

INSTITUTE OF CARIBBEAN STUDIES/ REGGAE STUDIES UNIT

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– Director and Deputy Dean

INTRODUCTION

In 2011/12 The Institute of Caribbean Studies/RSU maintained its focus on the enhancement of teaching and learning and development of new courses and minors to add to the complement already offered by the Department. There was also a continued focus on outreach and development of linkages with key players in relevant sectors.



STAFFING

The ICS/RSU continues its work with a small complement of full-time staff. Dr. Stanley-Niaah completed her one year on Research Fellowship leave and returned to the Department at the beginning of August 2011. However, she was called away suddenly to serve duties with the then Minister of Culture for the academic year. This necessitated recruitment of additional part-time staff to cover her duties. Dr. Dennis Howard, Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood, Ms. Nicole Plummer-Rognmo and Mr. Richard Pasley, among others, continued to provide assistance as part-time lecturers. Graduate students worked as tutors and assistants with larger courses.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

During the academic year 2011-12 the ICS/RSU delivered its courses to a variety of students registered in its Majors, Minors, departmental electives or doing the compulsory foundation course in Caribbean Civilizations.

The focus on curriculum renewal and development continued with the preparation of three new courses towards a Minor in Music, in collaboration with the Music Unit of the Phillip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. There was also cross-departmental collaboration with the Departments of Literatures in English, and Modern Languages and Literatures for a Minor in Film Studies. Both Minors will be delivered at the start of the academic year 2012-13.

As a part of the Department's emphasis on enhanced teaching and learning Dr. Julian Cresser participated in the Instructional Development Unit (IDU-UWI, Mona) Certificate Programme in University Teaching and has completed two courses during the period August 2011 – July 2012.

During 2011-12, forty-two undergraduates in the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management Degree participated in Internship assignments in a variety of Creative/Cultural enterprises.

Five of the new MPhil students participated in the Department's Seminar Series. Graduate students also benefitted from four guest lectures in this same series, including a presentation by Dr. Julian Henriques titled "Sonic Bodies and the Secrets of Dancehall" in April 2012.

Dr. Donna P. Hope was awarded a Research Fellowship to pursue a research project titled "Strengthening Jamaica's Cultural/Creative Industries: A Case Study" - effective August 2012 to July 2013.

In March 2012, US-based Reggae enthusiast Christopher Smiley made a donation of 705 reggae CDs to the ICS. The CDs will be a value resource for Reggae Studies and will be used to start the creation of a music library.

During the academic year, Faculty members prepared several articles for publication, which will be forthcoming in the subsequent academic year. They also presented at various conferences and symposia in Jamaica, Trinidad and Spain. Dr. Cresser attended the 30th Annual West Indian Literature Conference at UWI, St. Augustine and presented a paper on "Our Heroes Imagined: Autobiographies and Biographies of West Indian Cricketers. He also presented at a poster exhibition at the Archaeological Society of Jamaica Symposium (UWI, Mona).

Dr. Donna Hope participated in a panel discussion on her work at the Reggae University at Rototom Sunsplash Festival in Benicassim, Spain in August 2012. She also delivered papers on dancehall, and gender and dancehall in Jamaica.

Dr. Donna Hope served as Anglophone Specialist on the Editorial Committee of Caribbean InTransit Arts Journal and as a manuscript reviewer for the UWI Press and a journal article reviewer for Caribbean Quarterly. She also served on the Caribbean Studies Association's Gordon K. and Sybil Lewis Book Awards 2012, reviewing two books, as well as on the Caribbean Studies Association Dissertation Awards 2012 reviewing one Ph.D. Dissertation.

The Department also maintained its regular weekly seminar presentations Coordinated by Dr. Donna Hope, with fourteen (14) presentations by its MPhil/PhD students. There were also two presentations by visiting PhD students from Germany and the USA and two Guest Lectures by a Post-Doctoral Fellow and a Visiting Lecturer/Researcher from Canada and the UK, respectively.

Dr. Donna Hope, Co-applicant/Co-Researcher with Dr. Livingston White of CARIMAC, began research under the project to examine "Media Coverage of Dancehall Feuds in Jamaica 1970-2000: A Content Analysis" funded by a UWI, Mona Principal's New Initiative Grant. The project is scheduled to run from August 2011– July 2012.

Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah represented the ICS at a seminar under the theme "The Role of Reggae Music in the African Liberation Struggle" on February 28, 2012. The seminar was held in Pretoria, South Africa to celebrate Reggae Month and Jamaica 50, and was hosted by the Jamaican High Commission in collaboration with the African Institute of South Africa (AISA) and the City of Tshwane (Pretoria).

Faculty members also continued their engagement with external stakeholders via the local and national print and electronic media, participating in multiple discussions on radio and television regarding aspects of Jamaica's culture, sports and creative industries.

The ICS hosted its annual Walter Rodney and Bob Marley Lectures in October 2011 and February 2012 respectively. Both Lectures attracted significant support from individuals on and off the Mona Campus.

In March 2012, The ICS collaborated with the department of Literatures in English for the staging of “March is Movie Month” a series of lectures on Caribbean filmmaking.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Cresser, Julian.** October 2011: “Our Heroes Imagined: Autobiographies and Biographies of West Indian Cricketers”. 30th Annual West Indian Literature Conference at UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad.
- **Hope, Donna P.** 2011. “Impact of Popular Culture in Shaping Normative Conceptions of Gender and Sexuality” Gender Variances and Sexual Differences Symposium, Altamont Court Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica, December 5-6, 2011, 13pp.
- **Hope, Donna P.** 2012. “Dancehall: Origins and Contemporary Overview.” Jamaica Constabulary Force’s New Accelerated Promotion Group at the JCF Staff College, Twickenham Park, Tuesday, February 7, 2012, 20pp.

PUBLICATIONS

Article

- * **Hope, Donna P.** “Foreword” in Jamaica 50 Scrapbook: The Birth of a Nation. Kingston, PageTurner Publishing House, July 2012.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Julian Cresser

- Member, Jamaica50 Committee of the Ministry of Youth, Culture and Sports

Dr. Donna Hope

- Member of the Students Loan Bureau’s Appeals Committee
- Board Member, Universal Media Company Ltd
- Research Fellow, Centre for Leadership and Governance
- Member, Advisory Committee of the Jamaica Music Museum
- Judge, Jamaica Cultural Development Commission’s Annual Festival Song Finals

SPECIAL EVENTS & PUBLIC LECTURES

The 13th Annual Walter Rodney Lecture, at 6pm on October 20, 2011, in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre, delivered by Mr. Horace Levy, on the topic “Democracy and a new Paradigm of Authority”.

The Annual Bob Marley Lecture, at 6pm on Thursday, February 16, 2012 in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre, delivered by Professor Mike Alleyne of the Department of Recording Industry, Middle Tennessee State University on the topic “For the Record: Bob Marley’s Island Albums & the 40th Anniversary of “Catch a Fire.”

INFORMATION ON STUDENTS

Course Registration

Course Code	Title	Number
CLTR 1001	Introduction to the Study of Culture	91
CLTR 2018	Introduction to Caribbean Folk Philosophy	21
CLTR 2501	Caribbean Cultural Studies NOT OFFERED	N/A
CLTR 2505	Entertainment, Media and Culture	43
CLTR 2506	Caribbean Films and their Fictions	22
CLTR 2518	The Culture of Rastafari	30
CLTR 2519	Deconstructing the Culture of Sports	37
CLTR 2524	African Religious Retentions in the Caribbean	33
CLTR 2605	Producing Culture: Music Events & Festivals	39
CLTR 2705	Music Business Management	28

CLTR 3501	Discourses in Cultural Studies (NOT OFFERED)	N/A
CLTR 3505	African Diaspora Film	31
CLTR 3507	Culture, Gender and Sexuality in Jamaican Popular Music	48
CLTR 3516	Performing Culture: Dancehall as Ritual and Spectacle	36
CLTR 3518	Rastafari in the Global Context	7
CLTR 3605	ECEM Internship	42
CLTR 6010	Debates in Caribbean Cultural Identity	6
CLTR 6230	Caribbean Popular and Creative Culture	5
CLTR 3905	Caribbean Fashion: Theory, Development & Industry	42
FOUN 1101	Caribbean Civilization	2389
MUSC 1100	Music in World Cultures	63
MUSC 2001	Popular Music of the Caribbean	20
MUSC 2200	A History of Jazz and the Blues	22
MUSC 3300	Bob Marley & His Music	19