

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCES



Professor Paul D. Brown, BSc, MPhil, PhD *UWI*
Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The mission of the Department of Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) is to be committed to the promotion of excellence in teaching and research and to the creation of an environment which fosters growth and development among its students and staff. In pursuance of the University's Strategic Plan, our vision is to strive for excellence in curriculum delivery (graduate formation), scholarship and service. However, we recognize several risks (classified as moderate to high) in achieving these, inter alia, lack of funding (High); improving quality of teaching, research/innovation and student development (moderate to high); ability to achieve Agility Goal 4 (of being a "Creative, Caring, Accountable, Motivated and Professional (CAMP) Team" (Moderate to High); and growth of academic-industry research partnership (Moderate).

During the year, the governance structure was further tweaked with the appointment of Dr. Paul Singh (BBMedSc coordinator) as Head of Section for the new Section, Pharmacology and Pharmacy. Thanks was expressed to Dr. Gossell-Williams, who had served for many years. We were pleased with the approval of the revised BSc Physical Therapy curriculum, and look forward to the completion of the revised BBMedSc curriculum. Further, courses delivered in the MSc Sports Medicine and MSc Sports and Exercise Medicine-Physiotherapy programmes were transferred to the Mona Academy of Sport.

Research in BMS is diverse and highly specialized in disciplines and sub-disciplines, and while there are some research/thematic groups in Biochemistry, Forensic Sciences and Physiology, there are few cross-disciplinary research projects, such as Cannabis and hypertension. Given the almost even split between full-time regular and temporary academic staff, there continues to be a heavy burden on the former to deliver even more.

Notwithstanding the challenges, there are numerous examples of excellence, and many of these are highlighted in the report. However, we single out the announcement of the national honour to be bestowed on Mr. Mike Gardner (Order of Distinction, Commander Class). Heartiest congratulations.

Further, the contributions of those who have served in the department and had retired were celebrated in a first Retirees' luncheon held at Waterfalls Restaurant. By all indications, it was well received by the retirees.

STAFF AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

- Professor Paul D. Brown was appointed to the Senate as one of four representatives of the Academic Board of the UWI, Mona for one year with effect from August 1, 2017. He received the Principal's Research Award for Best Research Publication (article), Faculty of Medical Sciences for 2017, The UWI, Mona [Temperature and oxidative stress as triggers for virulence gene expression in pathogenic

Leptospira spp.]. Prof. Brown was elected as International Member (at Large), Council on Microbial Sciences (COMS), American Society for Microbiology (ASM) (2018-2021).

- Dr. Mohammad Ali was promoted to the level of Senior Lecturer with effect from August 1, 2016.

The following persons were considered for Crossing the Merit Bar: Dr. Icolyn Amarakoon, Dr. Jacqueline Campbell and Ms. Gillian Hudson.

- Mrs Tracia-gay Kennedy-Dixon received The Caribbean Distinguished Pharmacy Researcher Award 2017 from the Caribbean Association of Pharmacists at the Annual CAP Peer Awards in Belize, August 2017. She also received The Alavi-Mandell Award in June 2018 from the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging for the publication entitled, “*Evaluation of radiopharmaceutical adverse reaction reports to the British Nuclear Medicine Society for the period 2007 to 2016*”. Further Mrs Kennedy-Dixon received three (3) gold medals (100m, 200m and 4x100m relay) at the UWI Inter-Campus Staff Games which was hosted by the UWI Open Campus in Grenada on July 07-15, 2018.
- Dr. Dewayne Stennett proceeded to Canada on No-pay Leave for the period September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018. He has recently requested an extension of an additional year. During this period, Dr. Cheryl Stewart has been acting in the capacity as Lecturer at Mona-Western Jamaica Campus.
- Ms. Jenilee Sydial-Henry joined the department in June 2018 as Administrative Secretary in the Physical Therapy Section, following the retirement of Mrs. Norma Bailey-Griffiths.
- Ms Danielle Myrie, Secretary, Physical Therapy Section, successfully completed all the requirements for the BSc Marketing.

Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin (Lecturer) was transferred to the new Faculty of Sport.

- Kemmoy Lattibeaudiere was awarded the 2018 CARPHA Prize for Best Student Oral Presentation, the 2018 Ministry of Health

Postgraduate Student Research Award, and the 2017 Faculty of Medical Sciences Annual Research Conference, Dean's Prize for Best Poster Presentation

RESIGNATION

- Dr. Sophie Turfus
- Ms. Nashana Harris

NEW STAFF

- Ms. Jenilee Sydial-Henry, Secretary, Physical Therapy Section
- Dr. Paul Alexander Brown, Research Fellow
- Dr. Valerie Kerr, Lecturer, Pharm D

PAPERS/POSTERS PRESENTED AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

- Badal, S, Valentine, H, Aiken, W, Chin, W, Levy, A, and Coard, K. (2017). Anticancer research now in Jamaica: A direction towards a personalized approach. The 6th Biannual African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium Scientific and Training Conference, October 6–9, 2017 at the Sheraton Miami Airport Hotel & Executive Meeting Center, Miami, Florida.
- Prescott, Gina M, Mullen, Tyler R, Wilson-Clarke, Cameil F, Lindo, John, Tsuji, Brian T. University at Buffalo, Lombardo Jeffrey R, Morse Eugene D, Gossell-Williams, Maxine D. An International collaboration on Sustainable Workforce Development and Implementation of a Doctor of Pharmacy Program. 119th Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, Boston, Massachusetts, July 21–25, 2018. *The American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* Vol 82(5):7158,
- Prescott, Gina M, Mullen, Tyler R. University at Buffalo, Wilson-Clarke, Cameil F, Morse, Eugene D, Gossell-Williams, Maxine D. Development and Implementation of an International Introductory Pharmacy Practice Experience to Model Student Exchange. 119th

Annual Meeting of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, Boston, Massachusetts, July 21–25, 2018. *The American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education* Vol. 82(5):7158.

