



MONA

# FACULTY OF SPORT

*Year Ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021*



**Dr. Akshai Mansingh · Dean**

*MBBS (UWI), FACS, MSpMed (UNSW),  
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# DEAN'S OVERVIEW

The academic year 2020-21 would be the most challenging during the infancy stage of the Faculty of Sport. The COVID-19 pandemic affected all aspects of the activities of the Faculty. Most countries ceased all sporting activities for most, if not all of this period. All campuses had disruptions in face to face teaching with most having none at all. This took a toll on the momentum of attracting students to the Faculty and there was a predictable decline in enrolment. None the less, there were new undergraduate and post graduate programmes that commenced in the Mona and Open Campus Academies. Short courses were also delivered across the region which were well received. Cross campus teaching commenced between the Mona and St. Augustine campuses which allowed students to experience the best of lecturers in those courses. The other Academies are due to join in as well in the next year. The Tokyo 2020 Olympics were held in 2021 and three current students participated, with two getting bronze medals in the 4x400m women's relays. Additionally, Hansle Parchment, a past student with existing close ties to the UWI Track Club, won gold in his 110m hurdles event. The lull in activities on the field was countered by research activities. Projects on coaching practices in the Caribbean and on the effect of Climate Change on Sport which had been facilitated by grants were successfully executed. As we prepare for 2021-22 we anticipate partial resumption of sporting activities which could spawn renewed interest in the offerings of the Faculty of Sport.

## ACCESS

There was a 46% decline in new student enrolment across the 4 campuses last year in comparison with 2019-20.

*Table 1: New Student Enrolment 2020/2021*

	<b>Cave Hill</b>	<b>Mona</b>	<b>Open Campus</b>	<b>St. Augustine</b>	<b>Total</b>
Certificate				8	8
Undergraduate	46	47	32	20	145
Graduate	0	17	n/a	n/a	17

Scholarships were offered to 87 athletes at Mona. The second award of the Dr. Tulsi Dyal Singh scholarship at Mona was made to second year Sport Kinetics student Nishauna Morris. At Cave Hill, 8 undergraduate scholarships and 9 grants were awarded.

Teaching, Learning and Student Development The Faculty began cross campus teaching between the Mona and St. Augustine campuses with the use of the Cross Campus Moodle platform. Feedback from the students and lecturers was positive once access to the platform and internet connectivity challenges were resolved. Virtual practicums conducted at the graduate level were well received by the students.

### Programme Development

The MSc Sport Business Management successfully started for semester 2 of the academic year. New undergraduate programmes in BSc Sport Coaching and BSc Sport and Physical Literacy at the Cave Hill Campus and the Open Campus respectively were approved for delivery as of 2021-22. Approval was also received for minors in Sport Coaching and Sport Kinetics at Mona. Short courses were developed in areas such as Sport Governance Training, Sport Injury Management and Sports Marketing. These will be promoted to generate income for the Faculty.

### Student Achievement

We were pleased to have graduates at the Mona and Cave Hill graduation ceremonies.

<i>Table 2: Graduation Data 2020</i>			
	<b>Cave Hill</b>	<b>Mona</b>	<b>St. Augustine</b>
Certificate Art & Science of Coaching			6
BSc Sport Sciences	26		
MSc Sport Sciences	10		
MSc Sports Medicine		4	

### Dean's List

Forty (40) students of the Cave Hill, Mona and St. Augustine Academies of Sport were recognized for achieving the Dean's List for 2020-21.

### Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year

Shamera Sterling, a star netballer from the Mona Campus and Emmanuel Stewart, an excellent cricketer who studies at the Cave Hill Campus, emerged Vice-Chancellor's Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year 2020.

## Sporting Activities

All sporting activities at Mona were suspended for the year except for track and field and football. The track and field athletes maintained high levels of performance. Three of our current student athletes represented Jamaica at the Olympics and two won bronze medals in the 4x400m relays. Two of the recent graduates, who continue to train at the Bowl, also made the Olympic team and one obtained a gold medal in the 110m hurdles. Football training was highly disrupted due to government and Jamaica Football Federation restrictions. The Academy eventually had to withdraw from the Premier League which did not begin until the academic year had ended.

# ALIGNMENT

## Research and Innovation

As an outcome of the 1st Interregional Congress of Caribbean Sport Performance Centres, the Faculty partnered with CREPS Antilles-Guyane and the French West Indies University in securing funding of Euro \$30,000 for a research project. The project which started in June aims to identify the educational needs of coaches in the Caribbean region. Completion of the project and training programmes to meet these needs will be accomplished during 2021-22. The Faculty maintained its partnership agreements with the Jamaica Cricket Association, the Jamaica Hockey Federation, KSAFA and the Trinidad Guardian. MOUs were signed in July with the National Power Lifting Association in Jamaica and SporTT in Trinidad. The Mona Academy of Sport continues to lead the Faculty's research output with three peer reviewed articles and one collaborative book. Faculty members from all campuses contributed to the over twenty articles published in the Sport Matters column of the Trinidad Guardian. Research culture in the Faculty was fostered during the year with the hosting of three research seminars. Seven students of the Academy had articles that were published this year.

