



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES  
MONA CAMPUS

# NEWSLETTER

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OFFICE



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The Newsletter is produced by the International Students Office.

Your queries or comments are indeed welcome.

Please send these to the editor at [isomona@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:isomona@uwimona.edu.jm)

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## Studying Abroad

# During the Summer

Summer in Jamaica is a time of music and cultural festivals, capped off by the Jamaica Independence Day Ceremony or Grand Gala. It is an exciting time. Many students study abroad during the summertime and students who wish to study in Jamaica may do so in the warm and beautiful environs of the UWI Mona Campus. Jamaica's natural attractions include waterfalls, caves and tropical rainforests. The island is also home to a wide array of public and private beaches, many of which rank as some of the world's most beautiful.

Some of the best places to visit in summer while studying in Jamaica are highlighted here inside our summer issue.



# Calendar of Events

- July 1<sup>st</sup> – Reggae Symposium: Going Forward to Our Rootz
- August 1<sup>st</sup> – Emancipation Day
- August 6<sup>th</sup> – Independence Day
- August 17 – The UWI, Mona's Rastafari Studies Conference
- August 19 & 20 – Special Non-Jamaica Students Orientation

## Some Events Taking Place This Summer in Jamaica

- June 26<sup>th</sup> - July 3<sup>rd</sup> -- The National Festival of Arts (annual event)
- July 4<sup>th</sup> – Portland Jerk Festival (annual event)
- July 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> – Style Week Jamaica
- July 18<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> – Reggae Sunfest (annual event)
- August 6<sup>th</sup> – Jamaica Independence Day Celebrations (Grand Gala)



The University of the West Indies Attracts the Brightest and Best Students. Study at UWI, Mona Campus: **Apply for entry into the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) Programme.**

For more information contact:  
[admissns@uwimona.edu.jm](mailto:admissns@uwimona.edu.jm)



# The News in **Our Notebook**



## **Scholarship Success**

Twenty One students from the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, who are to go on exchange to countries including Canada, Trinidad & Tobago and Sweden, were awarded scholarships to do so for the 2010/2011 academic year. The scholarships which cover airfare, accommodation and other supplemental costs are awarded to students based on financial need and academic performance.

Students can go on exchange to any university overseas that the UWI has an exchange agreement with or may study abroad at any university of choice at full cost borne by the student. Scholarships such as the **Canada-CARICOM**, **Emerging Leaders of the Americas Programme (ELAP)**, **Commonwealth Universities Study Abroad Consortium (CUSAC)** and the **Caribbean Integration Programme (CIP)** are awarded each year for exchange.

This year's awardees include: Alyssa Lewis of Pure and Applied Sciences (CUSAC), Zoe Mahadoe of Social Sciences (ELAP), Akeil Morgan of Social Sciences (ELAP), Shaneil Ellis of Humanities and Education (CUSAC) Kenique Ivery of Social Sciences (CIP),

Tricia Wint of Humanities and Education (IMER), Damion Rene of Humanities and Education (IMER), and Jean-Pierre Smith of Pure and Applied Sciences (ELAP).

## **Australian and Japanese Scholarships**

New scholarships are being offered by the governments of Australia and Japan for students interested in studying or conducting research abroad. The MONBUKAGAKUSHO: MEXT and Australia Awards (AUSAID) scholarships are being offered to provide opportunities for study and work experience in the named countries. The Australia Awards are comprised of the Australian Development Scholarship (ADS), the Australian Leadership Awards (ALA Scholarship) and the Australian Leadership Awards Fellowship (ALA Fellowship).



# The News in Our Notebook



## Orientation and Cultural Immersion

The ISO will welcome new regional and international students to The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus at its bi-annual Orientation and Cultural immersion session held over two days starting on Thursday, August 19, 2010. The Orientation and Cultural Immersion programme features presentations on the history of Jamaica and the UWI, a brief introduction to Jamaican Talk, Immigration and registration matters and includes a guided tour of the Mona Campus.

## New Course in Alternative Energy

Mona now offers a new modular course in Alternative Energy. The course which is titled "The Basic Concepts and Applications in Alternative Energy" will run from June 1 – July 16, 2010. Modules to be taught in the course cover Solar



and Wind Energy (Module 1); Hydropower, Biomass, Bio-fuels and Nuclear Energy (Module 2); and Industrial Considerations and Applications (Module 3).

