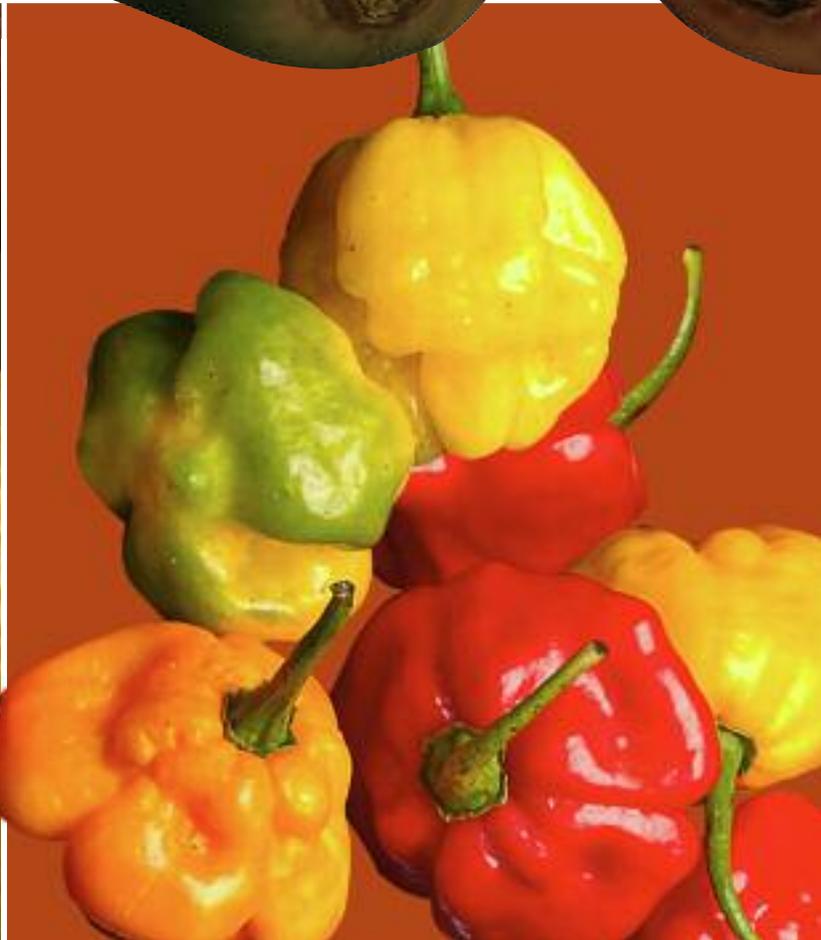
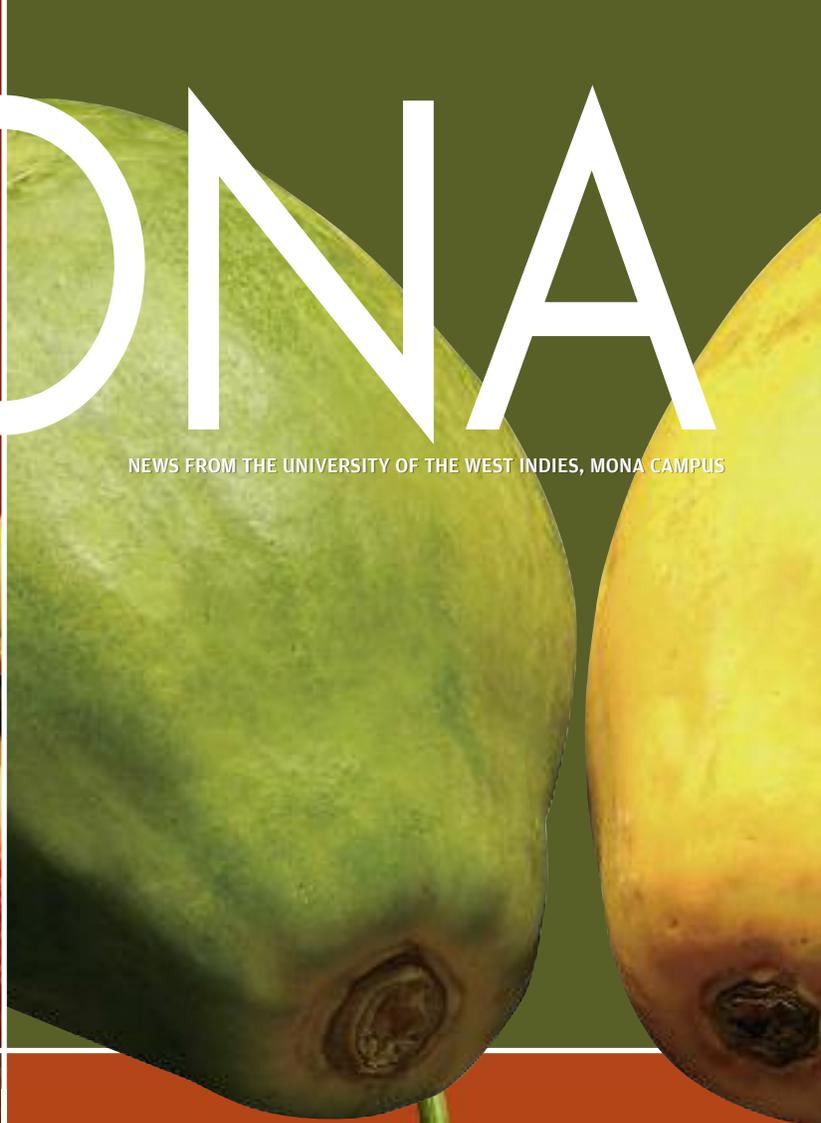
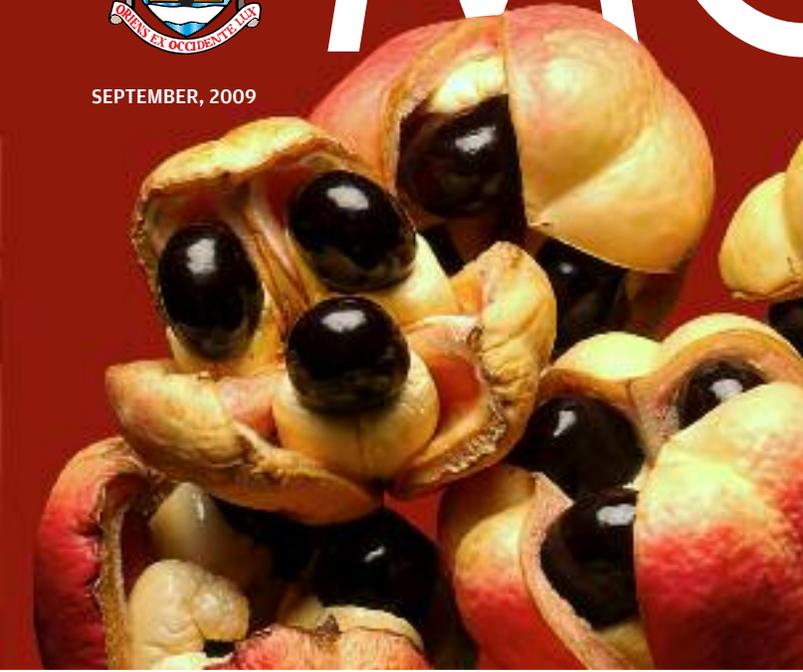




SEPTEMBER, 2009

MONA

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, MONA CAMPUS



**POSTGRADUATE LEARNING COMMONS
OPENS IN MAIN LIBRARY**

**PIONEERING PHYSICAL MEDICINE
& REHABILITATION**

**UWI:
MAKING IMPACT ON AGRICULTURE**

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UWI'S MISSION

THE ENDURING MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES IS TO PROPEL THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT OF WEST INDIAN SOCIETY THROUGH TEACHING, RESEARCH, INNOVATION, ADVISORY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES, AND INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP.

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Transforming UWI, Mona into an Agile, Globally Competitive Institution

Now entering the third year as Principal of the Mona Campus of the UWI, I hope that our commitment to executing the 2007-12 Strategic Plan that has as its mission the transformation of a University established in colonial times into an agile, globally competitive 21st century academy, is palpably evident. Over the past two years, we have introduced new programmes in science, engineering, agriculture and law that are responding to our citizens' call for quality academic degrees that drive development and that are available at affordable prices.

We have opened up a satellite Campus in Montego Bay to cater to a wider cross-section of our people and introduced programmes there that will drive development in the western region. We have refashioned our programmes in media communications, rationalized and augmented our sports teaching and research programmes and re-focused our curricula in cultural studies.

To support a strengthened Mona Campus curriculum, we have increased student and faculty access to library and ICT facilities.

Our international students office has rallied to the call to broaden the composition of the student body so that exposure to cultures other than our own, always a feature of the UWI, will resound with new meaning as we enfold students around the globe in exchange and degree programmes.

In tandem with these innovations, we have worked assiduously at becoming more responsive to our students' emotional, spiritual and psychological needs. To this end, we have spent a great deal of our marketing budget on producing reader-friendly and attractive programme brochures that act as welcoming guides to faculty offerings and campus life. The campus has been virtually transformed with bursts of colourfully painted buildings and strategically placed shaded sitting areas that are wireless hotspots dotting freshly landscaped grounds. Round the clock work to transform the administrative operations, through upgrade and integration of our enterprise systems and the acculturation of staff towards efficient service delivery, has been another priority.

So the question is asked: now that each of the three country campuses of the UWI offers all academic programmes, what will become of the regional identity of the University? To me, the answer is simple. Students from across the Caribbean who are scholarship holders or who are financially secure, will often choose a Campus away from their home, if that Campus's quality is sufficiently competitive. The same holds true for faculty.

Additionally, the cross-campus collaboration required in developing a UWI curriculum, setting and marking examinations and ensuring academic programme quality, anchors the regional nature of the University. Finally, the effort to institutionalise cross-campus and intra-regional courses and student internships, the many co-and extra-curricula student enrichment programmes requiring student travel across the Caribbean, command centre stage in one of the key pillars of the Strategic Plan, that of strengthening teaching and learning. The regional nature of the UWI, Mona Campus stands firm.

I am pleased to welcome our new and returning students to a Campus whose sole purpose is to lead in the development of a nation and a region where they can enjoy freedom, brotherhood, prosperity and peace.



Gordon Shirley, OJ
Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal
UWI, Mona Campus

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REX NETTLEFORD HONOURED FOR CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS

OFTEN TOUTED AS ONE OF THE REGION'S LEADERS IN THE PERFORMING ARTS, NETTLEFORD WAS HONOURED FOR HIS IMMEASURABLE CONTRIBUTION TO CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE REGION.



PROFESSOR NETTLEFORD (RIGHT) ACCEPTS WARM CONGRATULATIONS AT THE AWARDS CEREMONY

“Life is long distance running, not sprinting.” These words of advice were among many offered by International cultural icon, Professor Rex Nettleford, as he received the The Chancellor’s Award from The University of The West Indies (UWI). Nettleford was honoured at a ceremony held on Friday 24th April at Daaga Auditorium, UWI, St.

Augustine Campus. The ceremony was hosted by UWI Chancellor Sir George Alleyne, and attended by members of the diplomatic corps and Government Ministers. As was only fitting, this event proved to be a cultural treat, as it featured The Lydian singers, dancers, steel pan music and tassa drums, under the capable direction of Pat Bishop.

The Chancellor’s Medal is a special Award of Distinction made by the Chancellor of The University of the West Indies to a person who has made a signal, substantial and lasting contribution to the welfare and development of The UWI. It is also awarded to persons who have enabled The University of the West Indies to gain access to significant resources for the achievement of its mission: delivering to the region quality higher education through teaching, outreach and research, and thereby facilitating the Caribbean’s growth and development.

In an acceptance speech that touched on a myriad of topics, Nettleford even managed to squeeze in an “appeal to my university colleagues to double their efforts, work harder than many of us admittedly now tend to do, to bring to our students (the next generation) the caring and compassion which a true centre of learning must afford its wards, and foster the sense and sensibility that will have the region fully prepared to engage the globalised chal-

lenges no one of us can handle on one’s own”. He also expressed his “deepest appreciation, humility and gratitude” at receiving this prestigious award and explained that he owed a lot to “this flagship Caribbean institution of growth and instrument of development”.

Often touted as one of the region’s leaders in the performing arts, Nettleford was honoured for his immeasurable contribution to cultural development in the region. *Cont’d...*

This well-known Caribbean scholar, trade union educator, social and cultural historian and political analyst is the founder, artistic director and principal choreographer of the internationally acclaimed National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica. A former Rhodes Scholar, he is Vice Chancellor Emeritus of UWI, and was responsible for introducing the Cultural Studies Initiative which has attracted many postgraduate scholars since its inception in 1996.

Given his extensive list of achievements it's no surprise that Nettleford wholeheartedly believes that "sustained professional application is the surest guarantee of excellence". Professor Nettleford has served the region in many capacities and continues to do so as editor of Caribbean Quarterly Journal, the region's oldest journal. Additionally,

he has served on several international bodies concerning intercultural development and academic scholarship, such as UNESCO and The Organisation of American States (OAS).

