



URD 2016 POLICY WALL: Mona Research: Managing, Guiding, Shaping the Region

A Selection of Seminal Research Work which has influenced

# EDUCATION POLICY AND CURRICULA

## UWI Mona's Influence on The National Mathematics Policy

### Policy Influenced: National Mathematics Policy Guidelines

Year Implemented: 2013

### Objective of the Policy:

- The Policy articulates the goals for mathematics education in Jamaica, and defines standards for improving the qualities of:
- teachers of mathematics;
- mathematics teaching and learning at all levels of the educational system;
- teacher-education programmes.

### Summary:

#### Nature of research undertaken:

The Policy was developed in response to:

- The need to establish standards for all levels of the system.
- Students' poor performance on high-stakes tests in mathematics e.g., National tests and Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC),
- Low levels of numeracy that graduates of the Jamaican educational system demonstrated,
- Areas of weaknesses that teachers of

mathematics displayed in implementing the National mathematics curricula.

The Policy was informed by research conducted within Jamaican schools and by international trends in mathematics education. Situational analyses were done on students' scores on National tests and CSEC examinations in mathematics.

#### Date of undertaking and persons involved:

Over the period 2012/2013, a working committee of mathematics lecturers at tertiary institutions and Education Officers participated in reviews and discussions which led to the development of the National Mathematics Policy Guidelines (2013). The committee was led by Dr. Tamika Benjamin, National Mathematics Coordinator at the Ministry of Education. Dr. Camella Buddo, Mathematics Education Lecturer in the School of Education, UWI, Mona served on the committee.

### Impact of the Policy on Education:

The guidelines cover all areas of mathematics education for effective curriculum design, implementation and assessment, and for monitoring and evaluating mathematics programmes. These will impact teacher and teaching quality, and student performance at all levels of the educational system.

#### Reference

- *The Jamaica Observer* (Sept 23, 2012) Ministry unveils new Mathematics Policy. Kingston, Jamaica.
- *Ministry of Education* (2013) National Mathematics Policy Guidelines. Ministry of Education, Kingston Jamaica.

