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## REPOSITIONING THE UWI, MONA CAMPUS AS A RESEARCH UNIVERSITY





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The Campus was especially mindful of the need to reposition itself as the leading regional university with a mandate to advance national and regional development through its research activity. All faculties undertook to increase research output and the amount of grant funds brought in to facilitate this. Steps were taken to enhance grant-writing skills so as to more successfully access research grants. The efforts resulted in significant grants to fund seminal research work. Appendix 1 shows a breakdown of external grants secured during the period. Funding for research activity independent of university grants and other support was in excess of J\$94 million. Special mention should be made of the grant of US \$274,000 from Merck & Company Inc. to the Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Child Health to continue implementation of the project, *Safety and Efficacy of Pentavalent (G1, G2, G3, G4 and P1) Human-Bovine Reassortant Rotavirus Vaccine in Healthy Infants*. This project aims to test a new vaccine against the rotavirus which causes gastroenteritis in young children.

The Tropical Medical Research Institute (TMRI) and the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) contributed 74% of research publication output of all Centres and Institutes of the Campus with research portfolios. These two institutes contribute to two focal areas: Health and Wellness and Social Economic and Governance policies.

In addition to the traditional university funding for research, faculty members also benefited from research fellowships through the Research Fellowship Programme and sizable sums of money under the "New Initiative Programme (NIP)". Some twenty faculty members were awarded Mona Research Fellowships over the 2002/2003 period. These persons joined eleven existing recipients from the 2001/2002 academic year, whose research projects were well in progress, as active holders of Mona

Research Fellowships. The new fellowships were awarded for research on a wide range of topics covering the medical, social, pure and applied sciences, and humanities. Topics being researched include *The Molecular Characterization of Insect Vector(s) Transmitting Lethal Yellowing Disease of Coconuts (CLY) in Jamaica*, *Investigation of Bioactivity Claims of Herbal Formulae in Locally Grown Plants*, *Towards the Development of a Nutraceutical Industry in Jamaica*, *Modelling of Air Pollution over Kingston*, *Generating Seasonal (Three Monthly) Rainfall Forecasts for the Caribbean Region*, *the Role of Fathers in Jamaican Family Life*, *Mobility and Migration: Exploring Transnationalism in the Context of Jamaica*, original research into *Commonwealth Caribbean Literature for Children and Young Adults* and *A Comparative Study of the Enforcement of Language Rights*.

Approximately \$20 million was awarded during the same period for some 29 projects under the NIP. The New Initiative Fund is available to senior faculty members for dissemination and promotion of research findings and to new faculty members who have major research interests



Persons in attendance at the 2003 Research Day exhibitions, viewing the displays by the various departments at the Mona Campus



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and plans, but have no access to funding. Some of the projects funded during the period through the New Initiative Fund were *Antibiotic Resistance in Strains of Neisseria Gonorrhoeae Encountered in Jamaica*, *Establishment of an Independent Forensic DNA Typing Laboratory*, *Assessment of Ground Water Quality in the Liguanea Aquifer*, *Checking on Eventual Presence of Heavy and Trace Metals in Ground Water*, *A New Economic Strategy for Jamaica: With Special Consideration of the International Competition and the FTAA* and a book on *Globalisation*.

### The Faculty of Pure & Applied Sciences 6th Biennial Conference, held March 18-20, 2003



Professor Ronald Young, Dean, Faculty of Pure & Applied Sciences; Professor Trevor Jackson, Coordinator, Graduate Studies & Research; the Hon. Phillip Paulwell, Minister of Commerce, Science and Technology; and Professor the Hon. Gerald Lalor, Director General, ICENS, view programme prior to the opening ceremony.



Professor Wayne Hunte, Pro Vice Chancellor for Research (St. Augustine) presenting on the topic, "Research as a Regional and International Competitive Response".

### Recognizing Excellence in Research



Mr. Rafi Ahmad receiving the International Landslide Research Group Award from Dr. Earl E. Brabb, President of the International Landslide Research Group at the awards ceremony held at the Mona Visitor's Lodge on 17th July 2003.

