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Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Richard Bernal, Professor of Practice

It is my honour to introduce the first issue of "UWI Global News", a semi-annual newsletter produced by the Office of Global Affairs (OGA).

Higher education has been international from its origins in antiquity because knowledge, faculty and students have moved internationally albeit, in a limited way. Today, however, the exponential increase in the exchange of knowledge, faculty, students and financial resources has given way to a global market for higher education. The demand for a globally recognised education is driven by the fact that graduates are entering a global labour market where employment involves competition among people all over the world. This shift has necessitated a transition at The UWI from internationalisation to globalisation. That is to say a shift away from a regional institution with international exchange, to a global university based in the Caribbean, globally deployed in the service of a globally dispersed and globally mobile Caribbean people. Far from simply being a challenge for The UWI, transitioning to globalisation is a strategic, proactive process of which the essential tenets are envisioned and embedded in The UWI's Strategic Plan 2017-2022. This process requires committed, consistent and innovative leadership at all levels, supported by an institutionwide culture of the global and an understanding that the global is a way to better service the Caribbean people, governments and regional institutions. Recognising these changed realities and working to facilitate and sustain our continued push towards

From internationalisation to globalisation

globalisation, it is necessary for The UWI to: (1) Build on the existing international connections. This will allow for the adaption of the curriculum, where necessary, to examine global issues and to interpret the impact on the countries of the Caribbean, as well as how the Caribbean may impact these issues. It also allows our students to be provided with a global exposure to people, places and cultures from as many countries as possible. This is achieved through attracting students from outside the region to pursue university education either in whole or in part at The UWI as well as providing our students with the opportunity to travel to other countries either for study or to participate in conferences, cultural, sporting, or other events.

(2) Utilise the Triple 'A' theme of Access, Alignment and Agility for revitalising Caribbean Development, "to create knowledge, foster innovation and advance education for the progressive transformation of Caribbean Peoples".

(3) Recognise that this undertaking is the responsibility of all academic and administrative staff as well as students and graduates. The leadership function devolves at all levels and will encourage global involvement and the enhancement of the global reputation and standing of The UWI.

(4) Develop channels of discussion and information, for example: the Global Outreach Committee and The UWI's database of agreements.

(5) Produce globally ready graduates equipped to succeed in the global employment market whether they work in the Caribbean or outside the region. This is to be achieved through the expansion of the number of double and joint degrees. A Caribbean-Global Synchronised Curriculum continually updated to synchronise the best and latest knowledge from the Caribbean and the world.

(6) Stipulate that all graduates and staff have competence in at least one foreign language.

(7) Increase global diversity in keeping with the current strategic plan to have a physical presence on all the continents. Establishing a presence in the various countries necessitates the identification of possible partners and the cultivation of meaningful institutional alliances with universities and research institutes on all continents. The process has already started with the launch of the UWI-SUNY Centre for Leadership and Sustainable Development in New York, United States, the UWI-UNILAG Centre for Global African Studies with University of Lagos, Nigeria and the UWI-UOJ Institute for Global African Affairs with University of Johannesburg, South Africa. Explorations are in process to establishing with a suitable partner a Center for Caribbean-European relations in Brussels and a Canada-Caribbean Institute with Brock University. Three pillars of the foundation for the long-term partnerships which will allow for The UWI's physical presence to be established in collaboration with existing institutions in the various countries are: ease of application, studentcentered administration and international marketing. (8) Enhance The UWI's global brand through increased high quality administrative processes, educational programmes and research made visible and judged by reference to various rating systems. Designed to make The UWI an attractive partner for other respected institutions. This has to be done particularly in the face of competition from indigenous institutions that can compete on price and comparative ease of access and foreign institutions with global fame and ranking.

