

Principal's Statement



Educating for Development



The academic year 2008–09 brought home even more forcibly than before the unique challenges that we, as a Campus, face in comparison with the other three UWI Campuses. The crisis in the national economy negatively impacted the Jamaican Government's contribution to the University's income. The current academic year's budget was cut by some \$800M.

Needless to say, the Campus Management is keenly aware that it cannot respond to declining government contributions by contracting operations. Indeed, it acknowledges that in harsh economic climates it is especially critical for the University to redouble its efforts to lead in a national effort to propel economic growth. Accepting, then, that investment in tertiary level education is vital to national development the Mona Campus, guided by the imperatives of the 2007–12 Strategic Plan, spent the last academic year in a dynamic exercise to further differentiate the Campus from competing institutions; this, to respond more readily to the needs of our stake-

holders so as to encourage investments in quality tertiary education.

In consolidating our efforts begun in the previous year towards differentiation within the tertiary education system, we continued, designed and implemented programmes to effect agile and improved responsiveness to our various constituents, namely: our students, governments, employers, neighbouring communities, the developing economic sectors, our external / international collaborators, alumni and donors.

This report highlights some of these initiatives. Campus leaders, faculty and staff have shown a commitment and focus that not only led to significant achievements against the strategic objectives we set ourselves, but also laid a sure foundation for embracing the challenges still ahead.

GORDON SHIRLEY
Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal