

## DEPARTMENT OF BASIC MEDICAL SCIENCES



**Dr. Andrew Pearson**, BSc, PhD *Leeds*, Dip Mgt. Stds. *UWI*  
Head of Department

### WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department is evolving a new management structure in response to the constraints in resources that are now largely dominating decision-making. Instead of maintaining the duplicated administrative reporting functions of the previous sections – formerly Departments – much of the decision-making has been harmonized by devolution to committees of the major stake-holders:

- Technical Services Advisory Committee
- Academic Advisory Committee
- Postgraduate Advisory Sub-Committee
- Service Staff Advisory Committee
- Administrative Advisory Committee
- Social Events and Entertainment Committee

The Department continued to face challenges in attracting enough academic staff to replace those past the age of retirement. However, efforts were expended to improve the morale of staff and this was achieved by a mix of social events and training sessions.

#### **STAFF AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS**

The Faculty of Medical Sciences held their 22nd Annual Research Conference and Workshop on November 7 and 8, 2013. Prizes were awarded to the department as follows:

##### **BMS Poster Presentation prize (\$5,000.00)**

- Reid, M, Nunes, N, McGrowder, D. and Nwokocha, C. (2013). A comparison of the effect of potassium adaptation on uninephrectomised rat treated with deoxycorticosterone acetate (DOCA) and L-NG-Nitroarginine methyl ester induced hypertensive models.

##### **BMS Oral Presentation prize (\$10,000)**

- Kennedy-Dixon, T, Gossell-Williams, M, Hall, J. and Anglin-Brown, B. (2013). The prevalence of potential drug-drug interactions on prescriptions filled at the University Health Centre pharmacy between November 2012 and February 2013.

##### **The Principal's Research Award for Research Project with the Greatest Business/Economic/Development Impact**

- Received by Dr. Ruby Lindo for: "Novel Treatment for Hyperglycaemia and Hypertension, high blood sugar levels and high blood pressure in the rat models".
- Dr. Rachael Irving – World Justice Forum IV Scholarship to the Hague Netherlands, 8–11 July, 2013.
- Dr. Rachael Irving – International Observer to World Anti-doping Agency (WADA) Code Changing Forum, South Africa, November 12–15, 2013.

## APPOINTMENTS

- Dr. Michael Rowe joined the Department on February 3, 2014 as Senior Lecturer.
- Professor Helen Asemota was appointed to the post of Director, The Biotechnology Centre on August 1, 2013. However, she still continues her teaching and research duties in the Department.
- Drs. Rachael Irving and Christopher Ogunsalu received indefinite tenure effective August 1, 2014.
- Dr. Hugh McLean joined the Department on August 1, 2014 as Senior Lecturer.
- Dr. Jacqueline Campbell was appointed to post of Lecturer with effect from August 1, 2014.
- Mrs. Kisha McLeod-Martin was promoted to the post of Assistant Lecturer.
- Mr. Cordell Miller was promoted to Animal House Supervisor in the Animal House. He also received grant assistance through the Staff Development Fund to pursue an Associate Degree in Health Care Management at Penn Foster College.

## ADJUNCT LECTURERS

- Mr. Herman Alvaranga was offered a Contract for Services as Adjunct Senior Lecturer for the academic year 2013/2014.
- Mr. Kevin Harriott was offered a Contract for Services as Adjunct Lecturer for the academic year 2013/2014.
- Mrs. Kerry-Ann Heavens was offered a Contract for Services as Adjunct Senior Lecturer for the academic year 2013/2014.
- Mr. Gregory Williams was appointed Adjunct Lecture in the MSc Forensic Science programme for the period September 2, 2013 to July 31, 2014.

**RESIGNATIONS**

- Dr. Jacqueline Corness, Senior Lecturer, has now returned to Canada.
- Dr. Michelle Hamilton resigned.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

Staff members participated in an Emergency Evacuation Workshop which was conducted on January 16, 2014. Certificate of achievements were awarded to the following:

AMARAKOON, Icolyn

BAILEY-GRIFFITHS, Norma

BENNETT-MILLER, Sandra

DAWSON, Clinton

HALL, Craig

HARRISON, Simone

HOWDEN, Jevan

JOHNSON, Kadeesh

LEWIS, Anishka

RICHARDS, Andrea

SMITH, Garret

SMITH, Thornia

THOMAS, Everton

TURNER-DAWKINS, Angella

WALKER, Orville

WARREN, Delano

WAUGH, Juliet

YOUNG, Winston

Technical and Service staff members were also selected to attend the Essentials of Occupational Health and Safety course for the period September 17, 2013, where certificate of participation was received. This was done on a Thursday between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. for six weeks. This programme covered areas such as:

- Hazard recognition, evaluation and control
- Occupational safety and health legislation
- Conducting workplace inspections
- Accident Investigation
- Introduction to Occupational safety and health management systems

A few members of the Administrative, Technical and Service staff attended training courses in

- Emergency Evacuation which was conducted by Safety and Emergency Management
- First Aid certification training session which was conducted by Red Cross of Jamaica and directed by Mr. Clinton Dawson, Laboratory Manager.

The following staff members have been certified as First Aid & CPR practitioners

AMARAKOON, Icolyn

ANDERSON, Omar

BAILEY-GRIFFITHS, Norma

BAIR, Rochelle

BENNETT-MILLER, Sandra

BROWN, Lancedale

CLARKE, Peta-Gaye

GREEN, Colin

HALL, Craig

HARRISON, Simone

Department of Basic Medical Sciences

HARTLEY, Dave  
HAYLES, Kemorine  
HOWDEN, Jevan  
JOHNSON, Kadeesh  
JONES-EDWARDS, Erica  
LEWIS, Aniska  
MAIR, Juliet  
MATHEISON, Aneisha  
MIGUEL, David  
RICHARDS, Andrea  
SHAND, Dawn  
SMITH, Thornia  
SPENCER, Morgan  
THOMAS, Everton  
THOMAS, Georgia  
TURNER-DAWKINS, Angella  
WARREN, Delano  
WAUGH, Juliet  
WILMOT-PARCHMENT, Rosita  
YOUNG, Winston

The following were awarded a certificate in Basic First Aid

COLE, Tanya  
FRANCIS, Alton  
PARCHMENT, Barrington  
REDDIE, Donna  
STEWART, Melissa  
WALKER, Orville

Mrs. Sandra Bennett-Miller and Ms. Thornia Smith attended workshops at the Human Resource Management Division on Records Management Essentials: The Business Proposition and Terms and Conditions of Service for UWI Employees.

Ms. Thornia Smith and Mr. Clinton Dawson attended a series of Leadership and Management Skill Enhancement sessions (April to July 2014) under the theme “IMPACT FACTOR” which was conducted through the UWI, Human Resource Management Division.

A Laboratory Safety Discussion session was held on January 15, 2014 for Laboratory Attendants of Basic Medical Sciences.

Dr Audrey Jacob was awarded certificate of accomplishment; ‘Writing in the Sciences’. Stanford Online (November 2013).

Dr Jacqueline Campbell received training in Basic and Advanced Research Skills Workshop hosted by the Epidemiology Research Unit held June 17–25 & July 1–9, 2014.

Miss Anishka Lewis received training/exposure to Environmental Toxicology/Environmental Medicine at New York University, Langone Medical Center, Department of Environmental Medicine during the period July 15–19, 2014 training in:

- inhalation experiments with mice exposed to ambient particulate matter,
- ultrasound experiments on pregnant mice,
- oral gavage experiments with fracking fluid in mice,
- treat cells with fracking fluid to determine cytotoxicity by ATP assay,
- immunotoxicity assays
- serum cytokine assays for interleukins

#### **PAPERS/POSTERS PRESENTED AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

- Levy, A, Murugan, R, Quinonez, Y, Jordanal, J, Rathinavelu, A, Dhandayuthapani, S. (2013). A promising anti-prostate cancer profile of Stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) extract.

