WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

During the academic year, the department made progress in implementing some of the strategic initiatives in its 2007–2012 strategic plans and began to develop its 2012–2017 strategic plans.

The major achievements included:

- The review of the BB Med Sci programme
- Increased student intake in the Basic Medical Sciences and Physical Therapy programmes.
- The strengthening of academic supervision and overall programme quality in research training at the MPhil and PhD levels, including weekly departmental graduate seminars.
- Increased publication output.

Professor Wayne McLaughlin, BSc Waterloo, PhD UWI
Head of Department
• Increased throughput of MPhil and PhD students.
• Establishment of Caribbean Toxicology Laboratory (CARITOX).
• The recruitment of new academic staff.

In January 2013, the Department relocated to the new Faculty of Medical Sciences Teaching and Research Complex. The complex is a 300,000 ft state-of-the-art facility with research and teaching laboratories, lecture theatres, seminar rooms, tutorial rooms and meeting rooms.

There were three resignations during the year. Dr. Michelle Hamilton, Lecturer in the Biochemistry Section resigned from the University of the West Indies to fully take up a post at the Ministry of Health. Dr. Jacqueline Corness, Senior Lecturer in the Physiology section and Dr. Rustam Aminov, Senior Lecturer in the Biochemistry section also resigned.

STAFF AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

Dr. Paul Brown received the Principal’s Research Award for Best Research Publication (article), Faculty of Medical Sciences for 2012, UWI, Mona [A Comparative Analysis of the Attachment of *Leptospira interrogans* and *L. borgpetersenii* to Mammalian Cells]. Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin received the UWI/Guardian Life Premium Teaching Award for 2011/2012. This was presented at the ceremony in October 2012. Miss Talitha Farquharson was promoted to the post of Administrative Secretary. Ms. Lady Fay Clarke, Chief Laboratory Attendant in the Anatomy Section received a Special Long Service Award in 2012.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Mrs. Angella Turner-Dawkins attended the Essentials of Occupational Health and Safety course from May 2–17, 2013. This programme covered areas such as:

• Hazard recognition, evaluation and control
Dr. Marsha-Lyn McKoy received training in experimental techniques in Pharmacology at Michigan State. Mr. Everton Thomas received Occupational Health and Safety training organised by the Human Resource Safety Unit. Dr. Rachael Irving received The University of the West Indies Press Authors Award for the Bestselling General Interest Book (2007–2012), *Jamaican Gold: Jamaican Sprinters*, January 2013. Dr. Rachael Irving was also awarded the World Justice Forum IV Scholarship to the Hague Netherlands.

**PAPERS/POSTERS PRESENTED AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**


• Gordon, C. “Role of the physical therapist in primary health care”. School of Physical Therapy Annual Research Symposium, July 2013.

• Nelson, G. “Gender Differences in Cardiac Rehabilitation”. UWI Department of Medicine Annual Cardiac Week Symposium, February 2013.


• Ragoobirsingh, D. “Diabetes and Caribbean Folklore” – The Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, June 20, 2013, London, United Kingdom.

• P.D. Brown. “Challenges to accessing international research funding”. NIH Grant Writing Workshop, Advancements in Medicine and Healthcare Conference, UWI, Mona, Jamaica, April 25, 2013.


• Murugan, Rajeswari, Jornadal, Jackie, Quinonez, Yanira, Jaffe, Mark, Dhadayuthapani, Sivanesan, Levy, Arkene and Rathinavelu, Appu. “Cytotoxic Effects of Pumpkin Seed Extracts on LNCaP Prostate Cancer Cell Line”. Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS), November 7–10, San Jose, California.


PATENT APPLICATION


• Daley-Beckford, Denise, Alexander-Lindo, Ruby, Lisa, Yee, Trevor and Reese, Paul. Newpotential oral hypoglycaemic agents from the leaves and stems of Eucalyptus camaldulensis Denhn. (Myrtaceae), and their identification as well known and consumed fatty acids with the likelihood for their safe use, and their favourable comparison with the known oral hypoglycaemic agent Metformin. (submitted September 30, 2012).
BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS


TECHNICAL REPORTS


REFEREED JOURNAL


hypercholesterolemic rats fed Ortanique peel PMFs extract. *Journal of Applied Biomedicine* 10(2): 91–102. ISSN 1214-0287.


penicillamine in a Rat Model of Pre-Eclampsia. *Journal of Natural Science, Biology and Medicine* 2012.


ABSTRACTS IN PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL


**INCOME GENERATION/FUNDING**

**Research Grants**

**Dr. C. R. Nwokocha**

• US$4,890.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund for the project “The effect of Potassium adaptation on some Hypertensive models; Vascular reactivity and Cell Signaling”.

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Dr. Paul Brown

- US$3,600 from the Research and Publication Fund as a support towards the project “Sero-ecology of Leptospiral exposure among students in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at UWI, Mona, Jamaica”.

- Quorum sensing and pathogenic potential of respiratory Pseudomonas aeruginosa. Campus Research and Publication Fund, UWI, Mona; PI (Awarded to Rochell Davis)

Dr. Dagogo Pepple

- US$831.50 from the Postgraduate Research Fund pending ethical approval for the project “The effect of Endothelin-1 on the deformability and Oxygen delivery in Homozygous Sickle Cell disease”.

- J$130,000.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “The effect of Trinolein on the Visoelasticity and Oxygen release in steady state Homozygous Sickle Cell disease”.

Dr. Rachael Irving


- Supreme Ventures Foundation, Industrial and Technical Supplies, Sports Development Foundation, Spanish Court Hotel – Anti-doping in Sports Workshop Sponsorship Grant. $(US) 14,000.00, 2013

Dr. Lisa Lindo

- US$2,700.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “The effect of Inositol, Inositol Hexakisphosphate (Ip6) and its combination of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Sprague-Dawley Rats”.

Sasha-Kay Clarke

- J$245,890.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “Isolation and characterization of Insect Vectors of Citrus greening and the role of weeds in the transmission of the disease in Jamaica”.
Diana Marshall

- J$318,100.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “Isolation and characterization of Bacillus thuringiensis from soil samples collected from select locations in Jamaica”.

Crystal McLean

- US$3,500.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “Biodegradation of Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons by Microorganisms isolated from soil and Kingston Harbour”.

JeAnn Murray

- US$3,000.00 from the Postgraduate Research Fund towards the project “Chemopreventive potential of natural and synthetic compounds”.

Workshops

Animal Cell Culture workshop  $173,520.00
Summer Drug Research  $70,000.00
Physical Therapy Clinic  J$86,285

PUBLIC SERVICE

Professor Wayne McLaughlin

- Board Member, Coconut Industry Board
- Board member, Seprod Limited

Professor Dalip Ragoobirsingh

- Diabetes Association of Jamaica (DAJ): Consultant Diabetes Educator
- The University Diabetes Outreach Programme (UDOP): Director of the Research portfolio and intimately involved in the annual Diabetes Conference.
– University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI): Consultant Diabetes Educator
– Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)/ World Health Organization (WHO): Temporary
– Consultant – Improvement of Quality of Diabetes care in the Caribbean.

Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin
– Lector and Member of the Liturgical Committee of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church
– Member of the Fund-raising Committee of Holy Cross Church

Dr. C. R. Nwokocha
– Member, Organizing Committee of the FMSARC

Professor Omkar Parshad
– Director, Indian Cultural Society in Jamaica.
– Chairman, Sri Sathya Sai Baba Organization in Jamaica.
– Member, Lions Club of St. Andrew, Jamaica.

Dr. Paul Brown
– Ambassador to Jamaica, American Society for Microbiology (ASM).
– Council member, International Society for Infectious Diseases.
– Editor, *Microbes and Health*.
– Independent Internal Examiner, Biology examination for course at UWI, St. Augustine.
– Independent Internal Examiner, DM Medical Microbiology thesis of Dr. Nathlee McMorris (UWI, Mona).
– Member, Planning Committee, Fulbright Academy Summit on Global Health 2013.
Grant Reviewer, International Society of Infectious Diseases; four grant proposals reviewed.

Dr. Carron Gordon
— FMS Representative on the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine, Ministry of Health, Jamaica

Dr. Kerith Golden
— Vice President, Stock Farm Road Citizens Association, Golden Spring, St Andrew.
— Member of the Board (Vice President) for Jamaica Association for Children With Learning Disabilities. 7 Leinster Road, Kingston 5.

Dr. Rachael Irving
— Committee Member: National Sports Museum chaired by Honourable Portia Simpson-Miller, Prime Minister of Jamaica

Ms. Gillian Hudson
— Consie Walters Cancer Care Center Executive Member; Friends of Sir John Golding Rehabilitation Center

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS REGISTRATION

BB Med Sci.
Year 1 = 68
Year 2 = 41
Year 3 = 52

Physical Therapy
Year 1 = 60
Year 2 = 66
Year 3 = 62
FIRST CLASS HONOURS – BB MED SCI

Pharmacology

Kyomi Allen, Trisha Blair, Chevel Burke, Shanique Coke, Akeim Coulson, Sashana Dixon, Jannel Hall, Jason Spence and Danielle Williams.

Miss Sashana Dixon of the 2013 graduating class was awarded the Vanderbilt Summer Internship Award

POST GRADUATE STUDENTS REGISTRATION

Taught Masters

MSc Forensic Science – 29
MSc Applied Pharmacology – 8
Msc Physical Therapy — 3

Research

MPhil – 38
PhD —15

POSTGRADUATE DEGREES AWARDED

Jacqueline Campbell  PhD Pharmacology
Dennis Bailey  PhD Biotechnology
Alexia Harvey  PhD Biotechnology
Anikki Burnett  MPhil Pharmacology
Anishka Lewis  MPhil Pharmacology
VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

• Dr. Michael Rowe, applicant for the post of lecturer in the Physiology Section. Dr. Rowe is from the Indiana State University, Indiana, USA.

• Professor Ralph Edwards, former director of the World Health Organization Drug Monitoring Centre, Uppsala Sweden and Dr Marie Lindquist, current director of the World Health Organization Drug Monitoring Centre, Uppsala Sweden.

• Professor Kathleen Gould & Ms. Amanda Connolly Vanderbilt University. Dr. Linda Csiza from Texas Woman’s University was visiting lecturer in the MSc Physical Therapy programme in June 2013. She taught Clinical Reasoning and Health Promotion.