







4 Enhancing Quality

A number of initiatives were undertaken to ensure improvement in the quality of the Campus' academic programming. The academic year 2003/04 saw the achievement of the targeted 20% annual review of academic programmes. The foundation courses that were introduced have greatly assisted students entering the Campus from varying social backgrounds with the academic skills necessary to perform adequately at University. Some 80% of students pass at their first attempt at these course examinations. A new course, FD11A Multi-Media Delivery, is being developed to equip students with state of the art presentation skills required in the world of work.

Comprehensive Curriculum Review

The Campus is constantly striving to improve academic programmes and thereby to offer greater flexibility to students. A system of continuous curriculum review is in place. A full curriculum review was undertaken in the Faculties of Medical Sciences and Social Sciences. In the Faculty of Humanities & Education, reviews were undertaken in five of seven departments while in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, 50% of departments' curricula were reviewed. Arising from these reviews, the necessary changes to the curricula have been made or new curricula designed. Foreign language programmes in the Faculty of Humanities and Education were expanded to include more practical language courses. In the Faculty of Medical Sciences, the Basic Medical Sciences component of the MBBS curriculum has undergone complete restructuring. Changes are currently being implemented to the clinical component of the programme.

The following initiatives were also introduced. The Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work restructured the Masters of Social Work programme to offer students an increased range of options. There are now specializations in administration and management, clinical social work practice, and community organization and policy practice.

The B.Sc Degree in Labour and Employment Relations was developed as a multidisciplinary programme to prepare candidates to function effectively in the field of Labour and Employment Relations. This programme was devolved to the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work for implementation.

New Bachelors and Masters Degree programmes for Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety – a cross faculty project involving the department of Chemistry, and the Faculties of Medical Sciences and Social Sciences were also developed. The programmes were developed as a result of findings from UWI's collaborative research and outreach activities, which identified a poor grasp of occupational and environmental safety and health issues among managers, general leadership and workers in the private and public sectors.

In January 2004, the Campus also introduced a new Masters Degree Programme in Communication for Social and Behaviour Change. Offered through the CARIMAC, the programme equips students with a solid foundation in theory, research methods and practice. The School of Education also introduced a Master of Education Leadership in Early Childhood Development, in June 2004.



4 Enhancing Quality



Dr. the Hon. Donald Rhodd, Minister of State, Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture, delivers the keynote address at the launch of the Master of Education Leadership in Early Childhood Development programme (June 28, 2004). Seated beside him is Dr. Monica Brown, Senior Lecturer in Educational Psychology, Institute of Education (now retired).

Members of the audience listen to the various presentations given at the launch of the Master of Education Leadership in Early Childhood Development programme.

Under the Vincent Hosang Entrepreneurship Programme, which was established by the Mona School of Business (MSB) in November 2002, and aimed at developing students' entrepreneurial skills, three projects were developed to a viable stage and were presented to potential investors from the private sector.



Potential investors from the private sector who assess the projects under the Vincent Hosang Entrepreneurship Programme, to determine their viability



Three teams of students from the Mona School of Business, through the Vincent Hosang Entrepreneurship Programme - "Students to Entrepreneurs", present their business plans to potential investors from the private sector, who assess their viability



4 Enhancing Quality

Also at the MSB, preparation for the Opportunity Funding Corporation (OFC) Venture Challenge Competition started in August 2003 and attracted 14 entries. This competition is designed to select the best entrepreneurial business projects by final year students on the Mona Campus. Four of these were selected to go to the final round of the competition held in December 2003 and the project "Transtrek" emerged the winner. The "Transtrek" team therefore represented the UWI at the 4th Annual Opportunity Funding Corporation Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition hosted by Clark Atlanta University. This is a prestigious competition for MBA students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States.

The team presented a technologically innovative project designed for commuters to access information on the location of public transportation (for example, a bus) by using a cellular telephone and a few simple dialling instructions. The team placed third in the competition.

Trade Policy Course

A three-month Trade Policy Course was introduced in February, 2004. The first course, which was a collaborative effort between the Campus and the World Trade Organization, Institute for Training and Technical Cooperation aimed at providing government officials of the English speaking Caribbean with trade related technical assistance in order to build this capacity within the region. It is intended that subsequent courses will be selffinancing.



