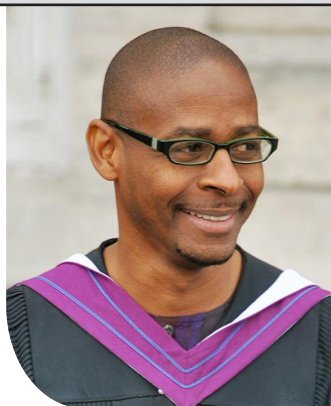


DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURES IN ENGLISH



Dr. Michael Bucknor, BA *UWI*, MA *Univ. Western Ontario*,
PhD *Univ. Western Ontario*
Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

In the 2012/2013 academic year, the Department of Literatures in English continued to energize its strategic position as a major player in stimulating creativity and critical thinking, as indicated in the 2012–2017 Strategic Plans. While all the objectives were not achieved for the year, steps have been made to work towards achieving them in the next academic year. One central objective of the Department was to improve the quality of its teaching and learning process. In order to realise this objective, Ms Lisa Brown, was re-hired with the view to support her own research project for the completion of a PhD, so that she can be considered for permanent employment in the department. In the next few years, we are expecting some members of staff to retire and this

initiative is also part of our strategic forward planning. To enhance her own pedagogical practice, Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood enrolled in the Certificate in University Teaching Programme offered by the Instructional Development Unit/Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Also, Dr. Kei Miller of the University of Glasgow was appointed Writer-in-Residence for Semester 2 in order to boost our creative writing programme. Mrs. Venese Gordon-Francis was appointed as Senior Administrative Assistant in the department.

In the area of curriculum development, two (2) new courses were taught in Semester II, LITS2906-Film Adaptation and LITS2706-Reggae Films. They were well received by the students based on the overwhelming positive feedback received at the Departmental Consultative Committee meeting. In addition, there has been continuing dialogue with Dr. Anna Perkins in preparation for the upcoming Quality Assurance Review exercise to take place late October/early November 2013. A Quality Assurance Forum was also held on January 28 to prepare administrative personnel for their key role in the process. The Review Team consists of Hope Brooks of the Edna Manley College, Professor Funso Aiyejina of the St. Augustine Campus and Professor James Procter of Newcastle University in the United Kingdom.

GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

The MA programme resumed with a small cohort of students. Only four (4) courses were taught instead of the normal six (6) due to the low class size. The enrolment is expected to increase in the next academic year with the introduction of the Blended Masters Programme in Literary and Educational Studies in partnership with the education graduate programme. There is a cohort of lecturers in the teacher's colleges who need to update their preparation in their content area and we are trying to make the MA programme more flexible to meet this demand. The department committee members will continue to meet to rethink and redesign the programme to make it more viable. Two (2) students, Shala Alert and Jodi-Anne Redway were selected for the 2012/2013 Departmental

Awards. Jodi-Anne provided support for the administrative staff and Shala Alert conducted tutorials for the department. Ms Alert has now completed her MPhil thesis and submitted it for examination.

ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH EVENTS

The Department's outreach activities in 2012/2013 included two important lectures. The 6th Edward Baugh Distinguished Lecture was held on November 29, 2013 at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. Professor Carolyn Cooper delivered the lecture entitled, "Islands beyond Envy: Finding Our Tongue in the Creole-Anglophone Caribbean". Dr. Kei Miller, Writer-in-Residence in the Department of Literatures in English, delivered the 2013 Philip Sherlock Lecture entitled, "*If I could write this on zinc, I would write this on zinc*", at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts on Monday February 25, 2013.

