

FACULTY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Mona

Year ending July 31, 2017



PROFESSOR HORACE FLETCHER

MB, BS, DM (O&G), FRCOG, FACOG

Dean

– *Dean's Overview* –

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK IN THE FACULTY

The Faculty had an eventful 2016/17 academic year. In order to respond to the concerns and responses from the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medicine and Allied Health Profession (CAAM-HP) for the 2016 accreditation report, a senior cross campus Compliance Committee was established, led by the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Board for Undergraduate Studies. The Director of Medical Education (DME) at Mona coordinated the work of the cross-campus teams in preparing an action plan which sought to address the concerns expressed by CAAM-HP. Additionally annual progress reports were prepared for both the MBBS and DDS programmes and submitted to CAAM-HP in June 2017. The MBBS report included a comprehensive appendix of documents as evidence of compliance with accreditation standards. These included an honour code for students and new policy documents on student assessment, entry criteria, technical standards for the study of Medicine and Diversity in the FMS. These reports were accepted at the meeting of the CAAM-HP Accreditation Board in July 2017 and the UWI was informed of an extension of the accreditation for both programmes up to 2019.

Accreditation was also received for the Microbiology laboratory by the

Jamaica National Agency for Accreditation (JANAAC) effective, May 10, 2017 for 4 years. In addition, the Hugh Wynter Fertility Management Unit, at its 27th International Conference held March 2017 in Jamaica, was awarded the Centre of Excellence for Minimally Invasive Surgery, which meant that the Unit could be used for general surgical procedures.

Approval was granted by the relevant UWI Committees for the DDS programme to transition into a school. The transition to the School of Dentistry involved the revision of the structure of the Unit and staff requirement. Additional administrative staff in the position of storekeeper and senior secretary were secured. The academic workload guidelines for academic staff in part-time and full-time employment were also finalized.

There have been improvements to the clinical training of undergraduate students. The Savanna-La-Mar Hospital became the newest site for clinical rotations in the MBBS programme. Rotations commenced on April 11, 2017 with Surgery, Obstetrics and Gynaecology and Child Health. Currently a total of 12 students rotate at that site. Additional Associate Lecturers were also engaged to support the teaching and learning exercise for the students. Housing accommodation for the students had been arranged with CRM Limited where 10 rooms were secured to accommodate 20 students per rotation. Additionally, there was the completion of the dental polyclinic treatment cubicles, resulting in an increase in the number of treatment cubicles from 15 to 24. The increased treatment cubicle and the installation of the air and water lines to the dental chairs have significantly improved the clinical operations at the second clinical site.

Improvements were made to the programme offerings in the Faculty. The DDS programme introduced a Year 1 Summer Semester in order to introduce dental specific courses earlier in the programme and reduce the workload on students in Year 3. There was also the introduction of dental related courses in Semester 1 of Year 1 of the programme, to expose new students to clinical dentistry. Over the course of last year the DDS programme has further improved the student-led research by engaging the final year students. This led to the requirement for the students to prepare a clinical year case of significance and present their

research and then defend their findings to a panel, which comprised staff across multiple disciplines in the Faculty. One student had already published in an international journal and the programme aims to continue this trend. The BScN programme was re-sequenced to include the summer period and to ensure quality as recommended by the Nursing Council of Jamaica.

At the graduate level the Faculty made programme and system changes to aid in the efficient delivery and content improvement. The development and introduction of an Electronic Submission of Clinical Research Projects/Case Books to internal and External Examiners – ESPRO became the prime feature, and was scheduled to be launched on August 14, 2017. The system was developed and implemented to both re-engineer the academic process and promote a culture of greater efficiency and accountability; improve security of the documents; reduce costs; facilitate quicker turnaround time of responses from external examiners, so that students can be advised early of their eligibility to sit final examinations. The Department of Community Health and Psychiatry has also taken steps to improve and merge their programmes, as the first seminal step to the establishment of the School of Public Health. These programmes include: MPhil/PhD (Public Health); the Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) and a Master of Public Health. Additionally, efforts were made to strengthen linkage and collaboration in the Family Medicine programmes.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Technology continues to play a critical role in the delivery of the programmes in the Faculty. In the School of Medical Radiation Technology, “Clicker” was being used to enhance the teaching and learning process for the students. The use of Skype and videos were also used to deliver lectures. For the MBBS programme, the Faculty acquired a digital microscope used primarily to support the teaching in Anatomy (Histology). This instrument has allowed for greater clarity of the histology slides and complements the video conferencing streaming to Western Jamaica Campus. This has positively impacted the learning experience for students

through the delivery of lectures to the WJC. The digital microscope has the capability of creating a bank of slides that can improve the teaching to students in that area. Clicker is also used to support the teaching in Anatomy (Gross and Histology). With the Clicker technology we can gauge students' understanding of what is being taught before the end of each lecture.