The International Landslide Research Group (ILRG), the most vibrant landslide research group worldwide, during the year recognized lecturer in the Department of Geology and Geography, Rafi Ahmad, for his "years of leadership in landslide reduction in the Caribbean". His contributions to popular publications and newspapers, development of a website, and talks to various groups have increased the awareness of the general public and other professional organizations to landslide problems in the country. He also was among those forging early ties with national, regional and international entities addressing landslide issues and becoming part of a network sharing a common desire to reduce the impact of landslides on people in the Caribbean.

On the Mona Campus itself, in a ceremony which sought to recognize outstanding research, awards were presented under four categories: "Best Publication," "Distinguished Researcher", "Project





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### The Faculty of Pure & Applied Sciences 6th Biennial Conference, held March 18-20, 2003



Professor Trevor Jackson, Coordinator, Graduate Studies & Research in discussion with participants during the poster session.

The effort to document the Campus' research work continued during academic year 2002/2003. The second volume of *Research for Development: a Bibliography of Staff Publications*, which lists 2215 items published by staff between 1998-2002 was produced and will go a long way in making the Campus' research output accessible to our stakeholders.



4. (l-r) Dr. Dorothy Byfield, Group Director, Scientific Research Council; Dr. Sonia Davidson; Head of Herbal Medicine Committee, Ministry of Health; Dr. Winston Davidson, former President of the Medical Association of Jamaica; Mr. Victor Rhone, Chairman, Natural Products Institute (NPI); and Dr. Rupika Delgoda, Director of Research, Natural Products Institute, at the Scientific Forum on Caribbean Ethnomedicine and Medicinal Plants, held December 6-7, 2002 in Montego Bay, Jamaica

### Recognizing Excellence in Research cont'd



Mr. Rafi Ahmad receiving 16th United Nations Sasakawa Award for Disaster Reduction 2003 Certificate of Distinction from Hon. Jan Egeland, Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations at the Awards Ceremony held at the Kunstmuseum, Bonn, Germany on 16 October 2003.

Attracting the Most Research Funds" and the "Most Successfully Commercialised Research Project". Deputy Dean for student matters in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Dr. Yvette A. Jackson, won the award for the Best Publication. Her article, *Synthesis of a Thiopentene Analogue of Kuanoniamine A*, was published in the Journal of The Chemical Society, Perkin Transaction, Volume1:2237-2239.

Dr. Faisal Butt and his collaborator also won an award in the Best Publication category for *Modelling Late Coenozoic Isostatic Elevation Changes in the Barents Sea and their Implications for Oceanic and Climatic Regimes: Preliminary Results*.

Winning the Distinguished Researcher Award was the team of Dr. Wayne Forbes, Professor Paul Reese and Dr. Ralph Robinson for their project entitled *Medicaments for the Treatment of Strongyloides Stercoralis Infections*.

The Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences also had outstanding winners in the category of The Most



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Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Professor Ronald Young (6th from left) along with staff of the Natural Products Institute meeting delegates of An Hui College of Traditional Medicine for collaborative work on Chinese nutraceuticals in October 2002

### Strengthening Research Infrastructure

Emphasis was also placed on using the Research Centres/Institutes to focus and energise more effectively the research efforts of the University in keeping with their mandates and their strategic objectives.

To this end, a task force was established to examine ways to increase the capacity of these Centres/Institutes to increase research opportunities and access research funding. These research centres engaged in various research related activities geared towards fostering national development. Of note was the scientific forum on Caribbean Ethnomedicine and Medicinal Plants (EMP) hosted in December 2002, by the the Natural Products Institute and the Biotechnology Centre at UWI Mona in association with the Scientific Research Council, the Institute of Jamaica, the Environmental Health Foundation and other local scientists. The main objective of the forum was to introduce the Natural Products Institute as the World Health Organization's (WHO) Collaborating Centre (designate) for the Americas. Other objectives

### Recognizing Excellence in Research cont'd

Successfully Commercialised Research Project. Professor Robert Lancashire, Mr. Christopher Muir and Professor Hans Reichgelt of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science were highly acclaimed for their research work leading to *The Development of Web-Software for Interactive Display of Spectroscopic Data*.

