

DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

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WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The work of the Department was seriously affected by staff movement. The Department bade farewell to Mr. Gilles Lubeth, Dr. Ileana Sanz, Ms. Nathalie-Zoé Fabert and Ms. Kumiko Yoshida. We welcomed the following new foreign assistants: Ms. Mathilde Sablic (France), Ms. Aiko Hashimoto (Japan, short-term volunteer) and Ms. Yenny Vargas-Quiroga (ICETEX Colombia). Ms. Nadine Barnett resigned at the



beginning of the academic year. Mrs. Barnett-Passard joined the department as full-time instructor for 2010-11. Dr. Courtney Hogarth was appointed Director of the Confucius Institute. The Chinese co-director of the Institute, Prof. Lu Shaogang, arrived at the end of February. The CI report can be read under the “Centres, Institutes, Units” section. Ms. Tomomi Yoshimatsu, the new JICA volunteer joined the department in May 2011 and will stay with us for 2 years. Mr. Lindy Jones successfully defended his dissertation on October 28, 2010 and received his PhD degree at the Graduation Ceremony on November 5, 2010. Ms. Patricia dos Reis received the Postgraduate Certificate in Education in University Teaching and Learning at the same ceremony. Ms. Maria dos Reyes Agulló Pastor received a Spanish National Award for excellence at the University level “Premio Nacional” for the quality of her results at the BA level. She successfully completed the Master 1 in Teaching. Ms. Tazuko Iijima attended the ACTFL Annual conference

and workshop on November 19-21, 2010. Dr. Paulette Ramsay edited the special issue of *The UWI Quality Education Forum* No. 17, January 2011. Prof. Williams's award-winning book *The Devil in the Details* was launched on March 10, 2011 by Dr. Conrad James from Birmingham University. Dr. Cévaër, Mrs. Nunes and Dr. Nzengou-Tayo (co-chair) started preparatory work in the local organizing committee for the Haitian Studies Association annual conference which will be hosted by the Mona Campus in November 2011 They met with the Board at its Spring meeting which was held on April 1, 2011 at Mona.

Outstanding Research:

Professor Claudette Williams received the Principal's award for outstanding research on January 28, 2011 for her book *The Devil in the Details: Cuban Antislavery Narrative in the Postmodern Age*.

Condolences

The Department extended its condolences to Mrs. Rona Barnett-Passard on the passing of her mother and to Dr. Courtney Hogarth on the passing of his father.

Ms. Tazuko Iijima and Ms. Aiko Yashimoto received our expressions of sympathy on the tragedy which hit Japan in March 2011.

Teaching and Learning

The department held its annual retreats at the end of each semester during which it reviewed its course delivery. Among matters discussed was the opening of the hospitality language courses to all language students. Shortwood Teachers' College was approached to explore the possibility of joint offerings in literature (both Spanish and French). Two training sessions were organized for staff: at the beginning of the academic year. Mr. McCook, the Lab Technician, trained all staff in the use of the Sanako System and at the end of the second semester, Ms. Tazuko Iijima, conducted a workshop on the use of OURVLE. Discussions took place with the Head of the Department of Educational Studies in order to revise

the proposal for a BA/BEd programme in Modern Languages (French and Spanish and Education). It was agreed that such a programme would require more than the standard 90 credits and AQAC will be consulted on the matter.

The Head of Department met with the Head of the Department of Government to explore the possibility of initiating a Haitian Studies programme. It would start with the establishment of a Haitian Observatory: a graduate student proficient in French would gather information published in Haiti and about Haiti and make it available in English to the Jamaican community. The next step would be to offer a minor in Haitian Studies. The possibility of a major was raised. It was agreed that such a programme will have to be cross-departmental and cross-faculty.

Graduate Studies. There was no new intake of students. Dr. Cévaër organized four seminar presentations by graduate students during the semester break. **Rashell Powell** presented “Gyneco-Exclusivism: Negotiating Spaces of Alterity as Reflected in the Work of Myriam-Warner Vieyra” followed by **Warrick Lattibeaudiere**, “Chameleonizing Gender in Patrick Chamoiseau’s *Texaco*, Raphael Confiant’s *Mamzelle Libellule* and Mayra Montero’s *Del rojo de su sombra: Review of Literature*” on December 20, 2011. On January 19, 2011, **Jaron Whitely** presented on “Computer-Assisted Language Learning at the UWI, Mona: The Way Forward” followed by **Dejon Lingo**’s “Foreign Language Learning and Effective Foreign Language Instruction: A Lifelong Learning Perspective.” A research group started on May 16, 2011 and had weekly meetings until the end of July.