In November 2016 the Faculty opened its computer lab at the FMS Teaching and Research Complex. This has resulted in greater efficiency in the delivery of computer-based classes, and scheduling and staging of examinations. The lab has the capacity to accommodate 88 students, but currently is outfitted with only 50 computers.

Several workshops were held for graduate students, supervisors and coordinators in the Faculty. The Office of Graduate Studies and Research in collaboration with the Faculty held the Graduate supervisors' workshop which was aimed at lecturers who supervised residents of the various DM programmes and was held October 4 and 6, 2016. Coordinators, through their workshop held on November 2–3, 2016, were instructed on how to develop/review curriculum for new and existing programmes; while the DM residents underwent a two day workshop, which was hosted by the Faculty in collaboration with the Centre of Excellence for Teaching and Learning on January 18 and 20, 2017, to develop their teaching skills while reviewing the MBBS curriculum.

The Faculty has maintained an active avenue of communication with the students. A DM survey was conducted in June 2017, to identify weaknesses and areas for improvement in the programmes, as well as to ascertain the efficiency of the programme delivery; it was completed by 19 of the twenty one programmes. A staff student liaison was introduced for the graduate students in the Faculty in order to provide a platform through which students could voice their concerns on matters affecting them and the faculty could have a chance to discuss/address these issues. Additionally, the Clinical Fellowship in Gynaecological Oncology commenced on July 1, 2017.

The Faculty has always been concerned with the level of professionalism

that is instilled in our students, and the DM Code of Conduct was created to ensure that our graduate students were both mindful of this expectation and that they maintained it. All DM candidates are expected to sign this form upon entry into their respective programmes, and it is used as a monitoring tool throughout their studies.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Two major research initiatives began in the Faculty during the period under review:

The SUNY/UWI Initiative

The UWI and SUNY worked to move forward the research initiative which was established under the overarching agreement signed between the UWI and SUNY University Systems. The FMS research initiative was forged principally with the University at Buffalo campus of SUNY, and includes five main areas of research development – Center for Infectious Diseases Research; Antimicrobial Resistance and Stewardship Program; Liver and Metabolic Disease; Cannabinoid Sciences Clinical Applications Research Program; and Cancer Research in Natural Products and Nanomedicine.

In order to facilitate the collaboration, Dr Tyler Mullen was appointed Global Research Implementation Fellow with an office on the Mona campus and with responsibility for aiding the implementation of the various projects. The collaboration resulted in the submission of two major grant applications:

1. Global Infectious Diseases Research Training Program – National Institutes of Health, Forgarty Center
2. Viral Hepatitis, HIV and Arbovirus Epidemiology and Treatment in Jamaica – Gilead Sciences Inc

In addition, the SUNY/University at Buffalo team participated in the 2016 FMS Annual Research Conference and Workshop.

The Mosquito Control and Research Unit (MCRU)

The Mosquito Control and Research Unit was launched jointly by the Principal of the Mona campus and the Honourable Minister of Health, Jamaica. The MCRU is a collaborative effort between the MOH and the UWI Mona campus to coordinate best practices in Integrated Vector Management and research for the health and wellbeing of Jamaicans. The purpose of the MCRU is to bring the scientific research of the Mona campus to bear on the vector control programmatic work of the Ministry of Health. It integrates several partners including Faculty of Medical Sciences; USAID; ICENS; Natural Products Institute; and Ministry of Health.

