DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PSYCHIATRY

Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer, BA Bishop’s (C), MB BS, PhD UWI – Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The period August 1, 2007 to July 31, 2008 saw many accomplishments in the Department despite the challenge of meeting the demands of increased number of students. The staff remains highly motivated and dedicated to maintaining high standards despite the ongoing resource constraints.

The Department is comprised of two sections, Community Health and Psychiatry as well as a number of associated centres namely: the Mona Ageing & Wellness Centre, CARIMENSA and the UWI Harp & CHART programme which function independently.

The Department is involved in teaching in all years of the MBBS curriculum with an average of 175 students per year. Student ratings of teaching remains high with 90% of lecturers averaging above 4.5. Dr. Tomlin Paul received the Guardian Life Teacher’s Award for the year. Examination results were also good. Final MBBS examinations for May 2008 in Medicine & Therapeutics to which Community Health & Psychiatry contributes had no failures on the Mona Campus.

The introduction of the GPA has increased the number of examinations and the demand for rigor and promptness of assessments and marks. Adjustments in the course offerings continue to be done to ensure compatibility with the GPA system. Modifications of courses are done on an ongoing basis based on student assessments with major adjustments to Understanding Research being completed during the year. Seven special study modules were offered and this is an area targeted for development.
Community Health was not involved in the opening of the Western Campus as the year 4 and 5 programmes have operated there for over 30 years. Psychiatry will now be involved in year 4.

Two workshops for year 2 and 3 students were held on Team Building & Leadership. Academic advising and mentoring continue as a focus of staff involvement with students. With the introduction of the GPA system some students are having difficulties early in their academic career and this has increased needs in the area.

The increased number of students has posed particular difficulties to the rural programme as more sites are needed. Two new sites were identified but one was closed as a result of Hurricane Dean. Two more sites have been identified but the accommodation need refurbishing. Transportation is also a challenge especially in Psychiatry.

Postgraduate

Nineteen (19) students graduated from the MPH Programme. Five (5) specializing in Health Promotion. Thirty-three (33) new students enrolled for the academic year. The MPH Programme served as a pilot for the introduction of Postgraduate course evaluations by students. All courses in Semester II were evaluated. The activity was executed from the Deputy Principal’s office with the MPH class representative coordinating the activities at Community Health.

One student graduated from the Family Medicine Programme which is still not admitting new students.

There are twelve research students with one PhD graduating in November, 2008. Monthly seminars and journal clubs are part of their experience and efforts at improving supervision are ongoing. Financing of students research projects remains a challenge.

One student graduated from the DM Psychiatry and 3 new students were admitted. The DM regulations were reviewed with cross campus collaboration. Work has commenced on review of the curriculum. The PhD Clinical Psychology was given special attention and was transferred to the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work. The Section of Psychiatry will continue to collaborate with the latter named department in offering the course and to be responsible for the clinical aspects including the practica.
Online

Online Post Graduate Courses were introduced during the year with three courses in Ageing. Seven students were enrolled but only four completed Fundamentals of Ageing and none Clinical Aspects of Ageing. Problems with the online system prevented a smooth roll out of these programmes.

A regional UWI based Online Certificate Programme in Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment is being offered through the 4th campus over 3 semesters and is coordinated by Dr. Winston De La Haye (Psychiatry). Eight (8) students registered in 2007-2008.

New Courses

The MSc in Cultural Therapy was approved by Faculty of Medical Sciences and Board of Graduate Studies, University of the West Indies and is scheduled to admit students in the 2008-2009 academic year.

A DrPH which will be offered cross-campus. A DrPH course was developed and approved by the Board for Graduate Studies and will begin in 2009.

Outreach Teaching Programmes

The Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Services Training Unit continues to meet national and regional needs in training for the Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Service. Six hundred and nineteen persons were trained locally; 71 in 4 other territories. (29- St. Lucia, 9-Bermuda, 1-Trinidad, 16- Anguilla).

