

CENTRE FOR GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES REGIONAL COORDINATING UNIT

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BSc (Med. Microbiology), DipEd, PhD UWI – Director

WORK OF THE UNIT

The Regional Coordinating Unit (RCU) of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies (CGDS) continues to fulfil its mandate of Teaching, Research and Outreach to the University and wider local, regional and international communities. During the academic year 2007/2008, Professor Barbara Bailey, University Director, continued to provide academic and administrative leadership. Since its establishment some fourteen years ago the Unit has managed to maintain high standards in the face of limited human resources. When the Unit was initially established in 1993 only one academic staff member was on the establishment. Since then one other academic position was approved. In 2007/08 the Unit was successful in its bid to acquire another lecturer position. This position comes at a critical time when the Unit is trying to expand both its teaching and research programmes to ensure continued commitment to the larger vision of the University.



On November 12th, 2007, Mrs. Shakira Maxwell joined the Unit in the position of Administrative Officer. The remaining staff complement includes a temporary Junior Research Fellow and a temporary part-time research assistant both appointed and paid from an unfilled established lecturer post and another temporary Research Assistant, funded for a period of three months to provide assistance with an institutional research project on behalf of the Office of the Principal.

TEACHING

The Unit continues even in the face of constrained resources, to increase enrolment in both the graduate programmes in Gender and Development Studies and the distance Diploma Programme. In the 2007/08 academic year the intake in the Diploma programme was 20, the largest intake of students into the programme, thus making a total of 32 students currently registered in the programme. In the graduate programmes there was an intake of 1 MPhil and 10 MSc students out of 13 offers made, moving the total enrolment in the graduate programme to 29 students spread across the MSc and MPhil/PhD programmes. Also in the period under review 4 MSc and 5 Diploma students were presented for graduation.

A target established for the graduate programme for the year under review was the institutionalization of a regular multi-disciplinary graduate seminar series in which academics would be invited to participate, with a view to building a pool of persons from whom supervisors for graduate students can be identified. During the academic year, this target was achieved with a total of seven such seminars taking place, at which MPhil/PhD students were provided with an opportunity to examine their individual research proposals and develop the appropriate techniques towards the writing and research of a thesis.

Targets for 2008/09

- Implementation of the curriculum review plan submitted to the Vice Chancellor in early 2008, with special emphasis on the review of the MSc and Diploma programmes and submission to various Campus and University Boards for re-approval.
- The identification of funds to offset costs for converting courses in the MSc and Diploma programmes in Gender and Development Studies for web-based teaching. Although this was initially cited as a target in the previous report, the implementation of the curriculum review is thought to be of critical importance prior to this activity.
- Identifying a strategy and funding for instituting a face-to-face component in the distance mode diploma programme.
- Putting in place arrangements for the management of the Diploma Programme to ensure compliance with requirements of the Open Campus and a smooth interface between roles and functions of the two entities (CGDS and Open Campus).

RESEARCH

The multifaceted nature of the research activities in which the Unit is involved continues to provide significant support towards the Centre's teaching and outreach programmes, and assists in the development of the research capacity of students and/or graduates of both programmes who have been involved as field workers and research assistants in several projects emanating from the Unit.

During the 2007/2008 academic year, the Unit continued its analysis of the data in relation to the completion of the final report on the *Gender Differentials in Secondary and Tertiary Levels of the Education Systems of the Anglophone Caribbean* project to meet the project termination date of December 31, 2008.

On behalf of the Unit, Professor Bailey along with Ms. Suzanne Charles also began preparation of a situation analysis on adolescents in the Caribbean for the UNICEF Caribbean Office. The report is now in its final stages and should be completed shortly. Professor Bailey and Ms. Charles also developed and delivered training to data collectors attached to the University of the Netherlands Antilles for a Research Initiative on Gender Differentials in School Participation sponsored by St. Maarten as part of the Netherlands Antilles National Commission for UNESCO.

In collaboration with Dr. Mark Figueroa, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Professor Bailey spearheaded a research agenda emanating from a forum held by the Principal to examine the gender imbalance in tertiary level enrolment particularly at the UWI. The first component undertaken was an analysis of the existing data on applications, offers, acceptance and registration in the Faculty of Law for the period 1991 to 2004 to determine factors accounting for observed trends in the Faculty. Data analysis continues on this project and it is anticipated that a preliminary exploratory paper will be ready by the end of the calendar year.

Professor Bailey and Ms. Charles completed a Desk Review of CARICOM's Gender Programme and a Report of perceptions of regional Women's Machineries of the CARICOM Gender Desk, as part of a Gender Audit of the CARICOM Secretariat. Along with Grace Christie they also developed and delivered training to teachers as part of the Expanding Educational Horizons Project, coordinated by the Ministry of Education and USAID in Ocho Rios Jamaica.

Targets for 2008/09

- Completion of the final report on the *Gender Differentials in Secondary and Tertiary Levels of the Education Systems of the Anglophone Caribbean* project.
- Mounting of a stakeholders' meeting in December 2008 to share the findings from the four specialist studies completed in Phase 11 and Phase III of the Gender Differentials project.
- Editing and publishing of the reports from the Gender Differentials project into a Monograph series. In order to accomplish this task a proposal for the publication of the reports will be compiled to present to the Caribbean Development Bank.
- The establishment of the ***Centre for Interdisciplinary Research on Gender and Social Equity***, which had been previously proposed.