Evaluation of lecturers and courses

The Department continues to be highly rated for its teaching and courses. The mean average was 4.5 (lecturers) and 4.2 (courses) for both semesters.

Student-centered activities

The Department organized an Orientation day for first-year students on October 7, 2010. Two issues of the French students’ magazine

MonÉcrivain were published this year and are available online on the departmental website.

Japanese students performed at the JICA Alumni Party held on November 13, 2010. On March 31, 2011 the Japanese Club held its annual Japan Day in the Faculty Courtyard. A banner of solidarity was designed and signed during the event. Funds were collected for the earthquake and Fukushima disaster victims and presented to the Japanese Embassy as a sign of solidarity.

The Brazilian Club showed a film *Edificio Master* in N1 on November 18, 2010.

The Spanish Club visited and performed at the Jamaica College Spanish Club on October 12, Columbus Day. A recording was made, which will be used for promotion. First Year Spanish students served as ushers at the public lecture given by the President of Colombia H.E. Dr. Juan Santos Calderón on November 19, 2010. The UWI/Colombia exchange students prepared a video presentation which was projected to the audience while waiting for the arrival of the president. First-year Spanish students went on a field trip to Spanish-owned hotel in Montego Bay in order to give them an opportunity to develop their speaking skills by inter-acting with the native Spanish-speaking staff of the hotel as well as to get an insight into the industry.

From March 29-30, 2011, the Department hosted the 12th Annual Inter-Campus Modern Languages Theatre Festival. French plays were performed on the 29th and Spanish plays on the 30th. Items in Japanese, Chinese and Portuguese were performed on both days. The Cultural Attaché of the Japanese Embassy, Ms. Irisawa, the Acting Commissioner of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms. Williams, and the Ambassador of Mexico, H.E. Mrs Leonora Rueda attended the performances on March 30. Ambassador Rueda presented certificates to the actors of the Spanish plays. At the closing ceremony in the evening, the Dean of the FHE, Dr. Swithin Wilmot, the Ambassador of Spain H.E. Mrs. Celsa Nuño and the Chargé d'Affaires of France, Mr. Bruno Jouannem, presented certificates and gifts to the students and coaches. An article on the programme was

featured in the “UWIMONA NOW” Supplement of *The Sunday Gleaner* of April 24, 2011.

International Relations

The Department was contacted by Mr. Ernesto Rosenstand from the Escuela de Administración y Mercadotecnia del Quindío in Colombia for possible co-operation in Foreign language curriculum design and training, as well as the establishment of a foreign language department. These are still preliminary contacts.

Contacts were established with Dokkyo University thanks to Ms. Tazuko Iijima with a view to preparing a MOU for an exchange programme which would allow students of Japanese at the UWI, Mona to spend a semester in Japan.

DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

The Department received the visit of Mrs. Karen Sanchez and Mrs. Sibila Maury from Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia on November 2-6, 2010. The visit took place within the framework of the UWI-Colombia Exchange programme. The delegation met with the students who went to Colombia during the summer and with the 2nd and 3rd year-Spanish students. They also met with representatives of the Campus Registrar to discuss a possible extension of the programme.

On February 24, 2011, the Ambassador of Nicaragua, H.E. Mr. David McField, visited the Spanish Club and gave a lecture on “Ruben Darío, Padre del modernismo y maestro de la musicalidad Sonora.”

On March 10, 2011, the Department received the visit of Ms. Naoko Ueno, Lecturer of English at Dokkyo University in Japan.

Major Chevarria from the Jamaica Defence Force visited the Language Lab in April. The JDF is preparing the development of a foreign language programme for its staff. Mr. McCook gave him a tour of the lab and introduced him to the Sanako System installed in Language Lab 2.