## Publications

Sport Matters: Views from The UWI Faculty of Sport, 2019-2020. Aiyejina, F. (Ed.). 2021. The University of the West Indies Press. This publication is an anthology covering columns that ran from August 2019 to December 2020, looking at themes like sport policy, injuries and their prevention, drug use, racism in sport, keeping fit, and of course the overall development of the sector was published in May 2021. COVID-19, its impact and strategies for mitigating its risk, is the subject of several of the articles.

## **Public Service**

Dr. Roopchand Martin served as Chair for CARPHA's Research Ethics Committee and Vice-chair on the National Bioethics Committee of Jamaica.

Dr. Aldeam Facey continued to serve as a Doping Control Officer at the Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission (2015 to present).

Dr. Ruchelle Brown-Calvert accompanied the senior national male football team as Team Physician to Austria, March 16 -26, 2021. She also volunteered as Sports Physician at the ISSA/ Grace Kennedy Boys and Girls Champs May 13-15, 2021.

Dr. Olivia Rose Esperance served as National Council on Education Representative for the Board of Merl Grove High School March 2021 and Board Director- Jacden Group of Companies.

Dr. Praimanand Singh accompanied the West Indies Women's Cricket team as Team Physician to England, September 2020.

## **Appointments with Sporting Bodies**

Members of the Faculty were appointed to Regional or National Sporting Bodies as follows:

Dr. Ramon Hunter - Chair of Medical Committee - National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica

Dr. Ruchelle Brown-Calvert - Member of the Medical Committee - National Powerlifting Association of Jamaica

Margaret Cutting, UWI Blackbirds netball coach, served as the Barbados Senior National Netball Coach.

The Head Coach at Cave Hill, Mr Floyd Reifer was seconded to Cricket West Indies for the year.

Mrs. Amanda Reifer served as a member of the Cricket Committee of CWI up to March 2021.

Mr. Mario Davis, the UWI head coach for the Men and Women Basketball teams at the St. Augustine campus served as the head coach for the Trinidad and Tobago National Under-16 Team.

Dr. Akshai Mansingh was reappointed a non-member (independent) Director of Cricket West Indies. He remained on the Medical Advisory Committee of the International Cricket Council.

## Outreach

The Faculty hosted the delivery of two Sir Frank Worrell Memorial Lectures on November 16, 2020 and June 28, 2021 with sponsorship from First Caribbean International Bank (Barbados) and UWItv. A virtual Coaches' Conference in partnership with SporTT was successfully held on March 24, 2021.

Several fora and webinars were held during the year

"Exploring the Bio-secure Sports Bubble" (October 2020);

"Sports Injury" (April 2021) and 'Financially Fit: How to add financial value to your sports career', (May 2021) – hosted by the St. Augustine Academy of Sport

Sports Law Forum on April 29, 2021 in partnership with the Faculties of Law at the Cave Hill and St. Augustine campuses.

Mona Academy of Sport presented an online seminar "Managing Expectations" to ISSA Boys/Girls Champs participants on May 8, 2021. Staff and students of the Faculty executed outreach projects in response to COVID-19 as well as the eruption of the volcano in St. Kitts. Overview of activities:

Student representatives of the Faculty at Mona coordinated an effort to make contributions of toiletries and personal protective equipment to the Sir John Golding Rehabilitation Centre on January 30, 2021.

Donation of assorted items to the victims of the volcanic eruption in St Vincent and the Grenadines by The UWI Women Cricket Club (UWI WCC), St. Augustine, April 21, 2021.

Donation of 12 food hampers to families in the Laventille/Morvant area (Trinidad) by The UWI Women's Cricket Club (UWI WCC), May 28, 2021.

Sports Psychologist at Mona Academy of Sport provided psychological support to St. Vincent and the Grenadines Netballers free of cost.

Wellness initiatives were pursued on the Open Campus, Mona and St. Augustine Campuses. At Mona, the UWI Moves programme was held weekly with adjustments made as necessary for COVID-19 restrictions. At Open Campus, OC Moves featured boot camps in specific months during the year while at St. Augustine, weekly Zumba plus Stretch & Relaxation classes were conducted in November. Virtual fitness classes were held in 2021.

# AGILITY

## Regional and International Collaboration

During the year, collaborations were pursued with regional Ministers of Sport and their Permanent Secretaries, however these were stalled due to the various challenges presented by COVID-19.

## Income Generation

Mona: Despite government restrictions, the Academy secured rental income of J\$1,203,000. The UWI Sports Medicine Clinic generated income of J\$ 3,960,200.00.

With the funds from the CDB grant, the Faculty was able to procure biomechanics equipment valued at US\$25,000 for the Sports Medicine Clinic.

Cave Hill: Rental income for the Cave Hill Academy of Sport was BDS\$54,445.00 (US\$2722.50).

The second cohort of the Sport Broadcasting Workshop generated income of US\$4,000 despite the reduced number of participants this year.

Successful re-engagement of the project management and technical consultants for the Usain Bolt UWI Sport & Exercise Medicine Centre was achieved. The project is being funded by the Government of Jamaica through the Public Investment Management Committee (PIMC), to finalize the business case and business plan for the proposed centre. Consultant reports are expected early next year.

## Staff Matters

Dr. Rudolph Alleyne was appointed Head of the Cave Hill Academy of Sport as of August 2020.

Prof. Funso Aiyejina completed his tenure as Head of the St. Augustine Academy of Sport on July 31<sup>st</sup>.