



DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

Departmental Report August 2020 - July 2021

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SUMMARY OF THE DMLL PERFORMANCE

The academic year 2020-2021 started with a successful Departmental Orientation Week within the undergraduate New and Returning Students Virtual Orientation and the FHE Graduate Orientation organized by the Faculty of Humanities and Education from 31st August to 4th September, 2020. Although a higher number of DMLL students were expected to participate, lecturers were fully involved in new online activity. Regardless of the uncertainties of the times, the Department continued to adjust to the challenges and emerging needs posed by remote teaching and learning within the university context. Training programmes for online delivery equipped academic staff with the necessary tools to improve the delivery of courses and much was learnt through trial and error. Quality assurance of online assessment remains the critical issue. Both semesters developed with success when considering the context, and to some extent students seem to have better adjusted to the new online environment. The students who failed, for the most part, were those with poor attendance. Electricity blackouts and connectivity matters worsened in some instances during the second semester. In alignment with The UWI Mona COVID-19 protocols and advisories, the Language Laboratory was available to assist the lecturers affected. Laptops were also lent to members of academic and administrative staff. Two students were recipients of tablets through the Main Library. Similarly, the DMLL's office continuously adjusted to the work-from-home policy by implementing rosters for in-office-work and a Remote Service Delivery platform available on the DMLL Website. The resources for virtual communication with students include Live Chat, Student Query Form, Credit Check Sheet for Spanish and for French Majors, Graduate Forms, and a Special Admissions Form. It also offers a Help with Online Systems section which includes the following documents: Introduction to OurVLE, Blackboard Collaborate Ultra: Student Guide, Navigating

the Blackboard Collaborate Interface, Steps to Reviewing Recorded Lectures in Blackboard Collaborate. A section for Frequently Asked Questions is also available. Administrative members of staff can also be contacted through the three regular land-lines numbers, the departmental email, and/ or via Whatsapp at 876-772-7360. The pros and cons of the work-from-home policy still need very careful considerations and requires a fundamental change of mindset towards the inevitable new reality that came about with the pandemic and is here to stay. The well-being of all members of staff was and continues to be a priority. Having capitalized on the series of The UWI Mona seminars on online teaching and learning, and on the training project Development Support Distance Learning Courses in Caribbean Universities, sponsored by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie dans la Caraïbe (AUF – Caraïbe) initiated in July 2020, many members of the DMLL academic staff embraced more confidently the remote delivery of classes: “The DMLL in association with Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie offered the

department’s faculty a well-organised training course on pedagogical approaches and strategies which mainly focused on online foreign language learning, including learning strategies such as “Flipped Classroom”, gamification, and telecollaboration.” (Villoria-Nollala, “Approaches”, UWI Quality Education Forum 25: 2021, 166-167). Some staff/Graduate Seminars, some initiatives of curriculum review, and the adjustment of the two new courses for online delivery SPAN1012 Spanish for Medical Purposes and KORE1001 Korean Language IA in Semester I, 2020-2021, are examples of the aforementioned. The new courses maintained steady registration numbers of 33 and 35 students, respectively. Overall the students’ evaluation reports for Semester I, 2020-2021 are very good. Ms. Grace Perez (JAPA2001), Dr. Tamara De Inés Antón (TRAN6101), Mr. Jhonatan Carmona Tangarife (SPAN1012), and Dr. Nina Bruni (SPAN1012) achieved a perfect score of 5.0 for Overall Lecturer Rating, and 4.8, 4.8, 4.9 and 4.9, respectively, for the Overall Course Rating. The second highest Overall Lecturer Rating of 4.9 is for Dr. Bo-Kyoung KIM (KORE1001) while Dr. Tamara de Inés Antón (SPAN3001), Dr. Nadine Barnette (SPAN1000), Dr. Kailin LI (CHIN3001), and Ms. Leone Wallace (FREN0101) attained a 4.8 Overall Lecturer Rating. Results for Semester II were not available at the moment of submitting this report. In research, the DMLL heartily congratulates Dr. Françoise Cévaër, Senior Lecturer in French, who was presented the Principal’s Research Day Awards 2020 for Outstanding Researcher for the academic year 2018-2019 with the following refereed book chapter: « L’art de la perte dans la Parabole du failli de Lyonel Trouillot », in *La figure du loser dans le film et la littérature d’expression française*. Eds. Françoise Cévaër and Carole Edwards, PULIM, Presses Universitaires de Limoges et du Limousin, Collection L’un et l’autre en français, France, 2018. 123-157.

Aware of his contribution to The UWI Mona through the cooperation agreement between The UWI and the Instituto Colombiano de Crédito Educativo y Estudios Técnicos en el Exterior – ICETEX, Mr. Johnatan Carmona Tangarife, ICETEX Volunteer Colombia, was publicly recognized in Colombia for his outstanding work and contribution to the country and region as graduate of the Facultad de Ciencias de la Educación en la Universidad del