To date, Professor Nettleford has been the recipient of numerous awards including CARICOM'S highest award the Order of the Caribbean Community (OCC). In his address, Nettleford urged all to recognise that 'the real resources of our regional university lie in the people who teach, conduct research and reach out to the wider society which it was set up to serve'. Undoubtedly Rex Nettleford will continue to serve his country, his region and the world of cultural arts. 

BERMUDA JOINS THE UWI FAMILY

Bermuda's petition to be recognised as a full contributing country of The University of the West Indies (UWI) was unanimously accepted at the Annual Business Meeting of The University Council, which was held for the first time at the St Augustine Campus. This means that the Government of Bermuda will from here on contribute to the revenues of the UWI based on an agreed formula and students from Bermuda will be charged tuition fees at the subsidised rate. Bermuda will be a part of the Open Campus, and what is now referred to as the UWI-12 countries that is, contributing countries which do not host a physical campus will now be known as the UWI-13.

The effective date of Bermuda's recognition as a full contributing country of the UWI will be on completion of the legislative measures which that country needs to put in place to honour its obligation.

CAAM-HP EXTENDS UWI ACCREDITATION WITH COMMENDATIONS

Two medical teaching programmes at The University of the West Indies (UWI) have been extended accreditation status from the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in

Medicine and Other Health Professions (CAAM-HP) 2009. The UWI Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Veterinary Medicine programmes both received accreditation and commendation from CAAM-HP. In extending the accreditation status of the UWI MBBS to 2012, CAAM-HP commended the University on the progress made in the governance of the Faculty of Medicine across campuses. CAAM-HP also congratulated the leadership of the School of Veterinary Medicine for the successes evident in the programme.

CAAM-HP is the legally constituted body established in 2003 under the aegis of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), empowered to determine and prescribe standards and to accredit programmes of medical, dental, veterinary and other health professions education on behalf of the contracting parties in CARICOM. On its official website www.caam-hp.org, CAAM-HP defines "accreditation" as "an objective peer review process designed to attest to the educational quality of new, developing and established educational programmes."

The CAAM-HP accreditation process aims to certify that a medical education programme meets prescribed standards, and to promote institutional self-evaluation and improvement. Acting independently of the participating countries, the CAAM-HP makes periodic evaluations of the medical, dental and veterinary education programmes in CARICOM countries. In preparation for the upcoming full survey visit by CAAM-HP to the UWI campuses in 2012, the University is now preparing to conduct an institutional self-study for the medical teaching programme during the year 2011. 

Scenes from Orientation 2009



UWI to Confer Sixteen Honorary Degrees

The University of the West Indies (UWI) will confer honorary degrees on sixteen individuals during graduation ceremonies on all the campuses later this year.

At the Mona Campus, **THE HON. JOHN ISSA** will receive a Doctor of Laws degree. This consultant and entrepreneur is one of the most influential figures in the Jamaican tourism industry. A former Senator in the Jamaican Parliament, he has served as Executive Chairman to Superclubs International Ltd and its subsidiaries and as a director of Grace Kennedy Ltd. He has been credited with introducing the concept of all-inclusive hotels in Jamaica, thereby revolutionising his island's tourist industry.

The degree DLitt *honoris causa* will be awarded to **MR. JOHN MAXWELL**, veteran journalist and environmental activist. Involved in media since the 1950s, he was also a lecturer at CARIMAC, UWI as well as at UTECH, Jamaica. During his six-decade career, he has been an icon in public education, especially in areas such as decolonisation, democratic governance and related topics. Maxwell is a passionate and unstinting advocate for the protection of beaches and other environmental causes as well as for the political liberation of Haiti.

Another recipient of the Doctor of Laws degree will be the **HON. OLIVER F. CLARKE**, Chairman and Managing Director of the Gleaner Company. He is often credited with turning one of the oldest newspaper publishers in the region into a very successful media enterprise. He is the co-founder of the Caribbean Media Corporation, now the region's leading multimedia communication service. He is also Chairman of the West Indian section of the Commonwealth Press Union and President of the Inter-American Press Association.

For her achievements as a publisher and cultural historian, the Honorary DLitt will be conferred on **DR. ANNE WALMSLEY**. Born in Derby, England, she has devoted herself to producing and disseminating works of West Indian Literature and Visual Arts. She became the first Caribbean publisher for Longmans and was instrumental in having several Caribbean classics republished.

She is well known for her documentation of the history of The Caribbean Artists Movement (CAM). Her deeply rooted interest in Caribbean culture and her efforts to ensure its preservation through her extensive documentation in over 39 publications has merited the UWI's recognition.

Professor **COLIN A PALMER** will also receive a DLitt at the Mona Campus graduation ceremony. Professor Palmer's range of scholarly interests is exceptionally wide, thus he can serve as an expert in several areas including history and black culture. Aside from his academic endeavours he has served the region in several community initiatives through the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Currently a Dodge Professor at Princeton University, USA, he nevertheless remains committed and loyal to his alma mater, UWI Mona.

At the Cave Hill Campus, the honorary degree of Doctor of Sciences will be conferred on **SIR FREDERICK BALLANTYNE**, Governor General of St Vincent and the Grenadines, who has had a long and distinguished career as a Medical Doctor, Educator, Entrepreneur and Administrator.

Another entrepreneur **MR. PAUL BERNARD ALTMAN** will receive an LLD at Cave Hill. Mr. Altman has prospered as a leader in tourism development and heritage conservation in the Caribbean for over 30 years and is an avid supporter of The UWI. He was inducted into the Chancellor's Circle in 2008.

SIR LLOYD ERSKINE SANDIFORD will also receive the honorary LLD at the Cave Hill Campus. This scholar, statesman, author, educator, diplomat and politician, served as the fourth Prime Minister of Barbados, and was heavily involved in both the formation of the Caribbean Examinations Council and the Heads of Government Meeting which made the decision to institute the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM).

PROFESSOR ZELMA EDGELL will receive a DLitt at Cave Hill. A native of Belize, this accomplished novelist began her career as a reporter for the Jamaica Gleaner and currently serves as Professor at Kent State University, Ohio, USA. She has struggled to advance the position of women in society, serving as the Director of both the

Women's Bureau in the Government of Belize, and the Department of Women's Affairs.

At the St. Augustine Campus, **MR. YESU PERSAUD** is to receive an LLD for his entrepreneurial and philanthropic endeavours. From humble beginnings in Guyana, this businessman transformed Demerara Distillers Ltd into one of the most modern, technologically advanced distilleries in the Caribbean. He is also founder and chairman of Demerara Bank Ltd, one of the first West Indian banks wholly owned and managed by Guyanese.

Petroleum industry pioneer, **MR. ROBERT B. RILEY** will receive the LLD. As Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BP Trinidad and Tobago, he has been at the helm of a company which contributes 25% of the Trinidad and Tobago Government's tax revenue. Additionally, he is credited with pioneering offshore petroleum platforms in Trinidad and Tobago.

Theatre artist and poet **MR. CHRISTOPHER LAIRD** will receive the honorary D Litt. Mr. Laird has devoted his life to developing the media, communication and film industries in Trinidad and Tobago. He was heavily responsible for the establishment of Banyan, which grew into the first independent television programme production house in the southern Caribbean.

Environmental Activist **ANGELA CROPPER** will receive a DLitt at St. Augustine for her outstanding service to Trinidad and Tobago, the region and the world in relation to issues of the Environment and Sustainable Development. She has recently been appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme.

The noted biographer, **PROF ARNOLD RAMPERSAD**, will receive the DLitt. Professor Rampersad is a Professor of English and the Sara Hart Kimball Professor in the Humanities at Stanford University. Among his many works of biography and criticism was the two-volume **Life of Langston Hughes** for which the first volume was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. His work on W. E. B. Du Bois is also highly acclaimed.

The Open Campus graduation ceremony takes place in St Lucia on October 17th. An LLD will be conferred on **DR. PEGGY ANTROBUS**. This dedicated social worker is well respected for her contributions to society as well as her support of the feminist ideology. The man who gave St. Lucia its greatest symbol of independence, The Hon. **DUNSTAN ST. OMER** will receive a D Litt. St. Omer designed the National Flag of St. Lucia in 1967 and also served as editor of the leading newspaper, The Voice of St. Lucia, from 1959 to 1962. **M**

New Appointments: *Congratulations to...*

Professor of Social and Political Change in the Department of Government, **Brian Meeks**, on his appointment as Director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) for three years, effective August 1, 2009, on the retirement of the current director, Professor Neville Duncan.

Mrs. **Joan Vacianna** and Mrs. **Verna George**, who have been appointed Deputy Librarians in the Main Library at Mona, effective March 1, 2009. **M**



Mrs. Joan Vacianna

Prof. Brian Meeks

Mrs. Verna George

UNESCO Funds Distance Teaching for Development of Small Island States

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has made a grant of just over one million Jamaican dollars to support the University Consortium of Small Island States (UCSIS) to develop a joint degree programme to be offered by the five members of the consortium: The University of the West Indies, The University of the South Pacific, The University of the Virgin Islands, The University of Malta and The University of Mauritius.

The joint degree programme will provide practical, high quality education, research and development and outreach to Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in order to enhance their capacity to implement the Barbados Programme of Action (BOPA). The BOPA was achieved in 1994 at the first Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of SIDS, convened in Barbados. It is a blueprint for action and measures to be taken at the national, regional and international levels in support of the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

The UNESCO-funded project will develop a catalogue of

existing graduate courses offered by the Consortium, focusing on those which are most relevant to the major development issues facing Island States and indicating which would be most suitable for inclusion in an integrated cross-campus Masters degree programme. When the joint degree is completely developed it will be possible for students to read for a degree that comprises courses offered in different institutions, so that students in Malta or Mauritius, for example, could take courses offered by The UWI as part of their degree; while UWI students will be able to add courses offered by any of the other universities in the Consortium to their degree.

In addition to the joint accreditation, UCSIS objectives are to cooperate in curriculum development, research, indigenous knowledge management and outreach in the key areas of sustainable development of SIDS; share research findings and reference materials; develop curricula relevant to island development and improve information flow among Members on courses, facilities and student needs.

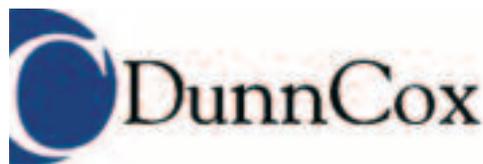
The Secretariat of the Consortium is on the Mona campus. For further information please contact the UCSIS at +1 876 977 5530 or email the coordinator, Dr David Smith at ucsis@uwimona.edu.jm 

Vice Chancellor's Awards for Excellence

The Vice Chancellor's Awards Selection Committee has named three members of staff at the Mona Campus among those to receive the Vice Chancellor's Awards for Excellence 2008/2009. The three are Dr. Michael Ponnambalam, Department of Physics, for Teaching; Professor Anthony Harriott, Department of Government, for All-round Excellent Performance in Research and Public Service and Professor Affette McCaw-Binns, Department of Community Health & Psychiatry, for All-round Excellent Performance in Research and Public Service.

Two other awards will be made to Professor Clement Imbert, Faculty of Engineering, St. Augustine, for Public Service, and to Professor Robin Mahon, CERMES, Cave Hill for All-round Excellent Performance in Research and Public Service. The awards will be presented at a ceremony scheduled to take place at the Mona Campus in November 2009.

The Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence was instituted in 1994 as a way of recognizing excellence on the part of academic and senior administrative staff. Awards are made in the categories of Teaching and/or Administration; Research; University Service, and All-round performance in a combination of two or more of the other four areas. 



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Centre for Disability Studies to be Established at Mona

The University of the West Indies (UWI) has taken the decision to establish a Centre for Disability Studies (CDS), in order to advance the development agenda of persons with disabilities within the Caribbean, through research, academic studies, training and advocacy. The Centre began operations on August 1, 2009 with Mr. Floyd Morris as Co-ordinator.

The CDS has evolved out of the Office of Special Students Services which was established to give critical support to students with disabilities at UWI. This office has played an indelible role in advancing the cause of students with disabilities at the institution over the past 20 years. It has assisted many students with disabilities in their programme of studies and transformed their lives in a fundamental way. But whilst the Office for Special Student Services has played this transforming role for a few members of the community of persons with disabilities, it is felt that this level of success is worthy of being extended to a larger segment of the targeted population in Jamaica and of being replicated throughout the Caribbean, hence the decision to establish the CDS.

The mission of the CDS is “to transform and empower disabled individuals throughout the Caribbean through the use of applied research, education and training and public advocacy.” The vision is “to make UWI the premier research, academic and policy formulating institution for the disabled in the Caribbean and to assist in incorporating members of this community in a broader productive network in the region.”

The CDS will have nine (9) major objectives:

- To actively place the issue of disability on the developmental agenda within the Caribbean
- To place the Centre in a position to act as a focal point for soliciting funding for research and other projects relating to the disabled in the Caribbean
- To strategically increase the levels of expertise on the subject of disability in the Caribbean
- To strengthen the teaching programme in relation to Disability Studies up to the Post-Graduate level
- To increase the number of students with a disability at the UWI
- To replicate the progress and achievements made at Mona, to the other UWI campuses within the region

- To make available, the most modern and effective technologies for the empowerment of disabled students attending UWI and
- To actively pursue the expansion of scholarships for students with a disability at the institution.

