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THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE
WEST INDIES

UWI GLOBAL NEWS



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EDITOR'S NOTE

The global pandemic has refocused our energy around the delivery of educational services in an increasingly digital global landscape. It has challenged each of us at The UWI to reconceptualize what it means to satisfy the "Triple A Strategy". We in the Office of Global Affairs have fully embraced that challenge. Through active engagements with our international and internal partners, we managed to turn our MOUs into MO DOs. Our "Agile" response to the global crisis both created new opportunities and cemented existing global "Alignments" and has set us on the path to achieving greater "Access" for our students and faculty alike.

*Lisa Hamilton-Braithwaite,
Editor*



PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE: Innovation for Globalization

*Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Global Affairs & Principal, The UWI
Open Campus*

As we mark the one year anniversary of the lockdown of most countries in the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Office of Global Affairs (OGA) can truly say that we have never had such a dynamic and vibrant season of global engagement than we have experienced over the past year. Universities with which we partner as well as universities and other global organizations wanting to partner with us, have not been deterred and in fact, we are seized by the urgent need for us to move closer together as we focus on continuing to serve our students, faculty and researchers. Indeed, we are confident that although we have not been able to physically meet with our established and potential partners, we have forged stronger ties, done more joint activities and entered into more agreements than we would normally.

One of the vehicles that has been the catalyst for these partnerships has been the regular offering of webinars and online engagements using Zoom and other online platforms. Through this methodology the OGA during the period has hosted or collaborated in over 20 such formal engagements, some of which have seen audiences of upwards of 600 participants such as the overwhelmingly successful "History, Heritage and Identity" series co-hosted by the Office of Global Affairs and the African Caribbean Churches in the UK.

We have also engaged in a dynamic and exciting process of establishing the Canada-Caribbean Institute which will create a highly innovative Board and operational structure engaging multiple stakeholders across the Caribbean and Canada. As Canada is one of the region's oldest trade and investment partners, this Institute will undoubtedly play a key role in reimagining the role of our neighbor to the North in our region in a digitally transformed economy.

In general, the OGA has also begun a process of coordination and focusing of all the Global Centres and Units established over the past five years, bringing the UWI

Directors of each of our nine Global Institutes together to share experiences and best practices and to be able to harmonize strategic direction in the coming academic year. Our global presence has been a major player in our most recent outstanding Times Higher Education Impact ranking in implementing the SDGs where we have been ranked in the top 2.5% of universities in the world.

Finally, the future of The UWI's Global presence is tied to how we can innovate within all of our Campuses to support a highly visible UWI in teaching and learning and research. The concept paper outlining the vision of a Global Campus was supported at the January meetings of the University Finance and General Purposes Committee and a strategic plan is currently being fleshed out by an external consultant with support from the Office of Global Affairs. All highly ranked universities have focused on creating their global presence and The UWI is well ahead of the curve with several elements already making an impact globally. With COVID-19 the online education market is estimated at over US\$2 billion and growing, so the Global Campus is proposed as a vehicle to enter that market on behalf of the entire University and to engender new and consistent revenue flows for The UWI. This among other global research and student and staff mobility strategies will be transformative for The UWI both at home and abroad.

Without a doubt, since March 2020 the world has changed, but the world has opened up despite the physical closure of borders. The Office of Global Affairs is supporting The UWI as we get ready to go to the world with the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of its leadership, faculty, staff and students.

Our Mission

To lead The UWI's global strategic initiative by building robust partnerships, fostering opportunities for collaboration and resource mobilization, and strengthening internal coordination.



THE UNIVERSITY
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SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

FIND OUT WAYS TO GIVE AT
WWW.UWI.EDU/RALLYROUNDSVG
#RALLYROUNDSVG

The UWI's Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sir Hillary Beckles, has long maintained that "fine universities" have a fundamental responsibility "to engage the challenges facing their host communities." The UWI's response to the eruption of La Soufrière volcano in St. Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG) on April 9, 2021, was another demonstration of The UWI's commitment to do just that.

Support for the people of the island began back in December 2020, when a team of scientists from the UWI Seismic Research Centre was dispatched to the island to monitor the volcano following indications that it was entering a new active

period. Since then, the Open Campus, with a physical site on the island and a proven responsiveness to natural emergencies, was tapped to lead The UWI's response to the crisis. To ease the financial burden that Vincentian students may be confronting at this time, it was decided that across the landed Campuses, students would be given financial aid of up to 50% of tuition fees while at the Open Campus, they will benefit from financial support of up to 25% of fees. The Open Campus is also offering counselling services to students and staff and encourage the submission of such requests to:

counselling.students@open.uwi.edu

As part of the University's wider efforts, we invite our entire network to join us in our support for the people of St. Vincent and the Grenadines as we #RallyRoundSVG.

