claudette Thomas; Head of the Federal and University Archives, Cave Hill Campus, Mrs. Sharon Alexander-Gooding and Ms. Cherrri-Ann Beckles representing the Caribbean Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA); Government Archivist for Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Avril Belfon; Director of National Archives in St. Kitts & Nevis, Mrs. Victoria Borg O'Flaherty and Dr. Kelvin White, representing the International Council on Archives (ICA) Section of Archival Education and Training. The intensive two-day meeting led to the development of a preliminary programme in Archives and Records Management slated to begin September 2015. The deliberations which were informed by a Feasibility Study conducted throughout the Caribbean (English, Spanish, French and Dutch as mandated by UNESCO), also made recommendations towards the successful implementation of the programme. These include the appointment of a Programme Coordinator, Programme Advisory Committee and the promotion of the programme to an international market. Detailed course outlines are now being developed towards a Programme Proposal.

GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

MPhil/PhD in Library and Information Studies

As recommended by the Quality Review, the DLIS reinstated the MPhil/PhD in Library and Information Studies which had been dormant for over 15 years, and one applicant was accepted by the Office of Graduate Studies and Research in March 2014.

Blended Learning Initiatives: MALIS and MLIS Programmes

Dr. Paulette Stewart was afforded reduced teaching load to coordinate the development of the MALIS and MLIS programmes for blended

delivery. Successful proposals were presented to the FHE Graduate Subcommittee as well as the Campus Graduate Committee and mentioned at a meeting of Academic Board. The programmes which will be offered in simultaneous face-to-face and online modes and a mandatory face-to-face Summer component are slated to begin in September 2014. As part of the process, 22 course outlines were updated and advanced work has been carried out on developing content for online delivery for the following courses:

- Foundations of Library and Information Studies – 5 units out of 6 completed
- Trends and Issues in the Library and Information Environment – 4 units out of 5 completed
- Bibliography and Reference Methods and Materials – 2 units out of 6 completed
- Metadata and Resource Discovery – 2 units out of 9 completed
- Information Technology – 4 units out of 11 completed

While the programmes were approved in principle, the Department was restricted to taking applicants from Jamaica only.

Staff/Graduate Research Seminars

The Department continued its staff graduate seminars aimed at providing a collegial avenue for staff and graduate students to present research. A total of 7 sessions were held, organized by Dr. Paulette Stewart, Graduate Coordinator.

DLIS New Initiative Research

“Media and Information Literacy Levels at the Exit Stages of the Education System in Jamaican Schools”

In September, 2013, the department embarked on a research project being funded by the UWI Mona Principal’s New Initiative Grant. The project seeks to determine the levels of media and information literacy

among students at the exit stages of the education system in Jamaica. Through the use of purposive random sampling, data has been gathered from a total of nine hundred (900) students, three hundred (300) from each exit stage; namely: grades six (6), eleven (11) and thirteen (13), representing a total of twenty-nine (29) schools from across Jamaica.

The main goal of this undertaking is to inform national education policy as well as practice of media and information literacy education in Jamaica. Six postgraduate students from the Faculties of Humanities and Education and Social Sciences were recruited as research assistants to assist in data collection, coding and data entry. Upon completion of the final research report, publications will be developed and several public fora will be staged by the Department, where findings of the research project will be presented.

Research Fora

The Department hosted its first Research Forum under the theme, “Showcasing Research in Library and Information Science: Implications for Practice”. The forum was used to show-case library and information science research via 14 poster presentations from staff and graduate students of the DLIS, as well as information professionals from various libraries across Jamaica. Mr. Don Anderson from Market Research Services Limited shared highlights of his research projects as the Keynote Speaker.

The second Forum was held May 29, 2014 under the theme, “Research in Library and Information Studies: Charting the Course towards National and Regional Development”. Dr. Lawrence Nicholson from the Mona School of Business and Management was invited as the Keynote Speaker. Seven posters were presented.

UWI Research Days 2014

UWI Research Days 2014, held February 19–21, 2014 focused on the theme “Fostering Growth and Development in Small Island Developing States (SIDS).” The Department’s participation was ably coordinated by

the librarian, Ms. Paulette Bowen, which saw posters by staff displayed under focus area No. 2 – Issues Affecting the People and Institutions Driving Development, sub-theme Labour, Productivity and Human Resource Development.