- Blair, T, Thomas, E. and Singh, P. D. A. (2013). Investigation of the effect of *Cassia occidentalis* (Piss-a-bed) extract on diuresis.
- Heron, M., Jacob, A. S., Thomas, E. A. and Williams, L. A. D. (2013). An investigation of the anti-inflammatory properties of *Croton linearis* (Wild Rosemary).
- Williams, D., Howden, J. A. D., Thomas, E. A. and Singh, P. D. A. (2013). An investigation of the acute Anti-inflammatory properties of *Rivina humilis* (2013).
- Lewis, A, Williams, M, Golding, C and McKoy, M. (2013). Investigation of the anti-convulsant potential of the fluid from the bud of the *Spathodea campanulata* plant.
- Evans, C and Campbell, J. E. (2013). Determining the knowledge and attitude of final year medical students of adverse drug events reporting.
- Smith, L, Gossell-Williams, M, Morris, C and Eldemire-Shearer, D. (2013). Prevalence of orthostatic hypotension among aging patients on antihypertensive and antidepressants and assessment of the risk of falls.
- Reid, M, Nunes, N, McGrowder, D and Nwokocha, C. (2013). A comparison of the effect of potassium adaptation on uninephrectomised rat treated with deoxycorticosterone acetate (DOCA) and L-NG-Nitroarginine methyl ester induced hypertensive models.
- Thompson, T. and Brown, P. D. (2013). Analysis of virulence determinants and antimicrobial resistance between methicillin-resistant and methicillin-sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- Vernon, M, Pratt, L, Lewis, A. and Levy, A. (2013). Novel anti-inflammatory profile of *Salvia hispanica* L. (Chia) oil in Complete Freund's Adjuvant arthritis is mediated through reduction of C-Reactive protein levels.
- Rhoden, T, Jackson, S. T., McLaughlin, W, Soares, D and Lindo, J. F. (2013). Molecular detection of *Toxoplasma gondii* in patients presenting with neurological manifestations in Jamaica.

- Davis, R, Daley, S and Brown, P. D. (2013). Biofilm formation, multiple antibiotic resistance and oxidative stress tolerance among pathogens of respiratory origin.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2013). Diabetes and Folklore – The Jamaican Experience, Diabetes UK Headquarters, June 19, 2013, Camden, London, United Kingdom.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2013). Diabetes and Caribbean Folklore – The Trinidad and Tobago High Commission, June 20, 2013, London, United Kingdom.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2013). Colorful Radio Interview, June 19, 2013, Vauxhall, London, United Kingdom. <http://www.colourfulradio.com/presenter/jacquigrant/>
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2014). Black and Asian peoples Diabetes Campaign Seminar I – Prevention is Better than Cure, Jack Dunning Hall, Homerton Row, Hackney, July 02, 2014, London,U.K.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2014). Black and Asian peoples Diabetes Campaign Seminar II – Prevention is Better than Cure, Jack Dunning Hall, Homerton Row, Hackney, July 03, 2014, London,U.K.
- Ragoobirsingh, D. (2014). Black and Asian peoples Diabetes Campaign Seminar III –Prevention is Better than Cure, Jack Dunning Hall, Homerton Row, Hackney, July 04, 2014, London,U.K.
- Stephenson, S., Brown, P. D. (2013). Putative epigenetic influence of DNA adenine methylase on P fimbriae expression and attachment among fluoroquinolone-resistant uropathogenic *Escherichia coli* to human urinary cell lines. UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences 22nd Annual Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, November 6-8, 2013.
- Thompson, T. and Brown, P. D. (2013). Analysis of virulence determinants and antimicrobial resistance between methicillin-resistant and methicillin sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus*. UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences 22nd Annual Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, November 6–8, 2013.

This was also presented at: Ministry of Health 4th National Health Research Conference on “Environmental Health and Communicable Diseases.” Terra Nova All-Suite Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica. November 28–29, 2013.

- Stephenson, S and Brown, P. D. (2014). Dam methylation influences *P. fimbriae* expression and binding of fluoroquinolone-resistant UPEC. 16th International Congress on Infectious Diseases, Cape Town, South Africa. April 2–5, 2014.
- Chinnaiyan A, Salmon C, Levy AS, Rathinavelu A, Sivanesan D. Analysis of Q356R polymorphism in BRCA1 gene of Jamaican ovarian cancer patients. In: Proceedings of the 105th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research 2014; April 5–9; San Diego, CA. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; 2014.
- Khallouki A, Levy A. S, Rathinavelu A, Sivanesan D . Investigation of the Cytotoxic Effects of Aqueous Extract of *Urtica dioica* on LNCaP Prostate Cancer Cell Line”. In: Proceedings of the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) 2013; November 13–16, Nashville, USA.
- Salmon C, Levy AS. Survival rates and reproductive traits of Jamaican women diagnosed with ovarian carcinoma. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62 (Suppl 6): 53.
- Vernon C, Lewis A, Pratt L, Levy AS. Novel Anti-inflammatory profile of *Salvia hispanica* L. ( Chia oil) in complete Freund's adjuvant arthritis is mediated through reduction of C-reactive protein levels. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62 (Suppl 6 ): 55.
- Levy, A. S, Rathinavelu, A, Sivanesan, D, Murugan, R, Jornadal, J, Quinonez, Y, Jaffe, M. A. promising anti-prostate cancer profile of stinging nettle extract. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62 (Suppl 6): 40.
- Levy, A.S. Ethical issues in research involving human cancer cell lines. 16th annual research conference Ethics symposium. Invited lecture. 22nd annual research conference. Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies, Mona. November, 2013.