- Bailey, F, Gordon-Strachan, G, Maloney, K, Vickers, I, De Ceulaer, K, Davis, S, Gossell-Williams, M. Investigating the seroprevalence of Chikungunya virus antibodies in new rheumatoid arthritis patients at two rheumatology clinics in Kingston, Jamaica. 63rd Annual CARPHA Health Research Conference St Kitts Marriott Resort and Royal Beach Casino held June 14 16, 2018. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2018; 67 (Suppl. 2): ABSTRACT O21.
- Thomas-Brown, Peta-Gaye Latoya, Martin, Jacqueline Simone, Sewell, Clayton A., Abel, Wendel D and Gossell-Williams, Maxine D. Impact of Cannabis use on the Antipsychotic Therapy of Schizophrenia Symptoms. ASPET Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology, San Diego Convention Center from April 21–25, 2018. FASEB 32 (Suppl 1) ABSTRACT 825.13.
- Condappa, Andrew, Aiken, William, McLaughlin, Wayne, McGrowder, Donovan and Gossell-Williams, Maxine. Evaluation of Plasma Cell-Free Circulating DNA Integrity in Patients with Prostate Cancer in Jamaica. ASPET Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology, San Diego Convention Center from April 21–25, 2018. FASEB 32 (Suppl 1) ABSTRACT 677.10.
- Kennedy-Dixon, T M Gossell-Williams, M Cooper, M Trabels, S Vinjamuri (2017). Evaluation of Radiopharmaceutical Adverse Reaction Reports to the British Nuclear Medicine Society for the period 2007–2016. In: Proceedings of the 26th Annual Research Conference held November 9, 2017 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal* 66 (Suppl 4):15, ABSTRACT O-01.
- Spencer, M, Turfus, S, Rattray, C, Anderson, S, Thomas, T, Gossell-Williams, M. (2017). Delta-9-tetra cannabinol potentiates acetylcholine-induced contractions of the human umbilical cord. In: Proceedings of the 26th Annual Research Conference held November 9–10th,

2017 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal* 66 (Suppl 4): 29 ABSTRACT P-11.

- Obi, U, Campbell, J, Gossell-Williams, M. (2017). In: Proceedings of the 26th Annual Research Conference held November 9–10th, 2017 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal* 66 (Suppl 4): 34 ABSTRACT P-25.
- Wauchope, S, Gossell-Williams, M, Delgoda, R. (2017). Evaluation of the effects of extracts of *Petiveria alliacea* L on the activities of cytochrome P450 enzymes: assessing the potential for drug-herb interaction. In: Proceedings of the 26th Annual Research Conference held November 9th, 2017 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal* 66(Suppl 4):20, ABSTRACT O-13.
- Lattibeaudiere, KG, Bryan, SJ, Porter RBR and Alexander-Lindo RL. *The Hypoglycaemic Effect of Fractions Obtained from Ethyl Acetate Extract of Desmodium canum (Strong Back Weed) in a Rat Model.* **Best Student Oral Presentation Award.** 63rd CARPHA Health Research Conference, St Kitts & Nevis. June 14-16, 2018. **Submitted for Poster presentation and was accepted for Oral presentation.**
- Lattibeaudiere, KG, Bryan, SJ, Porter, RBR and Alexander-Lindo, RL. *The Effect of Extracts from Desmodium canum (Strong Back Weed) on Testosterone levels in Sprague-Dawley rats.* Faculty of Medical Sciences Conference, November 2017. **1st Prize Award for Poster Presentation.**
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2018). Diabetes Mellitus in the Caribbean. The Dominica Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop : Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Retinopathy. July 3, 2018, Goodwill Parish Hall, Roseau, Dominica
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2018). Diabetes and Folklore. The Dominica Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop: Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Retinopathy. July 4, 2018, Goodwill Parish Hall, Roseau, Dominica.

- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2018). Practical Advice on Foot care: Caribbean Perspective. The Dominica Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop: Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Retinopathy, July 4, 2018, Goodwill Parish Hall, Roseau, Dominica.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2018). Macro-vascular Complications of Diabetes Mellitus. The Dominica Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop: Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Retinopathy. July 4, 2018, Goodwill Parish Hall, Roseau, Dominica.
- Kemmoy Lattibeaudiere, Roy Porter and Ruby Lisa Alexander-Lindo (2018). The Hypoglycaemic Effect of Fractions Obtained from Ethyl Acetate Extract of *Desmodium canum* (Strong Back Weed) in a Rat Model. 63rd CARPHA Annual Health Research Conference, St. Kitts and Nevis (June 14–16, 2018).
- Ruby Lindo, Shadae Foster, Lowell Dilworth, Felix Omoruyi (2018). The Anti-diabetic and Antioxidant Potential of Combined Inositol Hexakisphosphate and Inositol in Streptozotocin-induced Type 2 Diabetic Rats The 11th Annual Meeting of the Diabetes & Cardiovascular Disease EASD Study Group, Herzliya, Israel (June 10–12, 2018)
- Bartley TA, Reese PB, Lindo RL. (2018). *Salvia serotina* (Chicken Weed) Displays Hypoglycaemic and Hypotensive Roles in Normal Sprague-Dawley Rats. The 24th Annual International Diabetes Conference, “Diabetes Complications: How are we managing?” at Jewel Runaway Bay Beach and Golf Resort (April 26–28, 2018).
- Tameika A. Bartley, Sophia Bryan, Paul B. Reese and Lisa Alexander-Lindo (2018). Natural Products from *Salvia serotina* (Chicken Weed) Display the Hypoglycaemic Role in Normal Sprague-Dawley Rats. UWI Mona Research Days 2018. Powering Development Through Partnerships in Research & Innovation in Pharmaceuticals, Nutraceuticals, Health & Well Being. (Feb., 2018).
- Lattibeaudiere KG., Porter RBR. and Alexander-Lindo RL (2017). The Effects of Extracts from *Desmodium canum* (Strong Back Weed)

on Testosterone Levels in Sprague-Dawley Rats The University of the West Indies, Faculty of Medical Sciences, 26th Annual Research Conference & Workshop. “Cannabis and Cannabinoids: Research, Opportunities and Pitfalls” Faculty of Medical Sciences Teaching & Research Complex, November, 2017.