The project attracting the most research funds in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences was that of Dr. Jose Jackson, a former lecturer in the Department of Chemistry. The project was able to attract a USAID grant of J\$5million over a five-year period under the Bean/Cowpea Collaborative Research Support Programme, in which participants from the Latin America/Caribbean Region, Africa and the United States, worked on collaborative projects dealing with all aspects of food handling, from improved production technologies through to food processing and the development of value-added products.

One of the Best Publication Awards was presented to Dr. Patsy Lewis from the Faculty of Social Sciences for her publication, *Surviving Small Size: Regional Integration in Caribbean Ministates* while Mr. Mark Figueroa received the award for *Homogenous Voting, Electoral Manipulation and the Garrison Processes in Post-Independence Jamaica*. Dr. Edward Gharthey won for his *Exchange Market Pressure and Optimal Foreign Exchange Regime in Jamaica*.

Professor Wilma Bailey, Mr. Clement Branche and Dr. Aldrie Henry-Lee won the Distinguished Researcher Award for their work, *Family and the Quality of Gender Relations: A Situational Analysis of Reproductive Health in the Caribbean*.

Dr. Ian Boxill's *Social and Economic Implications of Tourism Development in the Caribbean: An Empirical and Theoretical Study* was acclaimed the Project Attracting the Most Research Funds.



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The Faculty of Medical Sciences 12th Annual Research Conference was held under the theme - Ageing Well: A Life Course Perspective. The Guest Speaker was Dr. Alexandre Calache, Chief of the Aging and Health Promotion, World Health Organisation



1. Dr. Alexandre Calache giving the Sir Kenneth Standard Lecture, at the opening session.
2. Dr. Alexandre Calache in conversation with Mrs. Faith Innerarity (right), Director of Social Security, Ministry of Labour and Social Security; Professor the Hon. Errol Morrison (2nd right), Pro Vice Chancellor for Graduate Studies and Research; and the Most Hon. Dr. Denise Eldemire-Shearer, Department of Community Health & Psychiatry prior to the start of the opening ceremony.
3. Ms. Esilda Martin and Ms. Monica Hughes, members of the Senior Day Activity Centre at the Secretariat in conversation with the Most Hon. Dr. Denise Eldemire-Shearer, Department of Community Health & Psychiatry and Professor Owen Morgan, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, at the opening ceremony.





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were to encourage international collaboration among entities working in the area of Ethnomedicine and Medicinal Plants (EMP), to launch the Global EMP website and to identify future priorities and possibilities.

The Office of Sponsored Research (OSR), was created and given the responsibility to ensure that academics of the Campus place structured emphasis on research. Some of the Office's major obligations include compilation of research activity at the Mona campus; promotion of research partnerships between UWI Mona, the public and private sectors and other institutions; compilation of actual and potential sponsors of research at UWI, Mona; development and support of team research, particularly cross-discipline research; provision of assistance to research teams and individuals to find appropriate sponsors to fund their research projects; compilation of research outputs in terms of peer-reviewed articles, books and presentations; supervision of research contracts within the UWI, Mona Campus and development and supervision of a code of ethics for research.

The OSR was instrumental in filing two patents in the USA for the treatment of *Strongyloides stercoralis* (threadworm). This represents the first patent registered at the Mona Campus in which the inventors are members of the UWI and the Scientific Research Council (SRC). The inventors successfully isolated a compound from the plant known as spirit weed that was more efficient than the commercially available agents used in the treatment of *Strongyloides*. The Office is also working with other scientists on the Campus emphasizing the importance of protecting their discoveries or inventions and in drafting memoranda of understanding for research projects with outside collaborators.