For more information or to support SVG, please email:

vincent.recovery@open.uwi.edu

For up to date information on La Soufrière, please check:

the UWI Seismic Research Centre (UWI-SRC) Facebook page:

<http://www.facebook.com/uwiseismic>

and their Twitter page:

<http://twitter.com/uwiseismic> or

UWI-TV at: www.uwitv.org or www.facebook.com/UWITV

REVITALIZING CANADA-CARICOM TRADE & INVESTMENTS

*Mrs. Lisa Hamilton-Braithwaite,
Programme Officer, OGA*



On April 29, 2021, The UWI and Brock University, under the auspices of the Canada-Caribbean Institute, hosted a virtual forum titled “Revitalizing Canada-CARICOM Trade and Investments.” Moderated by Dr. Keith Nurse, President/Principal, Sir Arthur Lewis Community College, St. Lucia, the 90-minute long forum drew participation from government, the public and private sector, the academic community and other interested parties. The key presentations were made by Assistant Secretary General for Trade and Economic Integration at CARICOM, Mr. Joseph Cox, and High Commissioner of Canada to Guyana and Suriname, His Excellency, Mr. Mark Berman. Responses to their

increased by 5.7% for a total of 3.9 million visits (Travelweek Group, 2019). The decision by the Canadian government to suspend flights to the region due to the COVID-19 pandemic dealt a serious blow to the small tourism dependent economies of the Caribbean and prompted the need for dialogue on revitalizing trade and investment between the two regions.

Among the problems identified by the presenters were:

1. Retreat of the Canadian banks e.g. Scotiabank only retains a presence in three countries in CARICOM.
2. High rates of youth unemployment .
3. Low rates of digital penetration in some territories.
4. Significant reduction in employment income, remittances and purchasing power of the Caribbean.
5. Blacklisting and the loss of corresponding banking relations.
6. For Canadian companies, limited access to financing, inefficient government bureaucracies, inadequate infrastructure, sometimes lack of clarity and transparency and corruption and, in some countries, high levels of crime and insecurity.



Pictured from Top L-R: Dr. Keith Nurse, President/Principal, Sir Arthur Lewis Community College; Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs and Principal, Open Campus, The UWI; Dr. Gervan Fearon, President and Vice-Chancellor, Brock University; and Mr. Joseph Cox, Assistant Secretary General for Trade and Economic Integration, CARICOM.

presentations came from Dr. Gervan Fearon, President and Vice-Chancellor, Brock University and Dr. Keith Nurse.

Canada and the Caribbean have a long history of economic relations. With nearly one million people of Caribbean descent residing in Canada and over two million Canadians who travel to CARICOM countries annually, the people to people relations between the two regions are strong as well. In 2018, Canadian arrivals to the Caribbean

The difficulties aside, the presenters expressed optimism at the prospects that lay ahead as the two regions emerge from the pandemic. They pointed to opportunities in the areas of supply chain management, clean energy, service delivery, digital transformation, electronic commerce and financial services (e.g. crop insurance).

Ultimately, they recommended that both sides nurture and build on the pre-existing opportunities (tourism or new tourism, manufacturing, agricultural trade, financial services and investments) and take advantage of the new opportunities (supply chain, clean economy, infrastructure) that have presented themselves.

To view the recording please click the link below:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/14gZmF4CT-JPsN7sSR09twxx9I__OXUyJ/view?usp=sharing



*Ambassador Gillian Bristol
Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC)*

Undergraduate and postgraduate students of the Department of Geology and Geography in the Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), The UWI, Mona were invited to an expert lecture delivered virtually on 18th March, 2021, by Visiting Professor, Dr. Victor Manuel Lopez Lopez, Professor and Researcher, Higher School of Engineering and Architecture, National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico. He spoke on the Climate Change Phenomenon for Caribbean Countries.



Dr. Victor Manuel Lopez Lopez, visiting Professor and Researcher from Higher School of Engineering and Architecture, National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico.

Dr. Lopez was the holder of the Mexico Chair 2019-2020 and visited at the Faculty and the Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD) in March 2020. His lecture was originally scheduled to be delivered during his stint at the Mona Campus, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic it was postponed to 2021.

The Mexico Chair was established by a Memorandum of Understanding in May 2016 between The UWI and the Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation (AMEXCID), for the purpose of strengthening cooperation in the fields of education and research in five subject areas: History, Political Sciences, Arts or Mexican Culture, Science and Technology. This initiative furthers The UWI's internationalization agenda and affords greater access to knowledge through professor mobility, joint research and teaching.

Dr. Lopez's lecture was a collaborative project between the Faculty of Science and Technology as part of its recently launched Professorial Lecture Series, and LACC, which has coordinating responsibility for the Mexico Chair. The event was chaired by Dr. Sherene James-Williamson, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Matters, FST, with special remarks from Dr. David Smith, ISD Director; His Excellency Juan Jose Gonzalez Mijares, Ambassador of Mexico to Jamaica; and Ambassador Gillian Bristol, LACC Director. Live streaming online was provided by UWI-TV Global.



(L-R): Dr. Sherene James-Williamson, Associate Dean, Undergraduate Matters, Faculty of Science and Technology, Mona Campus; Dr. David Smith, Director, Institute for Sustainable Development (ISD), The UWI; His Excellency Juan Jose Gonzalez Mijares, Ambassador of Mexico to Jamaica; Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre, The UWI.

THE INAUGURAL MAPLE AND PALM FORUM

On February 25, 2021 at 1 pm EST, the Canada-Caribbean Institute (CCI) in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada to Jamaica and the Institute of Caribbean Studies, The UWI, hosted the first ever, “Maple and Palm Forum.” The nearly two-hour long event was held under the theme, “Cultures of ‘Work’: Migration, Music, Media and Memory from Canada to Jamaica”, and was streamed live on UWI-TV and across their social media platforms. The forum served a dual function: to satisfy The UWI’s strategic intention to develop scholarship and teaching in Global Comparative Cultural Studies and Applied Cultural Studies and, to recognize the long-standing support of the Canadian Government for the region including the establishment of the CCI. It brought together academics from the Caribbean and Canada to celebrate the historical ties and explore the cultural connections between Canada and the Caribbean.