Tolima, Colombia, Resolution 018, 24th November, 2020, signed by Dean Dr. Nancy Gómez Torres. Thanks to the Instagram initiative “Who is your HumEd Hero and why?”, launched by Dr. Nicole Plummer, Deputy Dean, Faculty Outreach and Marketing Committee, Mrs. Ronna Barnett-Passard, Instructor French, was chosen by our students as one of their heroes. This is a timely recognition since Mrs. Barnett-Passard is retiring at the end of this academic year. The Department is profoundly grateful for her sterling contribution to French Language, Translation and Interpreting Services, and International Cooperation, to enhance the study of French, particularly at preliminary levels as the overall coordinator. Her collegiality, her full and loving commitment to the students, to French language and the Department will be greatly missed. The DMLL proudly recognizes all twelve (12) students distinguished during the Faculty of Humanities and Education Virtual Student Awards Ceremony for the Academic Year 2019-2020 for their outstanding performances in foreign languages and literatures, and translation studies: Sergina Francis, Andre Li and Amanda Gooden (Chinese); Nicholas McKenzie (Japanese), Jodi-Ann Ellis, Selena Hamilton, Kodi-Anne Brown (French), Ramona Cain (2 prizes), Cassandra Spence, Rushane Bailey and Chrisel Thompson (Spanish). In terms of students’ performance, the high point of this academic year is that the the following five (5) students will graduate with First Class Honours: Selena Hamilton (Double Major French & Spanish), Christy-Ann Brown (French Major), Lyssaun Howell (French Major and Linguistics Major), Ramona Cain (Spanish Major), and Abbijae Nevers (Spanish Major and Operations Management Major). Congratulations are extended to the DMLL dedicated lecturers who taught and mentored them along their career.

When warmly mentored, students become an unfailing source of pride and best heralds of the Department. This is the case with Georgeann Dawes and Abraham Alexander both French language students who entered and won competitions as part of the Journee de la Francophonie celebration hosted by the Alliance Française de la Jamaïque and the Jamaica Association of French Teachers last March. The DMLL thanks Ms. Soyini Ashby, French language Instructor, for fully supporting her students. Cecille Inez Maye-Hemmings, Gabrielle Barkley, Chrisan Blake, and Ashley Fraser submitted their Research Paper by August 28, 2020, in fulfilment of the requirements for the Master’s Degree in Translation (Spanish/French) and graduated in January 2021. Recruitment matters became more relevant to all programmes during this academic year. Ms. Shiho TAKAMURA continues to replace Ms. Mikiko TAKEDA in Japanese, who had to return to Japan because of the pandemic. There has been a lot of positive feedback from Students about Ms. TAKAMURA’s performance, who scored 4.5 in lecturer rating and 4.4 in course rating for Semester 1, 2020-2021. Ms. Grace Perez, Coordinator Japanese Programme, was offered and accepted an Instructor position on indefinite employment. The new contract will start 1st August 2021. The position Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in French has been fulfilled. The proposed start date for the new Lecturer in French is January 2022. This allows for reasonable time for the processing of the work permit application. The transition process within the French section is well-articulated and contemplates filling the post of Instructor (French) that will be vacant from 1st August 2021 after Mrs. Barnett-Passard’s retirement. The HRMD has offered timely

guidance and feedback when requested. The April 2021 Memorandum of Agreement Lectureships in Spanish 2021-2022 between The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, and the Kingdom of Spain bore its first fruit and will bring to the Spanish programme a full-time lecturer (“Lector”) for the academic year 2021-2022, the period during which Dr. Teresa Villoria-Nolla, Lecturer in Spanish and Coordinator, Spanish Programme, will proceed to Sabbatical Leave. As a plus of the cooperation with Spain, His Excellency Josep María Bosch, former Ambassador of Spain to Jamaica, donated to the DMLL a total of 76 books: 47 in Spanish language and 29 in other languages such as French, Catalan, and English. The entire Bosch collection is exhibited and tagged on the bookshelves located in the office of the Head of Department. In addition, on Monday, 19th July, 2021, Dr. Velma Pollard, renowned Jamaican poet, fiction writer, and UWI Mona academic, presented the Head of Department with a donation of 16 Casa de las Américas, a prestigious academic journal published by “Casa de las Américas” since 1959, in Havana, Cuba. The years and numbers of the publications donated are as follows: 2014 (nos.274, 275); 2015 (nos. 278, 279, 281), 2016 (nos. 282, 283, 285), 2017 (nos. 286, 287, 288, 289), 2018 (nos. 290, 293), 2019 (nos. 294, 295). This Pollard collection is also exhibited and tagged on the bookshelves located in the office of the Head of Department.

On her part, Prof. Ramsay presented to the DMLL a copy of *The West Indian Presence and Heritage in Cuba*. Ed. Paulette A. Ramsay. Kingston: UWI Press, 2020, which is also located in the DMLL Library in the office of the Head of Department. After three (3) years of outstanding contribution, Dr. Kaili LI, Lecturer in Chinese, will return to his homeland as his assignment with us concludes in June 2021. The DMLL extends its gratitude for his commitment to the Chinese programme in the Department and for his warm collegiality. The Department also thanks Prof. Lei FENG, Director, Confucius Institute, for working along with the Head in the recruitment of local and Chinese lecturers for next academic year as well as for having taught CHIN2214 Survey of Chinese Culture in Semester II of the present academic year. Prof FENG, Dr. LI and Mrs. Zhounya GUO have been the strong pillars of the Chinese Programme in the DMLL and recognition for their support and commitment at all times deserves to be registered in this report. Similar expressions of gratitude are presented to Ms. Grace Perez, Coordinator, Japanese Programme, and her team, for navigating with us critical moments related to the adverse impact of COVID-19 on the Volunteer Programme with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Kingston, Jamaica, which is still suspended. Should it be resumed as expected by January 2022, Ms. TAKEDA is willing to return to her placement as a Volunteer in the Department.

