



MONA ACADEMY OF SPORT

Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin Head of Department

DPT, MSc. Rehabilitation Sci. MSc. Biomedical Ethics

OVERVIEW

The 2021/2022 academic year continued to be fraught with challenges due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and significant budgetary restrictions. Despite this, there were also several successes. The total number of students enrolled in the academy for 2021/2022 was 115 across two undergraduate and five graduate programmes. For the undergraduate programmes the Cross Campus platform was used to deliver lectures to students from the St. Augustine and Open Campus Academies. Teaching began late each semester due to delays with adjunct staff receiving their contracts which affected access to course containers. Regardless of this, they found ways to ensure that all content was covered by the end of the semester. Internet connectivity also affected delivery of some classes, however, this was significantly less than the 2020/2021 academic year. The MSc. Sport Business Management programme ran smoothly as did the MPhil/ PhD and the MSc. Sport which had its first intake of students. The MSc. Sports Medicine and MSc. Sports and Exercise Medicine also continued to run smoothly.

During the summer semester, the Academy was able to return to an on-site practicum for all programmes where this was relevant. They were all highly successful and students were very happy to return to this mode. One student from Trinidad experienced challenges with coming onsite to Jamaica and other accommodations were made to ensure he completed the practicum. A total of 8 undergraduate and 9 graduate students completed their programmes. The Academy continued to encourage students to write articles for publication. Six students had articles published in the Trinidad Guardian (Sport Matters Column) and one published in the Ja-

maica Gleaner (Sport Pulse Column). The Academy continued to build relationships with external sporting organisations and seek out commercial relationships with private sector. With the help of the Business Development Office (BDO), a lease arrangement was negotiated with the Tornadoes Swim Club which took over operations of the pool in July with an aim to reopen for the 2022/2023 academic year. The Academy engaged with the Jamaica Rugby Football Union (JRFU) to host the Rugby Americas North Regional Women's 12 and Men Under 19 tournaments at the Mona Bowl. Some of the teams agreed to the accommodation package negotiated for 138 Student Living resulting in revenues of US\$53,000.00 over the 5-day period of occupancy. The Academy facilitated a partnership between the

Rugby Union and SportsMax which resulted in live coverage of the tournament. The Mona Bowl was on showcase for four days to the SportsMax audience of over 1.5 million persons in 23 Caribbean islands. A total of 30 videos were uploaded to YouTube and had 10,415 views. A total of 26 matches were livestreamed resulting in viewership of 97,299 from United Kingdom, United States, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Mexico. JRFU invested over JA\$500,000.00 to aid the Academy with field preparation for the tournament. Students were able to engage in experiential learning as the practicum activities for three of the master's programmes were integrated into tournament activities. Just prior to the regional tournament, the Academy in collaboration with the JRFU hosted the Texas Rattlesnakes all collegiate team for a Jamaican tour. This gave the campus visibility in the North American sphere resulting in clubs from Canada and the United States beginning conversations for tours in 2022/2023.

In July a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed for a more structured engagement with JRFU as well as Rugby League Jamaica. This was a historical moment since it was the first time the organisations would be working together as a collaborative group. The Academy also engaged with the newly formed Jamaica Archery Association to help facilitate preparation and training of athletes for international competition. Previous MOUs with the Jamaica Hockey Federation and Jamaica Cricket Association continued to be operational. The Sports Medicine Clinic continued to work with the National programme for Field Hockey which saw the male team qualifying for the Caribbean and Central America games. Two of our university scholarship athletes (Shemar Gordon and Christopher Reid) were on this team. The clinic staff also covered the Jamaica Scorpions on several tours and worked with Cricket West Indies. These activities all generated

revenues for the clinic. The relationship was also continued with the National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica which continues to prove itself to be a strong force.

The campus related sporting activities remained very low keyed due to budgetary cuts. The UWI Mona emerged champions of the 2021-2022 Intercollegiate T20 Cricket Competition and one of the cricketers was selected for the Jamaica Scorpions. Despite the campus not hiring a football coach the students competed at Intercollegiate football and placed 4th. Four of our scholarship athletes competed at the premier league levels in different clubs. The female and male Volleyball teams emerged champions in the intercollegiate tournament, and the female club team won the club tournament held in April. The participation of UWI was primarily due to voluntary service from club members. Scholarship athlete Amanda Pinkney was selected for the national netball team. The Track and Field team participated in several development meets, Intercollegiate Championships, Penn Relays and National Trials throughout the season. The male team finished 2nd in the Intercollegiate competitions. Student athlete Noel Ellis secured a win at the Sagcor Sigma 5K. Staff development activities continued throughout the year. Our physical therapists Dr. Ramon Hunter and Mr. Barrington Gayle both completed their MSc. in Sports and Exercise Medicine. They also completed the Immediate Care in Rugby Level 2 course and obtained their World Rugby certification through the partnership with JRFU. Our research assistant Shara Creary Yan completed her doctorate in physical therapy. Sports coordinator Mr. Conrad Parks is enrolled in the Advanced Sports Management Diploma being offered by the Jamaica Olympic Association and Sports Coordinator Fiona Binns completed the Supervisory Management Course at the Mona School of Business and Management. Team building activities were done in December to continue to build rapport between all sections of the Academy.

