

## INSTITUTE OF CARIBBEAN STUDIES



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**Director & Senior lecturer, Cultural Studies**

### **WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT**

The 2017/2018 academic year was an eventful and productive one; a year which saw the department further emerge into its own as a viable contributing entity within the Faculty of Humanities and Education, one with name recognition and brand capital locally and internationally. Our successes over the period under review included an improved outreach and research agenda, as well as a widened international network and profile through partnerships and active fundraising especially in conjunction with Birmingham City University, UK, and through the European Union. During the year, the BA Cultural and Creative Industries programme was officially transferred to the ICS and the department received approvals for courses in film studies and accounting; these were welcomed additions to the departmental offerings. There was also revitalisation of the annual staff and graduate student retreats, as well as writing workshops and research meetings to encourage staff development, publication output and graduate throughput.

## **STAFF MATTERS**

### **Staff Movement**

During August 2017, Ms. Shamar Lester was succeeded by Ms. Kaydiann Williams who was appointed on a fixed term contract as Clerical Assistant. Since the appointment, she has contributed significantly to the Institute. Regrettably, we said farewell to Dr. Shelley Morgan on May 31, 2018, who contributed tremendously and served well as the ICS' FAQAC representative.

### **Staff Development**

The ICS congratulated Dr. Donna Hope on her promotion to the rank of Professor and Dr. Nicole Plummer on the award of the Ph.D. History degree. At the invitation of the Open Campus, Dr. Nicole Plummer successfully completed the course "Developing Reflective/Reflexive Leadership" (November–December 2017), and further contributed to the conversion of the course CLTR2518: The Culture of Rastafari for online delivery.

On March 9, 2018, Ms. Kaydiann Williams and Ms. Camelia Campbell participated in the FHE's first Administrative Workshop which was facilitated by the Dean's Office. Both members of staff found the workshop inspiring and motivating. The Dean's Office was commended for initiating this useful exercise.

## **UNDERGRADUATE MATTERS**

### **Student Enrolment**

The table below presents a summary of student enrolment for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 academic years; a 20% increase in admission to the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management (ECEM) major was experienced over early cohorts due to a robust programme for advising students on their options and offers.

**Table 1.** Student Enrolment for the 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 Academic Years

# Of Registered Undergraduate Students – ICS (2016/2018 & 2017–2018)	Academic Years	
	2016/2017	2017/2018
<b>Majors/Minors</b>		
ECEM Major only	82	99
ECEM Major & any other Major	2	0
ECEM Major & any ICS Minor	2	1
ECEM Major & any non-ICS Minor	2	5
ECEM (Minor) & any other Major	44	50
ICS Minor & any other Major	13	–
ECEM (Minor) WJC	28	33
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>188</b>

Student intake for the year revealed that the ECEM courses continued to be favourites among the University’s students predominately from the Humanities and the Social Sciences. There was an observed interest among students from the Faculty of Science and Technology evidenced by atypical programme combinations such as Biochemistry Major with ECEM Minor.

The ICS maintained its offering of the Minor, Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management, at the Western Jamaica Campus. Dr. Nicole Plummer, Coordinator of the ICS@WJC, as well as the Coordinator for Undergraduate Matters, ensured smooth operations and the satisfaction of our students.

### **ECEM Society**

The ECEM Society experienced tremendous growth during the academic year; weekly attendance saw an increase with approximate figures of 30-40 attendees.

Seminar #	Presenter	Affiliation
1	Shelly-Ann Curran	Marketing Consultant and Artist Manager and Managing Director, John John Music Group
2	Artikal	Upcoming Deejay
	Kale X	Artist/Producer
3	Jeremy Harding	Grammy Winning Music Producer & Recording Engineer, Adjunct Lecturer – ICS
	Raymond Hitchins	Music Producer, Guitarist, Mixing Engineer, Lecturer – ICS
4	Billy Zee Clarke	Founder – In Control Gaming

During Semester II, the ECEM Society forged a partnership with the Producing Culture: Music, Events and Festivals (CLTR2605) class and assisted with the successful execution of the event Kulcha, held at The UWI's Founder's Park. The amount of \$100,000.00 was donated to the Maia Chung Autism and Disabilities Foundation. The Society has plans to secure sponsorship in aid of future undertakings.