Initially, the Centre will focus on four key areas: research; academic programming; training and public advocacy. With respect to research, the CDS will focus on areas of research relating to the Disabled and HIV in the Caribbean; the Disabled and the Labour Market in the Caribbean; the Disabled and Entrepreneurship in the Caribbean; the Disabled and the Development of Sports in the Caribbean; the Challenges of the Disabled in the Education System of the Caribbean; the Disabled and Aging in the Caribbean; the Disabled and Poverty in the Caribbean and the Disabled and Family Life in the Caribbean.

In keeping with the objective of widening the knowledge base on persons with disabilities in the Caribbean, it is proposed to introduce a number of academic programmes and degrees to ensure that the Caribbean becomes an inclusive society that embraces persons with disabilities. To accomplish these strategies, the CDS will be working with the relevant faculties and departments, in a collaborative way.

Training of persons with disabilities will also be an important part of the Centre’s operations. A major aim of this initiative is to increase the possibility of more disabled students matriculating for UWI. In this context, a Year Zero program will be introduced to assist deaf and blind students who, under normal circumstances, would have been qualified for the UWI but their disability has caused them to have serious challenges with Mathematics and English.

Public Advocacy

Another major objective of the CDS will be to increase advocacy for better treatment of persons with disabilities within the Caribbean. The Centre will collaborate with disability advocacy organizations such as the Combined Disabilities Association (CDA) in Jamaica and the Disabled People’s International (DPI) in the Caribbean to advocate for more strategic development of persons with disabilities within the Caribbean and for the employment of trained persons with disabilities. The CDS will also be advocating for the development of a regional policy for the disabled. 

Health Leadership Institute Focusing on Policymakers

The Caribbean may soon see a new cadre of leaders emerge in the field of health. This is the promise of the Caribbean Health Leadership Institute (CHLI), a subsidiary of The University of the West Indies (UWI).

CHLI is expected to enhance the skills and effectiveness of Caribbean leaders in the Caribbean health sector, including persons leading HIV/AIDS programmes. The Institute graduated its first cohort in March 2009 during a synchronized videoconference ceremony broadcast simultaneously throughout the Caribbean from the School of Clinical Medicine and Research (Bahamas), as well as UWI Campuses in Mona (Jamaica) and Cave Hill (Barbados), the UWI Open Campus and the UWI telehealth facility in the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Mt Hope, Trinidad.

The Institute is the result of collaboration between UWI and the UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health. Its focus is not academic qualification, but personal learning and acquisition of wisdom that can be applied to workplace settings. CHLI is specifically geared toward established and emerging leaders from all areas of the health sector from

all over the Caribbean, with an initial emphasis on high level leaders and managers. Programme coordinators are especially interested in attracting persons directly involved in the leadership of national HIV programmes as well as from persons who oversee these programmes and who determine policies and priorities in health care.

The ultimate aim of the Institute is to raise up a cadre of leaders who will, in turn, contribute to the improvement of national and regional health systems. UWI Vice Chancellor, Professor E Nigel Harris, told the entire graduating class that he hoped that they would begin to work together to address issues of health and to create best practices that will serve our region well.

The emphasis on regional, rather than purely national, development was highlighted by the deliberate use of videoconferencing technology to bring the entire class together for a truly Caribbean event. University Registrar Mr C William Iton noted that this was, as far as he knew, “the first time that videoconferencing technology was being used in a UWI graduation ceremony.” 

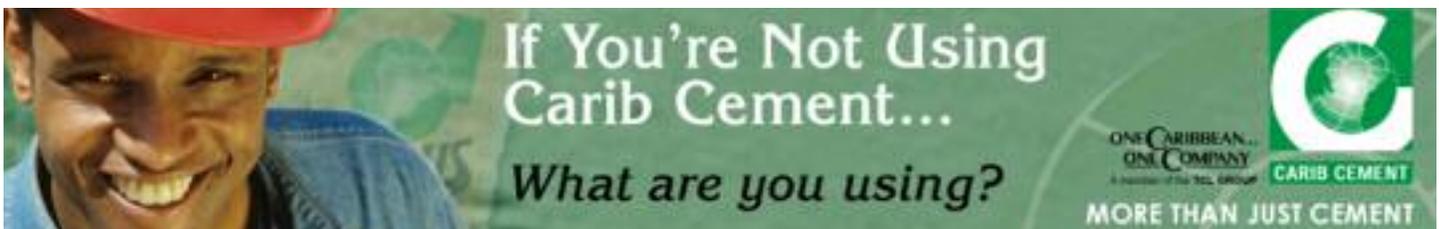
UWI now PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean

The UWI School of Nursing (UWISON) was officially launched as the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean during the School’s Annual Nursing Midwifery Research Conference and Mary Seivwright Day held May 28-29, 2009. Dr. Jean Yan, the Chief Scientist Nursing and Midwifery, WHO, Geneva, Switzerland and Coordinator, of the Health Professions Networks officially launched the School as one of the major activities which took place during the conference.

A WHO collaborating Centre is an institution designated by the Director-General of WHO to form part of an international collaborative network carrying out activities in support of the Organization’s programmes at all levels.

A WHO Collaborating centre must also participate in the strengthening of country resources, in terms of information, services, research and training, in support of national health development.

As a Collaborating Centre, UWISON will help to build capacity in the CARICOM region through nursing and midwifery educational programmes, consultation, administration and practice in order to make contributions in areas vital to the country’s essential health care needs. The Centre will facilitate the growth of nursing and midwifery research in the CARICOM region and collate and disseminate information related to advancements in nursing and midwifery, clinical practice, nursing education, administration and research. 





UWI PRO VICE CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL MONA CAMPUS, PROFESSOR GORDON SHIRLEY (LEFT) AND VICE CHANCELLOR, PROFESSOR NIGEL HARRIS AT THE OPENING OF THE PGLC IN FEBRUARY.

The newly opened Postgraduate Learning Commons (PGLC) is what many postgraduates have longed for - a communal space to call their own where they can unwind and study in a welcoming, relaxing environment. From the Mezzanine floor of the Main Library you enter a spacious work area which flows into an inviting lounge with bamboo chairs and sofas. All this is set against a backdrop of tropical hues and works of noted Jamaican artists. A panel of glass windows provide a stunning view of the Blue Mountains. A conference room, six group seminar rooms and a computer lab complete this facility.

The New Postgraduate Learning Commons

The PGLC is the brainchild of UWI Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of Mona Campus, Professor Gordon Shirley, who recognized the urgent necessity for a facility to support the graduate research and teaching programme of the University. The PGLC was officially opened on February 5 this year by Vice Chancellor Professor Nigel Harris and Distinguished Fellow, the Most Hon Edward Seaga.

Chief Librarian, Mrs Norma Amenu-Kpodo explains that the PGLC evolved from the current periodicals Reading Room, an Academic Staff Reading Room and a floor installed above the former Reference Reading Room (now MERIC). Mrs Amenu-Kpodo says that the UWI Library is committed to improving its services and becoming more user-friendly and that if the Library as an institution is to continue to attract users "its buildings have to be welcoming, attractive places with spaces in which users can visit, study, relax, reflect and conduct research" and rightly so; for libraries should provide not only access to information but also environments conducive to study and creative thinking.



SCENES FROM THE OPENING OF THE POST GRADUATE LEARNING COMMONS IN FEBRUARY.

Accessible to all UWI postgraduate students from all Faculties, the PGLC adopts the principles and best practices of learning commons internationally. Mrs Verna George, Deputy Librarian, Public Services and Outreach, and coordinator for the PGLC, was part of a fact finding team that visited a number of university libraries in Boston to view current library services, some of which are reflected here.

According to Mrs George, the Learning Commons is “a common area where several services are brought together to assist students in their learning”. The PGLC offers wireless Internet service. Its computer lab, equipped with 25 computers, gives access to a range of software including Office, SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences), Greenstone (for developing library databases), Nvivo Version 8 (which allows students to edit research material) and EndNote citation software. A photocopier, scanner and printer are also located conveniently at the PGLC and laptops are available on loan for use in the facility. The Conference Room, which seats 25 persons, and the seminar rooms are equipped with a white board and a computer each.

To enrich the academic experience, special seminars are held by the PGLC, among which has been a Seminar on Critical Thinking Essentials, presented by Professor Rex Welshon, Visiting Fulbright Scholar from the University of Colorado. The Library’s Mona Information Literacy Unit also conducts training sessions in the use of the OPAC, library databases, citation styles and EndNote.

Postgraduates have welcomed the PGLC and have made positive comments. Said Ms Julie Ann Grant, a postgraduate student at the opening ceremony, “We appreciate the hard work and the funds which have gone into making this a comfortable, well-equipped space for us graduates students and I can assure you that with an atmosphere such as this it will be a well sought after area.”

Such feedback is important to the PGLC.

The Library’s Blog at commentsformonalibrary.blogspot.com is accessible from the Library’s website and invites comments. Among recent comments on the PGLC were: “an excellent initiative”, “I like the atmosphere”, a “comfortable space to study” and “fosters relationship building”. Students have also submitted recommendations, particularly as it relates to the use of student identification cards in place of the current system of swipe cards accessed at the Main Library’s Reference Desk. Feedback is also received via email: pglc.library@uwimona.edu.jm or telephone: 512-3619.

Since the opening, traffic in the PGLC has been consistently high, especially on weekday evenings and on weekends. The seminar rooms were “booked solid in May”, recalls Mrs. Karen Tyrell, PGLC Library Assistant. The opening hours are Monday to Friday 8:30am to 6:00am, Saturday 8:30a.m. to midnight and Sunday noon to 8:00pm.

The PGLC speaks to comfort, convenience, collaboration and community as postgraduates study and socialize in an atmosphere that enriches their learning experience. Postgraduates, librarians, faculty members,

IT personnel, and other PGLC partners all collaborate to enhance the graduate students’ writing, research and information literacy skills in a single location. **M**



SPACIOUS CONFERENCE ROOM WITH SEATING CAPACITY FOR 25 PERSONS.



CHIEF LIBRARIAN, MRS NORMA AMENU-KPODO ADDRESSES THE OPENING CEREMONY.



PROFESSOR ELIZABETH THOMAS HOPE,
HEAD OF ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT CENTRE.

Recycling Starts at Home Mona Embraces Recycling Project

This project was developed to encourage a more sensitive attitude to waste management on the UWI Mona Campus. Funded by the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ), the project was perceived as a first stage in promoting an integrated solid waste management system, beginning with separation at source and ultimately recycling plastic bottles and containers. The project aimed to reduce PET and HDPE by 60% at the end of the

first year 2009, a target which was achieved. The project team consisted of Professor Elizabeth Thomas-Hope and Dr. Claudel Noel assisted by Mr. Dwayne Wilson.

The project sought to encourage voluntary compliance by all campus users and residents and give them the opportunity to practise responsible environmental behaviour, which is considered to be the backbone of any long term and cost effective recycling programme.

Professor Thomas-Hope explained why the team sharply focused its efforts on this area of recycling. "The project's focus on plastic bottles was a strategic decision as the campus generates more than 2,500 PET bottles per day. Other products that can be recycled, such as paper and organic waste need their own focused-approach and sepa-



THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT UNIT SHOWCASED THE PET RECYCLING PROJECT AT A CAMPUS EXPO. IN ONE YEAR 60% OF ALL PET AND HDPE WASTE PRODUCTS ON CAMPUS HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM REGULAR WASTE.



CAMPUS REGISTRAR, DR CAMILLE BELL HUTCHINSON PRESENTS AN AWARD AT THE CEREMONY TO RECOGNISE THE PARTICIPATION OF HALLS OF RESIDENCE IN THE RECYCLING PROJECT.

rate disposal arrangements. The project is about encouraging environmental responsibility and PET bottles seemed to be a suitable item with which to start," she said. To ensure sustainability on campus, the project needed

firm stakeholder buy-in, so discussions were held with the Campus Registrar, Director of Student Services and Development, Maintenance Department, Public Relations Office, Students Services and Development Managers and the Guild of Students. The team also sensitized each Hall Committee to establish and strengthen Environmental Clubs. Before assembling the recycling bins, the team also made several special presentations at public gatherings and distributed printed materials across the campus. In the beginning of the second semester, 172 recycling bins were placed beside general garbage bins at heavily traversed locations across the campus and on the Halls of Residence. The response was overwhelming. The team found that compliance in using the bin ranged between 90% and 95%. A survey revealed the reasons: 65% of respondents said that they wanted to protect the environment and 46% of the respondents wanted to do the right thing.

Professor Thomas-Hope cautions however that "environmental service cannot pay for itself and may eventually need a national strategy." This means that however great the response and valuable the project, it will need outside support. More than 300 lbs of plastic bottles and containers are recovered every week by PET and the team is now bending its efforts towards evaluating the feasibility of

“We will assess the possibility of a Federation of Environmental Clubs to encourage a cultural change on the campus”

recycling plastic containers for income generation.

Influencing UWI policy, Dr Noel believes, rests in student support. He said, "We will assess the possibility of a Federation of Environmental Clubs to encourage a cultural change on the campus. Environmental Clubs can be a catalyst for this change. We suggest that a representative of the Federation would have a permanent seat on the Guild of Students in order to influence and impact green policies."

