

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

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WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT



In its effort to promote a more technologically enriched learning environment for the students, staff members were trained by our information technology specialist in the use of MOODLE, an on-line teaching and learning support system. This enabled staff to incorporate the use of technology in their teaching of both undergraduate and graduate courses delivered face to face, in addition to the use of the OURVLE in the BED Secondary distance/on-line programme. In February 2006, the Department hosted a Literacy

Symposium with the theme *“Transforming lives: celebrating achievements in literacy”*. This was well supported by local tertiary institutions as well as scholars from the University of South Florida and San Jose State University, California. With sponsorship mainly from the National Commercial Bank, the Department was able to raise over (J\$300,000.00) Three Hundred Thousand Dollars towards the building of a proposed state of the art Literacy Centre. In April 2006, the Mathematics Problem Solving Competition for grade 9 high school students was hosted by the Department. Twenty teams from local high schools participated. The department contributed to the forum hosted by the School of Education. This year the theme was *“Teachers at Risk? E-Learning and Its Role in Education”*. Mrs. Paula Daley-Morris was one of the presenters.

The Department succeeded in expanding its programme offerings to cater to both local needs as well as the needs of the new campus countries. In January 2006, the B.Ed in Early Childhood Education by part time delivery commenced with 27 students which, added to the existing full time delivery totaled 79 students for the year. This helped to strengthen the Department’s collaboration with tertiary level institutions - the Mico College, Moneague Teachers College and Shortwood Teachers College with which it offers respectively Bachelors degrees in Special Education

and Primary Education; Literacy Studies by part time delivery and Early Childhood Education (ECE). These programmes attracted 167 students and generated income in the region of J\$3,944.691.00. Worthy of note is the fact that the new four year BEd in Special Education which the Department had assisted the Mico College in developing, was finally approved. Under this new arrangement, the three year Teachers College diploma will cease to be offered. The students will do the first year of the degree at the Mico College and the remaining three years at the UWI. Just under 600 students were registered in the B.Ed Secondary distance/on-line programme which is specially funded by the Ministry of Education and Youth (MOEY). Given that the final cohort will be admitted in January 2007, this is well below the 3000 teachers that the programme was expected to train by 2011. A major problem has been that a number of the teachers targeted for the programme were not qualified for entry as they were either primary trained or were teaching at the primary level even though trained for secondary school teaching. An evaluation of the BEd Secondary programme was done during the course of the year and the report submitted on July 31, 2006. The commencement of the Diploma in School Leadership for secondary school principals in July 2006 is another hallmark of the Department's response to local needs. This programme is funded by the MOEY to the sum of three million Jamaican dollars per year for training secondary school principals. The project will last for three years during which time 75 principals are to be trained. In July 2006, the Department began offering the B.Ed Literacy Studies on line to over 100 (one hundred) teachers in Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Grenada and Jamaica. This has added to the contribution that the Department has been making in the region since 1999 in the delivery of its BEd in Educational Administration via UWIDEC. In 2005-6, 272 students were registered in the programme, with the largest numbers from Antigua and Barbuda, Grenada, Trinidad (Mayaro), St. Lucia and Savanna la mar in Jamaica. Three teachers in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) programme participated in the Caribbean Internship Project in St. Lucia, Grenada and Trinidad and Tobago in the summer of 2006.

The Science and Math Centre received five million Jamaican dollars from the Strategic Transformation Team to help to procure resources and equipment for development of a Resource Bank for Teaching which will also serve as a source of assistance to schools in fostering excellence in the disciplines and developing career interest in the areas. The Centre was transformed significantly during the course of the year through minor reconstruction and the purchase of furniture, equipment and materials as well as additional staffing. Its outreach in the Caribbean was strengthened