On May 16, 2011, Dr. Kasongo Kapata from University of Richmond visited the Department and discussed possible areas of co-operation in French. Dr. Kapata was a member of the Richmond delegation touring the Caribbean and Central America in order to establish cooperation agreements with the University of Richmond, Virginia.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Françoise Cévaër.** “Transculturalité, identité et criminalité dans les thrillers de Nick Stone”, Conference Antillanité, Creolite, World Literature//Antillanité, Créolité, Littérature Monde UWI, Cave Hill, October 14-15, 2010.
- _____. “Tradition vodou versus globalisation dans les romans-feuilletons de Gary Victor.” Conference on Caribbean Literature St. Augustine Campus, March 24-26, 2011.
- _____. “Jeu sur la transculturalité dans le roman francophone des Antilles”, (Transcultural Interplay in Francophone Caribbean novels) Annual conference of the CIÉF (Conseil International des Études Françaises), Aix-en- Provence, France, May 29 –June 05, 2011.
- **Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo.** “Prejudices about the Haitian Revolution in the novel of Dominican writer Carlos Deive, *Viento negro, El Bosque del Caiman*.” Seminar presentation, October 8, 2010. Department of History and Archeology.
- _____. “Yanick Lahens: l’écriture comme un scalpel...” (Yanick Lahens: Writing with a Scalpel...). Seminar on Haitian Literature, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, March 7-8, 2011.
- **Paulette Ramsay.** “Eco-Feminism and Female Empowerment.” Annual Conference of the University College of the Cayman Islands, March 18-19, 2011.
- **Claudette Williams.** “A Lens of a Different Colour: Gordon K. Lewis, Postmodernity and Cuban Antislavery Narrative” VIIth

PUBLICATIONS

Publication output per capita.

2.4 per capita in the lecturer category and above, not counting Graduate students in Lecturer positions (12 publications: 7 refereed, 5 non-refereed).

Refereed Publications

- * **Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo.** La traduction des textes littéraires antillais: quels enjeux?” In Christine Pagnoulle (ed.). *Sur le fil : traducteurs et éthique, éthiques du traducteur.* Liège: Éditions L3, Université de Liège, 2011, pp. 99-109.
- * _____. “Un pacte avec le Diable : l’écrivain haïtien et la malédiction du pouvoir dans le roman de Gary Victor, *Je sais quand Dieu vient se promener dans mon Jardin.*” In Nadève Ménard. *Écrits d’Haïti*, Paris: Karthala, 2011, pp. 445-459.
- * _____. “From Négritude to Créolité : Francophone Influence in Caribbean Literatures.” Anja Bandau and Marta Zapata Galindo. *El Caribe y sus Diásporas: Cartografías de saberes y prácticas culturales.* Madrid: Editorial Verbum, pp. 200-216.
- * **Paulette Ramsay.** “Much Writing Begets Good Writing:” Some Considerations for Teaching Writing in an Anglophone Creole Context. *Caribbean Curriculum Volume 17.* 2011, pp. 1-78.
- * _____. “Literary and Cultural Confrontations : Cos Causse’s Contemplation of the Convergences and Divergences in the Poetry of Two Black Icons.” *Journal of the University College of the Cayman Islands* .Volume 4, 2010, pp 39-59.
- * **Maite Villoria Nolla.** “Colombia’s Drug Trafficking Subculture: Its literary Representation in *La virgen de los sicarios* y

Rosario Tijeras”, *Caribbean Quarterly*, June 2011, Volume 57, No. 2, pp 75-91.

- * **Claudette Williams.** “Nancy Morejón y la historia de la mujer cubana: La otra cara de la moneda” *Revista Iberoamericana* Vol.LXXVII, Núm. 235, (Abril-Junio 2011) pp. 425-439.

Non-Refereed Publications

- * **Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo.** “Review of *Franco-Théâtres*. Website created by Alvina Ruprecht and hosted by Carleton University. URL: <http://www.carleton.ca/francotheatres/index.html>.” *International Journal of Francophone Studies*. Vol. 13, No. 2, October 2010, p. 327-328.
- * **Paulette Ramsay.** Editorial: “Postcolonial Perspectives: The Place and Politics of Foundation Courses in the University of the Twenty-first Century.” *The UWI Quality Education Forum* No. 17, January 2011, pp. vii-xii.
- * _____. and Joseph Pereira. “Interview of Mr. Joseph Pereira: “Postcolonial Perspectives: Debating the Place and Politics of Foundation Courses for Students in a Postcolonial Context.” *The UWI Quality Education Forum* No. 17, January 2011, pp. 121-128.
- * _____. Review of *Between Two Grammars: Research and Practice for Language learning and Teaching in a Creole – speaking Environment*. Kingston Ian Randle Publishers 194 pp. by Beverley Bryan. *Caribbean Quarterly*, Vol. 57, No 1, 2011, pp 78-82.
- * _____. Review of *Caribe africano en despertar/ Caribbean African Upon Awakening*. By Blas Jimenez. Trans. By Antonio Tilis. London Mango Publishers, 2010.191pp. *College Language Association*, Vol. LIII, No. 4, 2010, pp. 437-471.