- Rattray, S, Patterson, A, Miller M, Lewis, A and McKoy, M. Anxiolytic and antidepressant potential of the *Arachis hypogaea* plant testa. Presented at Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies 26th Annual Research Conference held November 2017 Kingston, Jamaica. In: *West Indian Med J* 2017; 66(Suppl 4): 32(P-19).
- Lauriann Young-Martin (2018). Supplementation with Virgin Coconut Oil: Can It Really Reduce Cognitive Decline? Chicago, USA, at the Alzheimer’s Association International Conference on July 23, 2018.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED LECTURES

- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha (South Africa Collaboration Research). Assessment of the indigenous medicinal and food plants used in the management of metabolic syndrome and cardiovascular diseases in Jamaica and South Africa. Invited Lecture. The Jamaica Conference Centre, November 2017.
- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha (Global Health Initiative). From The Laboratory To Human Extrapolation: The Jamaican Story So Far. Hypertension and Cardiovascular Research. Henry Ford Hospital Detroit Michigan. August 2017.
- Tracia-gay Kennedy-Dixon. Quality Control of Radiopharmaceuticals. Annual Radiographers Continuing Education Conference, Knutsford Court Hotel. May 6, 2018.

PAPERS PRESENTED AT WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING SESSIONS:

- Dr. Maxine Gossell-Williams. The Importance of Pharmacovigilance in Health Care. Presented at the Pharmacy Council Continuing

Education Seminar at the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean, Kingston held February 8, 2018.

- Dr. Maxine Gossell-Williams. Co-Facilitator of a six hours of Pharmacovigilance training Workshop. For medical representatives employed to Medimpex Jamaica Limited October 23rd and 31, 2017.
- Dr. C Gordon presented at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Physiotherapy Department Seminar, July 27, 2018. Topic: Review of LASER Therapy.
- Ms. Gail Nelson, presented at the Multiple Myeloma Symposium, Kingston Jamaica, February 25, 2018. Topic: The role of exercise in the management of chemotherapy-induced peripheral neuropathy.

ABSTRACTS

- Bashford, J, Thaxter-Nesbeth, K, Bowers, A, Shand, D, Young, L (2017). Divergent effects of low dose delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol on the compound action potential of the sciatic nerve of the toad (*Bufo marinus*). *West Indian Medical Journal* 2017; 66 (Suppl.4):17. O-07
- Campbell, D, Reid, J, Hartley, D, Young, L (2017) A comparison of low dose effects of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol and amphetamine on conditioned place preference drug-seeking behavior in mice. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2017; 66 (Suppl.4):18. O-08
- Sugrim, A, Maynard, D, Goddard, C and Ragoobirsingh, D. (2017). Diabetes Distress and Self-care Regimen Adherence in Type 2 Diabetes. Proceedings of the International Diabetes Federation Congress, December 4–8, 2017, Abu Dhabi, UAE. <https://idf.org/our-activities/congress/programme-and-abstracts.html>.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2018). Diabetes Education- Cornerstone of Prevention and Management. UWI Research Day 2018. Policy Wall – Mona Research: Managing, Guiding, Shaping the Region: A Selection of Seminal Work in Medicine. February 7–9, 2018, UWI, Mona Campus, Kingston, Jamaica.

- Fraser T., Brown P.D. (2018). Effect of iron-limiting conditions on virulence gene expression in pathogenic *Leptospira* spp. 18th International Congress on Infectious Diseases/XVIII Congreso SADI (Sociedad Argentina de Infectología.) Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 1-4, 2018.
- Walls, A; Cifuentes, F; Washing, A; Gutiérrez, C; Palacios, J; Nwokocha, C. Hypotensive and antihypertensive effect of the aqueous extract of *Melicoccus bijugatus* Jacq (Sapindaceae). XXV Argentine Congress of Arterial Hypertension April 12–14th 2018.
- Paredes, A; Cifuentes, F; Washes, A; Gutiérrez, C; Palacios, J; Nwokocha, C. Cardioprotective effect of the aqueous extract of *Melicoccus bijugatus* Jacq (Sapindaceae) XXV Argentine Congress of Arterial Hypertension, April 12–14th 2018.
- Nwokocha, CR, Cesar Romero, Cheryl Holder, Magdalene Nwokocha, Rainford Wilks. Prevalence, Treatment and control of hypertension in Jamaica. Global Health Initiative and Henry Ford System 2017 Conference. Detroit Michigan USA.
- Lattibeaudiere KG, Porter RBR, Alexander-Lindo RL (2017). The Effects of Extracts from *Desmodium canum* (Strong Back Weed) on Blood Glucose Concentration and Haemodynamic Parameters in Sprague-Dawley Rats. *Jamaica Journal of Science & Technology* 27 (2): 36
- Peddie DA., Bryan SJ., and Alexander-Lindo RL (2017). Hypoglycaemic Potential of *Smilax balbisiana* (Chainy Root) Extracts in Normal, Healthy Sprague-Dawley Rats. *Jamaica Journal of Science & Technology* 27 (2): 34.
- Lattibeaudiere KG., Porter RBR., Alexander-Lindo RL. (2017). The Effect of Extracts from *Desmodium canum* (Strong Back Weed) on Testosterone Levels in Sprague-Dawley Rats. *West Indian Medical Journal* 66 (Suppl 4):1-36 p.28. (November, 2017).
- Bartley TA., Reese PB., Lindo RL (2018). *Salvia serotina* (Chicken Weed) Displays Hypoglycaemic and Hypotensive Roles in Normal

