

INSTITUTE OF CARIBBEAN STUDIES



Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah, BA, PhD *UWI*
Director

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The 2016/2017 academic year marked the Institute of Caribbean Studies' (ICS) 30th anniversary. To commemorate this milestone achievement, the ICS undertook a number of initiatives geared towards the fulfilment of its objectives and mission statement which included the staging of the International Reggae Conference and the International Conference on Stuart Hall. At the start of the year, we welcomed 88 undergraduate and 31 postgraduate students. Once again, we increased our student enrolment and course offerings, thus solidifying the Institute's relevance to the field of Cultural Studies. During the year, the ICS celebrated with Amina Blackwood Meeks and Nicole Plummer who successfully defended their PhD theses. Productivity during the academic year was however not limited to internal and academic efforts; the ICS staff engaged in a number of outreach activities and continued to contribute positively to the Jamaican society through public service.

STAFF MATTERS

The Institute welcomed six (6) members of Faculty who assumed teaching responsibilities for the 2016/2017 AY.

- Mr. Jeremy Harding (renowned music producer and former manager of Sean Paul) taught the course CLTR2705: Music Business Management during Semester I
- Dr. Ajamu Nangwaya (Lecturer), replaced Dr. Erin MacLeod and taught CLTR2518: The Culture of Rastafari and CLTR2018: Introduction to Caribbean Folk Philosophy
- Dr. Lisa Tomlinson (Lecturer) taught CLTR3033: Reggae Aesthetics & African Diasporan Resistance, and CLTR3506: African Diaspora Film
- Dr. Candia Mitchell Hall (Adjunct Lecturer) shared responsibility for FOUN1101: Caribbean Civilization
- Dr. Shelley-Ann Morgan (Lecturer) taught courses in Cultural and Creative Industries, Cyberculture and Material Culture
- Mr. Robin Clarke functioned as leave replacement for Professor Donna Hope who proceeded on Mona Research Fellowship leave. He also served as the ICS' FAQAC representative.

Mrs. Georgette McGlashen Miller returned in the capacity of Research Assistant and advanced efforts in building the research and publication profile of the department. During Semester II, Mrs. Karene Bernard was succeeded by Ms. Camelia Campbell who was permanently appointed to the post of Senior Administrative Assistant.

ICS SEMINAR SERIES

As Coordinator for the ICS Staff/Postgraduate Seminar Series, Dr. Gosse organised an interesting slate of presentations from staff, students and visitors to the ICS, spanning a range of topics related to the field. The information below captures presentations made by visitors to the ICS during the academic year.

- **Professor John Bewaji**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy. “Research Skills Matter”, October 13, 2016
- **Dr. Joseph B. Powell** General Manager, UWI Press. “A Discussion about Book Publishing”, October 27, 2016
- **Zachary Beier**, Assistant Lecturer, Department of History & Archaeology. “Garrison Cultures in Transition: Archaeology and Heritage at Fort Rocky, Kingston Harbour Jamaica”, November 10, 2016
- **Mr. David Aarons**, PhD Candidate, University of Washington. “Placing Reggae in Ethiopia: Negotiating Expectations in the Promised Land”, November 24, 2016
- **Dr. Erin MacLeod**, Lecturer, Vanier College “Post-Structuralism and Post-Colonialism”, February 16, 2017
- **Dr. Erin MacLeod**, Lecturer, Vanier College. “An Overview of the Major Theories of Space”, February, 23, 2017
- **Professor James Robertson**, Lecturer, Department of History & Archaeology. “Chinese Trade and Chinese Traders in Jamaica”, Mar 2, 2017
- **Professor Julian Henriques**, Associate Professor, Department of Media and Communications, University of London. “Dancehall: Subculture, Superculture or Hyperculture? How to Understand the Creativity of the Jamaican Music Scene”, March 16, 2017

CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS

The ICS partnered with the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work on the inaugural staging of the ‘Beyond Homophobia’ Conference (following the successful one day symposium in 2015) which took place at the Multi-Functional Room from January 26–28, 2017. The conference featured a line-up of scholars, activists, and members of the public engaged in discussion to advance the mandate of the UWI’s Technical Working Group – Diversity and Inclusion.