The “Maple and Palm” is rooted in the history of the West Indies Federation when the idea for a political

association with Canada was proposed. Subsequently, the Canadian Government presented the West Indies Federation with twin merchant ships named The Federal Palm and The Federal Maple. The ships sailed to all ports between Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago and were a key aspect of building trade links between the islands. Today, this history is memorialized as a media room named the Maple and Palm at the High Commission of Canada to Jamaica.

Moderated by Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah, Director and Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Caribbean Studies and Reggae Studies Unit at The UWI, the event included remarks from Her Excellency, Emina Tudakovic, Canada’s High Commissioner to Jamaica; Brock University Vice-Chancellor and President, Dr. Gearvan Fearon; Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Global Affairs at The UWI, Dr. Luz Longsworth; and Dr. Peter Mascher, Vice-Provost for International Affairs at McMaster University.

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Office of Global Affairs staff as they greet the newly appointed High Commissioner of Canada to Jamaica. (L-R) Mr. Ian Forrest, Programme Officer, Global Affairs; Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs, Dr Luz Longsworth; H.E. Ms. Emina Tudakovic, High Commissioner of Canada to Jamaica; Mr. Kevin Gilhooly, Political/Economic Counselor for the Canadian High Commission to Jamaica.



Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs, The UWI, speaking from the Maple and Palm room at the Canadian High Commission in Jamaica. Also shown on screen, Dr. Sonjah Stanley Niaah, Director, Institute of Caribbean Studies, The UWI.



Her Excellency, Emina Tudakovic, Canada's High Commissioner to Jamaica, speaking at the Inaugural Maple and Palm Forum.



Pictured (left) Ms. Roberta Ellis, Senior Political and Economic Advisor, and (right) Mr. Kevin Gilhooly Political/Economic Counselor, Canadian High Commission to Jamaica.

Maple and Palm Forum *from page 6*

The speakers and their presentations were:

- **Mr. Neil Armstrong**, Freelance Journalist: "We Big Bout Yah: Taking up Space in Media and Locales in Canada."
- **Dr. Karen Flynn**, Associate Professor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: "The World Was Our Oyster: Jamaican Nurses and Nation Building."
- **Dr. Lisa Tomlinson**, Lecturer, Institute of Caribbean Studies, The University of the West Indies: "Cinema Memory: Présence Jamaïcain and Black Canadian Filmmaking."
- **Dr. Erin MacLeod**, Lecturer, Vanier College, Montreal: "Music, Memory and the Canada/Jamaica Sound Clash."
- **Ms. Vivian Lewis**, Librarian, McMaster University: "Remembering Forward: The Academy's Role in Cultural Memory Making."

As part of the structure of the event, smaller groups including speakers were to gather at each institution and at The Maple and Palm Room at the Canadian High Commission to view and participate in the event. The increase in COVID-19 cases in Canada and the Caribbean interrupted that plan. However, through a careful observance of the necessary protocols, Canadian High Commissioner, H.E. Emina Tudakovic, extended an invitation to speakers to join her in delivering their presentations from the Maple and Palm room at the High Commission. PVC Longsworth and OGA Programme Officer, Mr. Ian Forrest, were among those participating from that location.

Recognizing the financial hardships brought on by the pandemic, event organizers thought to couple it with a giving campaign to assist a UWI student in need of financial support. To that end, and with the support of Mrs. Elizabeth Buchanan-Hinds, Director of Institutional Advancement Division (IAD) at The UWI, a two year scholarship was made available for a graduate student from the Institute for Caribbean Studies. The Canadian High Commission in Jamaica also played a key role in supporting the promotion and broadcasting of the event.

*Mrs. Lisa Hamilton-Brathwaite,
Programme Officer, OGA*



*Dr. Stacy Richards-Kennedy
Director, Office of Global Partnerships
and Sustainable Futures*

Progress in the PANDEMIC

The University Office of Global Partnerships and Sustainable Futures (OGPSF), formerly Office of Development, works closely with multilateral development agencies and other development partners to deepen the University's engagement in advancing the 2030 sustainable development agenda. Guided by the strategic intent of forging 'partnerships with purpose', the Office engages in robust collaboration agreements that align the University's 'Triple A' Strategic Plan, its vast expertise in teaching, research, community engagement and sustainable practices and the programmatic priorities of development agencies and other partners.

Since 2017, there has been targeted support for partnership opportunities through The UWI's work as an SDG-engaged university and institutional grants with a wide range of institutional partners, including:

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

In 2017, an MoU was signed with UNDP leading to a range of collaborations such as the launch of the UNDP Human Development Report in the Caribbean, the Caribbean Action 2030 Regional Conference on the SDGs, a Youth Advocacy Campaign on the SDGs and a customized online course entitled "Transformational Leadership to Achieve the SDGs" in collaboration with PEMANDU Associates and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). In September 2019, this MoU was renewed with dedicated funding to support the establishment of a UWI-UNDP Public Policy Think Tank on the Blue Economy. Several knowledge products have since been produced to support evidence-informed policy and decision making across the Caribbean.

Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

An MoU with the Office of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago has helped to deepen collaboration, particularly with the UWI Open Campus, through funding for a customized training programme on procurement in 2018 and in 2020, the development of a suite of training courses for the establishment of the first Parliamentary Academy in the Caribbean region.



