WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

For the 2010-2011 academic year, the department recorded several successes, in relation to staff research and promotions; postgraduate students’ completion of their degrees, with continued cross-campus and international alliances in their supervision; and outreach of staff members to the wider community.

Promotions, Appointments and Achievements

Staff Members

Dr. John Ayotunde Bewaji, Guggenheim Research Fellow in Philosophy for 2010, was promoted to the position of Professor of Philosophy in May 2011. He was also appointed Jay Newman Visiting Professor of Philosophy of Culture, 2011-2012 at Brooklyn College, CUNY, New York, to be served during his sabbatical year. Dr. Michèle Stewart (Linguistics) was appointed Associate Dean, Marketing and Outreach for the Faculty of Humanities and Education. Dr. Lawrence Ojo Bamikole (Philosophy) returned to the department in December 2010, as a Senior Lecturer on a 3-year contract.

Postgraduate Students

Postgraduate Degrees and Defenses were significant milestones through the year. The PhD with High Commendation was awarded to Mrs. Celia
Brown-Blake (Linguistics), supervised by Professor Devonish, for a thesis entitled “The Potential Impact of Language Rights on Language Policy in Jamaica”.

Successful PhD Defenses were conducted by three additional candidates.

Mrs. Keren Niles-Cumberbatch (Linguistics): co-supervised by Professor Ian Robertson, (St. Augustine) and Professor Devonish (Mona), defended a thesis entitled “A Linguistic Description of the Language of the Urban Deaf in Jamaica”.

Mr. Martin Schade (Philosophy): co-supervised by Professor Bewaji and Professor Welshon (Colorado, USA), defended a thesis entitled “Dialectical Incarnation: A Harmony of One Love, One Heart in the Totality of Reality”.

Ms Nicole Scott (Linguistics): supervised by Professor Devonish, defended a thesis entitled “A Linguistic Description of Definiteness in Trinidad French-Lexicon Creole”.


MA (Philosophy) Degrees were awarded to Mrs. Sherine Lawrence-Brown and Ms Janice Smith.

Teaching and Learning: Undergraduate

Producing Effective Communicators: a Mandate of the UWI 2007-2012 Strategic Plan

In furtherance of the mandate to produce effective communicators, Dr. Ingrid McLaren intensified work on the Communication Across the Curriculum (CAC) pilot project, launched in January 2010, in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences (FPAS). Having collaborated with the
relevant lecturers on identifying level 2 and 3 Life Sciences and Chemistry courses which could be reworked as Writing Intensive (WI) and Speech Intensive (SI), Dr. McLaren worked on a model for infusing writing and speech in these courses. This is a first step in pursuing formal designation and endorsement for such courses, as well as the extension of these designations not only within the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, but eventually to courses throughout the campus.

The focus on producing graduates capable of oral communication in English, and with communication skills for the world of work, led to the English Language Section expanding its intake in LANG 3001: Public Speaking and LANG3101: Business Communication. The Section also designed a course in Technical Writing, which is to be approved by the Faculty Quality Assurance Committee.

An ESL support course for the students in The Bordeaux-UAG/UWI (Mona) MSc programme in Government, was arranged through Mrs. Dyche, and launched to accommodate 10 Haitian students. It proved very successful, and will be offered to another cohort in August 2011.

**The Western Campus and Tertiary Level Institutions**

The DLL&P continued to offer and coordinate, through Dr. Carmeneta Jones, the delivery of courses in these institutions.

**Cross-campus delivery of courses** was again undertaken in Linguistics, with Mrs. Cumberbatch delivering real-time lectures via videoconferencing, in the two Sign Language courses – LING2820 and LING3819 - to St. Augustine. In spite of the IT challenges experienced, this is an initiative to be pursued.
Student Assessments of Teaching

The overall teaching achievements of the department, as assessed by students are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>Semester I</th>
<th>Semester II</th>
<th>Summer 2010/11</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecturers’ Mean Score</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
<td>4.2/5</td>
<td>4.4/5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Score for Courses</td>
<td>3.6/5</td>
<td>3.8/5</td>
<td>4.1/5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Postgraduate Matters

**Cross-campus and International Postgraduate Co-supervision**

In recognition of the UWI being a single university, cross-campus alliances for supervision continued for Kathy-Ann Drayton (MPhil/PhD Linguistics, St. Augustine) supervised by Dr. Otelemate Harry (Mona), and Kamau Chionesu (PhD Philosophy) co-supervised by Professor Bewaji and Professor Sunday Iyare (Economics, Cave Hill).

