



# INSTITUTE FOR GENDER & DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (RCU)

*Departmental Report August 2020 - July 2021*

**Professor Opal Palmer Adisa · University Director**

## OVERVIEW

During the 2020-2021 academic year (AY), the activities of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies – Regional Coordinating Office (IGDS–RCO) continued to be governed by its theme of Research, Activism, Community Engagement and Education (RACE), in support of fulfilling the objectives of The UWI’s Triple A Strategy and its critical pillars of Access, Agility and Alignment. The IGDS-RCO remained guided by its Mission “To produce and disseminate knowledge to transform gender relations in the Caribbean, in support of The UWI’s mission to enhance regional and international development” and Vision of ensuring that “All UWI graduates are committed to social justice and the promotion of gender-responsive human relations and development”. Amid the accompanying challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the staff must be commended for being responsive, innovative and working assiduously to successfully achieve many of the established objectives.

The highlights for the review period, included the implementation of a weekly regional IGDS Workshop Series for Graduate Students to support students learning and which tapped the expertise of the IGDS Units on the various campuses. For the first time, an IGDS Regional Information Session was organised to market the offerings of the various Units. The IGDS - RCO also established strategic partnerships with the UNDP Spotlight Initiative to complete the Pillar 1.1.1 “Legislative Reform to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls” project; UNESCO to undertake the Caribbean Sherheroes Initiative Honouring Our Sherheroes launch, a key output of which was a Knowledge Tool Kit; and the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars (ACWWS) to host the “Writing about Caribbean Gender and Social Justice Virtual Conference” from January 15 and 16, 2021 with global participation. Additionally, seven webinars were convened on diverse topics and outreach and advocacy continued at the individual and institutional levels.

# ACCESS

## TEACHING, LEARNING & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The following degrees in Gender & Development Studies were offered during the AY: a postgraduate Diploma; an M.Sc. (with Research paper or a three-month internship and report); an MPhil; and a PhD. Seven graduate courses were offered via the Zoom platform and were taught by Drs. Dalea Bean, Natasha Mortley, and Imani Tafari-Ama. Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa delivered guest lectures. Nine (9) new students were registered for the AY; five (5) MScs, three (3) MPhils, and one (1) in the Diploma programme. Thirty-three (33) students were enrolled in the combined programmes for the AY. One MSc student was presented at the graduation ceremony held in November 2020. One student, Lauren Marsh, successfully defended his PhD thesis and another, Carol Watson-Williams, secured the upgrade to the PhD. The IGDS - RCO continued to provide strategic developmental and capacity-building opportunities for students. Spearheaded by Dr. Dalea Bean, a regional weekly IGDS Workshop Series for Graduate Students was implemented. A range of topics, including Critical Reading & Writing and Data Collection, among others were covered. Lecturers from all of the Units, including the IGDS–RCO, facilitated the sessions. Kathryn Chan from the IGDS - St. Augustine Unit provided technical and marketing support. Also, one MPhil/PhD seminar was held on Thursday, May 6, 2021, two students presented on their research topics.

## **STUDENTS**

Stacy Palmer, an MSc student became the third recipient of the Catherine James Scholarship. The IGDS-RCO continued to market its programmes using various approaches, including the Graduate Ambassador Programme (GAP) which facilitates the involvement of graduates in mentorship, networking and marketing the programmes of the Institute in the social and the print media. A pilot Regional Information Session was held on March 12, 2021. Organised by Dr. Dalea Bean, the session targeted prospective students and partners, and was aimed at enhancing the visibility of the IGDS and regional synergies.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

The staff continued to work at improving the quality, quantity, and impact of research and publication to inform policy-making throughout the Caribbean, as well as contribute to the creation of knowledge.

## **Books and Monographs**

Opal Palmer Adisa (Ed). 100 +voices for Ms. Lou. UWI Press, 2021.

Dalea Bean. (Book review) Henrice Altink, Public Secrets: Race and Colour in Colonial and Independent Jamaica. American Historical Review, 2021.

