The Department of Community Health and Psychiatry encompasses three major functional units, Public Health, Family Medicine and Psychiatry. The Mona Ageing & Wellness Centre is an affiliated institute.

The department delivers undergraduate and postgraduate instructions in all three areas. In addition, the Department provides clinical services in the Hermitage August Town Community Health Centre, and behavioural health services through the Department of Psychiatry, the University Hospital of the West Indies.

The department currently has 70 persons – 33 Teaching, 28 admin and 9 support staff members.

Several members were promoted in the academic year, Professor Gibson was promoted to the rank of Professorship, Althea Bailey received her PhD in the academic year, Dr. Colette Cunningham-Myrie completed
her Dr PH, Julian McKoy Davis and Duladell Willie Tyndale completed the PhD in Public Health.

During the academic year, the Department continued its thrust to synergise and consolidate its strategy with the Triple A Strategy of the University of the West Indies through the following initiatives: i) Increased access to graduate programmes ii) Alignment with national, regional and international priorities in Public Health and Mental Health iii) Development of a more agile response to all our stakeholders including the peoples of the Caribbean and the wider global community.

Several initiatives were pursued to support our strategy. These included the Consolidation of the Public Health Portfolio in the Department, Repositioning of Mental Health, the Development of the proposal to establish a Transdisciplinary School of Public Health and the Strengthening of Global Health Initiatives through collaborations with the University of Utrecht, the University of Exeter, the University of Alabama Birmingham and Temple University.

The Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre continues its’ critical role in teaching, training, research and service in an effort to respond to the challenges we face as we make the demographic transition with an ageing population.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The Undergraduate Programmes

The department offers undergraduate courses to medical and dental students and clinical training to medical students in community health (years 3, 4, 5) and psychiatry (years 3, 4). The courses provide exposure to the public health issues at the community level and in rural communities and the opportunity to work in a primary care facility under supervision.

The Graduate Programmes

The department offers graduate programmes in Public Health, Family Medicine, Psychiatry and Psychology. These are MPhil /PhD (Public
Health), the Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) and a Master of Public Health which includes a general degree and three specialty tracks (gerontology, health education/health promotion or health management).

Family Medicine which offers a two-year Diploma in Family Medicine and a four-year Doctor of Medicine (DM).

The Doctor of Medicine (DM) Psychiatry: This is a 4-year clinical programme in Psychiatry.

Masters in Clinical Psychology: This is a joint programme which is delivered in conjunction with the Section of Psychology.

The Masters in Public Health continues to develop new programmes in order to widen access to Public Health Training. A record number of residents are trained in Psychiatry which is the largest in the history of this programme and it reflects an effort to respond to the requests by Governments of the region to increase the training of Psychiatrist. The Family Medicine programme has had several discussions with the Ministry of Health which will result in an increase in sponsored students in their programme.

Enrichment of the Learning and Teaching Environment

Several initiatives were implemented to enrich the teaching and learning environment. These include the commitment of funds to upgrade the IT server and investment in an online learning platform to better deliver the graduate programmes and facilitate the development of new programmes. Faculty members devised several initiatives to enhance the undergraduate programme.

We continue to strengthen our capacity to attract grants and foster collaborative and interdisciplinary research. Several research groups have emerged: 1) Alcohol and Substance Abuse 2) Ageing 3) Mental Health and 4) Chronic Disease Research.

Our committed faculty have contributed 47 publications which represents a (52%) increase over the previous academic year. Additionally, 44 presentations were made.
Faculty continues to offer their talent to the advancement of scholarship and public service. Faculty members continue to serve nationally, regionally and internationally on professional bodies, global expert panels, advisory committees and peer reviewers for academic journals.

**PAPERS PRESENTED**


• **Campbell N**, Road traffic fatalities & homicides in Jamaica: Major untapped sources of occupational injury data. National Environmental Health Association’s 82nd Annual Educational Conference and Exhibition, Anaheim, California, USA. June 25–28, 2018


• **Eldemire-Shearer, D.** Dementia Prevalence In Jamaica. *International Federation on Ageing (IFA) 14th Global Conference on Ageing*. Toronto, Canada, August 8–11, 2018.


• **Figueroa JP.** The Challenge of Infectious Disease Control. Jamaica Dental Association on 17 Feb 2018 in Montego Bay, Jamaica.