Ms Roxanne Burton, co-supervised by Professor Lewis Gordon (Temple, USA) and Professor Bewaji; Mr. Harvey Willis, co-supervised by Professor Albert Mosely (Smith’s College, USA) and Professor Bewaji; Ms Marisa Forbes, co-supervised by Professor Olufemi Taiwo (Seattle) and Dr. Bamikole continued to be beneficiaries of international expertise.

**Exchange Programme with the Philipps-Universität Marburg, Germany.**

In semester 1 of the academic year, the JLU took part in an exchange programme with the Philipps-Universität Marburg. A German student, Tracy Sutphin, came to the UWI and completed two courses in the M.A in the English Language Programme (LING6201-Comparative Caribbean English-Lexicon Creole and LING6302 – The Sociolinguistics of West Indies Language and Society). Andre Sherriah, a PhD Linguistics student and Research Assistant in the JLU, visited the University in Germany and
completed eight (8) courses in the area of Linguistics and Web Technology.

**Academic Development: Administrative Staff**

Three members of the administrative staff continued their academic development. Making progress were Ms Shayzan McBeam, Senior Administrative Assistant II, on the MSc in Human Resource Development; Ms Karen Clarke, Senior Secretary, on the MSc in Sociology – Social Policy and Administration; and Mrs. Yvette Mundy-Whyte, Secretary 3, on the MSc in Public Sector Management.

**Customer Service Satisfaction** was the focus of our new Customer Service Representative, Ms Chantelle McLeod, whose work resulted in the department being assessed with a mean of 4.0 out of 5 for semester 1 and 3.6 for semester 2.

**Department Conferences, Workshops and Special Days**

The Jamaican Language Unit / International Centre for Caribbean Language Research, under the direction of Professor Devonish, hosted a conference on Caribbean Rights and Language Policy in January 2011, at the Terra Nova Hotel. Linguists, Government and Ministerial representatives attending from Aruba, the Netherland Antilles, St. Lucia, Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad, among others, approved the draft Language Charter on Language Rights and Policy. Follow-up achievements include production and distribution across the region of an executive summary and complete charter on Language Rights; upgrading of the Conference website and the production of a first draft of the constitution to guide the operations of the working group.

Dr. Harry coordinated the annual department Research Day in May 2011. Fifteen postgraduate students across the department presented papers, and were responsive to the feedback provided by those in attendance. The Philosophy Section celebrated UNESCO Philosophy Day in November 2010, with good public participation in the activities. A Patwa Day Symposium held in April 2011, and coordinated by Ms Kadian Walters,
(PhD student, Linguistics) and students in LING2801, was also well received.

**Testing the English Language Proficiency of Applicants, through the ELPTU**

During the year, 6 sittings of the ELPT were held in September, December 2010, February, March, April and June 2011. The pass rate of the total of 1602 scripts marked was 36%. A special sitting for students given offers who had either not sat or had sat and failed the test was held on July 6, 2011. A total of 207 students sat the test with an additional 28 sitting it between July 9-10, 2011. The pass rate was 47%. Students failing this as well as others who had failed previous tests were invited to attend a special intensive UC010 intervention programme in summer. The pass rate at the end of the Intervention programme was 54% (86/158).

**PAPERS PRESENTED**

- **Adone, Dany; Bauer, Anastasia; Cumberbatch, Keren; Schwager, Waldemar.** “Looking at the lexicon of Yolngu Sign Language (Northern Australia), Country Sign (Jamaica), and Kata Kolok (Bali, Indonesia)”. Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research Conference (TISLR 10). October 2010.


- **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Arts, Memory and Identity”, CBAAC International Conference on Global Africans, Pan-Africanism, Decolonization and Integration of Africa – Past, Present and


• **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Artistic Explorations of Reality – an Africana perspective”, UNESCO Conference on Philosophical Dialogue between Africa and the Americas, Department of Philosophy, Purdue University, April 18-21, 2011.

• **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “The Regime of Mental Magnitude, Intellectual Creativity and Leadership Imagination”, Toyin Falola Annual Conference on Creativity and Cultural Expressions in Africa and the African Diaspora, University of Ibadan in July 4-6, 2011.


• **Devonish, Hubert and Karen Carpenter.** “Creole and English Bilingual Education: Good for girls but better for boys?” 18th Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, August 9-13, 2010, Barbados.