### **The ICS' Mentorship Programme**

The mentorship programme continued to yield positive results. Reports from mentors revealed that there was growth (academically and socially) among mentees who participated in the programme. With the assistance of Ms. Camelia Campbell, Dr. Raymond Hitchins (Mentorship Coordinator) continued to highlight the importance of language/writing skills, while ensuring that ECEM students were beginning their course of study with a firm understanding of the degrees' basic academic requirements.

### **The ICS' Internship Course**

The primary focus for the 2017/2018 academic year was launching the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management Internship (CLTR3605) as a final year course for ECEM majors upon recommendations from the

2015 Quality Assurance Review. An improved process for matching students with host companies, based on assessment of the students' preferences, academic performance and GPA, yielded success. Ms. Kaydiann Williams, Clerical Assistant, played a key role in this exercise and has brought a level of enthusiasm and efficiency to the process.

### **New Courses/Programmes**

During the period under review, the ICS submitted and received approval for the courses *The City in Film* (CLTR2406) and *Documentary Film* (CLTR3406). We contributed to the completion of the FHE's Film Studies programme, in which four (4) ICS courses are represented. The ICS also formally received the transfer of the B.A. Cultural and Creative Industries programme to the Institute and a marketing plan is ongoing.

The students were happy to be enrolled in *Accounting for the Humanities I* (CLTR1007) which replaced *Introduction to Cost and Management Accounting* (ACCT1003). The process of approval for the capstone course – *Colloquium in Cultural and Creative Industries* (CLTR3000) as well as an additional cluster in *Law and the Creative Industries* is ongoing.

### **GRADUATE MATTERS**

Table 2 below summarises enrolment data for graduate programmes offered by the ICS. When compared to last academic year, student intake was maintained. Financial challenges continued to plague students in the self-financing programmes of the UWI with some students opting for periodic leave of absence. Notably, intake within the more distinctive M.Phil./Ph.D. Cultural Studies programme is now administered on a biennial basis.

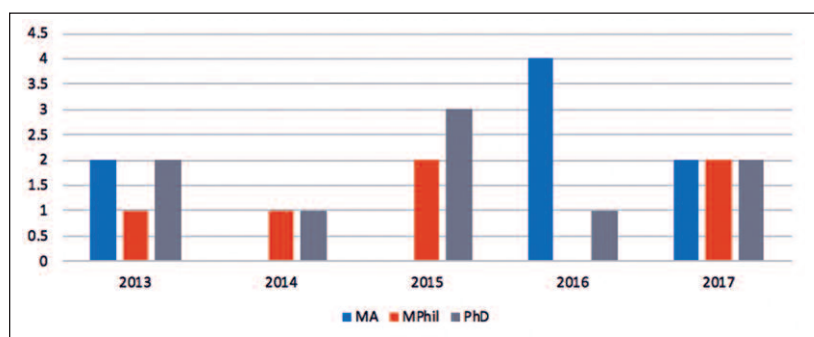
With the aim in mind to maintain favourable throughput rates, the ICS successfully held its annual Staff/Graduate Student Retreat on January 8, 2018. Students received timely feedback concerning their theses, research papers and matters related to registration. The Institute has also supported a graduate student coaching exercise involving an 18 month period of intense writing, feedback and presentations.

