Professor Simon F Mitchell became Head of Department at the start of the 2013–2014 academic year. Also, following the resignation of Dr Lyndon Brown at the end of November 2013, Professor Simon F. Mitchell became Acting Head of the Earthquake Unit, which is administered by the Department of Geography and Geology.

Staffing continued to be a serious issue affecting the Department with the retirement or resignation of several members of staff over the last few years. Despite advertising repeatedly during the academic year, no new staff members have been appointed on three year contracts; the current financial conditions affecting Jamaica at the present time appear to be a major deterrent.

Despite the shortages of staff, the Department managed to offer a full
range of undergraduate courses, partly through the use of temporary and part-time staff. Mr Robert Kinlocke and Ms Taneisha Edwards were employed as Temporary Lecturers for the academic year and Dr Donovan Blissett, Dr Richard Annells and Dr Anestoria Shawkowski taught parts of selected courses. Dr Thera Edwards was granted two years leave for a secondment to the Institute for Sustainable Development in April, 2014, and Ms Jullian Williams was employed as a research assistant for the Head of Department in May, 2014. Professor Simon F. Mitchell is currently overseeing the Marine Geology Unit.

Dr Leo Douglas, a Visiting Scientist from the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH) in New York City, was confirmed as an Honorary Research Fellow for the period March 2014 to February 28, 2017 by the Vice Chancellor. His work concentrates on: reducing consumer demand for high-value wildlife products; the effect of conservation education programmes on Jamaican students’ attitudes and behaviours; media priming and framing of inter-stakeholder group conflict about biodiversity conservation; and the effects of neoliberal free trade policy on stakeholder disputes surrounding wildlife conservation on the island of Dominica. Since his appointment to the Department of Geography/Geology, Dr Douglas has been honoured as Professor of the Month by The Network for Conservation and Education Practitioners, American Museum of Natural History, New York City, in March 2014. He was also invited as a plenary keynote for the North American Congress on Conservation Science, one of the largest gatherings of conservation scientists in North America, in July, 2014.

A summer graduate internship programme, co-ordinated by Kevon Rhiney, Michael Taylor and Arpita Mandal, was hosted in the Department. The internship was borne out of a partnership between the University of West Indies, Columbia University, the University of Arizona, and the University of the Uruguayan Republic. The programme involved seven graduate students, four of whom were from overseas. The project examined the state and nature of climate services in Jamaica, using the agriculture sector as a case study. The study primarily focused on mapping the information flow of climate services from producers of
climate data (such as the Meteorological Service of Jamaica) through to the intermediate and end user communities. Findings from the study were presented at a stakeholder meeting held at the UWI Mona Visitors’ Lodge on 28th July 2014, and a technical report will be circulated to key stakeholders shortly.

Chanelle Fingal-Robinson received the award of Ph.D. in Geography, and Shiva Mohan received an M.Phil. in Geography (with high commendation). Two new postgraduate students began working on their MPhil degrees in Geography; there were no new postgraduate students in Geology.

The revised 3-credit Level III courses of the revised curricula in Geography and Geology were offered for the first time, following assessment by AQAC in the 2012-2013 academic year. The Department also wrote new courses in GIS and geosciences, which will be offered in the 2014-2015 academic year. The Department also established a new major in Geoscience which will combine courses from physical geography and soft rock geology; the new major will be offered in the 2014-2015 academic year. The Department is also introducing a new Minor in Human Geography for students in the Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences; this Minor requires only 6-credits of Level I Geography as a prerequisite for Level II and opens up Geography courses to non-science students.

Teaching reviews of both Geography and Geology were undertaken during the 2013–2014 academic year. The reports of these are being used to revise the operational activities of the Department.

