The Faculty of Social Sciences began the academic year with the staging of its annual Faculty Day under the theme “My Perspective, My Plan: Where do I fit into the Faculty of Social Sciences Strategic Plan?” The overarching goal of the event was the fostering of a singleness of purpose in all aspects of faculty operations, establishing a common vision and building team spirit among colleagues.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

A number of members of staff were promoted during the year including: Dr Jessica Bryon to Professor of Caribbean International Relations and Diplomacy; Dr Garth Lipps to Professor of Applied Psychology and Dr Lou-Ann Barclay to Professor of International Business. Drs Christopher Charles, Stacy Brodie-Walker, Rosemarie Johnson and Andrew Spencer were promoted to Senior Lecturers.

According to the data from the Student Records Unit a total of 6,002 students registered for the first semester; of this number, 2,473 were new students, 2,035 undergraduates and 438 postgraduates. Three orientation exercises were held to welcome new students, two on the Mona Campus and one on the Western Jamaica Campus. For the second semester 160 new undergraduate students were admitted to the Faculty.

For the period under review a total of 1,252 students graduated from the Faculty, 897 Undergraduates and 355 postgraduate. 106 undergraduate
students received first class honours degrees and 79 postgraduate students received distinctions.

In an attempt to enhance the student experience, the Faculty created partnerships with outside entities/universities. In this regard, personnel from the University of Gothenburg (UoG) (Sweden) were hosted by the Faculty. The purpose of the visit was to discuss a proposed Linnaeus-Palme application for the academic year 2015/16 for a partnership between the UWI and UOG through the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, Mona; the Institute International, St. Augustine, and the UOG through the School of Global Studies. The application was approved for programme implementation in the academic year 2016/17, will include student and lecturer exchanges at the graduate level in Anthropology, Sociology of Development and International Relations. A Memorandum of Understanding will be signed which will outline the full programme between the universities.

BOOKS PUBLISHED

- **Dr Clinton Hutton**: *Colour for Colour Skin for Skin: Marching with the Ancestral Spirits into War Oh at Morant Bay*. Ian Randle Kingston, 2015.
- **Dr Clinton Hutton**: *Leonard Percival Howell and the Genesis of Rastafari*. University of the West Indies Press, 2015.
STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

During the period a total of 47 students from the Faculty were inducted into the Faculty of Social Sciences Honours Society, 45 from the Mona Campus and 2 from the Western Jamaica Campus.

All undergraduate students graduating with first class honours degrees received awards with 36 receiving special awards. In addition 74 Graduate students received distinction awards and 42 received special awards at the Faculty Graduate Awards Ceremony in November.

Ms Sherona Forrester from the Department of Economics was selected as the 2016 Rhode Scholar. She will pursue an MPhil Degree in Economics at Oxford University.

The students listed below completed their PhDs during the year:

- Louis Moyston, Government “An Exploration into the Emergence of Leonard P. Howell and the Early Rastafari during the Critical Years of the Anti-Colonial Struggle in Jamaica from 1933–1938”.
- Steve Whyte, An Examination of the relationship between social network structures and software quality in free and open source software development”.
- Deloree Staple-Chambers “Predicting Tax Compliance”.
- Suzanne Wynter “Credit Risk in Government Mortgage Lending”.

CHALLENGES

Poor air quality and other related problems in the Alister McIntyre Complex continue to bedevil the Faculty. During the reporting period, the Principal was kept abreast of problems and has given his commitment to ensuring that staff and students are properly accommodated. An approval of approximately $75M was committed to addressing issues regarding the poor indoor air quality. There are other issues that require
immediate attention and commitment was given to have all these addressed expeditiously.

In addition, the Faculty continues to deal with issues of inadequate rooms both for staff and students. It is an imperative for the Faculty to construct a new and modern building that will properly house its growing student and staff population

Teaching and Learning and Student Development

The Faculty’s commitment to quality teaching and learning continues to be a major emphasis and the UWI can boast of the excellent ranking received in the recently published Eduniversal Best Masters Ranking 2016. Five Masters Programmes offered by the MSBM were ranked among the top 200 in regional rankings of nine geographical zones and top 10 for Latin America. The programmes are as follows:

- Master of Business Administration (Part Time) – Top 200 Best Masters in Executive MBA and MBA part time Global Ranking - Ranked 19th
- Master of Business Administration (Full Time) – Top 200 Best Masters in MBA full time Global Ranking – Ranked 15th
- Master of Science in Accounting – Top 200 Masters in Accounting and Auditing Global Ranking – Ranked 10th
- Computer Based Management Information System (CBMIS) – Top 200 Best Masters in Information Systems Management Global Ranking – Ranked 11th
- Masters in Business Management – Top 200 Best Masters in General Management Global Ranking – Ranked 16th

Eduniversal with its headquarters in Paris is a global ranking and rating agency with specialisation in higher education; it publishes its official ranking for the 4000 best Masters and MBA programmes annually.