• **Dyche, Caroline.** “Legitimizing the illegitimate: confronting the obstacles to the development of a writing programme at the University of the West Indies, Mona campus”; 2011 Writing Programme Administration Conference, Baton Rouge (Louisiana, USA), July 13-17, 2011.


• **Long, Peta-Ann.** “Ethical controversies surrounding a free press”, UWI, Cave Hill Philosophy Symposium (UWICHiPS), UWI, Cave Hill Campus, November 17-19, 2010.

• **McCalla, Sandra.** “Universality of Morality - A Myth?”, UWI, Cave Hill Philosophy Symposium (UWICHiPS), UWI, Cave Hill Campus, November 17-19, 2010.


• **Milson-Whyte, Vivette.** “Code Meshing and Glissantian Opacité: Establishing Interrelationships Among Students’ Languages.” 62nd annual Convention of the Conference on College Composition and Communication, Atlanta, Georgia, April 6-9, 2011.

• **Milson-Whyte, Vivette, and Carmeneta Jones.** “Metaphors of Writing and Intersections with Jamaican Male Identity.” Writing Research Across Borders II Conference, George Mason University, Virginia, February 2011.

in Rhetoric and Composition, The University of Louisville, Kentucky, October 14-16, 2010.

• **Scott, Nicole.** “The contemporary linguistic situation of Trinidadian French lexicon Creole.” 18th Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, August 9-13, 2010, Barbados.

• **Shields-Brodber, Kathryn.** “‘Yu fieva mi uol man pat …!’ Gender and the discourse of chriesin in Jamaica.” 18th Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, August 9-13, 2010, Barbados.


• **Stewart, Michèle.** “When 3-year old Jamaican children don’t know the word.” 18th Biennial Conference of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, August 9-13, 2010, Barbados.


**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books & Monographs**

**Chapters in Peer-Refereed Books**


**Refereed Journal Articles**


Other Peer-Reviewed Publications


Non-refereed Publications


Income Generation

Grant Obtained:

Dr. Otelemate Harry obtained J$455,772.00 from The Graduate Studies & Research, Research and Publication Fund, UWI, Mona, towards a project, ‘A study of aspects of the prosodic phonology of Jamaican Creole.’

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. J. A. I. Bewaji

– Member, UNESCO Jamaica National Bioethics Committee.
– Editorial Board Member, Caribbean Philosophical Association, USA.
Dr. Karen Carpenter:
   – Member, Jamaican Psychology Society
   – Member, Caribbean Sexuality Research Group

Mrs. Keren Cumberbatch
   – Advisor, Jamaica Association for the Deaf – Deaf Studies Curriculum and Interpreting Services Development Committee.

Professor Hubert Devonish
   – Vice President, Society for Caribbean Linguistics

Dr. Otelemate Harry
   – Chairman, Nigerians in the Diaspora Organisation, (NIDO), The Americas region, Jamaican Chapter

Dr. Vivette Milson-Whyte
   – Member, Activites Committee, Jamaica Fulbright-Humphrey Alumni Association

Dr. Kathryn Shields Brodber
   – Convenor, CAPE Communications Studies, Caribbean Examinations Council
   – Member, Society for Caribbean Linguistics

Dr. Michèle Stewart
   – Board Member, of Governors, The Catholic College of Mandeville
   – Board Member, The Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Education Board (AEB)
PRIZES AWARDED

Foundation Courses:

Best Student in FOUN1001/FD10A (English for Academic Purposes). Okey Roy COKE

Best Student in FOUN1401/FD14A (Writing in the Disciplines) [TIE] Allison Deniece ISAACS
Shanique Therese BECKETT

Best Student in FOUN1002/UC10B (Language Argument) [TIE] Tashna-Toya Shantan EDWARDS
Robert Mitchum CAMPBELL (Jr.)

Linguistics:

Best Level-I Linguistics Student (TIE) Narda Crystal-Gail RATTRAY
Elizabeth Anne LEVY

Best Level-II Formal Linguistics Student Tinashae Yolande HINES

Best Level-II Non-Formal ... Shelly-Ann Rosemarie CUNNINGHAM Linguistics Student

Best Level-III Formal Linguistics Student ... Tina Samantha WHYTE

Best Level-III Non-Formal Linguistics Student Tina Samantha WHYTE

Best Graduating Linguistics Student ... Tina Samantha WHYTE
– John Reinecke Prize

Philosophy:

Best Level-I Student ... ... Renee Anashay DILLON

Best Level-II Student ... ... Derisha Shereka ROBINSON

Best Level-III Student ... Phylicia Dawn Elizabeth WILLIAMS