Our very popular **March is Literatures in English Month** was an exciting series of events, planned as part of our outreach initiative for 2012/2013. Under the able guidance of the department's Events Coordinator, Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood, the month included creative writing workshops, readings, book launches, a screening of a new documentary film and the ever popular "Reggae Talks". The programme began with a Creative Writer's Workshop conducted by the distinguished Jamaican writer, Lorna Goodison, on Saturday, March 2. On Sunday, March 3, the Department partnered with the Kingston Book Festival to stage "Love Affair With Literature 2" featuring readings by Jamaican writers, Kei Miller, Eddie Baugh, Tanya Batson-Savage and Lorna Goodison at the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre (N1). There were three book launches as part of the month's activities: Curdella Forbes's novel, *Ghosts*, on Thursday, March 14 in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre (Guest Speaker: Dr. Jarrett Brown, College of the Holy Cross, USA); Velma Pollard's *And Caret Bay Again: New and Selected Poems* on Sunday, March 17 also at the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre (Guest Speaker: Dr. Anthea Morrison, Mona Campus) and Ralph Thompson's poetry collection, *Taking Words*

For A Walk on Sunday, March 24 at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts (Guest Speaker: Professor Emeritus Mervyn Morris).

This year, “March is Movie Month at Mona” featured the Jamaican premiere of the film “Womanish Ways, Freedom, Human Rights and Democracy: The Women’s Suffrage Movement in The Bahamas, 1948–1962” and the guest appearance of the Bahamian director, Marion Bethel. The March 22 event was a collaborative venture of the Department of Literatures in English, the Dean’s Office, Faculty of Humanities and Education, the Institute of Caribbean Studies and the Institute for Gender and Development Studies. A series of *Reggae Talks* culminated the March is Literatures in English Month. It featured performers Jah 9, Protoje, No-Maddz, Cali P and the poster artist, Michael ‘Freestylee’ Thompson. They were held on March 21st, March 28th, April 4th, April 11th and April 18th in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre. The enthusiasm for these talks necessitated that we extended our celebrations beyond the month of March.

As part of our mandate to be the centre for the development of creative expression, we have continued to support creative writing through launches of creative and critical texts, readings and writing workshops. Dr. Paulette Ramsay’s latest collection of poems, *October Afternoon*, was launched on Tuesday, October 30, 2012, at the Undercroft. Professor Carolyn Cooper was the launch speaker. The University of the West Indies Press & The Department of Literatures in English, in association with Pulse Investments Ltd. hosted the launch of the book *Global Reggae*, edited by Professor Carolyn Cooper. It was held at PULS8, 38A Trafalgar Road on Sunday, February 17, 2013; 6:00p.m. and Michelle “DJ Afifa” Harris was the guest speaker. The acclaimed Jamaican Writer and Lecturer in Creative Writing Dr. Kei Miller conducted a Creative Writer’s Workshop for five consecutive Thursdays in April for the general public. The workshops were well attended and allowed aspiring writers to benefit from the experiences and insights of Dr. Miller. The Department collaborated with the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures and the Confucius Institute in presenting “Readings on Chinese-Jamaican Experience” with visiting writer Hannah Lowe and

UWI writers Victor Chang and Courtney Hogarth. The event was held on Sunday, April 14, in NI. The Department in collaboration with Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy, CARIMAC, the Faculty of Humanities and Education and the University of Missouri presented the Africa Documentary Film Festival (AWDFF) which was held on April 25–28 in NI. The Opening Ceremony was held on Wednesday, April 24.

STAFF/POSTGRADUATE SEMINAR SERIES

The Department's Staff/Postgraduate Seminar Series featured a number of visiting academics: visiting poet and researcher Dr. Hannah Lowe did a presentation entitled, "In Search of My Father" on Friday, April 12 and Robin Brooks, Ph.D candidate from University of Florida presented a paper entitled, "Beyond the 'Class' Room: The Entanglements of Class and Education in Caribbean Societies" on Friday, April 19. Dr. Ronald Cummings (University of Leeds) presented a paper entitled, " 'Touching Across Time:' Queer Relations, Maroon Rituals and the Possibilities of Community in Michelle Cliff's Writing" on April 26. On Friday, May 3, Dr. Kei Miller did a presentation entitled "A Smaller Sound, A Lesser Fury: A Eulogy to Dub Poetry". The series also included a Reading from selected participants from the Creative Writer's Workshop that was conducted by visiting writer Dr. Kei Miller on May 10. During the summer, the series continued with presentations by the following graduate students: Tanya Shirley (Ph.D), Nicole Cameron (MPhil), Michael Holgate (ICS–MPhil), Dennis Gill (Ph.D.), Shala Alert (MPhil), Jodi-Anne Redway (MPhil) and Lisa-Gaye Malcolm (MPhil).