The Department hosted the sixth in the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers British-Caribbean Seminar from the 23rd to the 27th June, 2014: entitled: ‘The Caribbean Region: Adaptation and Resilience to Global Change’. The Seminar was organised by Prof David Barker, Dr Thera Edwards, Dr Kevon Rhiney and Dr Duncan McGregor (Department of Geography, Royal Holloway, London), with financial support from the Climate Change Research Group and the Developing Areas Research Group of the Royal Geographical Society with the
Institute of British Geographers. Over 60 participants took part and 44 papers were presented, and there were two days of fieldtrips. Presentations were made by two members of staff and eight graduate students in the Department.

Members of the Department attended various workshops during the academic year. Ayesha Constable, a Ph.D. student in geography, was selected as part of a team to represent the Caribbean and received a scholarship to attend the ‘Global Power Shift – Climate Change Summit’ held in Istanbul in Turkey over the summer of 2013. Dr Sherene James-Williamson represented Jamaica at the Commonwealth Association of Museums workshop on ‘Disaster Risk Management in Caribbean Museums’ held from the 23rd–27th September 2013 in Nassau, Bahamas, and attended the Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC) Annual Conference and AGM held from the 27th–31st of October, 2013, in Belize City, Belize, where she was elected Vice President for MAC. Dr Arpita Mandal attended the Stable Isotope Hydrology Workshop from October 7th–18th, 2013, in Jamaica organized by International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA), Vienna, and the Water Resources Authority (WRA), Jamaica. Professor Mitchell chaired a session at the Cariscience Conference and AGM, 13th–17th November 2013, at the Grand Bahia Principe, Runaway Bay, parish of St. Ann, Jamaica. Dr Arpita Mandal attended cross campus meeting of faculties involved in teaching and research in Hydrology at UWI St Augustine, November, 2013. Dr Sherene James-Williamson, Mr Robert Kinlocke and Dr Thera Edwards attended a UNESCO workshop on ‘Satellite data for environmental and climate change decision-making’ held at the Courtleigh Hotel December 3rd–5th, 2013. Dr Arpita Mandal attended the World Bank workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction at Knutsford Court Hotel, in January, 2014. Dr James-Williamson attended the National Spatial Data Management Division/Land Information Council of Jamaica (NSDMD/LICJ), Ministry of Water, Land, Environment and Climate Chang, Strategic Planning retreat and workshop held on the 23rd of January, 2014 at the Alhambra Inn. Dr Mandal and Dr Matthew Wilson (UWI St Augustine) organised a workshop in May, 2014, entitled ‘Climate Change and Inland Flooding in Jamaica’ at the Mona Visitors’ Lodge where results were disseminated.
and participants were given one day of training on hydrological and hydraulic modelling.

Professor Mitchell delivered a talk entitled “Publish or Perish? Impact Factors and the h-index. A guide for academics and graduate students” to: the Faculty of Science and Technology, Mona Campus, on the 30th January, 2014; the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mona Campus, on the 11th of March, 2014; the Faculty of Science and Technology, Cave Hill Campus, on the 2nd of June, 2014; and the Faculty of Science and Technology, St. Augustine, on the 4th of June, 2014.

The Jamaican Geographical Society hosted a talk on the 23rd January, 2014, by Dr Brian J. Hudson (former lecturer in the Department, now at Queens University, Australia) entitled ‘Images of Caribbean Places and Some Reflections on Their Names: A Toponymic Entertainment’. At the end of the session, Dr Hudson was given a Lifetime Achiever’s Award from the Society for his contribution to geography education in Jamaica and the wider Caribbean.

The Geological Society of Jamaica held a fieldtrip on the 25th of January, 2014, to the Benbow and Guys Hill area (parishes of St Catherine and St Mary) which was led by Professor Simon Mitchell, Dr Donovan Blissett and Dr Sherene James-Williamson.

Three members of the Department received awards at the Annual Principal’s Awards Ceremony held at the Mona Visitors Lodge and Conference Centre on the 21st of February 2013. Dr Arpita Mandal (with colleagues) received the award for “Research Project Attracting the Most Research Funds” for the Faculty of Science and Technology; Dr Kevon Rhiney (with colleagues) received the award “Research Project Attracting the Most Research Funds” for the Faculty of Social Sciences; Prof Simon F. Mitchell received the award of “Best Researcher” in the Faculty of Science and Technology.