• **Figueroa JP.** Reducing HIV in the Caribbean. Jamaica Dental Association on 17 February 2018 in Montego Bay, Jamaica.
• **Figueroa JP.** Need to improve the HIV response in Jamaica. Meeting of representatives of UN Agencies in Jamaica, 6 March 2018.


• **Figueroa JP.** Curbing the HIV Epidemic in the Caribbean. International Association of Providers of AIDS Care (IAPAC) 2018 Controlling the HIV Epidemic Summit in Geneva on 4 May 2018. Presented by distance.

• **Gibson, R.C.** Diabetes mellitus and Alzheimer’s Disease. The 24th Annual International Conference of the University Diabetes Outreach Programme, Runaway Bay, April 26, 2018.


• Scarlett, H. Importance of Environmental Health in Medical Curricula. NEHA 2018 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition and HUD Healthy Homes Conference, Anaheim, California, June 27, 2018.

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL ARTICLES


- GBD 2016 Risk Factors Collaborators (Jackson MD). Global, regional, and national comparative risk assessment of 84 behavioural, environmental and occupational, and metabolic risks or clusters of


• Oshi SN, Oshi DC, Weaver S, Agu CF, Smith PW, Ricketts Roomes T, Meka IA, Rae T, Abel WD. *A School-Based Study of the Influence of Students’ Relationship with Teachers on Their Cigarette Smoking Behaviour in Jamaican*. Asian Pac J Cancer Prev. 2018 Apr 23;19 (S1):7–12


• Marion JW, **Scarlett HP**, Oliver P., Campbell NE. (2018). Environmental Health Makes a Strong Entry Into the Global One Health Framework in Jamaica. *Journal of Environmental Health*; 80 (8), 40-41.


**TECHNICAL REPORTS**


Hylton-Kong, T. STI Programme MOH, Situational Analysis, 2017
Hylton-Kong, T. Contact Investigators Training Report, Cohort April 2017 to March 2018


INCOME GENERATION

- Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer. NHF Phase 2: Study to Determine Types of Dementia funded by NHF. JAD 6 million.
- Dr Julian Mc Koy Davis. Co-funding support from the Centre for Outreach in Alzheimer’s, Aging & Community Health (COAACH) to facilitate the Older Adult Caregivers Training. USD $1,000.00 (March 2018).
- Dr Tana Ricketts – Roomes. “Asthma Health-related Quality of Life and its Determinants”. Principal’s New Initiative Grant. JAD 1,500,000.00. (December 2017)
- Dr Kristen Smith. “Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices regarding sexual and reproductive health among women in Jamaica in the context of Zika Virus Outbreak in Jamaica: A Cross sectional study. USD 15,000. 00 (December 2017)
- Dr. Kenneth James. Obtained a planning grant (P20) from the National Institutes of Health to create a centre of research excellence at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. The grant is a joint collaboration between our department and the Fox Chase Cancer Centre in Philadelphia (Dr. Camille Ragin, Associate Professor in the Cancer Prevention and Control Programme, and J. Robert Beck, Senior Vice President and Deputy Director of Fox Chase Cancer Centre who form the Principal Investigation Team).
PUBLIC SERVICE

Professor Wendel Abel

- Chairman, Editorial Board – West Indian Medical Journal
- Expert Panel: Strategic and Regional Action Plan for Mental Health (PAHO)
- Advisory Committee: Training and Certification Program for Drug and Violence Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation (PROCCER; OAS)
- Deputy Chair: National Council on Drug Abuse
- Co-Chair: CARICOM, Commission for the Decriminalization of Marijuana
- Member: Cannabis Licensing Authority, Legal and Regulatory Subcommittee
- Peer Reviewer: Ethnicity and Inequalities in Health and Social Care; West Indian Medical Journal, BMC
- Board Member and chair Finance sub-committee – Foundation for International Self Help (FISH)
- Justice of the Peace – The Parish of Kingston and St. Andrew

Dr Althea Bailey

- Chair: The Jamaica Red Cross Adolescents at Risk Advisory Committee
- Vice Chair: Jamaica AIDS Support for Life
- Member: Integrated Youth services; Ministry of Health National HIV Programme Technical Working Group

Mr. Norbert Campbell

- Reviewer of abstracts: 3rd International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH) Academic and 16th Makerere University
Environmental Health Students’ Association (MUEHSA) Scientific Conference, Kampala, Uganda, 9–11th April 2019.