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2019 Caribbean-Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogues (CCELD), an "awesome" experience



Mr. Ian Forrest (centre front) with fellow participants of the 2019 Duke of Edinburgh, Caribbean Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogues (CCELD)

E arlier this year, I had the good fortune of being accepted as part of the prestigious, Duke of Edinburgh, Caribbean Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogues (CCELD). It was held over the week of March 24-31, 2019 in Kingston, at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

In a word, the experience was "awesome". I had the privilege to be in the company of outstanding persons in the capacity of: global faculty/ speakers, who gave talks on the theme of Sustainability; organisers, who put their all into us having a phenomenal experience; facilitators, who played host to us on the experiential tours we undertook; and of course, the participants – my fellow Emerging Leaders.

To be joining a longstanding Alumni of Emerging Leaders is indeed a good feeling. The Duke of Edinburgh had a vision from the 1950's when these Dialogues started of bringing together people from diverse backgrounds who were often at odds, so they would "hear" each other, to be able to bring about more productive dialogues in the resolution of the problems of society.

The concept has spread across the Commonwealth and this year, I had an opportunity to be part of the start of what will be a more regular offering of the programme – moving from the last one taking place in 2015 and prior to that 2011, to a set up where the Caribbean Canada Emerging Leaders' Dialogues will take place on an annual schedule.

I was asked to lead "The Winning Green Team" (there were three groups) as we undertook three fulsome days of experiential tours. For us these began with a visit to a woman-run 2,000 acre organic farm in Bethel Town in the hills of Westmoreland. From there we had an authentic Rasta experience with First Man *et al* at the Rastafari Indigenous Village

in St. James. And as if that wasn't wowing enough, we later went to a "weed farm" in St. James, where the complexity and technical sophistication of being compliant with the laws and regulations necessary for operating a medical marijuana farm in Jamaica were on full display. That was followed by an appreciation for the business of running a medical marijuana products business in Jamaica - where among the challenges that had to be met head on, were the finding ways around banking and distribution challenges presented by this novel and recently legal business. And these were just our day 1 experiences. Over the three days of the tours I grew as a leader. Ours, I am led to believe, must have been the test group for what it takes to lead in a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic workspace in the 21st century, where gender, leadership styles, etc., in a group where everyone sees him/herself as a leader, made for a powerful and testing stretch of my capacity. This compounded by the fact that our group had the most people in it, travelling on the smallest bus. To say the least, there were tense moments.

However, on delivery day, when there was the requirement to make a presentation on Leadership, we absolutely shined.

Adaptability had us successfully transform the entire concept of what our final presentation was to be. Initially we had worked out a paper, but, Lisa Bell, fellow CCELD Alum and Country Organiser for the 2019 programme, told us pointedly she didn't want anything scripted, nor anything boring. On the night before our final presentations, we had to as it were, to "wheel and come again". It forced us to play to our strengths. In our group were seasoned media practitioners – one of whom was the host of a morning show in the Bahamas. With that in mind, we made a TV show! Ably assisting as our technical

producer, was the group's youngest member, a UWI Cave Hill undergrad from St. Kitts/Nevis, who produced footage we had amassed over the time, creatively incorporated into our "show". A member from the Philippines produced what was a knockout ad for a product we got samples of from our "cannabis" experience. And for my own part, I was able to provide guidance on the production, drawing on my 20+ years of radio/media experience.

We were absolutely sure that we had made the best production and delivered with that confidence when it was our turn to be interviewed as a group about the presentation, by panelists including the Canadian High Commissioner to Jamaica, Her Excellency, Laurie Peters.

After a week, this group of 30 something Emerging Leaders from around the Caribbean and from across Canada, left more empowered, more confident, more connected, more able to contribute to the fight of making our planet, ravaged as it is by climate change, a more friendly and sustainable place.