Professor the Hon. Kenneth Hall addresses the audience at the Opening Ceremony of the World Trade Centre (WTO) sponsored three month Trade Policy Course, introduced in February 2004.



Members of the "Transtrek Limited" team that represented the UWI at the 4th Annual Opportunity Funding Corporation Venture Challenge Business Plan Competition hosted by Clark Atlanta University: (I-r) Steve Whyte, Jackie Leckie-Johnson, Stacey Ann Wong, and Beverley Crooks-Johnson



Participants at the Trade Policy course



4 Enhancing Quality

The Curriculum is being further expanded to broaden and enrich students' academic and cultural experience. In the Faculty of Medical Sciences, students are encouraged to do electives overseas and visiting professors are invited to address the students on various topics. The Faculty also established a linkage with the Kings, Guys and Thomas' group of hospitals in London and will be accessing that facility in the upcoming years.

This broadening of student academic experience is achieved in the Faculty of Humanities and Education through its summer school activity and through the Education Overseas (Study Abroad and Student Exchange) programmes. For 2003/2004 academic year, the Campus hosted visiting and exchange students from the UWI, Cave Hill, UWI, St. Augustine, York University, Florida International, University of Toronto, Aix-en-Provence (France) and Michigan State University. Mona Students went on exchange to York University, University of Toronto, Queens University, Florida International, Michigan State University, St. John's University and UWI, St. Augustine. Another new feature under the Study Abroad and Education Overseas Programme was the briefing of Mona Students who studied overseas in Semester I. This will become a regular feature of the programme.

In March 2004, for the first time in its history, the Mona Campus hosted a Mini Student Exchange Fair. There were exhibits from a number of institutions, and former exchange students manned the booths. From the comments from those attending the fair, the student population was most appreciative of the event and there are plans to make the Exchange Fair an annual feature of the Campus.

The enriched curriculum has received positive feedback from the student population. The overall course satisfaction rating in semester 2 was 3.94 on a 5-point scale, ranging from 4.11 for courses in the Faculty of Medical Sciences to 3.34 for courses in Law. "Relevance to intellectual development" rated 3.86 overall for the Campus, ranging from 4.0 for the Faculty of Humanities and Education to 3.69 for the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences.

With respect to teaching, faculty continue on average to be highly rated. Quality of teaching is also assessed on a less systematic basis through discussions with students, and here as well, student perspectives suggest a positive rating for teaching as a whole.

Participation of Academic Staff in Workshops on Pedagogy

The Instructional Development Unit (IDU) offered a number of professional development workshops to faculty and administrative staff in its drive to improve effective pedagogical principles. There were 21 workshops in which 334 staff members participated in the 2003/2004 academic year. Some of the workshops were; Course Design: Developing Objectives; Translating Objectives through Materials Selection; and



 $\label{eq:constructional} \text{Dr. Beryl Allen, Manager, Instructional Development Unit, addresses participants at the 2003/2004 orientation for new members of faculty$



Translating Objectives through Structuring Learning Tasks; Maximising Conference Participation; An approach to Handling Sensitive Issues while Teaching; Teaching Skills: How Students Learn; How Students Cope with Meeting the Demands of University Courses; and Techniques and Strategies to Help Students Learn Effectively; Course Evaluation: Defining, Purpose and Models. The IDU in collaboration with the UWI Office of Research also hosted a workshop entitled PhD Supervision: Supervisor Development, led by Professor Gina Wisker of Anglia Polytechnic University in the UK. Participants thought the workshop invaluable.

Best practice advice was sought from seven local peer institutions and a workshop on best practice held on December 04, 2003. Two experts from other universities conducted workshops on the Campus in 03/04 and eight (8) notable Campus academics shared experiences with faculty. Given the demand for staff development, the IDU resource allocation is currently under review to handle the unit's enlarged mandate.

Individual faculties made concerted efforts in the area of staff development. Notably, in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, the Departments of Pathology and Microbiology utilised various means to offer continuing development of staff. The Section of Surgery sent persons abroad on Commonwealth scholarships and the Student Tracking System facilitated the training of a number of staff members in curriculum writing.