OUTREACH TO SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

In keeping with its mandate of supporting the teaching of literatures in English at the high school level, the Department organized The CAPE Literatures in English Lecture/Discussion Series and two (2) interactive sessions with authors for CSEC and CAPE students. The CAPE Literatures in English lecture-discussions were held on Friday, March 22 and April

4, 2013 in the Old Dramatic Theatre. The presenters included Dr. Harold McDermott (former Adjunct Lecturer), Dr. Michael A. Bucknor, Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood, Dr. Norval Edwards, Dr. Anthea Morrison, Mr. David Williams, Ms. Carolyn Allen and Ms. Tanya Shirley. Olive Senior, internationally acclaimed Jamaican writer and poet had an interactive session with CAPE students on her poetry collection, *Gardening in the Tropics*, on Monday, February 11, 2013 at the Faculty of Law, Lecture Room 3. An interactive session was also organized for CSEC students with Curdella Forbes, whose short story collection *Songs of Silence* is one of the prescribed texts on the CSEC English B syllabus. This session was held on Friday, March 15, 2012 in the Assembly Hall.

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

A number of staff members attended the West Indian Literature Conference at the University of Miami where they presented papers and participated in round table discussions. Staff members who attended include Dr. Michael Bucknor, Professor Carolyn Cooper, Dr. Rachel Moseley-Wood and Ms. Tanya Shirley. Graduate student, Nicole Cameron, also attended and presented a paper. Dr. Michael Bucknor, Chair of the Association for Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (ACLALS) and the Vice-Chair, Professor Evelyn O'Callaghan from the Cave Hill Campus worked with the Ms. Veronica Simon of the Open Campus, St. Lucia and Landmark Events to stage the 16th Triennial ACLALS Conference from August 5 to 9, 2013. It has been 21 years since this international conference was held in the Caribbean; in 1998 it was held at the Mona Campus under the chairmanship of Professor Edward Baugh. As the Chief Judge of the fiction prize, Dr. Michael Bucknor participated in the adjudication of the Bocas Literary Prize during the Bocas Litfest held in Trinidad from April 24 to 28, 2013. He also participated in an author panel where he and his co-editor, Professor Alison Donnell, were interviewed by Professor Barbara Lalla about The Routledge Companion to Anglophone Caribbean Literature publication. In addition, he interviewed the acclaimed Jamaican writer, Olive Senior, at a special session organized by the festival.

As part of the annual September celebration of Belize independence, Professor Carolyn Cooper was invited by the Open Campus Belize site to give a public lecture on September 4, 2012 on “Sounds of Freedom: Reggae and Dancehall in Caribbean Culture”. On September 6, she gave a lecture, “Reggae and Dancehall in Decolonization and the Formation of Caribbean Identity”, at the University of Belize, Belmopan. In support of the outreach work of the Open Campus, Professor Cooper led two workshops: “Marketing Culture in the Tourism Enterprise” and “Cultural/ Creative Industries in Regional Development.” During her visit, she also did several television and radio interviews. In addition, she met with UWI alumni at a reception at the Open Campus and paid courtesy calls on the Governor General, Sir Colville Young, one of the founders of the University of Belize and on Prime Minister Dean Barrow, a distinguished UWI alumnus. Professor Carolyn Cooper also gave a lecture in the Jamaica ‘50’ series at the Jamaican Embassy in Washington.