The Community Care of the Elderly training programme had 13 participants; 9 local and 4 regional.

Dr. Henroy Scarlet coordinated the annual “Field Students in Developing Countries” Summer School with the University of Alabama and San Diego, with 32 students participating.

Research

Several members of the Department remain actively involved in research with major research activity nationally and internationally. There is an effort to focus on topics with persons working on several aspects of a topic. The areas include: Reproductive Health Issues, Prostate Cancer and Diet, Ageing Issues, Mental Health &
Environmental Health. Individual staff members are also involved in smaller research projects related to their professional field.

Productivity levels remain the same as last year with 21 publications and 14 abstracts in peer reviewed journals/books and several book chapters. Fifty-four (54) oral presentations were made at scientific conferences. There is a need to increase the publication output. A number of members of staff need to convert research done into publications but with the heavy teaching loads, this remains a challenge.

**Major Research Projects Completed**

Dr. Kenneth James, Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer – Health Impact Assessment JAMALCO Plant. Research done in collaboration with Yale University – Report submitted to JAMALCO/Ministry of Health.

Dr. Maria Jackson – Association of Diet & Prostate Cancer in Jamaican Men – submitted to Planning Institute of Jamaica.

Mrs. Desmalee Holder-Nevins - Impact of Dancehall Music on Adolescent sexual choices – submitted for PhD examination.

Mrs. Chloe Morris - Health-Seeking Behaviour of Jamaican men 55 + years - submitted for PhD examination.


Dr. Henroy Scarlett – Exposure to Asbestos in Jamaican Hospitals – submitted and awarded DrPH – University of Alabama

**Service**

Service remains a strong component of the Department’s activity. The Health Centre provided service to 12 nearby communities. There was a total of 12,000 patient visits but visits by staff into the communities were curtailed by the upsurge in violence.

The Health Centre is also a teaching site for both medical and nursing students from the UWI School of Nursing and Excelsior School of Nursing.

The Section of Psychiatry in-patients and out-patient services. A total of 355 in-patients and 3,279 out-patients were seen for the period.
This year, the work of the Child Guidance Clinic was expanded as Dr. Gillian Lowe concentrated her activities on developing the service.

**Mona Ageing & Wellness Center/WHO Collaborating Centre**

As a WHO Collaborating Centre on Ageing & Health work continued on Age-Friendly Primary Health Care with a Toolkit being posted on the WHO website. There was participation at several international meetings on various 'age friendly' topics and emergency preparedness for Seniors. Work on 'Age-Friendly Communities’ and 'Ageing in a Foreign Land’ is continuing and collaboration with the New York Academy of Medicine has been established. Work on ‘the Elderly in Disasters’ has resulted in that age group being included in the national programme. There is collaboration in this area with the Public Health Agency of Canada and continued participation in related international fora. The Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre has been involved in inter-faculty teaching and has had four cross-faculty students in courses. Six (6) international students and two (2) Professors from Spellman College, Atlanta were hosted by the Centre which facilitated their study tour. Mrs. Chloe Morris participated in a Pan American Health Organization Technical Exchange with Belize to examine the development of their National Policy for Senior Citizens.

**CARIMENSA**

The Caribbean Institute of Mental Health and Substance Abuse under the leadership of Professor Frederick Hickling continues to develop and offers four activities. Two 3 credit courses were offered.

The programme for high risk 9-12 year olds at the Allman Town Primary School continues. There are projects in Psychohistoriographic Cultural Therapy for adults with Concordia University and the Department.

Research is a strong component and there are several ongoing projects focusing on Cultural Therapy. Publication of books focusing on Mental Health is ongoing.

**International Links**

The Department continues to maintain international links – Morehouse School of Medicine, University of Botswana, CARICOM, WHO Ageing Unit(Geneva) & Reproductive Health Unit(Geneva) Sparkman - Centre, University of Alabama. The New York Academy of
PAPERS PRESENTED


• **Abel, Wendel** – Integrating Mental Health Services in Primary Care in Low and Medium Income Countries. (WHO) Rimini, Italy, 2008.