Publications by Department (2016/2017)

| Department | Publications | Presentations - Conferences/ Scientific Meetings | Books & Monographs, Book Chapter | Technical Reports |
|--|---------------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| Basic Medical Sciences | 25 | 10 | 1(b/m); 9(bc) | 4 |
| Child & Adolescent Health | 29 | 12 | 2(b/m) | 3 |
| Community Health & Psychiatry | 31 | 21 | 2(b/m) | 1 |
| Medicine | 14 | 25 | 1(bc) | – |
| Microbiology | 15 | – | – | 3 |
| Obstetrics & Gynaecology | 9 | – | – | – |
| Pathology | 14 | 13 | 2 (b/m) | – |
| Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care | 14 | 44 | – | – |
| Mona Ageing & Wellness Centre | 6 | 9 | – | – |
| CaIHR | 36 | 20 | 2 (bc) | 1 |
| Units/Sections under the Dean's Office | 1 | 3 | 1 (bc) | – |
| UWI School of Nursing | 7 | 5 | – | – |
| Total | 201 | 162 | 7(b/m); 13(bc) | 12 |

Research Awards

In February 2017, several members of staff received the Principal's Research Awards for their outstanding work done (with their collaborators), as follows:

The Best Research Publications

- **M Asnani, T Royal-Thomas, M Reid.** “Predictors of renal function progression in adults with homozygous sickle cell disease.” *British Journal of Haematology*. 173, 3 (2016):461–468. **(IF 5.812)**
- **Davis, R. and Brown, P.D.** (2016). Multiple antibiotic resistance, fitness and virulence potential in respiratory isolates of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* from Jamaica. *J Med Microbiol* 65 (4): 261–271. 10.1099/jmm.0.000229. **(IF 3.631)**

The Most Outstanding Researcher/Research Activity

- **Dr. Monika Asnani**, Caribbean Institute of Health Research, awarded **Most Outstanding Researcher** for producing 1 book chapter, 1 book chapter and 4 articles (3 as first author) with IF ranging from 0.72 to 5.812.

Book: *Sickle Cell Disease: The Clinical Care Guidelines of the Sickle Cell Unit*. 2nd edition, 2015. Kingston, Jamaica: Sickle Cell Unit, University of the West Indies.

Book Chapter: “Pain, Sexual Activity and Partner Support in Jamaicans with Sickle Cell Disease.” In *Sickle Cell Disease: Genetics, Management and Prognosis*. 103 pages. Nova Science Publishers. September 2015.

Articles: “Exploring Antecedents of Quality of Life of Sickle Cell Patients Using a Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Process Model based Framework.” *Health Systems*. 5, 1 (2016): 52–65. (IF 0.72) “Predictors of renal function progression in adults with homozygous sickle cell disease”. *British Journal of Haematology*. 173, 3 (2016):461–468. (IF 5.812) “Increased rates of body dissatisfaction,

depressive symptoms and suicide attempts in Jamaican teens with sickle cell disease". *Pediatric Blood & Cancer*. (2016). doi: 10.1002/pbc.26091. [Epub ahead of print]. (IF 2.634) "Utility of paediatric quality of life and revised illness perception questionnaires in adolescents with sickle cell disease". *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*. 11, 1 (2016):1–12 (IF 1.24).

- **Dr. Chukwemeka Nwokocha**, Department of Basic Medical Sciences, awarded **Most Outstanding Researcher** for producing 2 book chapters and 6 articles which focuses on "Biological activity, phytochemical exploration and mechanisms of action of natural products (plants and metals) in the management and signalling pathways of experimental hypertension".

Book Chapters: "Inhibition of cytochrome P450 1 enzymes by apocynin and other Jamaican natural products: Assessing potential for chemoprevention and drug-herb interactions. In-vitro Bioassays and Chromatographic Analyses used to screen natural Products from Jamaica in the 21st century", 2015; 49–61 *Bioactive Plant Molecules, Sources and Mechanism of Action in the Treatment of Cardiovascular Disease*. McCreath, Elsevier Publications.

Articles: "Hydroalcoholic extract and pure compounds from *Senecio nutans* Sch. Bip (Compositae) induce vasodilation in rat aorta through endothelium-dependent and independent mechanisms". *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. 2016 Jul 5. Pii: S0378-8741(16)30431-7. Doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2016.07.008. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 27392595 "Treatment of Rats with Apocynin Has Considerable Inhibitory Effects on Arylamine N-Acetyltransferase Activity in the Liver". *Scientific Reports*. 2016 May 31; 6:26906. Doi: 10.1038/srep26906. PMID: 27242013 "Hypotensive and antihypertensive effects of a hydroalcoholic extract from *Senecio nutans* Sch. Bip. (Compositae) in mice: Chronotropic and negative inotropic effect, a nifedipine-like action". *Journal of Ethnopharmacology*. 2016 Feb 17; 179:367-74. Doi: 10.1016/j.jep.2015.12.048. Epub 2015 Dec 25. PMID: 26724424. "Synchronization in the Heart Rate and the Vasomotion in Rat Aorta: Effect of Arsenic Trioxide. *Cardiovascular Toxicology*".