UWI lecturer, Professor Anthony Chen - a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and joint winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2007, along with former United State Vice President, Al Gore Jr. – is to serve as Course Principal.

Collaborating partners for the course include: the Scientific Research Council and the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica.

## UWI Students off to South Africa and the USA under Trilateral Exchange Project

Three students of The University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona will travel to the University of Cape Town in South Africa and Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island under a student exchange programme between the three universities. The students are: Aieka Smith, PhD candidate in the Department of Government, Faculty of Social Sciences, who will attend the University of Cape Town; Sandra Alvaranga, SALISES, Faculty of Social Sciences; and Rachel Boxhill, Department of Literatures in English, Faculty of Humanities & Education. Sandra Alvaranga and Rachel Boxhill will both attend Brown University, Rhode Island in the United States.

# The News in **Our Notebook**



The Trilateral Reconnection Project (TRP), which is an agreement between The University of The West Indies, the University of Cape Town and Brown University, facilitates student and faculty exchanges and joint research projects between the three universities. The programme is open to students from all faculties and departments. Proposed research could fall in the areas of African Literature, Critical Issues in African and Pan African Studies, African Diaspora Thought, Medicine/Medical Health, and Humanities and Social Sciences in Africa and the Diaspora.

## **The UWI to Showcase “Innovations” at Denbigh.**

The University of the West Indies, Mona will be showcasing its work on “Innovations in Science and Technology for Food Security and Agricultural Development” at the Denbigh Agricultural Show, scheduled to take place from July 31 – August 2, 2010. Participation at the Denbigh Agricultural Show includes showcasing products, services, processes, and research in progress related to any aspect of Agricultural Development and/or Food Security.



## **MAM-10 Symposium**

The University of the West Indies, Mona is to host the “5th IUPAC Sponsored International Symposium on Macro- and Supramolecular Architectures and Materials (MAM-10)” at the Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort and Spa. The Symposium will include a two-day pre-conference workshop and a five-day conference. The conference will focus on key developments in the syntheses, behaviour and potential applications of new compounds, materials, and supramolecular or macro-molecular aggregates. Scientists working in these broad and related areas are encouraged to participate in making presentations at MAM-10.



# Five Places You Could Visit While Studying in Jamaica



The largest English-speaking Island in the Caribbean, Jamaica is perhaps best recognized internationally for its reggae music, reggae legend Bob Marley and more recently for sprint sensation and world's fastest man Usain Bolt; but the island has also, for long, been a preferred destination of international students who opt to study in the Caribbean. The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus continues to host over a thousand international and regional students each year and, as the Caribbean's premiere tertiary institution, serves 16 Caribbean countries and is partnered with several European, Asian, Pacific and American universities.

The UWI, Mona Campus is located in the east of the island, in the bustling metropolitan city of Kingston and offers several courses across its four faculties each summer to Jamaican and non-Jamaican students. The UWI also gives students a choice to study at the Western Jamaica Campus located in the island's second city of Montego Bay. The Campus is located in close proximity to what is generally referred to as the 'Hip Strip' – a stretch which incorporates many white sand beaches, tourist attractions, and several dining, shopping and entertainment areas. The WJC's official hall of residence, the former Buccaneer Beach Hotel, has comfortable and attractive accommodation that has been converted to student housing.

Studying in Jamaica may be the perfect opportunity to either start or continue your degree programme overseas. Five places you could visit while studying at the Mona or Mona-WJC Campuses are: **Doctor's Cave Beach in Montego Bay, the Black River Safari in St. Elizabeth, Dunn's River Falls in St. Ann, Blue Cave Castle in Westmoreland and The Seven Mile Beach in Negril.** Other recommended places to visit are **The Bob Marley Museum, Devon House** and the **National Gallery.**

By Lorne Matthews



# Students Testimonial



I was living in Irvine Hall while studying at the Mona Campus and the people there made me feel very welcomed. The Mona Campus offers everything one needs. There is a nice swimming pool, a student union with Thursday entertainment, and a good library. I also really enjoyed all my courses in English Literature.

Studying in the Jamaican context gave me the possibility to see the inside perspectives of postcolonial issues, something I think would have been much harder to appreciate if I had taken the same courses back home in Sweden.

My experience in Jamaica was great! The Island culture is very unique and fascinating. Jamaicans are friendly and their optimism is contagious. I especially enjoyed visiting the small, less populated places along the coastline in Jamaica, being that the atmosphere at these places is very relaxing. Perhaps my best memories, however, are from climbing Jamaica's Blue Mountains and from going scuba diving in Negril.