## **Refereed Journal Articles**

Dalea Bean. "Shifting Bodies and Missing Commodities: Louise Bennett's commentary on the impact of World War II on Working Class Jamaicans." 100 + Voices For Miss Lou. UWI Press, 2021

Baldwin, A. and Natasha Mortley. "Caribbean Women and Reparatory Justice: Reclaiming, Rebuilding, and Restoring Communities through Migration". International Journal of African Studies, 21 (1-2), 2020, 43-64

Wendell C. Wallace & Natasha K. Mortley. "(De)constructing our migrant neighbours: Regional and international impacts of the Venezuelan crisis in the Caribbean, Migration and Development". Taylor and Francis, 10 (2), 2020, 173-180. DOI: 10.1080/21632324.2020.1809276

Imani Tafari-Ama. "My Journey to Curate Rum, Sweat and Tears", KULT, Special Issue: 2017 and Beyond, 16, 2020

Imani Tafari-Ama. "Ontology of Objects: The Political Economy of Our Common Colonial Heritage", in What's Missing? Collecting and Exhibiting Europe, Museum Europäischer Kulturen, Berlin, 2020, 47-55

Imani Tafari-Ama. Rum, Schweiß und Tränen: Eine kritische Reflexion über Flensburgs koloniale Vergangenheit und sein Kolonialerbe, in Das Subjective Museum: Partizipative Museumsarbeit zwischen Selbstvergewisserung und gesellschaftspolischem Engagement, Edition Museum, Band, 31, Frankfurt, 2020, 167-175

## **Non-refereed and Technical reports**

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Let's spare the rod and SAVE the child," Jamaica Observer, May 03, 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Domestic Violence and the need for Legislative Reform", Jamaica Observer, April 12, 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. Blurb for Glodean Champion's novel, Salmon Croquettes, April 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Don't shame and blame victims of gender-based violence", Jamaica Observer, April 5, 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. "We must stop gender-based violence!", Jamaica Observer, March 29, 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Branding the CSA", CSA 2021 Newsletter, March 2021

Opal Palmer Adisa. "How principles of Kwanzaa can help us attain SDG 2030". The Gleaner,

January 14, 2021. Opal Palmer Adisa. "Reconnaissance" in *Starline: A Forgotten Allegory of Souls* by S. Ross Browne, Fall 2020 edition (September to December 2020)

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Let us end gender-based violence". *The Gleaner*, December 11, 2020.

Opal Palmer Adisa. "As a woman in Jamaica..." *Jamaica Observer*, November 27, 2020

Opal Palmer Adisa. "Fatherhood and responsible manhood", *Jamaica Observer*, November 19, 2020.

Opal Palmer Adisa. Published four poems: "Looking ahead"; "Life Continues"; "Happy World Poetry Day"; and "Enjoying the Beauty despite the Pandemic" in *Musings During a Time of Pandemic: A World Anthology of Poems on COVID-19*, November 2020

Dalea Bean. "What is the matter with All Violence Matters", *Sunday Gleaner*, April 25, 2021

Dalea Bean. "Imagining Repair: Caribbean Women and Reparatory Justice", *Sunday Gleaner* March 21, 2021

Dalea Bean. "An Unintended Path to Living my Best Life", *Sunday Gleaner*, January 26, 2020

Dalea Bean. BITU/BWI. *Securing Gender Based Safety in the Workplace: Ratifying ILO C190: Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 and Recommendation 206 in Jamaica*, December 2020, (86 pages).

Bronty Liverpool-Williams. UNESCO. *Caribbean Sheroes Initiative Report, Honouring our Sheroes Event "SHEROES: Women Activist Rising to the challenge"*, 2021 (15 pages).

Natasha Mortley. Organization of American States (OAS). *Gender in the Justice System: Exploring Evidence-based Alternatives to Drug-related Offenses in Jamaica*, December, 2020 (34 pages).

Natasha Mortley. Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). *Gender mainstreaming for natural disaster risks and climate change: A Guide for Shelter and Deputy Shelter Managers*. July 2020 (35 pages).

Imani Tafari-Ama. "Rastafari Womanism as a Tool of Analysis", in "In Focus," *The Gleaner*, July 25, 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. "Worrying Trend of Femicide in Jamaica", in "In Focus," The Gleaner, July 4, 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. "The Tumultuous History of Tivoli Gardens" in "In Focus" The Gleaner, May 11, 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. "Shining a Spotlight on Dark Places: The Road to Ending Gender-based Violence", Jamaica Gleaner, April 29, 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. "History, Corporal Punishment and Gender-based Violence", Jamaica Observer, April 26, 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. "IGDS News", Newsletter 2 (2), March 2021

Imani Tafari-Ama. United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Spotlight Initiative. Eliminating Violence Against Women and Girls, 2021 (141 pages).