By the end of July 2021, Mr. Johnatan Carmona Tangarife discontinued his engagement with The UWI Mona through the ICETEX cooperation programme. The DMLL profoundly thanks Mr. Carmona Tangarife for his sterling contribution and wishes him the very best for his new endeavours. Dr. Nina Bruní’s tenure as Head of Department comes to an end on 31st July, 2021. The appointment of Prof. Paulette Ramsay as the new Head of Department for the academic year 2021-2022, was announced during the Faculty Management Retreat on 7th July, 2021. Congratulations to Prof. Ramsay on her appointment. Well aligned with

the process of digital transformation of The UWI (AG5), Phase 1 Training and Research (AC3, AC4) of the project Development Support Distance Learning Courses in Caribbean Universities supported by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie dans la Caraïbe (AUF – Caraïbe) has been accomplished (AL2) as well as Phase 2 Technical: Delivery of Lenovo Video Conferencing Equipment to the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures on 21st January, 2021 for the total amount of US\$5,938.- The Workshop and Seminar Room in the DMLL Language Laboratory is the most suitable classroom for a professional installation of the Lenovo Video Conferencing Equipment to extract maximum value and longevity; this includes the installation of acoustic panels as a critical component, and the purchase of a laptop exclusively used to share content with the video-conferencing system. The benefits of equipping the LLWS to meet international standards for the online modality of delivering educational services also enhances the capacity of the Department to engage in income-generating activities at a local, regional, and global scale. As per quotations from January 2021, the total cost for the upgrade phase amounts to J\$1,362,878,39. A business plan and fund raising strategies need to be put in place.

In his email dated 19th July, 2021, Prof. Saulo Neiva, AUF Director, Caraïbe, contacted Dr. Nina Bruni, for the creation of a digital campus (Campus Numérique Francophone - CNF) under the CNF network of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF). The CNF virtual room will be used to host UWI's pedagogical activities but also to develop workshops open to the general public. These other activities should allow the CNF to raise funds to support its operations. The AUF for its part will also support the operation of the CNF. Prof. Neiva also added in his communication some relevant information regarding the implementation of the CNF as follows: a) expansion of the LeNovo equipment that has already been delivered to the DMLL, by adding the following equipment: an interactive digital board; 15 computers, webcams and headphones; a printer-scanner-photocopier; 7 virtual reality headsets; b) continue to work with a local supplier as the DMLL/UWI has done with the LeNovo equipment; c) FHE/UWI is expected to provide CNF/AUF with a workroom, a high speed internet connection, and the necessary personnel to manage this room. It would also be necessary to foresee technical management (e.g. maintenance and connection of the equipment) and also administrative management (organization of activities, planning of the training, financial balance sheet, etc.). Although initiated and facilitated by the DMLL, the scope of this third stage of cooperation with the AUF requires full involvement of the Faculty of Humanities and Education and of any other relevant party.

In terms of curriculum development, Dr. Marcia Reinford, Director, School of Education (SoE), Dr. Carmel Rooft-Bowen, and Dr. Tashane Haynes-Brown from the SoE, and Dr. Nina Bruni, Head, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, have recently met to discuss the review of the Modern Language Education Programme. The objective of this meeting was to identify at least one central area of collaboration. After looking at different possibilities, it was decided to look at a programme that would fall within the Postgraduate Diploma in Education. It will target teachers from other countries who are teaching Spanish in Jamaica and would need some support in teaching a foreign language

in different cultural contexts. It also looked at how it is that we can prepare our teachers who will teach English in other foreign countries. This option would be attractive to DMLL students graduating with a major in Spanish and/or French, and/or a Minor in Japanese and/or Chinese, for instance, who apply to Teaching Assistantship programmes to teach English in Colombia, France, Spain, Japan, among others. When achieved, this project will pave the way to further integrate programmes (even by embedding a single course) both at undergraduate and graduate levels. It was agreed that a working schedule was to be organized.

The list below speaks to the scholarly work embraced by members of academic staff (AG4).

- 1) DMLL participation in The UWI Quality Day 2020 Creating Customer Value, 12th November, 2020, with the production of a video highlighting the achievements of the students and faculty in the department.
- 2) Dr. Françoise Cévaër presented a paper called « Spatialités dans l'œuvre de Lyonel Trouillot », SAMLA 92 International Virtual Conference, "Scandal – Literature and Provocation: Breaking Rules, Making Texts", Nov.13-15, 2020.
- 3) Dr. Françoise Cévaër participated in the round table called "La mémoire et l'Histoire à la scène et à l'écran" [Memory and History on stage and screen] with Luc Saint-Eloy, French actor, director and film producer, organized by CMLL, Texas Tech University, April 13, 2021.
- 4) Dr. Françoise Cévaër is a Member of the Editorial Board of the Francophone Academic Journal *Présence Francophone*, College of The Holy Cross, Massachusetts.
- 5) Dr. Françoise Cévaër has peer-reviewed one article for the refereed journal *Caribbean Quarterly*, UWI.
- 6) Dr. Françoise Cévaër attended the AUF training offered in partnership with the DMLL over Summer 2020.
- 7) Dr. Nina Bruni. Invited Guest Panelist "VII Diálogo Literario Internacional – Tema: Literatura y Transgresión. Coordinator: Dr. Juan Aderso Riveras. Panelists: Dr. Nina Bruni, Dr. Manuel García Cartagena, Dr. Carlos Vázquez Cruz, and Dr. Carlos Andújar. 5 September, 2020. Zoom Platform.
- 8) Dr. Nina Bruni co-hosted the "XVII Diálogo Literario Internacional – Tema: Narrativa Gótica Latinoamericana" with the Escuela de Letras, Facultad de Humanidades, Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Coordinator: Dr. Juan Aderso Riveras. Moderators: Dr. Karin Hollewag and Dr. Nina Bruni. 20 February, 2021. Zoom Platform.