The UWI Geology Museum hosted approximately 1,500 school children and their teachers for various tours and activities throughout the year. These include GIS Day, the UWI Research Days in March, 2014, as well as organized tours and lessons from primary and high schools across
Jamaica. Caribbean Heritage Concepts, Tallahassee, Florida, shipped fossil material for the UWI Geology Museum’s education programme and discovery zone. Roderick Ebanks, an archaeologist, was invited in April 2014 to become a Research Fellow in the UWIGM to provide support to Dr James-Williamson in her Geoaarchaeology Research; he will be with the Department for an initial 2 year period.

GRANTS

Kevon Rhiney

US$63,680 for Department of Geography and Geology out of a total grant of US$140,000 from CDKN/CARIBSAVE for the project: ‘Climate Impacts and Resilience in Caribbean Agriculture: Assessing Consequences of Climate Change on Cocoa and Tomato Production in Trinidad & Tobago and Jamaica (CIRCA)’.

PAPERS PRESENTED

David Barker

• (with Kevon Rhiney and Donovan Campbell) ‘Geographies of Vulnerability and Resilience of Rural Farming Communities in Jamaica to Climate Variability and Change: A Comparative Analysis’ The Caribbean Region: adaptation and resilience to global change, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, 23rd–27th June, 2014.

• (with Anne-Teresa Birthwright) ‘Double Exposure & Jamaica’s Coffee Industry: Vulnerability and Livelihoods among Lowland Coffee farmers in Frankfield, Clarendon’ The Caribbean Region: adaptation and resilience to global change, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, 23rd–27th June, 2014.

Michael Burn

• ‘Hydro-meteorological Hazards in the Caribbean region - Palaeoclimate
Perspective’ Department of Geography, University College London, October, 2013.

**Taneisha Edwards**


**Sherene James-Williamson**


**Robert Kinlocke**

- ‘We are not all the same! Comparative climate change vulnerabilities among fishers in Old Harbour Bay, Jamaica’ Jamaica Statistical Symposium, 1st November, 2013.

- ‘Rethinking Social Capital: An analysis of its manifestation in Gated and Garrison Communities in the Kingston Metropolitan Area’ The Caribbean Region: adaptation and resilience to global change, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, 23rd–27th June, 2014.

**Arpita Mandal**

- (with L. Barrett and D. Smith) ‘Hydrological Modelling for simulation of Flooding from extreme events in Jamaica – Case study of the Hope River Watershed’ International Conference on Flood Resilience:
Experiences in Asia and Europe, Exeter, UK, 5th -7th September, 2013.


• ‘Hydrological Models’ Regional Climate Change Workshop, Department of Physics and 5C’S, Department of Physics, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica, 9th January, 2014.


Simon F. Mitchell


- (with D. J. Miller, S. Khan-Butterfield, T. C. P. Edwards and A. Pearson) ‘Hellshire – geology, geomorphology and beach studies’ Conservation of the Jamaican Iguana and its remaining habitat. Workshop hosted by the University of the West Indies (Mona), Hope Zoo, and NEPA in collaboration with the IUCN SSC Iguana Specialist Group, Hope Zoological Gardens, Kingston, Jamaica, 12–13th November, 2013.


- ‘A Led discussion on Nomenclature Problems in Jamaican Stratigraphy’ Geological Society of Jamaica, AGM, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica, 26th April 2014.


David J. Miller


Kevon Rhiney

- ‘Opportunities for Climate proofing Jamaica’s Agriculture Sector’ Climate Departure Seminar, hosted by the Institute of Sustainable Development and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Mona Visitors Lodge, UWI, 9th December, 2013.


- ‘Opportunities for Climate proofing Jamaica’s Agriculture Sector’ Climate Departure Seminar, hosted by the Institute of Sustainable Development and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Mona Visitors Lodge UWI, 9th December, 2013.


