

**FACULTY OF MEDICAL
SCIENCES
MONA**

Year ending July 31, 2007



Professor Archibald McDonald, MBBS, FRCSEd, FACS,
DM (Surgery) UWI – Dean

Dean's Overview

During the past academic year the Faculty of Medical Sciences concentrated on four main areas: improving the teaching and learning experience for our students, increasing access, infra-structural improvements and resource generation. Despite serious challenges the faculty achieved most of its targets set at the beginning of the year. The MB BS regulations including the GPA system were completed and instituted at the start of the new academic year. The modules were revised and converted into full UWI courses. Students are required to pass every course and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0. In Nursing, UWISON received high commendations from the Quality Assurance Unit for the high quality of its programmes despite inadequate resources. This year UWISON will graduate 217 nursing students from the Mona Campus and the Community colleges through its franchising arrangements. This is the first time that nursing students will graduate from the Mona Campus.

In keeping with the increasing demand for health care workers worldwide, student enrolment was increased by 22 percent in the faculty. This trend will continue despite the modest two percent growth in enrolment projected for the Mona Campus by the UWI strategic plan for the five year period 2007 – 2012. The faculty still admits only 10 percent of qualified applicants to the MB BS programme and less than 20 percent to the undergraduate nursing programmes. UWISON through a collaborative effort with Ryerson University, Toronto Canada, now offers its Baccalaureate programme online to students in the UWI-12 countries.

Infrastructural improvements continued with completion of the refurbishing of the Hopwood computer centre and the installation of 70 new computers. The design of the UWISON expansion was completed and construction is to begin soon. Plans for the new Basic Medical Sciences complex are being developed and construction is expected to

begin early in the calendar year 2008. This facility will not only improve the learning experience for our students but will provide state of the art laboratories to enhance our research capabilities.

Student Enrollment and Access

The Faculty continues to increase annual student enrolment. Despite the target of two percent posited for the Mona Campus in the UWI's strategic plan for the period 2007 -2012 this trend will continue for several years. The Health Care industry is the fastest growing industry worldwide and therefore there is an increased demand for health care workers. Student enrolment increased by 22 percent compared with 27 percent the previous year. The table shows the enrolment in the respective programmes for the academic year 2006 – 2007 compared with the previous year. Over the two-year period 2005 – 2007 enrolment increased by 37 percent.

Student Enrolment in the Faculty 2006 / 2007 vs 2005/ 2006

Programme	Majors & Minors	No. of students 2006/7	No. of students 2005/6
BBMedSci	Anatomy	5	5
	Biochemistry	10	6
	Pharmacology	25	20
	Physiology	6	4
	Subtotal	46	35
BSc. Nursing	(Post RN)	109	43
	Nursing (generic)	640	471
	Nursing Administration	0	0
	Physical Therapy	52	49
	Subtotal	801	563
Certificate	Nursing Administration		
MB BS	Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery	702	631
	Total	1503	1229

During the year plans to commence a Bachelor's programmes in Speech and Occupational Therapy were developed. Funding for these programmes was obtained from the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica. These programmes will be developed through expansion of the BBMedSci programme.

In addition UWISON now offers the Post RN Baccalaureate programme online and there are now 211 students, mainly from the non-UWI 12 countries, enrolled. This was developed in collaboration with Ryerson University.

The Bachelor's Programme in Diagnostic Imaging (Radiography), a collaborative effort with the School of Medical Radiation Technology of the University Hospital commenced in this academic year and 30 students are registered.

Enhancing Quality and Student Centredness

The Stage 1 of the MB BS Programme continues to be very challenging. The new curriculum was revised and all modules are now UWI courses. The regulations were revised and students must pass all courses. The GPA system was implemented and requires that all students maintain a minimum GPA of 2. In the stage 1 examinations held June 2007 about 20 percent of students failed. A remedial programme was introduced for the first time in the faculty at this level. It included not only an academic aspect but also psychological and cultural components. The results of this intervention were astounding with all students passing the supplemental examination which was held six weeks after the first examination. The faculty recognizes that a significant number of our students suffers from psychological disorders and also have difficulty making the cultural and social adjustments to campus and university life. Arising out of this successful remedial programme, the faculty has designed, with assistance from a private contractor, an orientation programme for all new students, which addresses all these components. This is to be incorporated into the orientation programme as of academic year 2007 / 2008.

The second cohort of students in the revised MB BS programme graduated in June 2007. 96 students sat the final examinations and the results were the best seen in recent years and probably the best ever with only nine students failing and no student failing more than one subject. Seven students graduated with honours degrees.

