DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Beverley Bryan, BA, MA, PhD Lond – Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Context: There has been a major push by the teachers' colleges to become degree granting institution. The DES is committed to supporting their quest for such status but at the same time there is an impact on the work of DES, as it works with the Institute of Education to re-structure the School of Education (Mona).

Teaching

Undergraduate programmes are continually being reviewed. They are offered through the Open Campus, as joint degrees or with the Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs) as well as through the face-to-face programmes:

Online programmes: Online undergraduate programmes are now delivered through the Open Campus and have grown this year with the introduction of an online B.Ed Secondary programme. Applications have doubled, reaching over 500.

Joint programmes: The double majors have been reviewed so that six programmes can now be offered to secondary teachers, with support from colleagues in other departments.

TLIs: The Department carried out quality assurance visits to Knox College and Bethlehem College, in conjunction with the TLIU. Both colleges are seeking franchise arrangements to deliver an Education degree in Literacy Studies. It is expected that at least one of these programmes will start in the coming year.

The face-to-face programme: The focus here has been on curriculum review of the Practicum. Prof. Soyibo carried out an investigation of a sample of 90 final year students to assess the value added nature of the Bachelor of Education degree programme. The study yielded important new insights as to the perceptions of students and recommendations for
changes in practice and in the curriculum, which are being implemented.

**Curriculum Development**

The post-Graduate Diploma in Educational Administration has been approved.

Dr Hutton and Dr Morris organised a TVET consultation with seasoned practitioners in the field to look at the institution of Masters’ and research degrees in the area.

Work has started in the Masters in Instructional Leadership and the specialist primary degrees.

**The Documentation Centre**

The Documentation Centre continued to provide support for teaching, learning and research in the School of Education with the focus being improved access to its resources and the creation of a more student-friendly environment. Special initiatives undertaken to achieve this objective included: the digitization of course materials; the purchase of new computers; and the upgrading of facilities in the Centre.

**Visiting Professor**

Professor Stage of New York University spent the summer in the Department with assistance from Fulbright Senior Specialists programme from 16th June until the end of July. She taught one graduate course and provided tutorials for graduate students.

**Special Events**

The Journal of Education and Development (JEDIC) is now established in DES, through the use of income-generating funds. We have employed a Research Assistant to act as Publications Officer.

Dr Cook collaborated with Dr Gentles of the IOE to mount the Qualitative Inquiry Symposium on October 26 and 27, 2007. For the first time, approximately 150 people met together as a community of qualitative researchers from other departments on Campus, other universities in Jamaica, our sister campuses and from other international universities.
Dr Lewis-Smikle took the lead in mounting the School of Education’s second literacy symposium on March 13-14, 2008 under the theme, Literacy for Lifelong Learning: Responding to the Challenge. The aim of the symposium was to highlight research and practice aimed at raising the literacy levels of students coming out of the primary and secondary education system. Approximately 450 people were in attendance over the two-day period attending some 15 workshops. The symposium closed with an awards ceremony for past educators and pioneers in the area of literacy, who were instrumental in advancing literacy education in Jamaica.

Members of the Department worked to organise Education Week in May as part of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the University of the West Indies. The activities included a Church Service, The Forum on Education, A Graduate Students’ Research Conference, An Education Village and an Awards Function.

**Teaching Performance of Staff**

(no. below and above 4.0) for Assessment of Lecturers and Courses: Semesters 1&2, 2007-8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Object of Assessment</th>
<th>4.0 and above</th>
<th>Below 4.0</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Course</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Course</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Outreach**

**Change from Within**

The work of CFW continued to support schools in student, teacher and principal leadership initiatives. An offshoot of the Circle of Friends sessions was the formation of an independent Circle of Principals of CFW schools in Portmore. These principals meet outside of the control of CFW Circle meetings, share best practices, support each other, plan strategies and share their skills by conducting workshops for staff of their respective schools. Contributions were made to government policy papers on parenting and social policy goals. The work of CFW continues to gain international recognition with contributions outside of Jamaica.
Dr Lewis-Smikle and the Literacy Studies students have been carrying out interventions in a number of schools:

**Mona Primary:** Literacy intervention with Grade 4 which the Principal of the school has commended for its impact on test results.

**Jacks Hill All Age:** Whole school assessment from infant to Grade 6 by final year Literacy Studies students. This allows the teacher to plan an intervention.