• **Abel, Wendel** – “CARICOM – A Mental Health Report”. PAHO Sub-Regional Meeting of Mental Health Stakeholders – Christ Church, Barbados. July 2007.


• **De La Haye, W.** “Postpartum Depression”, Jamaica Midwives’ Association 45th Autumn School, Jamaica Conference Centre, October 2007.


• **Eldemire-Shearer, Denise** – Preserving the achievements, confronting the challenges. Jamaica Public Health Inspectors (JAPHI) 61st annual meeting, October 23, 2007.


• **Eldemire-Shearer, Denise** – Age Friendly Approach to PHC Training Requirements, 2nd International Meeting on Emergency and seniors Halifax Canada Halifax March 16-20, 2008.

• **Eldemire-Shearer, Denise** – The Jamaican Elderly - findings of Focus group Study, Ageing in the Caribbean Dissemination Workshop March 2008 ECLAC and CHRC.


• **Goldbourne, J.** – “Sex over 60” Jamaica Psychiatric Association Annual Conference, Jamaica Conference Centre, October 7, 2007.


• **Hickling FW.** “Cultural Therapy”, Transcultural meeting of the Canadian Psychiatric Association Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada, November 16, 2007

• **Hickling FW, Robertson-Hickling HA.** The Development Of Cultural Therapy” University of Trinidad and Tobago, Port of Spain, Trinidad July 18, 2008.

• McFarlane-Anderson N, Bazuaye P, **Jackson M., Smikle M**, Fletcher H. M., Hormonal contraceptive use in Jamaican


• Jackson, M., SA Eyre, MS Boyne, TS Ferguson, NO Younger, MK Tulloch-Reid K Vaughn, M Samms-Vaughan, R. J. Wilks. The Distribution and Correlates of Bone Mineral Density in Jamaican Young Adults. 16th Annual Research Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies. November, 2007.

• G Lowe, Bipolar Disorder in Children Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Association of Jamaica. Bustamante Hospital for Children June 2008

• G Lowe, G Lipps, S Halliday, A Morris and N Clarke, Depression Among 4th Form Students in Jamaican High Schools Faculty of Medical Science Research Day, November 2007

• G. Lipps, G Lowe, S Halliday, A Morris and N Clarke, Depression Among 4th Form High School Students in Three Caribbean Nations Faculty of Medical Science Research Day, November 2007


• **Chloe Morris** – “Retirement is both Gender Specific and Culturally Bound”. World Congress on Ageing Male Tampa Feb. 20-25, 2008

• **Paul, T J** – “Looking to the Future: Inner talents guiding our Careers” at the Annual Career Exposition, Merl Grove High School, Kingston


• **Beman, D. Crawford-Sykes, A. Williams, E. Paul, TJ, Brandy, JM Young, L, (2007).** Standard setting of medical examinations enhancing our quality assurance strategy at the University of the West Indies, Mona. 2007 CANQATE Conference, Ocho Rios, Jamaica.

• **Paul, TJ, Williams, E. Young, L. Brandy, JM, Carpenter, R. Gordon, O. (2007).** Adding personality to medical teaching at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica. 11th Annual IAMSE Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio August 2007.

• **Beman, D, Paul, TJ, Brandy, JM, Young, L, Williams, E (2007).** Tough for students but easy for judges or vice versa?! An early evaluation of Angoff item accuracy in three examinations. 11th Annual IAMSE Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio August 2007.

• **Paul, TJ.** 10th Anniversary Research Symposium, University of the West Indies, "Nature of Suffering and the Goal of Medicine" August 2007.


• **Paul, TJ.** “The effective Use of Family Planning Options” National Family Planning Board’s Youth Forum For Young Men Only; Jamaica Conference Centre, Kingston, September, 2007.