Sprague-Dawley Rats. *Jamaica Journal of Science and Technology* **28** (3): 54

- Mowatt L, Gordon C, Santosh AB, Jones T (2017) Computer Vision Syndrome and Ergonomic Practices Among Undergraduate University Students. *West Indian Medical Journal* (Suppl)

CONFERENCES ATTENDED

Professor Paul Brown

- UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences 26th Annual Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, November 5, 8–10, 2017.
- 18th International Congress on Infectious Diseases/XVIII Congreso SADI (Sociedad Argentina de Infectología. Buenos Aires, Argentina, March 1–4, 2018.
- American Society for Microbiology Microbe meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, USA, June 7–11, 2018.

Dr. Sophia Bryan

- Faculty of Medical Sciences, 26th Annual Research Conference and Workshop, *Cannabis and Cannabinoids: Research, Opportunities and Challenges*. The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, Kingston, Jamaica. November 5, 8, 9 and 10, 2017.
- Society for Scientific Advancement (SoSA), The 6th Annual Conference *Expanding Horizons in Translational Research*. UWI, Mona Visitors Lodge, Kingston, Jamaica November 16–17, 2017. Judge: Poster Presentations for Conference
- University Diabetes Outreach Programme (UDOP), The 24th Annual International Diabetes Conference. *Diabetes Complications: How are we Managing?* Jewel Runaway Bay Beach and Golf Resort, St. Ann, Jamaica. April 26–28, 2018.
- 3rd Jamaican Medical Cannabis Integration Symposium (JAMECANN 2018). *Merging Science, Spirit and Business*. College of Health Sciences (COHS), University of Technology, Papine Campus (Kingston), Jamaica. July 5–6, 2018.

- 11th Faculty of Science & Technology Conference, *Science for Society: F.I.T for Purpose*. The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, Kingston, Jamaica. April 25–27, 2018.

Mrs. Tracia-gay Kennedy-Dixon

- United Kingdom Radiopharmacy Group Workshop. January 12, 2018 at the Beeches Management Centre, Bournville, Birmingham, UK.
- 33rd Annual Pharmaceutical Conference of the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica on June 22–24, 2018 at the Montego-Bay Convention Centre, St. James, Jamaica.

Mrs. Carole Lindsay

- CannaWest Compliance, Testing & Product Safety for the Cannabis Industry, Redondo Beach California, June 5–7, 2018.

Professor Dalip Ragoobirsingh

- The University of the West Indies Diabetes Outreach Programme 24th International Conference, Theme: Diabetes Complications: How are we managing? April, 26–28, 2018, Jewels Resort & Spa, Runaway Bay, Jamaica.

Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin

- 26th FMS Annual Research Conference and Workshop entitled “Cannabis and Cannabinoids: Research, Opportunities and Challenges”. November 5, 8–10, 2017 at the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona.
- The 22nd Annual International Association of Medical Science Educators (IAMSE) Meeting entitled “Integrating Nutrition and Wellness Education in Teaching the Health Sciences”. June 9–12, 2018. Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- The Alzheimer’s Association International conference 2018. McCormick Place, Chicago, USA. July 22–26, 2018.

TECHNICAL REPORTS

- Bascaren, C, Ragoobirsingh, D, et al Test Area Data Distribution System (TADDS) WHO Assessment Working Group on the Dominica Ministry of Health, the Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust National Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment Programme Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop: Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Retinopathy. July 3, 2018, Roseau, Dominica.
- Smith, A, Ragoobirsingh, D, et al Diabetes Mellitus Management Working Group: update on management Practices in Dominica. The Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee Trust National Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment Programme Diabetes Mellitus Stakeholders Workshop: Prevention and Control of Diabetes Mellitus-the sustainable means of prevention of blindness from Diabetic Reinopathy, July 4,2018, Roseau, Dominica.
- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) – Early Recovery Project in Turks and Caicos (TCD): Inception Report on Debris / Waste Management Plan. January 2018.
- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. UNDP Assessment reports on debris / waste recovery needs: Turks and Caicos Islands Post-Hurricanes Irma and Maria, January 2018.
- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. UNDP Assessment report of waste characterization and state of disposal sites: Turks and Caicos Islands Post-Hurricanes Irma and Maria, February 2018.
- Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. UNDP Comprehensive debris/waste management plan: Turks and Caicos Islands Post-Hurricanes Irma and Maria, March 2018.

ARTICLES IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- Badal S, Smith K and Rajnarayanan R. (2017). Analysis of natural