2016 Jan; 16(1):79-88. Doi: 10.1007/s12012-015-9312-4. PMID: 25666560. “Single Adult human Equivalent Dose of Intramuscular Chloroquine did not Lower Blood Glucose Level in Fasted Wistar Rats” *Clin Exp Pharmacol* 2016, 6(213), 2161-1459. “Effect of Vitamin C Supplementation on Platelet Aggregation and Serum Electrolytes Levels in Streptozotocin-Induced Diabetes Mellitus in Rats”. *Nigerian journal of physiological sciences: official publication of the Physiological Society of Nigeria*, 31(1), 55.

The Research Project Attracting the Most Research Funds

- **Dr. Tamara Thompson**, Department of Medicine, for grant funding in the amount of Ja\$6,388,842 for the period under review, for work done on “Adherence to Highly Active Anti-Retroviral Therapy (HAART): A Trans-Caribbean Study”.

Research Project with the Greatest Business/Economic/Development Impact

- JS Hankins, MB McCarville, **AE Rankine-Mullings**, **ME Reid**, CL Lobo, PG Moura, S Ali, **DP Soares**, **K Aldred**, DW Jay, B Aygun, J Bennett, G Kang, JC Goldsmith, MP Smeltzer, RE Ware. “Prevention of conversion to abnormal transcranial Doppler with hydroxyurea in sickle cell anemia: A Phase III international randomized clinical trial.” *American Journal of Hematology* 90, 12 (2015): 1099–1105.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**Undergraduate enrollment for the academic year 2016/2017**

| Programme | Majors and Minors | No. of Students 2015/2016 | No. of Students 2016/2017 |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Associate Degree | Child Development Therapy | 3 | – |
| BBMedSci | Anatomy | 37 | 48 |
| | Biochemistry | 8 | 2 |
| | Pharmacology | 125 | 111 |
| | Physiology | 15 | 24 |
| | Subtotal | 185 | 185 |
| | | | |
| BSc | Nursing (Post RN) Online Delivery | 197 | 145 |
| | Nursing (Generic) | 1221 | 1271 |
| | Physical Therapy | 202 | 178 |
| | Diagnostic Imaging | 96 | 97 |
| | Subtotal | 1716 | 1691 |
| | | | |
| DDS | Doctor of Dental Surgeon | 89 | 100 |
| PharmD | Doctor of Pharmacy | n/a | 23 |
| | | | |
| MBBS | Bachelor of Medicine & Surgery | 1654 | 1652 |
| Total | | 3647 | 3651 |

Specially Admitted students from overseas institutions who registered for clinical rotations/electives in various specialties for the period is 39.

The MBBS Examination Results – Academic Year 2016/2017

| Subjects | Pass | Honours | Distinction | Fail/FA | Total |
|---|-------------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Medicine (MDSC553) | 225 | 9 | – | 24 | 258 |
| Obstetrics and Gynaecology (MDSC554) | 216 | 23 | – | 13 | 252 |
| Surgery (MDSC555) | 205 | 9 | – | 39 | 253 |
| Total no. of student who sat the exams | | | | | 270 |

Graduated – Undergraduate Students – Academic Year 2016/2017

| Programmes | No. of Students |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| MBBS | 281 |
| DDS | 20 |
| BSc Nursing (Generic) | 247 |
| BSc Nursing (Post RN) | 54 |
| BSc Physical Therapy | 52 |
| BBMedSci | 49 |
| BSc Diagnostic Imaging (Radiography) | 33 |
| Total | 736 |

Undergraduate Student Awards – 2016/2017**DDS**

- Dean's List: 2 students
- Honour Society: 2 students

MBBS

- Dean's List: 32 students

- Honour Society: 6 students
- Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

Nursing

- Dean's List: 17 students
- Honour Society: 2 students
- Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

Physical Therapy

- Honour Society: 1 student
- Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

BBMedSci

- Dean's List: 7 students
- Honour Society: 2 students
- Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

Diagnostic Imaging

- Dean's List: 22 students
- Honour Society: 4 students
- Outstanding Graduands: 2 students

Prizes/Medals

The following students were awarded prizes in the final MBBS examinations held in May/June 2017:

Subject Medals (All Campuses)

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Medicine | – | Aundre Roberts |
| Obstetrics and Gynaecology | – | Givana Witter |
| Overall Clinical Medal | – | Aundre Roberts |
| Pathology/Microbiology Medal | – | Timothy Henry |

Prizes/Bursaries

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| The General Surgery Prize/Aubrey McFarlane Bursary | – Victoria Green |
| The General Surgery Prize (Theory) | – Aundre Roberts |
| Professor Owen Morgan Prize in Medicine and Therapeutic | – Aundre Roberts |
| Allenbury Prize in Medicine | – Aundre Roberts |
| Dr. The Hon. John Hall Book Prize | – Shanese Bennett |
| | – Nathan Crawford |
| | – Chantal Garner |
| | – Annya Gordon-Whyte |
| | – Victoria Green |
| | – Timothy Henry |
| | – Damion Hunter |
| | – Adam Lee |
| | – Kem-Maria Cook |
| | – Jabari Munroe |
| | – Wai Ng |
| | – O’Danielle O’Sullivan |
| | – Anna-Kay Palmer |
| | – Aundre Roberts |
| | – Tremar Samuels |
| | – Givana Witter |
| Astley Karl Bambury Foundation Prize in Medicine | – Aundre Roberts |

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Professor Louis Grant Book Prize | – Timothy Henry |
| Professor S.E.H. Brooks Memorial Prize | – Timothy Henry |
| Medical Council of Jamaica Prize | – Aundre Roberts |
| Medical Association of Jamaican Insurance Fund Prize in Obstetrics and Gynaecolog | – Givana Witter |
| Sagicor Life Jamaica Limited Award | – Kem-Maria McCook |
| Guardian Life Jamaica Limited Prize | – Mesounie Taylor |
| Medical Protection Society Prize | – Timothy Henry |

Prizes awarded in the BSc Physical Therapy Programme, 2016/17

| | |
|---|---|
| Best Performance in Anatomy | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Physiology | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Rehabilitation 1 | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Rehabilitation 2 | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Rehabilitation 3 | – Bakhita Johnston, Kamile Lootawan, Shadae McGrowder |
| Outstanding Performance in Clinical Practice | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Medical Science 1 | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Medical Science 2 | – Bakhita Johnston |
| Best Performance in Medical Science 3 | – Bakhita Johnston |

Registered Graduate Students, 2016–2017

| Programmes | No. of Students 2015/2016 | No. of Students 2016/2017 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Diploma | 29 | 40 |
| DM | 405 | 418 |
| MD | 1 | 1 |
| DrPH | 29 | 31 |
| MPH | 64 | 64 |
| Taught Masters | 160 | 174 |
| MPhil | 49 | 40 |
| PhD | 35 | 40 |
| Clinical Fellowship | 11 | 6 |
| Total | 743 | 814 |

Graduated – Postgraduate Students, 2016–2017

| Programmes | No. of Students 2015/2016 | No. of Students 2016/2017 |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Diploma | 5 | 4 |
| DM | 37 | 68 |
| DrPH | 3 | 2 |
| MPH | 16 | 28 |
| Taught Masters | 31 | 57 |
| MPhil | 4 | – |
| PhD | 2 | 2 |
| Clinical Fellowship | – | 2 |
| Total | 98 | 163 |

NATIONAL ENAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Dean's Office

The FMS hosted a delegation from the Government of the Republic of South Africa on Monday, May 15 and Tuesday, May 16, 2017 to discuss partnership in the training of students in programmes in our Faculty. Their primary interest is in the MB BS programme. The delegation consisted of Dr. Andrew Robinson, Director of the Clinical Services for the Region in South Africa, who has a background in public health and family medicine; Dr. Binu Luke – an internist who sits on the Health Professions Council of South Africa, which regulates all of the health professions in that country; Ms. Sue Mohube, Personal Assistant to Dr. Masike; and Mrs. Ntombi Thula, an Official supporting the visit/team.

The delegation was impressed not only with our facilities but by our professionalism and commitment. The presentations by our Programme Directors were well received and Dean Fletcher's presentation on the Botswana's experience also made a solid impact. The visit to our University Hospital went very well and they were delighted to make a courtesy call on the Vice-Chancellor. Therefore, our programme offerings and cultural linkages were well presented and received.