- Smith, L Gossell-Williams, M, Morris, C, Eldemire-Shearer, D. Prevalence of predictors of orthostatic hypertension among ageing patients on antihypertensive and antidepressants and assessment of falls. In: Proceedings of the 59th Annual CARPHA (CHRC) Conference will be held in Aruba from May 1st – 3rd, 2014, 2014 *West Indian Medical Journal*. 63 (Suppl 2): 38 ABSTRACT O-10.
- Burke, C, Rhoden, M, and Singh, PDA (2013). Investigation of the mechanism of the anti-inflammatory action of the fluid from the bud of *Spathodea campanulata* (African tulip). In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 38. ABSTRACT O-22.
- Kennedy-Dixon, T Gossell-Williams, M, Hall, J and Anglin-Brown, B. (2013). The prevalence of potential drug-drug interactions on prescriptions filled at the University Health Centre Pharmacy between November 2012 and February 2013. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 38 ABSTRACT O-23.

#### POSTER PRESENTATION AT SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

- Williams, LAD, Jacob, AS and Heron, M. (2013). An Investigation of the anti-inflammatory properties of *Croton linearis* (wild rosemary). In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 41; ABSTRACT P-3
- Blair, T, Thomas, E, and Singh, PDA. (2013). Investigation of the effect of *Cassia occidentalis* (piss-a-bed) extract on diuresis. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6):40. ABSTRACT P-2.
- Chinnaiyan, A, Salmon C, Levy, AS, Rathinavelu, A, Sivanesan D. (2014). Analysis of Q356R polymorphism in BRCA1 gene of Jamaican

ovarian cancer patients. In: Proceedings of the 105th Annual Meeting of the American Association for Cancer Research 2014; Apr 5–9; San Diego, CA. Philadelphia (PA): AACR; 2014.

- Khallouki, A, Levy, AS, Rathinavelu, A, Sivanesan, D. (2013). Investigation of the Cytotoxic Effects of Aqueous Extract of *Urtica dioica* on LNCaP Prostate Cancer Cell Line”. In: Proceedings of the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) 2013; Nov. 13–16, Nashville, USA.
- Salmon, C and Levy, AS. (2013). Survival rates and reproductive traits of Jamaican women diagnosed with ovarian carcinoma. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 53, ABSTRACT P-35.
- Vernon, C, Lewis A, Pratt L and Levy AS. (2013). Novel Anti-inflammatory profile of *Salvia hispanica* L. ( Chia oil) in complete Freund's adjuvant arthritis is mediated through reduction of C-reactive protein levels. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 55, ABSTRACT P-40
- Levy, AS, Rathinavelu, A, Sivanesan, D, Murugan, R, Jornadal J, Quinonez Y, Jaffe M. (2013). A promising anti-prostate cancer profile of stinging nettle extract. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 40, ABSTRACT P-1.
- Evans, C, Campbell, J. (2013). Determining the knowledge and attitude of final year medical students of adverse events reporting. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 43, ABSTRACT P-8
- Lewis, M, Williams, C, Golding, M, McKoy. “Investigation of the anti-convulsant potential of the fluid from the bud of the *Spathodea*

*campanulata* plant”. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 41 (P-5).

- Thomas, P, Gossell-Williams, M, Martin, J, Sewell, C and Abel, W. (2013). Assessment of antipsychotic therapy in the management of male cannabis users presenting to the University Hospital of the West Indies with psychotic episodes. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 42 ABSTRACT P-7.
- Smith, L, Gossell-Williams, M, Morris, C and Eldermire-Shearer, D. (2013). Prevalence of orthostatic hypotension among ageing patients on antihypertensives and antidepressants and assessment of the risk of falls. In: Proceedings of the 22nd Annual Research Conference held November 7th, 2013 University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *West Indian Medical Journal*. Vol 62 (Suppl 6): 45 ABSTRACT P-13.
- Levy, AS. (2014). Ethical issues in research involving human cancer cell lines. 16th annual research conference Ethics symposium. Invited lecture. 22nd annual research conference. Faculty of Medical Sciences, University of the West Indies, Mona. November, 2013
- Campbell, J. (2014). Oral presentation Pharmacological management of stress at the Stress Management held May 8, 2014 , Department of Basic Medical Sciences, UWI.