STUDENT MATTERS

The Annual Faculty Awards Ceremony was held on Thursday, November 8, 2012. Krystal Abrahams, Bjorn Brown, Keisha Brown, Desiree Crooks, Kemar Cummings, Abigail Henry, Keilah Mills and Tricia Wint were presented with awards. This year, Peepal Tree Press, the most significant publisher of Caribbean writing sponsored the Second Year prize, thus filling the gap created by withdrawal of another sponsor. A departmental award was also added to the other awards for the academic year due to the high performance of the third year students. The department will continue to seek external donors to support future awards. The Department hosted its annual First Year Social on Thursday, November 15, 2012 at the Multifunctional Room, UWI Main Library. Students and lecturers enjoyed the interactive session with the HoD and Ms. Valentine from the Marketing and Communications Office who guided the session.

Olive Senior, internationally acclaimed Jamaican writer and poet, visited the Department and gave a talk on her poetry to the West Indian Poetry class on February 11, 2013. In an effort to provide guidance to our

Department of Literatures in English

English majors, the annual Career Seminar, Life After the Degree in Literatures in English was held on Thursday, April 11, 2013. The Guest Speaker was renowned actress, playwright, director, television personality and public relations consultant Dahlia Harris.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

UNDERGRADUATE	
Majors	183
First Class Honours	3
POSTGRADUATE	
<i>Registration:</i>	
PhD	3
MPhil	8
MA	11

PAPERS PRESENTED

Bucknor, Michael

- Keynote Lecture “Beyond Windrush and British Borders: Canada in the Construction of West Indian Literature” at the annual conference of the Young Scholars Forum of the Association of Canadian Studies in German Speaking Countries on June 28, 2012 in Berlin, Germany. He also attended the Association for Cultural Studies Crossroads Conference July 2–6, 2012 in Paris, France.

- Invited Speaker at the 18th Conference on Commonwealth Education Ministers held in Mauritius, August 26–30, 2012. He gave a talk entitled “What Education, Whose Culture: From Monologic Thinking to Multicultural Modes of Understanding” in the “Connecting Commonwealth Education and Cultures” session of the Stakeholder’s Forum. He also chaired the session entitled “The Future of English Language in the Commonwealth” and was selected as member of the drafting team to present the statement from the Stakeholder’s Forum to the Education Ministers.
- Keynote Conversation participant in the Round Table on “Caribbean Literature and Literary Criticism” at the 31st Annual West Indian Literature Conference, University of Miami, October 11–13, 2012.
- “Beyond Windrush and the Original Black Atlantic Routes: Austin Clarke, Race and Canada’s Influence on Anglophone Caribbean Literature” at the “Remapping the Black Atlantic” conference at Depaul University in Chicago, USA between April 12–14, 2013.

Cooper, Carolyn

- “Sounds of Freedom: Reggae and Dancehall in Caribbean Culture,” Open Campus Belize on September 4, 2012.
- “Reggae and Dancehall in Decolonization and the Formation of Caribbean Identity,” University of Belize, Belmopan on September 6, 2012.
- “Marketing Culture in the Tourism Enterprise,” a workshop conducted at the Chamber of Commerce for staff of the Belize Tourist Board.
- “Cultural/Creative Industries in Regional Development,” a workshop conducted for practitioners in the Belize music industry.
- “I Hope You Do Not Enjoy This Book”: Vybz Kartel’s Disturbing Voice of the Jamaican Ghetto at the International Reggae Conference held at the Mona Campus from February 14 –16, 2013.

Logan, Mawuena

- “ ‘Bleaching Out’ Africa: The Phenomenology and Dialectics of Race in African Diasporic Writing.” Paper read at the International

Conference, “What is Africa to Me Now? The Continent and Its Literary Diasporas,” University of Liège, Liège, Belgium (March 21–23, 2013).

Morrison, Anthea

- “‘Full Freedom’ Deferred? Edwidge Danticat Tracing the Haitian Quest at Home and Abroad,” 39th Annual Conference of the African Literature Association, March 20–24, 2013, Charleston, South Carolina.