### Recognizing Excellence in Research cont'd

The Faculty of Medical Sciences recognized three teams of doctors in the Best Publication Category: Professors Michael G. Lee and Barrie Hanchard and collaborators for *Characteristics of Helicobacter pylori Infection in Jamaican Adults with Gastrointestinal Symptoms*; Dr. Jeannette Mohan, Miss Jacqueline E. Vigilance, Dr. Ian Hambleton, Professor Harvey Reid, Emeritus Professor Graham R. Sergeant and collaborators for *Abnormal Venous Function in Patients with Homozygous Sickle Cell Disease and Chronic Leg Ulcers*; and Dr. Marilyn Duff, Mrs. Ellen Y. Bailey, Miss Sheryll A. Lopez, Professor Rainford Wilks and collaborators for their publication, *Impact on Blood Pressure Control on a Six-month Intervention Project*.

Distinguished Researcher Awards went to the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry for *Quality Improvement in Clinical Practice*, to the Department of Pathology for *Cancer Epidemiology and Pathology* and to the Department of Basic Medical Sciences for *Hemorrhology*.

The Department of Pathology won awards for two projects – *The HTLV – Project* and *The Prostate Cancer Research Project* for attracting most research funds.



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### Translating Research into Policy

The Research and Policy Group (RPG), a joint initiative of Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Research (SALISES) and the Mona School of Business was officially launched at the beginning of the academic year and named in honour of Sir Alister McIntyre. Fellows of the RPG have been mandated “to carry out research and analysis with a view to informing policy choices in key priority areas relevant to the needs of government, the private sector, regional institutions and as appropriate, international organizations”. The group’s focus of operations is research that is relevant and responsive. Its initial emphases have been on crime and violence, economic growth and job creation, values and attitudes, leadership and governance, public sector modernization, tertiary education, media policy, labour and employment relations and the financial sector. During the year, the activities of the RPG were wide and varied and included in addition to research, teaching assignments, seminars and symposia and drafting policy documents.

Among the many issues addressed by the Public Sector Reform Fellow in the RPG were the development of the public service in the Commonwealth to identify the major challenges the public services now face and to determine the projected major reforms in the next five years; good practice in public leadership development; and senior management challenges in Caribbean public services.

Another major achievement of the Research and Policy Group during the year, was the preparation of a policy document - *National Tertiary and University Education System for Jamaica* - which has been submitted to the Minister of Education and various other stakeholders in the sector for consideration. The proposal sought to fashion a vision for a rational education system in Jamaica and arose out of dialogue with relevant stakeholders including educators, private sec-

### Caribbean Labour Policy Conference

The Labour Studies Programme in the Mona School of Business, staged jointly with the Department of Management Studies, the Trade Union Education Institute, UWI HARP-HIV/AIDS, the Centre for Gender Development Studies, the Centre for Industrial Relations, University of Toronto, Jamaica Employers’ Federation and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, the first-ever Caribbean Labour Policy Conference. Some 80 participants from the Caribbean were among the many who attended the conference.

The objectives of the conference were: to provide a mechanism for developing policy guidelines and policy options about critical issues relating to the labour market, labour legislation and labour / employment relations in the Caribbean; to provide a forum for interaction among Caribbean leaders of business, trade unions, government and academia as well as officials of international organizations; to move the UWI into the mainstream of policy-making in relation to labour market issues, labour legislation and labour / employment relations in the Caribbean; and to generate well defined outputs for academic publications and topics for later research.



Policy Roundtable on Social Protection - Professor Neville Ying, Director of Labour Studies, UWI in conversation with Ms. Allison Bailey, Labour Analyst, Planning Institute of Jamaica, and Ms. Naomi Holness, HR Manager, Cable and Wireless Jamaica Ltd.





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tor, government and other public sector agencies, students and the media. The consultative process and the research focused on identifying some key constraints on the capability of tertiary education to fulfil its developmental role in Jamaica. The recommendations of the proposal sought to elaborate on a comprehensive system of tertiary education that would influence the future contributions of the tertiary education system in Jamaica.

### Strengthening Graduate Studies to Support Research

Among the Campus' strategic priorities is the strengthening of the graduate studies programme in such a way as to respond more readily to national needs and opportunities. In this regard, the Campus made significant progress during the 2002/2003 academic year.