OUTREACH

The RCU continues to enjoy established long standing working relationships with The Bureau of Women's Affairs, The Planning Institute of Jamaica, The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other United Nations (UN) agencies, as well as the Inter-American Commission on Women (CIM) of the Organisation of American States (OAS). Through these networks, the knowledge base on gender inequality and inequity and how this impacts development has been expanded and the visibility and influence of the University has been enhanced.

A target set for this academic year had been the completion of a multi-sectoral National Gender Policy developed under the aegis of a National Gender Advisory Committee chaired by Professor Bailey, which has been charged with the responsibility of developing a broad based policy to guide the Government of Jamaica's gender portfolio. Work on this policy continued during the year under review and it is anticipated that the policy will be channelled through the established government procedures for approval and implementation.

During the period under review Professor Bailey also chaired the Gender Task Force established by the Planning Institute of Jamaica to develop a Gender Sector Plan to inform development of the Government of Jamaica's 2030 National Development Plan.

Professor Bailey also represented the Government Of Jamaica at two UN meetings; the 32nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women and the 15th Meeting of State Parties who are signatories to the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). In the latter case, she was elected to serve on the Committee that monitors State Parties' compliance with the Convention.

Targets for 2008/09

- Completion of the module *Understanding Gender in Caribbean Societies* and the publication of this as well as the module on *Gender and Management Issues in Caribbean Organisations*.
- Continued involvement in debates re male under-participation in Higher Education through forums such as Caribbean Union of Teachers (CUT) Educational conference, CARICOM Council of Human and Social Development (COHSOD) and the Caribbean Area Network for Quality Assurance in Tertiary Education Conference (CANQATE).

PAPERS PRESENTED

Bailey, Barbara

- "Issues Affecting the Underachievement of Boys." Principals' Retreat for Primary and All-Age Schools. Ministry of Education Region 3. Runaway Bay, St. Ann. August 2008.
- "Theory of Monitoring and Evaluation." Regional Workshop on Strengthening National Women's Machineries, St. John's, Antigua. April 1-5, 2008.
- "Social Impact (Education and Crime) and Implications for National Development." Forum on Gender Imbalance: Implications for National Development hosted by the Institute of Chartered Accountants. Jamaica Pegasus Hotel. March 19, 2008.

- “Policy Implementation: Measuring Outcomes and Evaluating Impact.” Meeting on National Gender Policies; Development, Dissemination and Implementation hosted by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Roseau, Dominica. December 2007.
- “Political Economy of Male Underachievement.” Conference on The Unspoken Gender Dimension: Boys and Education. UNICEF and CARICOM Sub-Regional Meeting, Belize City, Belize. November 2007.
- “Gender and Education in the Anglophone Caribbean: Who gets the Golden Egg – The Goose or the Gander”. University of the Netherlands Antilles. Sponsored by the Netherlands Antilles National Commission for UNESCO. Curacao. September 4, 2007.

Charles, Suzanne

- “Colonialisation in Reverse. Gender Migration and Social Transformation: a Novelized Sociological approach.” 33rd Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association, San Andres Island, Columbia, May 2008. (pp.15)

Maxwell, Shakira

- “Indecent Proposals: Prostitution, the Law and Citizens in early Jamaica” 33rd Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association, San Andres Island, Columbia, May 2008. (pp.12)

PUBLICATIONS

Journal

- * **Bailey, Barbara. (ed.)** Gender and Education. *Caribbean Journal of Education* (Special Issue). 29, 1 (2007).

Referred Journal Articles

- * **Bailey, Barbara.** “Interrogating the School as a Social System: Going Beyond Sex Stratification.” In: (ed.) Barbara Bailey, *Caribbean Journal of Education* (Special Issue). 29, 1(2007) 1-33.

- * **Bailey, Barbara** and **Suzanne Charles**. “We want Justice! Students’ perspectives of gender justice in Caribbean schools and classrooms.” (ed.) Barbara Bailey *Caribbean Journal of Education* (Special Issue) 29, 1, (2007) 34-64.
- * **Bailey, Barbara** and **Yasmeen Yusuf-Khalil**. “Implicit and explicit gender based violence in Caribbean educational institutions.” (ed.) Barbara Bailey, *Caribbean Journal of Education* (Special Issue) 29, 1, (2007) 66-91.

Technical Reports

- * **Charles, Suzanne** and Dwaine Plaza “CSA 2007 Conference Report” (pp.13)
- * Waller, Lloyd, Michelle Commsioung, Gavin Daley, Nicole Satchell, **Shakira Maxwell** and Peter Jones. “A Landscape Assessment of Jamaican Micro Small and Medium-Size Enterprises (MSMEs)”. Report prepared for the Target Growth Competitive Committee, Jamaica Trade and Investment. 2008. (pp.80)

INCOME GENERATION

Caribbean Development Bank

Gender Differentials at the Secondary and Tertiary Levels of Caribbean Education Systems (US\$ 200,000.00)

PUBLIC SERVICE

Barbara Bailey

- Chair, Gender Task Force. 2030 National Development Plan. Planning Institute of Jamaica.
- Chair, Nursing Appeal Tribunal, Ministry of Health, Kingston, Jamaica.
- Member, Steering Committee, Women Resource and Outreach Centre (WROC)
- Government of Jamaica’s representative, CEDAW Committee

Suzanne Charles

- Member, Caribbean Studies Association *Gender and Young Scholars Committee*

Shakira Maxwell

- Executive Member and Committee Chairperson Research and Outreach, Jamaica Women’s Political Caucus, Kingston, Jamaica.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate: Diploma	32 Registered	5 Graduating
Graduate: 10 MSc & 1MPhil/PhD	29 Registered	4 Graduating