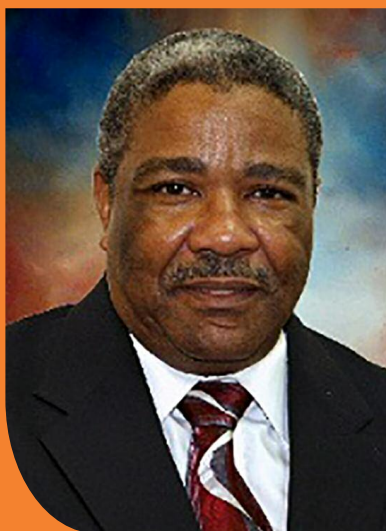


# FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

## **Mona**

Year ending July 31, 2013



EVAN DUGGAN

BSc UWI, MBA, PhD. *Georgia State*

Dean

# – *Dean's Overview* –

## INTRODUCTION

There were significant changes in the leadership and structure of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the start of the academic year 2012–2013. On August 1, 2012, Professor Evan Duggan succeeded Professor Mark Figueroa, who had served as Dean for eight years. As a result of Professor Duggan's appointment as Dean of the Faculty, a vacancy was created at the Mona School of Business where he had been the Executive Director for four years and played an integral part in the merger of the Mona School of Business and the Department of Management Studies to become the Mona School of Business and Management (MSBM). Professor Paul Simmonds was appointed Executive Director of MSBM in September 2012 and Dr Densil Williams became the Deputy Executive Director. Other leadership changes included Dr Noel Cowell's appointment as Associate Dean with responsibility for teaching and learning in place of Dr Aldrie Henry Lee who proceeded on Sabbatical leave and Dr David Tennant's appointment as Associate Dean for Graduate Studies replacing Professor Rupert Lewis who retired in September 2012.

Similarly, the Faculty would like to express sincere thanks to Mr Clement Branche, former Head of the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, and Dr Jessica Byron, former Head of the Department of Government, who demitted office at the end of the academic year

2012–2013, for their outstanding contributions to the Faculty in their respective roles. Under their leadership and guidance, significant progress was made which has undoubtedly positioned the Faculty for even greater success.

The Faculty began the academic year with the staging of its annual Faculty Day under the theme “Employer/Employee Engagement: Creating a Culture of Accountability, Transparency and Trust”. As in previous years, the Faculty Day provided an opportunity for all staff members to contribute to the planning and implementation of the Faculty’s vision and tactical plans and to review its strategic objectives. Three (3) discussion groups addressed issues related to personal and/or institutional development thereby providing an appeal for members of staff at different levels. The groups were : (1) Finding yourself on the Job; (2) Communication & Improving Internal Customer Service; and (3) Enhancing Supervisor/Supervisee Relationships. In its focus on Employer/Employee Engagement, the Faculty continued in its approach to identify and elaborate on perspectives highlighted in the UWI 2012–2017 Strategic Plan. In this regard, it was highlighted that Employee Engagement and Development, if maintained in an environment of accountability, openness and trust would result in high performance and success of the organisation for both academics and non-academics alike. Since the 2012–2013 Faculty Day engagements, plans have been established to extend the work of the Faculty of Social Sciences’ committee which has focused on employee/employer engagement in order to advance our understanding of the specific determinants of this desirable goal within the Faculty and assist the University to establish suitable targets and interventions.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF WORK IN THE FACULTY**

Under the new Dean, a team headed by Dr Eris Schoburgh was set up to chart a course for the repositioning of the Faculty. Reposition has become necessary in order for the Faculty to remain viable and ahead of its competitors by restructuring and ensuring the relevance and quality

of its programmes. Additionally, it is to ensure that the Faculty of Social Sciences continues to be an exemplary and leading source of knowledge creation and learning opportunities in Jamaica and the Caribbean region. The desire, as well, is to maintain the tradition of the FSS, Mona as an influential source of state of the art research which advances the theory and practice of the social sciences regionally and internationally.

Dr Noel Cowell, Associate Dean, Teaching and Learning, has drafted a proposal for the re-introduction of a Special Honours Programme. This Special Honours Degree would have a different set of requirements for admission and progression designed to challenge students and encourage them to consistently perform at an exceptionally high level. It is intended to expose students to a diverse, challenging, flexible learning experience which would be in keeping with one of the University's and Faculty's objective for producing the ideal UWI Graduate. In this programme students will explore learning beyond the traditional approaches and will be exposed to opportunities for practical engagement in areas such as service learning, political leadership and business leadership. It is hoped that this programme will become a reality in the 2014–2015 academic year.