Despite inadequate space and high staff: student ratios, UWISON continues to produce excellent results. Two hundred and seventeen students successfully completed the BScN Programme and 78 have been recommended for first class honours. The graduating class consists of 105 students from the Mona Campus, 61 and 48 from Excelsior and Brown's Town Community College respectively. This is the first group

of students from the Baccalaureate Nursing Programme to graduate from the Mona Campus.

As indicated in last year's report, the faculty commenced clinical training at Cornwall Regional Hospital in Montego Bay. An associate Dean was appointed to co-ordinate our activities in Western Jamaica in anticipation of the development of UWI Western Jamaica. This will ensure continuation of our policy of small group teaching with a maximum student: staff ration of 6: 1. Teaching at Victoria Jubilee and Kingston Public Hospitals was also expanded. A major challenge facing the faculty is improving facilities for teaching at these non-UHWI teaching sites. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Health and the UWI was signed during the year. This gives our students first call on training facilities in government institutions.

A review of UWISON's programmes was done by the Quality Assurance Department. The Department received high commendation for maintaining high quality.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Undergraduate Programme

The Faculty graduated 356 undergraduate students in Academic Year 2006/2007:

MB, BS	96
BSc Nursing	232
BSc Physical Therapy	15
BBMedSci	13

Of the 146 candidates of the Class of 2009 sat the Stage I MBBS/BMedSci examination, 91 students were successful in the first attempt; four gained honors with distinctions, and 33 honours. All 18 failing students passed the supplemental examinations after the remedial programme.

MBBS Examination Results

The MBBS examination results for Academic Year 2006/2007 were as follows:

	Pass	Honours	Distinction	Fail
Medicine (MD 500)	93	11	1	3
Surgery (SU 500)	93	9	0	3
Obstetrics & Gynaecology (OG 500)	95	2	11	1

BSc Nursing Results

Category of Students	Graduating Nov. 2007	Status
BSN (generic) Mona campus	105	1st Class= 54 Upper 2nd= 53 Lower 2nd = 1
BScN (generic) franchised at EXED	61	1st Class= 18 Upper 2nd= 41 Lower 2nd =2
BScN (generic) franchised at Brown's Town Community College	48 (9 from previous class)*	1st Class= 6 Upper 2nd = 32 Lower 2nd =9 Pass=1
BScN (generic) franchised at Knox Community College	N/A	
Sub-Total-BScN (generic)	208+9*=217	
BScN (post RN)	15	1st Class =2 Upper 2nd =9 Lower 2nd =3 Pass =1
BScN (post RN) online delivery		
GRAND TOTAL Undergraduates	232	

Prizes Awarded

The following students were awarded prizes in the Final MB BS examinations for Academic Year 2006/2007:

Overall Clinical Medal	Lori-Ann Mae Fisher
Medal - Medicine and Therapeutics	Lori-Ann Mae Fisher
Medal - Obstetrics and Gynaecology	De-Ann Williams
Medal – Surgery	Sarah Grace Marshall
General Surgery Prize	Sarah Grace Marshall
Sir Harry Annamunthodo Prize in Surgery	Christopher Wilks
Allenbury Prize in Medicine	Lori-Ann Mae Fisher
Bank of Nova Scotia Prize	Lori-Ann Mae Fisher
Professor Owen Morgan Prize	Lori-Ann Mae Fisher

Research

In the year under review the faculty published 185 papers in peer reviewed journals. Ninety abstracts were also published and there were 234 presentations at local, regional and international conferences. The publications by department are shown in the table below.

The publication rate of 1.1 exceeded the target of 1.0 set for the year and represents a slight increase over last year.

Publications per Department

Department	Publications	Conference Presentations
UWI School of Nursing (UWISON)	10	13
Basic Medical Sciences	36	27
Community Health & Psychiatry	19	65
Medicine	13	33
Obstetrics, Gynaecology & Child Health	20	65
Pathology	17	19
Microbiology	4	4
Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care	19	27
TMRU / Sickle Cell Unit	47	—
TOTAL	185	226

Research Awards

The following papers were judged best publications in the faculty for the academic year and received awards at the Principal's Research Awards Ceremony.

Professor Susan Walker, Dr. Susan M. Chang, Dr. Christine Powell and their colleagues - "Effects of Early Childhood psychosocial stimulation and nutritional supplementation on cognition and education in growth-retarded Jamaican children: prospective cohort study". Published in the October 19th 2005 issue of the Lancet.

Professor Barrie Hanchard and Professor Rainford Wilks - "Human T Lymphotropic Virus Types I and II Western Blot Seroindeterminate Status and Its Association with Exposure to Prototype HTLV-I" Published in the journal of Infectious Diseases volume 193: in 2006.

Dr. Ruby Lisa Lindo - "Aqueous Chemistry of the Vanadium(III) and the Vanadium(III) – Dipicolinate Systems and a Comparison of the Effect of Three Oxidation States of Vanadium Compounds on Diabetic Hyperglycemia in Rats." This was published in the journal *Inorganic Chemistry* Volume 44 No 15, in 2005.