through discussions on collaboration with colleagues at Cave Hill and St. Augustine as well as the visit of a lecturer from the University of Guyana to the Department from May 29 to June 04. Mrs. Gem Moriah visited the campus to research 'best practices' in Special Education as part of the University of Guyana /OAS funded project on 'Building Capacity in the Education Sector for Sustainable Human Development. Consistent with its goal to focus mainly on Graduate Studies, the Master of Arts in Teaching which the Department had worked on for the past two years was finally approved. This programme not only offers participants an alternative mode of delivery for the Post Graduate Diploma in Education but it also opens up opportunities for training for persons in the private sector as well as those in tertiary institutions. The Department also played a key role in the development of the M.A in Higher Education Administration: Student Personnel Administration which was also approved this year and will commence delivery in January 2007. Enhancement of its quality assurance practices was made possible this year with the development of a Quality Assurance Manual, as part of the follow up to the Quality Assurance Review of the Department which took place in 2004. Review of courses including the core courses offered at the undergraduate level was another effort to enhance quality. The attachment of a Visiting Scholar, Professor Frances Stage from New York State University, brought benefits for both staff and students in the form of seminars on supervision at the graduate level and workshops for graduate students including one on *Mixed Methodology in Research*. A meeting in May with members of the South African Education Labour Relations Council study tour gave valuable insights into the education system in South Africa. Efforts to improve the teaching –learning environment as well as to boost the motivation of staff and students included the retiling of seminar rooms, installation of ACs, blinds and the commencement of the renovation as well as the strengthening of the holdings of the Documentation centre. In December 2005, UNESCO made a formal donation of books to the Documentation Centre as part of the Department's hosting of Philosophy Day in 2003 in collaboration with the Philosophy Unit in the Faculty and Shortwood Teachers College. In its effort to boost the research capacity of the Department two staff members were granted leave for a semester – Mrs Dian McCallum to complete her EdD and Dr Beverley Bryan to complete her book. Two staff members were awarded their doctorates –Dr Paulette Feraria and Dr Camille Bell-Hutchinson (who was on secondment to the Quality Assurance Unit). Dr Helen Henningham was awarded research grants from UNICEF and Environmental Foundation of Jamaica in excess of

five million Jamaican dollars for research on “Promoting Young Children’s Social and Emotional Competence and Preventing Aggression in Basic Schools”. The main targets for the coming academic year will include workshops conducted by the Science and Math Centre to strengthen the teaching of the disciplines in the school system; revision of the undergraduate programme and the development of new core education courses; new initiatives for improving the practicum in schools; preparation of at least two options in the B .Ed Secondary programme for offering on –line to the teachers in the Region; admission of a second cohort of students in the Region to the B.Ed Literacy Studies on-line; the launching of the M.A in Teaching and the development of new options in Higher Education (e.g. Adult Education);continued improvement of the Documentation Centre; efforts to promote the visibility and outreach of the Department locally and in the Region and an increase in income generation not only through collaboration with additional tertiary level institutions but also through entrepreneurial activities.

Teaching and Per Capita Publications

No. of academic staff = 21 (1 on sabbatical leave)Per Capita publication =1.1

Table 1: Overall teaching Achievement

		Mean 4.0 and above	Mean below 4.0
Sem.1	Students Assessment of Lecturers (N=46)	34 (74%)	12 (26%)
	Students’ Assessment of Courses (N=46)#	29 (63%)	17 (37%)

#No of courses assessed

Semester 2 note yet available.

Table 2: Overall performance of post-graduate diploma students in the 2004-2005 academic year

Course	No.	Theory			Practice			Inc.
		D	C	P	D	C	P	
History Education	7	2	3	-	-	3	1	3
Language Education	10	3	4	-	4	3	3	3
Mathematics Education	6	3	3	-	1	3	2	-
Science Education	3	3	-	-	2	1	-	3
Information Technology	5	-	8	1	-	2	2	4

