



DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

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ACCESS

STUDENTS

On October 6, 2022, the Department of Government's Parliamentary Internship Program (PIP) resumed. The primary objective of the PIP is to provide students with the opportunity to strengthen their research and writing skills and to develop a practical understanding of the political process. PIP interns worked on various issues in governance, economics, and foreign affairs. Two students (Ms. Anatassia Balfour and Mr. Aaron Hoilett) from the Department were installed at the annual PIP induction ceremony at the George William Gordon House. On October 12, 2022, both students made their first appearance at the House of Parliament, where they were nationally recognised.



From Left: Dr. Donavon Johnson (PIP Coordinator), Ms. Anatassia Balfour (Intern), Mr. Aaron Hoilett (Intern), Ms. Valrie Curtis (Clerk to the Houses of Parliament), Ms. Colleen Lowe (Deputy Clerk to the Houses of Parliament)

The success of the students within the Department did not end with the PIP interns; as such, the following students were commended for their achievements during the 2021–2022 period:

- Mr David Salmon, a student in the Department’s Public Policy and Management undergraduate programme, was named the valedictorian of the Faculty of Social Sciences 2022 graduation ceremony.
- In 2021, students from the Department’s UWI Model United Nations club participated in the Harvard Model United Nations competition. They won USD 5,000 in the social venture competition by showcasing the impact an ICT development project is likely to have on Jamaica’s underserved communities in Kingston. The club won the monies to purchase and hand over 70 tablets to 7 schools in Western Kingston communities.
- Ms Trudi-Rae Goodison was awarded the Most Outstanding Final Research Paper in the MSc Government (International Relations Specialization).
- Mr Jamonte East was awarded the Most Outstanding Final Research Paper in the MSc International Public and Development Management Programme.
- Mr Travis Barrett was awarded the Most Outstanding Final Research Paper in the MSc Government (Comparative Politics/Political Theory Specialisation).
- Mr Andre Zosor, one of the Department’s outstanding graduate students, represented the International Relations Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade on Tuesday, October 18 2022. The event marked the Ministry’s 60th anniversary. It included a lecture given by Dr. Kathy-Ann Brown on Jamaica’s Role in the Multilateral System with a special focus on the International Convention on the Law of the Sea.
- Between February 16 and 19, 2023, the UWI Model United Nations (UWIMUN) club participated in the Harvard Model United Nations (HNMUN) competition. The UWIMUN members obtained five awards for their outstanding performance. Four of the five delegates of the University’s delegation were conferred with awards for their exceptional work and contribution to their committees and for embodying the spirit of diplomacy. Ms. Alana Robinson and Gabryelle Smalling won the Outstanding Delegate award in the Special Political Decolonization Committee. Mr. Rhameish Smith and Moses Estick earned the Diplomatic Commendation award from the Social Humanitarian and Cultural Committee. In addition to our delegates’ success at the end of the conference, it is important to note that this delegation was the first in UWI HNMUN participation history to win the Most Outstanding Small Delegation award.

Several of the Department’s MPhil candidates also made successful steps towards completing their respective research projects by completing their graduate seminars and successful upgrading their registration status to PhD. These students include:

- Mr. Craig Clarke, MPhil candidate who successfully completed an Upgrade Seminar on Tuesday, April 18, 2023. Mr. Clarke presented on “*Contesting Places: Development Displacement and Resettlement in a Small Island Developing State—The case of Jamaica’s Bauxite Industry*”.
- Mr. Cush Sewell Lewis, MPhil candidate successfully completed an Upgrade Seminar on Friday, May 5, 2023, presenting on “*Food Policies and Small Island Developing States: The Case of Jamaican Households*”.
- Mr. Lincoln Allen, MPhil candidate successfully completed an Upgrade Seminar on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, presenting on “*An Exploration of Perspectives on Gun Culture and the Nexus with Homicide Rates: A Jamaican Case Study*”.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

Dr. Vasciannie hosted several guest lectures during academic year 2022–2023; key among them were the lectures presented by Mr Lindford Andrews on the “*Role and Structure of The Commonwealth*” and the lecture by Ambassador Marianne Van Steen of the Delegation of the European Union in Jamaica on Regionalism in a Globalized Age. The Department also facilitated several other guest lectures during the academic year, which included the following:

- Dr Yonique Campbell hosted Mr George Roper, the Deputy Governor of the Bank of Jamaica, who gave a guest lecture to the GOVT 6041 class on February 21, 2023.
- Dr Lisa Vasciannie hosted Ambassador Olivier Guyonvarch, the French Ambassador in Jamaica, in her GOVT3048 class on February 1, 2023. He discussed the Role of a Diplomat in International Affairs.
- Dr Lisa Vasciannie facilitated the participation of several students from the GOVT3048 and GOVT6094 classes in the opening ceremony and first session of the OAS Workshop on Democracy and Elections on Thursday, February 16, 2023.
- Dr Shinique Walters hosted two guest lecturers for GOVT3201 students, one on Internet and Democracy by Mr Andre Stephens, Blogger, on March 1, 2023, and the other was on Social Media and the Jamaica Constabulary Force by Mr Shaunjay Mitchell on March 15, 2023.