– Council Member: International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH)
– Board Member/Honorary Secretary: Jamaica Occupational Health and Safety Professionals Association (JOHSPA)
– Vice President, Professional Development, Jamaica Association of Public Health Inspectors (JAPHI)
– Secretary, International Planning Committee: JAPHI/IFEH International Environmental Conference and Council meeting, October 22–26, 2017, Montego Bay, Jamaica
– Member: American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH); National Environmental Health Association, USA; Committee for the Development of an Environmental Health Management Information System, Ministry of Health, Jamaica

Dr Colette Cunningham-Myrie

– Participated in COPOLAD working group Design of Studies to evaluate and validate scales and indicators of “problematic drug use”
– Volunteer Physician: Diabetes Association of Jamaica
– Examiner in CMC examination
– Peer Reviewer: *BMC Journal of Public Health; West Indian Medical Journal*

Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer

– Patron: National Council for Senior Citizens
– Director, Action Ageing Jamaica
– Honorary Chair, Caribbean Community of Retired Persons;
– Sub-committee, Homeless & Mental Health, Ministry of Health Homeless Task Force
– Board Member, University Hospital of the West Indies
– Member: Central Health Committee, Ministry of Health; 10 Year Strategic Health Plan Committee, Ministry of Health; Medical Association of Jamaica

– PIOJ Task Force of Poverty Reduction

– Chair, Health Research MOH Committees

– Editorial Board Member: *West Indian Medical Journal*

**Professor John Peter Figueroa**

– Member: WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE) working group on Poliomyelitis; WHO SAGE working group on Measles/ Rubella;

– WHO International Health Regulations Roster of Experts (Poliomyelitis);

– Chair: PAHO Technical Advisory Group (TAG) on vaccine preventable diseases; Caribbean Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI) managers’ meeting;

– Caribbean Sub-Regional Certification Committee for the Global Eradication of Poliomyelitis

– Co-Chair: PAHO Technical Advisory Committee on Viral Hepatitis (TAVH)

– UNAIDS Scientific Expert Panel; PAHO Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) on HIV/STI; PANCAP Priority Areas Coordinating Committee (PACC); Caribbean Sub-Regional Commission for the Documentation and Verification of Measles, Rubella and CRS Elimination

– Director: Epidemiology Research and Training Unit, Kingston, Jamaica

– Member: Task Force on Mental Health and Homelessness, Ministry of Health

– Member, Regional Coordinating Mechanism Meeting of the PANCAP Global Fund
– Bellevue Hospital Board, South East Regional Health Authority
– Interview Panel Ministry of Health for employment of surveillance officers.
– Editorial Advisory Board: *Global Journal of Medicine and Public Health; West Indian Medical Journal*
– Peer Reviewer: *Various international journals including West Indian Medical Journal*

**Dr. Roger Gibson**

– Member: Conflict Management & Resolution Section, World Psychiatric Association Jamaica Psychiatric Association; Medical Association of Jamaica
– Academic Editor: *Medicine*® (Wolters Kluwer/ Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins)
– Editorial Board Member: *Clinical Medicine Insights: Case Reports* (Libertas Academica)
– Peer Reviewer: *Psychology, Health & Medicine; West Indian Medical Journal*

**Ms. Joy Harrison**

– Member: Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) and Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)
– Jamaica Association of Social Workers (JASW)
– The Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators (ACSWE)

**Dr. Desmalee Holder-Nevins**

– Executive Board Member: North Jamaica Conference of Seventh Day Adventists
– Member: International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE); Jamaica Association for Health Education and Promotion
(JAHEP); Ministry of Health Research Group – Qualitative needs assessment Chikungunya & Ebola

Dr. Tina Hylton Kong

– Member Planning meeting at the HIV/STI/ TB Unit, Ministry of Health for training of Contact Investigators

– Expert Panel Group meeting for the Caribbean Regional Quality Improvement Quality Improvement Collaborative (CaReQIC), I-TECH/MOH


– Panelist representing PAHO, in the JASL Public Forum on Treat All at Terra Nova

Professor Maria Jackson

– Corresponding member: Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Project; WHO, Gates Foundation and World Bank: Nutrition Expert Group

– Member: African-Caribbean Cancer Consortium (AC3) Research Review Committee; American Association for Cancer Research; American Society of Nutrition; Minorities in Cancer Research

