

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Claremont Kirton, BSc, MSc UWI – Head of Department

The Department of Economics made significant achievements in areas related to learning effectiveness, strengthening regionality and national engagement. While progress was generally made across all targets identified in the annual strategic plan, the Department was severely constrained by the ongoing problem of the shortage of senior staff members and the insufficient classroom space.



Targets achieved include

Curriculum

- Exceeded target of 20 Online lectures, with 23 completed.
- All academic staff trained in OurVLE at basic and advanced levels.
- Multi-media objects (MMOs) developed to send text messages to students.
- 25% increase in number of courses utilising “industry experts” as guest lecturers.
- Implementation of Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) techniques in over 10 courses.
- Young Economist Association students study visit to Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB).

Public profile

Increased the public profile of the Department. Initiated the Department of Economics Distinguished Lecture Series and held public seminars:

- Distinguished Public Lecture on “Prospects for Economic Union in the Caribbean” – Monday, November 3, 2008.
- Panel Discussion on the Financial Sector Meltdown in the US Economy – Thursday, September 25, 2008.
- Symposium on The Diversification of CARICOM Exports: Opportunities and Challenges – Friday, February 6, 2009
- Seminar on Commercial Banking in the Caribbean [Presentations by Banking and Finance students] – Friday, April 18, 2009
- Panel Discussion on the 2009-2010 Fiscal Budget – Friday, May 7, 2009
- Local participation in the ECCU/ECCB/OECS Public Interactive Discussion from ECCB via Videoconference with Prime Ministers of OECS- Thursday, July 23, 2009.

Research Output:

The Department’s academic staff load included twenty-three full-time members of staff and two part-time members. These staff members published between them 22 academic pieces during the year. This included one chapter in a book, six journal articles, two monographs and thirteen reports.

Three staff members were awarded at the University’s 2009 Research Awards:

The Best Research Publication and The Most Outstanding Researcher: **Dillon Alleyne**

The Best Research Publication: **David Tennant** and **Claremont Kirton**

The Most Outstanding Researcher: **David Tennant**

Income Generating Activity:

Five members of academic staff report mobilising funds from FCIB, UNDP, and PIOJ for various projects.

Teaching Achievement

The Department scored an overall mean of 3.9 in both semesters for lecturer preparation, knowledge of subject area, punctuality and accessibility. The average course rating score was 3.6, with 66% of all courses having a score above 3.5. Average student response rate was 50%.

Graduate Training:

Student enrolment in the Department's MSc Economics programme totalled fifty-two for the academic year, while there were seven graduate students in the International Law programme taught jointly with the Department of Government. Five Students completed the M.Sc Economics programme during the year.

Distinguished Visitors

Under the aegis of the Department, **Dr. the Honorable Ralph .E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines** delivered a public lecture entitled: "Prospects for Economic Union in the Caribbean". This Distinguished Lecture was hosted in the Social Sciences Lecture Theatre (SSLT) on November 3, 2008.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Abdulkadri, Abdullahi Dr

- Roles of an Efficient Market in Attaining Food Security: Empirical Evidence from Jamaica. Food Security and Agricultural Development Conference, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, July 28-30, 2009.
- (with Telphia, O., O. Nzeogwu). Jamaica's Policy Options for Domestic-Market Banana Farmers. Food Security and Agricultural Development Conference, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, July 28-31, 2009.

Bullock, Colin Mr

- Research And Economic Policy In Jamaica. Sustainable Economic Development Unit Annual Conference, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, March 27, 2009.

Figueroa, Mark Mr

- Gender, Household Structure and Leadership in Jamaica; Can we believe the Survey of Living Conditions. 34th Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association: Centering the Caribbean in Caribbean Studies, Kingston, June 1-5, 2009.
- Is the Hegemony of Male Political Leadership at Risk in the English-Speaking Caribbean? 10th Annual SALISES Conference; Navigating Risks and Building Resilience in Small States. Barbados March 25-27, 2009.
- Rethinking Caribbean Agriculture: Re-evaluating Lewis's Misunderstood Perspective. XL Annual Monetary Studies Conference: Eastern Caribbean Central Bank (ECCB) St Kitts. November 11-14, 2008.
- The Academic Economist as Public Teacher; Lessons from Lewis and the Caribbean Policy Discourse. Sir Arthur Lewis Memorial Conference. UWI, St Augustine. September 25-27, 2008.

Ghartey, Edward E. Dr

- Stabilization Effects of Narrative-based Monetary Policy in Jamaica. Monetary Policy at the Western Economic Association International 84th Annual Conference, The Sheraton Vancouver Wall Centre, BC, Canada, July 2, 2009.
- Cointegration and Causal Relationship between Taxes and Spending for Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa. 78th Annual Conference of the Southern Economic Association, Washington, D.C., November 23, 2008.

Kirton, Claremont Mr.

- (with Arlene Bailey). Regional Agricultural Networking in the Caribbean. Conference on Food Security and Agricultural Development in the Americas. University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. July 28-30, 2009.
- (with Mikhail-Ann Urquhart). The Economic Impact of Migration: The Jamaican Experience. 2009 Annual Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Meeting. Kingston, Jamaica. June 1-5, 2009.

Witter, Michael Dr

- Plantation Economy perspectives on the current global crisis, 9th International Meeting of Economists on Globalization and the Problems of Development, Cuba, March 2009
- Teaching Economics at the Tertiary Level. Caribbean Studies Association, June 2, 2009

Whitely, Patrice Dr

- Testing the Monetary Model of Exchange Rate Determination: Evidence from Latin America. 10th Annual Conference of Globalization and Development Problems, Havana, Cuba. March 3-7, 2008.