We increased our graduate enrolment by 13% over the previous year. The recruitment drive in the postgraduate programme was greatly facilitated and enhanced by a video conferencing communications system; the



Platform party at the launch of a partnership programme for mentoring MPhil/PhD researchers in Education. (l-r) Dr. Donald Wilson, Consultant, School of Education, UWI, Mona; Professor Elsa Leo-Rhynie, Pro Vice Chancellor, Board for Undergraduate Studies, UWI, Mona; Dr. Sharon Jamieson, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta, Canada; Dr. Monica Brown, Director/Deputy Dean, School of Education, UWI, Mona; and, Professor Trevor Jackson, Coordination for Graduate Studies & Research, UWI, Mona



Participants at the launch of a partnership programme for mentoring MPhil/PhD researchers in Education.



Daniel Aquart of the Department of Chemistry receiving a cheque for US\$1,000 from Professor Trevor Jackson, Coordinator for Graduate Studies and Research, for the 'Best Thesis' for the 2001/2002 academic year.



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functionalising through modernization and refurbishing of the Interfaculty and the Chemistry/Physics Lecture Theatres; the addition of two multimedia lecture theatres to accommodate “large group” video conferencing and thus facilitate the holding of postgraduate collaboration, development and research conferences between campuses in the Caribbean and North America; work initiated in developing graduate courses with highly specialized content that will be available anytime, anywhere to students with busy schedules and multiple commitments outside of school; increased focus on better throughput rates in the postgraduate programmes; expansion of postgraduate programmes, as in the case of the new M.Sc. programmes; and opening of a modern postgraduate reading room on the first floor of the main library which contains six computers with internet access and word processing software, a small conference table, flip charts and a corner with lounge chairs for reading and relaxation.

The Campus also expanded scholarships for postgraduate students to encourage growth in the number of graduate students. Six new scholarships under the UWI HIV/AIDS Response Programme (HARP) were among those introduced to Masters Degree students. In addition to the externally awarded scholarships for graduate students, the Campus was the recipient of some J\$9 million for UWI scholarships from the Office of Research.

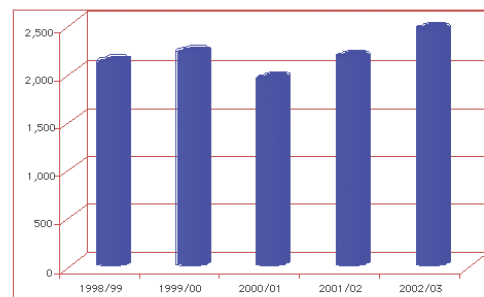
At year-end's count, 2,487 students were admitted into higher degree programmes for the 2002/2003 academic year. This figure exceeds the previous years of 2000/2001 and 2001/2002 which were 1,950 and 2,172 respectively. Some forty percent (40 %) of the new students were registered in the Faculty of Social Sciences. The highest intake of research students was in the Faculty of Humanities & Education (85) followed by Pure and Applied Sciences (70).

**Table 1: Higher Degree Enrolment by Faculty at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, 1998/99 to 2002/03**

Faculty	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003
Humanities & Education	573	532	504	557	672
Medical Sciences	312	324	332	453	490
Pure & Applied Sciences	231	284	302	306	325
Social Sciences	1,005	1,083	812	856	1,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,121</b>	<b>2,223</b>	<b>1,950</b>	<b>2,172</b>	<b>2,487</b>

Source: Student System as at August 18, 2003

**Chart 1: Higher Degree Enrolment at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, 1998/99 - 2002/03**



Source: Student System as at August 18, 2003.

**Table 2: Research Students**

Faculty	2000/2001		2001/2002		2002/2003	
	FT	PT	FT	PT	FT	PT
Humanities & Education	18	13	18	19	42	43
Medical Sciences	10	8	17	3	6	15
Pure & Applied Sciences	45	9	41	7	55	15
Social Sciences	4	7	8	22	13	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>83</b>

Source: Student System as at August 18, 2003



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Seventy-one per cent (71%) of all students registered in research degrees (MPhil, PhD) were enrolled in the priority areas, identified in the strategic plan, of biotechnology, cultural studies, education, health and wellness, natural resources and environmental studies, management, social, economic and governance issues and tourism.