- 9) Dr. Nina Bruni concluded the Postgraduate Diploma in Innovation and Design Thinking. EMERITUS Institute, Singapore, in collaboration with MIT's Management and Executive Education, Columbia Business School, Tuck Executive Education at Dartmouth.
- 10) Dr. Nina Bruni hosted and chaired the "XVIII Diálogo Literario Internacional – Tema: Literatura mística actual", with the Escuela de Letras, Facultad de Humanidades, Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Coordinator: Dr. Juan Aderso Riveras. Panelists: Poets Jit Manuel Castillo and Joseph E. Harris. 6 March, 2021. Zoom Platform.
- 11) Dr. Nina Bruni is pursuing the Online Programme Steering Complex Projects. University of Cambridge, Judge Business School, Executive Education, in collaboration with Emeritus Institute (Singapore). February-July, 2021.
- 12) Dr. Nina Bruni is a member of the executive committee organizing the 5to Congreso de Lengua y Literatura de la Costa "Modernidades", San Cristóbal, 18-22 February, 2022, Escuela de Letras, Facultad de Humanidades, Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.
- 13) Dr. Tamara De Inés Antón attended the AUF training offered in partnership with the DMLL over Summer 2020 and Semester I 2020/2021.
- 14) Dr. Tamara De Inés Antón attended the following conferences/training opportunities in the field of translation studies throughout the academic year 2020/2021:

Reading in Translation: Approaches to the Study of the Reception of Translated Literature- 17-18 May, 2021.

Translation as Position Taking in the Literary Field- 22-24 April, 2021.

Translating Narratives of Sexual Violence in Latin America- March 30, 2021.

9th IATIS Regional Workshop "Perspectives on Translation, Feminisms and Gender" -December 3-4, 2020.

Translation Week 2020: Week-long series of online conferences organized by the Mexican Association of Translation and Interpreters- September 28 to October 2, 2020

- 15) Dr. Teresa Villoria-Nolla completed "Diploma de examinadora para DELE B1-B2". Instituto Cervantes, Albuquerque during the months of April and May, 2021. With this course, all levels courses for The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR or MCER in Spanish) for examiners for the Diploma en Español como Lengua Extranjera (DELE) offered by the Instituto Cervantes are completed.
- 16) Dr. Teresa Villoria Nolla attended the AUF training offered in partnership with the DMLL over Summer 2020 and Semester I 2020/2021.
- 17) Ms. Grace Perez attended the online spring Japanese special course Teaching Business Japanese organized by Toyo University, 1st to 10th February 1-10, 2021.

- 18) Ms. Shiho TAKAMURA attended the seminar "Retaining Japanese Vocabulary", Japan Foundation – Online Training Program for Teachers of the Japanese Language, 5th & 12th December, 2020.
- 19) Ms. Shiho TAKAMURA attended the seminar "Teaching Writing Online, Japan Foundation – Online Training Program for Teachers of the Japanese Language, 9th to 13th March, 2021.
- 20) Prof. FENG Lei, Chinese Director of the Confucius Institute at The University of the West Indies, Mona, contributed with "Warmth and Traditions of the Chinese New Year", The Gleaner Jamaica, Sunday, 14th February, 2021.
- 21) Prof. Paulette Ramsay is a Member of the following Journal Editorial Boards: PALARA – Journal published from University of Texas, and Quality Education Forum; and serves as Review Editor for the Caribbean Journal of Education. She has also peer reviewed articles for Meridional: Revista chilena de estudios latinoamericanos, Universidad de Chile.
- 22) Prof. Paulette Ramsay is Guest Editor for the Quality Education Forum (QEF) Journal published by the Office of the Board of Undergraduate Studies, volume 24, 2019-2020; and volume 25, 2020-2021.

The following items of the report are grouped according to the three UWI Triple A strategic goals (Access, Alignment, Agility) and to those strategic objectives associated to them that The UWI Mona is specifically concerned about: AC3, AC4, AL2, AG2, AG4, AG5.

ACCESS

ACCESS enables the Department to improve its internal operations, with special emphasis in strategic objectives AC3 and AC4 that are entwined with ALIGNMENT (AL2) and AGILITY (AG5, AG3, AG2).

AC3. Teaching, Learning & Student Development: Undergraduate Matters

Two (2) new courses were taught in Semester I, 2020-2021: SPAN1012 Spanish for Medical Purposes, joint project with Dr. Colette Cunningham-Myer, coordinator in the Faculty of Medical Sciences. Mr. Jhonatan Carmona-Tangarife and Dr. Nina Bruni, DMLL co-taught online this course that in its original version was designed to be delivered face-to-face at the Community Health Centre on campus. Thirty-three (33) students from Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad, registered and successfully completed the course. Dr. Bo-kyoung KIM delivered KORE1001 Korean Language IA, as part of the agreement between the Korea Foundation, Republic of Korea, and The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. Thirty-five (35) students registered and successfully completed the course.

