

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

Ian Boxill, BSc, MPhil UWI, PhD Colorado – Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The department, despite challenges, continued its high level of performance and productivity across its various units and subsections. There was much developmental activity and outreach in Sociology, Psychology, Social Work and Human Resource Development.



Professor Chukwudum Uche, with Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard of the St. Augustine campus, continued as coordinator of the CARICOM Research Project which involves the analysis and preparation of country Population Census reports for 18 countries that conducted censuses in the 2000/01 period. Professor Uche also coordinated the second CARICOM Workshop on Demographic Analysis which was held at St. Augustine in the period July 2 - August 17, 2007.

Professors Patricia Anderson and Uche, along with Ms Sharon Priestly and Mr Julian Devonish were instrumental in launching the Johns-Hopkins-UWI Partnership for Population and Reproductive Health in April 2006. The project involves five departments and units at the Mona campus that have well established training programmes in reproductive health-related matters. Professor Anderson has served as project director and Ms Priestly as coordinator.

Dr Dennis Edwards and members of the Psychology team developed a proposal for the establishment of a centre for psychological services at the Mona campus. Approval and funding are being sought for this venture. Also, work on the Applied Psychology Outreach Services continued with a training programme at the Chemistry Department in interpersonal dynamics and team building.

The Caribbean Internship Project continued to develop and to embrace more students and centres in its regional applied educational thrust.

Three members of the Department - Professors Anderson and Boxill and Dr Orville Taylor - together with colleagues in the wider Faculty, won the Principal's Research Day Award, 2007, for their contributions to the Jamaican Human Development Report, 2005.

Professor Anderson, professor of applied sociology, in December 2006 delivered her inaugural lecture - titled "Jamaican fathers: Between culture and economy" - to a packed audience in the Social Sciences Lecture Theatre.

Mrs Heather Ricketts successfully defended her PhD thesis on "Wage determination and gender discrimination in the Jamaican labour market" in May 2007 and Mr Herbert Gayle submitted his thesis in June.

Seven members of the Department, including two graduate students presented papers at the Caribbean Studies Association conference, held in Brazil from May 27 to June 1. The papers focused on topics such as HIV-AIDS, human rights and discrimination; family and fathering; race and national identity in Jamaica and Brazil; and education and sickle cell disease in Jamaica.

Population and Development Computer Lab

The Population and Development Computer Lab in the Faculty of Social Sciences continued to be heavily utilized for teaching, research and information technology support activities. Staff members provided technical assistance for these activities which include tutorials in statistical software for undergraduate students, graduate seminar sessions on various software applications, and computer and Internet access for students conducting research and completing assignments. The lab also facilitated training sessions conducted by Mona Information Technology Services (MITS) on online systems used on the campus, and provided support for multimedia technology. In addition lab staff continued to assist with special research projects in the

Faculty, particularly in the area of data capture and management, thereby engaging in several important national surveys. Of note also is that the CLICK photography workshop for inner-city youth was again held in the lab and it was successful.

Increased demand for the lab's services placed it under pressure based on students' increased utilization and also the University's increasing adoption of web-based delivery of courses and the associated need for lab-based examinations. The increased demand for scheduled time slots for training in research methodologies and for unscheduled slots also imposed pressure on the lab's capabilities.

Enlarging its staff, having more flexible opening hours, and the University's agreements with some software suppliers that allow students to have University-licensed programmes installed on their personal computers were part of the response to the challenges.

Members of the lab's staff received awards for excellence during the year. Mr. Marlon Tracey was awarded a fellowship by the Department of Economics, and Miss Arlene Bailey was named (with Mr. Claremont Kirton) as recipient of the Principal's Award for the Project with the Greatest Economic Impact.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Allen, L.

- (with Thompson-Ebanks, Valerie) "Coping with an emerging non-normative gender and sexual identity within the Jamaican context: Case study of one male adolescent". Biennial Caribbean and International Social Work Educators' Conference; Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, June 2007.
- "Equipping social workers to deal with issues of spirituality and religion in times of disaster". Symposium on Disaster Planning, Management and Relief, St. Michael, Barbados, January 2007.

Anderson, P.

- "Fathering and family: African roots, Jamaican synthesis". 32nd Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association; Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, 2007.

Baker, P.

- “Speaking truth to power in a small state context: Issues and tasks for social work educators and practitioners”. Keynote address, 8th Biennial Caribbean and International Social Work Educators' Conference; Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, June 2007.
- “A structural analysis of disasters discloses macro practice roles.” International Seminar on ‘Disaster planning, management, and relief’ Barbados, January 2007.
- “Beyond social protection: Sustainable social development in small island states.” 33rd Biennial Congress of the International Association of Schools of Social Work; Santiago, Chile, August 2006.

Barnett, M.

- “Rastafari as an Afrocentric spiritual expression of identity.” Cheik Anta Diop Conference; Philadelphia, USA, October 2006.
- “A socio-historical comparative analysis of race and national identity in Brazil and Jamaica.” 32nd Annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference; Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, May 2007.

Beckford, O.

- “Retirement planning: The age old problem.” 6th Annual Psychology Conference; UWI, Mona, February 2007.

Boxill, I.

