

FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES
MONA

Year ending July 31, 2008



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Overview

Introduction

During the academic year 2007-2008 much was done to refocus the energies of the Faculty. The Faculty continues to take a number of initiatives that relate to its structure of governance. These include reactivation, regularization and or establishment of a range of committees, teams and working groups which seek to advance the work of the Faculty with regards to ensuring effective support services by maintaining the Faculty's facilities, promoting excellence in client care, encouraging and improving staff research capabilities, enhancing student life and learning and administrative reform. In organizing and reorganizing these bodies, the aim has been to ensure that all items of business in the Faculty receive the attention of a representative body that is able to build consensus, establish policies and ensure that decisions are in keeping with agreed policies, rules and regulations. The mobilization of committees, teams and working groups seeks to build a collective leadership within the Faculty which would provide an opportunity for greater participation in keeping with the belief that everyone is a leader. Consequently, the Faculty continued with the staging of its annual Faculty Day which brings together all staff to reflect on issues relating to the Faculty.

The Faculty Office continued its efforts to improve students' experience while promoting the staff's ability to undertake research and design and implement projects. This was done by focusing on administrative reform, the employment of specialized project staff, the enhancement of facilities and the promotion of capacity-building activities relating to research. These initiatives will be discussed in detail below.

Student Centred Initiatives

The Faculty's programme to equip all classrooms with multimedia projectors was completed and resources were obtained to re-equip one computer lab. However, the Faculty faced some challenges to maintain a consistent standard in this regard due to wide scale theft of computers and other relevant equipment. Some strict contingences have been put in place to protect the Faculty's equipment but overall, more work needs to be done on the general security of the Campus.

A renewed effort has been made to provide more students with opportunities to improve their "softer" skills and make them better prepared for the workplace. The Department of Government has established two internship programmes; International Relations for undergraduates and the Parliamentary Internship Programme for graduates. The Department is now in the process of organizing additional undergraduate internships for the sub disciplines of Public Sector Management and Political Science. The Department of Economics has initiated internships for their undergraduate Business Economics and Social Statistics (BESS) programme and the MSc. in Economics. The MSc in Human Resource Development launched its first "Finishing School" in July 2008. This was open to alumni and the current graduating class participants were taught business etiquette, how to develop winning resumes and to handle job interviews effectively.

The Faculty continued in its effort to make early offers to full time students based on their CAPE Unit 1 results. This year one thousand five hundred and forty (1,540) offers were made. Undergraduate and postgraduate coordinators from all departments continued working together to facilitate a smoother process of orientation and registration. The initiative to expand the involvement of students in orientation and registration activities has proved successful and we hope to continue this.

This year the Faculty's Staff-Student Liaison Committee initiated the FSS Accountability Statements which are intended to heighten students' awareness regarding plagiarism. A Notice Posting Guideline was also developed to monitor the general display of content on Notice Boards in the Faculty. The committee also developed the FSS General Code of Conduct to help guide students' behavior and overall attitude. Also, signs were posted in study areas identifying them as quiet zones. There has been an increase in the number of courses that are now in an

online format, and overall, departments have expanded their use of the Web and ICT in the promotion of teaching and learning.

New Programmes

A total of twenty eight (28) new courses were approved by AQAC for the academic year 2007-2008. These include three (3) from the Department of Government; three (3) from the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work; two (2) from the Department of Economics and twenty (20) from the Department of Management Studies. Approval was also given for the Department of Management Studies to begin a new programme, BSc in Management Studies – Entrepreneurship. The Department of Management Studies will be seeking approval to implement two additional programmes that have already been designed namely, the BSc in Management Studies (Ethics and Corporate Governance) and a Masters in Business and Management Research. The Mona School of Business (MSB) implemented the Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) degree and the MSc in Telecommunications Policy and Technology Management with the first cohort of students starting in January 2008.

Western Jamaica Campus

During the year, the Faculty was involved in the preparation and planning of the establishment of the UWI Western Jamaica Campus (WJC). The WJC opened in September 2008 and teaching started with programmes in General Management, Accounting, Management Information Systems, Banking and Finance as well as Hospitality and Tourism Management, Sociology and Psychology. Three of the Faculty's members of staff namely Mr Michael Williams, Peta-Gay Fairclough and Antoinette Emdem have taken up full time positions at the WJC. The Mona School of Business has also established their first cohort of MBA students and Ms Sandra March is the full time Faculty member at WJC from the MSB .

Promoting Research

The Faculty continues to provide funding for colleagues wishing to attend research training seminars and to make presentations at conferences. The Faculty's Research and Publications Committee approved funding of J\$1,496,201.46. Of the eighteen (18) papers that were funded, one has been published and another has been submitted to

a journal. The remaining papers are currently being prepared for publication. Despite the Faculty's efforts to encourage members to engage in research, there is the perception that more can be done, particularly, in the area of time management, research methodology, increased resources, and funding for research.

