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Research Output





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The 2003/2004 academic year witnessed the forging of a number of linkages between Mona academics and researchers from other institutes/units/agencies both within and outside the institution. Many of these linkages took the form of collaborative research projects. Among the most noteworthy was the participation of the Psychiatry team of the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry in the Latin American and Caribbean Network on Mental Health Services Research that was convened by the Pan American Health Organization. Similarly, a team from the UWI HIV/AIDS Response Programme (UWI HARP) visited the Dominican Republic in March 2004 and held discussions with representatives of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Higher Education and leaders of eight universities, with a view to establishing collaborative links for curriculum development and research. A significant achievement within the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences was the selection by the United Nation Environmental Protection Agency (UNEP) of the Pesticide Research Laboratory as one of the designated *Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP)* laboratories in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is the only such designated laboratory in Jamaica.

The Faculty of Medical Sciences also continued to deepen its collaboration with the International Centre for Nuclear Sciences (ICENS). Studies were conducted within a multidisciplinary framework focussing on the examination of relationships between soil, the food chain and human health, and included a research project that investigated the possible effects of cadmium (an environmental toxin) intake on the high incidence of diabetes, prostate cancer and renal disease in Jamaica. Another important collaborative project entailed the island-wide survey of basic school children for blood lead poisoning. As the project entered its final stage, 892 children were examined and 15 received urgent medical attention. Other important project

achievements included the isolation of the lead sources, education programmes for the parents, teachers and children, and the staging of seminar presentations and workshops for health practitioners.

At the wider level the Campus continued to expand its graduate studies programme as well as to seek to increase the student enrolment levels in the existing programmes. A total of 632 students were enrolled in research degree programmes with the greatest concentration in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences. This number represented a positive trend in research student enrolment over the period, 2001/2002 – 2003/2004.

Table3: Growth in the Number of Research Students by Faculty for the Period 2001/2002 – 2003/2004

FACULTY/PROGRAMME	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004
Humanities & Education - Humanities			
M.Phil.	66	80	97
Ph.D.	36	39	42
Sub-Total	102	119	139
Humanities & Education - Education			
M.Phil.	32	44	53
Ph.D.	10	12	10
Sub-Total	42	56	63
Medical Sciences			
M.D.	2	1	2
M.Phil.	51	62	66
Ph.D.	27	34	44
Sub-Total	80	97	112
Pure & Applied Sciences			
M.Phil.	176	183	188
Ph.D.	44	59	62
Sub-Total	220	242	250
Social Sciences			
M.Phil.	31	32	34
Ph.D.	35	36	34
Sub-Total	66	68	68
GRAND TOTAL	510	582	632

Source: Student Information System as



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Given the focus on the development of initiatives to increase the level of research productivity on the Campus, there was a significant number of publications, particularly those which were peer-reviewed, produced during the academic year 2003/2004. In the Faculty of Humanities and Education ten books, half of which came out of the Department of History and Archaeology, were published. A total of 104 publications were produced by the various departments of the Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Table 4: Research Publications: Faculty of Medical Sciences, 2003/2004

DEPARTMENT	Publications	Conference Presentations
Advanced Nursing Education	7	11
Basic Medical Sciences	18	26
Community Health & Psychiatry	9	50
Medicine	5	19
Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Child Health	23	79
Pathology	19	11
Microbiology	11	12
Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care	19	20
TOTAL	104	198

Source: Departmental Reports

In the Faculty of Social Sciences, some seventy-one (71) publications were produced during academic year 2003-04 while in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, nearly 300 papers were produced with roughly 100 being in the form of refereed publications. This represented an increase in the level of scholarly output in the Faculty, and the continuation of a positive trend in the number of refereed publications.

Table 5: Growth in Research Output from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences for the Period 2001/2002 to 2003/2004

DESCRIPTION	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	TOTAL
Refereed Publications	66	98	102	266
Non-Refereed Publications	18	29	42	89
Conference Presentations	86	151	135	372
TOTAL	170	278	279	727

Source: Departmental Reports

The highlight for the Faculty was the relatively high number of publications coming out of the Department of Life Sciences, as roughly 15 papers had been published within the academic year. Among the most noteworthy was a special volume of the *Bulletin of Marine Sciences* that was edited by Drs. Mona and Dale Webber and focussed on the work done at the Port Royal Marine Laboratory. This is a significant achievement as the journal is distributed over the entire globe with 781 subscribers in over 35 countries.