

HUGH LAWSON SHEARER TRADE UNION EDUCATION INSTITUTE

Marva A. Phillips, MSc Johns Hopkins – Tutor/Coordinator

WORK OF THE INSTITUTE

The Institute continues to provide training courses and lectures in labour education and promote research into industrial relations. The objectives are achieved through the offering the Certificate in Labour Studies programme, the Introduction to Labour Studies 4 weeks programme and shorter seminars and workshops. Other objectives of the HLSTUEI were achieved through its public education, outreach and networking activities for the academic year 2006 - 2007. Meetings, conferences, public forums and training sessions were attended throughout the year in an attempt to improve the relations between the Institute and its stakeholders. Conferences and public forums attended include the: Centre for Public Safety and Justice, COMUT meeting in Brazil, and public forums organised by Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung.



A major event was the planning and organising of The Sir Frank Walcott Symposium scheduled for Barbados September 16-18, 2007. This is the third in a series of symposia geared towards honouring the work of trade unionists and other influential men and women in the advocacy for workers' rights and building democracy in the Caribbean

There are two members of academic staff at the Centre, the Tutor/Coordinator and a Research Assistant.

Continuing Education

The second Cohort of the Certificate in Labour Studies began in September of 2006 with an enrollment of nineteen students.

Meetings were held in Belize with the School of Continuing Studies and the Mayor of Belize City, representatives of the Ministry of Labour,

Trade unions and Employers representatives with respect to the offering the Certificate in Labour Studies programme and the Introduction to Labour Studies.

Public Education & Outreach

During the year in review, the Institute's research operations were enhanced with the employment of a Research Assistant. A number of activities were undertaken to strengthen research on the Jamaican industrial relations environment. These include: (i) organising and disseminating a regular bi-monthly newsletter on regional labour issues; (ii) establishing linkages with the National Workers Union for future joint studies on the Jamaican Memorandum of Understanding; (iii) submitting funding proposals for future work on gender in trade unions; and (iv) increasing the access of labour materials and the Institute's visibility throughout the region.

A resource centre and website for the Institute were established to support the department's and students' research activities. Consultations were also held to explore the option of merging the resource centres of HLSTUEI and the SWTC.

Main Targets 2007-2008

- Expand the offer of the Certificate in Labour Studies to other Centres in the region
- Host a symposium on the 1st generation of Caribbean Trade Union Women
- Research impact of Trade Unions on national productivity
- Research impact on migrant workers' remittances on local households
- Develop a course in Collective Bargaining & Labour Law for Private Sector Executives

PUBLIC SERVICE

Marva Phillips

- Council Member, Jamaica Confederation of Trade Unions (JCTU)
- Chair, JCTU Women's Committee

- Member, Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL) Women's Committee
- Caribbean Representative (Titular) to Inter-American Regional Organisation of Workers (ORIT) Women's Committee (COMUT)
- CCL's Alternate Representative, International Trade Union Congress (ITUC) Women's Committee
- Member, Jamaica National Gender Task Force