Posters

- Stewart, Paulette. “Jamaican School Libraries Empowering Students with Life Skills: A Survey”
- Heath, Rosemarie. “Exploring ‘Voice’ in High School Curriculum-Based Research”
- Pellington, Beverley. “The Role of the School Library in the Jamaican E-Learning Project: A Survey of Teachers and Students”

Workshop

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington conducted a Workshop on “Nine (9) Steps to Maximizing Internal Assessment (IA) Scores” CAPE.

Staff Research

Dr. Paulette Stewart’s research “Jamaican School Libraries Empowering Students with Life Skills: A Survey” was highlighted and included in the Research for Development publication.

Research Activity and Output

The Department continues to enhance the research output of staff through a number of initiatives including setting of research agendas as well as regular research circles in which full time academic staff discuss and share research activity towards conference presentation and publication.

SEMINARS/PUBLIC LECTURES

Seminar for Teacher Librarians – December 4, 2013

On December 4, 2013, the DLIS and Library and Information Association

of Jamaica (LIAJA) collaborated in hosting a Symposium for school librarians entitled, “School Libraries: Agents of Change in the Educational System.” Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington and Dr. Paulette Stewart coordinated the event which provided training for school librarians in practice and acted as an outreach activity for the Department.

Workshops on Online Delivery

The Department hosted two workshops towards equipping staff for delivering in the blended modes. These were “Writing Courses for Online Delivery” on January 9–10, 2014, with presentations from MITS, Ms. Charmaine McKenzie and Dr. Paulette Stewart; “Writing Courses for Blended Learning” on February 15, 2014 with presentations from Ms. Charmaine McKenzie of the Open Campus.

Ken Ingram Memorial Lecture

The DLIS and the UWI Mona Library collaborated in hosting the 3rd Kenneth Ingram Memorial Lecture on April 3, 2014. The lecture entitled, “Navigating the Archive of Slavery” was presented by Prof. Emeritus Barry Higman, Visiting Professor in the Department of History and Archaeology in the Multifunctional Room, UWI Main Library.

Workshop on the MIL Curriculum for Teachers – February 20, 2014

The DLIS and CARIMAC hosted a workshop for teachers and librarians on aspects of the *UNESCO MIL Curriculum for Teachers*. The workshop aimed at sharing key aspects of the curriculum including deconstructing media, internet challenges, and teaching information literacy. Faculty from CARIMAC and DLIS made presentations to over 20 librarians and teachers from high schools and colleges across Jamaica.

International Partnerships

UNESCO/MILID Student Exchange Programme – February 15–21, 2014

The DLIS and CARIMAC participated in a UNESCO-UNAOC UNITWIN Student Exchange Programme on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue, (MILID University Network). Students Gemmel Drakes (DLIS) and Alpha Obika (CARIMAC) went to University of Sao Paulo, Brazil and the Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Morocco respectively. DLIS & CARIMAC hosted Breno Benedykt from the University of Sao Paulo. As part of the week of activities, the Department conducted a workshop on the UNESCO Media and Information Literacy curriculum for teachers. Feedback from all participants indicated that the programme was extremely rewarding.

UNESCO/MILID Workshop

The Department continued to support UNESCO's thrust in media and information literacy in the region. Dr. Paulette Kerr assisted with the facilitation of a workshop on Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue in the British Virgin Islands in December 2013.

St. John's University/UWI, DLIS

St. John's University/UWI, DLIS Immersion Programme did not materialize for the second year due to insufficient student uptake for the programme.

OUTREACH AND PROMOTION

Promotion of the Department through outreach activities continued through the year.

- Mrs. Rodney-Wellington shared highlights of the undergraduate programmes to students at the Immaculate Conception High School along with the UWI Recruitment team., September 26, 2013
- A similar promotional visit was made to Clarendon College along with the UWI Recruitment Team, November 28, 2013
- Students of the Department visited the Jonathan Stewart Library (a best-practice school library) at Campion College as part of their

learning objectives for LIBS3006 – Caribbean School and Public Libraries: Practice & Issues, November 25, 2013

- Open House at the UWI, Western Jamaica Campus included a number of promotional activities by the DLIS staff and undergraduate students. Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington and Dr. Rosemarie Heath held interviews about the undergraduate programmes offered by the DLIS as well as conducted workshops with 6th form students. Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson provided support on January 14 along with 3 DLIS undergraduate students were invited to be a part of the outreach team. The much-demanded workshop on improving CAPE Scores was offered on both days, January 13–14, 2014 UWI, Western Jamaica Campus

OUTREACH TO THE CARIBBEAN

Summer Workshops

The Department organized two workshops at the UWI Open Campus in Castries, St. Lucia. The first, “New Directions in Library Services” July 7–9, 2014 was aimed at library personnel working in school and public libraries. The second, “Teaching Media and Information Literacy” July 10, 2014, catered mainly to the needs of librarians and other library personnel as well as teachers, college lecturers and persons with responsibility for teaching media and information literacy. The presenters were Dr. Paulette Stewart and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson. A combined total of 22 persons attended the workshops.

