Major Highlights of the year 2004-2005

a) Research and technical assistance in Early Childhood Education, Care and Development at the macro-level across the Caribbean
   i) Completion of IADB-funded Child Focus II project\(^1\) (2001 – 2005)
   ii) Launch of Learning Outcomes Guide\(^2\)
   iii) Obtained grant from Caribbean Development Bank for Child Focus III project\(^3\)

b) Research on children and violence
   i) Completion of 6-year follow-up of aggressive Jamaican youth; analysis ongoing (Planning Institute of Jamaica grant)
   ii) Completion of intervention trial to reduce aggressive behaviour among young school-children; analysis ongoing (CHASE Fund Grant)
   iii) Conducted Violence Prevention Programmes inventory (UNICEF Grant)
   iv) Led UWI team that conducted the Desk Review of violence against children in the Caribbean region for the UN Secretary General’s Report (UNICEF Grant)
   v) Pilotted a nutrition intervention study to reduce aggressive behaviour
   vi) Gave several invited presentations on topic to scientific and general audiences (Caribbean and international)

c) Research on children and HIV/AIDS
   i) Held workshop on research on children and HIV/AIDS, December 8, 2004

d) Other research activities
   i) Invited (with Prof. M. Black, U. Maryland) to develop research priorities for global research in child development using new methodology created by CHNRI (Child Health and Nutrition Research Initiative, WHO)
   ii) Presented review of zinc deficiency and child development at IZINC meeting in Lima, Peru, November 2004

e) Networking activities
   ii) Continued facilitating website for Caribbean early childhood and parenting issues with Institute of Education and Dudley Grant Memorial Trust
   iii) Continued as a UNESCO Cooperating Centre for Early Childhood

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\(^1\) Goals were to mobilize national commitment/increase public awareness for early childhood development (ECD) services; and advance the goals of the Caribbean Early Childhood Plan of Action in 5 Caribbean states

\(^2\) Caribbean-focused curriculum guide for early childhood education, care and development

\(^3\) Will investigate the implementation of specific curriculum goals, the financing and sustainability of early childhood care, and implementation of policies and regulatory systems in 2 Caribbean states
iv) Continued participation in:
   (1) CRUN (Child Rights University Network): attended annual meeting
       Belgium, May, 2005
   (2) CG (Consultative Group on Early Childhood Education, Care and
       Development)
   (3) Childwatch International Network of child research institutions: elected to
       board at annual meeting Oslo, June 2005

e) Teaching/ Training activities
   i) Contributed to the teaching of several UWI courses: MSc (Nutrition), BSc
      (Nursing) and MBBS programmes
   ii) Graduate-student supervision
   iii) Several international students accommodated/ mentored: USA (through the
        MHIRT programme), India and Italy