• **TJ Paul**, JM Brandy, D. Beman. From setting standards to standard setting. The evolution of assessment in the Faculty of Medical Sciences. UWI Medical Alumni, Ninth International Medical Conference, Jamaica, July 2008.

• L. Barnaby, **TJ Paul**, J Leitch. An initial experience with medical students setting their own examinations at Medical Students Conference. UWI Medical Alumni, Ninth International Medical Conference, Jamaica, July 2008.


• **Paul, TJ** “Nature of Suffering and the Goal of Medicine” 10th Anniversary Research Symposium, University of the West Indies, School of Clinical Medicine, Bahamas, October 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

WIMJ = West Indian Medical Journal


* Lipps G. E., **Lowe G. A,** Young R., Validation of the beck depression inventory – in a Jamaican University cohort WIMJ, Oct. 56(5) 404-408.


**Abstracts**

* G, Lipps, **Lowe, GA,** Halliday, S, Morris, A, Clarke, N. Depression among fourth form students in Jamaican High Schools. WIMJ. 56(Suppl. 3):7.

* Martin-Cooke, JS, **Hickling, FW,** Abel, WD. Validation of the Jamaican personality disorder inventory. WIMJ. 56(Suppl. 3):10.

* Oo, MK, **Hickling, FW.** A study of post-traumatic stress disorder among Jamaica Constabulary Force personnel in a given geographical area in Jamaica. WIMJ. 56(suppl.3):11.
* Walcott, GO, Hickling FW, Abel WD, Martin Cooke J. Prevalence of Personality Disorder in an impatient population of the psychiatric service of the University Hospital of the West Indies. WIMJ, 56(suppl 3) 40.

* Hickling F. W., Walcott GO, Martin-Cooke J., Abel W., Paisley V., Allen T., Thomas K. A., Prevalence of personality disorder in a population substance abuser at the University Hospital of the West Indies. WIMJ. 57(Suppl. 2) 46.


* G Lowe, G Lipps, S Halliday, A Morris and N Clarke, Depression Among 4th Form Students in Jamaican High Schools. WIMJ, November 2007; 56,(Suppl 3 ) 17.

* G. Lipps, G Lowe, S Halliday, A Morris and N Clarke, Depression Among 4th Form High School Students in Three Caribbean Nations. WIMJ, 2007; 56,(Suppl 3 ) 19


The University of the West Indies and Pan American Health Organization Conference on “Strengthening Mental Health Research Capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean” Conference Proceedings.


* Hickling FW, A Cultural Therapy Risk-Reduction Program for 9-year-olds from Inner City Kingston: A CARIMENSA pilot project.

* Hickling FW, Martin J, Abel W. Barton E, Clarke T. Validation of the Jamaica Personality Disorder Inventory.

* Sewell CA, Abel WD, Hickling FW, Walcott GO. A Psychosocial Analysis of Male Criminal Offenders.
* Hickling FW, Walcott GO, Martin J, Abel WD, Paisley V, Allen T, Thomas KA. Prevalence of Personality Disorder in a Population of Substance Abusers at the Detoxification Unit of the University Hospital of the West Indies.

Posters


* Eldemire-Shearer D., Nevins D., Age Friendly Communities University of the West Indies Mona Campus Research Day Jan 24-25, 2008.


* Paul, TJ, Williams, E. Young, L, Branday, JM, Carpenter, R. Gordon, O, (2007). Adding personality to medical teaching at the University of the West Indies, Jamaica. 11th Annual IAMSE Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio.
* Beman, D, Paul, TJ, Branday, JM, Young, L, Williams, E (2007). Tough for students but easy for judges or vice versa?! An early evaluation of Angoff item accuracy in three examinations. 11th Annual IAMSE Meeting, Cleveland, Ohio.


