



The 21st Annual SALISES Conference that was originally carded to be held at the Mt. Irvine Bay Hotel and Resort in Tobago on 5th - 8th May instant will now be held over the period **Thursday 27th to Sunday 30th August, 2020** at the same venue.

The Conference will be held under the Ministry of Health of Trinidad and Tobago guidelines that will apply to : (i) social distancing, (ii) the wearing of masks, (iii) the use of hand sanitizers or washing of hands prior to entry into any area of congregation for the conference, (iv) the limitation of audiences in such areas of congregation in accordance with appropriate guidelines for such congregation as may apply at the time of the conference in accordance with the COVID-19 policies overseen and implemented by the management of the hotel, (v) any changes in the Ministry of Health of Trinidad and Tobago guidelines.

Apart from the programme for paper presentations, there will be two dedicated Round Tables to discuss (i) the policy implications of the COVID-19 situation for the Caribbean and (ii) the debate about colonial-era monuments and their place in Caribbean society in the 21st century.

There are a few papers that are already addressing the COVID-19 situation academically that were previously submitted for which appropriate placement on the programme will permit further discussion.

The large majority of persons who have submitted papers for the conference will come from Trinidad and Tobago, so the fully-functioning air bridge and/or the sea bridge will be their option to travel to Tobago unhindered.

The presenters from overseas may not be able to attend physically if the Trinidad and Tobago borders remain closed at that time. Presentations by those who cannot attend because of any border restrictions or for any other reason will be accommodated by the use of Zoom or other appropriate technology so that their presentations can be recorded for the benefit of conference registrants and the overall record of conference proceedings.

We shall continue to actively follow all updates from the Ministry of Health, the Caribbean Public Health Agency and the World Health Organization as the health and safety of all participants remain our top priority.

Thank you for bearing with us during this COVID-19 pandemic period of uncertainty and we hope that participation in the conference will break new ground on what is likely to become a new normal for conferences of the future.