For this and many other reasons, I am invariably proud of my participation in CCELD 2019. Especially so for the significant role The UWI, through Dr. David Smith, Coordinator of the Institute for Sustainable Development, and his team, and the Office of Global Affairs played in making the whole exercise possible. To have PVC Global Affairs, Ambassador Dr. Richard Bernal (my boss) as speaker at our opening ceremony and ultimately one of three people to sign our Certificates of Achievement, was indeed a wonderful thing. To have my colleague, Senior Programme Officer, Dr. Christine Marrett, participate in the early deliberations on bringing the programme to Jamaica, was without doubt, another strong demonstration of OGA's commitment to the exercise. lan Forrest, Programme Officer, OGA

A glimpse into the future of online learning at The UWI



Dr. Lora Pilgrim

brightest minds of the Caribbean, UWI faculty, to explore, create new products and solve problems. I gaze out of my office window into the bright sunshine and smile at the huddle of students gesticulating passionately about some new concept. But those on campus students represent only one part of the story.

I log in and check the enrolment dashboard, which shows that today, we have just over 20,000 fully online students from all campuses, the result of a steady increase year over year. Drilling down I notice that some 3200 of these students are extra-regional, most of them from the UWI institutes established through the work of the Office of Global Affairs. I select another dashboard and realise that some 60% of our on campus students also take at least one online course. Our course evaluations over the past few years consistently indicate that students value the flexibility inherent in online courses and the caring

t is January 2026, int and time to write pr my report. The UWI Ur is buzzing with life su and energy, with int an enrollment of Ra 70,000. Our students Ra (both regional and wa global) are excitedly te engaging with the lig

interactions with their faculty. This year we have 150 programmes being offered online across the entire University, many of them in cutting edge areas that support regional development. A new email in my inbox indicates that The Times Higher Education Ranking has just placed The UWI at 350 in the World Rankings - more than 100 places up from where we were in 2019. Our reputation for excellence in teaching, research and innovation has risen - the light rising from the west is shining brightly!

Looking back at the Triple A Strategic Plan of 2017-2022, I reflect on our progress. The decisions made then to align the online initiative with the strategic goals of Access and Agility have borne fruit. Our investments in faculty development, high quality online courses, market intelligence and marketing our programmes have paid off handsomely. Our online entity is not only self-sustaining, but contributes to the budgets in the faculties who created and teach in the online programmes, and



helps to fund positions in various departments across the University who support our online work, including the registries, computing departments and the libraries to name just a few. We are the One UWI family – sharing in the investments and benefits together.

Our online learning research output has also grown tremendously. In the last few years, our Digital Learning Research department and scholars from other faculties have produced over fifty peer reviewed articles on online learning and several books, as well as open educational resources. As a result, The UWI's reputation as a knowledge and innovation centre for online learning has been recognised by the Online Learning Consortium and grants have been received from major donors such as the Gates Foundation. The UWI's Innovation Centre has created new educational open source applications that are being used by other higher education entities in the Caribbean and beyond, and the consulting work in relation to those applications has also made a significant contribution to the financial health of The UWI.

The journey has not been without its challenges, but online learning has certainly been a driver of the digital transformation of The UWI. But, enough reflection – time to get that report written!

> Lora Pilgrim, PhD, Online Learning Specialist, OOL

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(9) Build partnerships for global reach and influence. The UWI will continue to exercise a leadership role in existing associations of universities while initiating and establishing new networks of cooperating universities, for example, UNICA which became Universities Caribbean. The UWI, with four other universities including University of Miami, is to create a consortium called "Emerge America".

In the fulfilment of The UWI's paradigm shift away from internationalisation towards globalisation, the Office of Global Affairs remains focused on coordinating policy and plans, at all levels, to ensure that we achieve our strategic goals for 2017-2022.

> Ambassador Richard Bernal, PhD, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, OGA

Double degree initiative

In an increasingly competitive job market, being able to distinguish oneself from the pack is essential. One way to ensure this is by earning a double degree. A double degree is a collaborative programme offered by two (but sometimes more) higher education institutions, which allows students to earn two certificates at the end of the programme. Students take courses from the partnering institutions and upon completion, receive certificates issued separately by each of the institutions involved in the programme.

The UWI currently participates in a limited number of double degree programmes. These include:

(1) MSc. Sports Science with the University of New Brunswick, Canada.