As the team at the Environmental Management Unit continues to increase compliance in recovery of plastic bottles and containers, they are sharing their knowledge with other groups and schools with a similar interest.

Professor Thomas-Hope says, "The fact that the community response has been phenomenal one can only hope that this will lead to an influence on waste management policy at the

national level. For now, the project will settle for successes in the increase of collection capacity and income generation and ultimately a sustainable policy for integrated solid waste management by the UWI." 



PROJECT MANAGER, DR CLAUDEL NOEL (LEFT) AND PROJECT ASSISTANT, MR WAYNE WILSON PLACE ONE OF THE SPECIALLY DESIGNED RECYCLING CONTAINERS.

Tracer Study Shows 90% of UWI graduates Employed One Year After Graduation

Recent calls for a national tracer study to determine what happens to tertiary education graduates in the year after the completion of their first degree are timely given the current financial crisis and the need to allocate scarce resources in the local education sector.

The University of the West Indies, (UWI) Mona conducts tracer studies of its graduates on an annual basis. The most recent of these studies, carried out by the Office of Planning and Institutional Research, was of the Class of 2007. The survey sought to determine how students have fared in the job market one year after graduating, but also revealed important trends in the labour market.

The survey was initiated in January 2009 among 2,464 graduates residing in Jamaica and 180 graduates residing in other Caribbean territories. By the end of the survey period 24% of those surveyed had responded.

The survey sought to obtain information pertaining to the student's gender, faculty of study, degree earned, and class of degree. A series of questions were also asked on the graduate's employment status, the skills and competencies acquired while studying at Mona, and the extent to which their current job was related to their field of study.

Findings

The most important finding was that some 90% of UWI, Mona graduates are employed shortly after graduation and of the rest, 4.6 % were in postgraduate studies. Interestingly, 65% of graduates are employed in three areas of critical importance to the country's development: **Education (194), Healthcare (90) and Finance/Banking (90).**

The majority (42%) of respondents was in the 19-24 age group, and in keeping with recent trends, had a female: male ratio of 79:21. Table 1 shows the breakdown by Faculties

| PERCENTAGE OF GRADUATES BY FACULTY | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| FACULTY | PERCENTAGE |
| Humanities and Education | 35 |
| Medical Sciences | 13 |
| Pure and Applied Sciences | 13 |
| Social Sciences | 38 |

Most respondents graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree (62%), followed by a Bachelor of Education degree (18%) and a Bachelor of Arts degree (17%). The top ten major fields of study were Management Studies (66), Nursing (64), History (33), Hospitality and Tourism (28), Psychology (28), Education (22), International Relations (21), Media and Communication (19), Educational Administration (18), Literacy Studies (15) and Mathematics (15).

Employment status

Among the employed graduates, 37% were employed by a Central Government/Statutory Authority, 34% by the private sector, 23% by other public sector institutions, and 6% by other entities. Most respondents reported employment in the Education sector which accounted for 35%.

Type of Job

Among the employed graduates, 71% reported being employed on a full-time permanent basis while 22% were employed on a full-time temporary basis. Another 6% reported part-time employment and 1%, self-employment. The fact that 93% of respondents reported full-time employment speaks positively for the Mona Campus and is an indication of the opportunities in the labour market. Full-time employment was not limited to a particular age group and all three sectors (education, public, and private) accounted for almost equal shares of the full-time employed graduates.

Fifty-one percent (51%) of respondents said a first degree was not a minimum requirement for their job. The youngest age group (19-24) was the most likely to report that their job required a first degree and, among the sectors, the private sector was the most likely to require a First degree.

Job Related to Field of Study

Fifty-one percent (51%) of respondents said their job was directly related to their field of study, and another 27% said their job was somewhat related to their field of study. Only 10% of respondents reported that their current job was neither related to their field of study nor their preference.

DESPITE A WEAKENING ECONOMY, MANY GRADUATES ARE ABLE TO FIND DECENT PAYING JOBS ON A FULL-TIME PERMANENT BASIS

Interestingly 93 % of graduates reported that they would be pursuing advanced degrees, most of them in fields other than in the areas of their first degrees, the most popular being, Human Resources Management, Business Administration, Marketing, Law and Education.

Gross Monthly Salary (JA\$)

The median gross monthly salary (91% response rate), was \$82,250. The minimum and maximum full-time salaries ranged from \$16,000 to \$380,000 per month. When the mean salaries were compared by Faculty, the Faculty with the highest mean salary was Humanities and Education (\$98,181) followed by Pure and Applied Sciences (\$90,700) and Social Sciences (\$87,951). The mean salary for Medical Sciences was \$79,480.

Sixty-three percent (63%) of respondents from the Education Sector were 35 years or older, many of whom were employed as teachers with the Ministry of Education. Teaching salaries were reported on average in the \$90,000-\$120,000 range. Additionally, in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, 75% of respondents were nurses whose monthly salaries were in the \$40,000-\$50,000 range compared with the few MBBS respondents who reported monthly salaries in the \$100,000 and over range.

As would be expected, salaries increased with respondents' age. When the mean salaries were compared by sex, males had a higher mean salary (\$98,194) than females (\$89,758) by almost \$9, 000.

Salary data were also converted into annual income to see what patterns emerged. The results indicated that 61% of employed respondents were earning \$900,000 or more a year.

Summary and Conclusion

The Survey of First Degree Graduates, Class of 2007, has provided some useful information on graduates one year after graduation.

Findings also reveal important information about the labour market. Most notable are the three main sectors in which graduates are employed, Education, Healthcare, and Finance & Banking. Despite concerns over a weakening economy, many graduates are able to find decent paying jobs on a full-time permanent basis.

One area of concern is the gender imbalance at the Mona Campus which requires intervention at the level of the high school. More growth also needs to occur in postgraduate research programmes, perhaps through

better funding opportunities for students. With regard to innovative and entrepreneurial skills, the Mona Campus has moved to better prepare graduates in this area. Only 1% of respondents reported that they were self-employed. In 2009, the Department of Management Studies implemented the BSc Management Studies (Entrepreneurship) degree. This programme not only prepares graduates for the world of work but will also contribute to the country's economic growth

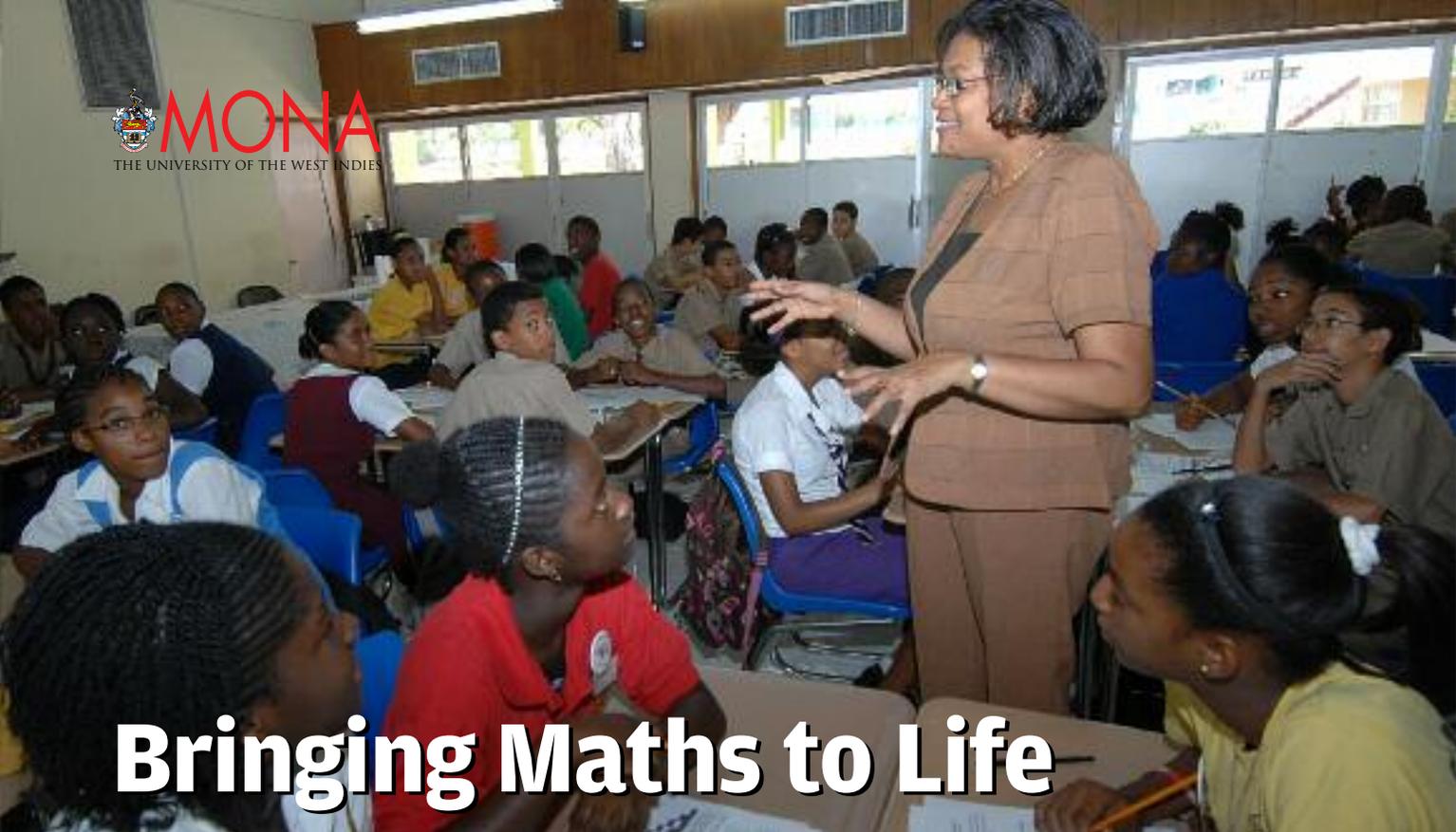


PRINCIPAL, PROFESSOR GORDON SHIRLEY MAKES A PRESENTATION TO TRACER STUDY WINNER JODY ANN SANG.

through increased entrepreneurship.

At the Mona School of Business, the Vincent HoSang Entrepreneurship Programme links students with successful business persons to help them learn the skills of entrepreneurship and start successful companies.

The Campus is also developing new programmes in engineering, agri-technologies and digital media. As the economic situation worsens, initiatives like these will help the UWI, Mona graduates to not only create jobs for themselves, but also to create opportunities for others. 



Bringing Maths to Life

DES HOSTS MATHEMATICAL PROBLEM-SOLVING COMPETITION
LECTURER IN THE DEPARTMENT, CAMELLA BUDDO ADDRESSES STUDENTS

The Department of Educational Studies hosted twenty-seven schools in a Mathematics Problem-solving Competition for Grade 9 students held in April 2009. The aim of the competition was for students to develop an appreciation of mathematics as a problem-solving tool and to note the relevance of mathematics to real-world situations.

The participating schools were: Anchovy High School, Ardenne High School, Bethel College (in Clarendon), Champion College, Charlie Smith High School, Clan Carty High School, Dinthill Technical High School, Excelsior High School, Glenmuir High School, Happy Grove High School, Herbert Morrison Technical High School, Holy Childhood High School, Immaculate Conception High School, Jamaica College, Kingston College, Meadowbrook High School, Mona High School, Ocho Rios High School, Papine High School, St. Andrew High School, St. Elizabeth Technical High School, St. Hugh's High School, St. Jago High School, Tivoli Gardens High School, Waterford High School, Wolmer's Boys School and Wolmer's Girls School. Traditional, Non-traditional and Technical High Schools from across the parishes in Jamaica entered the competition.

Lecturer in the Department, Camella Buddo, said that even though exam-like conditions were maintained during the competition, a non-threatening atmosphere was created for the students. For example, they were allowed to have the snack that was provided, while they worked on the problem.

“My own observation of the students indicated that while they worked cooperatively in their team of four, they had fun while they used their mathematical knowledge and skills and problem-solving techniques to solve the problem. The session after lunch seemed to have been most exciting for the students and their teachers. During this session, different problems were given on screen, and a prize was presented to the first student who was able to give the solution and justify the answer”, she said.

Five persons assisted as judges and Mrs. Lorna Thompson, Mathematics Education Officer with the Ministry of Education & Youth served as Chief Judge. Her verbal report indicated that the overall standard of performance among students was high. This year, five schools, instead of the usual four, were interviewed to determine the winners and their runners-up. These schools were Wolmer's Boys School, Ardenne High School, Glenmuir High School, Champion College & Immaculate Conception High School. Immaculate Conception High School emerged the winner. Champion College came second and Glenmuir High School came third.

All the students received Certificates of Participation. Gift certificates from Kingston Bookshop were presented to the teachers and students from the winning school and the runners-up. They were also presented with a trophy for the school and a plaque for each student. 

The Mona Team beat its counterparts from the other two campuses of the UWI as well as entrants from the University of Technology and the University of Southern Caribbean, Trinidad.

Three Time Champions!



