

DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURES IN ENGLISH

David Williams, BA, MA *UWI* – Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT



The Department welcomed four new members during this academic year: Dr Anthea Morrison (Senior Lecturer) and Dr Gregory Stephens (Lecturer) in Semester I, and Dr John Lennard (Professor) and Dr Mawuena Logan (Lecturer) in Semester II. They enhanced the Department's resources in the areas of Comparative Caribbean literature and theory, film and cultural studies, modern British and American literature, Shakespeare studies, African/ Diaspora studies, and poetry. Prof Carolyn Cooper and Dr Victor Chang returned from leave, and for the first time in many years the Department was at something like full strength.

Between January 24th and 27th the Department was reviewed by a team comprising Prof. Stephen Slemmon (University of Alberta), Prof Mark McWatt (U.W.I., Cave Hill), and Mr Louis Marriott (Chairman, Norman Manley Foundation). The Department has subsequently received the report produced by the team and has incorporated its suggestions and recommendations into the vision of strategic transformation outlined below.

The Department also hosted the writers Olive Senior and Nalo Hopkinson during Semester II. Ms Senior, whose visit was jointly organized with the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts, delivered the annual Sir Philip Sherlock Memorial lecture on February 27, did a public reading of her work on March 2, and met with classes and student groups throughout the week of February 28 to March 4. Nalo Hopkinson visited the campus from March 11 to March 18, met with undergraduate and graduate classes, did several interviews, and gave a public reading on March 13 at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. The Department also welcomed Prof Hortense Spillers, who on March 11 made a presentation, in our Staff/Postgraduate seminar series, on "Manifestations of Black Culture in Seven African Diasporan Sites". That seminar series, organized by Dr Victor Chang, resumed its regular meetings on Friday at 3:00 p.m. On March 4, the Department also witnessed a successful defense by Janice Cools of her doctoral dissertation.

On Thursday, April 7, The Department staged "Life after an English Degree" for its majors. A forum addressed by Mr Dennis Morrison, Q.C., Ms Anne McMorris, Financial Institutions Relationships Manager, NCB, and Ms Raquel Bremmer, Managing Director of Educentres Information Services Limited, it was intended to give its audience a sense of the range of options to which our degree gives access.

Professor Carolyn Cooper launched her new book, *Sound Clash: Jamaican Dancehall Culture at Large* at the Undercroft on April 19, 2005. Guest speaker was the Honourable Edward Seaga, U.W.I. Distinguished Fellow.

Dr Brendt Clavier, a representative of Malmö University, Sweden, visited the Department from May 13 to May 19, 2005 in order to explore the possibility of establishing an exchange programme. A reciprocal visit was arranged for September 2005.

Dr Curdella Forbes's *From Nation to Diaspora: Samuel Selvon, George Lamming and the Cultural Performance of Gender* was published by U.W.I. Press in July 2005.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Professor Carolyn Cooper

- . • "In Another Key: Discordant Female Voices in the Caribbean Literary Canon." University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. March 2005
- . • "'It's a African Ting': Rituals of Remembering in Jamaican Dancehall Culture." Panafrican Bookfair, African American Research Center, Fort Lauderdale, April 2005
- . • "'A Whole Ton-Load a Lie': Doing Ethical Research in the Creole/anglophone Caribbean," Ethics Conference, U.W.I., Mona. April 2005
- . • "'I Shot the Sheriff': Gun Talk in Jamaican Popular Music." Caribbean Studies Association Conference. Santo Domingo, May 2005
- . • "'Self Searching for Substance': The Politics of Style in Lovelace's *A Brief Conversion and Other Stories*." 70th Birthday Conference in honour of Earl Lovelace, U.W.I., St. Augustine, July 2005

Dr Norval Edwards

- "What Does Hybridity Do?," 23rd Annual Conference on West Indian Literature, St Georges University, Grenada, March 8-11, 2004.

Dr Curdella Forbes

- "X Press Publications: Pop Culture, 'Pop Lit' and Caribbean Literary Criticism", 24th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, University of Puerto Rico, San Piedras, March 29 to April 2, 2005.

