

FACULTY OF SPORTS Mona

Year ending July 31, 2023



DR. AKSHAI MANSINGH, JP
MBBS (UWI), FACS, MSPMED (UNSW), DM (ORTHO)
DEAN

Dean's Overview

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Faculty of Sport continued delivery of its undergraduate programmes through cross campus teaching which allowed students from all campuses to be taught by experts from a particular campus. This has enriched the experience overall. Of our 56 graduates, we had our first BSc batch from the Mona campus at their graduation ceremony. Some of these have already enrolled in the postgraduate programmes which continue to grow, with particular interest in the MPhil/PhD programme. Special mention must be made of Alison Facey who won the UWI 3-minute thesis competition. Our first undergraduates from St. Augustine have completed this year as well.

The annual Frank Worrell Memorial Lecture was delivered by the Honourable Mia Motley, Prime Minister of Barbados addressing the state of West Indies cricket. Apart from pointing out problematic issues, action items were identified and much attention was gained in regional and international media. Work through grant aided projects culminated in the approval of the Executive Masters in European Caribbean High Performance Sport Management targeting senior sport administrators.

Our students participated at the highest level in World Championships, Regional and National events. Llori Sharpe, a professional cyclist in Europe was able to complete her BSc Sport Sciences with First Class honours. The Combined Campuses and Colleges cricket team re-entered the Cricket West Indies Super 50 competition that they won in 2018, with a commitment to deeper and longer involvement in other competitions in the future. Our coaches at the Mona and Cave Hill Academies were co-opted to assist with West Indies Teams at the highest level, as well as our doctors and physiotherapists.

Our students and teams continue to reap success in national competitions in all landed campuses, but special mention is made of our female cricket team in St. Augustine which got promoted to the Premier League of Womens Cricket in Trinidad and Tobago.

Closer association with Olympic Associations were cemented through MOUs with the Jamaica Olympic Association and Caribbean Association of National Olympic

Committees. An MOU with the Rajasthan Royals franchise of the Indian Premier League of cricket, through their Business School, opens the doors to short courses being delivered to a global market.

Whereas a lot of effort was spent on re-establishment in this first full year post COVID-19, much was achieved on and off the field.

ACCESS

Approximately 374 students were enrolled in the Faculty across the campuses. A comprehensive recruitment strategy has been developed and will be pursued as of the new academic year.

At Mona, only 25 UWI Sports Scholarships and 7 UWI CB Group 5K Scholarships were offered this year due to reduced funding. Shaquan Allen, Mona finalising BSc Sport Kinetics student, was the recipient of the Dr. Tulsi Dyal Singh scholarship. He was able to complete his programme with First Class honours.

At Cave Hill, five students received sport scholarships and two sport grants. Scholarship opportunities will be increased for students of the Cave Hill Academy of Sport as of 2023/2024 with the approval of the Grant Scholarship. The total value over three academic years would be BDS15,000.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Graduation 2022

A total of fifty-six (56) graduates were awarded their degrees from the combined graduation ceremonies at Cave Hill and Mona with one graduate from the certificate programme at St. Augustine.

Dean's List

Twenty (20) students of the Cave Hill, Mona and St. Augustine Academies of Sport were recognised for achieving the Dean's List for 2022/2023.

Trailblazers in Sports

The Faculty is delighted to have launched the *Trailblazers in Sports* series during this diamond year. The series seeks to highlight the achievement of sporting luminaries from within the Faculty, The UWI, the region and beyond. The series has featured two graduates of the Sport Sciences programme at Cave Hill and is available for viewing on the Faculty's YouTube channel.

TEACHING, LEARNING AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

Across the campuses, students were challenged with poor internet connectivity in the cross campus teaching of the undergraduate programmes among the Cave Hill, Mona, Open and St. Augustine campuses. Lecturers at Mona had late access to the Moodle platform as contracts were finalised after the start of teaching. The Open Campus Academy experienced challenges with the integration of the cross-campus facility into the administrative arrangements of the APAD department. Recordings had to be made available to the students who had difficulty joining the streamed classes due to work commitments.

A career exposition organised specifically for students in the Faculty was held in June 2023. The session was planned in collaboration with the Office of Placement & Career Services, Mona and was open to students across the Faculty. The students were very appreciative of the session. One recommendation going forward was for the Career Services Unit from all the campuses to collaborate on future sessions to highlight country specific information.

Programme Development

The Executive Master's European Caribbean High Performance Sport Management was approved by BUS in February 2023. This was the product of a grant from the Association of French Universities valued at €15,000.00. Additional funding will be sought to ensure a January 2024 start of teaching.

Preliminary approval was received from Rajasthan Royals to use the UWI FSP body of knowledge on Sport Science and Nutrition in a short course on its educational platform. A MOU is expected to be signed in the first quarter of 2023/2024 to formalise the partnership.

The Open Campus Academy Head pursued a partnership with Pan Am Sports Organisation and CANOC for the development and offering of a certificate course in sport administration management. It is expected that an agreement will be signed off during the next year.

