

WESTERN JAMAICA  
Montego Bay

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– Resident Tutor & Head

**WORK OF THE CENTRE**

For the year under review the School strengthened its public education initiatives. Public lectures including, two book launches, and an exhibition and forum on the legacies of slavery as well as a film, all in keeping with the theme of commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Abolition of the British Atlantic Slave Trade, were held. The Centre continued to see an increased enrollment in the BSc Management Studies offered by distance mode. However, enrollment in the local certificate programmes decreased reflecting the competitive market and the demand for higher level qualifications.



**Continuing Education**

Enrollment in local programmes fell during the year under review. Programmes which attracted reasonable enrollment were Social Work and Supervisory Management. The table below provides enrollment figures. However, the Centre continued to have an increase in enrollment for the BSc in Management delivered by distance mode.

Programme	Student Enrollment		
	M	F	T
Supervisory Management	13	50	63
Social Work	6	45	51
Early Childhood Education	1	24	25
Managerial Accounting	1	6	7
Microsoft Office	4	8	12
Mathematics	4	9	13
	<b>29</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>173</b>

### **Public Education & Outreach**

The Resident Tutor was invited to chair the steering committee for the Montego Bay Human Development Project spearheaded by the Member of Parliament, Dr. Horace Chang. The project aims to establish a training centre in Glendevon for 'at risk youths', particularly, males who had dropped out of school with virtually no skills for employment. The project is supported by the Social Development Commission as well business people from Montego Bay. Other collaborators are the churches and HEART Trust/NTA. In conjunction with this project the school hosted two training seminars relating to the formation of a Benevolent Society to administer the project once all arrangements are in place. The project if successful should assist in helping with social inclusion by assisting young people with skills which will help them to participate in social and economic development.

In April 2007, Dr. Anne C. Bailey delivered a lecture entitled “African Voices of the Atlantic Slave Trade ... Beyond the Silence and the Shame” and the Centre also hosted the launch of the book “Overstanding Rastafari ... Jamaica's Gift to the World” by Yasus Afari. In the June public lecture, Dr. Baruch spoke on the topic “Genetically Engineered Foods and its Effects... Violent Tendencies, Sexual Deviations and other Social Imbalances”. The Centre also organized a panel discussion moderated by Lloyd B. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, Western Mirror, on “Slavery-Legacies and Impact on Modern Caribbean Society”. Panelists were Dr. Pearnell Bell, Dr. Horace Chang and Ms Joan Sharpe.

### **Main Targets 2007-2008**

- Re-establish the Advisory Committee
- Establish an Alumni Chapter

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

Vilma Clarke

- Chair, Steering Committee, Montego Bay Human Development Project
- Member, Association of Caribbean Higher Education Administrators (ACHEA)
- Member, Jamaica Adult Literacy (JAMAL)
- Member, Montego Bay Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Montego Bay Community College Scholarship Committee