

THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING, MONA

Joanna Bennett, PhD, BA (Hons) RN, RM – Head of School

SUMMARY OF THE SCHOOL'S PERFROMANCE

The academic year has presented many challenges but has also been a very productive one in many areas. The year commenced with a Departmental retreat which enabled staff to collectively review and agree on the Strategic Plan for 2010-2013. Local, regional and global factors including the shortage of nurses and nursing lecturers; contracting clinical facilities and the increase in the number of nursing students informed strategic thinking about teaching and learning, research and outreach. The strategic



objectives for the year focused on these key areas but also emphasized the need to create a student-centred culture within the School that supports the development of academic excellence.

There were some key accomplishments within the area of teaching and learning. The approval of the PhD in Nursing and the 4-year BSc Nursing programmes (FT/PT) are significant steps forward. Both programmes are to be implemented in 2011/2012. Additionally, the review and revision of the Master's Programmes have commenced and will be completed in the next academic year.

These developments will provide opportunities for nurses in the region to attain the highest level of academic qualification, close to home and improve the School's capacity to recruit and retain academic staff. The emphasis on creating a student-centred culture has resulted in the steady improvement in student satisfaction in both graduate and undergraduate programmes. This trend has been indicated as a factor in the decision taken by several graduates of the BSc.Nursing programme to return to the School to complete graduate programmes.

A significant future challenge is meeting the market demands for nursing education. Existing regulations and legislation concerned with nurse education continues to threaten enrollment in the undergraduate programme. The School of Nursing has developed a good working relationship with the Ministry of Health, The Nursing Council of Jamaica and the Nursing Association of Jamaica and is currently involved in reviewing the Nurses and Midwives Act.

In order to advance the School's reputation as a regional leader in the provision of nursing education, a major objective for the year was staff development. One important achievement in this area was the development of Professional Development Plans for all academic staff in the School. A challenge in this area is attracting and retaining distinguished Nursing academics. Further consideration needs to be given to 'mainstreaming' employment contracts to ensure equity with other disciplines, commensurate with academic preparation and clinical experience.

As a relatively new academic discipline, one of the main areas of focus in the School is building research capacity. A research framework has been developed, which includes research hubs/teams to facilitate the development of a focused programme of research. Two research teams in the School were successful in bids for funding generated through the ongoing research collaboration with the University Ottawa, Canada. In addition, collaborative research projects are being developed with Florida International University to apply for funding from Gates Foundation and with UCLA to bid for a Fogarty International Research Training Award. Other international collaborations include an MOU between the UWI School of Nursing (UWISON), Mona, and the Institute for International Education of Students (IES). This allows a group of overseas students to take credits from courses in the School and provides a Scholarship (Tuition fee of \$12-15K) for a nursing student to study abroad.

The School successfully hosted the Annual Nursing and Midwifery Conference and the 23rd Annual Mary Jane Seivwright Day. The conference entitled "Transforming Nursing Education in the Caribbean", supported by keynote speaker, Dr Pamela Ironside from Indiana University and other international guest speakers, set the tone for

discussion and debate on contemporary developments in nursing education. Delegates were drawn from a range of countries across the region and internationally.

In November 2010, the School was re-designated as a PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery development in the Caribbean. A significant programme of work has been developed and agreed by PAHO. Achievements to date include the development of a training programme in primary mental health care for nurses in rural communities, in collaboration with Believe Open Campus and a training of trainers programme for clinical instructors, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Colleges of Nursing in Guyana.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Kahwa, E.** “Anticardiolipin Antibodies in Jamaican Women: The relationship to thromboembolic diseases and pregnancy outcomes”. BIT Life Sciences 3rd Annual International Congress of Antibodies 2011, March 23 -25, 2011, Beijing, China.
- **Bennett, J.** “Nursing Leadership: A Caribbean Perspective” Nursing Leadership: The Next Frontier for Quality Healthcare, UWI School of Advanced Nursing (SANE), St Augustine, Trinidad And Tobago, February, 10-11, 2011.
- **Lindo, J.L.M.,** Nevins, D., Aiken, J., Pounall V, Thomas, M., Reid-Baker, C., Ward, E. “Mitigating Workplace Violence in a Jamaican Hospital”. Annual Research Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mona Visitors Lodge, UWI, Mona, November, 12-13, 2010.
- **Aiken, J., Lindo, J.L.M.,** Nevins, D., Pounall, V., Thomas, M., Reid-Baker, C., Ward, E. (2010). Lateral violence in nursing: the experience in two urban hospitals in Jamaica. Annual Research Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mona Visitors Lodge, UWI, Mona, November, 12-13, 2010.