– Board member: St Richard Early Childhood Education Institution

– Editorial Board Member: Ethnicity and Health

– Peer Reviewer: Nutrition and Cancer; Nutrition Journal; Public Health Nutrition

Dr. Samantha Longman-Mills

– Research Committee: CICAD-CAMH International Research Capacity Building Program Alumni Association

– Executive Committee and Director of Advocacy: Jamaican Psychological Society

– Member of the Board of Visitors- Ministry of Justice

Dr. Sapphire Longmore-Dropinski

– Senator, House of Parliament, Jamaica
– Pan-Americas Conference on Establishing Parliamentary Gender Caucuses – Ottawa, Canada

Dr. Gillian Lowe
– Member: Jamaica Psychiatric Association, Medical Association of Jamaica, Paediatric Association of Jamaica; The Rotary Club of Kingston

Dr. Kerriann Mahlee
– Member: Medical Association of Jamaica, American College for Advancement in Medicine, British Medical Acupuncture Society, Faculty of Homeopathy, General Medical Council
– Volunteer: Food for the Poor, Salvation Army

Professor Affette McCaw-Binns
– Member: National Maternal Mortality Surveillance Committee, Ministry of Health; American Public Health Association
– Peer Reviewer: *BMC Pregnancy and Childbirth; BMC Health Services Research; International Journal of Gynaecology and Obstetrics; West Indian Medical Journal*

Mrs. Julian McKoy Davis
– Member: Industry Lead Group for the Revision of the Geriatrics Competency Standards and Qualifications of (NCTVET), Jamaica.
– Member: International Federation on Ageing
– Member: Mixed Methods International Research Association
– Reviewer: *Journal of Health Care for the Poor, 2017–Present*

Dr. Daniel Oshi
– Member: American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene; Association of Reproductive Health Professionals, USA; International Sociological Association; International AIDS Society; Nigerian Medical Association

**Dr. Tana Ricketts-Roomes**

– Clinical Coordinator: Caribbean Association of Medical Councils (CAMC) Examination

– Member: Caribbean College of Family Physicians; Association of General Practitioners; Medical Association of Jamaica

– Volunteer: Hanover Street Baptist Church Outreach Programme

**Dr. Henroy Scarlett**

– Chairman of the America’s Group: International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH)

– Chair, International Planning Committee: JAPHI/IFEH International Environmental Conference and Council meeting, October 22–26, 2017, Montego Bay, Jamaica

– President: Jamaica Occupational Health Professionals Association.

– Treasurer: Jamaica Association of Public Health Inspectors (JAPHI)

– Member: National Environmental Health Association, USA; National Oversight Committee, Ministry of Health Wastewater Systems Evaluation Project

**Dr. Clayton Sewell**

– Mental Health Task Force (Ministry of Health Jamaica)

**Dr. Kristen Smith**

– Treasurer, Caribbean College of Family Physicians

– Member, Medical Association of Jamaica

**Dr. Aileen Standard Goldson**

– 3rd Vice President: Caribbean College of Family Physicians Regional Board

– Member, FMS Accreditation Committee 2nd Vice President).

– Tutor, PAHO Course on the use of the mhGAP Intervention Tool for
the Integration of Mental Health into Primary Care using the PAHO Virtual Campus on-line platform

– Member, Caribbean College of Family Physicians (CCFP) Regional Body Meetings

– Represented CCFP at Besrour Global Family Medicine Conference in Montreal, November 2017

– Attended PAHO/WHO Regional Forum on Universal Health in the 21st Century: 40 years after Alma-Ata, 11–12 December 2017, Quito, Ecuador

– Executive member: University of the West Indies Alumni Association, Jamaica

– Member: Caribbean College of Family Physicians; Association of General Practitioners of Jamaica; Medical Association of Jamaica

– PAHO Planning Committee for third mounting of Integration of Mental Health into Primary Care Course for Primary Care Practitioners in the Caribbean using the Virtual Campus for Public Health – on-line meeting and face-to-face meeting in Panama

Mrs. Douladel Willie-Tyndale

– Member: Gerontological Society of America

– Member: HelpAge Jamaica

– Member: International Federation on Ageing (IFA)

– Reviewer: West Indian Medical Journal


DISTINCTIONS, HONOURS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS


University: Professor Roger Gibson, the Principal’s Award for Research.