A number of newly proposed Masters Programmes were approved by the Faculty Board and will be taken through the other approval process in
the coming year. It is expected that once full approval is granted the programmes will be marketed and offered for the Academic Year 2017/18. These programmes include: Logistics and Supply Chain Management, Marketing and Business Analytics, Service and Retail Management, Procurement, and Corporate Finance.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Despite severe financial constraints, the Faculty continued to invest in the development of its staff over the period. A number of members of staff presented at conferences or attended training sessions aimed at developing key skills. These include but are not limited to the following:

- MSBM launched a programme called “Writing Wednesday” with the aim of enhancing research productivity. In this programme, Faculty members meet solely to discuss academic writing.
- Training was held on integrating Client Relationship Management (CRM) into the workflow of application processing, administration, and the student Lifecycle from prospects to alumni.
- Members of the Faculty attended a Lecturers’ Retreat at Sandals Resort International, the objective of which to job shadow heads of department in order to be exposed to current management approaches in the hospitality industry.
- Training was held by Bloomberg LLC representatives on navigating the Bloomberg terminal, in the Finance Lab.
- Training for the Faculty in Quick Books was held; this software will be incorporated in the courses to enhance student learning experience.

OPERATIONAL PROCESSES

Under the current UWI Strategic Plan (2012–2017) the outgoing Dean was in charge of the Internal Processes Perspective campus-wide. The Perspective as detailed under the UWI Strategic Plan comprised three objectives and nine initiatives. One of the activities undertaken during the year was an agreement brokered with providers to increase the
capacity and coverage of the mobile data and voice network across the campus.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

The Faculty continues to demonstrate considerable skills in research and innovation. This was especially obvious on UWI Mona Research Day 2016 where a number of researchers were awarded the Principal’s Research Award.

• Best Research Publication was awarded to Dr Heather Ricketts for the article: “Unlimited Unskilled and the Sex Segregation of Occupation in Jamaica”; Dr Suzette Haughton for the article “The 2009 Jamaica-USA Extradition Affair: A ‘Securitized’ Response to Jamaica’s Drug Problem” and Dr Orville Taylor for the book, *Broken Promises, Hearts and Pockets: A Century of Betrayal of the Jamaican Working Class*.


• The Research Project attracting the most funds was awarded to Dr Maurice McNaughton and Dr Michelle McLeod (with collaborators Dr Kim Mallalieu and Dr Patrick MConney) for the project: “Harnessing Open Data to Achieve Development Results in Latin America and the Caribbean”.

The Mona School of Business and Management in the Faculty of Social Sciences opened a Finance Lab which is a first for the Caribbean, the aim of which is to bridge the gap between the classroom and the real world of work.
OUTREACH

The Faculty continues to impact the wider society not only in research, but also community engagements. During the year, the Department of Government through its Governance Society in a joint effort with the Office of the Principal launched a Partnership Programme with the Organisation of American States (OAS). The objective of the programme is to promote citizenship education highlighting the importance of governance to society. For this initiative, the OAS will provide technical assistance and capacity strengthening to the Department which will in turn develop practical projects for civic education, which will be further developed into programmes for schools and communities across Jamaica.

A number of conferences, lectures, symposia and collaborations were organised and executed during the year and are listed below:

- Launch of Lecture Series on Latin American in the Caribbean (Department of Government)
- International Research Society for Public Management Regional Conference (Department of Government and MSBM)
- SALISES Caribbean Youth Development Conference (SALISES)
- Local Government Symposium (Department of Government)
- National Security Policy Seminar (MSBM)
- SALISES 10th Annual Caribbean Child Research Conference (SALISES)
- The SPSW Derek Gordon Research Seminar (SPSW)
- MSBM Reasoning with CEOs Series (MSBM)
- SALISES 17th Annual Conference (SALISES)
- Psychology Conference Theme: Psychology For Us, By Us: Strengthening Regional Development. (SPSW)
• MSBM Symposium Theme Jamaica’s Preparedness for the Opening of the Panama Canal
• Caribbean Student Drug Policy Conference (Department of Government)
• Public Forum, Elections 2016: Reflections and Next Steps (MSBM and Government)
• Academic Conference on International Football 2016 – The Business of Football
• Public Forum: An Export-led Economy Implications for Jamaica (MSBM)
• Public Forum: The RJR-Gleaner Merger: Implications for the Media Business in Jamaica (MSBM)
• SPSW Symposium: “Beyond Homophobia: Identifying Identities and Sexualities in Jamaica” (SPSW).

Professor Edward Gharthet was voted President Elect and Chairman of the African Finance and Economics Association (AFEA) for the 2017 annual Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) meeting to be held in Chicago.

A number of Faculty members continue to lend their intellectual capital to various institutions in Jamaica, within the region and farther afield. These include but are not limited to: Social Development Commission, ICAJ, Denbigh Agricultural Show, College of Insurance and Professional Studies, National Housing Trust, Ministry of Education’s Early Childhood Commission, University Council of Jamaica, JBDC/Self-Start Fund/MIDA, Overseas Examination Commission.

The “MSBM Outreach Day” was held at the Fort George Early Childhood Institute in Annotto Bay, St Mary. The day’s activities were sponsored by Tastee, Gabsean Limited and Sherwin Williams Paint W.I. who provided meals for volunteers, cleaning suppliers and paints. The staff also donated educational toys, school supplies, a used television set, educational devices, utensils, small appliances, toiletries, a 800 gallon water tank, paint, painting supplies and a face basin.
CONCLUSION

Although there were various challenges during the academic year, the Faculty of Sciences continues to make strides in numerous areas. Student enrolment has increased by 4.4% over the previous academic year and this is expected to continue as new programmes are introduced to meet the growing global demand. Cutting edge research is being done and our students continue to positively affect Jamaica, the region and the world.

A number of new self-financed Masters programmes will be offered and the Faculty continues to review and revise current courses/programmes with changing world demand. The Faculty will continue to use technology to maximum benefit and try its best to improve the student experience, the result being that Social Sciences will continue to be the Faculty of choice at the UWI, Mona.