In keeping with the strategic focus of collaboration and internationalization, the Faculty entered into a working partnership with the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Security (MLSS) to design and deliver a graduate Diploma in Social Protection. This is significant because social protection is valued as a developmental tool for human capital. The graduate diploma in Social Protection will sensitize influencers and train policy makers to the need for research on social protection in order to support evidence based policy making. The initial delivery of the programme will be funded by the OAS and patterned somewhat off a similar programme developed and delivered in Chile. A team headed by Dr Heather Ricketts developed the proposal which was approved by the OAS, the Campus Committee for Graduate Studies and the UWI Board for Graduate Studies. The programme will commence in September 2013, and the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work will have overall responsibility for its management.

Over the period July 22–25, 2013, The FSS Dean teamed with Professor Alan Coble, Pro Vice Chancellor – Board for Undergraduate Studies (BUS), and Annette Insanally, Director for Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC) in a delegation to San Andres Island. The visit was arranged following a special invitation for the UWI to participate in discussions, hosted by the National Ministry of Education in Colombia, as part of a wider national project to upgrade Higher Education in the country. The purpose of the visit was to seek possibilities for collaboration on a wide range of educational matters with educators in Colombia and San Andres. It was a follow-up on previous meetings held in February/March 2013 at the UWI Regional Headquarters between UWI and a delegation of Rectors representing the seven member Universities of SUE Caribe.

The Faculty of Social Sciences recently played the lead role in organizing the inaugural lecture in the UWI/George Willie Lecture Series. It is named after Mr George Willie, an extremely successful Jamaican born accounting dynamo, who is the Managing Partner of Bert Smith and Company in Washington. The programme is meant to be a catalyst for change in thoughts, and expansion in the experience of Jamaican students and professionals. The series was created with a vision of inspiring the next generation of high achievers. The first lecture in the series was held in June, 2013 and was delivered by Harvard Law School Professor Charles Ogletree. The event was a resounding success and was attended by several hundred guests including government officials, members of the diplomatic community, faculty and students.

Throughout the year, the Faculty of Social Sciences remained engaged in nation building and facilitated a number of conferences and forums. Noted among these were:

- *An Economic Action Plan – Options for Jamaica* which The Mona School of Business and Management in collaboration with Jamaicans United for Sustainable Development (JUSD) hosted on February 12, 2013. The forum was established to facilitate discussion on and seek solution for some of the troubling economic realities facing Jamaica.

- The Department of Government also convened a number of public lectures and forums in collaboration with the OAS, the European Union and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, focusing on various issues such as *Developing Countries and the World Trading System*, *Global Terrorism*, *CARICOM and the Interamerican System*, *Cultural Diplomacy* and *Jamaica and the International Human Rights Protection Machinery*.
- In two of their conferences the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work focussed on the important issues of *Crime and Violence: The Way Forward* and the unique strengths and challenges of Caribbean Youths.
- The Department of Economics delivered a number of public lectures one such being *Why We Are Poor: The Origins of the Political Economy of Underdevelopment in Jamaica*, by Dr. Damien King, Head of Department.
- The Faculty supported SALISES in hosting their *Fifty-Fifty* Conference under the theme “Critical Reflections in a Time of Uncertainty”. This conference was the culmination of several thematic conferences and workshops hosted by SALISES to conduct a critical analysis of the Caribbean region over the fifty years since Jamaica’s independence and offer some suggestions for the next fifty years. Several important issues were explored in the various sessions in the disciplinary groups that participated. These included: Caribbean integration, labour markets, knowledge and education, politics, the state and constitutional reform, social protection, gender reform, environment and vulnerability, the University of the West Indies, crime, agricultural development, the state of youth and many others.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

In keeping with curriculum renewal both the Departments of Government and Economics underwent external reviews during the academic year 2012–2013. As a result, the Department of Economics revised their Matrix Algebra course to include audio/visual material designed for

students to be able to better grasp and comprehend the course content. A number of courses have been designed to facilitate learning, strengthen aspects of leadership, teamwork, and ethics and to broaden overall knowledge and scope. Similarly, the Department of Government delivered two new graduate courses; namely, International Security and Global Political Economy and Climate Change. At the undergraduate level, new course offerings for Internet and Democracy, Political Marketing and Communication and Political Management and Strategy were approved.

An outstanding initiative to improve teaching and learning in the Faculty was introduced by the Department of Economics which established a task force to examine and make recommendations to improve the pass rate in the level I mathematics and statistics courses. Additionally, the Mona School of Business and Management in keeping with its solutions-oriented and forward thinking mantra, introduced E-books and tablet computers to over 150 students in the MBA programme. MSBM is the first business school in Jamaica, and the second unit on the UWI Mona campus to employ the cutting edge e-learning solution. Furthermore, the MSc in Enterprise Risk Management (MSc ERM) which was designed to respond to the developments in the market place started its first cohort with eighteen students in September 2012. It is hoped that the MSc ERM will produce graduates with skills in risk techniques who understand the business contexts and are able to address and solve complex risk issues. SALISES' proposed MSc in Development Studies was approved by the University in February 2013. The MSc Development Studies is multi-disciplinary and will focus on training leaders and policy makers in research planning and execution in national, regional, and private sectors.