The 5th biennial staging of the Global Reggae Conference 2017 and

20th Annual Bob Marley Lecture, signature events of the ICS, took place during the period February 9–11. Some 80 presentations on panels and roundtables, in film screenings, and tributes, from scholars, students at home and abroad formed part of an effort to engage on the theme ‘Dancehall, Music and the City’. This 5th staging of the conference was intended to also recognise the work of retired colleague Professor Carolyn Cooper – former Head of the ICS and pioneer in advancing the academic programme in reggae studies. The Bob Marley Lecture was staged on Thursday, February 9, 2017 with presenter David Cupples.

The ICS hosted the Inaugural Stuart Hall Conference, June 1–5, 2017 which was a collaborative effort with the British Council, Stuart Hall Foundation and the Faculty of Social Sciences. There were over 60 presentations and the book *Familiar Stranger: A Life Between Two Islands* (Duke University Press) by Stuart Hall with Bill Schwarz was launched. On the night of the penultimate day of the conference, participants enjoyed an evening of jazz coordinated by Dr Myrna Hague-Bradshaw featuring Lorraine Klaasen (South African Jazz singer) and the Jamaica Big Band. This initiative was a tremendous success.

We also partnered with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies for the Inaugural Tanya Stephens Symposium which was held on June 14, 2017 under the theme ‘Rough Riding: Tanya Stephens and the Power of Music to Transform Society’. Ms. Trojean Burrell, MPhil candidate in Cultural Studies, served as Events Coordinator for all these events and her efforts were truly appreciated.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Burrell, Trojean.** “Kingston’s Mobile Culture: An Historic Contextualisation” paper presented at the Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, University of Sydney, Australia, December 13–17, 2016
- **Carpenter, Karen.** “Transgender Identities in Jamaica and the World” paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017

- **Clarke, Robin.** “Life We Living: Messages of Protest in Vybz Kartel’s Voice of the Jamaican Ghetto” – Global Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017
- **Douse, Hugh.** “Clues for Multiculturalism from the life of Stuart Hall”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017
- **Gosse, Dave.** “Race and Missionary Culture in the Church of God of Jamaica”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017
- **Tomlinson, Lisa.** “Dancehall Queen, Dancehall, and a New Cinematic Aesthetics, paper presented at the Global Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017
- **Hope, Donna.** “Dancehall’s Scattered Children: Transnational Cultural Movements” Global”, paper presented at the Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017
- **Cooke, Melville.** “Extending the Border Clash to Corporate Sponsorship of Dancehall”, paper presented at the Global Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017
- **Cooke, Melville.** “Alcoholic Articulation: Jamaican Popular Music’s Iconisation of Red Stripe”, paper presented at the International Conference in honour of Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Henry, Kirt.** “Representations of Memory: A Critical Reading of Revival Dress in Postcolonial Jamaica”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Hickling, Deborah.** “Encoding and Decoding Plantation Society: Wistful Memories of Stuart Hall and Norman Girvan”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Hitchins, Ray.** “Sleng Ting: Redefining Jamaica’s Digital Riddims”, paper presented at the Global Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017

- **Mitchell Hall, Candia.** “Representing the Grenada Revolution: The Maurice Bishop Memorials”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Mitchell Hall, Candia.** “Memorializing a Grenadian Hero: Cultural Representations to T.A. Marrayshow, 1980–2010”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Nangwaya, Ajamu.** “Advancing a Critical Reading of Gender, Race and Class and in the Film, *Dancehall Queen*”, paper presented at the Global Reggae Conference, February 9–11, 2017
- **Nangwaya, Ajamu.** “Amilcar Cabral’s “Class Suicide” and the Caribbean Petite Bourgeois Intellectuals’ Role as Organisers”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Nangwaya, Ajamu.** “Ready for Revolution? Organising Political Cultures of Oppression as Resistance in Jamaica”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Plummer, Nicole.** “Visualizing Poverty: Exploring Representation of Poverty in Popular Jamaican Music”, paper presented at the International Conference on Stuart Hall, The University of the West Indies, Jamaica, June 1–5, 2017.
- **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Strategising for Sustainable Development Through Creative ‘Industries’ – The Case of Jamaican Music”, paper presented at Inaugural Valuing and Evaluating Creativity, Mid Sweden University, Östersund, September 12–14, 2016.
- **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Babylon By Bus: Marley, Reggae and *Rastapolitanism* into the New Millennium”, keynote presentation at Australian and New Zealand conference of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Mackay, Queensland, December 9–11, 2016.
- **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “One Belt One Road (OBOR) to Decolonisation