#### CONFERENCE ATTENDED

##### **Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin**

Attended the 22nd Annual Puerto Rico Neuroscience Conference, University of Puerto Rico, December 7, 2014. The trip was funded by the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO).

## BOOKS AND MONOGRAPHS

### Professor Dalip Ragoobirsingh

Diabetes can be prevented – Asian Handbook, Institute of Black Culture, Media and Sports, 43 Linslade House Whiston Road, Hackney, London, UK.

Diabetes can be prevented – Afro-Caribbean/African Handbook, Institute of Black Culture, Media and Sports, 43 Linslade House Whiston Road, Hackney, London, UK.

### Dr. Paul Brown

Brown, P. D. Jamaica: Heavy metals in the natural and anthropic environments (2014). Reference Module in Earth Systems and Environmental Sciences, Elsevier. DOI: 10.1016/B978-0-12-409548-9.09056-4. (8 pages)

## TECHNICAL REPORT

Young, L. E. et al (2014). CAAM-HP Report on the Survey of the Medical School at the American University of Antigua, April 6–11, 2014; p. 1–30.

## REFEREED JOURNAL

- Barrett, S. C., Huffman, F. G, Johnson, P., Campa, A., Magnus, M. and Ragoobirsingh, D (2013). An Epidemiological Study of Jamaican Adolescents' Risk for Type 2 Diabetes and Cardiovascular Diseases. *British Medical J. Open* 2013; 3:e002817. doi:10.1136/bmjopen-2013-002817, 1–9.
- Ragoobirsingh, D (2013). Diabetes and Caribbean Culture. *Diabetes Update*, Winter 2013, 26–29.

- Ali, M. K. and Ragoobirsingh, D (2013). A Review of nicotine-alcohol induced differential feeding behavior. *Open Access Alcohol J* 2013 August 01; 1(2):14
- Lindo, J. F., Brown, P. D., Vickers, I. E., Brown, M. G., Jackson, S. T., Lewis-Fuller, E (2013). Leptospirosis and malaria as causes of febrile illness during a dengue epidemic in Jamaica. *Pathogens and Global Health* 107(6): 329–334. (# correspondence)
- Evans-Gilbert, T., Lindo, J. F., Henry, S., Brown, P. D., Christie, C. D. C (2014). Severe eosinophilic meningitis owing to *Angiostrongylus cantonensis* in young Jamaican children: case report and literature review. *Paediatrics and International Child Health* 34(2): 148–152. DOI: 10.1179/2046905513Y.0000000106. [Involved in study design, data interpretation and manuscript preparation]
- Allwood, P., Munoz-Zanzi, C., Chang, M. and Brown, P. D. (2014). Knowledge, perceptions and environmental risk factors among Jamaican households with a history of leptospirosis. *Journal of Infection and Public Health* (# correspondence) DOI: 10.1016/j.jiph.2014.03.004
- Pepple, D. J., Young, L. E, Gordon-Strachan, G. M., Carroll, G. R. Preclinical grades predict clinical performance in MBBS Stage II Examinations at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. *Nigerian Journal of Physiological Sciences* 2013 (December); 28: 201–204. (www.njps.com.ng)
- Amarakoon, I. I., Ramkisson, A., Pierre, R., Eysaguirre, L. M., Carr, J. K., Blattner, W. A., Roye, M. E. HIV-1 *Antiretroviral Drug Resistance in Pregnant Women in Jamaica: A Preliminary Report*. 2014. DOI: 10.7727/wimj.2014.016.
- Dilworth, L.L, Brown, K. J., Wright, R. J, Oliver, M. S. and Asemota H. N. (2014). An assessment of bioactive compounds and antioxidants in some tropical legumes, seeds, fruits and spices. *Journal of Research in Biology* 3(7): 1182–1194
- Stennett, Dewayne, E., Oladeinde, Frederick, Wheatley, Andrew O., Dilworth, Lowell L., Hohmann, Christine, Bryant, Joseph and Asemota, Helen, N. (2014). Evaluation of the effects of bitter yam tuber

supplementation on serum parameters used to assess hepatotoxicity and nephrotoxicity in transgenic mice. *Journal of Bioscience and Biotechnology*, 3(2): 133–139.