- product regulation of cannabinoid receptors in the treatment of human disease. *Pharmacology and Therapeutics*; 180: 24-48. doi: 10.1016/j.pharmthera.2017.06.003.
- Badal S, Turfus S, Rajnarayanan R, Wilson-Clarke C, Sandiford SL, (2018). Analysis of natural product regulation of opioid receptors in the treatment of human disease. *Pharmacology and Therapeutics* 2018, Apr; 184: 51-80. doi: 10.1016/j.pharmthera.2017.10.021.
 - Thomas-Brown, P, Martin, J, C Sewell, W Abel, M Gossell-Williams. (2018) Risperidone Compared to Haloperidol on Sleep Disturbances in Cannabis-Users with Schizophrenia. *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 9: 1–7.
 - Taneisha Wilson, Jean Williams-Johnson, Maxine Gossell-Williams, Elizabeth Goldberg, Rainford Wilks, Shuvra Dasgupta, Georgiana Gordon-Strachan, Eric W. Williams, Phillip Levy (2018). Elevated blood pressure and illness beliefs: a cross-sectional study of emergency department patients in Jamaica. *International Journal of Emergency Medicine* 11(1).
 - Andrew Condappa, Maxine Gossell-Williams, William Aiken (2018). Favourable Response of Serum Prostate Specific Androgen to Premarin in Castrate Resistant Prostate Cancer in Jamaica. *ecancermedicalscience* 12: 829.
 - M Gossell-Williams (2018). Promoting Pharmacovigilance through Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase Deficiency Screening. *Trends in Diabetes and Metabolism*. Vol 1 (1): 1–2.
 - T. Mason, M Verley, M Gossell-Williams, A Thorbourne, A Walcott-Mitchell, K Hoe, M Lee (2017). Gentamicin Therapeutic Drug Monitoring: Importance in the Hospital Setting. *West Indian Medical Journal*. 2017; 66(2):324-327.
 - D. Ragoobirsingh, E.Morrison and H. Thompson (2018). Severe Kidney Damage in Diabetics on Alternative Medicine. *Int. J Diabetes and Clinical Research*, 5:082 doi.org/10.23937/2377-3634/1410082.
 - Foster S, Dilworth L, Omoruyi F,Thompson R and Alexander-

- Lindo R (2017). Pancreatic and Renal Function in Streptozotocin-induced Type 2 Diabetic Rats Administered Combined Inositol Hexakisphosphate and Inositol Supplement. *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy* 96: 72–77.
- Alexander-Lindo R, Salmon C and McGrowder D (2017). The Hypoglycaemic Effect of Oleanonic Acid Isolated from *Pilea elizabethae* in a Rat Model. *International Journal of Current Pharmaceutical Research* 9 (6): 63-69 [ISSN0975-7066]
 - Foster S, Dilworth L, Thompson R, Alexander-Lindo R, Omoruyi F (2017). Effects of Combined Inositol Hexakisphosphate and Inositol Supplement on Antioxidant Activity and Metabolic Enzymes in the Liver of Streptozotocin-induced Type 2 Diabetic Rats. *Chemico-Biological Interactions* 275: 108-115 [DOI 10.1016/j.cbi.2017.07.024]
 - Palacios J, Fonseca JM, Ayavire F, Salas F, Ortiz M, Sandoval JM, Benites J, Nwokocha CR, Zavala E, Paredes A, Barría I, Vega JL, Cifuentes F. Ascorbate attenuates oxidative stress and increased blood pressure induced by 2-(4-hydroxyphenyl) amino-1,4-naphthoquinone in rats. *Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity*, 2018 Jul 26 2018: 8989676. doi: 10.1155/2018/8989676. eCollection 2018.
 - Reid MK, Spence J, Nwokocha M, Palacios J, Nwokocha CR. (2017). The role of NADP (H) Oxidase inhibition and its implications in cardiovascular disease management using natural plants products. *Studies in Natural Product Chemistry*. 58; 43–59.
 - Williams M, Asemota HN, Williams E, McGrowder D, Nwokocha C, Voutchkov M and Francis R. (2018). The effect of a combination treatment of biomagnetic therapy and a low glycaemic influenced diet on non-fasting blood glucose levels in type 2 diabetic rats. *Diabetes Manag* 8(3), 074–81
 - Beaney T, Schutte AE, Tomaszewski M, Ariti C, Burrell LM, Castillo RR, Charchar FJ, Damasceno A, Kruger R, Lackland DT, Nilsson PM, Prabhakaran D, Ramirez AJ, Schlaich MP, Wang J, Weber MA, Poulter NR; MMM Investigators. Napiza-Granada C, Sevilla MR, Atilano AA, Ona D, More A, Jose AP, Maheshwari A, Kondal

D, Yu W, Li W, Xu S, Yu J, Zhang H, Widyantoro B, Turana Y, Situmorang TD, Sofiatin Y, Barack R, Lin HJ, Wang TD, Chen WJ, Sirenko Y, Evstigneeva O, Negresku E, Yousif ME, Medani SA, Beheiry HM, Ali IA, Zilberman JM, Marin MJ, Rodriguez PD, Garcia-Vasquez F, Kramoh KE, Ekoua D, Lopez-Jaramillo P, Otero J, Sanchez G, Narvaez C, Accini JL, Hernandez-Hernandez R, Octavio JA, Morr I, Lopez-Rivera J, Ojji D, Arije A, Babatunte A, Wahab KW, Fernandes M, Pereira SV, Valentim M, Dzudie A, Kingue S, Djomou Ngongang DA, Ogola EN, Barasa FA, Gitura B, Malik FT, Choudhury SR, Al Mamun MA, Minh VH, Viet NL, Cao Truong S, Ferri C, Parati G, Torlasco C, Borghi C, Goma FM, Syatalimi C, Zelveian PH, Barbosa E, Sebba Barroso W, Penaherrera E, Jarrin E, Yusufali A, Bazargani N, Tsinamdzhvishvili B, Trapaidze D, Neupane D, Mishra SR, Jozwiak J, Malyszko J, Konradi A, Chazova I, Ishaq M, Memon F, Heagerty AM, Keitley J, Brady A, Cockcroft JR, McDonnell BJ, Lanas F, Chia YC, Ndhlovu H, Kiss I, Ruilope LM, Ellenga Mbolla BF, Milhailidou AS, Woodiwiss AJ, Perl S, Dolan E, Azevedo V, Garre L, Boggia JG, Lee V, Kowlessur S, Miglinas M, Sukackiene D, Wainford RD, Habonimana D, Masupe T, Ortellado J, Wuerzner G, Alcocer L, Burazeri G, Sanchez Delgado E, Lovic D, Mondo CK, Mostafa A, Nadar SK, Valdez Tiburcio O, Leiba A, Dorobantu M, De Backer T, Chifamba J, Stergiou G, **Nwokocha CR**, Sokolovic S, Toure AI, Connell KL, Khan NA, Burger D, De Carvalho Rodrigues M, Kramer BK, Schmieder RE, Unger T, Wyss FS, Yameogo NV, Beistline H, Kenerson JG, Alfonso B, Olsen MH, Soares M. May Measurement Month 2017: an analysis of blood pressure screening results worldwide. *Lancet Glob Health*. 2018 May 16. pii: S2214-109X(18)30259-6. doi: 10.1016/S2214-109X(18)30259-6. 17.68 Impact Factor

