

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION

MONA

Year ending July 31, 2011



Swithin Wilmott, BA *UWI*, DPhil *Oxf* – Dean

Overview

The Faculty of Humanities and Education maintained its commitment to the major goals of the 2007-2012 University Strategic Plan and pursued various initiatives within the constraints of available resources.

Transformational Academic Initiatives

Strategic Accomplishments

The re-structuring of the School of Education was a significant accomplishment with the merger of the Department of Educational Studies (DES) and the Institute of Education (IOE). Whereas previously they operated separately and independently, now they are fused into teaching and research clusters for related disciplines and report to the Director of the School of Education (SOE). These clusters will provide better articulation in the undergraduate and graduate programmes and ensure greater synergies between teaching and research. Further, there would be a stronger emphasis on collaborative inter-departmental and cross campus research and a broader and stronger base for national and regional engagement. Importantly, the administrative support system would be centralized and the SOE would be better positioned to enhance the quality of tertiary education on the campus and in the larger tertiary education sector.

Curriculum Initiatives

Curriculum Reform and Renewal occupied the collective focus of the Faculty that determined to preserve UWI's reputation as an institution of higher learning dedicated to the attainment of the human potential of its students.

The Faculty's response to dwindling budgets and external questioning as to the relevance of the humanities has been to enhance and enrich its programmes. Accordingly, the following were agreed for implementation in 2011/12:

- Minors in Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management, Cultural Studies, and Music, and a Minor in Law for History Majors.
- Heritage Studies courses will be included in the Tourism Management programme offered in the Department of Management Studies
- New Caribbean History course in Education and Development in the Commonwealth Caribbean since the 1930s
- Liberal Studies Majors to have more disciplinary options in the Social Sciences, including Public Sector Management and Criminology.

Carimac completed the drafting of both the BA in Integrated Marketing Communication and Media and Communication Studies for delivery in the 2011/2012 academic year, the former at Mona and Western Jamaica, and the latter at Mona.

Teaching and Learning

The Faculty maintained its reputation for high quality teaching with several colleagues attaining minimum scores of 4.5 and above (out of 5) in the students' assessments exercise and remains committed to the use of modern technology to enhance teaching and learning. Members of various departments registered in the Post-graduate Teaching Certificate

Programme, and others, including graduate tutors, registered for at least one of the several IDU modules/workshops to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness.

Turning out the Ideal UWI Graduate

Internships and other out of classroom learning experiences, locally, regionally and internationally, formed part of the students' exposure and training in disciplines such as Archaeology, Education, Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management, Media and Communication, Library Studies and Modern Languages.

In keeping with goal of the Strategic Plan to produce graduates capable of oral communication in English and with communication skills for the world of work, the Language Section expanded its intake in the two level three courses, LANG 3001: **Public Speaking** and LANG 3101: **Business Communication**

Management, Quality and Conduct of Graduate Programmes

Improved departmental focus and increased Faculty capacity to manage programmes are reflected in throughput levels for research degrees. Whereas in 200/92010 there were 7 PHDs, for 2010/2011 there are 12 PHDs, with 3 others currently being examined.

The School of Education implemented the MA Programme in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TV CET) and discussions are progressing with the Open Campus for on-line delivery. The Masters of Arts in Teaching was also restructured and it has also been agreed that the Masters Programmes in History Education will integrate courses from Graduate Programmes in History and Heritage Studies, respectively.

Research: Publications and Awards

Two colleagues published books during the period under review:

- Beverley Bryan, Between Two Grammars: Language Learning and Teaching in a Creole-speaking Context (Ian Randle Publications, 2010)
- Waibinte Wariboko, Race and the Civilizing Mission. Their Implications for the Framing of Blackness and African Personhood, 1800-1960 (African World Press, 2010).

At the Mona Research Day Awards ceremony in January 2011, Professor Claudette Williams received the Principal's award for Outstanding Research for her book, The Devil in the Details: Cuban Antislavery Narrative in the Postmodern Age. Drs. Donna Hope and Sonjah Stanley Niaah received the Principal's Award for Best Research Publication (Book) for Man Vibes: Masculinities in the Jamaican Dancehall and Dancehall: from Slave Ship to Ghetto, respectively. Dr. Hope also received the Principal's Award for Best Publication (Article) for "From the Stage to the Grave: Exploring Celebrity Funerals in Dancehall Culture", in *International Journal of Cultural Studies*. Dr. Swithin Wilmot also received the Principal's Award for Best Publication (Article) for "Emancipation as Empowerment: Blacks in Jamaican Vestries, 1850-1865", in the *Jamaican Historical Review*.

National Engagement/Public Service

Of special note is the remarkable impact of the final year course *Communication Analysis and Planning* that was taught in the Public Relations Programme at the Western Jamaica Campus (WJC). It required the design and implementation of development communication projects in areas of national import such as education, health, information technology, environment and agriculture, and therefore built strategic partnerships with key institutions and individuals within media, the corporate world, the public service and community development agencies in Western Jamaica. The execution of these projects provided high visibility for the WJC and in a very profound way underscored the value and impact of the WJC.

