

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

MONA

Year ending July 31, 2011



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Overview

INTRODUCTION

The Academic year 2010/11 saw substantial changes in the leadership of the Faculty. At the end of the year, three new Heads were appointed. Damien King replaced Claremont Kirton as head for the Department of Economics; Jessica Byron took over as head of the Department of Government from Anthony Harriott, who had been previously designated Director of the Institute of Criminal Justice and Security; and Densil Williams was appointed as head for the Department of Management Studies in place of Noel Cowell. At the Centre of Hotel and Tourism Management (CHTM), Berkley Williams completed his term of office and in January 2011, Robyn Roberts joined the staff as acting head for the Centre.

In the area of strengthening staff efficiency and growth, the Faculty hosted its Annual Faculty Day on August 24, 2010 under the theme “Renewing Ourselves in a Changing Environment” with the tagline “Enhancing: Quality, Efficiency, Impact and Growth”. The break-out theme groups included elements designed to meet specific needs which were identified throughout the year as important to staff in their efforts aimed at coping with the difficult times. The themes were: (1) Owning your Dream Home, (2) Managing Relationships, (3) TurnItIn and OurVLE Training, and (4) Cross Campus Collaboration Processes and Preparation.

A highlight for the year was the success of the Mona School of Business (MSB) in obtaining accreditation from the international Association of

MBA (AMBA). Coming out of the accreditation exercise the MSB received a special commendation for its close relationship with the local business sector.

Curriculum Initiatives

The Faculty of Social Sciences at Mona continued its focus on teaching and learning with the discussion at Faculty Board of a draft *Philosophy of Teaching and Learning*. This resulted from examining ways of assessing student learning and a paper entitled “Transformative Learning for All Our Students” was developed. The Faculty continued its focus on strengthening the curriculum in both the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in an effort to make students more work ready, improve oral and written communication and enhance research skills.

The Sir Arthur Lewis School of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) redesigned its master’s degree with a view to providing a unique and attractive interdisciplinary, leadership-oriented programme not offered elsewhere in the Faculty. Efforts were also directed at improving the efficiency of delivery and the length of time spent studying in order to address both the requirements of potential students for more rapid turnover and the need for faculty to spend a greater proportion of their time on research endeavours. It is expected that graduate students will begin reading for the new degree in 2013-2014.

Efforts to Make Students More Work Ready

The Department of Government, held student conferences and debates in the Political Science courses on issues affecting the public sector. Additionally, both the Public Sector Management and the International Relations Units operated summer internship programmes for undergraduates. Approximately 30 students participated and were placed in a government ministry or agency, an international organization or non-governmental organisation in Jamaica, Trinidad, St Lucia and Ireland. Students who participate in the internship programmes are able to experience first-hand the connection between theory and practice from material studied in their respective courses. At the graduate level, the Department of Government through the Centre for Leadership and

Governance, accommodated ten students in the parliamentary internship programme. Interns were required to formulate briefs on topics such as: *Comparative Analyses of Early Childhood Education in China, the US and Barbados; Climate Change and Renewable Energy; and Ethics and Accountability Standards for Parliamentarians.*

The Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, through the Caribbean Internship Project (CIP), continued to assign students to work in a range of child development programmes and agencies in the region. This initiative has resulted in improved service delivery at the respective agencies, improved outcomes for children and families involved and has strengthened community involvement in projects undertaken for their benefit while enhancing learning by students; strengthening their ability to engage in real life problem solving.

New Academic Programmes

Approval was gained at the graduate level for a concentration in Sports Management; a Masters in Taxation programme and courses in Industrial Organisation and Anthropology Practice. The concentration in Sports Management was initiated as a part of the existing MBA at the Mona School of Business. It seeks to broaden the range of options and satisfy an important unmet need. The Masters in Taxation was designed to produce a cadre for tax administrators, policy makers, tax consultants and planners and financial planners to work in both the public and private sectors. Presently, no university in the Caribbean region offers advanced training in taxation. The Industrial Organization courses responds to the need for persons with the skills required by the various agencies that have been introduced in the Caribbean relating to competition and the regulation of sectors such as public utilities and financial services. Anthropological Practice was designed primarily to produce graduates with the ability to assess social issues affecting the Caribbean region and the graduate course *Critical Approaches to Caribbean Society and Culture* was redesigned to enhance students' research skills.