- Blair, T, Thomas, E, Lindo, L, McGrowder, D and Singh, P (2018). Diuretic effect of *Cassia occidentalis* leaf and seed extract in Sprague-Dawley rats. *FASEB J* 32:841.1 (Abstract)
- Khan, A, Singh,P Reese,P, Howden, J and Thomas, T (2018). Investigation of the anti-inflammatory effects of the extracts from

Smilax ornata plant on the carrageenan-induced acute inflammation in the hind paw oedema model. The Mona Symposium, Natural Products & Medicinal Chemistry, Kingston, Jamaica, Proceedings, p. 43

- Njie-Mbye, YF, Robinson J, Mitchell-Bush L, McKoy M, Opere CA, Ohia SE, and Sharif N (2018). Pharmacology of Serotonin Receptors Causing Contraction of Isolated Bovine Posterior Ciliary Arteries: Role in Ocular Blood Flow. *Journal of Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics* 34(1-2): 134-140.
- Ohia, SE, Njie-Mbye, YF, Robinson, J, Mitchell, L, McKoy, M, Opere, CA, and Sharif, N.A. (2018). Serotonin-2B/2C Receptors Mediate Bovine Ciliary Muscle Contraction: Role in Intraocular Pressure Regulation. *Journal of Ocular Pharmacology and Therapeutics* 34(1-2): 70-75.
- Young, LE, Chin-Quee, KP. (2017). Dosage and conditioning period determine reward or aversion to cannabis-induced conditioned place preference in Sprague-Dawley rats. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2017; 66(5): 523-528. DOI:10.7727/wimj.2017.185.
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INCOME GENERATION/FUNDING

Research Grants:

- **Prof. Dalip Ragoobirsingh. US\$6945.46** - Postgraduate Research Award for Ms Allison Sugrim project, University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, entitled: Diabetes distress and its relationship to adherence to Medical regimens in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in a Caribbean population.
- **Dr. Simone Badal.** Principal's Special New Initiative approved for "Novel Jamaica prostate cancer cell lines: tools for investigating prostate cancer in men of African descent," **\$500,000JMD**
- **Dr. Maxine Gossell-Williams.** Principal Research Grant awarded to Mrs Peta-Gaye Thomas (PhD candidate) to attend Experimental Biology 2018 to present her poster. **US1940.10**
- **Dr. Maxine Gossell-Williams.** Fulbright Visiting Scholar Grant facilitating support for the PharmD programme. Dr Joel Zive is a Clinical Pharmacist and Director of Human Immunodeficiency Virus(HIV) Education at the Lindenwood Pharmacy, New York, and a member of the New York City HIV Planning Council. Dr Zive's assignment involved delivery of fourteen hours of pharmacotherapy lectures on infectious diseases to students in the Post-Baccalaureate programme.
- **Prof. Paul Brown.** NIH Fogarty International Center, USA 2018-2023 Role: Collaborator/Mentor (Awarded to Consortium, University of Buffalo and The UWI, Mona) Global Infectious Diseases Research Training Program. **US\$1.1 M**
- **Prof. Paul Brown.** Campus Research and Publication Fund (CRPF), The UWI, Mona Role: PI (Awarded to Rohan Grant). Longitudinal assessment of gut microbiome composition of healthy undergraduate science students at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica **US\$2900**

Dr. Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. Co-Investigator, Indigenous Knowledge Systems; Jamaica / South Africa Joint Scientific And Technological Cooperation (\$9.5 Million JMD).

Dr. Chukwuemeka Nwokocha. 40 Sphygmomanometers valued at Four hundred Thousand Jamaican Dollars (J\$400,000) from the International Society of Hypertension and Omron International for the “Cadmium and hypertension in Jamaica: any correlation?”

Dr. Lisa Lindo

2017: Investigating the Effects of Extracts on Testosterone Levels, Blood Glucose Concentration and Penile Erection in Sprague-Dawley Rats (**US\$3121.31**)

2017: Investigating the Effects of Extracts from *Cannabis sativa* on Blood Glucose Concentration, Blood Pressure and for their Smooth Muscle Relaxant Property in Sprague-Dawley Rats. (**US\$1500.00 and J\$150,000.00**)

2018: The Isolation and Purification of Extract from *Desmodium Canum* (Strong Back Weed) on Blood Glucose Level and Penile Erection in Normal Sprague-Dawley Rats” Ministry of Health Postgraduate Award for Research (**J\$1.48 M**)

2017: Investigating the Effects of *Salvia serotina* (Chicken Weed) on the Blood Glucose Concentration and Haemodynamic Parameters in Normal Sprague–Dawley Rats Amount: US\$2321.42

GRAND TOTAL: US\$172,306.73 and J\$1.63M

Physical Therapy Clinic Therapeutic Massage Course. Use of Practical Rooms

TOTAL- J\$716,049.00

SPONSORED RESEARCH PROJECT (US \$124,173.00 - 75%)

