

# FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

## MONA

Year ending July 31, 2012



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

# Overview

The Year 2011/2012 was a challenging yet successful year. The Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS) maintained its drive to manage the increased enrolment of undergraduate medical students with greater emphasis on international students, primarily as a source of income generation. This has been complemented by the Faculty's efforts to expand the clinical sites to ensure standards are maintained and that training remains at its optimum.

The UHWI business plan has been completed, but is yet to be implemented. The plan was strategically designed to provide a more sustainable and profitable business arrangement for the UHWI, with greater involvement of the UWI on issues related to funding. The plan also served to establish greater engagement and dialogue with the Ministry of Health.

Student achievements during the academic year represented the best results ever had in the Faculty. Only four students of those who sat the final MBBS examinations in May/June 2012 were unsuccessful. There has been significant emphasis on research and innovation, and in the strengthening of the Research Resources Centre. The FMS/TMRI Research Fellowship programme has been beneficial to a number of academic staff.

The Faculty underwent two major exercises. The first was the Quality Assurance Review during December 2011 for the clinical medicine programme which covered years 3-5 for the MBBS programme, and for

the DM programmes. Generally, the review found that the Faculty was meeting its set objectives and noted the high quality of the educational process. A few concerns were raised, particularly regarding the re-establishment of the Medical Educational Unit, which will be of significant importance for staff development and which the Faculty will work at resolving during the next academic year. The second was the CAAM-HP accreditation of the MBBS programme conducted in March 2012, which saw the Faculty receiving a five year (2012-2017) accreditation. There were areas highlighted which required improvements and these will also be addressed in the near future.

## Student Enrolment and Access

Table 1 below shows a comparison of undergraduate enrolment for the academic year 2011/2012 with the previous year.

### Student Enrolment in the Faculty of Medical Sciences – 2011/2012

Programme	Majors and Minors	No. of Students 2011/2012	No. of Students 2010/2011
BBMedSci	Anatomy	8	8
	Biochemistry	–	–
	Pharmacology	59	51
	Physiology	9	7
	Year 1 Students	46	53
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>119</b>
BSc	Nursing (Post RN) Online Delivery	223	212
	Nursing (Generic)	839	814
	Physical Therapy	161	140
	Diagnostic Imaging	86	79
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1309</b>	<b>1245</b>

DDS	Doctor of Dental Surgery	37	35
MBBS	Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery	1207	1038
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2675</b>	<b>2437</b>

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

### Undergraduate Programme 2011/2012

#### MBBS:

- Dean's List: 52 students
- Honour Society: 10 students
- Outstanding Grauduands: 2 students

#### Nursing:

- Dean's List: 3 students
- Honour Society: 3 students
- Outstanding Grauduands: 2 students

#### Physical Therapy:

- Dean's List: 1 student
- Honour Society: 1 student
- Outstanding Grauduands: 2 students

#### BBMedSci

- Dean's List: 10 students
- Honour Society: 2 students
- Outstanding Grauduands: 2 students

## Diagnostic Imaging

- Dean's List: 12 students
- Honour Society: 4 students
- Outstanding Graduates: 2 students

The Faculty graduated Undergraduate students in the Academic year 2011/2012:

MBBS	150
BSc Nursing (generic)	80
BSc Nursing (Post RN)	73
BSc Physical Therapy	23
BBMedSci	32
BSc Diagnostic Imaging (Radiography)	18

## MBBS Examination Results

The MBBS Examination for academic year 2011/2012

	Pass	Honours	Distinction	Fail/FA
Medicine (MDSC553)	125	4	—	4
Surgery (MDSC555)	126	5	—	6
Obstetrics & Gynaecology (MDSC554)	121	5	4	4

## Prizes/Medals

The following students were awarded prizes in the final MBBS examinations for Academic Year 2011/2012:

### Medals

Overall Clinical Medal:	—	Katherine Innis
Medicine and Therapeutics Subject Medal:	—	Katherine Innis
Surgery Subject Medal	—	Katherine Innis

Obstetrics and Gynaecology Subject Medal:	– Katherine Innis
Pathology/Microbiology Medal	– Katherine Innis

### **Prizes/Bursaries**

Professor Owen Morgan Prize in Medicine and Therapeutics	– Katherine Innis
Allenbury Prize in Medicine	– Kathryn Swaby
The Dr. John Hall Book Prize	– Katherine Innis
	Kathryn Swaby
	Brenton Barnett
	Stephanie Williams

### **Medical Association of Jamaican Insurance**

Fund Prize in Obstetrics and Gynaecology	– Katherine Innis
Professor Lois Grant Book Prize	– Katherine Innis
Professor S. Brooks Memorial Prize	– Katherine Innis
Astley Karl Banbury Prize in Medicine	– Katherine Innis

### **Prizes Awarded to BSc Physical Therapy Students, 2011/12**

Overall clinical prize	– Rushell Bennett
Final professional examination prize (practical)	– Roston Wood
Final professional examination prize (theory)	– Domoniek Smart
Rehabilitation 1 prize	– Dominic Wilkes
Rehabilitation 2 prize	– Jodi-Ann Vaz and Domoniek Smart
Rehabilitation 3 prize	– Najeeva Foster
Anatomy	Not awarded this year

## Research

The number of research publications has improved. However, only per capita of 1.5 of referred papers per full-time staff has been published. Greater emphasis continued to be placed on encouraging publications within the Faculty. One way in which this has been achieved has been through the offering of financial support/scholarship for academics, as well as through emphasis on ensuring that staff joining the Faculty is research-oriented. The Clinical Research Fellowship established with the TMRI continues to be instrumental in this effort. The number of proposals to the UWI Ethics Committee has increased significantly. Commendations were extended to the FMS for its extensive work in the UWI Research Day 2012 under the theme “Promoting Health and Wellness: The UWI Mona’s innovative approach”. Despite the many challenges, the FMS has remained the leader in research within the University.