Moseley-Wood, Rachel

- “Expectations and Reality: Representations of the Nation in the Visual Imaginary” 31st Annual West Indian Literature Conference, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida, October 11–13, 2012.
- “A Neglected History: The Development of Documentary Filmmaking in Jamaica” *History at Fifty* Conference, Department of History and Archaeology, University of the West Indies, Mona, November 8–10, 2012.
- “Welcome To Jamrock’: the ‘Other Side’ of Jamaica and the Reggae Aesthetic in Jamaican Film” International Reggae Conference, University of the West Indies, Mona, February 14–16, 2013.

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Michael Bucknor

- Bethell-Bennett, Ian and Michael A. Bucknor, Eds. Special Issue of the *Journal of West Indian Literature on “Masculinities in Caribbean Literature and Culture”* *JWIL* Vol. 21, Nos. 1 & 2: November 2012/April 2013 (vii–xxx and 1–222: 246 pages).
- Bucknor, Michael A. “Dangerous Crossings: Caribbean Masculinities and the Politics of Challenging Gendered Borderlines,” *JWIL* 21: 1 & 2 (November 2012/April 2013): vii–xxx (24 pages).
- Christine Bennett, Michael A. Bucknor, Antonia MacDonald, Mala Morton-Gittens and Roydon Salik *Cape Literatures in English Unit 1:*

A Caribbean Examinations Council Study Guide. London: Nelson Thornes Ltd, 2013. 1–187 (plus CD): 187 pages).

Professor Carolyn Cooper

- Cooper, Carolyn. “Disguise Up de English Language”: Turning Linguistic Tricks in Creole-Anglophone Caribbean Literature,” *Teaching Anglophone Caribbean Literature*, Ed. Supriya M. Nair. New York: The Modern Language Association, 2012. 155–167. (12 pages)
- Cooper, Carolyn. “Islands beyond Envy: Finding Our Tongue in the Creole-Anglophone Caribbean” *Caribbean Quarterly* 59.1, March 2013, 1–19. (19 pages)
- “‘Mek Wi Talk Bout de Bottom a de Sea’: Mutabaruka’s Submarine Poetics”, *Caribbean Quarterly*, Vol. 59, No. 2, June 2013, 113–121. (9 pages)

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Michael Bucknor

- Editor, *Journal of West Indian Literature* (Regional Refereed Publication)
- Member, Editorial Board *Caribbean Quarterly* (Regional Refereed Publication)
- Member, Board of Readers, Issues in Critical Investigation, Vanderbilt University, USA.
- Senior Editorial Advisor, *Lucayos*, College of the Bahamas. (Regional Refereed Publication)
- Advisor, CAPE Literatures in English, Project – Preparation of study Guide for CAPE Literatures in English, Caribbean Examinations Council.
- Chair, Association for Commonwealth Literatures and Languages Studies ACLALS

Professor Carolyn Cooper

- Member, Board of Directors, Development Partners and Management International Limited, Kingston.
- Regional Editor (Caribbean), *Interventions: International Journal of Postcolonial Studies*, Routledge.
- Weekly columnist the *Sunday Gleaner*

Dr. Norval Edwards

- Review Editor, Northern Caribbean University's peer-reviewed journal, *International Review of Humanities*.
- Member, Advisory Board, Issues in Critical Investigation, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee.
- Associate Editor, *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism*

Dr. Mawuena Logan

- External Examiner, JBTE/TCJ (Joint Board of Teacher Education/ Teachers' Colleges of Jamaica) Kingston, Jamaica.
- External Examiner at the Northern Caribbean University (NCU) on May 13, 2013, for the BA in English with Literature emphasis examination.
- Member, Ghanaian Association in Jamaica, Kingston Jamaica.
- Member, Alliance Francaise de la Jamaïque, Kingston, Jamaica.

Mr. David Williams

- Member, Executive Committee of the Jamaica Association for Mentally Retarded Persons.