In an attempt to promote an awareness of integrated library systems and their use within libraries, globally and in the Caribbean region, the Department organized a workshop entitled, “Introduction to Integrated Library Systems” on July 24, 2014. Eighteen persons were in attendance.

STAFF MATTERS

Academic Staff

Rigorous recruitment attempts continued throughout the year to address

staff needs in areas such as Information Management, Advanced cataloguing and Metadata as well as Archives and Records Management. While the efforts led to the initial appointment of qualified staff in these three areas, offers were rejected primarily on grounds of low salaries offered by UWI, Mona. After much innovation the Department was successful in the appointment of a lecturer in Information Technology Management. The work of the Department continued however with the distribution of academic staff being 4 full-time and 20 adjunct lecturers.

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington, Temporary Assistant Lecturer did not renew her contract with the University.

Retirement Function for Professor Fay Durrant

On April 15, 2014, the DLIS expressed its gratitude to Professor Fay Durrant, former Head of Department for her 12 years of service to the University with a Retirement Function in her honour at the Multifunctional Room, UWI Main Library. Prof. Durrant was honoured with tributes from members of the University community, the Library and Information community, as well as students and staff of the DLIS.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

The Department said goodbye to Ms. Marcia Ford, Library Assistant, after over 30 years with the University. Ms. Chonique Dempster joined as temporary secretary III.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Harris, Sasekea and Nicholas, Pauline.** “Literacy 4D @ Your Library: IFLA Market @ Your Library 2013.” IFLA WLIC Conference. Suntec Convention Centre, Singapore. August 2013.
- **Kerr, Paulette.** “Designing Media and Information Literacy Policies and Strategies.” UNESCO Consultative Workshop for Media and Information Specialists. Tortola, British Virgin Islands. December 2013.

- **Kerr, P.** “Theory of Action and Information Literacy: Critical Assessment towards Effective Practice.” ECIL Conference, Istanbul Turkey. October. 2013.
- **Kerr, P.** “Media and Information Literacy for OECS Policy Makers.” UNESCO Consultative Workshop, Castries, St. Lucia. July 2013.
- **Kerr, P.** “Key Directions in Information Literacy Education: Implications for Caribbean Libraries.” The Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean University Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL), Nassau, Bahamas, June 2014.
- **Rodney-Wellington, Kerry-Ann.** “The Impact of Information Literacy Skills Instruction on Grade Six Students’ Information-Seeking Activities: An Experimental Study.” Poster presented at the Department of Library and Information Studies Research Forum, October 2013.
- **Stewart, Paulette and Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington.** “Education for Sustainability: Jamaican and Antiguan School Libraries Facilitating the Development of Cognitive Ability.” Poster presented at the Department of Library and Information Studies Research Forum, May 29, 2014.
- **Stewart, Paulette.** “Jamaican School Libraries Empowering Students with Life Skills: A Survey”. IASL Conference. Bali, Indonesia. August. 2013.

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Book Chapters

- **Harris, Sasekea.** “Application of Cutting Edge Technologies in an Academic Cataloging Department: Linking Classroom with Practice.” *Cutting Edge Technologies and Academic Librarianship*. Ed. Anna Kaushik and Nirmal Kumar Swain. New Delhi: Ess Publications, 2014. 30–44.

Print.

- **Kerr, Paulette.** “Strategic Promotion and Expansion of Information Literacy Education: Professional Development and Outreach Programmes.” *Global Citizenship in a Digital World: MILID Yearbook 2014*. Ed. Sherri Culver and Paulette Kerr. Göteborg: NORDICOM, 2014. Print.
- **Kerr, P.** “Theory of Action and Information Literacy: Critical Assessment Towards Effective Practice.” *Worldwide Commonalities and Challenges in Information Literacy Research and Practice*. Ed. Serap Kurbanoglu, Esther Grassian, Diane Mizrahi, Ralph Catts, and Sonja Špiranec. Switzerland: Springer International, 2013: 429–435. Print. CCIS 397.