As part of the compelling curriculum review determined by remote teaching Dr. Françoise Cévaër engaged in the reviewing of syllabus content for FREN1305 Introduction to French Literature and Film, while Mrs. Rona Barnett-Passard successfully coordinated and concluded a Telecollaborative Project with counterparts in Clermont-Ferrand (France), as a development coming out of the workshops sponsored by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie dans la Caraïbe (AUF – Caraïbe). Aligned to the same project, Mr. Jhonatan Carmona and Dr. Nina Bruni concluded a Level III Spanish Language Project Based Learning portfolio on short stories (writing, interpretative reading and interviewing writers) with counterparts in Colombia and Argentina. The interview segment constituted the last oral examination (15%) for SPAN3002 Spanish Language IIIB. On her part, Dr. Teresa Villoria-Nolla joined a Virtual Intercultural Exchange, telecollaboration project for SPAN2502 Spanish Language IIB entitled “Cross-cultural stereotypes”. This project was designed by Miss Vanessa Arias, MA student of ELE [Spanish as a Foreign Language] at the University of Barcelona, currently associated with the Universidad de Caldas, Colombia. It involved twelve (12) SPAN2502 students with 4 international partners pursuing graduate studies in Spanish as a Foreign Language at Universidad de Caldas. The project was conducted during Semester II and consisted of 3 steps: “Getting to know you”, “Comparative analyses”, “Collaborative product” with a total of 8 activities and a final project. A Staff and Graduate Seminar for Dr. Villoria and Miss Arias to present the results of the project had been planned for early May 2021 but for rescheduling reasons it is still pending.

International Agreements (AL2) and the process of digital transformation of The UWI (AG5) must also enhance the processes of the Department in collaboration with other areas of the campus administration. The DMLL through its collaboration with Registry Information Systems (RIS) successfully facilitated the access to Ourvle for all its Second Examiners in March 2021. The Department initiated discussions with RIS in early March (Email dated March 3, 2021) regarding the matter. After much telephone communication with them, the Head and Senior Administrative Assistant received an email from Mr. Nicholas Williams, Functional Analyst, listing the different roles that can be accommodated on Ourvle along with a brief description of each role. From the list provided, the ‘Non-Editing Teaching Staff’ was identified as the closest profile that could cover the functions of the Second Examiner. From there, Mr. Williams conducted multiple tests with two staff members, Ms. Lillith Barnaby, Adjunct Assistant Lecturer in French, and Dr. Nadine Barnett, Lecturer in Spanish, assigning the ‘non-editing teaching staff’ role to each for the courses they second examined. Initially, they were able only to view submissions made by students and not make comments. However, after several adjustments and re-testing, both staff members were able to access Ourvle to carry out their full functions as Second Examiners as it relates to reviewing and second marking students work with the ability to leave a comment. The Departmental List of Examiners was subsequently submitted for the remaining team members to gain access. The DMLL thanks Mr. Williams for his dedicated support in this new effort.

(Career) Sensitization activities are a fundamental part of academic mentoring. As highlighted in the Summary on this report, Ms. Soyini Ashby, French Instructor, considered that the Journee de la Francophonie celebration hosted by the Alliance Française de la Jamaïque and the Jamaica Association of French Teachers was an ideal forum for the students. On Wednesday, 17th March 2021 Georgeann Dawes, a student in FREN1002 French Language IB and in FREN1304 Introduction to Caribbean and African Literature, and Abraham Alexander, a student in FREN1010 Intermediate French II, entered the competitions as part of this festivity. Both of them won their categories as follows: Georgeann Dawes won for the best poem in the “Dis-moi dix mots” competition. In this category, students are given ten words which are a bit out of the ordinary and they must make a poem which includes all ten words. Georgeann’s poem was regarded as quite beautiful; Abraham Alexander won for the best radio announcement. He recorded an announcement about the fate of the French custom of greeting each other with kisses on the cheek in light of the pandemic. His pronunciation and vocabulary were regarded as excellent.

Chinese students also benefited from participating in language-related activities that strengthen their cultural awareness and linguistic skills. The Jamaican Translation Association held a translation competition and conducted an [online awards ceremony](#) on the 6th November, 2020. The Confucius Institute presented awards and prizes to the winners of the Chinese to English Section. From 29th January to 15th February, 2021, The Confucius Institute held a poetry reading contest to welcome the Chinese New Year. The contest offered three Chinese poems and students could choose any one to read aloud and record a video to submit online. A total of 24 students participated in the contest. The videos were evaluated by five judges from China. The Confucius Institute presented certificates and prizes to the winners. Prof. FENG Lei, Chinese Director of the Confucius Institute at The University of the West Indies, Mona, and Coordinator Chinese programme, is praised with his team for their initiative. With a similar goal, Japanese students concentrated their out-of-class presence in the Cultural Exchange 2020 organized by the [RED Centroamérica y del Caribe para la Enseñanza del Idioma Japonés \(RCCJ\)](#). In April 2021, six (6) students from JAPA1001 joined in this exchange. All participants were beginners so they were only required to introduce themselves in Japanese. They played word games to help with the Japanese writing systems and retaining basic vocabulary. In June 2021, six (6) students from JAPA1002 joined the same cultural exchange. On this occasion, students interacted with peers in the region and did a brief presentation in which they introduced themselves and talked about their home country, their hobbies and everyday life. Ms. Grace Perez, Coordinator, Japanese programme, and her team, are commended for their initiative. Language Club Membership is integral to the holistic development of the students. However, the continued pandemic suspended all club activities. For instance, and as reported by the Japanese section, there were no Japanese Club activities for this academic year as it was thought that it would be difficult to do most of the cultural activities such as origami and traditional Japanese dances in the online space.