2018: Testing of Products derived from Cannabis – (Professor Wayne McLaughlin, Dr. Ruby Lindo, Dr. Paul Singh and Mrs. Carole Lindsay) Agreement with Marigold Research Projects Limited US \$165,564.00

MEMBERSHIP IN LEARNED SOCIETIES

Dr. Carron Gordon

- Member: Jamaica Physiotherapy Association

Cameil Wilson-Clarke

- Anti-Cancer Research Jamaica Foundation (ACRJ)
- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP)
- International Pharmaceutical Federation of (FIP)
- American College of Clinical Pharmacists (ACCP)
- Bioethics Society of the English-Speaking Caribbean (BSEC)
- American Society of Health System Pharmacist (ASHP), USA

Dr. Sophie Turfus

- International Association of Forensic Toxicologists
- London Toxicology Group
- Caribbean Association of Forensic Sciences

Dr. Maxine Gossell-Williams

- American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy

Ms. Gail Nelson

- Member – Jamaica Association of Sports Medicine
- Associate Member – Caribbean Cardiac Society
- Member – Jamaica Physiotherapy Association

Sonja Williams

- Member – Jamaica Physiotherapy Association

Gillian Hudson

- Member – Jamaica Physiotherapy Association

Mrs. Tracia-gay Kennedy-Dixon

- Member – Caribbean Association of Pharmacists

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin

- Chairman of the UWI/FMS Ethics Sub-Committee for Animal Research
- Physiology Section Head in the Department of Basic Medical Science,

Prof. Paul Brown

- Staff mentor, American Society for Microbiology (ASM)/UWI Student Chapter. Appointed June 2018
- President, WIGUT (Jamaica). Re-appointed April 2018
- Adjudicator, American International School of Kingston (AISK) Middle School Science Fair. April 2018
- Member, Research Subcommittee, International Society of Infectious Diseases. Terms: Oversight of ISID's research grants & awards and fellowship programs. Appointed February 2015
- External Examiner, Microbiology programme at University of Technology. Appointed September 2014

Prof. Helen Asemota

- Executive Director, UWI Biotechnology Centre. 2013 to date.
- Ordained Pastor – Holiness Christian Church of Jamaica Denomination, serving as Senior Pastor at Open Heavens Branch. 2013 to date
- Education Committee Chairperson, International Proxy Parents (IPP). 2015–2016
- IMEKO Member of TC 19 Group. 2014 to date
- IMEKO Rep – Jamaica. 2015 to date
- Project Principal Investigator (PI) for 2016 Workshop Training on Plants DNA Fingerprinting, United Nations University Biotechnology Programme for the Caribbean & Latin American Countries (UNUBIOLAC). 2015–2016

Prof. Wayne McLaughlin

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

Dr. Andrew G. M. Pearson

- Chair of the International Standards Organisation Technical Committee 93: Starch & its Derivatives 15th. Plenary Meeting 21–22nd. March, 2017.
- Co-organiser and Chairman of the 2nd. BSJ/UWI 2011 STARCH CONFERENCE 23–24 March 2017. “Indigenous Caribbean Starch Products: Back to the Future”, held at the U.W.I Regional Headquarters, Mona, Kingston 7.
- Appointed member of the Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Innovation Committee

Dr. Chukwuemeka R. Nwokocha

- Volunteer at Hypertension and Cardiovascular Research Unit, and Global Health Initiative, Henry Ford Hospital Detroit Michigan USA (June–August 2017). Research and dissemination of data on Environmental influences on health.
- Member Board of Directors, Little Angels Prep School Portmore Jamaica.
- Country coordinator, International society of Hypertension, 2018 May Month measurement for blood pressure awareness and management.

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

Prof. Dalip Ragoobirsingh

- Director UWI (Mona) Diabetes Education Programme
- Diabetes Association of Jamaica (DAJ)– Consultant Diabetes Educator
- The University Diabetes Outreach Programme (UDOP)-Director Research
- University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) – Consultant Diabetes Educator
- Ministry of Health, Jamaica (MOH) – Panel member on Technical Advisory Committee, The Chronic Diseases and Injuries Unit, updating the National Guidelines for the management of diabetes.
- Pan American Health Organization Special Technical Committee to revise and update the nutrient requirements and recommended dietary allowances (RDAs) for the populations in the English speaking Caribbean.
- VISION2020 LINKS Programme of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to participate in the Dominica Diabetes workshop in July 2018.

Dr. Lisa Lindo

- American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ) / Sue Cobb Lecture Series-Chair
- Caribbean Academy of Sciences, Director – Treasurer
- Fulbright Alumni Association School's Outreach Association
- Sts. Peter and Paul Sunday School Activities
- Catholic School Ministry
- Member of the UWI Medical Cannabis Research Group (MCRG)
- Member of UWI Mona Mosquito Research Group

Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin

- Member of the Alzheimer's Association International Society to Advance Alzheimer's Research and Treatment (ISTAART)
- Founding Member of the Bioethics Society of the English Speaking Caribbean (BSEC)

Department of Basic Medical Sciences

- Member of the Women in World Neuroscience (WWN)
- Member of the Society for Neuroscience (SfN)
- Member of the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO)
- Lector and Member of the Liturgical Committee of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church
- Fund-raiser for Holy Cross Church
- Fund-raiser for Convent of Mercy (Alpha) High School

Dr. Icolyn Amarakoon

- Member, Working Group Hazardous Waste Management Project
- Mentor, Future Leaders of Jamaica
- Member, Society for Scientific Advancement (SoSA)
- Member, Fulbright Alumni Association

Prof. Jean-Pierre Louboutin

- Member of Editorial Boards of 27 journals
- Reviewer of 60 peer-reviewed journals
- Reviewer of grants for Scientific Council of Romania (Young Investigators Awards in 2015)

Dr. Audrey Jacob

- Participated in the Read across Jamaica Day events at Immaculate Conception Preparatory School