- through Cultural Studies – The Case of the Caribbean’ Paper”, presented at ‘One Belt, One Road’ Initiative and New Modes of Globalisation, Conference, Guangzhou, December 10–11, 2016.
- **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Consuming the Nation: ‘Brand Jamaica’ and the Case of the State as ‘Celebrity’”, paper presented at the Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, University of Sydney, Australia, December 13–17, 2016.
 - **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “DanceHall In/Securities: Shifting the Philosophy and Geography of Entertainment Reasoning in Jamaica”, presented at the Caribbean In/Securities and Creativity Network Project Symposium on Jamaican Dancehall In/Securities, UWI Mona Campus, February 3–4, 2017.
 - **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Mapping Notoriety and Consumption from Stigma to Brand Jamaica”, invited presentation at From Stigma to Brand: Commodifying and Aestheticizing Urban Poverty and Violence, Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, <http://www.stigma2brand-2017.ethnologie.uni-muenchen.de/program-stigma2brand.pdf> February 16–18, 2017.
 - **Stanley Niaah, Sonjah.** “Shifting the Philosophy and Geography of Entertainment Reason – A Culture of Sound Regulation versus Noise Abatement in a New Regulated Era”, paper presented at the UWI - Western Jamaica Campus Lecture Series, February 28, 2017.
 - **Tomlinson, Lisa.** “Creolising the Canadian literacy canon at Brandon University”, paper presented at the Black Studies Association Conference, Winnipeg, Canada, May 12, 2017.

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Monographs

- **Tomlinson, Lisa.** “*African Jamaican Aesthetic: Cultural Retention and Transformation across Borders*”. Netherlands: Brill Rodopi and Hotei Publishing. 2017. DOI: 10.1163/9789004342330

Non-Refereed Journal Articles

- **Hitchins, Raymond** “Versions, Dubs and Riddims” in *Jamaica Jamaica!*, Cite de la Musique – Philharmonie de Paris, April 2017 pp. 46–49.

Book Chapters

- **Plummer, Nicole** “Agriculture Innovation and Opportunities” in *Economic Transformation of Jamaica: Policies, Competitiveness and Technology Innovations* edited by Ricardo Anderson and Luz Longworth, Trafford Publishing, September 2016, pp. 233–253

Other Publications

- **Mitchell-Hall, Candia** Review of *They Do As They Please. The Jamaican Struggle for Cultural Freedom After Morant Bay*, by Brian L. Moore and Michele A Johnson. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press, 2011. xii + 580 pp in 36: 3 (December 2016): pp. 90–91.
- **Tomlinson, Lisa.** “Andrew Salkey” Biography in *Dictionary of Caribbean and Afro-Latin American Biography*. Ed. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. and Franklin K. Knight: Oxford University Press, 2016. Pp.

INCOME GENERATION

During Summer School 2017, the ICS mounted five courses which yielded approximately \$3,433,212.00 in revenue for the UWI.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Mr. Hugh Douse

- Member of School Board, St. Catherine High School

Mr. Dave Gosse

- Chairman, Ardenne High School Board of Management

Professor Donna Hope

- Member, Student Loan Bureau’s Appeals Committee.
- Member, Ministry of Tourism’s Network Linkages Committee.

Ms. Nicole Plummer

- Advisor, Rastafari Coral Gardens Benevolent Society on matters of advocacy, training, exposure, proposal writing, etc.

Dr Sonjah Stanley Niaah

- Appointed as a member of the Culture Advisory Committee, Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO for the period 2016–2019.
- Member, Creative City Steering Committee, Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport (formerly Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment).
- Member, Entertainment Advisory Board, Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport.

STUDENTS

The following students received the respective prizes to honour their academic achievements at the Faculty Awards service held on November 3, 2016.

Student	Prize	Value
Mr. Kirt Henry	Stuart Hall Prize	\$10,000.00
Ms. Shanice Miller	ICS Prize	\$5,000.00
Ms. Tiffany Soy Smith	ICS Prize	\$5,000.00
Ms. Davae Walters	James Howard Prize	\$20,000.00