On September 14–15, 2023, Dr Kavita Johnson, the Department’s Coordinator for the UWI’s Tripartite Bachelor/Master in Politics and International Cooperation (MPIC) programme visited the University of Sciences Po, Bordeaux and participated in a programme with the Regional Ambassador Mr. Roland Dubertrand and Ambassador of France to Jamaica, His Excellency, Mr. Olivier Guyonvarch.

The programme featured presentations about Jamaica-France Relations, the MPIC programme, and life at UWI. During the visit, Dr. Johnson handed out Graduate degrees and UWI memorabilia in a small ceremony. Dr. Johnson's visit resulted in the Department being invited to participate in "A Touch of France in Jamaica", a 3-day exhibition put on by the Embassy of France, the Alliance Française de la Jamaïque and the Club France-Jamaica, which was held at the AC Marriot Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica.

Apart from guest lectures for the students of the Department, the team at the Department also hosted two public lectures during the academic year. In collaboration with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Department hosted a public lecture on the Transformation of Global Health Governance and Japan's Role in it. Professor Kayo Takuma of the Tokyo Metropolitan University presented the topic at the lecture. On March 23, 2023, the Department partnered with the Embassy of Japan to host a public lecture on the Free and Open International Cooperation Framework. Mr. So Umezaki from Japan's External Trade Organisation (JETRO) was the main speaker at the lecture. At both lectures, Dr. Heather Ricketts, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences gave presentations from the Faculty and the University of the West Indies and Prof. Suzette Haughton gave welcome from the Department of Government.

PUBLICATIONS

- Several Department staff had their works published during the 2022–2023 academic year. Two of Dr Aieka Smith's articles were published:
- Smith, Aieka Yasheva. "Contested bodies and delayed decisions: Attitudes to COVID-19 vaccines among Jamaicans." *Revista Opera* 32 (2023): 185–207.
- Smith, Aieka Yasheva. "I Have Two Flags in my Heart: Diasporic Citizenship of Jamaicans Living in Britain." *OASIS-Observatorio de Análisis de los Sistemas Internacionales* 37 (2023).

Dr. Emanuel Quashie's manuscript entitled "US foreign policy towards the Caribbean: Rethinking the Caribbean Basin Initiative. A Case Study" was published in *Latin American Policy* in the second half of 2023. His solo-authored book titled "Stakeholders of Terrorism and the Caribbean" has been published by Palgrave MacMillan Press.

Professor Eris Schoburgh published articles and conference papers during the 2022–2023 academic period:

- Institutional Design for Sustainable Urbanization in the Caribbean [co-authored] was accepted for publication in *Sustainable Development Research*, Vol 5 Number 1 June 2023.

- Institutional Design for Sustainable Urbanization: The state of play in the Caribbean [co-authored], accepted for the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Annual Conference scheduled for Budapest, Hungary, April 3–5, 2023.
- Citizens' perceptions of quality and accessibility of local government services: Pathways to institutional change in a post-COVID era [co-authored], accepted for the International Conference on Public Policy 6 (ICPP6), June 27–29, 2023.
- Paper on Informal Citizenship submitted to the International Political Science Association Conference (IPSA) scheduled for Buenos Aires, July, 2023.
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ALIGNMENT

Professor Eris Schoburgh:

- was elected to the Editorial Board of Public Management Review (PMR) in September 2022. PMR is one of the leading journals in public management and public policy, with an impact factor of 4.2+/- .
- assumed Vice-Presidency of the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) responsible for Latin America and the Caribbean. She also reviewed twenty-eight (28) panel proposals for IRSPM 2023.
- accepted an invitation to be a member of a panel asked to share perspectives on the topic: *International Scholarly Engagement: Respecting Human Rights and Academic Freedom* at the Opening Plenary of the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) Conference, hosted by Corvinus University, Budapest, Hungary, April 3–5, 2023.
- reviewed ten (10) academic papers a member of a team established to select Best Conference Papers at IRSPM2023.

The Department of Government held discussions with a representative from McGill University. These discussions explored collaborations based on the UWI-McGill Memorandum of Understanding. The meeting was held on February 17, 2023, and the Department's HOD, Unit Heads, and a representative from McGill University participated in this discussion. In addition, the Head of the Department of Government continued discussions with members from King's College, London to strengthen collaborations with the institutions.

Dr Yonique Campbell was invited to an authors' workshop at the Freie Universität Berlin (Free University of Berlin) in Germany to discuss South-South Security

Cooperation across six regional groupings in the Global South. Cambridge Review of International Affairs agreed to publish the papers presented at the workshop. In collaboration with the Department of Economics, Dr Campbell secured sponsors to deliver four presentations in the Lunch Time Policy Series.

AGILITY

The Department congratulates Dr Carol Nelson on her promotion to Senior Lecturer level.