CASE STUDY WINNERS

Members of the UWI, Mona team, three-time champions in The UWI/ & FirstCaribbean International Bank (FCIB) Case Analysis Competition at the recently held Case Analysis Competition which took place at Mona. Members of the Team are (from left to right), Sherica Lewars, Mehar Alam (who also won Team Spirit Prize) Tenneil Rashford, and Tifain Taylor (Best Overall Presenter). Missing is Faculty Advisor/Coach and Assistant Lecturer, Department of Management Studies, UWI, Mona, Vanessa Heman.

The UWI/ FCIB Case Analysis Competition allows participating tertiary level students to examine and scrutinize business strategies used by various Caribbean companies. The project uses the Caribbean business cases as a teaching device and tool to allow students to examine classroom theory in a practical setting. It also aims to improve their analytical, oratory and presentation skills, thereby ensuring that they are work-ready on graduation.

The Mona Team beat its counterparts from the other two campuses of the UWI as well as entrants from the University of Technology and the University of Southern Caribbean, Trinidad. 

THE UWI GREEN EXPO ECO SPHERE WAS A POPULAR STOP FOR MANY VISITORS OF THE EXPO



UWI Participates in Green Expo 09

The environmental work of the UWI Mona Campus was on display at the Green Expo organised by the Jamaica Conservation and Development Trust and held at the National Arena June 5-7. The theme of the UWI's display was "Climate Change: Impacting Land, Sea and Air".

It took the form of an Eco-dome showcasing research on coral reefs, landslides, climate change and its effects, alternative energy and natural hazards. The departments featured were the Centre for Marine Sciences, the Centre for Environment and Waste Management, the Climate Studies Group, the Institute of Sustainable Development, the Energy Conservation Unit, the Department of Physics (solar electricity generator) and Mona Geoinformatics. The highly interactive display allowed persons to 'feel' what the temperature will be like in the year 2100 due to the effects of global warming, by entering a specially constructed green house. A natural disaster simulator enabled visitors to determine the impact on their neighbourhood should Jamaica be affected by a tropical storm or earthquake similar to the one in 1907. The booth received very high favourability ratings from visitors with regard to the quality of information presented, level of interactivity, presentation and overall impact. Ninety per cent of visitors said that they had learned something new from the displays. One delighted visitor remarked :

"Nice to see our university getting more involved in the community. **Keep it up!**" 



THE DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS MOUNTED A DISPLAY OUTSIDE THE ARENA WHICH FEATURED A SOLAR ELECTRICITY GENERATOR, DEVELOPED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING WORKSHOP. HERE INTERESTED PATRONS LEARN HOW THEY CAN GENERATE THEIR OWN ELECTRICITY



A POPULAR FEATURE OF THE BOOTH WAS THE GREEN HOUSE WHICH FEATURED THE WORK OF THE CLIMATE STUDIES GROUP. THE GREEN HOUSE WAS HEATED TO A TEMPERATURE OF APPROXIMATELY 37 DEGREES CELSIUS WHICH ALLOWED PERSONS TO EXPERIENCE THE EFFECT OF GLOBAL WARMING.

Writing Jamaican the Jamaican Way/Ou Fi Rait Jamiekan

The Jamaican Language Unit released its first major commercial publication, a book titled, “Writing Jamaican the Jamaican Way/ Ou fi Rait Jamiekan” at a launch held June 17, 2009 at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. The launch was hosted by an animated personality, Emcee Jamtik, and was presented in an edutainment format. It featured a combination of digital and live performances, including budding dancehall artiste Nickesha Dawkins a.k.a. Gem Sto:n. She performed the specially written dancehall song titled, ‘Writing Jamaican the Jamaican Way’.

The book covers the fundamentals of the Jamaica Language such as the alphabet, vowels, nasalised vowels and consonants, grammar and use of the language in various settings. It ends with samples of written Jamaican pieces, including weather news reports, poems from one of the earliest writers in Jamaican, Claude McKay, and an Anansi story. An interactive CD is also included which allows the users of the book to associate letters with sounds and gives the users a sense of the authentic sound. The CD also features a music video of a dancehall piece by the DJ Gemsto:n, ‘Writing Jamaican

the Jamaican Way’, which summaries the entire content of the book in 5 minutes.

The book is designed to teach users how to write the Jamaican Language called Patwa, using the Cassidy standard writing system. “Writing Jamaican the Jamaican Way” will in part address the issue of freedom from discrimination on the ground of language, which had been raised in the Jamaican Parliament. A recommendation was made that a standardized writing system for the Jamaican Language was necessary in order to address this issue and hence the Jamaica Language Unit at UWI was approached to assist in this regard.

The book was produced with the help of funding from Carreras Limited as part of a grant made to the Jamaican Language Unit for a series of projects involving the promotion of the Jamaican language. Interested persons may visit the following links for more information on the JLU and to see teaser videos.

<http://www.mona.uwi.edu/dllp/jlu/index.htm>

<http://tv.mona.uwi.edu/#id=433>

<http://tv.mona.uwi.edu/#id=434> 

UWI MONA RECOGNISES STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Over four hundred UWI students were recognized at the annual Student Awards Ceremony held on the Mona campus in April 2009. Parents, friends, well wishers and members of the University family came out in their numbers to commend and celebrate with the recipients of awards. The Annual Ceremony recognizes students who have achieved academic excellence, as well as through their involvement in co-curricular activities, achieved excellence in service, leadership, culture and sports.

One of the highlights of the ceremony was the presentation of Premier Awards to students who have achieved excellence in the abovementioned categories, while representing the University. In order to qualify for this award, students must be suitable role models in

discipline, team building and human relations and must have demonstrated qualities including self-motivation, self-discipline, honesty, initiative, ability to motivate others and a sense of responsibility.

The Premier Award for Leadership (Male) was presented to past president of the Guild of Students, Roger Bent and the Premier Award for leadership (Female) went to former chair person of Rex Nettleford Hall, Siaelda Green. Premier awards for Culture were also presented to Vanessa Blair, Stephanie Graham, Randy McLaren and Gregory Simms for their performance in the area of



AWARDEES MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE ASSEMBLY HALL

Creative Arts. Peta Gay Plummer and Vishwanauth Tolan received Premier Awards for Service and Shakeela Elliott, the Premier Award for Sports. 


DR. PAULA DAWSON

“When I see persons debilitated by pain that are now free of it through my work that excites me”

Dr. Paula Dawson Pioneering Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation in Jamaica and the Caribbean

FOR HER, ATTENDING TO THE INJURY NEEDS OF TOP CLASS ATHLETES AND FLASHY SPORT PERSONALITIES YIELDS THE SAME TYPE OF UNABASHED EXCITEMENT AND JOY THAT SHE FEELS WHEN SHE SEES A YOUNG PATIENT, HITHERTO UNABLE TO WALK, DO SO ONCE AGAIN WITH THE HELP OF HER SPECIAL SKILLS AS A PHYSIATRIST.

For others, she is seemingly imbued with Florence Nightingale type characteristics, that of a ministering angel, who finds a way for those who feel there is no hope to alleviate their pain or some physical disability.

A case in point, a sixteen year old boy, who was confined to a wheelchair for more than a year due to a brain injury and was not able to walk. “I examined this little boy and I said there was no reason why this boy should not be walking,” she recounts.

Nearly seven months later, after assembling a multi-disciplinary team (which is what a physiatrist does), including a physiotherapist, occupational therapist and psychiatrist and designing a treatment plan that is tailor made to maximize his independence and quality of life, he is able to walk with a roll walker.

Welcome to the world of Dr Paula Dawson, who not only holds the distinction of being Jamaica’s only Physiatrist but is also one of only two such persons in the English- speaking Caribbean.

“When I see persons debilitated by pain that are now free of it through my work that excites me,” she says proudly.

Her work involves examining the musculoskeletal and neurological problems of patients and finding ways of treating them so they are able to maximize as much treatment as possible without surgery.

Patients who benefit from her specialty include those with spinal cord injuries to those with injuries related to vehicular crashes and sports. Medical conditions such as amputation, arthritis in adults and children, osteoporosis, Parkinson’s disease, stroke and bladder and bowel dysfunction are also included.

Having received fellowship training in Interventional Spine, Musculoskeletal and Sports Medicine Rehabilitation at Northwestern University and Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, Dr. Dawson has returned to Jamaica and is introducing new techniques in Fluoroscopic Interventional Spine treatment and Spasticity Management with Botulinum Toxin (BOTOX) injection.

A practical application helps children with cerebral palsy who may not be able to extend their arms or legs due to stiffness. “You evaluate and look at them as a kinetic chain and then you can actually inject the muscles with different drugs whether it is Botox or 5% Phenol, which relaxes the muscle. What we actually do here is an invasive procedure but we use medicine to maximize function,” she says.

Dr Dawson is currently overseeing the introduction of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation into the lexicon of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and she is fueled by her passion to make this treatment accessible to all Jamaicans and by extension the Caribbean.

Patients who benefit from her specialty include those with spinal cord injuries to those with injuries related to vehicular crashes and sports.



“...the main challenge that remains is awareness and getting more doctors interested in this area of medicine”

The area of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, which includes Sports Medicine, is seen as essential by UWI Mona Principal Professor Gordon Shirley and the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences Professor Archibald McDonald for the development of Medicine in Jamaica and the Caribbean. This enables the University to stay abreast with where the world is in terms of treatment of patients. “You cannot have a competing tertiary level institution without rehabilitation medicine,” Dr Dawson says.

The goal is to set up a facility which will offer a wide range of rehabilitation treatments including fluoroscopic interventional procedures for the spine, muscles and joints; a general and brain injury rehabilitation unit; a cardiac rehabilitation unit and a pulmonary rehabilitation unit in addition to offering services for prosthetics (for limbs) and orthotics (bracing).

She is passionate about offering brain injury rehabilitation. “Currently if someone has a stroke, once they recover medically, within a short time they are sent home so they still have their disability, which may be loss of speech,

swallowing and weakness on one side. In a rehabilitation brain facility you have intervention early because the brain, which was once thought of being unable to recover, can and does, most of which occurs in the first three-six months. When you take advantage of this recovery period by maximizing stimulation with therapy or in some instances with medications, there is a better prognosis for recovery and improvement in one’s quality of life. So one of the critical thing is intervention and treatment during the early stages of injury”.

However, the main challenge that remains is awareness and getting more doctors interested in this area of medicine. “We need to educate our medical students and graduating doctors by letting them know what Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation is all about” Dr Dawson asserts.

She was selected as one of two team doctors that accompanied the Jamaica athletics team to the 12th International Association of Athletics Federation (IAAF) World Championships in August in Berlin, Germany. **M**

UWI Sports Medicine Clinic Now Open



DR. AKSHAI MANSINGH

Dr. Dawson, along with acclaimed orthopaedic surgeon and member of the International Cricket Council (ICC) medical panel, Dr Akshai Mansingh and Dr. Premanand Singh is a co-founder of the UWI Sport Medicine Clinic which opened in March of this year.

“We all [separately] used to look after top athletes coached by Glen Mills [National Track and Field coach] and he said that we needed to have a clinic where his athletes could visit. I approached the Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences [Professor Archibald McDonald] to put together a UWI sports clinic which is now a private clinic, where we see competing athletes,” she states, adding that sports medicine in terms of physical medicine and rehabilitation is probably 15 to 20 per cent of what the area has to offer.

The clinic offers medical care for Injury Treatment and Management, Sports Psychology and holds a database of injuries and treatments for each client. In a few short months, test cricketers, international track and field athletes, national netballers and professional footballers have come in for treatment.

“Ultimately what the University plans, is for the sport medicine clinic to have a Sports Institute because this has so much to offer in terms of research for students and in terms of management for athletes,” Dr. Dawson discloses. **M**



DR. PREMANAND SINGH

UWI Mona Ready to Play in Growth of Agriculture

Launches Master's Programme in Agriculture

I think it is important to remember that universities in developing countries have a very special role to play.

In the developed world, the idea of a university implies a concentration on scholarship and learning for its own sake, as scholars commit themselves to pushing back the boundaries of knowledge as they analyze and research in their particular fields.

The researchers' work enriches and contributes to their very special interests. We in the developing world, however, are aware that there is a significant added dimension to the research that we undertake.

This added dimension was very strongly demonstrated 60-odd years ago when the University College of the West Indies opened its doors to a young group of Caribbean students - the first in the first faculty established: the Faculty of Medicine. It was clear that there was need for the brightest and best of the region's young people to have access to an institution where they could pursue higher education, so that the Caribbean could eventually have available a pool of its own people, very few of whom were able to finance this training in the first world, particularly in medical schools. This inspired decision laid the foundation for the way in which The University of the West Indies would grow and develop as a critical tool for Caribbean people.

Today, as the world faces the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s, once again our university recognizes the tremendous importance of



agriculture as a discipline which must be researched in all its aspects so that we can produce leaders in the field - leaders who can find answers to the problems that we face as we struggle to feed ourselves. As we tackle the problems confronting the agricultural sector we are sharing the solutions with Caribbean leaders - in the private sector and in government - so that they can be guided to implement policies that will improve the region's productivity.

Our conferences over the past year have been very useful in that they have highlighted some excellent work currently taking place in our university, while at the same time identifying weaknesses that require more detailed attention. We need to find better ways to share information; we need to document ways in which we can better access information from other countries that have faced similar problems and have documented their experiences (and viable solutions), so that we can avoid trying to re-invent the wheel. We also have to reach out and treat farmers as lifelong learners.