INCOME GENERATION

UGC Fund	Income		Expenditure
Sale of Manuals (UGC Fund)	84,695.00		
Commercial Accounts	Income		Expenditure
Fundraising activities for the Inter-Campus Theatre Festival	97,370.00	Expenditures for the Inter-Campus Theatre Festival	257,900.00
Consultation + Other Departmental Fund	122,071.92	Students' Awards and other expenses, Vargas Llosa Exhibition	90,000.00
Rental of Facility and Translation	391,453.48	Salaries	63,552.76
UGC Fund	Income		Expenditure
Services offered in the Language Laboratory		Reimbursement and other expenses	
Summer Courses	578,775.00	Salaries and administrative charges	381,931.00
Total (UGC + Commercial Accounts) \$	1,189,670.40	Total (UGC + Commercial Accounts) \$	793,383,76

PUBLIC SERVICE

Rona Barnett-Passard.

- Member, *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque*.

Françoise Cévaer.

- Member, Jamaica Association of French Teachers.
- Vice-President, *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque*.
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association.
- Member, Latin American Studies Association.

Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo.

- Member, Advisory Board, Haitian Studies Association.
- Member, Jamaica Association of French Teachers.
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association

- Member, Latin American Studies Association.
- Secretary, the International Shotokan Karate Association of Jamaica
- Ex-Officio member, Executive Committee of the *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque*
- Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Haitian Studies*, *MaComère*, *Caribbean Quarterly*, *Callaloo*, *Palimpsestes*, *Alternative Francophone*, *Small Axe*.

Paulette Ramsay.

- Peer Reviewer, *Palara*, *Caribbean Journal of Education*, *Hispanic Journal*, *Dissidences: Journal of Cuban Exile Writing*, *Journal of Education and Development in the Caribbean*, *Hispania*.
- Asst. Chief examiner, CAPE Spanish, Caribbean Examinations Council.

Maite Villoria Nolla

- Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Humanities*

Claudette Williams

- UWI Representative, Board of the Edna Manley College.
- Peer reviewer, *Afro-Hispanic Review*, *Hispania*, *Caribbean Quarterly*, *Journal of Education and Development in the Caribbean*, *Caribbean Curriculum*.
- Subject Consultant, UCJ Accreditation (Shortwood Teachers College)

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate

Registration **1578**

Preliminary Courses

French	163
Portuguese	40
Spanish	391

Hospitality & Tourism Management

French	9
Spanish	74

Non-BA Programme

Chinese	49
Japanese	136

BA Programme

French	201
Spanish	535

Graduating Students 18

French & Spanish Majors	5
Spanish Major, French Minor	7
Spanish Majors	6

First Class Honours:

Antwain Williams (French and Spanish)

Kerry-Kay Léon (Spanish)

Stephanie-Kay Chambers-Anderson (Spanish)

POSTGRADUATE

Degree awarded: **Lindy Jones**, PhD in Spanish

Lisa Downie, MA in Translation Studies (French)

Donna Henry, MA in Translation Studies (Spanish)

Jewel Williams, MA in Translation Studies (French)

Registration:	7
MPhil French	2
MPhil Spanish	1 (on-leave)
MPhil French/Spanish	1
PhD French	1
PhD French/Spanish	1
MA Translation Studies	1 (Spanish)

PRIZES AWARDED

French

Level I William Mailer Prize: **Trudy Paule Khan**

Level II Prix Jambec: **Antwain Williams**

Level III Prix Gertrud Buscher: **Sanikia Powell**

Level III French Embassy Prize for overall achievement over the three years: **Gina Thompson**

William Mailer Scholarship: **Not awarded**

Bridget Jones Memorial Award: **Not Awarded**

Bridget Jones and William Mailer Trust: **Trudy-Paule Khan
Kerry-Kay Leon
Glenroy Smith
Tamara Taylor
Adrian Lindsay
Kamala Copeland
Danielle Smith**

Spanish

Gabriel Coulthard Prize: **Antwain Williams**

Paul Davis Prize: **Trudi-Rae Goodison**

Kemlin Laurence Prize: **Trudi-Rae Goodison**