Prof John Lennard

- "Developments in Fairleigh Dickinson's on-line pedagogy after 9 -11". American Association for Higher Education Annual Conference (Atlanta GA, 17-20 March 2005).

Dr Gregory Stephens

- "'I Have Become Terribly Mexicanized': Intercultural Identification in Poniatowsha's *Querido Diego*," paper accepted for "Minor Keys: Cultural Expression in the Anglophone Caribbean," University of Puerto Rico-Rico, San Piedras, March 29 to April 2, 2005.

PUBLICATIONS

Dr Michael Bucknor Refereed Journal Articles

- * "'Voices Under the Window' of Representation: Austin Clarke's Poetics of Body-memory in *The Meeting Point*." *Journal of West Indian Literature* 13.1 & 2 (April 2005): 141 -175

Professor Carolyn Cooper Refereed Book:

- * Sound Clash: Jamaican Dancehall Culture At Large. N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004, 348 pp.

Refereed Book Chapters:

- .* “Dancehall Dress: Competing Codes of Decency in Jamaica.” Carol Tulloch, ed. Black Style. London: V & A Publications, 2004, 68 -83.
- .* “Writing Oral History: Sistren Theatre Collective’s *Lionheart Gal*.” Gaurav Desai and Supriya Nair, eds. Postcolonialisms: An Anthology of Cultural Theory and Criticism. Oxford: Berg, 2005, 169 -177. Reprint of 1989 journal article.
- .* “Mix Up the Indian with All the Patwa: Rajamuffin Sounds in ‘Cool’ Britannia.” Christine G.T. Ho & Keith Nurse eds. Globalisation, Diaspora & Caribbean Popular Culture. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers, 2005, 119 -140. Republished in Sound Clash.

Conference Proceedings:

- * “‘Meck West Indies Federate’: Celebrating the Arts of Regional Integration in the Poetry of Louise Bennett.” Kenneth Hall and Denis Benn, eds. Caribbean Imperatives: Regional Governance and Integrated Development. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers, 2005, 31 -51. Edited version of a 1999 journal article.

Journal article:

- * “Enslaved in Stereotype: Race and Representation in ‘Postcolonial’ Jamaica. *Small Axe* No. 16 (September 2004) 154 169.

Dr Norval Edwards Refereed Journals

- .* “Conversations on Creoleness”, Review of Creolité and Creolization: Documenta 11 Platform 3, edited by Okwui Enwezor, Carlos Basualdo, Ute Meta Bauer, Susanne Ghez, Sarat Maharaj, Mark Nash, and Octavio Zaya. Ostfildern-Ruit, Germany: Hatje Cantz Publishers, 2003, in *Small Axe: A Journal of Criticism* 16 (September 2004): 222 -228.
- .* Joint Review of Brian Meeks’ Paint the Town Red (Leeds: Peepal Tree Press, 2003) and Garfield Ellis’ Such As I Have (Oxford: Macmillan Caribbean Writers, 2003) in *Jamaica Journal* 28.2-3 (December 2004): 80 -84.
- .* “Diaspora, Difference, and Black Internationalisms”, in *Small Axe* 17 (March 2005): 220 - 228.

Dr Curdella Forbes

- .* From Nation to Diaspora: Samuel Selvon, George Lamming and the Cultural Performance of Gender. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2005. 305 pp.
- .* “Selling that Caribbean Woman down the River: Travel Narratives and the Global Economy.” *Journal of West Indian Literature* 13.1. (April 2005):1-27.

Prof John Lennard Non-Refereed

- * “Twin-Born with Greatness”, reviewing Derek Walcott, *The Prodigal*, in *The Liberal: Poetry, Politics, Culture* (February/March 2005), pp. 36 -37

Dr Mawuena Logan

- * Book chapters in Encyclopedia of Children’s Literature, Vol. 1, New York and London: Oxford University Press, 2005

Articles

- * “The Diasporic Griot: James Berry and His Fiction for the Young.” *Children’s Literature Association Quarterly* (Fall 2005)

Dr Gregory Stephens Books and Monographs

- .* “Monolingualism and racialism as ‘Curable Diseases’: *Nuestra América* in the Transnational South,” *Globalization with a Southern Face*, ed James Peacock & Harry Watson (University of North Carolina Press, 2005).
- .* “‘To Write my Own Pass’: Douglass’ Post-Narrative Trajectory,” afterword to new edition of *The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* (Signet Classics, 2005).
- .* “Frederick Douglass as Integrative Ancestor: The Consequences of Interracial Co-Creation,” in *The Anthology of African American Social and Political Thought*, ed. William Banks (Oxford UP, 2005).