The Bridget Jones and William Mailer Trust continues to support the summer course, FREN1199 French Language I. The total funds allocated to these scholarships is of £500 payable in JMD, and they are awarded based on performance and need. Due to the financial crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic in summer 2020, this summer course was undersubscribed and eventually cancelled. The William Mailer Trust agreed unanimously that the £500 sent in June 2020 to be used to support students doing French 1 in Semester 1 of the coming academic year 2020-2021. This initiative did not work because students need to apply for their scholarships at the beginning of the academic year. As this is a performance-based scholarship, students either did not need again financial support or as recipients of other grants, they were not allowed to obtain a second one. However, another £500 were sent for French Summer courses 2021. FREN1010 registers 18 students and FREN1199 registers 10 students, hence, £1000 will be awarded between FREN1199 and FREN1010 at the end of Summer School. This would help students to continue studies in French at Major/Minor levels without delays.

AC3. Teaching, Learning & Student Development: Graduate Matters

Four (4) students submitted their Research Paper by August 28, 2020, in fulfilment of the requirements for the Master's Degree in Translation (Spanish/French) and graduated in January 2021:

Cecille Inez Maye-Hemmings- "Movement, Motion and Power in Caribbean Regional Identity": An Extended Translation (Supervisor: Tamara de Inés Antón/ Examiners: Tamara de Inés Antón and Sandra Hamilton).

Gabrielle Barkley- Localizing Slang: An Analysis of the Limitations in Translating Culture-Specific French Slang for Caribbean English Translators (Supervisor: Tamara de Inés Antón/ Examiners: Tamara de Inés Antón and Sandra Hamilton).

Chrisan Blake- Bridging the Cultural Divide: Translation of French Caribbean Literature for an Anglophone Audience (Supervisor: Tamara de Inés Antón/ Examiners: Tamara de Inés Antón and Alicia Reid).

Ashley Fraser- Amoricidio: Extended Translation and Commentary (Supervisor: Tamara de Inés Antón/ Examiners: Tamara de Inés Antón and Prof. Paulette Ramsay).

Five (5) students are currently registered for TRAN6204. Their research papers should be submitted by July 31, 2021 to allow these students to complete the programme and graduate. Even though all courses were delivered online due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the MA in Translation had already made a move towards online teaching for its foundational courses (TRAN6101 and TRAN6102) in Semester I of 2019/2020. Semester I 2020/2021. TRAN6101 and TRAN6102: Our two foundational courses were taught by Dr. de Inés Antón and Ms. Reid. This was Ms. Reid's first semester teaching in the MA in Translation and she proved to be an excellent addition to the team. Seven students were registered in TRAN6101 and eight students in TRAN6102. The extra student in TRAN6102

was an exchange student, not completing our programme but taking the course as an elective. TRAN6201 and TRAN6202: These two second-year courses were taught by Dr. de Inés Antón and Ms. Hamilton. Four (4) students were registered for these two courses. In TRAN6202 Management of Translation Projects, our MA students were given a larger project (a guide of sustainable tourism in Costa Rica) to complete, and access to students in SPAN3001 Spanish to English Translation III. In doing so, our MA students had the opportunity to simulate the full experience of “hiring” and managing 9 freelance translators (our undergraduate students).

Semester II 2020/2021. TRAN6103 was taught by Dr. de Inés Antón and Ms. Reid. Seven (7) students were registered in this course. TRAN6104 was taught by Dr. de Inés Antón and Ms. Hamilton. Ten (10) students were registered in this course. Internships offered to Translation students: Due to the global pandemic, international organizations put a stop to several of their outreach/training/internship programmes. However, now that things are going back to normal, the MA programme is being contacted again, thanks to the efforts of our adjunct lecturer Ms. Sandra Hamilton, regarding internship and training opportunities for our students. United Nations (UN) New York has already offered its remote internship/training opportunity which will take place in Semester I 2021/2022. All of our second-year MA students will be invited to participate. The UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean – UNLIREC, and the International Civil Aviation Organization – ICAO/ A UN Specialized Agency, have contacted us with several individual remote internships for the period of July-December 2021. Our students are currently in the process of applying. In 2018/2019, our students of TRAN6103 Institutional Translation were granted the opportunity to participate in a remote internship/training organized by the UN New York. This opportunity consists of seven online training sessions, with assignments and feedback for our students. Due to the global pandemic, the internship/training could not take place in Semester II 2020/2021 again as we anticipated, and it has been postponed to Semester I 2021/2022 (September 16-November 18, 2021).

Grants (AL2, AC3, AC4). At its 15th June, 2021 meeting, The Mona Campus Research and Publications & Graduate Awards Committee, approved Dr. Tamara de Inés Antón’s request for funds to purchase ten (10) licenses of SDL Trados Studio 2021 Professional (Network) for CAT (Computer-assisted Translation) Tools and Translation Training. A grant of US\$2,000.- was approved and claims have to be presented for processing before 31st July, 2021. These licenses will greatly strengthen the MA in Translation Studies (French and Spanish) and any other efforts the Department may pursue in the field of Translation Studies and services. The DMLL made provisions in the Budget for the academic year 2021-2022 to purchase the remaining licenses. The New M.A. in Languages, Literatures and Film Studies (French and Spanish) has been approved. As a follow-up to the DMLL Annual Report 2019-2020 where the specifics of the M.A. are detailed, the present annual report highlights the significance of this programme for the Department and acknowledges with heartfelt congratulations the relentless work of Prof. Paulette Ramsay, programme

lead, and Drs. Françoise Cévaër, Teresa Villoria-Nolla, and Tamara de Inés de Antón, in developing it and in getting it approved. The M.A. programme will start in the academic year 2022-2023. Dr. Françoise Cévaër has coordinated and chaired the following Staff/Graduate Seminar Presentations: Prof. Paulette Ramsay presented a paper entitled "Diaspora, Citizenship and Belonging: Third and Fourth Generation Cubans of Jamaican Descent in the Quest for Jamaican Citizenship" on Thursday, 12th November, 2020.