**Table 2.** Enrolment Data for Graduate Programmes Offered by the ICS

# Of Registered Poststudents – ICS (2011–2016)	Academic Years					
	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018
Programmes						
M.A. – Cultural Studies	12	9	21	14	16	13
M.Phil. – Cultural Studies	13	11	14	10	10	12
Ph.D. –Cultural Studies	12	8	9	7	5	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>

In November 2017, two candidates graduated from each graduate programme; this represented approximately 14% of the FHE’s total awards. The chart below (Figure 1) captures this information and provides a summary of graduation figures from 2013. At a more granular level, the ICS accounts for a large component of graduate awards given that the Faculty is split across 8 distinct sections and with Education being a disproportionately large component.

During the academic year, the ICS congratulated Ms. Vivienne Pitter on the successful defence of her Ph.D. dissertation entitled ‘Going Back to



**Figure 1:** Postgraduate Graduation Data: 2013–2017

the Roots: Using Cultural Heritage Assets to Boost Tourism in the Parish of Portland'. She is expected to graduate in November 2018

Ms. Shantal Cover and Ms. Isabel Dennis, as well as Mr. Kirt Henry (M.Phil. Cultural Studies candidates), received grants through the Office of Graduate Studies and Research to participate in the Caribbean Studies Association conference held in Havana, Cuba in June 2018.

### **ICS SEMINAR SERIES**

Dr. Dave Gosse, Coordinator – ICS Staff/Postgraduate Seminar Series, organised an interesting slate of presentations from staff, students and visitors to the ICS. The 25 presentations spanned a range of topics related to the field and facilitated status updates from M.Phil. and Ph.D. students.

### **VISITORS TO THE ICS**

Professor Boulou de B'beri, Full Professor, Department of Communication, The University of Ottawa, visited during the period September 4–13, 2017 and delivered a presentation in the ICS Staff/Postgraduate Seminar Series. Dr. Giulia Bonacci from the Nice Sophia Antipolis University, France and Dr. Thomas Zacharias from Goldsmiths, University of London visited during the period February 19–March 31, 2018 and December 19, 2017–January 7, 2018 respectively.

During the year, the following international students visited the ICS and received guidance toward the completion of their theses:

- Mr. Simon Frey, Ph.D. candidate, Paris Diderot University, France
- Mr. Luis Keppler, M.A. candidate, University of Wurzburg, Germany

### **CONFERENCES/SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS/LECTURES**

The ICS successfully staged the 2nd Annual Stuart Hall Distinguished Lecture on May 4, 2018. Dr. Karen Carpenter delivered a stimulating lecture titled “Hyphenated Realities and Identification ‘Outside’ Culture” which was well attended.

In collaboration with the Department of Government and the Institute of Jamaica (IOJ), the ICS hosted ‘Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City’ held on November 9–12, 2017. The event was sponsored by PanJam Investments Limited and the University Bookshop. Over seventy (70) papers were presented by both local and international participants whose ideas contributed to the ongoing mandate of strengthening and facilitating research and discussions centered on Kingston, creative cities, urban planning, sustainable development, and Caribbean Cultural Studies more broadly. A themed volume from the conference is slated for publication in 2019.

On February 16, 2018, the ICS successfully held the 21st Annual Bob Marley Lecture at the Undercroft under the theme “The Creative Echo Chamber: Evolution and Innovation in Jamaican Music”. The Lecture was delivered by Dr. Dennis Howard, Author of *The Creative Echo Chamber* and Ph.D. graduate of the ICS. The event, which also included reflections on best practices for creative cities of music from Glasgow, Katowice and Adelaide, was well attended and received enthusiastic reviews.

The ICS in collaboration with Birmingham City University successfully held Reggae Innovation I, April 3–4, 2018 at Birmingham City University. Plans are now advanced for the second staging and will take shape under the banner of the 6th Global Reggae Conference during the period February 13–16, 2019 at the UWI.