- (with Donovan Campbell and David Barker) ‘Geographies of Vulnerability and Resilience of Rural Farming Communities in Jamaica to Climate Variability and Change: A Comparative Analysis’ The
Caribbean Region: adaptation and resilience to global change, Department of Geography and Geology, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica, 23rd–27th June 2014.

Thomas Stemann

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Journals

Sherene A. James-Williamson and Simon Mitchell

REFEREED BOOK CHAPTERS AND JOURNAL ARTICLES

Sherene A. James Williamson

Leo R. Douglas
- (with D. Veríssimo) ‘Flagships or Battleships – Deconstructing the relationship between social conflict and conservation flagship species’


Arpita Mandal


• (with M. A. A. Taylor, C. Burgess and T. Stephenson) ‘Flooding in Jamaica: Causes and Controls’ In: Flooding and Climate Change: Sectorial Impacts and Adaptation Strategies for the Caribbean Region (Dave Chadee, editor), 2013, Nova Publishers


Simon F. Mitchell

- ‘Revision of the Antillocaprinidae Mac Gillavry (Hippuritida, Bivalvia) and their position within the Caprinoideae’ *Orbigny* *Geobios*, 45, 2013, pp. 423–446.
- ‘First record of a Middle Cenomanian caprinuloideid rudist (Hippuritida, Bivalvia) from Montana, USA, and its geographical and stratigraphical significance’ *Cretaceous Research*, 46, 2013, pp. 59–64.

Kevon Rhiney


NON-REFERRED PAPERS

Sherene A. James Williamson


Simon F. Mitchell

- (with Sherene A. James-Williamson).’ The Ninth International Congress
on Rudist Bivalves, Kingston, Jamaica, 18th–25th June, 2011’

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**David Barker**
- External Examiner in Geography for the Joint Board of Teacher Education (JBTE)
- Editor, *Caribbean Geography*
- Convenor, CAPE Geography
- Editorial Committee *CaribXplorer Magazine*
- Editorial Board *Caribbean Quarterly*
- Council member, Jamaican Geographical Society

**Sherene James-Williamson**
- Vice President of Museums Association of the Caribbean (MAC)
- Editor, *Caribbean Journal of Earth Science.*
- Enterprise Licensing Agreement Working Group and the Data Back-up Committee.
- GIS Business Services and GIS Education and Training Committees.
- Conference Co-Chair Museums Association of the Caribbean annual Conference and AGM 2014.
- Council Member, Land Information Council of Jamaica (LICJ).
- Member of three Committees of the Enterprise Licensing Agreement Working Group
- Board Member, Heritage Clubs of Jamaica

**Arpita Mandal**
- Member, Global Water Partnership Caribbean
- Council Member, Geological Society of Jamaica
Simon F. Mitchell

– Scientific Committee, Caribbean Geological Conference.
– Editor, UWI Contributions to Geology.
– Language Editor, Carnets de Geology.
– Member, National Committee on Coastal Zone Management (NCOCZM).
– President, Geological Society of Jamaica.
– Chairman, Jamaican Stratigraphic Committee.

Kevon Rhiney

– Member of the Steering Committee for the Climate Change Action Training (CCAT) Programme (USAID-funded Ja REEACH Project).
– Global Water Partnership – Caribbean (GWP-C) Partnership Network.
– Member, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) Civil Society Consulting Group (ConSoc) Jamaica – The Environment, Energy and Infrastructure Thematic Group
– National Fisheries Policy Steering Committee: Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management sub-committee

VISITORS

– Johannes Bohle, Doctoral researcher, Centre for InterAmerican Studies (CIAS), Bielefeld University, Germany. Johannes will be visiting up to the end of June.
– Dr Shakira Khan-Butterfield, FIU, Florida.
– Dr Brian J. Hudson.
Dr Matthew Wilson (Head, Department of Geography, UWI St Augustine).

### CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

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