They were also keen to see the range of training programmes offered by the FMS and were also intrigued by our many DM offerings in which they had expressed interest. Going forward, there would be discussions not only on student enrolment but also collaboration between the FMS, their health system in the province and with NW University Faculty of Health Sciences in South Africa. There would also be further discussions towards the development of a plan for deeper engagement.

Additionally, Dr. Jasneth Mullings served as member, Planning Institute of Jamaica Core Group for the Social Determinants of Health Project since September 2016. The Director of Medical Education, Professor Joseph Branday, also represented the UWI at the annual meetings of the CAAM-HP Board in July 2016 (Jamaica) and July 2017 (Barbados) and led a CAAM-HP accreditation team for site visits to the All Saints

University (Dominica and St. Vincent) and to the St. James School of Medicine, St. Vincent (June 2017)

SMRT

The SMRT Student Body Association launched the **Give-it Initiative**. This arose from the assignment of the third year group to Hope Institute, National Children's Home, and Mustard Seed Communities [Gordon Town] for the Community Project [DIMA 3002]. Part of the initiative included the drive to collect/purchase needed items for the clients housed in these sites. The handing-over ceremonies were held at the culmination of semester 3 examinations. The Give-It Initiative would be an annual event.

Big Brother/ Big Sister Initiative. This was re-introduced in the 2016–2017 academic year. This involved the assignment of year 1 students to a Big Brother/Big Sister in year 2 or 3 of the programme, who helped them to adjust to University life, to develop effective study techniques, and to keep focused.

Dentistry

The DDS programme continued to attract interest in its undergraduate programme and in post-graduate training even though no post-graduate programmes have been advertised. Interests have been expressed by potential students from the United States.

Members of the academic staff visited with their colleagues at Howard University College of Dentistry and to the Creighton University College of Dentistry, as well as the College of Dentistry at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Also, efforts were being made to formalize student and faculty exchange with the Zahnmedizinische Fakultät of the Freie Universität Berlin, Germany through the existing MOU between both universities.

STAFF MATTERS

Promotion

Professorship

The following members of staff were promoted to the level of Professor:

- Dr. Jean-Pierre Loubouton, Department of Basic Medical Sciences
- Dr. Paul Brown, Head, Department of Basic Medical Sciences

Senior Lecturer

- Dr. Joshua Anzinger, Department of Microbiology
- Dr. Colette Cunningham-Myrie, Department of Community Health & Psychiatry
- Dr. Mohammed Ali, Department of Basic Medical Sciences

Resignation

The following members of staff resigned from their positions as follows:

- Dr. Allie Martin; Department of Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- Ms. Omar Anderson, Basic Medical Sciences
- Mr. Richard Smith, Basic Medical Sciences
- Dr. Arkene Levy, Basic Medical Sciences
- Dr. Michael Rowe, Lecturer, Department of Basic Medical Sciences (Physiology) – July 9, 2017

Awards

- Professor Shearer received the Order of Jamaica, for outstanding advocacy for Senior citizens. She also received the Legacy Award for Contribution to Elderly from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security.
- Dr. Kenneth Vaughan received the Order of Distinction in the Rank

of Commander for excellence in Orthopedic Surgery and Voluntary Community Service in the Caribbean.

- Dr. Ian Titus received the Order of Distinction in the Rank of Officer for Outstanding contribution to Medicine.

Obituaries

- The Faculty mourned the passing of the following members of staff:
- Dr. Vary Jones-Leslie, retired Associate Lecturer, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology – July 18, 2017.
- Dr. Winston Noel Chen, retired Senior Lecturer, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology – December 26, 2016.
- Mrs. Yvonne Pryce, retired Office Manager, Department of Surgery, Radiology, Anaesthesia & Intensive Care – December 25, 2016.
- Dr. Kathryn Mitchell-Fearon, Lecturer Department of Community Health & Psychiatry – November 20, 2016.
- Dr. Joseph St. Elmo Hall, retired Senior Lecturer, Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology – October 15, 2016
- Dr. Harold Chan, Senior Lecturer, Department of Pathology – November 16, 2016.

CONCLUSION

It has been an eventful year especially in relation to the accreditation of our programmes. We have already started the process for two additional departments and press ahead this upcoming year to ensure these are completed. There have been challenges with infrastructure and finance, however, the Faculty is still enthused to continue working hard to overcome these hurdles. Congratulations to the students and staff for their hard work which has borne fruit as we continue to strive for greater success in the years to come.