On 11th March, 2021 the Department hosted its monthly Staff/Graduate Research Seminar at 2:00 p.m. Ms. Soyini Ashby and Mr. Jhonatan Carmona Tangarife made the following classroom research-based presentations respectively: "Telecollaboration: Lessons for the students and the teacher", and "Employing innovative technologies and gamification to foster foreign language speaking in the Spanish class."

Dr. de Inés Antón presented some of her research on "The Impact of Technology in Professionalising Translation Graduates" at the Department's Staff/Graduate Seminar series on April 15, 2021. This presentation was based on her publication: De Inés Antón, Tamara. 2021. "The Impact of Technology in Professionalising Translation Graduates: E-Learning Experiences in the MA in Translation" *The UWI Quality Education Forum* 25 (1): 139-161.

MPhil/ PhD Matters.

Dr. Françoise Cévaër. Independent Chair for the M.Phil Upgrade Seminar Assessment Committee for Kaezia Mills' untitled "The Muse of History": Afro-Hispanic Diasporic Identities, Generic Hybridity and National Politics in Selected Novels by Luz Argentina Chiriboga", December 16, 2020.

Dr. Françoise Cévaër. Internal examiner for one M.Phil French, St Augustine Campus, May 2021.

Prof. Paulette Ramsay. Supervisor of MPhil. Theses: Kaezia Mills, MPhil./PhD., and Kerry-Anne Shadeed (on leave).

Dr. Teresa Villoria-Nolla. Supervisor of MPhil. Theses Terisa Bernal-Benjamin.

PHD in French.

Ms. Caroline Cousins, PhD in French Intents to submit in July 2021 with the thesis topic "Memory and Desire in the Caribbean Fictions of Jean Rhys, Maryse Conde, and Jamaica Kincaid." Supervisor: Dr. Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo; Co-Supervisor Dr. Norval Edwards. The Application for Examination of Thesis was submitted on 18th May, 2021. The Department thanks supervisor and co-supervisor for their support.

AC3, AC4. Students & Alumni/Stakeholders: International Collaborations and Partnerships (AL2, AG1). Digital transformation (AG5).

The Dokkyo University study abroad program with Japan for the 2021/2022 academic year has been resumed. Applications were processed. One student from Science and Technology submitted his application.

Erasmus + KA107 - Academic Year 2021-22 - University of Valladolid and The UWI Mona. The selection process of students took place during the month of May. All five (5) students in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures were selected to pursue Semester I, 2021-2022 at the Universidad de Valladolid, Spain.

The previous call for the ERASMUS+ Mobility Programme, Universidad de Valladolid, Spain took place from February to March 2020. The internal application process of all 10 students was successful but all submissions for the mobility programme in Semester I, 2020-20201 were suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The application process was reopened in June 2020 and three (3) students have successfully registered. Mr. Ranjel Wynn, a French Major student with Spanish, arrived in Valladolid on the 12th of February, 2021 to start the ERASMUS+ K107-61356 Student Mobility Programme with Universidad de Valladolid, Spain, for the current semester. He has attended French and Spanish courses and has very well adapted to his new environment. All classes were face-to-face with strict observation of COVID-19 protocols. Mr. Wynn reported frequently to the Department on his advancement and he wishes that all students pursuing languages had this opportunity. Mr. Wynn has recently returned to Jamaica. Mr. Najani Stewart, Psychology Major with Spanish was also in Valladolid. In April 2021, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, signed a Memorandum of Agreement Lectureships in Spanish with the Kingdom of Spain through the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAEC) and the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation and Development (AECID) for the academic year 2021-2022. This cooperation will facilitate the presence of a lecturer in Spanish on an annual basis with a maximum renewal period of three academic years. Interviews for the selection of the candidate for the Spanish Lecturer Assistantship Programme 2021-2022 took place on Monday, 31st May, 2021 from 9:00am to 3:00 p.m. The interview panel was formed by María Victoria García Ojeda, Chargé d'Affaires, Embassy of Spain in Kingston, and Suzette Wood, Assistant (Economic and Cultural), Embassy of Spain in Kingston; and by the following members of academic staff in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures: Dr. Teresa Villoria-Nolla, Coordinator, Spanish Programme, Dr. Nadine Barnett, Lecturer in Spanish, and Dr. Nina Bruni, Head of Department. The Teaching Assistants in France Programme France Education International (CIEP) is open to students who have completed their tertiary education and have a B1 level of French. It is organized by the French Ministry of Education and coordinated (application and interviews, oversight throughout the process while there) for Jamaica & the Bahamas by Rona Barnett-Passard from 2018 to present. Each year, over thirty young Jamaican and Bahamian students, including recent UWI graduates enjoy the opportunity to be teaching assistants in France while being immersed in the language and culture of the country, thereby improving their

French. Many go on to pursue Master's degrees there. The new cohort was slated to leave in September 2020 but due to COVID-19 is leaving in October 2021.

Volunteer Programme with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Japanese volunteer Ms. Mikiko TAKEDA who had to return to Japan due to the pandemic has expressed to JICA her desire to return to work at The UWI as soon as the Japanese Government deems that is safe for her to do so. JICA Jamaica has said that if the trend (as at June 18, 2020) of decline in COVID 19 positivity rates continue, it is likely that volunteers will be dispatched between October and December 2021 and thus it is likely that Ms. TAKEDA will be able to resume work at The UWI in January 2022.