**Book**


**Peer Reviewed Book Chapters**


**Technical Reports**


* Abel W., Mental Health Recommendations Eight Caucus of CARICOM Health Ministers 2007 CARICOM/PAHO Oct. 2007


Professional

Two Inaugural Lecturers were given:


* Professor A. McCaw-Binns – Of Numerators, Denominators and Hope – Making Every Mother and Baby Count I Jamaica. March 27, 2008.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Althea Bailey

– Member, Jamaica AIDS Support

– Advisor, Jamaica Family Planning Association, Youth Advocacy Project

– Member, Violence Prevention Alliance

– Member, Advisory board youth opportunities Unlimited.
- Member, Sexuality Initiative UWI Advisory Committee
- Volunteer, Change From Within

**Brendon Bain**
- Member, Family Life Ministry Board Member.

**De La Haye, Winston**
- President, West Indies Guild of University Teachers (WIGUT), UWI, Mona
- 1st Vice President, Medical Association of Jamaica
- Executive Member, Section on Developing Countries, World Psychiatric Association
- Board Member, RISE Management Services (formerly Addiction Alert).
- Board Member, Richmond Fellowship, Patricia House Rehabilitation Centre
- Member, International Scientific and Medical Forum on Drug Abuse, Drug Free America Foundation, Inc.
- Chairman, Medical Section, United Way Jamaica

**Denise Eldemire-Shearer**
- Member, World Health Organization Advisory Committee on Ageing & Health
- Patron, National Council for Senior Citizens
- Deputy Chair, Golden Age Home
- Member, Central Health Committee – Ministry of Health
- Chairman, Medical Council Appeals Committee
- Member, Planning Institute of Jamaica Task Force preparing the Vision 2030 Committee on Vulnerable Groups
- Member, American Public Health Association (APHA)
- Member, American Gerontological Association of America

**Roger Gibson**
- President, Jamaica Psychiatric Association
– Chairman, Education Committee of Medical Association of Jamaica

Frederick Hickling
– Member, Conflict Management and Resolution Committee, World Psychiatric Association
– Chairman, Steering Committee, Latin American and Caribbean Mental Health Research Network, PAHO
– Member, American Psychiatric Association
– Member, Royal College of Psychiatrists (UK)
– Member, Royal Society of Medicine
– President, Jamaica Psychiatric Association.
– Member, Medical Association of Jamaica

Gillian Lowe
– Representative, Medical Association of Jamaica representative on National Council for Drug Abuse

Affette McCaw-Binns
– Member, 2007 Planning Institute of Jamaica. Population Task Force
– Member, 2005-2008 Ministry of Health. Maternal Mortality Committee
– Member, Vital Statistics Commission, Jamaica (Secretariat: Planning Institute of Jamaica)

Kai Morgan
– Member, Early Child Commission:
– Vice-President, Jamaican Psychological Society
– Member, Mico-Care Centre Evaluation and Assessment Committee.

Loraine Barnaby
– Member, International Society to Advance Alzheimer Research and Treatment (ISTAART)
– Member, (Deputy V-P Caribbean and Latin American Region), World Association for Psychosocial Rehabilitation.

– Member, Representative (Caribbean region) of the International Association of Suicide Prevention (IASP)

– Member, Soroptomist International

Chloe Morris

– Member, Planning Institute of Jamaica Task Force preparing the Vision 2030 Committee on Vulnerable Groups

– Member, National Council of Senior Citizens Board

– Member, Gerontology Society of America

– Member, American Men’s Health Studies Association

– Member, International Society for the Study of the Ageing Male

Tomlin Paul

– Director, Health Plus Associates

– Consultant Physician, Portmore Gospel Assembly

– Member of Sch. Bd., McCann’s Child Development Centre

– Volunteer Physician, Hope Gospel Assembly

Desmalee Holder-Nevins

– Advisor, Executive Committee, Jamaica Association For Health Education & Promotion

Henroy Scarlett

– Secretary, Jamaica Association of Public Health Inspector

HONOURS RECEIVED

Affette McCaw-Binns

2007 – University of the West Indies: Principal’s Award for Most Outstanding Researcher – Seven publications: Reproductive Health, Medical Education in 2007
Wendel Abel
2007 – Order of Distinction for Services to Mental Health Programmes, October 15, 2007

Tomlin Paul
2007 – Vice Chancellor’s Award For Excellent 2007

Frederick Hickling
2007 – Award for dedicated Services to Psychiatry in Jamaica from the Jamaican Psychiatric Association, August 2007.

