



FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, UWI

MONTHLY DEPARTMENTAL REPORT TO FST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Department: CHEMISTRY

Report for the Month of: NOVEMBER 2024

ITEMS

1. Publications

- **Others**

Editorial: Voices in *Molecular Pharmaceutics*: Meet Professor Joyann Marks, Who Develops Drug Delivery and Packaging Systems Using Sustainable Materials. *Mol. Pharmaceutics* 2024, 21, 12, 5907–5908.

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.molpharmaceut.4c01260>

2. Workshops/Conferences/Seminars/Symposia

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME, TITLE, AFFILIATION</u>	<u>TITLE OF SEMINAR</u>
November 7, 2024	Mr. Miguel Thaxter, Graduate Student, Department of Chemistry	"Application of Low-Cost Sensors for Ambient Air Quality Studies in Tropical Environments".
November 14, 2024	Dr. Eddia Copeland Solas, Associate Professor and Director of Teacher Education, Faculty of Education at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada	"From Molecules to Minds: My twenty-five-year journey from the Department of Chemistry to Director of Teacher Education".

November 21, 2024	Ms. Ronnique Blair, Graduate Student, Department of Chemistry	"The chemical characterization and some biological assessment of the essential oils of a medicinal <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. cultivars."
November 28, 2024	Ms. Sherry-Ann Wint-Turner, Graduate Student, Department of Chemistry	"The Spectroscopic, Redox and Beta-Lactamase Inhibition Properties of Some Hydrazonic Isatin Derivatives: An Experimental and Theoretical Study".

3. Student Awards (Locally and Internationally)

At the Annual Faculty of Science and Technology Awards Ceremony (November 7th), the following students were recognised and awarded for outstanding achievements:

Departmental awards:

Brianna Levy (Cedric Hassall Scholarship), **Jaheim Brown** (Kenneth Magnus Prize for Applied Chemistry Prize), **Shania Gumbs** (Garfield Sadler Award), **Kurt McBayne** (Wilfred Chan Award), **Rochelle Webster** (Bert Fraser-Reid Award), **Jodie-Lyn Watson** (The L.J. Haynes Award), **Ruth-Anne Vassell** (Chemistry Department Prize), **Jewel Moore** and **Xandrea Rodney** (Pavelich-Honkan Prize).

First Class Honours

Stephannie Forbes (Occupational Environmental Safety & Health).

4. Staff Awards (Locally and Internationally)

Congratulations to the following staff members who were selected for FST Staff of the Year (2023-2024) Awards, at the Annual FST Awards Ceremony (November 7, 2024): Ms **Carleen Watson** (Most Outstanding Service Staff), Mr **Newton Smith** (Most Outstanding Technical Staff) and Ms **Tracia Johnson-Blair** (Most Outstanding Administrative Staff). Staff members who were also recognised at the Annual FST Awards Ceremony included Dr **Norbert Campbell** (National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) Presidential Citation for Outstanding Service) and Dr **Marvadeen Singh-Wilmot** (Appointment as Fellow of the Caribbean Academy of Sciences).

At the ATS Expo in the Assembly Hall, the Faculty Office recognized Unsung Heroes (**Mr. Shevons Higgins, Ms. Marylyn Wright** and **Ms. Carla Phipps**) from the Chemistry Department and staff who had participated in training (**Mr. Newton Smith** and **Mr. Daniel Gillings**). Awardees received trophies and Certificates, respectively.

5. Staff Matters (Appointments, Resignations etc.)

Ms Novia Wright was appointed as a Departmental Attendant.

6. Outreach/In-reach Activities

Chemistry demonstrations were conducted by **Dr. Andrea Goldson-Barnaby** and **Daina Barrett** at the Lister-Mair Gilby School for the Deaf, STEM Day, held on November 12, 2024.

Drs. Winklet Gallimore, Andrea Goldson-Barnaby and **Ainka Brown** represented the Department of Chemistry at the St Andrew High School for Girls' STEM Expo on Friday November 15th. Attendees were provided with information on the programmes available in the department and possible career paths involving Chemistry. They also engaged in interactive demonstrations that highlighted chemical concepts. Samples of products made by UWI undergraduate Food Processing students were also on display.

On November 21st and 22nd, the Department participated in the UWI's Open House event. Members of Staff and students from the Chemical Society (ChemSoc) showcased aspects of chemistry research, displayed exciting chemistry experiments and introduced students to the programmes offered by the Department.

7. **Professional Activities (Appointment to Boards, Civic Duties, etc.)**

Dr. Marvadeen Singh-Wilmot was invited to speak as Princeton's Caribbean Connection Conference November 1 - 3, 2024. Her talk was entitled: crXstal Future: Navigating the Challenges of doing Science FOR the Caribbean, IN the Caribbean.

8. Visitors

Mr. **Daniel Caron**, The Campari Group, Managing Director Caribbean and Central American Region was invited by Principal, Professor Densil Williams to tour teaching and research laboratories in the Chemistry Department on November 22, 2024. Other members of the touring party included Professor Michael Taylor (FST Dean), Ms. **Minna Israel**, Co-Chair, MIRF, Dr. Ronald Robinson, Consultant to the Principal, Mr. Milton Dennis, Estate Manager and Mr. Ondrae Kennedy (Principal's Office).

9. Other

Staff-Student Liaison meeting was held on October 31st. Most courses had student representatives in attendance. Staff present were the Head of Department, Heads of Section, and Undergraduate Coordinators. A robust discussion on student concerns was entertained. Refreshments were provided afterwards.

ACS student members attended the Scientific Research Council 31st Science and Technology Conference, held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, on November 1, 2024.

Dr. Goldson-Barnaby (Faculty Advisor), **Arianna Eppes** (VP), and **Jevaughn Scott** (Treasurer) attended the 2nd ACS Latin American Global Leadership Summit and Student Chapter Advisors Meeting held on November 7-11, 2024, in Bogota, Columbia. Other

participating countries were Ecuador, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Puerto Rico and Peru.

Inspection of the Department's physical infrastructure was carried out by the Jamaica Fire Brigade (JFB - Sergeants Maulsby and Gayle), over 3 days (November 7, 11 and 14). The Department awaits the inspection report from the JFB.

The CHEM3401 Presentations on the topic Business Planning was held on November 25, 2024. The guest speaker was Mrs. Camille Jarrett, Programme Manager, Business, Sales and Marketing from the Niagara College in Canada.

Technical and Service Staff Day was celebrated in the Department of Chemistry on Thursday, November 28th. Staff members enjoyed refreshments and were presented with tokens of appreciation after being greeted by the Head of Department. The activities concluded with fun-filled games.