The Faculty made new in-roads with internships. In February 2013, representatives of Musson's Group of Companies and MSBM signed an agreement to launch a formal internship programme for MSBM's students. One of the major goals of this programme is to provide current undergraduate and graduate students with opportunities to develop and stimulate their interests and provide them with real-world business experiences. Similarly, the Ministry of Justice has adopted the practicum

from the course Theory and Practice of Restorative Justice II (SOCI3047) from the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, and has incorporated it into its Restorative Justice Community sensitization project. Consequently, students were taken into various communities to introduce the program to members of the community and were so successful that the Ministry invited them to become Restorative Justice Facilitators. Approximately thirty students from the Department of Government also benefited from an internship experience during 2012–2013. Most of these placements were organized by the Public Sector Management and International Relations Units. It is encouraging to note that an increasing number of graduate students benefited from internships in public sector agencies or attachments to non-governmental organizations and community service activities.

### **STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS**

This year, the Faculty facilitated the participation of several graduate students from the Department of Economics to participate in the 93rd Southwestern Economics Association Conference where they presented eleven papers. The students performed extremely well and the top three awards for Best paper were won by MSc Economics students. Sidonia McKenzie was awarded the top prize for her paper, "How Precautionary are Jamaican households? A Household Level Study of the Determinants of Income and Consumption: An Instrumental Variable Approach." Second place went to Nakesha Allen for her paper entitled "The Economic Impact of Climate Change on Jamaica's Sugar Industry." And Dena Spence earned third prize for "Estimating a Macro Stress Test Model of Credit Risk for the Jamaican Banking Sector."

A team of MSBM students were awarded first place for their business plan in the Vincent HoSang Entrepreneurship Programme. Their company, Near Earth Delights, will be invited to apply to the Vincent HoSang Programme where they can access further advisory and monetary support to get their business commercialized. Importantly, the team went on to compete at the Opportunity Funding Corporation Innovation

& Entrepreneurship (OFCIE) business plan competition, which was held in Atlanta, Georgia on April 18–21, 2013. They placed first in the competition among twenty five (25) other Universities. The MSBM delegation was the only non-US based team among 25 schools including Howard University and Tuskegee University. This is the second time the UWI has won this prestigious competition.

During the academic year five students completed the requirements for the PhD degree. They are:

- Ms. Opal Donaldson – “Towards the Development and Validation of a Social Information System Model”.
- Ms. Thera Edwards – “Plantations, Profits and Protection: An Environment History of the Blue Mountains, Jamaica, 1800–2009”
- Mrs. Christine Charlton-Laing – “Towards a Framework for National E-Learning Implementation: A Jamaican Case Study”.
- Ms. Grace Ann Cornwall – “Towards a Sustainable Approach to Youth in Participatory Development at the Local Level in Jamaica”.
- Ms. Pansy Hamilton – “Health Sector Reform: The Jamaican Case”.

## RESEARCH

Some notable achievements from the Faculty over the academic year 2012–13 were the Principal's Research Day Awards. Densil Williams received the award for the most Outstanding Researcher for his research on “Technology and the export behaviour of small, locally owned firms: New insight”, “The Dark Side of Social Entrepreneurship” and “Competitiveness of Small Nations: What Matters?” The award for the Best Research Publication went to Eris Schoburgh, Hopetun Dunn and Rupert Lewis and Lila Rao and Gunjan Mansingh. Dr Schoburgh's article was entitled “Top-down, Bottom-up or a synthesis? An Exploration of Implementation Theory and Public Sector Reform Practice: The Case of Jamaica” and Hopetun Dunn and Rupert Lewis for their article in the Special Issue of Critical Arts South-North Cultural and Media Studies, December 2011 entitled “Communicating Pan-Africanism: Caribbean

Leadership and Global Impact”. Lila Rao and Gunjan Mansingh’s article was entitled “Building ontology based knowledge maps to assist business process re-engineering, in Decision Support Systems”. The Award for the Project Attracting the Most Research Funds went to Hopeton Dunn, Allison Brown, and Michelle Thomas for their project on “Open Business Models: New Compensation Mechanisms for Creativity and Inclusion”, while the Research Project with the Greatest Business/Economic/Developing Impact was awarded to Maurice McNaughton, Evan Duggan and Terrence Forrester for their study on “Mobile Financial Services Research”.