Technology, which too often presents challenges to older farmers, should be marketed to attract younger players in the field of agriculture. UWI, Mona is about to launch a master's programme in agriculture - a programme which will cover all the dimensions of this field as a key factor in national development. The economic crisis has brought this discipline to the front burners of governments throughout the world and academic institutions have a critical role to play in finding answers to the

Leading Role

tremendous challenges facing governments, particularly in developing countries.

The University of the West Indies is cognizant of the role it must play in this situation. And in the same way that the founding fathers recognized the critical need to begin university education here in the Caribbean with training in medicine, so today we recognize the need for new initiatives in training in agriculture, with some of our finest scholars responding to the existing challenges. They see the need for agriculture to be marketed as an important part of a country's national development, and are confident in their ability to undertake the necessary research, and find solutions so that the Caribbean society can become less dependent on the developed world.

Over a 7-year period UWI, Mona has produced in excess of 420 papers dealing with agriculture; the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences has produced a significant number of them. Also in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences is the Agriculture Unit, partly funded by the Faculty of Agriculture at St Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago, playing its part in the search for solutions. So too are the links with Belize and the Eastern Caribbean; the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada; the University of Technology (UTech) and the

College of Arts, Science & Agriculture (CASE) in Jamaica.

The campus demonstrated its strong commitment to the development of agriculture with the introduction of the MSc programme in Agricultural Entrepreneurship in August 2009. The programme will have a focus on entrepreneurship and will



We need to find better ways to share information; we need to document ways in which we can better access information from other countries that have faced similar problems and have documented their experiences

involve its students in testing new technologies, the outcome of which will be shared with the relevant bodies.

I hope that this appreciation of the importance of agriculture in national development will underscore that The University of the West Indies recognizes its obligation to help provide answers to the challenges which the governments of the region face. The institution will continue to do its part in turning

out scholars whose research will contribute to a better society for all Caribbean peoples.

Prof. Gordon Shirley
Pro Vice Chancellor
& Principal, Mona Campus

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Possibilities of the Mobile Phone in Agriculture

Alongside machetes and forks, the mobile (cellular) phone is becoming an invaluable tool for Jamaican farmers, according to research from UWI Mona. The handsets facilitate interaction allowing for exchange of critical market information and enable farmers to operate anywhere, anytime - whether in the field or dealing with suppliers and customers.

This increasing popularity and usage of mobile technology has strong implications for socio-economic development in poor countries, especially in the area of agriculture. A 2008 study by Dr Lloyd G. Waller, lecturer in the Department of Government on the Mona campus, revealed that the mobile phone is the most popular business tool used by farmers, regardless of social class, income level, gender, age or location. He coordinated the research on mobile phones in agriculture among farmers in eight of Jamaica's 14 parishes, using a mix of methodologies, data collection and analysis strategy. It included interviews, focus groups and surveys with farmers, agricultural practitioners, government officials, donors and other stakeholders in the agricultural sector.

He found that while the range of information communication technologies (ICTs) available to farmers include computers, Internet, e-mail and land line telephones, cellular technology emerged as the most popular and wide-spread. This has come about, according to Dr Waller, because of liberalization in the telecommunications sector since 1999, the ending of the 30-year monopoly by Cable and Wireless (now LIME) and the introduction of new companies. Now, fierce competition among the three international telecommunications companies (Digicel, Claro and LIME) has seen the provision of reliable, affordable, inexpensive yet cutting-edge, state-of-the-art mobile phones to Jamaicans. The phones are appealing to farmers because of accessibility, affordability and portability.

In the area of accessibility, the research revealed that some farmers had multiple instruments belonging to different providers. Additionally, the Jamaican market has been flooded with the most sophisticated mobile phones,

including the Apple iPhone and Blackberry. And these instruments are being put to use by even the most uneducated of individuals.

As competition heats up among providers, the handsets can be obtained cheaply, thus enhancing their popularity. But, more significantly, mobile phones allow farmers to operate in any time and space (portability).

Dr Waller posits that the application of mobile technology to Jamaican agriculture could be beneficial in many ways. The sector contributes substantially to Gross Domestic Product (GDP), is a large foreign exchange earner and is the second largest employer of labour in Jamaica. Drawing on other research, Dr Waller suggests that mobile phone usage by farmers would facilitate interaction with each other, government agencies, private institutions, non-governmental organizations, international organizations and other members of the agricultural chain, locally or globally.

In this way, through access to relevant market information, farmers could improve their livelihoods, which, in turn, could

impact on GDP and national development. This has wider implications for policymakers in areas of poverty reduction, job creation, skills enhancement and community-based initiatives.

Dr Waller further argues that, in Jamaica, the mobile phone is ideal for bridging the long standing digital divide - i.e. the gap between individuals with access to ICTs and those with little or no access and is becoming cheaper and cheaper every day. These devices and their associated services essentially provide users with access to resources in the palm of their hands, and can be exploited to reach the poor and enable economic growth in developing countries. **M**

These devices and their associated services essentially provide users with access to resources in the palm of their hands, and can be exploited to reach the poor and enable economic growth in developing countries.



UWI Embarks on Programme to Assist Agricultural Sector

The institution, through its Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, is using research to put the agricultural sector in a position to supply the food needs of the country, and to extract medicinal ingredients from different produce.

“We are very excited about the possibility of agriculture revolutionising the economic livelihood of the country. This year, the Government has been able to reduce the amount of imports by 28 per cent, and we have increased the amount of food that we produce by 14 to 18 per cent,” said Dean of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, Professor Isahenkumba Kahwa, in an interview with JIS News.

“We are talking about food processing, post harvesting, and value added products. We are looking at the entire value chain, and we are saying to Jamaica there is a market here. If we grow enough food to feed ourselves, that alone can take care of the 60 per cent of food we import to feed our tourists,” he said.

He said that despite the many challenges faced by farmers and other players in the agricultural sector, it is possible for people to make money from farming.

“Although we have these challenges, we can address them. We are going to consolidate our research into a more robust and effective force, our Bachelor’s programme in agriculture will take off in September, and our Graduate programme will go off in January. Come 2010, we shall be introducing new programmes in agriculture,” Professor Kahwa informed.

For International Relations student, Ren’e Cowan, who is involved with the UWI’s programme, “it is to get Jamaican farmers to be aware of all the marketing strategies that they can use, how to grow their plants. What we want to do is to get them to plant more, and how best they can grow lots of products on one acre of land, if that is all they have.”

Dwayne Stenneth, a PhD student in Biochemistry, informed that part of the UWI’s programme is to develop the yam industry by using technology to boost the yield and minimise the fungus affecting the sector.



He also pointed out that particular varieties of yam do have medical properties, there is the Jamaican bitter yam (wild yam), “which has shown to actually reduce glucose levels significantly, as well as cholesterol levels, and we can use it to treat diabetes.” **M**

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Internships - Enriching Student Careers Benefitting Communities



ORIENTATION BELIZE
 INTERNSHIP ORIENTATION, BARBADOS: MRS. ALDENE SHILLINGFORD (FIRST LEFT) SHARES A LAUGH WITH CIP RESEARCH INTERNS, STACIA BURROWES (SECOND LEFT) AND HORIS LYNCH, STUDENTS OF UWI CAVE HILL CAMPUS. SHARING IN THE MOMENT IS MRS. SHEENA JOHNSON BROWN (SECOND RIGHT), CIP PROJECT ASSISTANT AND MS. DALE.

As UWI courses become more available in countries across the region the opportunities for lifelong enrichment that comes from living and working with batch mates from different countries has been greatly reduced. A project to support parent education and early childhood development across the Caribbean has made this experience possible for thirty students each year.

Since 2004, the Centre for Population Community and Social Change, (CPCSC), at UWI Mona in partnership with the Barbados-based Caribbean Child Support Initiative, (CCSI) and in collaboration with the UWI St. Augustine and the UWI Cave Hill campuses as well as the University of Belize and the University of Guyana, have placed students in the Caribbean Internship Programme to assist the CCSI to sup-

port Parent and Early Childhood Development (ECD) initiatives in five countries. Funding for this is through the the Bernard Van Leer Foundation (BvLF), the UWI Mona and the UWI St. Augustine. The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ) also provided financial support to the project in the past.

Mrs Aldene Shillingford, Coordinator of the Caribbean Internship Project explained that the placements match specific needs of participating agencies, programmes and projects to ensure a rewarding experience for the student and valuable assistance for the recipients.

“One of the great strengths of the CIP is that our students are a part of the capacity building of agencies and their staff. Few programmes pull people across the Caribbean to live and to work and solve problems together. The needs are great and the activities

The professional that left Jamaica several months ago is now a more independent and confident advocate for improvements in the services geared towards human development and mobilization.

“One of the great strengths of the CIP is that our students are a part of the capacity building of agencies and their staff”

that the interns carry out include parenting training, assisting the training of early childhood rovers on the Roving Caregivers Programme (RCP) to obtain national certification; assisting communication and documentation through various media strategies, building of staff competencies in counselling and interviewing skills; and the performance of organizational audits for example” she said.

Shauna Porter was assigned to the Government of St Lucia as a Clinical Psychologist for seven months and credits the programme for giving her an opportunity to practise her craft and grow personally and professionally, “My greatest achievement is comfort in the fact that I went beyond the call of duty to impact positively the lives of the clients and their families. I recall a client who had sleeping difficulties for over 24 years even though she was on medication. After seeing me for only a few weeks the client was able to report that this was the first time she can remember sleeping for more than 4 hours with significantly reduced suicidal thoughts.”

Of all the programmes supported by the CCSI, the one that has had the greatest impact is the RCP. Funded by the BvLF for the CCSI, it is an informal early childhood education programme that seeks to reach children from birth to three years of age who do not have access to any formal early childhood education services in their communities. The RCP is a safety net for these very young children who are denied any form of early stimulation and who are often exposed to inappropriate practices.

Early stimulation for children and parenting education for parents form the core of the programme. RCP has been replicated in 5 countries: St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Dominica, Grenada and Belize and interns are assigned to those countries. In the first four years 1,299 children were reached by the programme.

Other internship experiences, such as the Human Services, the Child Welfare Authority, the Welfare Division and Marion House in St. Lucia, Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Dominica respectively, allow students in Social Work and Psychology who are pursuing clinical programmes to interact directly with clients and engage in therapeutic interventions and case management as well as staff development activities.

Mrs Shillingford notes, “From 2004 to 2008, 123 students/interns from the UWI, the University of Guyana and the University of Belize had completed assignments in seven Caribbean countries. Of this number 101 students were from Mona. Last year we brought the interns and the Rovers together and trained them to be early childhood education advocates.”

The quality of the internship experience makes selection competitive. Not only is the work interesting and rewarding, but the project covers air and ground transportation, accommodation and meals. Graduates get an additional stipend. Each year the CIP gets more requests for internships than it can place. In Summer 2009, 32 students were placed: 22 from Mona, six from Cave Hill and four from St. Augustine.

The legacy of the CCSI has the potential to be of long lasting benefit to the development of the region as Ms Porter noted. “The professional that left Jamaica several months ago is now a more independent and confident advocate for improvements in the services geared towards human development and mobilization. The internship experience was a timely one which has impacted all spheres of my life. I walk away feeling accomplished, valued and appreciated not only by the staff that I worked with, but all the clients served during the period.” **M**



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Three New Professors

The University of the West Indies is proud to announce the promotion of three members of staff to the rank of professor: **Silvia Kouwenberg, Department of Language, Linguistics & Philosophy, Marvin Reid, Director of Sickle Cell Unit, Tropical Medicine Research Institute and Oswald Simon, Department of Basic Medical Sciences, with effect from May 27, 2009.**

SILVIA KOUWENBERG



Professor Kouwenberg holds the Bachelor of Arts (1981) and the Master of Arts (1985) degrees in Social Policy Studies, as well as the Doctor of Philosophy (1991) degree in Linguistics from the University of Amsterdam in The Netherlands. She joined the staff of The

University of the West Indies, Mona in 1991 as Lecturer in the Department of Language and Linguistics, and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in 1997. She has also served as Fellow and Visiting Researcher in institutions such as the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig, Germany, the Center for Humanities and Arts at the University of Georgia, USA, the Institute of African Studies at Cambridge University, United Kingdom, and the Department of African Languages & Linguistics at the University of Port Harcourt, Rivers State in Nigeria.

Silvia Kouwenberg is widely recognised among her peers as a distinguished scholar with a high international reputation in the field of Creole Linguistics. She is recognised as an expert in Berbice Dutch and Papiamentu grammar and is considered an emerging authority on the historical context of Creole language development in Jamaica. Her work on the relationship between the development of creoles and second language acquisition has also attracted a great deal of interest worldwide. She has made major and original contributions to scholarship in this field and her work has appeared in a wide range

of refereed scholarly journals and refereed anthologies. She authored *A Grammar of Berbice Dutch Creole* (1994) and edited or co-edited two books *Papiamentu* (1994) *Twice as Meaningful. Reduplications in Pidgins, Creoles and Other Contact Languages* (2003). Her (2008) *Handbook of Pidgin and Creole Studies*, co-edited with Prof. John Victor Singler of New York University, is a compendium of state of the art papers on every major aspect of pidgin and creole studies which is expected to have a major impact on current thinking in the field. Dr. Kouwenberg has also published eleven articles in highly regarded international journals, as well as eight peer reviewed book chapters, and numerous invited book chapters. These publications have contributed significantly to the development of the field of creole linguistics and helped situate it at the forefront of the more general fields of Contact Linguistics and Theoretical Linguistics.