L to R: Mr Garvin James- Financial Manager, The UWI OC; Ms. Annette Arjoosingh- Programme Officer, The UWI OCCSTT; Ms. Karen Rosemin- Country Manager, The UWI OCCSTT; Dr. Luz Longworth- Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs and Principal, The UWIOC; Ms. Jacqui Sampson- Clerk of the House, Office of the Parliament, T&T; Dr. Stacy Richards-Kennedy- Director, Office of Global Partnerships and Sustainable Futures, The UWI; Ms. Keiba Jacob- Procedural Clerk/Head of Financial Scrutiny Unit, Office of the Parliament, T&T; Ms. Lisa Cummins- Executive Director, Lumin Consulting

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

Our MoU with the CDB, signed in 2018, has further strengthened The UWI's working relationship with the Bank in a range of areas. This has also included dedicated funding for key strategic priorities such as the UWI-TV (US\$130,000), the Faculty of Sport (US\$210,000) and Addressing Inequities in Online Learning (US\$200,000).

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(L-R) Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor, The University of the West Indies. and Dr. Warren Smith, President, Caribbean Development Bank.

Progress... from page 8**Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)**

The UWI's collaboration with the IDB has continued to expand since the signing of our MoU in 2018. The UWI and IDB co-organized several regional policy dialogues on issues such as science, technology and innovation, masculinity in the Caribbean, among others and partnered with Virgin Unite on the launch of the Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator at The UWI Mona Campus. A cross-Campus UWI team also participated in a study tour to MIT Media Lab in Boston with IDB specialists and benefited from first-hand insights on developing an ecosystem for applied research, innovation and commercialization. There have also been collaborations to advance evidence-based policy decision-making, explore developing joint MOOCs and support blue carbon restoration in Jamaica through a US\$2.4 million project led by SODECO.

Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

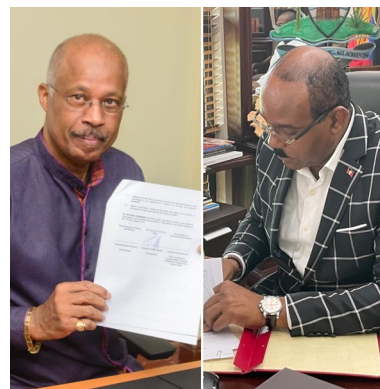
In October 2020, The UWI signed an MoU with the ACS, which supports the development of a structured work programme between both institutions on areas such as trade, transport, sustainable tourism, climate change, disaster risk reduction and protection of the Caribbean Sea. The UWI was also formally approved as a Social Actor by the ACS Ministerial Council, which will facilitate deeper engagement in programmatic activities and strengthened participation of the regional University in meetings of the Ministerial Council and ACS Special Committees.



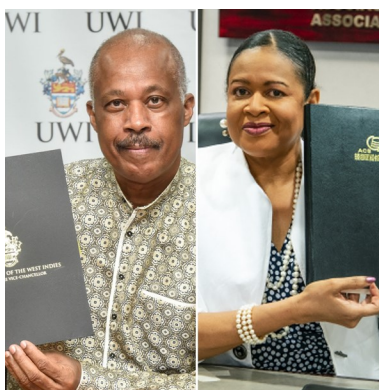
(L-R) Dr. Stacy Richards-Kennedy, Director, The UWI Office of Global Partnerships and Sustainable Futures; Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor, The UWI; Mr. Luis Alberto Moreno, President, IDB and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, IDB Invest; Mrs. Therese Turner-Jones, General Manager of the Country Department Caribbean Group, IDB.

Centre of Excellence in Oceanography and the Blue Economy (COBE)

In January 2021, an MoU was signed between the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, The UWI and the Association of Commonwealth Universities in support of the establishment of the COBE at The UWI Five Islands Campus. The COBE will advance scholarship and strengthen institutional capacity in the areas related to marine science and the blue economy, which are central to building diversified and sustainable post-COVID-19 economies in the region.



MOU signed establishing the Centre for Excellence for Oceanography and the Blue Economy at The University of the West Indies Five Islands Campus. Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor of The UWI (L) and The Hon. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda (R).



Presentation of the MOU between The UWI and the ACS, October 27, 2020. Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor of The UWI (L) and Dr. June Soomer, Secretary General of the ACS (R).

Open Society Foundations (OSF)

In September 2020, The UWI signed a landmark MoU with one of the largest philanthropic organizations in the world, consolidating its ongoing collaboration on justice, equality and human rights and advancing discussions on the OSF's strategy for engaging the Caribbean. The UWI has also benefitted from an OSF planning grant (US\$160,000) to support climate justice initiatives across the UWI system, including the development of an online course for increased capacity building across the region. Discussions on additional collaborations are ongoing.

Global University Consortium on SDG-13 (Climate Action)

Another important global partnership has emerged from the International Association of Universities' nomination of The UWI to lead on SDG-13 in its Global Cluster on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development. This has given birth to the Global University Consortium on SDG-13, which comprises 10 universities from across five geographic regions, all committed to climate action.

The UWI's advocacy on the 2030 sustainable development agenda has received global recognition at multiple levels. In April 2020, The UWI was listed among the top 200 (out of over 700 universities from 85 countries) for its work on SDG-3: Good Health and Wellbeing; SDG-5: Gender Equality and SDG-13: Climate Action in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2020.

GORDON K. LEWIS AND SYBIL LEWIS MEMORIAL LECTURE

On February 18, 2021, The UWI's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, delivered a lecture on "Reparatory Justice: The Greatest Political Movement of the 21st Century" as the commemorative speaker at the Fifth Gordon K. Lewis and Sybil Lewis Memorial Lecture organized by the Institute for Caribbean Studies (IEC), University of Puerto Rico (UPR) with the collaboration of the Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC) at The UWI.