### Increasing Visibility in the National and Global Arena

Enhancing the Campus' local, regional and international standing and visibility is critical to its sustainability. The campus continued in academic year 2002/2003 to be widely represented at national and regional levels in forums that have the potential to promote the uptake of research findings. Seminal research work carried out in the various faculties continues to impact national and regional policy formation. Notable among this work are those from the departments of Educational Studies, Community Health and Psychiatry, Geography and Geology and Sociology, Psychology and Social Work that have explored such issues as language and literacy acquisition among primary school children; the welfare of senior citizens; the conservation of biodiversity to sustainable development; migration; the protection of children with special needs; youth inclusion in social action; and unemployment and the labour market.

Strengthened collaboration with the United Nations and CARICOM, since the last UN-CARICOM General Meeting held in the Bahamas in March 2000 has advanced the Campus' contribution to policy formation and decisions in a number of areas at the national, regional, and global levels.

#### *National Level*

Staff members attached to the Department of Economics played a central role in preparing, in collaboration with the UNDP office in Jamaica and the

Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), the first Human Development Report for Jamaica for 2000. The report contains a number of innovations in the construction of the Human Development Index (HDI) and the Human Poverty Index (HPI) which were adjusted to take account of particular characteristics of the Jamaican situation. For example, the Jamaica HDI has been expanded to encompass environmental factors and also structural unemployment in the economy, while the Jamaica HPI has been elaborated to take into account additional factors such as lack of security, housing quality and the percentage of the population with access to a minimum diet (and therefore the size of the population that is undernourished). The 2000 Jamaica Human Development Report served as a model for the preparation of the OECS Human Development Report for 2002.

Staff of the Campus also prepared the Jamaica UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2003-2006, which serves as the basic framework for coordinating the assistance provided to Jamaica by the various UN organizations and agencies operating in the country, namely, UNDP, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, PAHO/WHO, FAO, UNEP and the World Bank.

The UNDAF, which was prepared following extensive consultations with the UN Country team, the Planning Institute of Jamaica, the international development partners (USAID, DFID, CIDA, EU, etc.) as well as representatives of the NGO community, focuses on four main areas for UN assistance, namely, strengthening economic growth and development, promoting social capital formation, good governance, and environmental preservation and management.

Staff of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) of the University was also engaged by UNDP (Jamaica) to prepare a report on the progress made in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals in Jamaica.





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### *Regional Level*

The Campus was requested by UNDP in New York to carry out a regional assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in order to provide a comparative perspective on the subject and also to highlight specific aspects of the implementation of the Goals that may not be gleaned from a purely national approach to the subject. A multi-disciplinary team from different faculties was formed to carry out the exercise.

### *Global Level*

Public Policy Professor, Denis Benn, participated as a member of the Independent Group of Eminent Personalities appointed by the Secretary General, at the request of the UN General Assembly, to review the implementation of the UN New Agenda for the Development of Africa (UN-NADAF) and to make recommendations regarding future development cooperation arrangements to be supported by the international community. The report which was presented by the Group of Eminent Personalities to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly was well received by member states and its recommendations have been accepted by the Secretary General.

### *Specific Activities by Departments, Schools and Centres*

#### *The School of Education*

The School of Education is currently monitoring the UNICEF Early Childhood Transition Pilot Project which seeks to improve school readiness and the performance of children between the ages 4 and 8 in both primary and pre-primary schools. The project is designed to develop and test methods for supporting the smooth transition of children from pre-primary school to ensure that the school is in readiness to receive them.