ALIGNMENT

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Research in the Faculty was hampered this year due to increased administrative duties by the Heads as well as one being on leave for a semester. Nevertheless, we maintained our presence in the two newspaper columns, *Sport Matters* and *Sport Pulse*, in the Trinidad Guardian and the Jamaica Gleaner respectively. Over forty

(40) articles were published this year with submissions from staff across the Faculty, our graduate students at the Mona Academy, as well as from guest contributors.

Although we did not receive approval of our proposal to USAID for funding for a Climate Change and Sport Initiative, the Faculty remained committed to its climate action agenda. Proposals submitted through the Global Institute for Climate-smart and Resilient Development (GICSRD) on rainwater harvesting and solar electricity generating systems were accepted. A sub-committee was formed to further develop the proposals to access donor funding. Mona later submitted a grant application to procure funding to expand the wastewater project to irrigate the three main fields at the Bowl. The committee is also working with the other campuses to develop their proposals to access funding for their projects.

NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Relationships with governments, sport governing bodies and sporting entities were built strengthened during the year.

Following a visit to Jamaica by the Honourable Minister of Sport, Trinidad and Tobago, a draft proposal for a Community Inclusion Programme was submitted for consideration by the Trinidadian government.

The 22nd Annual Frank Worrell Memorial Lecture was delivered by the Honourable Mia Motley on July 25th. She used the opportunity to remind the Caribbean governments that they have a responsibility to see to the development of the game of cricket; recommending that new governance structures must be put in place for its sustainability.

A webinar series titled *Debates in Sports Ethics* was launched in February 2023. Two episodes of the series were delivered through the collaborative efforts of the Department of Language, Linguistics & Philosophy in the Faculty of Humanities & Education (Mona), the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (St. Augustine), the UWI Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Unit and the Faculty of Sport. Special thanks to visiting Professor Balaganapathi Devarakonda who served as the ethics expert for the series.

The Faculty also hosted a virtual panel discussion on “*Sport as an Antidote for Gender Based Violence*” on December 1, 2022, in recognition of International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (IDEVAW) through 16 days of activism. The regional forum was organised in collaboration with Brock University and the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS). Professor of Kinesiology at Brock University, Cathy van Ingen whose research, outreach and advocacy centre on Boxing as therapy for domestic violence and other trauma was the feature presenter. The aim was to increase awareness among coaches, trainers, clubs, social service

agencies, non-profit organisations, gender studies and sport researchers, victims of abuse among others, of the benefits of sport as a therapeutic tool for coping with the effects of trauma including gender-based violence.

Members of the Faculty were panellists on the Acorn Climate Summit themed “*Climate Departure and Resilience, is Jamaica Ready for the Journey?*”, held on October 24, 2022. The panel comprised of members of faculty, Ms. Carole Beckford, Sports Marketer, and student representative, Llori Sharpe, who made presentations and led a panel discussion around the theme of Session III – “*Sport and the Climate Crisis: Victim, Contributor, or Advocate?*”

An MOU was signed with the Jamaica Olympic Association (JOA) and The University of the West Indies (UWI) on February 28, 2023, with the aim of fostering greater development of athletes, coaches, and sports administrators.

Partnership agreements with CPL, Jamaica Cricket Association, Jamaica Hockey Federation, KSAFA, National Powerlifting Association (Jamaica), Americas Federation of Netball Associations (AFNA), Trinidad Guardian, SporTT (Trinidad) and University of New Brunswick were maintained during the year.

AGILITY

REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

The MOU with Melbourne Polytechnic was signed in August 2022. In the first year of collaboration, the parties worked on the development of an International Sports Turf programme. To advance this development, representatives from Melbourne Polytechnic will conduct a reconnaissance visit to the Caribbean during the second quarter of 2023/2024.

UWI Mona was lauded for a successful staging of the second Rugby Americas North Regional Women’s 15 and Men Under 19 international tournaments.

INCOME GENERATION

The Faculty earned modest income from short courses (CWI Coaching Certification, Sport Marketing and the Cricket MOOC) and rental of our facilities during the year. The MOOC, *West Indies Cricket: Our Story*, earned commission of USD 443.66 up to the end of the second quarter of the year.

Robust rentals of the facilities at Mona were maintained despite the need for upgrade of same. The Sports Medicine Clinic at Mona earned JMD 8,809,154.85.

The Cave Hill Academy will be working to upgrade its Sport Science Labs during the coming year as they seek to promote its use to a wider audience. More than BBD 150,000 was earned during the year from rentals.

At the St. Augustine Academy, revenues earned from rentals and gym membership totalled TTD 304,517.58. We look forward to the repair of the air condition unit at SPEC which impacted the rentals of the indoor court negatively this year.

STAFF MATTERS

Dr. Sharmella Roopchand-Martin completed her second tenure as Head of the Mona Academy of Sport on July 31st. The Faculty extends sincere gratitude to Dr. Martin for her leadership in the development of the Academy despite the various budget and staff challenges. A warm welcome is extended to incoming head, Dr. Aldeam Facey.

Recruitment efforts at Mona during the year will come to fruition for August 2023 as candidates were identified for the posts of Manager, Athletic Development & Training and Administrative Assistant which had been vacant for over a year.