Tangible Recognition and Encouragement of Excellence in Teaching, Scholarship and Research

The Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence for 2004 was awarded to 3 members of the academic staff based at Mona. Dr. Willard Pinnock of the Department of Chemistry, was awarded for excellence in teaching;



Dr. Willard Pinnock, Department of Chemistry, receives the first "Guardian Life Teaching Excellence Award" for the Mona Campus



4 Enhancing Quality



The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding establishing the Guardian Life Teaching Excellence Awards for the Mona Campus. (I-r) Mr. Joseph Pereira, Deputy Principal, Mona Campus; Mr. Earl Moore, President, Guardian Life; Professor Elsa Leo-Rhynie, Pro Vice Chancellor, Board for Undergraduate Studies; and, Dr. Beryl Allen, Manager, Instructional Development Unit, Mona Campus

Professor Ishenkumba Kahwa, also of the Department of Chemistry, for all-round performance in research accomplishments and contribution to public service, and Ms. Stephney Ferguson, University/Campus Librarian for all-round performance in service to the University community and contribution to public service. Dr. Pinnock also received the Guardian Life award for teaching, which was being made available to Mona academics for the first time. Additionally, at the Annual Research Day exercise, the Principal presented awards to 27 top researchers.

Research Day 2004

The theme of Research Day 2004 was Science, Technology & Innovation. The two days that marked the occasion started with a grand opening ceremony on January 29 at the Undercroft of the Senate Building. Chairman of the event, Professor Wayne Hunte, welcomed the international audience, including representatives from the United States, the Netherlands, Barbados, Grenada Trinidad, China, Singapore, Malaysia and Britain.

In his welcome address, Principal Hall said that the emphasis on Science and Technology brought to the forefront some of the many innovative ways the UWI faculty had contributed to the creation of knowledge in this area. The Grenadian Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Keith C. Mitchell, who was the keynote speaker charged the University to take the lead in creating a "University without walls" to ensure a deeper understanding of the impact Science and Technology has on the people of the region.

At the end of the two days, marked by a two-day policy conference and the numerous exhibits on display in the Assembly Hall and the faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, which were visited by hundreds from the public and private sectors and schools across the country, some 27 outstanding researchers from all faculties were awarded plaques in recognition of their outstanding contribution to research during the academic year. The categories of the awards were Best Publication, (book and article), Most Outstanding Researcher / Most Outstanding Research Activity, Project Attracting the Most Research Funds and the Most Successfully Commercialized Project. The Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Public Policy went to The Most Hon. Dr. Denise Eldemire-Shearer from the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry, while the Outstanding Contribution to Research at the UWI, Mona was awarded to Ian Randle Publishers.



4 Enhancing Quality



- 1. Professor the Hon. Kenneth Hall, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Mona Principal gives the introductory remarks and welcome at the Opening Ceremony of Research Day (2004).
- 2. Dr. the Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, delivers the main address at the Opening Ceremony of Research Day (2004).
- 3. The audience listens attentively to the presentations at the Opening Ceremony of Research Day (2004).
- 4. Professor Wayne Hunte, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research), Office of the Board for Graduate Studies and Research gives his address at the Opening Ceremony for Research Day (2004).
- 5. Persons in attendance view with interest the Research Day exhibits at the various departmental booths of the Main Exhibition held in the Assembly Hall.
- 6. The Grenadian Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Keith Mitchell gives a warm handshake to the Jamaican Minister of Education, Youth and Culture, the Hon. Maxine Henry-Wilson as the Mona Principal, Professor the Hon. Kenneth Hall looks on.
- 7. Mr. Ian Randle, CEO of Ian Randle Publishers Ltd. receives the Principal's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Research at the UWI, Mona Campus from the Mona Principal, Professor the Hon. Kenneth Hall, as members of Mr. Randle's family look on.
- 8. Mr. Michael Gardener, Anatomy lecturer, Department of Basic Medical Sciences has the rapt attention of the Grenadian Prime Minister, Dr. the Hon. Keith Mitchell, the Mona Principal, Professor the Hon. Kenneth Hall and members of the public, as he explains different aspects of his research exhibit of the human skull.
- 9. The awardees pose proudly for the camera with their plaques in hand at the close of the 2004 Research Day Awards Ceremony.