

## THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING, MONA

Hermi H. Hewitt, OD, PhD, RN, RM, FAAN  
– Head of Department

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK IN THE SCHOOL

The academic year commenced with an increase in the number of undergraduate and graduate students as well four new academic staff. Dr Weaver returned from sabbatical and Dr. Kahwa commenced sabbatical. The School invited Dr. Feleta Wilson, Nursing Professor, Wayne State University Fulbright Scholar, Dr. Eleanor McConnell, Nursing Professor, Duke University, Senior Fulbright Specialist and Dr Laurel Talabere, Professor Emeritus, Capital University, Columbus Ohio and Visiting Professor to assist in building staff capacity in curriculum revision and teaching, strengthen writing and publication. A new Masters degree programme in Gerontological Nursing was developed and introduced. This tract was taught jointly in partnership with Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer under the aegis of the UWI Aging Centre. Through a Fulbright Senior Specialist programme Dr. Eleanor McConnell, Gerontology Nursing Specialist from Duke University School of Nursing spent a professional attachment at the School to support faculty members in implementing the programme. The last two courses (Nutrition and Biochemistry) were converted for online delivery with the kind assistance of Ryerson University. The PhD Nursing degree courses and proposal were developed and supported by the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Graduate Studies Committee and the Faculty Board on June 23 and 24, 2010 respectively. The PhD will commence 2011-12. The BScN Curriculum Regulations were revised and implemented with the 2009-10 class.



There were Curricula developments in Midwifery and Critical Care Nursing to covert these hospital based certificate programmes into baccalaureate degrees and transfer them from the University Hospital. A Child and Adolescent mental Health nursing course was also introduced at the post-graduate level. The course development was supported by a Fulbright Senior Specialist Dr. Edilma Yearwood of Georgetown University, USA. A Computer Station was installed for the Service Staff to enable them to be computer literate and provide access to e-mail correspondence. A Gazebo was installed and one side of the courtyard grilled.

Although the new physical facilities and teaching-learning furnishings meet global standards, there are challenges related to security as only one side of the courtyard is grilled giving free access to intruders. Also, the extended building is not shuttered against Hurricanes. The UWISON successfully hosted the 3rd Americas Regional Midwifery conference of Americas under the aegis of the 21st Annual Nursing and Midwifery Research Conference and 22nd Mary Seivwright Day. The conference attracted Nurse Scientists from Argentina, Bahamas, Bermuda, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Kenya, Peru, St Lucia, St Vincent & the Grenadines, South Africa, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda and the United States of America. Mrs. Insanally did the simultaneous translation of English and Spanish. The research internship programme was held at UWISON bringing together participants from Canada, Africa and Jamaica.

Nine (9) Students in the accelerated BScN degree program at Duke University visited UWISON August 10-21, 2009, to gain a cultural immersion in Community Health Nursing. Dr Hewitt represented the School at the Directing Council meeting of PAHO/WHO and the Pan American Network of Nursing and Midwifery Collaborating Centres (PANMCC) in Washington DC, September 27 – October 1, 2009. Mrs. Dawn Dover Roberts conducted a 'Regional Trainer of Trainers' for item writing for the RENR, to guide the preparation of the mock examinations, and to advise teachers in their preparation of students during the revision process. Formalized arrangement through a MOU was made with Open Campus enabling: payment for any support/elective courses taken by

student and continuing control of UWISON for BScN (post RN) programme

The BScN programme was extended to the Western Jamaica Campus with twenty six students in the academic year 2009-10 after receiving conditional approval by the Nursing Council of Jamaica (NCJ).

Dr Weaver and Mrs. Barton-Gooden received training in the use of 'Spirometry' at the Sickle Cell Unit, September 2 - 3, 2009 as part of the Longitudinal study of lung functions of in adults with Sickle Cell Disease. Through the School's PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre a project entitled "Capacity for Nursing and Midwifery Education and Training in the CARICOM Region through partnerships" was conducted collaboratively with the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, PAHO/WHO, funded by Health Canada. Data was collected from nine (9) nursing programmes in 7 countries and six (6) midwifery programmes. Mrs. Anderson Johnson and Mrs. Dover-Roberts assisted the Head as investigators in the study. Through the Nursing Endowment Fund, two nursing students received the UHWI Canadian Association Bursary and one student received the Syringa Marshall-Burnett Bursary.

The long expected Office Manager was added to the staff in April 2010 to support the administrative function. Dr Hewitt retired from the UWI on July 31, 2010 and Dr Joanna Bennett succeeded her as Head. We congratulate Dr. Bennett on her appointment and wish her a successful tenure in her new post.