Opening remarks were delivered by UPR Chancellor, Dr. Luis A. Ferrao-Delgado, Vice-President, Manchester Trade Limited Inc., Dr. David Lewis, IEC Director, Dr. Emilio Pantojas, and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, UPR, Dr. Angélica Varela-Llavona.

Expert commentary on the lecture was offered by Professor Verene Shepherd, Director of the UWI Centre for Reparation Research, and Dr. Mayra Santos-Febres, Professor of Literature and Director of the Afro-Diasporic and Racial Studies Program, UPR. Ambassador Gillian Bristol, LACC Director, served as Moderator.

The event was broadcast live online by UWI-TV Global and UPR TV. The recording may be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GkOvVwQUgew>



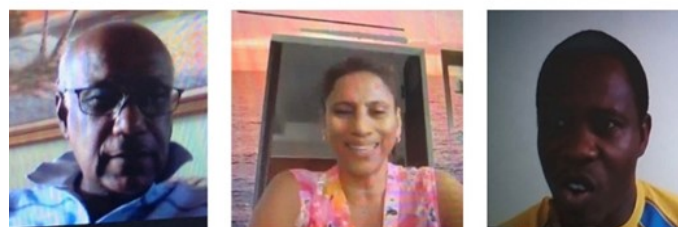
Top L-R: Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor, The UWI; Dr. Luis A. Ferrao-Delgado, Chancellor, UPR.
 Centre L-R: Professor Verene Shepherd, Director, Centre for Reparation Research, The UWI; Dr. Mayra Santos-Febres, Prof. of Literature and Director, the Afro-Diasporic and Racial Studies Program, UPR.
 Bottom L-R: Dr. Emilio Pantojas, and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, UPR; Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre, The UWI.

MASTERS DEGREE IN FOOD SECURITY

In 2020, The Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC) collaborated with the Faculty of Food and Agriculture and the Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) to develop a Masters Degree in Food Security. The LACC Director's expertise in international and multilateral affairs was crucial to framing the programme objective and ensured the inclusion of courses with a global perspective. The academic content was developed by the Faculty under the guidance of Professor Wayne Ganpat, Dean, and with expert contribution by Dr. David Yawson, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Management at CERMES.

The Masters, to be offered online by the Faculty at the St. Augustine Campus, is intended to provide mid-level professionals in the public and private sectors working in food production, trade, and governance, with knowledge about the multidimensional nature of agricultural resilience and food security and equip them with analytical and policy formulation capacity. It

covers a broad range of challenges to the agricultural sector in the Caribbean, offering a comparative perspective with other developing regions and presents the international context for agriculture and food security in sustainable development.



From L-R: Professor Wayne Ganpat, Dean, Faculty of Food and Agriculture, St. Augustine; Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC), Dr. David Yawson, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES).

Articles on this page contributed by Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre

THE FORMALIZATION OF THE CANADA-CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE

From the launch of The Canada-Caribbean institute (CCI) on February 17, 2020, efforts have kept apace to formalize the legal structures for its governance. Those efforts yielded fruit when The UWI's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, and Dr. Gervan Fearon, President and Vice-Chancellor of Brock University, signed into force the "Constitution" and "Bylaws" crystalizing that framework. Having now completed this process, the way has been paved for the inaugural Board to be appointed and for the network of members of the CCI to be expanded.

The work of the Institute will be guided by the Board supported by three Standing Committees, namely:

- Executive Committee
- Research and Education Priorities Committee
- Development and Outreach Committee.

The principal function of the Board is to help shape strategic priorities and directions of the CCI and to propose means to strengthen and promote partnerships between the CCI and the various communities it serves.

For the period 2021 – 2025, the positions of the Chair and Vice-Chair will be rotated between the Vice-Chancellors of Brock University and The UWI. The President of Brock University will serve as the inaugural Chair of the Board and the Vice-Chancellor of The UWI as the inaugural Vice-Chair. As founding institutions, The UWI and Brock

University will each appoint two representatives along with the Directors of the CCI at their universities.

Board membership will also be invited from two representatives each of the private sector in Canada and the Caribbean and one governmental representative each of Canada and the Caribbean. As membership expands, the Director and one representative from each new Institutional member of the CCI will be appointed to the Board. These Board members are appointed for a two-year term and, unlike the Chair and Vice-Chair, could be re-appointed for additional terms. Efforts are currently underway to invite membership to the Board and it is anticipated that the first meeting of the Board will be held in June 2021.

As efforts continue to further the mandate of the CCI, a number of public tertiary level institutions across Canada and the Caribbean have been identified for membership in the Canada-Caribbean Institute. As part of the initial membership drive, invitations were sent to twelve universities. These include University of Toronto; University of British Columbia; Brandon University, McMaster University, York University and Ryerson University in Canada. Across the Caribbean, membership was invited from University of Guyana, University of Trinidad and Tobago; University of Technology, Jamaica;

Northern Caribbean University; University of Belize and University of the Bahamas.

Even as membership in the CCI is finalized, work continues on the priority areas of the Institute. To that end, plans are to host the second annual Canada-Caribbean Research Symposium later this year. Unlike the first symposium, which mainly included faculty, the CCI's successful engagement with other communities at previous CCI events has created the impetus for greater student and community engagement in this event.