Urquhart, Mikhail-Ann Ms

- (with Kirton, Claremont). Economic Impact of Migration in Jamaica. Presented at The 34th Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association. Kingston, Jamaica. June 2009.

PUBLICATIONS

Monographs

Kirton, Claremont Mr

- * (with Francis Alfred, Godfrey Gibbison and Anthony Harriott). Crime and development: The Jamaican experience. SALISES, UWI, Mona, Jamaica. 103 pp. 2009.
- * (with Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, Pauline Knight, Natasha Mortley and Mikhail-Ann Urquhart). A Study of Migrations Impacts on Development in Jamaica and how Policy Might Respond. *Global Development Network and Institute for Public Policy Research*. 2009.

Urquhart, Mikhail-Ann Ms.

- * (with Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, Claremont Kirton, Pauline Knight and Natasha Mortley). A Study of Migrations Impacts on Development in Jamaica and how Policy Might Respond. *Global Development Network and Institute for Public Policy Research*. 2009.

Book Chapter

Figueroa, Mark Mr

- * Migration and Remittances: Typologies and Motivations. *Freedom and Constraint in Caribbean Migration and Diaspora*. Ian Randle, Kingston: 235-257. 2009.
- * George Cumper and the Critical Tradition: Common Themes in Post-World War II Caribbean Thought. *Social and Economic Studies*, 2008, 57, 2, June, pp. 162-187.

Referred Journal Articles

Abdulkadri, Abdullahi Dr

- * (with Tennant, D.). Empirical exercises in estimating the effects of different types of financial institutions' functioning on economic growth. *Applied Economics*, First (May) 1-12, 2009.

Ghartey, Edward E. Dr

- * The Mid 1990s Peso Crisis in Mexico: An Application of the Girton-Roper Model. *Frontiers in Finance and Economics*, April, 6 (1), 73-92. 2009.
- * The Budgetary Process and Economic Growth: Empirical Evidence of the Jamaican Economy. *Economic Modelling*, November, 25(1), 1128-1136. 2008.

Tennant, David Dr

- * (with Folawewo, Abiodun). Macroeconomic and Market Determinants of Interest Rate Spreads in Low and Middle Income Countries. *Applied Financial Economics* 19(6): 489-507, 2009.

Technical Reports

Kirton, Claremont

- * Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Second Medium Term Plan. 2008 – 2011, prepared for CRFM, Belize. 103 pp. 2008.

Witter, Michael Dr

- * (with N. Spencer and K. A. Dixon). “Some Social Indices for Jamaica”, prepared for the PIOJ, October 13, 2008
- * (with K. A. Dixon-Hamil). “Exploring Changes in the Socio-Economic Profile of Jamaica through the Survey of Living Conditions, 1989-2006”, prepared for the PIOJ, October 25, 2008
- * (with, K. A. Dixon and N. Spencer) “Some Explorations of Social Changes in Jamaica as captured by the Survey of Living Conditions, 1989-2006”, prepared for the PIOJ, January 31, 2009
- * “Notes on the Impact of the Global Crisis on Jamaica”, prepared for UNDP Jamaica, April 10, 2009
- * “Prospects for the Jamaican Economy in the Context of the Global Crisis – possible scenarios”, prepared for Jamaica National Building Society, April 22, 2009
- * (with M. Tracey). “Assessment of the Financial Feasibility of Solar Energy Technologies and the Adoption Rate for Solar Heating and Photovoltaic Lighting in Jamaica”, prepared with the support of a New Initiative Grant, UWI, May 15, 2009
- * (with, K.A. Dixon-Hamil and M.Thomas). “Statistical profile of Child Poverty in Jamaica”, prepared for the Department of Economics, PIOJ and UNICEF, June 15, 2009
- * (with N.Spencer). “Child Poverty – Meaning and Measurement”, prepared for the Department of Economics, PIOJ and UNICEF, July 15, 2009.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Abdulkadri, Abdullahi Dr.

- Student Papers Coordinator, Southwestern Economics Association Annual Meetings
- Reviewer, *Social and Economics Studies*
- Reviewer, *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*
- Reviewer, *Journal of Agriculture* of the University of Puerto Rico

Dixon Hamil, Kelly-Ann Mrs.

- Advisor, UWI Panoridim Steel Orchestra
- Fellow, Royal Statistical Society

Figueroa, Mark Mr

- Member, Board of Directors: Jamaica Environment Trust

Ghartey, Edward E. Dr

- Director, African Finance and Economics Association
- Associate Editor, *Frontiers in Finance and Economics*
- Advisory Board Member, North American Economics and Finance Association/International Banking, Economics and Finance Association (IBEFA)

Kirton, Claremont Mr

- Chairman, Jamaica Stock Exchange (JSE) Panel of Judges, JSE Broker Analysts' Market Research Competition
- Member, Working Group for the Strategy Paper on the Vision and Framework for the Single Economy. CARICOM Secretariat.

McCloud, Nadine Dr

- Ad Hoc Referee for: *Journal of Econometrics*

Tennant, David Dr

- Member, Government of Jamaica's Steering Committee responsible for Reforming the Public Sector Pensions System and the National Insurance Scheme.
- Member, Board of Commissioners of the Financial Services Commission. Chairman of the Board Pensions Committee and Member of the Board Insurance Committee.

Whitely Patrice Dr.

- Certified Member, Lupus Foundation of Jamaica.

Witter, Michael Dr

- Member, Oversight Committee of the Forest Conservation Fund.