



## LIBRARY NEWS

### UWI Mona Western Jamaica Campus Library (WJCL)

The Library is located in the building that was previously the Chatwick Convention Centre. Renovation of the area is almost completed and the facility should be ready in good time to welcome our students for the academic year 2008/2009.

Students at the Western Jamaica Campus will enjoy the same library privileges as those studying at the Mona Campus. The opening hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday 8:30 am - 10:00 pm  
Saturday 8:30 am - 9:00 pm  
Sundays 8:30-7:00pm

These hours will vary in the first week of the Semester so students are advised to check with the Library directly.

## UPDATE ON EXTENDED OPENING HOURS

### Mona Campus Main and Medical Branch Libraries

The existing opening hours are:

Monday – Friday - 8:30am – 6:30am  
Saturdays - 8:30am – midnight  
Sundays - 12 noon – 8:00pm

Commencing September 1, 2008, the above opening hours will apply to the *West Indies and Special Collections in the Main Library* as well as the *Science Branch Library*.

## THE EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers

Welcome to the fifth issue of Librations, the Library's online newsletter. A special welcome to the new readership from the UWI Mona Western Jamaica Campus (WJC).

A few of the highlights are the WJC Library, the Campus Librarian's ACURIL Conference Award, and the first in a series of articles on disaster mitigation in libraries. You should find it interesting. Have a productive 2008/2009 academic year.

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Ms Myrna Douglas (Librarian, Serials Technical Services) recently completed two attachments. The first was a three-day stint at the Library of the Norman Manley Law School which served as an introduction to a two week attachment at the Cave Hill Law Library. The teaching strategy employed by the Law Librarian, Prof. Newton, and the learning approach which she encouraged Ms Douglas to take were most appropriate in advancing Ms. Douglas' understanding of the way legal materials are organized and classified, and how to respond to enquiries for legal information.

It is envisaged that this training will further prepare Ms Douglas to take a lead role in the anticipated reorganization of the Main Library's law collection and the improvement in the legal reference services provided by this Library. Kudos to Prof. Newton and Mr. Byron Palmer, the Librarian, Norman Manley Law School, for facilitating Miss Douglas.

## CAMPUS LIBRARIAN'S ACURIL CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE AWARD

Ms. Georgia Bryan of the West Indies and Special Collections Section and Mrs. Elizabeth Cooke, Technical Services Unit, were the proud recipients of the first Campus Librarian's Conference Attendance Award. This was a grant to attend **ACURIL XXXVIII Conference 2008 in Montego Bay, Jamaica, June 1-6.**

The Award was intended as an incentive to library assistants and clericals. Each applicant submitted a 500 word essay on how he/she would benefit from attending the conference, and a reference letter from his/her immediate Supervisor/Head of Section, which spoke to the applicant's leadership potential, student-friendliness and work attitude.

Georgia and Elizabeth submitted reports in which they expressed thanks and appreciation to the Campus Librarian, Mrs. Amenu-Kpodo, for the opportunity to experience an international conference, and promised to share the knowledge gained with other aspiring librarians.



Elizabeth, centre and Georgia to her left, participating in one of the conference sessions at ACURIL 2008

Editor: Pauline Nicholas  
Editorial Committee  
Co-Editor: Karlene Robinson, Judith Rao, Gertrude Skobla, Thelma White, Allison Walder, Cheryl Folkes, Anthony Bushay

## MONA LIBRARY AT ACURIL 2008

The Mona Library was actively involved in the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) Conference and pre-conference sessions during the period May 30 - June 6, 2008.

Approximately 300 librarians from the Caribbean and other parts of the world examined the theme "E-Librarian: Ideas, Innovation and Inspiration". Librarians from the Campuses participated through the presentation of papers and posters. The full-text of the papers presented at the conference can be found at the following website:

<http://cibernotasacurilcybernotes.blogspot.com/2008/06/developing-information-literacy-skills.html>

The Library at Mona made other tangible contributions in the form of laptops that were used in the Internet Kiosks, and note books for the delegates. The Deputy Librarian, Mrs. Bobb-Semple, was a member of the ACURIL Organizing Committee.

**Pre-conference** - The UNESCO's Information for All Programme (IFAP), in collaboration with the University of the West Indies (Department of Library and Information Studies and the University Library) successfully hosted a workshop during the ACURIL's pre-conference, May 30 - June 6, 2008. The workshop entitled "Developing Information Literacy Skills and Programmes" was aimed at introducing various professional groups to techniques for developing information literacy skills and programmes. It sought to train a cadre of promising qualified information literacy trainers in the region so that they, in turn, can educate other trainers and also begin educating directly the various ultimate beneficiary groups". The MILU librarians conducted the session "Evaluating Information". The Campus Librarian presented on the topic "Introducing an Information Literacy Programme in the University Library".

## RECORDS MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Mr. Fernando Spencer is currently pursuing a two-year professional certificate course in records and information management at the School of Continuing Studies. The contents include controlled creation of records, proper maintenance and preservation, and their timely disposition.