It is worth noting that the work to create the legal space to promote and encourage engagement between post-secondary institutions across the two regions has been done for the benefit of communities within member institutions. The full success of this initiative now lies with faculty and students including us here at The UWI and demands that full advantage is taken of the opportunities presented by the arrangement.



*Mrs. Lisa Hamilton-Brathwaite,
Programme Officer, OGA*

NEW AND RENEWED ARTICULATION AND FRANCHISE ARRANGEMENTS IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Ms. Sharon Estwick
Administrative Assistant, Office of Global Affairs



The emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic has led The University of the West Indies, Office of Global Affairs, which has oversight for articulations and franchises, to address the urgent need to reshape its processes for conducting new or renewed arrangements between The UWI and Tertiary Level Institutions (TLIs) in the region.

Articulation involves the recognition of the TLI's Associate Degrees either for normal matriculation or for advanced placement (course exemption or for recognition of the associate degree as equivalent to the first level of the related Bachelor's degree at The UWI). The franchise arrangement provides for the delivery of UWI programmes by TLIs either in whole (e.g. B.Sc Nursing) or in part (B.Sc Level I and/or II).

Prior to COVID-19, the assessment procedure included the TLI funding an assessment team visit to the institution over two or three days. On this visit, the team evaluated supporting documents *in situ* and assessed the institution's resources, including its infrastructure, to ascertain their level of readiness to offer the programme.

In light of COVID-19, and in collaboration with the UWI Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) whose officer leads the

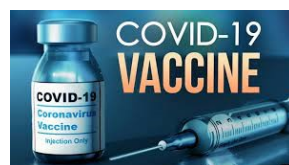
assessment, OGA with the approval of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Board for Undergraduate Studies have adopted the QAU's newly established combined virtual and physical review procedure. This procedure "will employ a hybrid/blended method of physical and virtual meetings to conduct the Quality Assurance Review, led remotely by the External Academic. The review team is physically represented on the ground by the Local/National Professional and uses the combination of the physical visit by the Local/National Professional, the virtual tours via the ICT-facilitated media, the virtual stakeholder interviews (Management, Administrative staff, faculty, librarian, and students) and the examination of pertinent supporting documents. The team, through the viewing of virtual tours and/or the physical/onsite review of the Local/National Professional, also inspects facilities as required". [UWI Quality Assurance Unit, Addendum to Module 5: Guidelines for the Review Team].

The UWI Office of Global Affairs is committed to collaborating actively with the TLIs in their programme development and in advancing the common goal of widening access to tertiary education.

Help prevent the spread of COVID-19



Wash your hands
regularly



Wear mask



Keep a safe distance
of at least 2 metres



Stay at home if
you are ill



International Webinar Series Open Science & the Decolonization of Knowledge

Dr. Colin Depradine
Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology and Senior Lecturer
The UWI ,Cave Hill Campus



On October 15, 2020, I participated in the webinar, Open Science and the Decolonization of Knowledge. It was part of a series facilitated through a collaboration between the Canadian Commission for UNESCO, the UNESCO Chair in Community-based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education and the Canada-Caribbean Institute (CCI).

The webinar focused on the difficulties surrounding the dissemination and use of science within the Region and developing countries because of the dominance of developed countries. Also discussed were issues surrounding the lack of access to science by indigenous peoples and the public at large.

During the webinar, I presented the Open Science initiatives of the Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), Cave Hill Campus for moving STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) forward in Barbados and the Region.

One primary area of concern is the polarizing perception that the key skills needed to be a scientist are defined by a biased, prejudicial view of what is required in terms of gender, physical attributes, and intelligence. As a result, there is a resistance to the participation of women and persons with physical and learning disabilities in STEM. The Science for 'ALL' philosophy which was adopted forms the activist portion of the Faculty's strategic plan and emphasizes that science is not for the select few but for everyone who has a desire to participate.

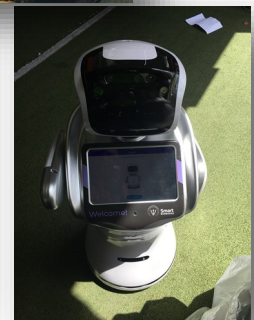
The first step was to redefine the view of what the 21st century scientist should be. This new view focused on developing a new image based on the needs and culture of the Region through full transparency, adopting true accessibility and increased sharing and collaboration with the public, educational and private sectors within the Region. This approach has resulted in a dramatic increase in the number of persons with disabilities enrolled in the Faculty.

Keeping to this philosophy, an annual public event that introduces the public to STEM was first held on March 14-15, 2019. The Faculty, in collaboration with the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Smart Technology, held the island's first Science and Technology Festival. The Festival was extremely successful with at least 54

schools from the nursery to tertiary levels attending. This included at least 10 special needs schools with 100+ students with disabilities attending. In fact, there was no differentiation between students with and without disabilities. The festival had over 38 exhibitors from the private and public sectors as well as the schools. The festival had its second offering in March 5-7, 2020, just before the outbreak of the pandemic in April, with similar success.

More recently, the Faculty created the FST Digital and Communication Present Team (FACT). It is a mechanism for coordinating and improving the Faculty's communication with its stakeholders, using Science Communication. The team provides a mechanism for the Faculty to bring to the public the latest information about the Faculty's initiatives.

Moving forward the Faculty will continue to focus on growing the awareness of STEM, increasing sharing and collaboration, and expanding STEM-based Entrepreneurship within the Open Science framework.



Scenes from the Science and Technology Festival.