Mr David Williams

- * (With Hazel Simmons-McDonald) *A World of Prose* (new edition). Oxford: Heinemann, 2005.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr Michael Bucknor

- .– Chief Examiner, CAPE Literatures in English for the Caribbean Examinations Council
- .– Member, Editorial Board, *Pathways*
- .– Editor, *Postcolonial Text*
- .– Editor, *Journal of West Indian Literature*
- .– Adjudicator, Mico Teachers’ College, Leslie Henriques Speech Competition.

Dr Victor L. Chang

- .– Chairman, *West Indian Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (WIACLAS)*
- .– Editor, *Pathways*.
- .– Co-editor, *JWIL*.

Dr Carolyn Cooper

- Member, Board of Directors, the Calabash Literary Festival

Dr Norval Edwards

- .– Associate Editor, *Small Axe: A Journal of Criticism*, 1996
- .– Manuscript reader, The Press, UWI

Dr Curdella Forbes

- .– Assistant Chief Examiner, English B, Caribbean Examinations Council.
- .– Editorial Advisor, *Anthurium*, online peer-reviewed journal of original Caribbean works and critical studies of Caribbean literature, film, art, and culture.

Mr David Williams

– Judge, poetry and short stories, Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC)
Literary Competition, 2005.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate

Number Registered

Year I 850 (373 majors)

Year II 502 (377 majors)

Year III 385 (283 majors)

TOTAL: 1,737 (1,033 majors)

Course Registrations

Semester I

		Sat	Pass	%Pass
E10A	Introduction to Poetry	120	101	84
E10B	Introduction to Prose Fiction	93	33	65
E10C	Introduction to Drama	105	75	71
E10G	Reading & Writing About Literature	48	27	56
E20D	Love, Death and Poetry	67	61	91
E21C	Modern Prose Fiction	69	65	94
E22A	Drama I	35	30	86
E23A	Key Issues in Literary Criticism I	64	60	94
E25D	The West Indian Novel	31	27	87
E25E	West Indian Drama	67	63	94
E26C	Creative Writing, Poetry	13	13	100
E31C	The City in Fiction	56	52	93
E34B	Classic American Prose Fiction	21	19	90
E35B	West Indian Lit 'Special Author' Seminar	12	10	83
E35C	Derek Walcott, Poet	28	26	93
E35D	West Indian Lit. 'Special Author' Seminar	24	23	96
AR11A	Introduction to Comparative Caribbean Literature: Afro-Caribbean Poetry	39	39	100
SUB-TOTAL:		892	724	

Semester II

E10A	Introduction to Poetry	70	56	80
E10B	Introduction to Prose Fiction	113	87	77
E10C	Introduction to Drama	68	57	84
E10G:	Reading and Writing About Literature	26	21	84
E21G	African/Diaspora Women's Narrative	54	53	98
E21H	Modern American Literary Prose	29	22	76
E22B	Drama II	44	44	100
E23D:	Key Issues in Literary Criticism II	43	25	58
E25C	West Indian Poetry	63	56	89
E26D	Creative Writing, (Prose Fiction)	10	9	90
E32C:	The Romance	53	46	87
E32D:	Shakespeare I	48	45	94
E33S:	The Sonnet	34	28	82
E37A	African American Literature	64	64	100
E39K:	Major Authors: Yeats	36	36	100
AR11B:	Introduction to Comparative Caribbean	35	34	97

Literature II: Women's Writing

Semester III

E10B	Introduction to Prose Fiction	20	14	70
E26F:	Creative Writing for Screen and Stage	11	11	100
	SUB-TOTAL:	821	708	
	TOTAL:	1713	1432	

83

First Class Honours:

Dahlia Harris

Carol Pinnock

Postgraduate

Registration

PhD	5
MPhil.	14
MA	23