Refereed Journal Articles

- **Harris, S.** “Agricultural & Food E-Resources Usage at the University of the West Indies (UWI) Mona Campus.” *Information World Journal* 14.1 (2013): 141–62. Web. 25 Sept. 2014. <http://www.bd.org.tr/index.php/bd/article/view/373/pdf_113>.
- **Harris, S.** “Enhancing Awareness of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in Academic Libraries: A Jamaican Case Study.” *IFLA* 39.3 (2013): 251–261. *SAGE*. Web. 25 Sept. 2014. <<http://ifl.sagepub.com/content/39/3/251.full.pdf.html>>.
- **Harris, S.** “Librarianship and Culture: Social Change in Post-colonial Jamaica.” *SALALM Papers* 57 (2014): 184–99. Print.
- **Harris, S.** “The Role of the UWI Mona Libraries in HIV/AIDS Information Access and Dissemination.” *West Indian Medical Journal* 62.4 (2013): 342–45. Web. 25 Sept. 2014. <<http://caribbean.scielo.org/pdf/wimj/v62n4/a13v62n4.pdf>>.
- **Heath, R.** “Toward Learner-Centred High School Curriculum-Based Research: A Case Study.” *Journal of Librarianship and Information Sciences* (2014): 1–12. *SAGE*. Web. 25 September 2014. <<http://lis.sagepub.com/content/early/2014/05/13/0961000614532396.full.pdf>>.

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- **Stewart, P.** “Benefits, Challenges and Proposed Future Directions for the International Association of School Librarianship Annual Conference.” *International Journal of Education and Research*. 1.5 (2013): 193–210. Web. 25 September. 2014.
- **Stewart, P.** “Jamaican School Libraries Empowering Students with Life Skills: A Survey.” *Journal of Library and Information Sciences*. 2.1 (2014): 5–21. Web. 25 September. 2014.

Edited Books

- Culver, Sherri, and **Kerr P.** eds. *Global Citizenship in a Digital World: MILID Yearbook 2014*. Göteborg: NORDICOM, 2014. Print.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Paulette Kerr

- Member, Board of Directors, National Forum on Information Literacy (USA)
- Member, Standing Committee and Paper Reviewer European Conference on Information Literacy
- Chair UNESCO MILID UNITWIN Group
- Member, Paper/Poster Review Committee ALISE 2014 Conference

Dr. Paulette Stewart

- External Examiner, Doctoral Committees, Department of Graduate Education & Leadership at the Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, Jamaica
- Director, IASL – Latin America and the Caribbean
- Member, Board of the East Jamaica Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Education Board
- National Judge for the Jamaica Public Library Reading Competition

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington

- Member, International Association of School Librarianship Special Interest Group for Library Education 2014

Dr. Rosemarie Heath

- Member, Executive Committee, Library & Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)

Professor Fay Durrant

- Member, Board of Management, Jamaica Library Service
- Member, Board of Management, National Library of Jamaica

Ms. Paulette Bowen

- Member, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)
- Member, International Association of School Librarianship (IASL)

Mr. Mathew Blake

- Member, Board of Management, National Library of Jamaica

STUDENT MATTERS

Practicum/Internship

Students were placed at national, public, academic, special and school libraries in Jamaica and the USA.

Programmes	Students placed	Countries of placement
Undergraduate	25	Jamaica (21), USA (4)
Graduate	5	Jamaica (4), USA (1)
Total Students Placed	30	

Faculty/Departmental Awards

Awards	Criteria	Student
Alumni Prize	Best Grade – Year 1	Krystelle Scott
COMLA Prize	Best Grade – Year 2	Avis Holder
Daphne Douglas Prize	Outstanding Professional Development	Elton McDuffus
Dorothy Collings Prize (Graduate)	Best graduate performance	Heather Thompson
Dorothy Collings Prize (Undergraduate)	Best overall undergraduate performance	Diana Mitchell-Lewis

LIAJA SCHOLARSHIP

The LIAJA Scholarship for 2013/2014 was awarded to final year student, Yanique Brown. The requirements for the scholarship stipulate that the recipient has to be a member of the Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) and maintain a B+ average for courses.

Students on the Dean's Honour Roll – Semester I

Alexia Lodge

Avis Holder

Kystelle Scott

Nicoleen Saunders-Grant

Miriam Wray

Telesa Stewart

Yanique Brown