In January 2011, the Mona School of Business (MSB) welcomed nine students to the third cohort of the Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) programme. The members of Cohort 1 are in the process of

defending their research proposals while those in Cohort 2 are preparing for comprehensive exams. In addition to the DBA, the MSB in collaboration with the MICO University College continues to offer the Executive Master in Educational Management (EMEM) which began in July 2009. The EMEM is designed to empower principals and senior administrators to be able to manage programmes and students more efficiently.

At the undergraduate level the curriculum was strengthened with the development of a number of new courses, namely, *Introduction to Policy Analysis and Evaluation*, *Introduction to Anthropology*, *Theory and Practice of Restorative Justice I and II*. The course *Introduction to Policy Analysis* is a revision of the course *Quantitative Techniques in Policy Analysis*. The revised course would provide the critical knowledge and analytical skills required in the public sector management field and would form the capstone for the major in Public Sector Management. The new course in Anthropology was introduced in keeping with the recommendations of the last quality assurance review and the new courses in restorative justice provide an opportunity for students to venture into a field that is increasingly seen as important to the contemporary Caribbean.

Research

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), Mona implemented their main research project entitled “Fifty/Fifty: Critical Reflections in a time of Uncertainty”. The Fifty/Fifty project is framed around the anniversary of independence of the first two English-speaking countries: Jamaica and Trinidad. A series of scholarly discussions and research clusters have been initiated around the meaning of independence as Caribbean States in the widest interpretation as well as explore potential future directions for the next fifty years. The research clusters established allow for collaboration with other Departments and units within the Faculty as well as other faculties at UWI and with other interested scholars locally, regionally and internationally. The premier activity in the first phase of the Fifty/Fifty project was the February, 2011 SALISES 12th Annual Conference which was held in Kingston and

entitled “Challenges of the Independence Experience in Small Developing Countries” where more than 100 papers were presented.

The Faculty continued to support staff members in their research efforts by sponsoring their attendance to conferences and employing research assistants to help them with the varied research projects. At the Campus level three staff members received New Initiative Grants, namely Lawrence Nicholson, Delroy Chevers and Ishtar Govia while Nadine McCloud-Rose and John Talbot received Mona Research Fellowships. Additionally, three staff members were recipients of the Principal’s Research Day Awards. Mark Figueroa received awards for the best article and for the most outstanding researcher for his articles entitled “The Academic Economist as Public Teacher: Lessons from Lewis and the Caribbean Policy Discourse” and “Rethinking Caribbean Agriculture: Re-Evaluating Lewis’s Misunderstood Perspective”. Densil Williams received the award for the best research publication for his article entitled “Export Initiation in Small, Locally Owned Firms from Emerging Economies: The Role of Personal Factors” and Hopeton Dunn received the award for the research project attracting the most funds for: “Network for Development: Caribbean ICT Research Programme” (Jamaican Component).

Staff members were engaged in a wide cross range of research projects relating to pressing issues facing the Caribbean. These were reflected in conference presentations, academic publications and technical reports. Topics explored included: Trust issues in Jamaican institutions; Human Resources as they relate to migration; Technology and how it influences and affects the Travel and Tourism Industries; Entrepreneurship; Family and Locally owned Businesses; Challenges of Life and Livelihoods in the Workplace and Community; HIV and Responses to its Diagnosis; Sexual Health Services; Community Mediation and Violence Prevention through the Usage of Telecentres; Deportees; Women and Aging; Children issues such as Crisis and Household Vulnerabilities and Child Rights; Boys at Risk and Differential Gender Achievement in Caribbean Education.

Other issues were explored relating to: poverty; culture and the perception of culture; Rastafarianism; Local Government and strengthening its capacity through performance management; building a global democracy;

the Caribbean Regional Integration process as it relates to the European experience; Election Observation in the Caribbean; Jamaica's Foreign Policy and Strategic Culture; Information Systems related issues and how they benefit organisations; Social Networking Systems and how they serve as motivation; Caricom and the Commonwealth relationship; Constitutional Reform and Social Partnership; Revisiting the Grenadian Invasion; Negotiating Caribbean Freedoms; Housing in Jamaica; E-Learning; and Relationship between Academics and Administrators in a Higher Education Institution.