- Carrington, D., Duncan, J., **Lindo, J.L.M.**, Barton, E.N., Clarke, T., Barrow, G. Figueroa, J.P., Harvey, K. (2010). A baseline assessment of adherence to antiretroviral therapy among persons living with HIV/AIDS in Jamaica. Annual Research Conference of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mona Visitors Lodge, UWI, Mona, November, 12-13, 2010.
- **Lindo, J.L.M.**, Holder-Nevins, D., Dover Roberts, D., Dawkins, P., Hepburn Brown, C., Bennett, J. “Improving attitude towards research among graduate students at the UWI School of Nursing”. Annual Nursing and Midwifery Research Conference and 23rd annual Mary Seivwright Day, Transforming Nursing Education in the Caribbean, May 26-27, 2011, UWISON, Mona.
- **Bryan, V.**, Weaver, S., Lindo, J.L.M. (2011). Interpersonal relationship between nursing students and lecturers and its effect on learning outcomes at the UWI School of Nursing. Annual Nursing and Midwifery Research Conference and 23rd annual Mary Seivwright Day. Transforming Nursing Education in the Caribbean, May 26-27, 2011, UWISON, Mona.
- **Bennett. J.** “Nursing Leadership for Quality Healthcare in Jamaica” 57th Annual Conference of Nurse practitioners, Leaders in Nursing: Enhancing professional effectiveness, July 6-8, 2011, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort & Spa, Ocho Rios.

PUBLICATIONS

- * Greenwood, H.L, Edwards, N., Hoogbruin A., **Kahwa, E.**, Odhiambo, O.N., Buong, J.A. (2011). “A Review of Equity Issues in quantitative studies on health inequalities: the Case of Asthma in Adults.” *BMC Medical Research Methodology*, 11:104 doi: 10.1186/1471-2288.

RESEARCH GRANTS

Ongoing grants

“Longitudinal study of lung functions of in adults with Sickle Cell Disease” Investigators: Dr. Knight-Madden, **Dr. Steve Weaver** and **Antoinette Barton-Gooden** (Funded by Principal’s New Initiative, J\$1.6 million).

“Substance Abuse study in Pregnancy” Principal Investigator **Dr. Joanna Bennett** (Funded by new initiative J\$1.5million)

“Strengthening nurses’ capacity for HIV policy development in Sub-Saharan African and the Caribbean” - University of Ottawa/Great Lakes University of Kisumu/UWISON and is in the final year of a 5 year study. Co-Principal Investigators; Dr Nancy Edwards, **Dr. Eulalia Kahwa** & Dr. Dan Kaseje, (Funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), J\$5.1 million)

Seed Grants from ongoing IDRC funded project

The use of physical restraints at the University Hospital of the West Indies: A Pilot study. Barton-Gooden, A, Dawkins, P, & Bennett, J. Total Award: J\$205,415.00 (5 months)

Workplace Stress Among Nursing Faculty in Jamaica. Aiken, J, Dawkins, P, & Rajesh- Balachandar, Binol. Total Award: J\$ 245. 450.00 (5 months)

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dover-Roberts, D.

- Chairman, Advisory Committee at a home for the aged in the
- Member, Richmond Park district, Examination Committee, Nursing Council of Jamaica

Lopez, S.

- Board Member, the Heart Foundation of Jamaica.

Bennett, J.

- Member, Education Committee, Nursing Council of Jamaica
- Member, Ministry of Health, Jamaica, Registered Nurse Education committee
- Chair, External Review Team, BSc Nursing programme at the University of Belize

Undergraduate

Category of Students	New	Returning		Total
	1 st Year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year	
BScN - Mona Campus	95	134	143	372
BScN - Western Jamaica campus	26	17	–	43
BScN -franchised at EXED	60	70	61	191
BScN - franchised at Brown's Town Community College	43	43	35	121
BScN - franchised at Knox Community College	27	23	27	77
Total face to face	251	297	266	814
Cohorts BScN (post RN)	1 2	3 4	5 6	
BScN (post RN) online delivery Cohorts 1-6	6 22	24 60	4 80	
Total Online/Blended				196
Total Number of students				1010

Postgraduate

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)	22	37	59
Total Postgraduate Students	44	45	89

Graduation data for 2011

Programme	No. of Students	1 st Class Honours
BScN	139	10
BScN (post RN)	76	8
MScN	31	4 Distinctions

Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENr)

147 BScN graduates took RENr in October, 2011, (9) students are repeating. (Awaiting results)

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Faculty of Medical Sciences Dean's List: 3 students

Faculty of Medical Sciences Honor Society: 3 students

Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES

The following students were recipients of bursaries in 2010-11:

UHWI Canadian Nurses' Association Bursary - **Dana Bradshaw**
Jody-Ann Davis

Syringa Marshall-Burnett Bursary - **Stephanie O'mally**

Mildrend Marshall Bursary - **Cavelle Walters**

IGL Scholarships - **Trace-Ann Gooden**

Washington., DC (UWIAA-DC) - **Kayandri Williams**
Chapter-Nursing Scholarship **Kerine Douglas**
Natalie Solomon
Shannakay Balckwood