PEER REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- Creary Yan, S. & Lenker, H. (2022). Pediatric Oncology Rehabilitation (book chapter). *Oncology Rehabilitation: A Comprehensive Guidebook for Clinicians* 1st ed. Elsevier.
- Roopchand-Martin, S., Bennett, R., Facey, A., Creary-Yan, S., Mansingh, A. (2021). Sleep Quality in Semi-Professional Male Basketball Players in Bermuda. *Caribbean Medical Journal*. Epub September 2021.

NON-REFEREED RESEARCH-BASED / SCHOLARLY PUBLICATIONS

- Olivia Rose – Athletes and the influence of their significant others. Daily Gleaner October 4th 2021.
- Roopchand-Martin, S. The Elite Level Challenge. Sport Matters Column, Jamaica Sunday Gleaner, July 24th 2022.
- Roopchand-Martin, S. What do we want in an elite coach? Sport Matters Column, Trinidad Guardian, May 29th 2022.
- Roopchand-Martin, S. Challenges faced by elite regional sports coaches. Sport Matters Column, Trinidad Guardian, May 8th 2022.
- Roopchand-Martin, S. ICE, RICE, PRICE, POLICE and now PEACE and LOVE. Keeping up with management of soft tissue injuries. Sports Matters Column, Trinidad Guardian, April 24th 2022.
- Roopchand Martin, S., Clavier, J.M., Jean, K., Mansingh, A., Coudevylle, G.,
- Sinapah, S., Couriol, E., Chicate Moiberg, C. (2022). Regional study on the skills and needs of high-level coaches from the Caribbean. Technical report.
- Roopchand-Martin, S. A call for RECs in the region to pay more attention to animal research. CANREC Bulletin 3(1-2) Dec 2021.
- Facey, A. (2022). Doping, the athlete, and the freedom of choice. Sport Pulse Column. Jamaica Sunday Gleaner July 3rd 2022.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

Dr. Olivia Rose

- July 6th 2022 - Building Motivation in Athletes. Presented in the Sports Medicine practicum.
- March 3rd 2022 - Webinar on Stress and Sleep
- March 10th 2022 - Webinar on Time away from family
- October 28th 2021 - No pain no gain: The creation of Jamaican superstars. - Presented at G.C. Foster College of Physical Education and Sport Virtual Sports Heritage Symposium.
- Dr. Sharmella Roopchand Martin
- January 2022 – Panellist on Clarkson University’s Webinar titled Pioneering Bioethics: Promoting Research Ethics Around the Globe - Celebrating the NIH Grant Programs in Central and Eastern Europe, Central Asia, Caribbean, Latin America.
- January 2022 - Presented on Education needs of coaches in the English and French Caribbean to persons who participated in this collaborative

research.

- October 2021 - Presented on Education needs of coaches in the English and French Caribbean to government organizations and coaches in Guadeloupe

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin

- Chair for CARPHA's research ethics committee
- Vice-chair Jamaica Rugby Football Union

Dr. Aldeam Facey

- Doping Control Officer at the Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission
- Dr. Ruchelle Brown- Calvert
- Member of the Medical Committee - National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica
- Vice president Jamaica Association of Sports Medicine

Tajay Grant

- Representative on the UWI Physiotherapy Internship Committee

Ramon Hunter

- Chair of Medical Committee - National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica
- Fiona Binns
- National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica – Athlete's Committee Chairperson
- Jamaica Intercollegiate Association – Volleyball Chairperson
- Jamaica Volleyball Association – Member of the General Secretary Committee
- Americas Foundation of Netball Association – Volunteer on the Planning Committee for the hosting of the Coaching Course at the UWI Mona.

Olivia Rose

- KSAFA Coaches Developmental Workshop 2022. Presented on: Mental Health and Wellness for Coaches
- Presenter-Church Teachers College 2022. Presented on Coping during COVID-19

INCOME GENERATION

Rental of UWI Mona Stadium	JA\$ 776, 251.51
Rental of UWI Mona Bowl facilities	JA\$ 1,363, 344.00
UWI Sports Medicine Clinic	JA\$ 6,033,105.77