(2) BSc. Degree/diploma in Software Engineering with the Global Institute of Software Technology (GIST) in Suzhou, China.

(3) BSc./MSc. Politics and International Cooperation with the Universite Antilles-Guyane and the Institut d'Etudes Politiques, Universite de Bordeaux. (4) LLM with the University of Leuphana, Germany. One of the objectives in The UWI's strategic plan 2017 -2022 is to dramatically increase the number of double degrees as one way to raise the profile of our students internationally. Recognising that there is some skepticism among faculty members in regards to the concept of a double degree, the Office of Global Affairs has been working with representatives of the Board for Undergraduate Studies and the Board for Graduate Studies and Research to enhance the policy governing double degrees and to devise strategies of engaging faculties in the process. The aim is to have at least one double degree in each department by 2022.



PVC Bernal appointed Professor of Practice at The UWI



n a forward thinking move, the University introduced the position of "Professor of Practice". The appointment is a nontenured, honorary professorship that permits appointees to use the title for as long as they remain in active association with The UWI. The aim of the initiative is to draw on the experience of subject matter experts - either practicing or retired - selected based on their professional competence, distinguished practice, notable teaching

or service contributions to buttress classroom training. Through this process, it is anticipated that student exposure would be improved and that there would be a deepening of academicindustry partnerships to connect The UWI's teaching and research to relevant issues impacting the region.

Among those honoured with this distinguished title was OGA's very own PVC, Ambassador the Honourable Dr. Richard Bernal, OJ, who was appointed "Professor of Practice - Global Affairs" in November 2018. At that time, six other subject matter experts were also appointed "Professor of Practice". They include The Right Honourable Owen Arthur (former Barbadian Prime Minister); Dr. Dexter James (former Chief Executive Officer, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Barbados); Dr. Paul Bacsich (Director of Matic Media Limited and Senior Associate with Sero Consulting Limited, UK); Professor Andrew Jupiter (Former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries, Trinidad and Tobago); Mr. Winston Dookeran (Former Senior Economist United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and former Governor of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago); and Mr. Gerry Brooks (Chairman of the National Gas Company Group

of Companies, and former Group Chief Operating Officer and Sector Head - Manufacturing, ANSA McAL, Trinidad and Tobago).

An economist by training, Professor of Practice Bernal has a wealth of experience that spans more than 40 years. Prior to re-joining The UWI as PVC in July 2016 having lectured in international economics and development economics for seven years in his early career, he was a Member of the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Development Bank (2008-2016). Previous to the IADB, he was the Director-General of the Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM) for eight years with responsibility for trade negotiations for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Cuba and the Dominican Republic. He was Principal Negotiator for the Forum of Caribbean States (CARIFORUM) in the negotiation of the CARIFORUM-European Union Economic Partnership Agreement and CARICOM's lead negotiator and spokesperson in the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) negotiations.

Professor of Practice Bernal was Jamaica's Ambassador to the United States of America and Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) for the period May 6, 1991 to August 31, 2001. When he demitted office after 10 ½ years, he was the 4th most senior Ambassador in Washington D.C. and Dean of the Caribbean Diplomatic Corps.

Educated at The UWI, University of Pennsylvania, New School for Social Research and the School for Advanced International Studies of Johns Hopkins University, he holds the degrees of B.Sc., MA, Ph.D. (Economics), and MIPP (International Public Policy). He is an Honorary Professor at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies and is one of the UWI's 50 "Distinguished Graduates".

He has published four books and over 100 articles in scholarly journals, books, and monographs. He is a senior associate of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC.

Professor Stafford Griffith appointed PVC and Principal of Five Islands Campus



Congratulations to Professor Stafford A. Griffith who was recently appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal (Interim) of the new Five Islands Campus in Antigua and Barbuda. His appointment took effect on August 15, 2019 and will run until July 31, 2020. He is expected to lead the Campus for its initial year of operation, which welcomed its first cohort of students this September. Prior to his appointment as PVC and Principal, he was Director of the Office of Online Learning (OOL), which now falls under the Office of Global Affairs.