### Caribbean Centre of Excellence for Teacher Training

A Joint Board of Teacher Education project, *the Caribbean Centre of Excellence for Teacher Training*, was launched at the Mona Campus with Professor Errol Miller as director. The Centre is one of three such centres to be established in Latin America and the Caribbean under a Summit of the Americas Initiative, announced by US President George W. Bush in April 2001. The centre is mandated to provide innovative leadership in inspiring, empowering and equipping teachers in the first three grades of primary schools. Major accomplishments of the Centre since its establishment in October 2002 included creating and making the governance and management structure operational; drafting common Caribbean standards for literacy in grades 1-3 through collaboration with Ministries of Education; developing diagnostic and performance instruments for grades 1-3 and using them to collect baseline data on students in the project schools; commencing a process of on-going professional development with lecturers who teach reading in the colleges and with the reading specialists employed to the Centre.



Professor Kenneth Hall in conversation with The Most Hon. Said Musa, Prime Minister of Belize and The Most Hon. Percival Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica after the launch of the CCETT.



Her Excellency Sue Cobb, Ambassador of the United States of America addressing the audience at the launch of the CCETT. Other members of the platform party are (l-r) The Most Hon. Said Musa, Prime Minister of Belize; Professor the Hon. Rex Nettleford, Vice Chancellor, UWI; The Most Hon. P. J. Patterson, Prime Minister of Jamaica; Mr. Adolpho Franco, Assistant Administrator, USAID Latin America and the Caribbean; and Professor the Hon. Errol Miller, Director, CCETT.



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To achieve these aims, six components have been identified, namely, teacher training and curricula; improvement of the learning environment; school management; parent and community orientation; assistance, support, education and sharing; support for children at risk; and research monitoring and evaluation.

The School of Education is contracted to carry out the research, monitoring and evaluation component, which will focus on the development and implementation of an integrated monitoring and evaluation plan, using the framework of the strategic objectives, expected outcomes and planned inputs of the project.

Ten experimental schools - two primary and eight pre-primary - have been identified in the parish of Clarendon. Three control schools have been chosen in the parish. The monitoring and evaluation aspect of the project is being done over fifteen months and began in November 2002. A preliminary report on the activities carried out was submitted to UNICEF.

### *Department of Physics and the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre*

Professor Anthony Chen in collaboration with Dr. Samuel Rawlins of the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre is engaged in the implementation of a project entitled *The Threat of Dengue Fever - Assessment of Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change in Human Health in the Caribbean*, which is funded by the Assessments of Impacts and Adaptation to Climate Change in Multiple Regions and Sectors (AIACC) Programme. This is a global initiative developed in collaboration with UNEP/WMO Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and funded by the Global Environment Facility (GEF). The funding provided for the project over the three year period (2002-2004) amounts to US\$218,000.

### Professor Denis Benn Wins Inaugural "Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy"



Professor Denis Benn receiving the inaugural Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy from Professor Kenneth Hall. Congratulating Professor Ben is Senator the Hon. Delano Franklyn, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

At the awards ceremony which brought *Research Day 2003* to a fitting climax, Principal, Professor Kenneth Hall, presented the inaugural *Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy* to Professor Denis Benn, Michael Manley Professor of Public Affairs and Public Policy.

In identifying the numerous activities which formed the basis for recognizing the awardee, Principal Hall cited instances of Professor Benn's practical application of public policy, as well as his many research publications.

Professor Benn's contributions included coordination of the preparation of the first Human Development Report for Jamaica (2002); the preparation (under the auspices of the Commonwealth Secretariat and at the request of the Antigua and Barbuda Government) of a report on *Relations Between the Central Government of Antigua and the Barbuda Local Council* which succeeded in solving a 20-year dispute and conflict; prepa-



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### *Department of Chemistry*

Professor Ishenkumba Kahwa in collaboration with Ms. Lilieth Harris, Executive Director, JCTU, is implementing a project dealing with an enterprise-based public education programme - *Promoting the Safe Use, Handling and Disposal of Asbestos* - which has received technical assistance from ILO.