In the economic sphere, research examined areas such as: Post-independence Economic Development; Estimating the Poverty Line; Microeconomic Recovery and Growth; the Financial Crisis and Lessons for the Future; the Causality between Tourism and Economic Growth; Remittances and trends in Migration; and The Lisbon Treaty and its implications for EU-Caribbean relations. Colleagues also delved into issues relating to other global areas for example: West African Monetary Zone as an Optimum Currency area and Challenges of Political Independence in Uganda.

Research work published during the year covered issues such as: the impact of financial sector functions on economic growth; Ponzi schemes and their related risks; the global financial crisis; the role of regional development banks; export development policies in Caricom; financing sustainable development in small-island states; household food security and childhood overweight in Jamaica; training Jamaicans for export; Social Work in the Caribbean; Social Inequalities; Sexual risk behaviours and sexual health outcomes; Poverty, Inequality and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Caribbean; Factors impacting Juvenile Delinquency in Jamaican and African-American Adolescents; Reviewing participation as a tool for people centered development and envisioning Caribbean futures.

The following table provides a comparative study of publications produced over the last three academic years. The decline in research output is in part due to a fall in the total number of staff members

employed within the Faculty over the last two years resulting from the continued financial stringency faced by the Mona Campus.

Faculty of Social Sciences Departmental Publications 2008-2011												
DEPT.	Books/Monographs			Book Chapters			Journal Articles			Total		
	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
ECON	2	1	0	1	1	0	5	7	9	8	9	9
GOVT	5	3	0	6	0	4	9	7	6	20	10	10
DOMS	0	1	0	5	0	0	8	14	8	13	15	8
MSB	0	2	0	1	5	0	4	1	12	5	8	12
SALISES	7	3	2	5	5	6	15	9	5	27	17	13
SPSW	0	1	2	8	8	6	10	11	13	18	17	21
CHTM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	14	11	4	26	16	16	51	49	53	91	76	73

PUBLIC SERVICE

Throughout the year the Faculty remained active in public service and members of staff participated in a wide cross section of civic activities. In this regard, the Department of Government worked with the UNDP and the Jamaica Council of Churches on Truth Commissions. The Centre for Leadership and Governance once again hosted and managed the 2010 round of the LAPOP/USAID Survey of Democratic Political Culture in Jamaica. The 2010 study aimed at broadening and understanding the nature and dynamics of Jamaica's political culture and sought to examine key trends in democracy and governance in the context of the global economic crisis. In December 2010, the Centre for Leadership and Governance through collaboration with the National Integrity Action Forum (NIAF) hosted a conference where Jamaica's anti-corruption reform agenda was discussed.

The Mona School of Business engaged in a range of activities aimed at stimulating debate. Among these was the hosting, in conjunction with the Spanish Court Hotel, of a series of "Kingston 360° Breakfast Talks". Professor Obika Gray, Professor of Political Science from the University

of Wisconsin, USA, and Professor Peter Blair Henry, Dean of the Leonard Stern School of Business at New York University were two featured speakers. The breakfast brought together retiring and emerging thought leaders who engaged in stimulating discussions related to Jamaica's productivity and state of development. An Issues Management and Crisis Communications Workshop was also held under the theme "Managing the Ethical Dilemma". The workshop was aimed at marketing, communications, media and brand professionals, business executives, entrepreneurs and public officials. The workshop sought to equip participants with a range of perspectives on crisis communications management, handling the ethical dilemma, crisis communication planning tools and media relations imperatives. The workshop was jointly hosted by the MSB and Illuminarte Communications Ltd.

The Department of Economics, in conjunction with the World Bank, hosted a dissemination seminar on Jamaica: Country Economic Memorandum (CEM) - "Unlocking Growth". The seminar was well attended by representatives of UWI, World Bank, Bank of Jamaica as well as representatives from the Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Industry and Commerce. In collaboration with the Principal's Office, the Department along with the World Bank and Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) hosted a Forum on Caribbean Remittance: *"Enhancing the Efficiency and Integrity of Remittance Transfers through Effective Regulatory and Supervisory Systems in the Caribbean"*.

A number of public service initiatives also came out of Salises' Fifty/Fifty project. Salises, in collaboration with the Jamaica Employers' Federation, hosted a seminar entitled "Mistrust – Confronting the Issue - Key to Success", which examined questions of trust and mistrust in the workplace. In conjunction with the Hugh Lawson Shearer Trade Union Education Institute and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, a seminar with trade union leaders was held entitled "A Road Map for Trade Unions: Relevance and Sustainability". A third activity involved "Prime Ministerial Reflections 50/50" with separate presentations by former Prime Ministers of Jamaica namely: Edward Seaga, P.J. Patterson and Portia Simpson Miller, in which they discussed their experiences in office and their

perspectives on the future social, economic and political possibilities for Jamaica.