## ALIGNMENT

Significant emphasis was placed on promoting greater activism and public advocacy and broadening the impact of research through a range of outreach efforts and projects undertaken to fulfil developmental objectives and UN goals. Members of staff both organised and presented at various conferences across national, regional and international levels and also made several media appearances. At The UWI, Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa as chair of the Gender Mainstreaming Committee (GMC) continued to lead the implementation of The UWI Gender Policy.

### PROJECTS

The Institute was involved in two major research funded projects and won two additional awards. Projects undertaken during the period include:

- I. The UNDP Spotlight Initiative Pillar 1.1.1 "Legislative Reform to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls" project commenced in December 2020 and ended in July 2021. It was valued at USD 45,000 and was led by Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa and managed by Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. Project outputs included a media campaign, a training manual, training of approximately 50 persons from various civil society organisations (CSOs) and a Round Table.



- II. The UNESCO Caribbean Sheroes Initiative launch event was a two-part project, an event launch and the production of a Knowledge Tool Kit. The project, valued at USD 6500 launched the Caribbean Sheroes Initiative on April 29, 2021 via UWItv's YouTube and Facebook page. The event highlighted the contributions of twelve (12) outstanding CSOs that work to advance gender justice and equality. Two Gender Equality Champions, Linnette Vassell and Joan French were also recognized. The Knowledge Tool Kit featured the work of those that were honoured. The project lead was Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa and the project manager was Dr. Bronty Liverpool-Williams.
- III. The US Public Diplomacy Small Grants Project valued at USD 24,000 was awarded to the IGDS–RCO to implement a dialogic island-wide performance-exhibition education campaign. Funds are expected to be disbursed in the new AY. The project is being led by Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama.
- IV. The UNESCO Summer School project valued at USD 14,000 was awarded in July 2021 and is expected to conclude in November 2021. Project outputs would include the development of a curriculum and training youths from the English-speaking and Dutch Caribbean.

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "Theatrical Empowerment and Social Transformation", Shepherd University Office of Diversity & Equity Workshop & Leadership Training. April 12, 2021. (23 slides)

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "Representation of women and class in Jamaica society". Edna Manley College of the Performing Art. March 25, 2021.

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "Rising to the Challenge: Issues that our women face today". Healing Moments Webinar. March 17, 2021.

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. (Panellist) "Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 World". EU-UN International Women's Day panel discussion. March 8, 2021.

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "Caribbean Family at Home and in the Diaspora". The African American Association of Ghana (AAAG) Webinar Series in association with the US Embassy, on the theme, The Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity. February 16, 2021.

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. (Panellist) "Understanding Gender in Caribbean Folklore". The Ntkuma Jamaica, Annual Storytelling Festival, Edna Manley College of the Visual Arts. November 19, 2020.

Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "A Fi Mi Body and Me Sexy! African-Caribbean Woman's Image of Herself & Feelings of Sexiness". The Intercontinental Meet on Gender and Sexuality

Studies, A Virtual Conference. September 5, 2020. Prof. Opal Palmer Adisa. "The Many Paths of Jamaican Fatherhood: A Model for Development" at the 21st Annual SALISES Conference, December 12, 2020.

Dr. Dalea Bean. "Training for change: Domestic Violence and IPV", Training seminar to members of the Jamaica Defense Force/Bureau of Gender Affairs. April 28, 2021

Dr. Dalea Bean. "Securing Gender Based Safety in the Workplace: Ratifying ILO C190: Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 and Recommendation 206 in Jamaica". Webinar hosted by the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union in collaboration with Building and Woodworker's International under the theme "Gender-Based Violence in Jamaica: Intersections for collaboration and change, consideration for the ratification of ILO C190 "Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019." November 26, 2020. (25 slides)

Dr. Dalea Bean. "What is this thing called Gender?" Girls to Women Foundation Empowerment Workshop, November 20, 2020. (15 slides)

Dr. Natasha Mortley. "Workshop on Methods, Approaches and Ethical Guidelines on Collection and Analysis of Violence Against Women and Girls Prevalence Data." UN Women Spotlight Initiative, May 27, 2021. (15 slides)

Dr. Natasha Mortley. "Reparatory Justice and Caribbean Women at the Vanguard of Change in the Diaspora". On the Possibilities and Impossibilities of Reparation for Slavery and Colonialism, Columbia University. May 3, 2021. (18 pages)

Dr. Natasha Mortley. "Gender Mainstreaming for Development Projects and Planning". Workshop by the Bureau of Gender Affairs for Gender Focal Point Persons in Jamaica. April 19, 2021. (42 slides).