The following completes the information presented in the Summary regarding Phase 1: Training and Research (AC3, AC4) of the project Development Support Distance Learning Courses in Caribbean Universities supported by the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie dans la Caraïbe (AUF – Caraïbe):

1. AUF Phase 1: Training and Research (AC3, AC4). On Monday, 22nd February 2021 the second webinar on Telecollaboration was delivered by invited expert Dr. Ania Skowron through the Service Provider Dr. Katrina Zourou, Web2Learn;
2. AUF Phase 2: Technical Support. The description of the equipment inspected by the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education in January 2021, is as follows:
 - 2.1 Lenovo ThinkSmart Hub 500 (3.3 GHz Intel Core i5-7500T, 8GB of DDR4 RAM/ 128GB SSD. 11.6" Touch Display);
 - 2.2 LG NanoCell 86 Series 4K 65 inch Smart TV w/ AI ThinQ® (HDMI, RF Antenna, RCA, Optical/ Digital Audio, USB, LAN, RS232);
 - 2.3 Extron HDMI Ultra/6 (4K Premium High Speed HDMI Ultra-Flexible Cable – 6');
 - 2.4 Logitech Meetup (4K Ultra HD Conference Camera w/ 5x HD zoom).

AC4. Research, Innovation & Publication.

Refereed Book Chapters

Martínez Moreno, Ossain César. "Las rutas de Marcus Garvey en Cuba." *The West Indian Presence and Heritage in Cuba*. Kingston: UWI Press, 2020. 69-76. Print.

Nzengou-Tayo, Marie-José. "Death and the Maiden: Writing Death in Edwidge Danticat's fiction." In Jana Evans Braziel and Nadège T. Clitandre (editors). *The Bloomsbury Handbook to Edwidge Danticat*. Chapter 8, London: Bloomsbury Publishing plc, 2021, 145-157.

Ramsay, Paulette A. "Language and the Construction of Gendered Identities in Afro-Mexican Corridos or Ballads." Ed. Jennifer Gómez Menjívar. *Writing the Americas: Literary*

Inventions from Mexico to the Southern Cone. Vanderbilt University Press. 2021

Refereed Journal Articles

Barnett, Nadine. "A Whole New World: Educators Transitioning to a New Paradigm- An Evaluative Case Study." *The UWI Quality Education Forum*, 25 (1): 120-138.

Cévaër, Françoise. "Spatialisation de la Parabole du Failli de Lyonel Trouillot." *French Forum*, University of Pennsylvania, vol. 46 no. 3, 2021, p. 83-101.

De Inés Antón, Tamara. 2021. "The Impact of Technology in Professionalising Translation Graduates: E-Learning Experiences in the MA in Translation" *The UWI Quality Education Forum* 25 (1): 139-161. <https://journals.sta.uwi.edu/gef/>

Ramsay, Paulette A. "Constructions of Cultural Identity in the Poetry of the Afro-Columbian Angela Castro Garcés, *Ramillite pacífico* (2013)." *PALARA* (Publication of the Afro-Latin American Research Association). Volume 24, Fall 2020. 69-79. Print. Online <https://palara.journal.library.uta.edu/index.php/palara/article/view/77/146>

Villoria, Maite. "Approaches and Initiatives for navigating the Teaching and Learning of Spanish as a Foreign Language in the context of Covid-19". *Navigating Higher Education in a Pandemic: Teaching and Assessment in the time of Covid-19 and Beyond*. The UWI Quality Education Forum. Number 25, May 2021, p.p. 162-193.

Edited Books

Ramsay, Paulette A. *The West Indian Presence and Heritage in Cuba*. Kingston: UWI Press, 2020. Print. 208p.

Creative Writing.

Ramsay, Paulette A. *Letters Home*. London: Hodder Ltd. 2021. 128p. (Novel).

Translation work.

Prof. FENG Lei, Chinese Director of the Confucius Institute at The University of the West Indies, Mona, translated into English a classical Chinese poem "Farewell to a Friend". The translation of Li Bai's (701-762) poem was published in *The Gleaner Jamaica*, section Arts & Leisure (Poem Column) on Sunday, 17th January, 2021. Dr. LI Kailin, Lecturer in Chinese, also contributed a translation.

Forthcoming refereed publications

Cévaër, Françoise. "Comment enseigner le film documentaire sur Haïti?: L'Exemple d'Assistance Mortelle de Raoul Peck." *Journal of Haitian Studies*, University of California, Santa Barbara, Vol. 27, N°1, 2021.

Public service

Dr. Françoise Cévaër. Jury for the interviews for the “poste d’assistant” in France in January, 2021. This programme is organized by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the French Embassy in Kingston.

Prof. Paulette Ramsay. Caribbean Examinations Council: Panel Convener – Syllabus Writing, and Spanish Panel – CSEC

ALIGNMENT

Papers Presented at Conferences and Seminars

Cévaër, Françoise. “Spatialités dans l’œuvre de Lyonel Trouillot”, SAMLA 92 International Virtual Conference, “Scandal – Literature and Provocation: Breaking Rules, Making Texts”, Nov.13-15, 2020.

Villoria-Nolla, Teresa. “Lo narco en las producciones audiovisuales” [“Drug dealing in Media Productions”] at the Congreso virtual: Narcotransmisiones globales, Universidad Católica de Chile, Panel 7, 5-9 octubre 2020. Certificate issued.