For more on the Five Islands Campus visit https://www.uwi.edu/fiveislands.

PVC and Principal, Prof. Stafford Griffith

The UWI's Five Islands Campus, Antigua and Barbuda



Mrs. Pauline Francis-Cobley to head the Office of Online Learning



Mrs. Pauline Francis-Cobley assumed headship of the Office of Online Learning (OOL) on October 1, 2019, following the appointment of Professor Griffith as Principal of the Five Islands Campus. Even prior to taking up the position at the helm of OOL

Mrs. Pauline Francis-Cobley she was involved in authorship of some of the papers setting out the path for the further development of the office and the expansion of online learning across the campuses. She has been Coordinator of the

Single Virtual University Space (SVUS) initiative, Training Coordinator for the Open Campus and was a lecturer in Computer Science at the Cave Hill Campus for over seventeen years. During that time she developed two successful joint degree programmes in conjunction with the Faculty of Social Sciences. She has published several articles in journals and conference proceedings and has written a large number of technical reports and manuals.

She holds an MSc in Computer Science from Jackson State University, Mississippi, USA and a BSc from The UWI, Mona and has had considerable working experience in the USA, Barbados and Jamaica.

The OGA welcomes Mrs. Pauline Francis-Cobley to the team!

Latin American-Caribbean Centre contributes to UWI Global



Established in 1993, the Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC) was revamped in 2016 under new leadership to develop new innovative, impactful

Ambassador Gillian Bristol and sustainable

relationships with institutions of higher education throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, with a specific mandate to establish a UWI office in the non-English-speaking Americas. Also in 2016, the Centre came under the umbrella of the Office for Global Affairs on that Office's establishment.

Strategic Alliance for Hemispheric Development

LACC's activities contribute greatly to the globalisation of The UWI. One such activity is its leadership role in the establishment in April 2019 of the *Strategic Alliance for Hemispheric Development* with the University of Los Andes (Uniandes), Bogota, Colombia. Through educational and research initiatives at both universities, the Alliance will contribute to knowledge creation and the socio-economic advancement of the region. Already underway are discussions on collaborations in medical sciences – practical internships and research – and in cultural studies particularly through professor and student mobility. The offices



of the Alliance are to be housed at Uniandes' International Relations Office in Bogota and will be The UWI's hub in Latin America.

Director of LACC since 2016, Ambassador Gillian Bristol, views this achievement as a demonstration of the capacity of the Centre to deliver on its mission with excellence. She notes several other collaborations with universities elsewhere in Colombia as well as in Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba and Mexico, which are already being implemented or in different stages of negotiation, that enrich the UWI academic and research portfolio. New areas under discussion are automotive engineering, food security and marine environment protection from informal settlements, while other ongoing endeavours seek to generate revenue for the University.

MOU with University of Miami

LACC played the lead role in The UWI's engagement with the University of Miami (UM) which will be formalised on October 22, 2019, with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Hilary Beckles and the President of UM, Dr. Julio Frenk. At preliminary talks in July 2017, both heads shared their mutual vision to strengthen these universities' roles in social development and agreed to find ways for practical collaboration. They also noted that The UWI and UM already enjoyed a positive relationship created through joint research projects and academic exchanges over the years, including in the field of nursing. The signing ceremony

(to be streamed live) will follow a bilateral

meeting between the Vice-Chancellor and President Frenk along with delegations of top officials from both universities.

Hemispheric University Consortium

The signing ceremony with UM will coincide with the staging of the Second Meeting of the 14member Hemispheric University Consortium on 22nd October 2019 at UWI Regional Headquarters in Mona, Jamaica. The UWI is a founding member of this historic Consortium launched in 2018 at the initiative of the University of Miami. The Consortium brings together top universities in Latin America and the Caribbean to facilitate problem-based collaborations in education and research that generate knowledge and solutions necessary to confronting the key challenges facing not only the hemisphere but also the world, focusing on five disciplinary clusters:

(1) Public Health and Well being.