The Faculty, through its departments participated in the hosting of a number of seminars, conferences, research workshops and colloquium series (with both local and overseas presenters). Two professors delivered their inaugural lectures: Anthony Harriott on "Bending the Trend Line: The Developmental Challenge of Controlling Violence in Jamaica and the High-Violence Societies of the Caribbean", and Ian Boxill on "Structure, Agency and the Influence of Fanon's Search for Recognition", now a monograph. The Faculty Office hosted two Seminars; "Voting Behaviour and Corruption in Jamaica" with Professor Boxill as the presenter and "Revitalizing the Agricultural Sector: Internal and External Challenges", with Dr Christopher Tufton, Minister of Agriculture, as the guest presenter.

Research Achievements

Academic research and publications during the year covered a wide range of topics including: the financial sector and economic growth, food production for world development, remittances, sustainable development and climate change; the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), money, banking, taxation and fiscal policy, agricultural policy; tax administration in Jamaica; software/information and communication technologies, media and communication, and management information systems in Jamaica and the Caribbean; Caribbean tourism; human resource, labour and human and social capital, labour markets and the informal sector in the Caribbean and Africa; family, female owned and small businesses; disaster preparedness, and the environment; local government reform, Caribbean politics, political culture, corruption, governance and political systems; small states, foreign policy, international law and international relations; gender issues; population, population movements and the Caribbean and African Diasporas; crime (economic and violent) and their control; race and the legacy of emancipation; poverty, and social policy; health, HIV/AIDS and the economics of health; tertiary education financing, accreditation, quality assurance and student performance; child rights, child care, child abuse, and juvenile delinquency; Caribbean language and language policy,

Caribbean culture, art, fiction and the achievements of Caribbean thought. The table below provides a comparative study of publications produced over the last three academic years.

| Faculty of Social Sciences Departmental Publications 2005 - 2008 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Dept. | Books/Monographs | | | Book Chapters | | | Journal Articles | | | Total | | |
| | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 | 2005-2006 | 2006-2007 | 2007-2008 |
| ECON | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 18 | 15 | 8 | 23 | 16 |
| GOVT | 2 | 3 | 5 | 17 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 13 | 18 | 26 | 25 | 29 |
| DOMS | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 10 | 8 | 16 |
| MSB | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 5 |
| SALISES | 3 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 4 | 9 | 17 | 11 | 21 |
| SPSW | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 15 | 9 | 7 | 16 |
| CHTM | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Total | 10 | 10 | 14 | 31 | 27 | 14 | 34 | 44 | 75 | 75 | 81 | 103 |

In addition, the Faculty continued to develop its work in applied research and the production of technical reports. Some of the projects completed and or areas covered are as follows: Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) Second Medium Term Plan 2008-2011; Policies and Institutions Supporting Small and Medium Scale Enterprises in Jamaica; Services Trade and Domestic Regulation; The Use of ICTs and Issues of Competitiveness: A Landscape Assessment of Jamaican Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises; Mobile Opportunities: Poverty and Telephony Access in Latin America and the Caribbean; Mapping Poverty in Jamaica: The Unmet Basic Needs Approach; Options for Expanding the Programme of Advancement Through Health and Education (PATH); Design of the Canada-Caribbean Institutional Leadership Development Project; Contract Systems of Employment for Senior Public Service officers (Permanent Secretaries) in the Caribbean (Belize, Jamaica, Guyana); Good Governance and the Quality of Life in Anguilla; Social Guarantees in Jamaica: A Case study of the Education System; Formulating Sustainable Development Benchmarks for an EU-CARIFORUM EPA: Caribbean Perspectives; An Assessment of the Alternative Investment Scheme; Migrant Health and Social Care Workers in Jamaica for the Elderly.

Additionally, reports on the National Census for Jamaica; the Public Consultations of Jamaica's National Energy Policy; Community-Based Policing Assessment and Evaluation of the Jamaica Constabulary Force Reform and Modernisation Programme; An appraisal of the People's National Party's Performance in the 2007 Jamaican General Elections, "Building for Jamaica's Future: Unity, Philosophy and Organisation"; Strategic Plan for Craft Markets in Jamaica and Strategic Framework for Youth Advocacy in the Caribbean were produced.

Service to the Community

Members of staff continued to provide service on a wide range of committees, boards and other bodies. These include international journals, professional organizations, educational institutions, civic, regulatory, policy making and inter-governmental organizations as well as state and private sector companies. In addition, a number of colleagues remained active participants in the media, trade union and the political arena. Some of the institutions and organizations served included: American Review of Political Economy, European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Journal of Aging in Emerging Societies, Journal of Diplomatic Language, Journal of Organizational and Enduser Computing, Caribbean Studies Association, Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica, Caribbean Examinations Council, Institute of Jamaica, National Library of Jamaica, University of Technology Mechanical Engineering Advisory and Industry Engineering Committees, Mico College, Police Staff College, University Council of Jamaica, CVSS United Way Jamaica, Jamaica Manufacturers Association, Michael Manley Foundation, Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, Jamaica Bureau of Standards, Jamaica Deposit Insurance Scheme, Jamaica Financial Services Commission, Jamaica Stock Exchange, Planning Institute of Jamaica, Statistical Institute of Jamaica, Task Forces/Advisory groups on Local Government Reform, National Security, Poverty and Social Welfare and Vulnerable Groups, National Taskforce for Persons with Disabilities, CARICOM, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre, Tobago House of Assembly, UN International Law Commission, UNESCO, UNICEF, Andrews Memorial Hospital, University Hospital of the West Indies, Jamaica Bauxite Trading Company, Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica, First Caribbean International Bank, Jamaica Flour Mills, Jamaica Money Market Brokers, National Commercial Bank and Forest Conservation Fund.