On Friday, April 20, 2018, the Institute of Caribbean Studies supported the Spotlight Forum under the theme ‘Ganja Stakeholder Review, Assessment and Solutions’ which featured then Principal, Prof. Archibald McDonald as keynote speaker along with Profs. Wendel Abel, Winston de la Haye, among other speakers. The Dancehall Archive and Research Initiative (DHA), along with website and bibliography, was launched and also supported by the ICS on April 20, 2018 to promote and preserve dancehall culture in all its manifestations and to encourage research and scholarship about dancehall culture.



## PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Karen Carpenter**, “Kingston – A Site of Truth & Reconciliation for Sexuality”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Hugh Douse**, “Kingston: The Ancient Cosmopolis”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Dave Gosse**, “Race and Missionary Culture in the Church of God in Jamaica, 1918-1960’s” paper presented at the Society for Caribbean Studies Conference, UK, July 4–6, 2018.
- **Deborah Hickling Gordon**, “Kingston: A City of Stories on a Quest for Wellness”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Raymond Hitchins**, “Jamaican Sounds: Tracing the Origins of Emphasized Bass”, Reggae Innovation & Sound System Culture Conference, Birmingham, UK, April 4–5, 2018.
- **Ajamu Nangwaya**, “Self-management: Toward a Working-class Economic of Emancipation”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Alpha Obika**, “Dancehall vs Soca: Policing Culture in Jamaica and its Implications”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Nicole Plummer**, “Building Cultural Capital”, presented at the Sustainable Cities Symposium and Youth Leaders’ Summit: Re-Imagining Montego Bay... Towards a City of Greatness! UWI, Mona-WJC, October 12, 2017.
- **Nicole Plummer**, “Constructing Knowledge through Storytelling in a 21st Century Lecture Theatre”, presented at The Fourth Symposium in the Alphonsus ‘Arrow’ Cassell Memorial Lecture Series: “Storytelling: A Powerful Tool for National Development”, part of the Alliouagana

Festival of the Word, Little Bay, Montserrat, November 15–19, 2017.

- **Nicole Plummer**, “The Business of Blood and Tears: Criminality and Capital Accumulation in Early Jamaica, 1655-1700 and its Implications Today”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Nicole Plummer**, “Teaching Cultural Studies using Stories – An Assessment on Methodology”, presented at the 43rd Annual Conference, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), Education, Culture and Emancipatory thought in the Caribbean, Havana, Cuba, June 5, 2018.
- **Nicole Plummer**, “Pan- Africanism: Marcus Garvey and the Music of Bob Marley”, presentation to students from the University of Cincinnati, May 2, 2018.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Outlaw Hero’: Bob Marley, Reggae and Rastapolitanism into the New Millennium”, paper presented at the Heroism as a Global Phenomenon in Popular Culture, University of Freiburg, September 28–30, 2017.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Mapping Notoriety and Consumption from Stigma to Brand in a Music City: Kingston, Jamaica”, presented at Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of a City, UWI, November 9–12, 2017.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Jamaican Music at the Crossroads: Success Factors and Future Paths” paper presented at UNECLAC Meeting of Experts for Study on the Creative Industry as a pillar of Sustained Growth and Diversification: The Film and Music Sectors in Jamaica project, held in Trinidad and Tobago, December 4, 2017.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Consuming the Nation: ‘Brand Jamaica’ and the Case of the State as Celebrity” presented at ‘Bridging Gaps: National Identity in Persona, Branding and Activism’ Conference, Centre for Media and Celebrity Studies, University of Western Australia, Australia, December 8–10, 2017.

- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Cultural Resistance and Innovation in Jamaica” presentation at the United Theological College of the West Indies, Jamaica, January 9, 2018.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah**, “Of Memory, Prisons, Profit and Crimes of the Jamaican State”, paper presented at the British Academy Research Network’s ‘Crime and its Representation in the Anglophone Caribbean, 1834-2018’ Workshop 3, UWI, St Augustine Campus, 20–21 April 2018.
- **Fabian Thomas**, “Who is an Artist/What is Artist Management?” presentation at the University of Technology (for Fi Wi Jamaica Masters-in-Residence Programme – Cohort 2), February 17, 2018 (oral presentation)

## PUBLICATIONS

- 2018. Hendrickson, M. & **Stanley Niaah, S.** A Study on the Creative Industry as a Pillar of Sustained Growth and Diversification – The Film And Music Sectors In Jamaica: Lessons From Case Studies of Successful Firms and Ventures, UNECLAC Studies and Perspectives Series 72, Santiago: United Nations Publication, ISSN 1727-9917 (print version), March <https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/43410-study-creative-industry-pillar-sustained-growth-and-diversification>
- 2018. **Stanley Niaah, S.**, ‘Can Jamaica Put Music First?’ *Caribbean Quarterly* Vol. 64: 2, June
- 2018. **Stanley Niaah, S.**, ‘Prime Time’ Geographies: Dancehall Performance, Visual Communication and the Philosophy of ‘Boundarylessness’ in Banjo, Omotayo, *African Diasporic Media: Content, Consumers, and Global Influence*, UK: Routledge
- 2018. **Stanley Niaah, S.**, ‘Do the Marleys Have an Unfair Advantage at the Grammys?’ *In Pop Matters* <https://www.popmatters.com/marleys-grammys-advantage-2530561193.html> February 2

## PROJECTS

The ICS continued its work on international collaborations and major projects, the most advanced being the Prison-to-College Pipeline Jamaica Project in partnership with City University of New York and the Ministry of National Security. The Ministry is interested in signing an MOU with the UWI and the design of the project is moving apace including the application for a number of grants. Six (6) formerly incarcerated and involuntary returned migrants are slated to begin courses as specially admitted students at the UWI by September 2018. Of note is the fact that in moving the ICS in tandem with the UWI Strategic Plan to respond to development goals of the region and Jamaica specifically, particularly issues of crime and in/security, this is a project through which the energies of faculty and graduate students have been invested in the task of social transformation through education.

**Lisa Tomlinson** is collaborating with the University of Manchester, School of Health Sciences, on the submission for funding of a project titled “Developing partnerships to reduce depression in teenage and young mothers in inner city communities in Jamaica”.

## INCOME GENERATION

The ICS successfully held Summer School 2017/2018 and offered six (6) courses which yielded approximately \$1,695,960 in income. The ICS also successfully raised JA\$2,500,000.00 in a grant toward staging of Imagine Kingston: A Conference on the Regeneration of A City.

## PUBLIC SERVICE

- **Dave Gosse** serves as Chairman of the Board, Ardenne High School
- **Donna Hope** was appointed as member, Editorial Board of Suomen Antropologi: *Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society*.
- **Sonjah Stanley Niaah** was appointed to the International Scientific Committee of UNESCO’s Slave Route Project for a 4-year term beginning November 2017. Dr Stanley Niaah was also appointed

## Institute of Caribbean Studies

Senior Research Associate (honorary), Department of Fine Arts,  
Rhodes University for a period of three years from January 1, 2018 to  
December 31, 2020

### STUDENTS

The table below summarises the student awardees for ICS prizes to honour their academic achievements at the Faculty Awards service held on November 9, 2017.

PRIZE	CRITERIA	VALUE	RECIPIENT
Institute of Caribbean Studies Prize	The most outstanding academic performance in ECEM	\$20,000.00	Mr. Royane Green
Stuart Hall Prize in Cultural Studies	The most outstanding academic performance in Cultural Studies	\$10,000.00	Ms. Tonicia Baptiste
Institute of Caribbean Studies & Reggae Studies Unit's Graduate Prize	The most outstanding academic performance in ICS graduate courses	\$10,000.00	Mr. Kirt Henry
Caribbean Civilisation Prize	The most outstanding academic performance in Caribbean Civilisation	\$5,000.00	Ms. Ashley Clarke