## FEATURED ARTICLES

## DISASTER MITIGATION IN LIBRARIES

*Is your Library ready for a disaster? This is the first in a series of articles by the Preservation Librarian on Disaster Mitigation in Libraries*

A disaster is defined as an event causing great loss, hardship, or suffering to many people. Hurricanes, earthquakes, floods and human actions are the most common causes of disasters. As library buildings are not immune to the effects of disasters, librarians should learn about disaster preparedness.

Most disasters can be mitigated altogether by a comprehensive, systematic, emergency-preparedness programme. It provides the means for recognizing and preventing risks, and responding effectively to most, if not all emergencies.

In order to establish a disaster plan, a risk assessment should be conducted. This includes, identifying the sources of potential disasters which put a library at risk. These may be outside of the library building, within the building structure, as well as the results of human interference (arson, vandalism, civil disturbances, and terrorism) by persons or group of persons. The plan also documents the response procedures to the various disasters.

*The man does better who runs from disaster than he who is caught by it" - Homer ("Smyrns of Chios").*

## DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

Richard Rowe, affectionately known as Richie, passed away on August 27, 2008. He joined the UWI Library staff in January 1984 as an attendant. His initial appointment was for two months, but because of his diligence and demeanor, his contract was extended on several occasions until October of that same year when he was given a permanent appointment. Mr. Rowe's then supervisor, Mr. Jim Wellvang, Head of Loan and Reference Section, described him as pleasant, cooperative, mature and self-disciplined.

At the time of his passing, Mr. Rowe was a Senior Library Attendant with supervisory responsibility for student assistants working at the Baggage Counter. His colleagues remember him as being genteel, a father-figure, comical, an avid cricketer and above all a fine Christian. Richie will be surely missed.

## THE MONA LIBRARY OFFERS SUPPORT TO REGIONAL PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

As part of the developmental programme "Continuing Education, Networking and Innovation for Librarians in the English Speaking Caribbean", eleven librarians and information managers from the English speaking Caribbean took part in a two week workshop held from June 1 – June 14, 2008 in Jamaica. The programme was organized by the Department of Library and Information Studies, U.W.I., the Jamaica Library Service and the Library and Information Association of Jamaica with support from the University of the West Indies Mona Library. Two members of staff of the UWI Library, Mrs. Joan Vacianna, Acquisitions Librarian and Ms. Beverley Lashley, Coordinator/Librarian, Caribbean Disaster Information Network, were the coordinators of this programme.

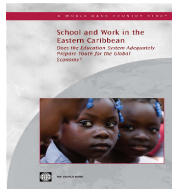
The purpose of the programme was to provide continuing education to librarians in public libraries throughout the English-speaking Caribbean. The three components of the programme were:

- Workshop organized by the Department of Library Studies, UWI Mona;
- Attendance and participation at the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL), and
- Observation of best practices through visits to various libraries, information organizations and institutions in Jamaica, including the Bindery at the Mona Library.

The programme was made possible through the sponsorship of the Latin America and Caribbean Regional Committee of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA/LAC). Funding came from the Swedish Agency for International Development (SIDA) through IFLA Action for Development through Libraries Programme (ALP).

## NEW E-RESOURCES

Blom, Andreas, and Cynthia Hobbs. *School and Work in the Eastern Caribbean: Does the Education System Adequately Prepare Youth for the Global Economy?* Washington DC: World Bank, 2008.



Read the entire electronic book along with other Caribbean related e-books at <http://www.netlibrary.com> or from the Library's webpage. Select "Databases" and then select "Netlibrary".

## CELEBRATE WITH EXHIBITIONS

In commemoration of the UWI's 60th Anniversary, the Library mounted, *Sixty Years of Progress*, a nine-poster exhibition highlighting the Mona Libraries and the accomplishments of its six Campus Librarians: Mr Holsworth, Mr Gocking, Mr Ingram, Mrs Jefferson, Miss Ferguson and Mrs Amenu-Kpodo under whose watch the Library's resources and services have grown over six decades. The exhibition is strategically placed in the main corridor of the Main Library.

*Isaac Edmestone Barnes to Dr. J. Edmestone Barnes*, celebrated a black Jamaican who was born in Kingston 150 years ago and who attained a range of educational and professional achievements that very few men of his generation anywhere in the world were able to reach.

*M. G. Smith 1921-1993* was mounted in support of the Caribbean Reasonings Conference in June.

The **International Conference ACS Crossroads** celebrated fifteen personalities who have contributed significantly to the cultural consciousness of the Caribbean. Rex Nettleford, Erna Brodber, Louise Bennett Coverley (deceased), Jimmy Cliff and Earl Lovelace, were included.

## LEARNING FOR LIFE WORKSHOP

The annual "Learning for Life" workshop for high school students was held by the Mona Information Literacy Unit during the period June 23-27, 2008. Fourteen sixth formers drawn from six schools in Kingston and rural areas attended. Besides sessions on e-resources, database searching, plagiarism and citation, the programme included exciting treasure hunts- using the OPAC to locate items on selected topics; and locating heritage sites on the campus using the UWI Mona 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Calendar. Video games and a blog were also incorporated. The programme culminated with the students using PowerPoint presentations to demonstrate their Information Literacy skills.