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

- Heather Greenwood, Jack Buong, Amandah Hoogbruin, **Eulalia Kahwa**, Annemarie Marx, Nicky Okeyo, Nancy Edwards. A Systematic Review of Equity Issues in Epidemiological Studies on Health Inequalities: The Case of Asthma in Adults. Canadian Public Health Association Centenary Conference, Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, June 13-16, 2010.
- **Hewitt, H.** "Innovations in Nursing Practice", Nurses Association of Jamaica Island Conference October 9, 2009, Jamaica Grand Hotel, Ocho Rios;

- **Hewitt, H.** “Transforming nursing education to meet the clinical and health needs of persons in a dynamic environment” 9<sup>th</sup> Dr William Dennis Memorial Lecture July 22, 2010 at the Main Medical Lecture Theatre;
- **Hewitt, H.** .Assessment of the capacity building needs of nursing and midwifery educators, 37<sup>th</sup> meeting Annual General Meeting of the Regional Nursing Body, Grand View Hotel, Grenada, July 28, 2010.
- **Bennett J. (2010):** A multi-site evaluation of race equality and cultural competency training in mental health services in the UK. 2<sup>nd</sup> National Transcultural Conference, Calgary, Canada, 2-4 May 2010 .

**The 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Nursing and Midwifery Research Conference and 22<sup>nd</sup> Mary J. Seivwright Day and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Americas Regional Conference, UWISON, May 28, 2010.**

- Hutchinson, M. K., Hewitt, H. H., Waldron, N., Hepburn, C., Kahwa, E., Sweet-Jemmott, L., Hamilton, P., Bain, B., Weir, J., & **Simpson, D.** (2010). Development of the mothers and daughters standing strong together project: An HIV risk reduction intervention for urban Jamaican families.
- **Smith, T.,** Hutchinson, M. K., Waldron, N., Hamilton, P., Kahwa, & Hewitt, H. H., E. (2010). The maternal sexual role modeling (MSRM) scale: Measurement and association with adolescent sexual risk beliefs and behaviors.
- **Kahwa, E.,** Waldron, N., Hepburn, C., Hamilton, P., Hewitt, H. H., Aiken, J., Hutchinson, M. K., Cederbaum, J., Sweet-Jemmott, L., & Alter, E. (2010). Jamaican mothers and daughters: Influence on daughters’ sexual risk beliefs and behaviors.
- E Kahwa, N Edwards, J Etowa, D. **P Dawkins,** U. Atkinson, F Watson, R Muller, J Aiken, D Kaseje, H Koppler, M Walusimbi, R Chalo. (2010). Perspectives of frontline nurses and nurse managers on the impact of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on the nursing workforce in Sub - Saharan Africa and the Caribbean.

- J Etowa, E. N Edwards, E Kahwa, P Dawkins, H Maysenhoelder, U. Atkinson, R Muller, F Watson **J Aiken**, R Chalo D Kaseje, H Koppler, M Walusimbi. Nurses' engagement in research and policy development in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean.
- N Edwards **U Atkinson**, N Okeyo ., J Mill, M Walusimbi, D Kaseje, E Kahwa, H Klopper, H Maysenhoelder. A comparison of perceived HIV/AIDS Stigma for nurses and midwives working in Uganda, Kenya, South Africa and Jamaica.
- **Waldron, N.**, Kahwa, E., Hutchinson, M. K., Hewitt, H. H., Simpson, D., Hepburn Brown, C., Hamilton, P., Sweet-Jemmott, L., & Weir, J. (2010). Using urine tests to determine the prevalence of sexually transmitted infections among urban Jamaican adolescent females.

## PUBLICATIONS

- \* **E. Kahwa**, (2010). "Anticardiolipin Antibodies in Jamaican Women: The relationship to thromboembolic diseases and pregnancy outcomes." VDM Verlag Dr. Müller Aktiengesellschaft & Co. KG. ISBN: 978-3-639-25042-8 (156 pages)
- \* Knight-Madden, J. & **Barton-Gooden, A.** (2009) "Contraceptive usage among Jamaican women with sickle cell disease". *Contraception*, 80, Issue 5, pp.474-478. November, Elsevier publication.
- \* Powell, Dorothy L. Gilliss, Catherine L., **Hewitt, H.**, Flint, Elizabeth P. (Dec 22 2009). Application of a Partnership Model for Transformative and Sustainable International Development, *Public Health Nursing*, 54-70.
- \* **Kahwa E**, Younger, N., **Wint, Y.**, **Waldron, N.** **Hewitt, H.**, Knight-Madden, Bailey, K., Edwards, N. Talabere, L., Lewis-Bell, K.(2010). The Jamaican asthma and allergies national prevalence survey: Rationale and methods. *Bio Med Central Medical Research Methodology Journal* 10: 29