- McKoy, Marsha-Lyn, Grant, Kevin, Asemota, Helen, Simon, Oswald and Omoruyi, Felix. (2014). Renal and Hepatic Function in Hypercholesterolemic Rats Fed Jamaican Bitter Yam (*Dioscorea polygonoides*) *Journal of Dietary Supplements*, 00(00):1–11
- Curtello, S., Vaillant, A. A. J., Asemota, H., Smikle, M. P., & Akpaka, P. E. (2014). *Salmonella yeerongpilly* in a Chinese Owl (*Columba livia domestica*) in Jamaica. *British Microbiology Research Journal*, 4(2), 167–172.
- Curtello, S., Vaillant, A. A. J., Asemota, H., Smikle, M. P., & Akpaka, P. E. (2014). A DNA vaccine versus attenuated vaccine to protect against *Salmonella* infection in chickens. *British Journal of Medicine and Medical Research*, 4(3), 828–842.
- Curtello, S., Vaillant, A. A. J., Asemota, H., Akpaka, P. E., & Smikle, M. P. (2013). Prevalence of *Salmonella* organisms in poultry and poultry environments in Jamaica. *British Microbiology Research Journal*, 3(4), 461–469.
- Asemota, H., Curtello, S., Vaillant, A. A. J., Mohammed, W., & Vuma, S. (2013). Purification of Avian IgY with Trichloroacetic Acid (TCA). *J Chromatograph Separat Techniq*, 4(205), 2.
- Curtello, S., Vaillant, A. A. J., Asemota, H., Akpaka, P. E., & Smikle, M. P. (2013). The Effectiveness of Antibiotics in the Prevention of *Salmonella typhimurium* in Growing Chickens. *American Journal of Experimental Agriculture*, 3(4), 849–856.
- Stennett, Dewayne, Oladeinde, Frederick, Wheatley, Andrew, Dilworth, Lowell, Bryant, Joseph, Asemota, Helen. (2013). Modulation of the antioxidant status of the hearts and brains of genetically modified hypercholesterolemic mice overproducing HDL cholesterol following acute bitter yam supplementation. *Oxidants and Antioxidants in Medical Science*. 2013; 2(1):11–19.

- Green, C. O., Wheatley, A.O., McGrowder, D.A., Dilworth, L.L. and Asemota, H.N (2013). Citrus peel polymethoxylated flavones extract modulates liver and heart function parameters in diet induced hypercholesterolemic rats. *Food and Chemical Toxicology* 51 (2013) 306–309.
- Stennett, Dewayne, Oladeinde, Frederick, Wheatley, Andrew, Bryant, Joseph, Dilworth, Lowell and Asemota, Helen. (2013). Effects of *Dioscorea polygonoides* (Jamaican Bitter Yam) supplementation in normocholesterolemic and genetically modified hypercholesterolemic mice species. *Journal of Food Biochemistry*. Available online at <http://authorservices.wiley.com/bauthor/onlineLibraryTPS.asp?DOI=10.1111/1/jfbc.12022&ArticleID=1104068>
- Stennett, Dewayne, Oladeinde, Frederick, Wheatley, Andrew, Bryant, Joseph, Dilworth, Lowell and Asemota, Helen. (2013). Effects of *Dioscorea polygonoides* (Jamaican Bitter Yam) supplementation in normocholesterolemic and genetically modified hypercholesterolemic mice species. *Journal of Food Biochemistry*. Available online at <http://authorservices.wiley.com/bauthor/onlineLibraryTPS.asp?DOI=10.1111/1/jfbc.12022&ArticleID=1104068>
- Brown, Caneta, McFarlane-Anderson, Norma, Alexander-Lindo, Ruby, Bishop, Karen, Dasgupta, Tara, McGrowder, Donovan. “The Effects of S-Nitrosoglutathione and S-Nitroso-N-Acetyl-D, L-penicillamine in a Rat Model of Pre-Eclampsia”. *Journal of Natural Science, Biology and Medicine* 4: 330-5 (2013)
- Facey A, Irving R, Dilworth L. Overview of Lactate Metabolism and the Implications for Athletes. *American Journal of Sports Science and Medicine*, 2013; 1(3): 42-46
- Irving R, Charlton V, Morrison E, Facey A, Buchanan O. Demographic Characteristics of World Class Jamaican Sprinters. *The Scientific World Journal* 2013; article ID 670217: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2013/670217>
- Rathinavelu A, Levy AS, Sivanesan D, Murugan R, Jornadal J, Quinonez Y, Jaffe M, Gossell-Williams M. Cytotoxic effects of