Dr. Carron Gordon

- Member and Ministry Leader, Christian Life Fellowship
- Manuscript Reviewer, *Disability and Rehabilitation Journal*, *British Medical Journal (Open)*

Ms. Gail Nelson

- Member of the Philharmonic Orchestra of Jamaica (2013–to present)
– Violist; Board of Management

- Member: UWI Classical and Jazz Ensemble (2015–to present)
- Accredited Local Preacher – Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas

Dr. Sonja Williams

- Member: Jamaica Physiotherapy Association
- Continued involvement in the exercise classes for older adults offered by the Mona Ageing Centre

Ms. Gillian Hudson

- Consie Walters Cancer Care Center Executive Member; Friends of Sir John Golding Rehabilitation Center

Dr. Jacqueline Campbell

- Volunteer physician, Women's Health Network
- Member of Management Committee of the Caribbean Poison Information Network (CARPIN)

Dr. Sophie Turfus

- Judge at the American International School of Kingston Science Fair held 17th March 2016.
- Member of the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists
- Member of the London Toxicology Group
- Joined the Caribbean Association of Forensic Sciences in which she is Public Relations Officer
- Mentor, Future Leaders of Jamaica
- Member of the Philharmonic Orchestra of Jamaica
- Accompanist for UWI Chorale

Dr. Cameil Wilson-Clarke

- Mentor, Future Leaders of Jamaica Foundation
- Member, Future Leaders of Jamaica Mentorship and Outreach Committee.

Department of Basic Medical Sciences

- Coordinator of the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica *ASTRA RUN* (5k Walk/Run)
- Organised Community Health Fairs (Free Clinics) for Ridge Community Annual Health Fair, St. Peter's Anglican Health Fair, Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica Annual Week Health Fair
- Served on the Education Committee, National Kidney Foundation of Jamaica 2017: ACRJ Committee Member

Mrs Tracia-gay Kennedy-Dixon

- Participated in the Annual Health Fairs of St. Peters Anglican, Westmoreland and The Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica, Kingston.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS REGISTRATION

BSc – Physical Therapy

Enrolment

Year 1 = 42

Year 2 = 42

Year 3 = 48

Total = 132

49 students graduated

MBBS

Year 1 = 264

Year 2 = 253

Research

MPhil = 34

PhD = 18

PharmD

Year 1 = 20

POSTGRADUATE DEGREES AWARDED

PhD

Terissa Thompson

Shadae Foster with **High Commendation**

Undergraduate Student Registration Year 2017–2018 (BBMedSci)

Year	Department	Programme	Total
Year 3	Basic Medical Sciences	Anatomy BBMS M	13
		Biochemistry BBMS M	1
		Pharmacology BBMS M	30
		Physiology BBMS M	11
		Pure & Applied Sciences BSC M	35
	Total		90
Year 2	Basic Medical Sciences	Anatomy BBMS M	20
		Pharmacology BBMS M	33
		Pharmacy	21
		Physiology BBMS M	7
		Pure & Applied Sciences BSC M	8
	Total		89
Year 1	Basic Medical Sciences	Anatomy BBMS M	17
		Pharmacology BBMS M	26
		Pharmacy	31
		Physiology BBMS M	6
		Pure & Applied Sciences BSC M	5
	Total		85
Grand Total			264

Department of Basic Medical Sciences

Postgraduate Student Registration Year 2017–2018

Department	Research/ Taught Masters	Programme	Total	
Basic Medical Sciences	Research	Anatomy MPHIL M	1	
		Biochemistry MPHIL M	19	
		Biochemistry PHD M	7	
		BMS (Toxicology) PhD M	1	
		Molecular Biology MPHIL M	7	
		Molecular Biology PhD M	5	
		Pharmacology MPHIL M	4	
		Pharmacology PHD M	4	
		Physiology MPHIL M	4	
		Physiology PHD M	2	
		Total	54	
		Taught Masters	Applied Pharmacology MSc M	2
			Biomedical Research MSc M	20
			Forensic Sciences MSc M	21
		Total		43
Grand Total			97	

Faculty of Science and Technology (M11 Registrations in BMS Courses)

Year 1/Sem 1	Year 2/Sem 1	Year 3/Sem 1	Total
BIOC 1020 = 229/233	BIOC 2014 = 121/119	BIOL 3312 = 78/55	
BIOC 1021 = 163/189		BIOC 3013 = 64/49	
MICR 1010 = 118/157		BIOC 3414 = 2/0	
MICR 1011 = 70/109		MICR 3213 = 49/26	
		MICR 3214 = 21/18	
		BIOT 3113 = 49/19	964/974 ; (1.0%)
Year 1/Sem 2	Year 2/Sem 2	Year 3/Sem 2	
BIOC1010 = 48/42	BIOL 2312 = 128/131	BIOC 3011 = 69/49	
BIOC1016 = 28/26	MICR 2211 = 126/128	BIOC 3014 = 36/22	
BIOC 1020 = 126/143		BIOC 3414 = 9/13	
BIOC 1021 = 69/117		BIOL 3313 = 54/37	
MICR 1010 = 165/185		BIOL 3114 = 46/15	
MICR 1011 = 146/168		BIOT 3116 = 17/9	
		MICR 3215 = 33/18	
		MICR 3216 = 16/15	1116/1118 ; (0.2%)
Grand Total: 1162/1369(15.1%)	375/378 (0.8%)	543/345 (58.3%)	2080/2092 (0.6%)

Key for registrations: Course code = AY 2017–2018 / AY2016–2017. Negative variances are included in brackets when compared between the previous year and the current year.

VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

The External Examiner for the Final Professional Examination held in July 2018 was Dr. Melrose Stewart-Fraser from University of Birmingham, London, UK.