**Table 3**

### Publications per Department

Department	Publications 2010/2011	Publications 2011/2012	Conference Presentations 2010/2011	Conference Presentations 2011/2012
UWI School of Nursing	1	6	10	15
Basic Medical Sciences	41	37	36	15
Comm Health & Psychiatry	41	35	39	23
Medicine	20	19	31	34
Obstetrics & Gynaecology	19	24	10	1
Child Adolescent Health	22	20	—	45
Pathology	28	27	22	20
Microbiology	12	3	—	6

Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care	37	44	51	85
TMRU/Sickle Cell Unit	46	56	–	41
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>285</b>

## Research Awards

At the Principal’s Annual Awards Ceremony, one paper was awarded **“Best Research Publications”**.

- **Celia DC Christie, Russell B. Pierre, Paulette M. Palmer, Jacynth T. Moore, Collette Billings, Leslie A. Samuels, Tracey Evans-Gilbert, Beverly Rodriquez, and Kevin Harvey** – “The Jamaica Paediatric, Perinatal and Adolescent HIV/AIDS (JaPAAIDS) Programme.
- **Susan Chang and Susan Walker** – “Improving development in young children: the importance of early development”.
- **Peter J. Figueroa and Karen Webster-Kerr** – “Success in controlling a major outbreak of malaria because of plasmodium falciparum in Jamaica.
- **Celia DC Christie, Newton D. Duncan, Kirk A. Thame, MT Hyacinth Smith, Lavern Malcolm and collaborators** – “Pentavalent Rotavirus Vaccine Trial in Developing Countries: Safety and Health Care Resource Utilization”, *Pediatrics* 2010;126(6):e1499-e1506.

The most **“Outstanding Researchers”** were:

- **Professor Marvin Reid of the Sickle Cell Unit, Tropical Medicine Research Institute**

Marvin Reid is a Professor and Head of the Sickle Cell Unit. His research accomplishments for the period under review included publication of 16 papers in high-impact peer-reviewed journals,



personally attracting J\$1.83M in research funds and providing the kind of leadership to the Sickle Cell Unit that resulted in research grant inflow in excess of US\$4M.

- **Professor Horace Fletcher of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology**

Horace Fletcher serves as Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. During the period under review he published 11 articles in moderately high-impact peer-reviewed journals and attracted J\$4.5M in research grant funds. He is also the author of a recently released anthology of short stories entitled “Fish Kill: And Other Modern Day Fables”.

- **Dr. Maria Jackson of the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry**

**Maria Jackson** is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Community Health & Psychiatry. During the period under review she produced a definitive body of work related to dietetics and nutrition resulting in seven (7) publications, six of which appeared in high-impact peer-reviewed journals. She also attracted J\$1.99M in research funds.

**The selection in the category “The Project attracting the Most Research Funds”**

No selection was made in this category.

**The final category “The research Project with the Greatest Business/Economic/Development Impact” was:**

- **Susan P. Walker, Susan M. Chang, Christine A. Powell, Helen J. Henningham, Dawn M. Stephenson and collaborators – “Parenting Interventions in the Caribbean”.**

This is a pilot project which involves a cluster-randomized trial to evaluate delivery of early child development interventions integrated into the usual health services in Jamaica, Antigua and St. Lucia. It uses videoed child development messages and community health aides, trained to discuss the video messages

with mothers. Activities that mothers can do with their children are also demonstrated. The project has been recognized for its developmental potential by the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank.

## Research Grants

The Faculty received numerous research grants in excess of US\$5.9m, J\$28.4m, £455,400 and Can\$264,962.78 across several departments. Details of these appear in the individual departmental reports.

## Graduate Studies

The following new programmes were launched during the year.

- DM in Family Medicine
- MSc in Physical Therapy

Registered Students (2011-2012 – Graduate Studies)

Programme	Numbers 2010/2011	Numbers 211/2012
Specially Admitted	5	2
Dip Family Medicine	9	22
DM	315	338
DPH	16	24
MPH	49	41
Taught Masters	170	177
MPhil	53	45
PhD	47	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>664</b>	<b>711</b>

## Income generation and budgetary considerations

Much emphasis has been placed on this area during the academic year. Several departments undertook a number of initiatives and these have been successful. Overall, the Faculty continues its drive to introduce

full-fee paying programmes, particularly for graduate programmes. Even though the Faculty has made significant strides in the management of the increased enrolment for the undergraduate programme it continues to be challenged by the associated costs.

## **Conclusion**

The FMS offers one of the top medical programmes in the world and this was attested to by the recent accreditation by the CAAM-HP Authority. Steps must be taken to have other programmes in the Faculty accredited, including UWISON. However, the Faculty offers world-class medical and nursing programmes, and the standard must be maintained. This means that the facilities of the Faculty must also improve simultaneously. While there are gaps to be filled, significant progress has been made and internal quality review standards must also be met. Additionally, the Faculty has again shown that while student enrolment has increased, the quality of our programmes remain at a high standard. Quality of graduates from the Faculty must not be compromised. Significant issues have been raised regarding the professional and ethical behavior of some students, which must be addressed expeditiously. There continues to be focus on increasing the number of graduate programmes to meet the needs of the region.

The Faculty remained concerned about the financial stability and better management of financial resources must be a priority across the Faculty, particularly as The UWI is charting a new direction to move away from Government funding and to become self-sustainable. Notably, the Faculty has strategically positioned itself to realize the construction of new facilities and the renovation of existing ones.