INSTITUTE OF CARIBBEAN STUDIES

Claudette Williams, BA, MA \textbf{(UWI)}, PhD \textit{(Stanford)} – Acting Director

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Considerable progress was made in advancing the development of a departmental culture within the Institute while maintaining and enhancing the best features of the Special Project ethos. Curriculum review remained in the forefront of the Institute’s agenda as the feasible recommendations of the 2009 External Quality Audit were addressed, especially those relating to the curriculum, teaching and learning activities, and assessment.

Staff Matters

Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah and Dr. Donna Hope Marquis were promoted to Senior Lecturer. Dr. Julian Cresser joined the staff as Lecturer for the Foundation course Caribbean Civilization (FOUN1101). Dr. Donald Davis, Miss Deborah Hickling, Mr. Dennis Howard, Mrs Nicole Plummer-Rognmo and Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood continued to provide invaluable teaching assistance as part-time lecturers. Graduate students were also deployed as tutors in courses with large registration. Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah was awarded a Mona Research Fellowship. Staff members continued their outreach activities through special public presentations and invited lectures.

Graduate Programme

The MA in Cultural Studies was approved for delivery in September 2010. Guidelines were established for upgrading student registration from MPhil to PhD. In addition, the progress of students registered in the MPhil and PhD programmes was monitored closely in an effort to increase through-put. Two PhD candidates successfully defended their
dissertations, while four other dissertations and one MPhil thesis were submitted for examination. Financial support was provided for two PhD students in the form of departmental awards.

Undergraduate programme

Curriculum Review

In the ongoing curriculum review process the revision of the structure of the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management (ECEM) major was completed. Special attention was paid to assessment, leading to the development of common criteria for grading students’ written work. Amendments were made to the assessment procedures for three courses. A complete review of the Foundation course, Caribbean Civilization (FOUN1101) began in semester 2. CLTR1001- Introduction to the Study of Culture, a new Level 1 course, was taught for the first time. The Cultural Studies Minor was revised and a slate of courses was identified for the Liberal Studies major. The year also saw increased use of ICT to complement face-to-face delivery of courses. There was a significant increase in the number of students admitted to the ECEM programme.

Measures to enhance student-centredness and improve student satisfaction were also pursued.

Special Events

With support from the Principal’s office and the US Embassy, the ICS hosted the biennial International Reggae Conference, February 17-20, under the theme “International Reggae: Current and Future Trends in Popular Music.” The conference covered a wide range of reggae-related topics and attracted presenters from Japan, Africa, North America, Europe and the Caribbean. Guest speaker for the Opening Ceremony was Minister of Youth, Sports and Culture the Hon. Olivia ‘Babsy’ Grange. The annual Bob Marley Lecture entitled “Rastafari – Reggae Bob Marley: Africa Scattered for Rhythm of Oneness for the World” and delivered by Mr. Tekla Mekfet, formed part of the conference events. As a new feature of the conference a Special Session, headlined “Music in the Community” was held at the August Town Square. Participants in that session included the Mona Campus Principal and community leaders.
On October 1, the Institute hosted a reception to mark the inaugural Summer Internship for the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management Programme. The function was attended by business partners from various areas of the Entertainment and Cultural Industries, who had provided employment and work experience for 8 students during the summer break.

To commemorate the 1968 Rodney riots in Kingston, the Institute sponsored the screening of a documentary film on the life of Walter Rodney, entitled “W.A.R. Stories: Walter Anthony Rodney” on November 13, 2009. The event was attended by film director Clairmont Chung, as well as other individuals who participated in a discussion of Rodney and shared their experience of the riots.

Special Project

In the first of a series of publications to be undertaken by the Institute, folk philosopher and cultural historian Mr. “Bongo Jerry” Small transcribed a selection of his public lectures, conferences, presentations and talks over the years beginning in the 1970s. This will be the first in a series of book publication projects to be undertaken by the Institute.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Hope Marquis, Donna.** “From Boom Bye Bye to Chi Chi Man: Exploring Homophobia in Jamaican Dancehall Culture”. Caribbean Conference on Literature, Culture and Identity, University College of the Cayman Islands, March 11-12, 20pp.


• **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Performing Geography, Ritual and Power” 8th International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, June 17-21

**Papers presented at International Reggae Conference 2010, UWI, Mona, February 17-20, 2010**


• **Niaah, Jalani.** “Bob Marley country.”

• **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** ‘Gully vs. Gaza: Feuds, Factions and Fueling Fandom in Jamaican Dancehall Performance’

• **Campbell, Winston.**“ Suppose a God Song Mi did a Sing’: A Case Study on Lyrical Typecasting in 21st Century Dancehall.”

• **Campbell, Winston.** “When Did Dancehall Cease to Exist? Thematic Engagement of Dancehall Lyrics of the 90s and 21st Century,”

• **Cooke, Melville.** “Falling Out: When the Sponsors Conduct Dancehall”

• **Chamberlain, Joshua.** “Control Dis: Jamaican Sound System Influence on Media Regulation.”

• **Howard, Dennis.** “Genre Bonding and Defiance in Kingston’s Creative Commune: Genre Development in Jamaica”

• **Webster-Prince, Maureen.** “Putting up resistance: Reggae in Radio Serial Drama”

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Refereed**

**Hope Marquis, Donna**


Stanley Niaah, Sonjah

* DanceHall: From Slave Ship to Ghetto, University of Ottawa Press, July.


PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Donna Hope Marquis

– Member, Reggae Month 2010 Committee

Dr Sonjah Stanley Niaah

– Assistant Chief Examiner, CXC CAPE Caribbean Studies

– Editor, Proud Flesh

– Editor and Editorial Board Member, Tout Moun: Caribbean Journal of Cultural Studies
– Editor and Editorial Committee Member, *Social and Economic Studies*
– Vice Chair, International Association for Cultural Studies.

**INFORMATION ON STUDENTS**

Postgraduate Registration: **MPhil** 16; **PhD** 16

**Undergraduate Registration**

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