### *The Centre for Marine Sciences*

Dr. George Warner received a grant of US\$50,000 from UNEP (The Caribbean Regional Coordinating Unit) in support of the Caribbean Coastal Data Centre to assist in coordinating the Northern Caribbean and Atlantic Node of the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network (GCRMN). The funds, which are provided under UNEP's regional programme dealing with the *conservation and sustainable use of major ecosystems in the wider Caribbean* will be used to establish reporting links, facilitate coral reef monitoring in the Northern Caribbean and Atlantic region, to periodically report coral reef status in the region to the GCRMN and to prepare a proposal for the sustainability of these activities. The project has already prepared a report which was published in the *Status of the Coral Reefs of the World, 2002*, and has initiated and followed-up on contacts with numerous individuals and groups in the node countries: Cuba, Cayman, Bahamas, Bermuda, Turks and Caicos, Haiti, Dominican Republic and Jamaica.

### *Department of Geography and Geology*

The Department of Geography and Geology received support through the UN University (Tokyo) to participate in a project on Agro-biodiversity which deals with *organizational diversity in small farming and biodiversity conservation in farmed landscapes, with implication for land management and hazard manage-*

### Professor Denis Benn Wins Inaugural "Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy" *cont'd*

ration of an *Outline Strategy for Human and Social Development in the Caribbean*. In this context, Professor Benn also serves as Chairperson for the Futures Policy Group (FPG) set up by the CARICOM Ministerial Council for Human and Social Development (COSHOD), which has been assigned the task of further elaborating the Strategy; participation (as member of the panel of eminent personalities) in the preparation of the *Report on the Development Needs of Africa*, to guide the response of the international community in support of development efforts of the countries of the continent.

With his latest book, *Multilateral Diplomacy and the Economics of Change*, Professor Benn boasts an enviable record of publications. These include: *Contending With Destiny: The Caribbean in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, *Globalisation: A Calculus of Inequality*, both co-edited with Principal, Professor Kenneth Hall.

The Michael Manley Professor has in addition prepared some fourteen (14) papers on a variety of topics related to public policy. The topics have varied from *The Deconstruction of the Neo-Classical Economic Model*, *Globalisation and the North-South Divide*, *South-South Co-operation: A Strategic Imperative*, *Global Economic Governance* and *The West India Federation*, among others.

The inaugural *Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy* was presented by Principal Hall to Professor Benn to a standing ovation.





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*ment in Jamaica.* Professor Elizabeth Thomas-Hope of the Department was appointed honorary scientific adviser (since January 2003) to the People, Land Management and Environmental Changes (PLEC) Programme dealing with Small Farming Ecosystem Management and Development (SEMAD).

The United Nations also funded a number of activities carried out by Professor Thomas-Hope which included attendance at a planning meeting of Phase II of the PLEC Programme; participation in the ILO Geneva meeting to prepare a report on *The Social Dimensions of Globalization* for the UN Commission on Globalization; participation in the conference on *poverty, illegal migration and asylum seekers* held in Helsinki; participation as a presenter in the seminar organized by the International Organization of Migration (IOM) and International Migration Policy (IMP), with support from UNDP, for Caribbean governments' immigration departments and Ministries of Labour and Foreign Affairs; and participation as presenter at a seminar for government personnel from Ministries of National Security on *Human Rights of Migrants and Trafficking in Persons*, held in Santiago, Chile.

### *Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Child Health*

The Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Child Health implemented projects funded by UNICEF which include the Location Management Centre Grant which is designed to support resource collection as a first step towards the development of a

regional location Management Centre; a comprehensive review of *health, development and behaviour of Jamaica's adolescents at 15-16 years old*; and development of a situation analysis and position paper for the design of a system for screening, referral and early interaction for *children at development risk in Jamaica*.

In addition, another project dealing with an evaluation of the effectiveness of the PSAJ parenting education programme on *child development and parenting practice* is expected to commence in academic year 2003-2004.

The University of the West Indies remains committed to working with the CARICOM Secretariat to strengthen the relations between CARICOM and the United Nations system. In this regard, the University is not only engaged in analysis and research aimed at solving the problems of the Caribbean region but is equally committed to contributing to the wider international effort to promote global development which represents a major goal of the United Nations system.