*Petter Ramnemo  
Exchange Student  
Sweden*



When I chose to study Social Work, never in my wildest dreams did I think that I would have been granted the opportunity to travel and study within the region. The transfer to UWI Mona is my greatest experience to date, partly due to my immersion into a different culture.

Despite spending the majority of my year off campus, my interaction with both the International Students Office (ISO) and the Social Work Unit was always rewarding. The staff within both of these departments was always very helpful and I was always made to feel at home.

Completing my internship at one of the island's junior high schools and community centres was the highlight of my entire year in Jamaica. This gave me the wonderful opportunity to interact with the Jamaican people and to learn their culture first hand. I will never forget the experience!

While always needing a balance between academic pursuits and recreational activities, I took a number of scenic drives outside the hustle and bustle of Kingston, through the lovely country side of Manchester, St Elizabeth and Westmoreland. I have visited many of the attractions that Jamaica has to offer, such as the Bob Marley Museum, Dunn's River Falls and Kool Runnings Water Park.

As I have learnt to understand and appreciate the Jamaican language during my time spent there, to all my Jamaican friends I say, "Mi soon come back" (or "I will soon be back").

*Tya Marville  
Exchange Student  
Barbados*



## A Glance at a Gala

Tickets booked early, Jamaicans fly back in numbers to Jamaica from all over the world for August 6<sup>th</sup>, when Independence Day (Grand Gala) Celebrations take place in the form of the National Festival Float Parade and the wonderfully exciting Grand Gala Ceremony. Jamaica's Festival activities start on June 17 and culminate in Independence Day jubilee, which involves an affair of colours, drums, dances, songs and parades.

The Grand Gala is an event where you can expect Jamaican folklore characters to turn up: characters for instance such as trickster *Brer Anansi*. It is where Jamaica's industries (Tourism, Bauxite, Sugar and others) streamlined between music trucks, effigies and crowds form a tapestry of history on Kingston streets, and before thousands in attendance at the National Stadium.

Included in the Gala are live performances from dance troupes, acrobats, stunt specialists, reggae and dancehall artistes and festival songs which harken to yesteryear. The Grand Gala puts some of Jamaica's best national treasures on show and rolls out its best mosaic of performances. The Gala typically ends with a flourish of fireworks brightening the night sky, sparkling high above roofs and revellers.

### Some Facts on Jamaica's National Symbols and Independence

- Jamaica got its independence from England in 1962.
- A group of early Jamaicans called the "Maroons" were instrumental in the first moves towards the abolition of slavery in Jamaica.
- The colours of the island's national flag signify: "The sun shineth, the land is green and the people are strong and creative"
- The island's national fruit is the ackee (*Blighia sapida*). It is thought to have been first imported to Jamaica from West Africa. Ackee trees can grow up to 50 ft tall, their ripe red fruits segment to reveal bright yellow arils (usually three) with black, shiny seeds protruding from the fruit.
- Jamaica's National Tree is the Blue Mahoe (*Hibiscus elatus*) and its national flower the Lignum Vitae or "wood of life". The Lignum Vitae blossom is famous for attracting (white) lignum vitae butterflies, which are often found in abundance near the tree. The resin of the Lignum Vitae is known to have several medicinal uses.

By Lorne Matthews

# Study at the Western Jamaica Campus



The Western Jamaica Campus (WJC) is the ideal place for studies in **Banking and Finance, Management Studies, Psychology, Hospitality and Tourism Management, Nursing, Media and Communications, History and Heritage Studies, and Law.**



Featured Partner:

# The University of Windsor

The University of Windsor is one of Canada's southernmost universities. The University offers more than 140 areas of study, including graduate and undergraduate programmes across nine faculties and is attended by international students from over 100 countries.

From that diversity, the University fosters an atmosphere of close cooperation between faculty and students. Windsor is an exceptionally welcoming community for students and faculty from Asia, Europe and Africa – or from just down the street.

## Undergraduate and Graduate Programmes offered by the University of the Windsor include:

- Anthropology (BA)
- Chemistry (BSC)
- Forensic Science (BSC)
- Criminology(MA)
- History (MA)
- Philosophy (MA)
- Biological Sciences(PHD and MSC)

*For further information, visit:*

[www.uwindsor.ca](http://www.uwindsor.ca) or

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