Educational Administration y	12		5	-	2	8	2	3
TOTAL	43	11	23	1	9	20	10	16

D- Distinction C- Credit P-Pass Inc- Incomplete

MEd/MPhil/PhD

There were a total of 302 students reading for MEd degrees: Science Education (21), Mathematics Education (16), Language Education (27), Literacy Studies (28), Primary Education (12), Teacher Education (face to face) (8), Geography/Social Studies (13), Educational Psychology (37), Curriculum Development (53) and Educational Administration (70). There were 112 students in the MEd On-Line/Summer programme which offered Educational Administration, Teacher Education and Leadership in Early Childhood Development. Seventy three (73) students registered for the MPhil and 25 for the PhD.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- Ezenne, A (2005) "Models and Mechanics of Educational Supervision in Jamaican schools" 40th anniversary of the Joint Board for Teacher Education and the Institute of Education, Hilton Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica, August 25-26.
- Jennings, Z (2005) "Training Teachers by Distance at the University of the West Indies: some lessons learnt". Eduvision 2005 Conference & exposition, November 2-4, 2005 Wyndham Rose Hall, Montego Bay. Jamaica. (pp15)
- Jennings, Z (2006) The Role of Faculty in Holistic Learning and Development, Caribbean Tertiary Level Personnel Association, Radisson Cable Beach and Golf Resort Hotel, Nassau, Bahamas, June 19-23.2006 (pp10)
- Jennings, Z. (2006) Educating our Teachers in the Caribbean Today: Practising what we preach JBTE Triennial Regional Conference, Princess Hotel and Casino, Belize City, July 13 2006 (pp14)

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed Journal Articles

- * Grantham-McGregor S, Baker-Henningham H (2005) The Effects of Protein and Energy on Mental Development. *Public Health Nutrition* 8(7A): 1191-1201.
- * Baker-Henningham H, Powell C, Walker S, Grantham-McGregor S (2005) The Effect of an Early Childhood Stimulation Programme on Maternal Depression: A Randomised Controlled Trial. *Archives of Disease in Childhood* doi:10.1136/adc.2005.073015.
- * Harris, Myrtle E. (2006). The Curricular Role of School Librarians: Jamaican Secondary School Teachers' and Librarians' Perceptions and their Implications for Curriculum Delivery. *Caribbean Journal of Education*, 27 (1), 22 -50.
- * Meeks-Gardner J, Powell C, Baker-Henningham H, Walker S, Cole T, Grantham-McGregor S. (2005) Zinc Supplementation and Psychosocial Stimulation: Effects on the Development of Undernourished Children. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 82: 399-405.
- * **K. Soyibo**, Pinnock, J. (2005): Correlations Among Six Learner Variables and the Performance Of A Sample Of Jamaican Eleventh-Graders On An Achievement Test On Respiration. *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education*, 3, 2 239 - 265.
- * D. Kelly, **K. Soyibo**. (2005): Effects Of Three Sets Of Instructional Strategies And Three Demographic Variables On The Food And Nutrition Test Performance Of Some Jamaican Tenth-Graders. *Journal of Science and Mathematics Education in South-East Asia*, 28, 1 56 - 80.

Books

- * Bankay, A, Andall, Ramsay, P (2006) ¡Chévere! Book 4. London: Longman Pearson
- * Bankay, A (2006) On Friday night. Translation of Chiriboga's En la noche de viernes. Kingston: Arawak Publications

Technical Reports

- * Bankay, A (2006) Review of the Spanish Primary Curriculum for the Ministry of Education.

- * Bryan, B (2006) Literacy Policy for Grenada. Ministry of Education, Grenada.
- * Baker-Henningham H, Walker S, Chang-Lopez S. (2006) End of Phase 1 Report of the Special Education Needs Study. Report to the Primary Education Support Project Office, Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture, Jamaica.
- * Baker-Henningham H (2006) Review of the Draft Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers Aged from birth to 3 years. Dudley Grant Early Childhood Education Centre, UWI, Mona.
- * Meeks-Gardner J, Henry-Lee A, Chevannes P, Thomas J, Baker-Henningham H, Coore C (2005) Regional assessment. Violence Against Children in the Caribbean Region. A Desk Review. UNICEF, Jamaica.
- * Baker-Henningham H, Walker S, Chang-Lopez S. (2005) Interim Report on Phase 1 of the Special Education Needs Study. Report to the Primary Education Support Project Office, Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture, Jamaica.
- * Baker-Henningham H (2006) Presentation of a Review of the Literature on Early Childhood Education in Jamaica. The Children's Issues Coalition, Caribbean Child Development Centre, UWI, Mona, Jamaica, 8th February, 2006.
- * Lewis-Smikle (2006). The Pre-Primary to Primary Schools Transition Pilot Project: An overview. Report, UNICEF, Jamaica.