Dr. Natasha Mortley. Meeting of the OECS Ministers for the Diaspora on "Data collection for Engaging the Diaspora". November 24, 2020.

Dr. Natasha Mortley. "Gender, Climate Change and Disasters for Shelter Managers." Workshop by the Community Disaster Risk Reduction Fund, CDB, Jamaica. June 30, 2020. (37 slides).

Dr. Natasha Mortley. "Data Collection and Exchange for Displaced Migrants in light of Climate Change". Training of Border Security Officials in the OECS. June 16, 2020. (22 pages).

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "Emperor Haile Selassie I: Rastafari Spiritual Icon." Panel entitled Caribbean Religious Forms, Closing Session, Culture of Religion as Resistance and Renewal conference hosted by the Academy for the Study of Religions, July 23, 2021 (15-minute presentation plus discussion)

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. (Keynote) "Critical Lessons from The Rum. Sweat and Tears Exhibition". The Postcolonial Museum Conference in Hamburg, June 13-17, 2021 (1 hour)

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "The Political Economy of Borders and Mobilities – Caribbean Nationals in Search of Global Citizenship", "SOCARE International Congress 2021", The Friedrich-Alexander University, Germany. March 13, 2021. (20-minute paper)

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "Rastafari Womanism: The Curator as a Tool of Analysis". The Caribbean Philosophical Association Celebrates Women's Thought series event entitled, Rastafari Woman's Reasoning. March 8, 2021. (15-minute paper)

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. Participated as Temporary Adviser at the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Gender and Rights Advisory Panel (GAP), World Health Organisation, Human Reproduction Programme (HRP), February 5 -7, 2021

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "Rum, Sweat and Tears: An Exhibition to Decolonise the Museum". The Institute of Caribbean Studies Staff/Post Graduate Series on November 5, 2020.

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "Gender and Garveyism", the Two Conversations on Marcus Garvey conference. The Mico University College, October 17, 2020.

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "The Political Economy of Life and Debt in Jamaica: A Womanist Perspective". Debt and Feminist Struggles conference, Jubilee South Americas –Caribbean Articulation, August 19, 2020. (15-minute paper)

Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama. "Women in the Garvey Movement". IRIE FM's Conference, in celebration of Marcus Garvey's Birthday. August 17, 2020. (20-minute paper)

## **OUTREACH**

During the AY, the IGDS - RCO was involved in various outreach activities, including hosting seven webinars:

I. An Environmental Justice: Protecting the Constitutional Rights of Nature webinar was held on October 27, 2020.

II. In commemoration of International Men's Day, a webinar, Positive Fatherhood and Paternity Rights: Towards a Model for Development was held on November 19, 2020.

III. The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence period was observed with a series of activities, including a social media campaign, a mini exhibition mounted and two webinars.

The Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect! - Practical strategies for addressing Gender-Based Violence during the COVID 19 pandemic webinar for high school students was held on November 27, 2020.



A Brown Bag webinar, Practical Strategies for Monitoring and Dealing with Gender-Based violence within Vulnerable Communities was held on December 10, 2020.

Also, on December 18, 2020, graduate students donated items from Grace Foods to the August Town-based Teenspiration Workshop Series for teenage girls living in the community.

IV. The Writing about Caribbean Gender and Social Justice Virtual Conference was held in collaboration with the ACWWS on January 15 and 16, 2021. There were eleven (11) literary/critical and four (4) creative writing panels.

V. International Women's Month (IWM) was commemorated with a regional Brown Bag webinar Choose to Challenge: Caribbean Women Breaking Barriers on March 25, 2021.

VI. A regional forum, I.S.O.A.R Caribbean Youth Webinar: Caribbean Youth Perspectives on Adapting to COVID-19 was held on May 28, 2021 as part of the Child's Month activities. Youths shared their perspectives on Covid-19 and the volcanic activity in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG).

VII. The IGDS-RCO in partnership with the Jamaica Council of Churches staged two one-day island-wide Thursday in Black Campaign to End GBV with Headlights in May and July 2021.

VIII. An art and creative writing competition for primary and secondary school students was launched in May as an outlet for children to use their creative talents to reflect on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on their social and educational development. Grace Kennedy sponsored the prizes.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

### **Professor Opal Palmer Adisa**

Advisor for the National Population and Sustainable Development Policy Programme Action (POA), gender component.