(2) Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resilience.(3) Entrepreneurship and Inclusive Innovation.(4) Crime, Conflict, and Corruption.

(5) Technology and innovation for education .

At the upcoming meeting Members will consider a charter document setting out the Consortium's governance, principles, purposes and operations. Also on the agenda is the selection of the Consortium logo and tagline, to be chosen from competitive submissions by Students of the 14 member universities. Enquiries about the competition may be sent to: HUClogocompetition2019@gmail.com.

Signing ceremony of the Strategic Alliance for Hemispheric Development at Uniandes. Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the UWI Open Campus, Dr. Luz Longsworth (4th right) signed the MOU on behalf of The UWI, 11th April, 2019. Other UWI representatives present were Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah, Director, Caribbean Studies Institute, UWI Mona (4th left), Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director, LACC (6th left) and Dr. Tomlin Paul, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI Mona (2nd right).





An important element in the global thrust of The University of the West Indies is strengthening existing and establishing new ties with universities and other entities internationally.

Ms. Sharon Estwick

Building on work started in 2013 under the then Central Office for Regional and International Affairs, the Office of Global Affairs continues to develop and maintain a database of agreements, searchable by institution, country, type of agreement (e.g general, joint programming, mobility, research, and other), start date and end date, which allows for timely retrieval of information. Electronic copies of agreements are stored as PDF documents.

Ms. Sharon Estwick, OGA's Administrative Assistant based on the Cave Hill Campus, is primarily responsible for maintaining the database. Up to September 20, 2019, there were 411 agreements (expired and current) with 236 institutions uploaded to the

OGA's database of agreements

database, and the process of adding agreements is on-going.

The OGA is working with representatives of the Office of the Chief Information Officer to give members of the UWI community varying levels of access (viewing, downloading, uploading) to these agreements via their identification number. This will allow information to be readily available and seamlessly shared among all sections of the university, facilitating an institutionwide approach and enabling more informed decisions in the formulation of policies. Until the system is operationalised, requests for information on agreements can be placed with the OGA through our email address: pvcglobal@uwimona.edu.jm. PDF copies of executed agreements (i.e. signed by all parties) should also be sent to this email address.

Canada-Caribbean Institute

The UWI and Brock University, Canada, signed an MOU on April 5, 2019 to work towards the establishment of the Canada Caribbean Institute (CCI) at each of the two universities. OGA's Senior Programme Officer, Dr. Christine



Marrett (*right*), is coordinating The UWI's efforts to make the CCI a reality.



Dr. Gervan Fearon (L), President and Vice-Chancellor of Brock University, and Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, signing MOU on April 5, 2019

The Office of Global Affairs

The Office of Global Affairs (OGA) was established in July 2016 in recognition of the increased importance of the internationalisation of The UWI. It is headed by a Pro-Vice-Chancellor, with the responsibility for coordinating The UWI's international thrust. The OGA is a resource to initiate, assist and facilitate the ideas and activities emanating from individuals, departments, faculties, institutes, specialised offices, Principals, Pro-Vice-Chancellors and the Vice-Chancellor. Thus, strengthening and expanding The UWI's alliances with international universities, research institutions and other organisations. It builds on the achievements of its precursor, the Central Office for Regional and International Affairs (CORIA), which operated from August 2012 to June 2016.

Its areas of responsibility are three-fold. **Supporting** The UWI's leadership in the formulation and coordination of policies and strategies with respect to regional and international outreach to ensure a coherent, focused approach. **Collaborating** with The UWI's offices and entities to strengthen existing and forge new links with regional and international tertiary level educational institutions and other organisations, including funding agencies. **Building and maintaining** a central registry of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and agreements relating to collaboration and partnerships signed by the central university and the campuses to support the implementation of policies.

The OGA is advised by a Global Outreach Committee, which facilitates internal collaboration and thus strengthens the ability of The UWI to engage successfully as an institution in regional and international initiatives.

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