The Institute of Caribbean Studies organized a variety of Symposia and public lectures:

- August 17-20, 2010. The Rastafari Studies Conference “Negotiating the African Presence: Rastafari Livivity and Scholarship,”
- October 22, 2010. The Annual Walter Rodney Lecture entitled “Rodney to Ragga; From Black Power to Gold Power – Who Will Sort Out the Nation?” was delivered by Mr. Robin “Bongo Jerry” Small.
- February 11, 2011. The Annual Bob Marley Lecture “Bob Marley and the Wailers Live: Performance and Politics in the Touring History of the Wailers”, was delivered by Dr. Matthew Smith, Senior Lecturer in the Department of History and Archaeology, and it was very well received.
- February 26, 2011. A Symposium – “The Social Impact of Jamaican Popular Music” explored topical issues in the Jamaican music landscape, including the impact of music on adolescent sexuality, music and violence, and the effects of dancehall lyrics on Caribbean youth. It was designed to encourage dialogue among researchers, music stakeholders and the public on critical issues in Jamaican popular music.
- March 22, 2011, the Department of History and Archaeology hosted the 27th Annual Elsa Goveia Memorial Lecture. Dr. Karl Watson retired Senior Lecturer at the Cave Hill Campus, delivered the lecture, “The Modernized Caribbean Landscape and Its Implications for Heritage and Tourism: The Barbados Experience”. The lecture emphasized the challenges of tourism expansion in relation to sustainable development and was well received.
- March 17, 2011, Professor Silvia Kouwenberg delivered her Inaugural Professorial Lecture entitled, “The Future of Caribbean Linguistics”.

The SOE signed a MOU with Sam Sharpe Teachers College to offer Literacy Studies, thereby extending the existing relationship with Moneague and Bethlehem Teachers' Colleges, respectively.

Several Departments mounted workshops on the Campus in their respective disciplines for teachers and students in support of the respective CXC/CAPE syllabi. The Faculty organized a workshop in a variety of CAPE subjects at Glenmuir School in December 2010 which was attended students from 10 schools in the Clarendon area. In addition, during Research Day in January 2010, the Faculty facilitated Cape Workshops on both days for sixth form students who visited the campus.

Regional Outreach

Several colleagues in the Faculty supported the Caribbean Examinations Council's CSEC and CAPE examinations by serving on Subject Panels, as Chief and Assistant Chief Examiners in respective disciplines. Further, the School of Education (SOE) is also partnering with the CXC to review their Agricultural Studies Programme.

The Department of Library and Information Studies was invited by the UNESCO Division of Information and Communication to carry out a survey of information literacy levels among teachers and teachers in training in the Caribbean. The countries surveyed were Antigua, Barbuda, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago.

The School of Education carried out various regional initiatives.

- BEd. programmes in Secondary Education and in Primary Math and Science were delivered in partnership with the Open Campus.
- Workshops in educational leadership and professional development were mounted in the Turks and Caicos and Cayman Islands.
- External Assessment for teaching practicum assessment was carried out in Antigua, Belize, Cayman Islands, Grenada and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

- Provided oversight for the Music and Early Childhood Associate Degree Programmes at the Antigua State College.
- Hosted the regional Biennial Education Regional Conference at the Jamaica Grande, Ocho Rios, June 15-11, 2011.

The Jamaica Language Unit hosted a conference on “Caribbean Rights and Language Policy” in January 2011. The conference was designed to bring Linguists in touch with policy makers in relation to the draft Language Charter on Language Rights and Policy. Government and Ministerial representatives from the Netherland Antilles, St. Lucia, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad, among others attended.

Dr. Aleric Josephs of the Department of History and Archaeology, supported by the Mona Campus, visited St. Kitts and Nevis to participate in their National History and Heritage Week, February 13-18, 2011. Dr. Josephs conducted workshops with students and teachers of History at the CSEC and CAPE levels and also delivered a public lecture at the UWI Open Campus St. Kitts and Nevis Site. The title of her lecture was, “Social Control, Gender and the History of Caribbean Education.” She also participated in a televised panel discussion and visited Heritage Sites in St. Kitts and Nevis.

Regional and International Collaborative Arrangements

A Memorandum of Understanding between the SOE and the London South Bank University was signed to promote collaborative activities in Education and Sustainable Development.

The SOE also collaborated with the Johns Hopkins University Centre for Talented Youth to establish the UWI as a host site for its summer programme.

The five year Collaborative Agreement between the SOE and the University of Reading brought several gains during the period under review. Between September and December 2010, Camella Buddo, Assistant Lecturer in Mathematics, benefitted from an extended visit to Reading and has now submitted her PhD thesis for examination. In

February 2011, Dr. Geoff Tennant and Ms. Deb Heighes, two academics from Reading in the field of Math and Science, respectively, conducted workshops at the Mona Campus for over 150 Mathematics and Science teachers. Workshops were also held at Shortwood for Teachers Colleges who partner with the SOE.

The SOE, committed to the Mainstreaming of Environment and Sustainability in Caribbean Universities (MESCA), in collaboration with UNESCO, hosted a regional capacity building, monitoring and evaluation workshop between October 26-28, 2010.

Awards/Honours

Professor Zellynne Jennings-Craig was elected to membership of the Council of the United Nations University, Japan.

Dr. John Ayotunde Bewaji was promoted to Professor in May 2011.

Dr. Moses Peart was awarded the Prime Minister's Medal for Meritorious Service to Education.

Professor Patrick Bryan was awarded the Commander of Distinction (CD) for his services to Academia.