The Faculty of Social Sciences continues to provide funding for colleagues wishing to attend research training seminars and to make presentations at conferences, and its research continues to impact national policy making, and provide insights into problems of national importance. This year, the faculty’s research and publications covered a wide range of topics including: foreign direct investment, economics and health, Jamaica’s debt and fiscal crisis, finance, financial institutions and their impact on economic growth and development, the political economy of underdevelopment, the IMF, crime, violence and development, protecting the poor in times of economic crisis, policing, organized crime and politics; software development, mobile financial services; culture and survival, social entrepreneurship and small businesses, marketing, planning and related issues in tourism; commodity chains, trade liberalization, regional integration, issues in globalization; CARICOM and security governance, corruption, ethics, social justice and social values; human rights, local governance in the Caribbean user fees in Jamaica’s health care services; children, child rights, poverty, political culture; the contract system of employment in the Caribbean public sector; urban regeneration management in Jamaica; gender issues; developmental psychology in Caribbean school aged children, counselling, psychology and psychotherapy, obesity management, group therapy behaviour, sexual self-concept and sexual knowledge, family life, and health; Creolization; and Caribbean language, hair and beauty within black communities, dancehall, Reggae music and ganja culture; Rastafari, thought, culture, art and fiction. The table below provides a comparative study of publications produced over the last three academic years.

**Table 1.** Faculty of Social Sciences: Number of Publications Reported by Departments/Units 2009–2012

Depts.	Books/ Monographs			Book Chapters			Journal Articles			Total		
	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013	2010- 2011	2011- 2012	2012- 2013
ECON	0	0	0	0	2	2	9	9	3	9	11	5
GOVT	0	4	0	4	0	0	6	10	3	10	14	3
MSBM	0	2	1	0	0	7	20	25	21	20	27	29
SALISES	2	0	0	6	3	0	5	10	0	13	13	10
SPSW	2	0	0	6	4	1	13	3	14	21	7	15
CHTM	0	0		0	0		0	0		0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	4	6	1	16	9	10	53	57	41	73	72	52

The Faculty continues to develop its work in applied research and the production of technical reports for national, regional and international agencies. Some of the projects completed and or areas covered are as follows: Improving Data collection within the Jamaican courts, (for the Ministry of Justice); Private Sector Assessment Report with Donor Matrix for Jamaica prepared for the IADB; Gender and Youth Assessment; Survey for National Food Safety Awareness; A Survey of the No-user Fee Policy in Public Hospitals in Jamaica; Predictions of Agglomeration – A Comparative Analysis between Less Developed Countries and More Developed Countries with the CARICOM Single Market Economy; Developing a More Strategic Approach to Reducing Regional Disparities;

Presentation of Findings from the 2012 Survey of Financial Literacy in Jamaica to the Financial Services Commission.

Colleagues were also active in providing editorial and review services to several journals including: *American Review of Political Economy*, *Southern Journal of Canadian Studies*, *International Bulletin of Political Psychology*, *Journal of Diplomatic Language*, *Journal of Cross-cultural Psychology*, *Journal of Business, Finance and Economics in Emerging Economies*, *Caribbean Review of Books*, *Jamaica Journal*, *Information Systems Frontiers (ISF)*, *International Journal Telecommunications Policy*.

## **OUTREACH**

The Faculty continued its service to the community with various outreach projects. The Department of Sociology Psychology and Social Work, through the Psychology Unit, adopted the Charlie Smith and Kingston High Schools. Dr Stacey Brodie-Walker, Ms Doneisha Burke & clinical psychology graduate students held workshops on Peer Pressure and Anger Management at Charlie Smith High School. School officials and the Unit are looking at the possibility of establishing a psychological health centre on the school grounds. Mona School of Business and Management, through its Office of Social Entrepreneurship (OSE), continued to be involved in the Grade Nine Achievement Test (GNAT) High Achievers programme which ran from October 2012 to June 2013, with the aim of providing supplementary support for students who would sit the Grade Nine Achievement Test and needed supplementary assistance in their preparations. Similarly, the MSBM continues its relationship with the Youth Crime Watch of Jamaica – Office of Social Entrepreneurship (YCWJ-OSE) programme which focuses on providing intervention for communities and schools which either serve at risk groups or are considered at-risk based on government classification. Dr Haughton from the Department of Economics launched the *Valley Foundation Mentorship Programme* for Kingston and St Andrew. The Valley Foundation provides mentorship for at-risk youth and has been operating in Montego Bay since last year.

## **CONCLUSION**

In keeping with its focus on the 2012–2017 Strategic Plan, the Faculty of Social Sciences continued to address issues of Teaching and Learning particularly as it relates to curriculum reform and renewal with a view to producing the ideal UWI candidate. Additionally, the Faculty has made good strides in its efforts at repositioning. More energies have been put in place to encourage and assist staff with improving their research efforts as they seek to focus their research on national, regional and international development initiatives. Regular reviews of courses and programmes have become mandatory for the Faculty as we seek to remain relevant and produce a high quality of graduates.