Staff members of the Faculty of Social Sciences remained active in public service by serving on various boards, committees and other bodies of professional organisations, educational institutions, policy making and inter-governmental organizations, state and private sector companies and international journals. Additionally, a number of staff members remained active in the media by writing articles for newspapers and serving as special guest editors and by participating in radio and television interviews. Some of the institutions and organisations served included: Red Cross, Institute of Jamaica, Michael Manley Foundation, School Boards, College of Insurance and Professional Studies, Caribbean Examinations Council, UNICEF, The Path Programme Committee, Sickle Cell Support, High School Associations, Violence Prevention Alliance, National Library of Jamaica, National Taskforce for Persons with Disabilities, Jamaica Environmental Trust, Jamaica Stock Exchange, National Insurance Scheme, Financial Services Commission, Forest Conservation Fund, Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica Trade Policy Committee, Optimist Club of Kingston, National Youth Development, Early Childhood Commission, Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions, Friends of Liberty Hall, Caribbean Studies Association, National Steering Committee on Decentralisation, Local Government Reform, Jamaica Money Market Brokers, Churches Credit Union, Caribbean Brands and various Advisory committees and Review boards.

Colleagues were also active in service to a wide range of journals including among these: *American Review of Political Economy*, *Southern Journal of Canadian Studies*, *International Bulletin of Political Psychology*, *British Journal of Social Work*, *Journal of Diplomatic Language*, *Journal of Cross-cultural Psychology*, *Journal of Business, Finance and Economics in Emerging Economies*, *Frontiers in Finance and Economics*, *Caribbean Review of Books*, *Caribbean Reasoning Series*, *Jamaica Journal*, *Journal of Business and Entrepreneurship*, *Lexington Books Caribbean Series* and *Caribbean Journals of Education, Social Work, and Psychology*.

Community Outreach

The Department of Management Studies launched an Office of Social Entrepreneurship (OSE). The OSE has two main foci, namely the Primary and Junior High Schools Outreach Programme and the Saving lives through Enterprise Programme. Under the Primary and Junior High Schools Outreach Programme, assistance is offered to students with the teaching of extra classes in Mathematics and English Language for students preparing for the Grade Nine Achievement Test (GNAT) which is usually held in May of each year. Approximately one hundred students participated in the programme last year. University students and community volunteers facilitated the sessions. The Saving Lives through Enterprise Programme has so far been a collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). In this venture approximately fifteen male participants from Trench Town, Rockfort and Arnett Gardens received training in urban agriculture at the IICA.

The Psychology Unit in the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work continued its service relationship with the Mustard Seed Communities through a previously signed Memorandum of Understanding. Under the MOU, the Psychology Unit provides expertise in diagnostic assessment of residents, therapeutic interventions for residents and staff training and development. Staff members have also been responsive to various issues of social concern inclusive of the recent social disturbances in West Kingston.

The Mona School of Business Outreach Programme continued during the period as the School maintained a special relationship with the Jamaica National Children's Home. The first MSB Outreach award for "Outstanding Personal Achievement and Community Service" was presented to a Former Resident of the Jamaica National Children's Home. The award, which was presented at the MSB Awards Ceremony on November 26, 2010, highlighted the achievements of recipient Tashauna Taylor, a former resident of the JNCH who has made several academic and personal achievements. Also, in conjunction with the Jamaica

National Children's Home (JNCH) a very successful MSB/JNCH Sports Day and Christmas Treat was held on December 17, 2010 on the JNCH Grounds. There was a large turnout of MSB staff members and residents of the Home.

Conclusion

As with other areas of the UWI, financial challenges have led to a reduction in the availability of resources most notably a reduction in the staff complement available to the Faculty. This has meant that the Faculty continues to be called upon to do more with less. Despite these constraints the Faculty has continued to take initiatives aimed at enhancing the student experience with a view to producing graduates with enhanced academic, work ready and life-long learning skills. New and relevant research initiatives have been undertaken and there has been a continued effort to engage with the wider community.