As an academic, Professor Kouwenberg is an innovative and dedicated lecturer who is student-centred. She has been at the forefront of curriculum development and redesign at all stages of the linguistic undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, including the introduction of computer-based technology before it was considered fashionable. She developed evaluation instruments for undergraduate and post graduate programmes before the University itself insisted on student evaluation, and also pioneered mentorship programmes and career seminars in

Dr. Kouwenberg has coordinated the MA, MPhil and PhD programmes and has earned a well deserved reputation as a first rate supervisor who is committed to the nurturing of graduate students.

the department. In addition, Dr. Kouwenberg experimented with students having inputs in the design of a new course, thereby providing them with hands-on experience.

She has also played a significant role in the graduate programme in linguistics. Dr. Kouwenberg has coordinated the MA, MPhil and PhD programmes and has earned a well deserved reputation as a first rate supervisor who is committed to the nurturing of graduate students. Her position of academic leadership in the department has been further evidenced by her coordination of the Linguistics section and her involvement in the faculty's quality assurance committee.

At the Faculty level, she has served as Member of the Faculty Sub Committee on Strategic Challenges; the Faculty Sub-Committee on Graduate Studies and the Faculty Sub-Committee on student evaluation for the appraisal of academic staff.

Her service has not been limited to the University. Professor Kouwenberg has contributed her professional skills to the local and regional community. She provided support to the teaching of the CAPE subject in Communication Studies by compiling The Comparative Analysis of Jamaican Creole and English, Lesson Plans for 4 classes to be used in the delivery of CAPE Communication Studies in Jamaican High Schools (2001) and in 2003, she contributed to the revision of the syllabus in CAPE Communication Studies.

On the professional level, Dr. Kouwenberg is a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages, and has been invited to serve as guest columnist for the Journal, an honour awarded only to scholars who have shaped thinking in the field and whose work has earned international recognition and respect. She is also a Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Creole Language Library and a Member of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics(SCL); the Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics (SPCL) and the Associacvo de Crioulos de Base Lexical Portuguesa e Espanhola.

Professor Kouwenberg also has a strong record of public service. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Irish Town, Redlight and Middleton Citizens' Association that raises funds to support community-based projects, including a Health Clinic. In 2004, she compiled a strategic plan for communities in the Papine Development Area under the auspices of the IADB, and in 2005, she organized the Hermitage Homework Club.

MARVIN REID



Marvin Reid is Director of the Sickle Cell Unit, Tropical Medicine Research Institute.

Professor Reid holds the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery Degree as well as the Doctor of Philosophy in Community Medicine from The University of the West Indies. He has

completed studies in Clinical Nutrition at the University of Southampton, United Kingdom (1993) and Postdoctoral Studies from Baylor College of Medicine, Texas, USA (2000).

He joined the staff of the UWI in 1990 as a Medical Officer in the Tropical Metabolism Research Unit and was appointed Research Fellow in 1995. In 2000 he was appointed Lecturer and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2004. He is also an Associate Lecturer in the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry.

He is a member of the Medical Association of Jamaica, the Caribbean College of Family Physician, the American Physiology Society and the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.

In April 2004, Professor Reid was appointed Director of the Sickle Cell Unit, the only comprehensive centre in Jamaica that is dedicated to the care of persons with sickle cell disease. The Unit is also recognized internationally as a leading centre of excellence. He has demonstrated strong leadership qualities and is an excellent administrator. Under his direction, patient care has improved through a system of continuous audit to ensure best practice. He has also negotiated clinical trials which have been conducted rigorously and successfully, thus making the Unit a preferred centre for the conduct of such clinical trials. Professor Reid's research spans the gamut of Community Health, Family Medicine and Human Metabolism.

As a Metabolist and Clinical Nutritionist he is skilled in the application of stable isotope methods which involves attaching non radioactive chemicals to nutrients which are then infused into or ingested by the patient. The distribution of these labeled nutrients in tissues and body fluids are then measured and this helps researchers understand how the body functions in health and disease. In particular his work has centred on how the body adapts to oxidative and nutritional stresses. More recently he has focused on how these adaptive responses increase susceptibility to cardiovascular and renal diseases and the complications of sickle cell disease.

Professor Reid is a well respected academic who has earned local and international recognition for his work especially those related to stable isotope based metabolic research. He is a key collaborator on several National Institute of Health (NIH) Grants and is the Principal investigator on an important Regional International Atomic Energy Agency Grant, supporting Stable Isotope assessment of breast milk intake and its effects on growth in infants. He currently has grants totaling three point eight million United States dollars (US\$3.8Million).

Professor Reid has made a very strong contribution to undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in the Faculty of Medical Sciences. He teaches Biostatistics and Clinical Nutrition to undergraduate medical, MSc and DM students. He has successfully supervised one PhD student and is currently supervising two others.

He has contributed most significantly to international literature. He has published in excess of 54 papers in peer reviewed journals, one book chapter and 23 abstracts. He is also a reviewer for eight peer reviewed journals, seven of which are international journals.

His professional activities have achieved widespread recognition. He is a member of the Medical Association of Jamaica, the Caribbean College of Family Physician, the American Physiology Society and the American Society of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition.

Professor Reid has participated in a number of sporting activities at both the local and international levels. He represented Jamaica in volleyball between 1985 and 1995 at the Pan American Games and the Caribbean Volleyball Championships. He was Sportsman of the year for the University of the West Indies, Mona in 1987 and represented Jamaica in Track and Field, Long Jump at the World University Games that same year. He is certified by the International Volleyball Association as a Grade 1 Coach and referee in Volleyball.

OSWALD SIMON



Dr. Oswald Simon, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences at Mona is now Professor of Pharmacology, with effect from May 27, 2009.

Professor Simon holds the Bachelor of Science (1972) in Physiology & Biochemistry from London University, the Master of Science (1975) in

Pharmacology from West Ham College/ East London University, both in the United Kingdom, and the Doctor of Philosophy (1980) in Pharmacology from Howard University in the United States of America. He also holds a Certificate in Biomedical Engineering (Neurosciences) from Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Simon joined the staff of The University of the West Indies, Mona in 1982 as Lecturer in Pharmacology in the then Department of Pharmacology after serving as Research Fellow in the Department of Biomedical Engineering at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. In 1987, he was appointed Reader in Pharmacology and Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at the University of Guyana, then returned to the UWI in 1990 as Senior Lecturer in the Department of Basic Medical Sciences.

Oswald Simon has distinguished himself in the areas of teaching, research, publication and scholarly activities and administration. As Head of Department, he implemented a new collegial management structure to ensure efficient and equitable administration of the functions of the merged department. He was instrumental in the development of the new Pharmacology undergraduate degree programme (BB Med. Sci) which was implemented in 2001. He also facilitated the development of new initiatives such as the establishment of a new cell culture laboratory for research in molecular pharmacology and provided tremendous support for the establishment of the new DNA testing laboratory.

Dr. Simon's contribution to the teaching and the development of courses and programmes in the Section of Pharmacology and Department of Basic Medical Sciences has been significant. He developed and continues to teach courses in Immunopharmacology, Neuropharmacology and

cardiovascular pharmacology in the MBBS programme. He has successfully supervised six MPhil and three PhD students, and has developed facilities which enhance graduate work in his department.

Dr. Oswald Simon also has an impressive record of research focusing on the areas of immunopharmacology and cardiovascular pharmacology. His current work involves the pharmacological investigation of the inflammatory properties of bioactive compounds from natural products, including pimento oil, ginger. He has also investigated the processes involved in the development of Hypertension from Methionine and the effects of Yam on blood cholesterol.

Dr. Simon has published book chapters in **Integrated Pharmacology**, which is one of the recommended textbook for Medical students and persons pursuing the BBMedSci programme at The UWI, Mona Campus. He has also published 31 articles in local and international refereed journals and has made over 30 presentations based on research from his laboratory.

Dr. Simon also has an outstanding record of public service. He served on the Therapeutics Committee in the Ministry of Health, Jamaica and participated in the

Functional Reorganization of the CARICOM Drug Testing Laboratory, Hope Gardens, Jamaica. He has also served as a member of the production team for the CARICOM CRDTL Bulletin and has Observer status on the Technical Advisory Committee of the Laboratory.

Dr. Oswald Simon also has an impressive record of research focusing on the areas of immunopharmacology and cardiovascular pharmacology

He is currently a consultant of the Veterinary Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Jamaica, providing technical assistance in the development of bioassay procedures for the testing of conch meat for bio toxins prior to its export to member states of the European Union. This is a requirement for certification of the safety of conch meat exported to the EU. He also assists the Scientific Research Council, Jamaica in the area of pharmacological evaluation of potential nutraceuticals. He further serves as a member of the Editorial Advisory Board for the West Indian Medical Journal. 



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Thinking Out of The Box For A Revolution



SANDRE MALCOLM (5TH LEFT) IS THE 2009 SCOTIABANK CHANGE-MAKER. HE WON THE AWARD FROM HIS INNOVATIVE MARKETING CAMPAIGN "REVOLUTION" DESIGNED FOR THE LAUNCH OF SCOTIABANK'S YOUNG ADULT BANKING PLATFORM.

Sandre Malcolm could not believe his ears when he got a phone call from Scotia Bank that he had won the 2009 Scotiabank Change-Maker Challenge.

Beating 700 submissions from the Caribbean, Sandre's winning presentation 'Revolution', proposed an innovative marketing campaign for the launch of Scotiabank's young adult banking platform, Scotiabank Be.

"I was out of the country in New York when I heard that I was selected for the finals, and I had to overcome many challenges, including missing my connecting flight, just to get here. I can't believe I won. I am ecstatic!" said an emotional Sandre.

He said, for the Challenge his approach was to show difference from what is currently available, a new angle, a new twist, or to take a whole new approach. "Difference is the essence for everything I do in marketing," he said. His winning proposal was to use a promotional tool called viral marketing to create a massive amount of hype around Scotiabank Be and to maintain that hype by keeping the brand relevant.

His climb to success came with hard work and Sandre has had his share of setbacks along the way. It all started with a dream to do something big. "When I was younger I dreamed

of being many things," recalled Sandre, who is the only child of a single parent mother. "But the common denominator was that I wanted to be world renowned at it; whatever it was, whether to be a chemist, biotechnologist, businessman and now finally a marketer extraordinaire."

Born and brought up in Montego Bay, Sandre attended St James Preparatory School. At age 9, he passed the last common entrance exam and entered Cornwall College. "While at Cornwall College I would say I was an average student. I must admit I was a bit lazy, while I could always do more, at the time a pass was good enough for me," he said.

It was Sandre's dream to go to the University, and he decided to put all his hard work into this endeavour. "I studied sciences in 6th form after doing a little bit above average in my CXC's," he said.

He had a setback when he failed in Chemistry in the CAPE examinations, "I starting working at E-Services at the Freezone in Montego Bay as a customer service representative," he said. "While I was working I did a re-sit of my Chemistry CAPE." Sandre passed on the second attempt and continued to work for another year before entering university.

Continued on page...42

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MONA SWIMMERS TAKE IT TO THE WORLD



EARLY PIONEERS OF UWI GAMES (L-R) VICTOR COWAN, ST. AUGUSTINE, JAI JEBODSINGH, CAVE HILL, AND FREDDIE GREEN, MONA



CAVE HILL TAKES ON ST. AUGUSTINE

It's official! UWI, Mona was crowned Champion of UWI Games 2009 held in May 2009 at UWI, St. Augustine in Trinidad, reclaiming the title that they have won in six of the last seven biennial Games. Neither St. Augustine nor Cave Hill could dethrone the reigning champions, whose final count of 102 points bested Cave Hill's total of 80, and St. Augustine's 56-point tally. The Games culminated on Thursday, May 28 with a formal Closing Ceremony at the Office of the Campus Principal, UWI, St. Augustine where the host campus St. Augustine ceremonially handed over the UWI Games flag to the Cave Hill campus, who will host the games in 2011.

Team Mona secured their 15th outright victory in the 44-year history of the Games, capturing the awards for Top Female Team, Top Male Team, Top Technical Team and Victrix Ludorum (Tanice Barnett).

From May 21- 28, over the course of UWI Games 2009, more than 400 athletes from the three campuses competed in track and field, football, netball, cricket, volleyball, basketball, 6-a-side hockey, swimming, table tennis and lawn tennis. Apart from Track and Field, Mona copped top honours in Tennis, Swimming, Netball, Women’s Basketball, Women’s Football and Women’s Volleyball. Cave Hill held their own in the Men’s and Women’s Hockey, Men’s Basketball and Men’s Volleyball, and St Augustine walked away with Table Tennis and Men’s Football.