Research Grants

The Faculty continues to attract a significant number of research grants. During the year, excluding the TMRI, US \$5.2 million in research grants was obtained by the faculty. Approximately US \$ 8 million in grants was obtained by TMRI. The breakdown of this can be found in the individual departmental reports.

Conferences, Workshops and Seminars

The Faculty hosted several conferences and seminars during academic year 2006/2007. These are listed in the individual departmental reports but included:

- The Annual Nursing Midwifery Research Conference and Mary Seivwright Day, hosted by the UWISON and held at the Jamaica Conference Centre May 31- June 1, 2007. The conference theme was "Nursing Research Providing Evidence for Improved Nursing Practice".
- The 15th Annual Research Conference and Workshop with the theme "Drug Development from Natural Products: Past, Present and Future." November 15-17, 2006.

Income Generation and Diversification

The main income generating project for the faculty was again its MB BS full fee paying and Baccalaureate nursing programmes. These programmes earned approximately JA \$ 326 million. Significant income was also generated from clinical trials, projects and consultancies mainly through the Mona Institute of Medical Sciences (MIMS).

Graduate Studies

The Master of Science in Sports Medicine commenced in this academic year and to date 13 students are registered. As sports are important to the region this is strategic as the UWI must take a leadership position with respect to this growing field. In addition our athletes who have performed at world class standard over a long period of time, deserve assistance from our brightest minds to give them the scientific support and medical care they need.

All our DM programmes were revised and the regulations reviewed and published. A research component is now included in all our programmes. Through the Research Resource Centre in the Office of the Dean, residents are trained in basic research methodology and biostatistics. This programme is to be offered online during academic year 2007 / 2008. Efforts were made to improve supervision of students in research degree programmes but there is still a lot of work to be done in this area. The Graduate Committee has been mandated to ensure that these graduate students no longer wait many years to complete their programmes.

The Faculty awarded the following postgraduates Degrees during the academic year:

DM Anaesthetists	3
DM Emergency Medicine	3
DM Medicine	3
DM Internal Medicine	6
DM Obstetrics & Gynaecology	1
DM Paediatrics	5
DM Psychiatry	2
DM Radiology	5
DM Surgery	3
MPhil Biochemistry	3
PhD Biochemistry	2
PhD Nutrition	1

There were 520 Graduate students registered in the Faculty during the academic year. This included 39 Ph. D. students. The number of students registered in each discipline is shown below.

DM Programmes

Anaesthesia	19
Child Health	1
Emergency Medicine	15
Family medicine	1
Haematology	3
Haematology Clinical	2
Medicine	9
Medicine Internal	10
Microbiology	1
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	31

Opthalmology	4
Paediatrics	19
Psychiatry	8
Radiology	13
Surgery – ENT	3
Surgery – General	29
Surgery – Neurological	1
Surgery – Orthopaedics	8
Surgery – Otorhinilaryngology	3
Surgery – Paediatrics	1
Surgery – Urology	2
Total	184

MD Medicine	1
MPH	
Health Education/Health Promotion	1
Public Health	1

MSc

Clinical Psychology	1
Counselling	83
Family medicine	12
Microbiology	2
Nursing (Administration)	10
Nursing (Education)	22
Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner)	16
Nursing (MHealth/Psychiatric Nurse Prac.)	4
Nutrition	24
Total	174

MPhil

Anatomy	1
Biochemistry	25
Pharmacology	12
Physiology	8
Public Health	10
Total	56

PhD

Biochemistry	13
Clinical Psychology	6
Microbiology	2
Nutrition	5
Pharmacology	6
Physiology	2
Psychology	4
Public Health	4
Total	39

Conclusion

The Faculty continues to perform well in key areas such as research, income generation and grants, curriculum development and review, increasing access and quality enhancement. Its graduate programmes saw significant improvement during the year. Our graduate programmes have been criticized for a lack of emphasis on research degrees and this is now clearly been addressed with the inclusion of a research component in our DM programmes, the training of DM students in research methodology and biostatistics and also approval of the appropriate regulation to allow joint registration for DM / PhD degrees. In order to continue its development and improve the learning experience for its students the faculty will seek to increase the number of international students enrolled, in the new academic year. Diversity in the student population is important for our students to acquire the range of social skills which are important to workers in the health care profession. The construction of the new Basic Medical Sciences building and the expansion of the Mary Seiwright building which houses UWISON is to take place in 2007/2008. These projects will not only provide space but will enhance our research and teaching capabilities. A workshop will be held in the 2007 / 2008 academic year to put in place an operating plan, based on the UWI strategic plan, to guide its work over the next five years.