**National Children’s Home (Hope Gardens):** Inception this year of a Writing Programme.

Other Literacy work includes the contribution of Dr Beverley Bryan to UNESCO’s mid-decade UNLD report on the impact of the decade on literacy world-wide for submission to UN General Assembly in 2008.

**Mathematics Problem-Solving competition:** a national competition with Grade 9 students from DES’ Science and Maths Centre. This has been led by Ms Camello Buddo and was staged this year on April 19th. Seventy (70) of the best performers in 15 high schools participated.

Myrtle Harris conducted a workshop for college librarians on *Preparing Students for the Information Society* at a Meeting of the College Libraries Information Network (COLINET) February 28, 2008.

Dr Anderson and her final year undergraduate students mounted a successful summer pilot programme/two week summer camp for students of Papine High School. The camp was organized for students who are in need of intervention to arrest deviant behavioural tendencies and practices. This pilot project which was made possible by assistance received from Jamaica Shipping Association and the Department of Educational Studies will be repeated next year.

DES with the School of Education and the Institute of Caribbean Studies hosted: The Gus John Seminar on the situation of Black youth within the education system in England.

DES with the School of Education hosted: An afternoon with Olive Senior for students and teachers preparing for CAPE Literatures in English.
PAPERS PRESENTED

Anderson, Susan

- “Teaching the Dyslexic Student in Higher Education: Problems and Issues”. Academic Advising/Disabilities Liaison Unit (AADLU) workshop on Teaching the Dyslexic Student in Higher Education. UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. January 17-18, 2008.


Chevannes, Pauletta


Cook, L.


Feraria, Paulette


• “Grade Ten Deferred: Engendering the Curriculum for Learner Empowerment in Jamaican Secondary Schools”. Conference of Ethnographic and Qualitative Research. Cedarville University, Ohio, June 5-7, 2008.

Harris, Myrtle Elaine

• “Combating Plagiarism: Beyond Information Literacy Skills Instruction”. 38th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL), E-Librarian: Ideas, Innovation and Inspiration, Montego Bay, Jamaica, June 1-6, 2008.

Jennings, Zellynne


Lewis-Smikle, Jossett

• “Literacy through Literature: Responses of some Primary School Students”. 37th Annual general Meeting of the Jamaica Reading Association, St. Joseph Teachers’ College, April 2008.

McCallum, Dian


PUBLICATIONS

Book


Chapter in Book


* Harris, Myrtle Elaine. “Secondary school principals’ perceptions of the management and curricular roles of librarians in Jamaican schools” in Austin Ezenne (Ed.), Leadership for school improvement in the Caribbean, (pp.
213-245). UWI, Jamaica: Department of Educational Studies.


**Refereed Journal Articles**


Non-refereed Publications


Other Peer-Reviewed Publications

* Ezenne, Austin and Beverley Johnson. (2008). “Principals’ and Teachers’ Perceptions of Principals, Instructural Leadership Roles in Primary Schools in Central Jamaica” in Ezenne, A (Ed.) Leadership for School Improvement in the Caribbean, Department of Educational Studies. (pp. 181-212)

Caribbean, Department of Educational Studies. (pp. 247-268)


Technical Reports


Contributions to Technical Papers


Per capita publications: 1.7

INCOME GENERATION

The main sources of income generation remain through the collaboration with TLIs to deliver undergraduate programmes. There is a potential also in the online programmes offered through the Open Campus.


US$150,800 for 18 months.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Professor Jennings
   – UWI representative, National Council on Education (NCE)

Dr McCallum
   – Assistant Chief, CXC (History)

Dr Feraria
   – Assistant Chief, CXC (English A)
   – Member, Editorial Board, Journal of Ethnographic and Qualitative Research

Dr Rainford
   – Assistant Chief, CXC (Chemistry)
Prof Soyibo
   – Member, Education sub-committee, Population and Housing Census 2011, STATIN

Dr Smikle
   – President, Jamaica Reading Association

Mrs Daley Morris
   – IT Advisor, Jamaica National Netball Association

INFORMATION ON STUDENTS

Undergraduates

342 Education students, including the students from the Ministry of Education, Jamaica programme, graduated in November 2007:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Level</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Class Honours</td>
<td>48</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Second</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Second</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
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Postgraduates at the 2007 November ceremony amounted to:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPhil</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masters</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The following numbers are enrolled in the postgraduate programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Program</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEd face-to-face</td>
<td>165 + 16 MA students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEd Online</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MPhil</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>