Mona trounced her sister campuses in the Women’s Volleyball championship, taking first place and claiming

The final day of UWI Games 2009, May 28, belonged to Cave Hill, whose cricketers scored 137 for 5 to defeat St Augustine in an exciting one-day at the UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC), St. Augustine. On the SPEC indoor court, Cave Hill dominated Mona in the men’s basketball game, as evidenced by a final score of 84 to 43. The outcome was the same for the St. Augustine netballers, who fell 41-24 to the opponents from Cave Hill. A change of venue brought no better luck for St. Augustine in Men’s Hockey, as Cave Hill again beat St. Augustine convincingly (3-1), this time at the Eastern Regional Sport Complex in Tacarigua. The St. Augustine ladies fared slightly better against their Mona opponents in hockey, breaking even at two goals apiece, but could not prevail over the women in football, falling 1-0 to evenly matched opponents from Mona.



PHOTO: YOHAN LOVIA



ST. AUGUSTINE CHEERLEADERS



THIS BALL IS MINE!

PHOTO: FREDERICK DUBRAY, COURTESY THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

the prizes for Best Setter, Best Blocker, Best Spiker, Best Defender, Top Technical Team and MVP (Zalika Paul). St Augustine’s Jeanne Rose Rene and Jenelle Marshall claimed the Best Server and Best Receiver respectively.

Host Campus St. Augustine won the Table Tennis championships, with four-time national women’s table tennis champ, Verna Edwards, coaching national junior player Priya Ramcharan, her sister Nirveeta Ramcharan, Garfield Gay and captain Kellon Roach to a 5-2 victory over their Mona rivals.

UWI Games 2009 kicked off on Thursday, May 21 with a festive Opening Ceremony at which UWI honoured Jai Jebodhsingh, Victor Cowan and Winford ‘Fred’ Green, who were the collective driving force responsible for ensuring that the UWI Games continued when it was threatened by financial difficulties in 1975.



Chadwick Walton a Superb Cricket Talent

The Mona Campus has produced and molded several talents across the Caribbean. One such talent is a young man hailing from the parish of St. Elizabeth, and whose formative years were spent at Munro College. Chadwick Walton was born on July 3, 1985 and has waltzed through junior cricket representing Jamaica at both the Under 15 and Under 19 level. He has also been called to trials for the Jamaica Senior Cricket Team.

Since the return of the Combined Campuses and Colleges cricket team to regional competition in 2007-2008 season, Walton has emerged as a superb cricket talent. Naturally gifted, this outstanding wicketkeeper/batsman's performance this year was integral to the vastly improved showing by the Combined Campuses and Colleges cricket team in the Regional One Day and four day Competitions played under the aegis of the West Indies Cricket Board (WICB).

In the recently concluded four day competition, Walton emerged as the wicketkeeper with the highest aggregate in the competition, scoring 542 runs which included four half centuries with a highest score of 87. He also shared in a record 128 runs partnership for the ninth wicket partnership during the tournament. Chadwick further emerged as the second most successful wicketkeeper in that competition, snaring 39 victims and was awarded the Man of the Match trophy for his all round performance in CCC's resounding victory versus Barbados.



In the One Day tournament held in November, 2008, his solid all round achievements helped to guide CCC to fifth position where 10 teams participated. During the one week break in the Four Day competition, he turned out for his

Mona team in a fixture of the 2009 Inter Collegiate cricket competition. Upon return to the Mona campus, Walton was integral in his Hall of Residence Chancellor Hall claiming the Intramural cricket trophy and also contributed to the Mona cricket team's successes in the Intercollegiate cricket competition.

He scored the first century in the Jamaica Super-League cricket competition with an innings described by the media as "a classic 136" and scored 84 not out in the second round (Match was ruined by rain) of the season for his team Kingston Tigers. A powerful right handed wicketkeeper/batsman Walton also fancies himself as an avid leg spin googly bowler.

Chadwick is currently a finalizing student of the Faculty of Social Sciences

UWI Mona. An obvious credit to the game of cricket, we eagerly look forward to his imminent ascent to West Indies cricket. **M**



Walton has been integral in his Hall of Residence Chancellor Hall claiming the Intramural cricket trophy and also contributed to the Mona cricket team's successes



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While working he realized that he had a knack for marketing, he said. "I noticed I had a thing for conceptualizing along a specific theme. I would frequently give my supervisor Jean Marie-Dillion tips and advice on how to usher in new projects and changes in a way that was workable and exciting. That's when I decided to do marketing at UWI," he recollects.

This was a decision that would be a life changing experience for him. He noted that being at The University of the West Indies has been to his advantage, especially since it has put him in a league where he conceptualized an award winning campaign.

"I would say that UWI helped me in one big way; specially the Integrated Marketing Communication course and everything it taught me about branding and marketing tools," he said. "I used to look at the marketing done by the University and conceptualize how I would do it differently so it connects with the intended audience," he said.

Winning the Scotiabank Change-Maker Challenge means a lot to Sandre and he attributes it to his mother, who has been a key influence in his life. "I will give the credit to my mother because she has always been there for me," he said.

Another key influence is not a person but a book, Sandre' said. "It is Think and grow rich by Napoleon Hill, which taught how to open my mind. And I guess that's where my creativity began to flourish," he said.

He also thanked his friends and Olivia Rose, UWI Sports

psychologist for 2008. "She helped me find myself and realize my abilities. I will never forget that," Sandre' said.

This award has given an impetus to Sandre', he wants to explore new innovative ideas. "The way forward after this competition is Break da box promotions and brand handling. With this I plan to charge full speed ahead into the boring walls of the status quo fuelled by the exploration of our limitless imagination and the joy of doing what we love," he said. **M**



SCOTIABANK 2009 CHANGE-MAKER WINNER, UWI MONA SO SCI STUDENT, SANDRE MALCOLM (LEFT) CELEBRATES WITH ANOTHER YOUTH RECIPIENT OF AN INTERNATIONAL SCOTIABANK AWARD.




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The Public Relations Office, Mona Campus has a range of programmes aimed at updating members of the community on activities and developments on campus. Tune in, visit our website, read the publications and be informed!

ON CAMPUS

Aired on RJR 94 FM on Sundays at 4.00 p.m. The programme also includes a weekly calendar of events.

UWI IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Aired on Power 106 FM on the first and third Monday of the month, from 7.15 - 7.30 a.m. during the popular morning talk show Independent Talk.

Host Ronnie Thwaites interviews academics about their research efforts and discusses matters of public interest with UWI experts.

UWI IN ACTION

Aired on the first and third Wednesday of every month on the Nationwide News Network (FM 90) at 6.30 p.m. The feature focuses mainly on research being undertaken and important developments at the Mona Campus. In addition, UWI experts comment on major developments and issues facing the society.

UWI NOTEBOOK

UWI Notebook keeps the UWI community in the know on a weekly basis providing news and updates about UWI events and developments. The Notebook is available online at mona.uwi.edu/proffice. A special edition of the UWI Notebook also appears weekly in *The Sunday Gleaner*.

MONA NEWS

This magazine aims to keep members of the campus community abreast of activities, research, developments and significant achievements at the UWI, Mona Campus. It appears three times per year in January, May and September.

UWI CALENDAR

The award-winning Calendar appears at the end of each calendar year. Copies are available from the Public Relations Office, 4 Gibraltar Hall Road.

UWI RESEARCHERS FEATURE

UWI researchers featured on the 2009 calendar share information about their groundbreaking research on Beyond the Headlines on RJR 94 FM on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. (until December 2009).

Visit our Campus Events Calendar at
<http://www.mona.uwi.edu/proffice/UWICalEvents-2009-2010.pdf>

Three Top Regional 'School Bags' Essay Competition

Dexnell Peters, a student of Trinity College, Trinidad & Tobago walked away with the first prize in the Inaugural Eric Williams 'School Bags' Essay Competition. Jamaicans Patrina Pink and Machela Osagboro, both of Wolmer's Girls' School, placed second and third respectively. UWI Vice Chancellor Professor E.Nigel Harris and High Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago H.E. Yvonne Gittens-Joseph hosted the awards ceremony in August 2008 at the UWI, Mona Campus.

The essay competition was organized by the Eric Williams Memorial Collection (EWMC) in honour of noted scholar/historian and former Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Eric Williams, author of the Caribbean historical classic *Capitalism and Slavery*. The competition was open to all final-year Sixth form students in 155 schools throughout the Caribbean, who were asked to write on the topic "How has Capitalism and Slavery shaped current debates on the commerce in African slaves and the abolition of slavery? What relevance if any do these debates have for today's student?"

This year, the contest is being offered to all final year Sixth Form students (or equivalent) in Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Turks and Caicos.

Since 2009 marks the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Revolution, students are being asked to assess its successes and failures and to comment on their relevance to today.

The competition will be held from September 2009 through January 31, 2010. Winners will be announced on April 30, 2010.

The first prize winner will receive a four-day trip for two to Trinidad and Tobago with airfare, hotel accommodations and two meals daily; a tour of The Eric Williams Memorial Collection and University of the West Indies campus; a US \$1000 educational voucher; courtesy calls on the President of Trinidad and Tobago and the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a tour of Parliament; a set of Eric Williams' books; a framed certificate and a 2010 African American Black History Calendar. In the event of a Trinidad and Tobago winner, a trip to Jamaica will be substituted.

For more information, please contact Erica Williams Connell, The Eric Williams Memorial Collection P.O. Box 561631, Miami, FL 33256-1631, USA. Fax: (305) 271-4160; Websites: www.ericwilliamsmemorialcollection.org; <http://palmm.fcla.edu/ew/>.



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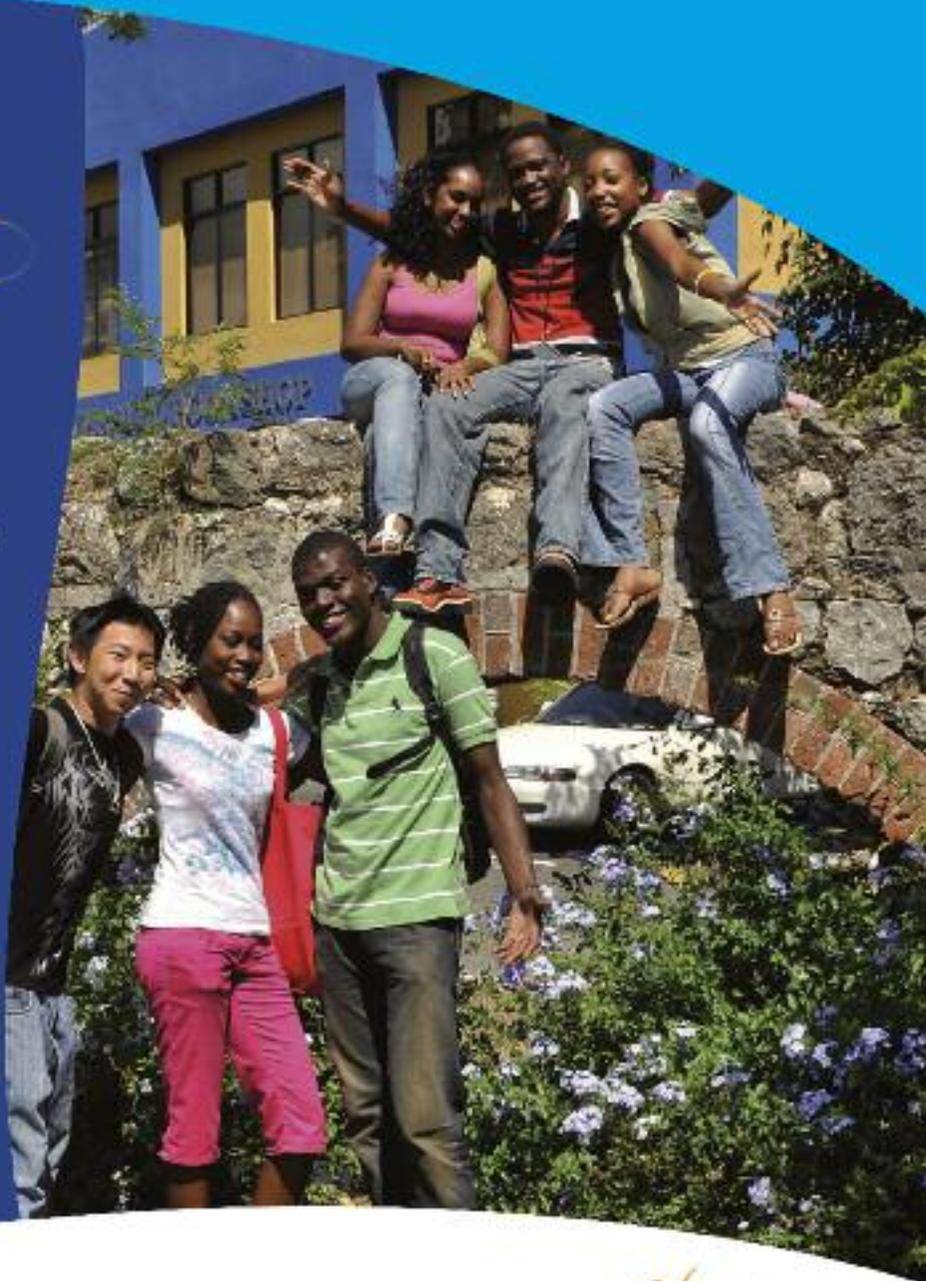
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