Institutional Strengthening

The annual Faculty Day represents an opportunity for all members of staff to contribute to the planning and implementation of the Faculty's vision and strategic objectives. The Day featured a plenary session with the Dean, as well as break-out groups, in which specific issues were covered. This has helped to build momentum for the engagement of staff in a wide range of committees and working groups currently working to seek solutions to the Faculty's many challenges. With varying success these groups have met throughout the year and contributed to the Faculty's efforts to fulfill its role in implementing the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan now being pursued by the University. However, a comprehensive look will have to be taken with regards to those groups that have not been meeting their objectives.

The 2007-2012 UWI Strategic Plan

In keeping its focus on the implementation of the 2007-2012 Strategic Plan, the Faculty of Social Sciences focused its priorities within the core elements of the Plan. As usual, the Faculty started this process with the annual Faculty Day held on August 27, 2007 under the theme, "UWI's Strategic Plan Implementation (2007-2012) – The Faculty of Social Sciences Response". Members of staff were encouraged to reflect on the 5-year Strategic Plan with a view to developing functional policies and identifying the necessary changes that will support the transformation.

The priority goals of the Faculty are to address the pressing issues relating to the upkeep of facilities, the renewal of equipment and the provision of new capacity to house the activities of the Faculty; there is the need to address and improve the way in which students see our department offices in terms of customer perception, ensuring that all departments score above 4.0 at the end of the year; continuing the path of curriculum reform to ensure that students are challenged with respect to developing mastery of their discipline, maintaining high standards of professionalism and leaving the UWI with work ready skills.

The Faculty intends to continue its enhancement of the quality of teaching and learning through various means including additional training for staff; indeed, ten staff members attended the UWI/FCIB Case Writing Workshop which was facilitated by Prof. Paul Beamish of Ivey Publishing, Richard Ivey School of Business. Further, the greater use of new technologies and the promotion of the scholarship of teaching were evinced by the introduction of the Writing Across the

Curriculum (WAC) strategies which have been introduced in 18 courses throughout the Faculty. The Faculty intends also, to increase support for research in the form of grant seeking, training, team formation and greater sharing of experiences across the departments and wider University.

Again, considerable emphasis is being placed on transforming the leadership, managerial and administrative culture, processes and procedures to gain maximum output in part through the use of ICTs. The Faculty continues to work with HR to address outstanding issues which continue to create staff dissatisfaction including recruitment, appointments, assessments/appraisals, reclassifications, evaluations and promotions. The Faculty hopes to position itself by promoting its work and becoming more effective with activities to improve and strengthen relationships; ensuring that it has a full range of feedback mechanisms to be able to respond effectively to the concerns being expressed by students, staff and employers within the UWI and between the UWI and its surrounding communities.

Student Achievements

For the second consecutive year The Mona Faculty of Social Sciences team won the UWI/First Caribbean International Bank Intercampus Business Case Analysis Competition which was held at the St Augustine Campus on May 27, 2008. The 2007-2008 team consisted of Cherita Thomas, Rohan Christie, Tashna Silburn, Kimberly Stephens and alternate members Marlon Phillips and Kereen Johnson. In preparation for the competition, the team was coached/trained by 2006-2007 team members Vanessa Hemans and Claudia Hessing who at the time of the competition, were full time MSB students, and Dr Hilary Robertson Hickling who is the Academic Advisor.

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

| Candidate | Thesis Title |
|-----------------------|--|
| Lila Rao-Graham | “An Exploration of quality issues in the context of data warehouse, knowledge management system and e-commerce system design.” |
| Deborah Duperly-Pinks | “Ideologies of Leadership in Urban Communities in Kingston, Jamaica.” |

Conclusion

The Faculty continues to excel in providing higher education through its improved use of technology. At the same time it is hoped that the efforts to promote research will produce even greater results than have been achieved this year. Colleagues have been encouraged to focus their research and scholarly efforts toward the process of teaching within their discipline with a view to enhancing the student experience and the impact that this experience has on their skill set. The Faculty will continue its ongoing efforts to establish benchmarks and standards for evaluation and promotion. So far, the Faculty has responded positively to the vision of the 2007-2012 UWI Strategic Plan. Increased efforts will have to be made to develop mechanisms whereby the best researchers, teachers and administrators can share their skills and experience through seminars, workshops and a process of mentoring and advising.