UWI HARP/CHART
In the past year CHART RCU has experienced tremendous growth in its responsibility as the Regional Coordinating body. The RCU has been taking on more responsibility for the fiscal and operational management of the CHART Network. The RCU has been involved in several activities that will enable it to take on these increased responsibilities. These include: strengthening existing and forging new partnerships; receiving technical assistance to improve internal management and increasing our staff complement.

Several important meetings were held. These included the first CHART RCU staff retreat, the Principals and Partners meeting and a meeting convened by the HIV/AIDS Bureau of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in Maryland, U.S.A. to review the transition period for the subcontract and fiscal management from I-TECH to the CHART RCU.

With regard to the governance of the CHART Network, Dr. Perry Gomez, Medical Director for the CHART Bahamas Centre, was selected as the new Chair for the Executive Council (EC) to succeed Prof. Bain. The CHART RCU has been very involved in embarking on a new web-based data management system called Train SMART to keep a record of persons trained by CHART, generate reports and be accessible to the CHART Centres and the RCU simultaneously.

The CHART Network Information and Communication Officer, Lorraine Anglin resigned from this post in October 2007. The position was filled by Ms. Deborah Russell. Ms. Maria Rankine’s assignment as Executive Assistant at the CHART RCU came to an end on October
To Ms. Anglin and Ms. Rankine for the services that they provided so ably to the Unit, tremendous gratitude is expressed.

In December 2007, Ms. Audi Reid was promoted to the new post of Network Programme Coordinator; in February 2008 Ms. Sandra McKenzie’s post was expanded to Programme and Operations Manager.

The RCU collaborated with the recently established CHLI to recruit four new members of staff in March 2008. They are, Ms. Margaret Campbell as Administrative Assistant for the CHART RCU; Ms. Glennesher Dwyer as Programme Assistant for CHLI; Ms. Valrie Cyrus as Finance and Contract Officer and Mr. Ryan Smith as Information Technology Consultant. In June 2008, Shelly Trim, DrPH was hired as Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist. Dr. Trim is assigned to the CHART Regional Coordinating Unit, but will also assist the Caribbean Health Leadership Institute. In addition, five student interns were hired to assist with project activities.

There was an expansion of the team in September 2007 when the Caribbean Health Leadership Institute was established after UWI HARP made a successful bid for a five-year grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The launch of this programme contributes to the fulfilment of a long-standing need, recognized by UWI and other regional organizations, including CARICOM, CAREC and PAHO, to strengthen public health leadership in the Caribbean region. The CHLI has been launched as a partnership between UWI HARP and the North Carolina Institute for Public Health, with input from the world-renowned Center for Creative Leadership in North Carolina, U.S.A. The aim of the programme is to develop a cadre of effective, committed leaders who will create positive change in HIV/AIDS programmes and in the health of the Caribbean populace. The programme is being delivered in twelve-month cycles mainly using Internet-based distance technology, and includes two residential retreats, and an action-learning project carried out by small groups of scholars.

The first cohort of 23 scholars from 12 Caribbean countries was admitted to the programme in April and gathered for their first retreat on June 9-11, 2008 at the Rose Hall Resorts and Country Club in Montego Bay, Jamaica. The feedback from the scholars along with the visiting and local faculty and three mentors indicated that the event was a resounding success. A follow-up retreat is scheduled for December 2008.