- “Social and cultural impacts of tourism in the Caribbean.” Conference on Tourism and Development; Kobe, Japan, February 2007.

Brodie-Walker, S.

- (with Fearon, D. D.) “Parent-child interaction in different family structures: Its link to juvenile delinquency.” 6th Annual Psychology Conference; UWI (Mona), Jamaica, February 2007.

Headley, B.

- “The rule of law”, a discussion on enforcement and deportation. International Conference on Migration, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, March 2007.

Ramkissoon, M.

- “An investigation into child shifting.” Caribbean Child Research Conference; Kingston, Jamaica, October 2006.

Ricketts, H.

- "Making the African in the diaspora economically resilient: Perspectives for Suriname." Keynote address - NKS International Conference; Suriname, May 2007.

Uche, C.

- (with Cameisha Bailey) “Correlates of health status among the economically active population in Jamaica.” 7th Annual SALISES, UWI Conference; St. Michael, Barbados, March 2006.
- “Determinants of discriminatory attitudes.” 32nd Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association; Salvador da Bahia, Brazil, 2007.

PUBLICATIONS

Books and Monographs

- * Devonish, Julian. (2007). National Population Census Report 2001 (Anguilla) for CARICOM Secretariat (monograph, completed 2007)

Refereed Journal Articles and Book Chapters

- * Baker, P. (2007) ?Jamaica? In D. Levinson & M. Paludi (Eds.), Global perspectives on the United States: A nation by nation survey, vol. 1 (pp. 337-342). Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire Publishing Group.
- * Boxill, Ian. (2007). Social and cultural impacts of tourism in the Caribbean. In Shibata, Y. (Ed.), Tourism development

and culture in the Pacific and the Caribbean. Japan: International Research Centre, Kobe University.

- * Lyttle, S. & Brodie, S. (2006). Child abuse and its relationship to conduct disorder. *Psychiatry Online Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.priory.com/psych/abuse.htm>.
- * Headley, Bernard. (2006). The U.S. to Jamaica deportee problem: Dispelling a key myth. In T. Lesser, B. Fernández, L. Cowie, N. Bruni & E. Thomas-Hope (Eds.), in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration, Association of Caribbean States, and the University of the West Indies, *Intra-Caribbean migration and the conflict nexus* (pp. 289-305). Ottawa: Human Rights Internet.
- * Headley, Bernard. Giving critical context to the deportee phenomenon. *Crime & Social Justice* 33(1); pp. 40-56.
- * Bailey, Barbara & Ricketts, Heather. (2007). Caribbean labour markets: Potential of the CSME for reducing gender disparities. In K. Hall & M. Chuck-A-Sang (Eds.), *CARICOM Single Market and Economy: Genesis and Prognosis* (pp. 267-302). Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers. (A UWI-CARICOM project)

Abstracts

- * Brodie-Walker, SNA & Morgan, KAD. (2006). (Abstract) Psychological and sociological factors associated with juvenile delinquency in Jamaican and African-American adolescents: A comparative study. *West Indian Medical Journal* 55 (Suppl 4); 1-44.

Technical Reports

Baker, Peta-Anne & Levy, Horace

- * Heavy metals in Jamaica: Socio-economic profile of study communities; July 2007; 15p.

Branche, C., Morgan, S. & Richards, B.

- * The Social Affirmation Project.

Boxill, Ian

- * "Survey of residents' involvement and attitudes towards tourism: Barbados, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago". Caribbean Tourism Organization, Barbados, 2007.

Gayle, Herbert

- * "Forced ripe!': How youth of three selected working class communities assess their identity, support, and authority systems, including their relationship with the Jamaican police." Sponsored by the World Bank and the Jamaica Social Policy Evaluation Project through the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

Uche, Chukwudum

- * Census Data Analysis Consultant/Editor of nine National Country Reports of the 2000/2001 Population Census Data and five Regional Special Topic Monographs on Children and Youth, Elderly, Gender, International Migration, and Economic Activity, Education and Training. These Projects are being undertaken under the direction of the CARICOM Secretariat.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Allen, Lita

- Board Member, Whole Person Resource Centre
- Member, Mental Health Response and Training Team

Anderson, Moji

- Member, Jamaica Environment Trust
- Volunteer, Jamaica AIDS Society

Baker, Peta-Anne

- Chair, Editorial Board, Caribbean Journal of Social Work
- Chief judge, Michael Manley Foundation Award for Community Self-Reliance
- President, Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators (ACSWE)

Devonish, Julian

- Coordinator, Poverty Monitoring and Social Policy Analysis Project, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)
- Member, National Council for Senior Citizens
- Member, Population Coordination Committee, PIOJ

Gayle, Herbert

- Chairman, Fathers Incorporated
- Member, Board of Management of Children First Agency

Ricketts, Heather

- Chairperson, Social Welfare and Vulnerable Groups Taskforce, Jamaica National Development Plan
- Member, Technical Steering Committee, Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions
- Member, Technical Steering Committee, PIOJ Research Agenda Programme

Uche, Chukwudum

- Associate Editor, Journal of Aging in Emerging Societies
- Member, Population Task Force, Jamaica National Development Plan