- \* Lurline A Less, Dalip Ragoobirsingh, Errol Y Morrison, Michael Boyne and **Pauline Anderson Johnson** “A preliminary report on an assessment of a community-based intervention for diabetes control in adults with type 2 diabetes”. *Family Practice* 2009;
- \* **JLM Lindo**, J LaGrenada, A Mc Caw Binns, Eldermire Shearer (2010). “Stress and Miscarriages among office based women in Kingston Jamaica. *Caribbean Journal of Nursing* 5:29 (Abstract)

### Reports:

- \* The final report on the “Capacity for Nursing and Midwifery Education and Training in the CARICOM Region through Partnerships – 2009” was submitted March 2010 to the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing (CASN) for dispatch to Health Canada. March 2010. Authors of the report are Dr. Ellen Rukholm, CASN, Dr. Gillian Barclay PAHO, Office of Caribbean Programme Coordination, Barbados; **Dr. Hermi Hewitt, Pauline Anderson-Johnson, and Dawn Dover-Roberts** of the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean at UWI.
- \* Hewitt, H. presented the Report of the UWI School of Nursing Mona at the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Regional Nursing Body/ CARICOM at the Grand View Hotel, Grenada, July 28, 2010.

### PUBLIC SERVICE:

#### **Dover-Roberts, D.**

- Chairman for an Advisory Committee, home for the aged, Richmond Park district.

#### **Hewitt, H.**

- Member, University Hospital Board;
- Member, Nursing Council Biennial Committee;

- Member, Management Committee, Faydene Methodist Home for the Elderly;
- UWI representative, on the CARICOM/RNB.

**Lopez, S.**

- Board Member, the Heart Foundation of Jamaica.

**Lindo, J.**

- Member, Kiwanis Club of New Kingston;

**Rae, T.**

- Member, Rotary Club

**Weaver, S.**

- Member, Lions Club

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**

The following students were recipients of bursaries in 2009-10:

Natoya Turner and Stephanie O'Mally received the **UHWI Canadian Association Bursary**; Alethia Francis received the **Syringa Marshall-Burnett Bursary**; Kerine Campbell, Shalanda Henry & Melissa Williams received the **IGL Legacy Scholarship for Nursing**

<b>Faculty of Medical Sciences Dean's List:</b>	9 students
<b>Faculty of Medical Sciences Honor Society:</b>	4 students
<b>Outstanding Graduates:</b>	2 students

## Undergraduate Student Population 2009-10

Category of Students	New	Returning		Total
	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	
BScN- Mona Campus	165	143	107	415
BScN- Western Jamaica Campus	26	–	–	26
BScN franchised at EXED	71	63	53	187
BScN franchised at Briown’s Town Community College	41	32	35	108
BScN franchised at Knox Community College	26	27	28	81
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>817</b>
BScN (post RN)	–	11	–	11
BScN (post RN) online delivery	92+4	95	164	366
<b>Grand Total Undergraduates</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1194</b>

## Postgraduate Nursing Students

The postgraduate student population is as follows:

Category of Students	Full-time	Part-time	Total
MScN (Nursing Administration; Nursing Education)	22	8	30
MScN (Family Nurse Practitioner; Mental Health/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner; Clinical Nurse Specialist-Gerontology Option)	32	–	32
<b>Total Postgraduate Students</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>62</b>

## STUDENTS ACHIEVEMENT

The first two Groups of BScN (post RN) online students (164) who began under the Ryerson/UWI project 2007 will graduate November, 2010. One hundred and one (101) BScN students took the Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENr) in **October 2009**, of the total seventy three (73%) passed and are employed. Those not eligible for the October examination plus those who had supplemental or failed the RENr re-sat it in April 2010. Of the 32 students sitting the RENr exam in April, 17



(53%) passed, 12 candidates were referred in Paper 3. Of note is that 12 (47%) of the students were either referred/ failed the Functional Essay-Paper 3 examination, one of four Papers in the RENR examination. The RENR was discussed at the Regional Nursing Body/CARICOM meeting July 26-29, 2010 as the pattern of failure in Paper 3 was wide spread throughout the CARICOM region. The nation average pass in Paper 3 for Jamaica was 43%. The Head participated in the Regional Nursing Body meeting in Grenada July 24-29, 2010 to adopt a modern structure and system for the RENR.