Top: Cactus display; Bottom, L-R: Barbados Defence Force Drone; Robot from Barbados' Ministry of Innovation, Science and Smart Technology.



*Mrs. Pauline Francis-Cobley
Director, Office of Online Learning*

THE PUSH TO INCREASE STUDENT ENROLMENT



*Dr. Lora Pilgrim,
Curriculum Development Specialist,
Office of Online Learning*

In alignment with The UWI's strategic thrust to increase student enrolment, the Office of Online Learning (OOL) has continued work on three main focus areas, namely: Global Partnerships; Market Research and Supporting Online Learning.

There have been a number of challenges that have adversely affected the OOL's timeline for piloting programmes in global markets. Despite the challenges, progress has been made in several important areas and the OOL continues to lay the foundation for the UWI Global Online Initiative.

Market Research

Market research is a key requirement for moving programmes into the global online market. In October 2020 the Online Learning Steering Committee adopted a recommendation that market research for the UWI Global Online initiative should be outsourced to a reputable market research firm. Funding is being sought for this engagement. Meanwhile, the OOL recently developed a survey, with assistance from the Office of Planning to assess the level of interest in online courses/programmes relating to the history, heritage and culture of West Indian peoples. The results of the survey may identify courses for MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) or micro credentials.

Global Partnerships

The OOL has made contact with a number of entities in an effort to build partnerships, including hosting a meeting with the Dean and faculty of the Kenyatta University Digital School of Virtual and Open Learning, which was led by PVC Longworth. As a result, OOL is leading the effort to develop a Memorandum of Agreement with Kenyatta University.

In addition, upon recommendation from Professor Rupert Lewis of the PJ Patterson Centre for Africa-Caribbean Advocacy, the OOL contacted Dr. Michael Barnett, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, Faculty of Social Sciences, Mona, who is working on a collaboration with the University of Cape Coast in Ghana for student and faculty exchanges. Realizing the potential of this effort to advance the online thrust in Africa, the OOL proposed a broadening of the MOU to include collaborative delivery of online programmes/courses. This has been agreed to and discussions will continue with Dr. Barnett.

Discussions also continue with colleagues from the Business School at the University of Illinois regarding a potential collaboration. On February 26, 2021, these colleagues shared their experiences with MOOCs in an interactive UWI-wide MOOC Information Session.

FutureLearn (a MOOC provider) has offered to partner with The UWI to deliver courses and The UWI's legal counsel is currently reviewing the contract. Meanwhile, discussions are ongoing with the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS), St. Augustine and FMS, Cave Hill with respect to potential MOOCs.

Supporting Online Learning

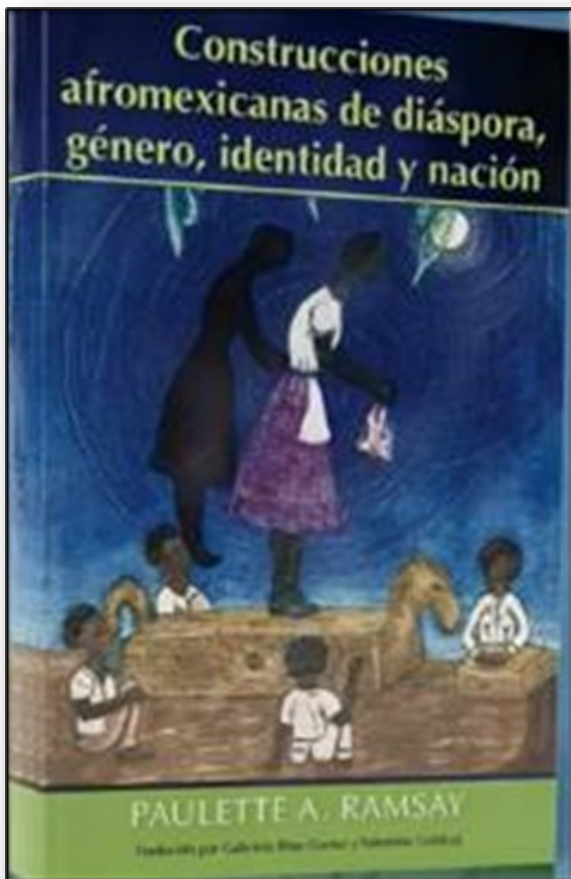
The OOL continues its engagement with stakeholders across the University to spread awareness about the Global Online Initiative and to support online learning. The OOL is in the process of developing a website to communicate with stakeholders. In terms of supporting online learning, the OOL developed a proposal for revenue-sharing among campuses, which was based on research on revenue-sharing models used by other institutions and recommendations from the UWI Global Online Finance working group. In addition, the Online Faculty Development Committee (OFDC), under the chairmanship of Dr. Lora Pilgrim, is creating new faculty development courses to strengthen capacity in online learning across The UWI.

Overall, the OOL continues to work with internal and external stakeholders to support the achievement of The UWI's strategic goals through market research, global partnerships and projects to strengthen online learning.



BOOK LAUNCH: “Afro-Mexican Constructions of Diaspora, Gender, Identity and Nation”

*Ambassador Gillian Bristol
Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre*



The Spanish translation of the seminal work, Afro-Mexican Constructions of Diaspora, Gender, Identity and Nation, authored by Professor Paulette A. Ramsay, Senior Lecturer at The UWI Mona, was launched in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The book was published by The UWI’s University Press, chaired by Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Global Affairs, Dr. Luz Longsworth.