Chair of the judging panel of the poetry category of the 2021 OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature.

Gender Focal Point person for Women in Maritime Association Caribbean (WIMAC).

Member and Chair of National Civil Society Reference Group NCSRG) of the Spotlight Initiative (SI) in Jamaica in the area of academia.

Member of the Board of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars (ACWWS) Judge for Scholastic Arts and Writing Awards

### **Dr. Dalea Bean**

Conference Coordinator: Association of Caribbean Historians 2020-2021

Member: Jamaica Tourist Board Advisory Council on Tourism Education 2021

Assistant Chief Examiner for CSEC History

Distinguished President of the Kiwanis Club of Young Professionals, Kingston

Editorial Committee Member: The Caribbean Journal of Strategic and Security Studies

### **Dr. Natasha Mortley**

Strategic Advisor on Gender and Migration to the Director General of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Commission.

Gender Representative of the Steering Committee: Interdisciplinary Center for Cannabis Research, Department of Government, UWI.

IGDS – RCO Representative: UN Women National Steering Committee for Spotlight Initiative on Economic Costing of Gender-Based Violence in Jamaica.

Member of the Task Force: Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Journal Committee

Member: The African-Caribbean Women's Mobility and Self-fashioning in Post-diaspora Contexts Network. Southbank University, London UK.

Member: Migration and Development Cluster, SALISES, UWI.

Member: Observatory on African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Migration.

Member: Commonwealth Scholars Alumni (Jamaica and St. Lucia Chapters).

Member: Research and Planning Committee, United Way Jamaica.

### **Dr. Imani Tafari-Ama**

Curator, Caribbean participation in the international Climate Fiction Festival, Berlin for December 2021

Member, National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA), [Global Initiative]

Appointed Advisor to the School of the Sacrament Rastafari University (SOSACRU)

Research Advisor to the Manchester Peace Coalition (Jamaica)

Member, Fellow-Me Academy of International Curators

Peer reviewer for the 76th King Street Journal Liberty Hall

## **AGILITY**

### **INCOME GENERATION**

The RCO continued to receive income from the MSc self-financing programme, in addition to various fund-raising efforts. The following projects were administered during the AY:

- I. UNDP Spotlight Initiative Pillar 1.1.1 "Legislative Reform to Eliminate Violence Against Women and Girls, USD 45,000.
- II. UNESCO Sheroes Caribbean Initiative launch, USD 6,500.
- III. School's Art and Poetry competition (Grace Kennedy), JMD 500,000
- IV. Sponsorship of newspaper advertisement, approximately JMD18,1000

### **CONCLUSION**

The AY saw many challenges, including the work-from-home regime implemented under the Government of Jamaica (GOJ) COVID-19 protocols, however, the staff worked consistently to ensure that the objectives of the Institute and those of the wider-UWI were fulfilled.



# INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL & NUCLEAR SCIENCES

*Departmental Report August 2020 - July 2021*

**Professor Charles Grant · Director General**

*MSc, University of Surrey, Fellow of the Institute of Physics (FInstP)*

## OVERVIEW

The International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences (ICENS) entered the year with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting all aspects of operations of the Centre. Nonetheless there were highlights, achievements and continued progress. On September 30, 2020, the Director General was officially promoted to the rank of Professor of Applied Nuclear Sciences, recognizing his many years of contribution to academia and national development using nuclear technology. He was also awarded the Vice Chancellors Award for Excellence in Public Service. Dr. Adrian Spence was awarded the Principal's award for the research project with the greatest business potential. Mr Oshane Hamilton, scientific officer, was awarded a Chevening Scholarship to pursue his MSc in the Physics and Technology of Nuclear Reactors at the University of Birmingham. Under this new paradigm the Centre continued to meet its project targets where possible, including using the virtual space to commission equipment.

## ACCESS

### Students

The ICENS, has several staff members involved in student development and teaching, though the Centre is not an academic department. Throughout the period in review Mr. Haile Dennis continued his duties as an adjunct lecturer of Electrical Power (Nuclear) Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic lectures and practical laboratory sessions were held virtually. As has been the case for several years, both Mr Johann Antoine of the Nuclear Analytical Laboratory and Dr Adrian Spence of the Atomic Spectroscopy and Wet Chemistry Laboratory supervised student interns for the