The virtual event, held on October 20, 2020, was organized by the Latin American-Caribbean Centre on behalf of the UWI Press Chair in conjunction with UWI Press and the Embassy of Mexico in Jamaica.

His Excellency Juan Jose Gonzalez Mijares, Ambassador of Mexico chaired the event which was

broadcast live in Spanish and English to Mexico and the world via UWI-TV Global as a demonstration of The UWI’s “multilingualism strategy in action”.

The launch featured remarks by The UWI Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Pro-Vice-Chancellor Longsworth, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Mona Campus, Professor Dale Webber, and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Mona, Professor Waribinte Wariboko. Ambassador Gillian Bristol, LACC Director, served as Moderator and delivered closing remarks.



Top L-R: The UWI Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Sir Hilary Beckles; PVC, Global Affairs, Dr. Luz Longsworth; Principal, Mona Campus, Prof. Dale Webber; Bottom L-R: Senior Lecturer at The UWI Mona, Prof. Paulette A. Ramsay; Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Mona Campus, Prof. Waribinte Wariboko; Director, Latin American-Caribbean Centre, Ambassador Gillian Bristol.

THE UWI AND BATH – A STORY IN COLLABORATION

Mr. Ian Forrest
Programme Officer, OGA





The Office of Global Affairs, The UWI in collaboration with
The International Centre for Higher Education Management, University of Bath

Presents



An International Higher Education Management Webinar Series

'Enhancing Teaching in the International Context: The Role of Cultural Capital'

Wednesday, December 2, 2020
9:00 AM (JA Time) | 10:00 AM EC Time | 2:00 PM (UK Time)

Past Presentations



21 OCT. 2020
Prof. Jurgen Enders
Higher Education Strategy/Making: External and Internal Perspectives



18 NOV. 2020
Dr. Ludovic Highman
Internationalisation, Globalisation and the Rise of the Emerging Global Model of the Research University

PROF. RAJANI Naidoo
Professor, Management
International Centre for Higher Education Management (ICHEM) Institute for Policy Research (IPR) - University of Bath

SPEAKER



DR. LUZ Longworth
Principal, The UWI Open Campus & Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Global Affairs, The UWI



DR. DAN Davies
Director of Higher Education Management Programmes, School of Management, University of Bath



have been pan-UWI and open also to persons involved in Higher Education Management all across the region.

For a number of reasons the Certificate programme could not come into being for the 2020/2021 academic year but the decision was made to nonetheless carry on the Webinars.

The first of them on October 21, 2020 was delivered by Professor Jurgen Enders, Professor of Management with the Institute for Policy Research (IPR) at ICHEM. His presentation was titled, **“Higher Education Strategic Making: External and Internal perspectives”**.

He was followed on November 18, 2020 by Dr. Ludovic Highman, Senior Lecturer, Management Strategy and Organization at ICHEM. He spoke on **“Internationalisation, Globalisation and the rise of the Emerging Global Model of the Research University”**.

Closing out the webinar series on December 2, 2020, was the highly anticipated presentation of ICHEM Director, Professor Rajani Naidoo. She delivered on the topic, **“Enhancing Teaching in the International Context: The Role of Cultural Capital”**.

For each session Dr. Davies served as moderator and PVC Longworth delivered the opening and closing remarks.

The presentations were well received with a diverse global audience tuning in. It was a major success for the OGA not only in terms of the audience it received and the quality of the presentations delivered but also in that it provided the Office with an opportunity to significantly up-skill, doing for the most part an almost total in-house production with the series.

The quality of the work produced by the OGA did not go unnoticed as subsequently, Professor Naidoo, sought the Office’s partnership in a seminar the University of Bath and the Society for Research into Higher Education (SRHE) was producing on vaccines. The virtual seminar held on January 19, 2021 was titled: **“COVID19 Vaccines and the Global Good”**. It was easily a frontrunner to many of the subsequent conversations on vaccines and is still relevant as the world continues to grapple with an equitable distribution of the Covid 19 Vaccines.

Some relationships just click, feel natural and work.

For The UWI, this is one such.

Some relationships just click, feel natural and work.

Such is the feeling of the relationship between The University of the West Indies’ (UWI) Office of Global Affairs (OGA) and the International Centre for Higher Education Management (ICHEM) at the University of Bath - School of Management.

A relationship working may have a lot to do with persons in it knowing, trusting and respecting each other. In this particular case, the two institutions, UWI and Bath, have had a longstanding relationship on a personal level as a significant number of our senior staff are Alum of Bath. One such, is Dr. Luz Longworth, Pro Vice Chancellor, Global Affairs and UWI Open Campus Principal.

From a very free flowing yet intentional conversation, led by PVC Longworth and Dr. Dan Davies, Director of Higher Education Management Programmes at the School of Management, the two institutions determined on a tight turn, to promote a 3-part webinar series on International Higher Education Management. The sessions it was planned, would be used to drum up interest and participation in a revenue generating, brand promoting Certificate in Higher Education Management, complete with a 10-day residential, somewhere in the Caribbean – quite possibly Jamaica, dependent on the origins of the students. The offering would



Visit our Website at: <https://uwi.edu/oga/>

Contact Us

Head Office:

Office of Global Affairs (OGA)
Regional Headquarters Building
The University of the West Indies
Mona, Jamaica

Telephone: (876) 977-6105

Fax: (876) 927-0253

Email: pvcglobal@uwimona.edu.jm

Barbados Office:

Office of Global Affairs (OGA)
The University of the West Indies
Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

Telephone: (246) 417-4509