Pumpkin (*Curcubita pepo*) Seed Extracts in LNCaP Prostate Cancer Cells is mediated through Apoptosis. *Current Topics in Nutraceutical Research* 2013; 11 (4): 137–144.

- Christie SA, Levy AS. Evaluation of the Hypoglycaemic Activity of *Petiveria alliacea* (Guinea Hen Weed) Extracts in Normoglycaemic and Diabetic Rat Models. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62 (8): 685–691.
- Levy AS, Sivanesan D, Murugan R, Jornadal J, Quinonez Y, Jaffe M, Rathinavelu A. *Urtica dioica* Induces Cytotoxicity in Human Prostate Carcinoma LNCaP Cells: Involvement of Oxidative Stress, Mitochondrial Depolarization and Apoptosis. *Tropical Journal of Pharmaceutical Research* 2014; 13 (5): 711–717.
- Cameron C, Jacob AS, Thomas EA, Levy AS. Preliminary investigation of anti-inflammatory and anti-histamine effect of a crude extract of *Justicia pectoralis* (Fresh cut) on tracheal smooth muscle contraction and cutaneous wheal formation. [Accepted by *West Indian Medical Journal*, July 28th 2014].
- Jacob AS, Simon OR, Wheatle D, Ruddock P, McCook K. (2014). Antihistamine effect of a pure bioactive compound isolated from slug (*Diplosolenodes occidentalis*) material. E-pub ahead-of-print and may be viewed at <https://myspot.mona.uwi.edu/fms/wimj/article/1880/> DOI is 10.7727/wimj.2013.269.
- Rathinavelu A, Levy AS, Sivanesan D, Murugan R. Jornadal J, Quinonez Y, Jaffe M, Gossell-Williams M. Cytotoxic effects of Pumpkin (*Curcubita pepo*) Seed Extracts in LNCaP Prostate Cancer Cells is mediated through Apoptosis. *Current Topics in Nutraceutical Research* 2013; 11 (4): 137–144.
- Christie, SA, Levy, AS. Evaluation of the Hypoglycaemic Activity of *Petiveria alliacea* (Guinea Hen Weed) Extracts in Normoglycaemic and Diabetic Rat Models. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2013; 62 (8): 685–691.
- Coulson A, Levy AS, Gossell-Williams, M. (2013). Monoclonal Antibodies in Cancer therapy: Mechanisms, Successes and Limitations.

*West Indian Medical Journal*. Epub ahead of print/ EDO1-10.7727/wimj.2013.241. <https://myspot.mona.uwi.edu/fms/wimj/article/1809>

- Richards PD, Richards AA, McKoy MG, Pepple DJ. The in vitro effects of sulfadoxine/pyrimethamine and artemether/lumefantrine on the viscosity and elasticity of erythrocyte membrane of healthy females. *Clinical Hemorheology and Microcirculation* 2013. DOI: 10.3233/CH-131798.E-Pub at <http://iospress.metapress.com/content/122pg252363x8843/>
- Gossell-Williams, M., Williams-Johnson, J., Williams, E. W. and Levy, P. (2013). A Case for a Holistic Approach to the Improvement of Compliance among Hypertensive Patients: A Hospital Review. *West Indian Medical Journal* 2014; Vol 63, Issue 3: DOI:10.7727/wimj.2013.156
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**ABSTRACTS IN PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL**

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- Stephenson, S., and Brown, P. D (2013). Putative epigenetic influence of DNA adenine methylase on P fimbriae expression and attachment among fluoroquinolone-resistant uropathogenic *Escherichia coli* to human urinary cell lines. UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences 22nd Annual Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, November 6-8, 2013. *West Indian Medical Journal*. 62 (Suppl. 6): 35 (Abstract).
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**PAPERS ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION**

- Barrett, S., Huffman, F., Johnson, P., Campa, A., Magnus, M and Ragoobirsingh, D (2014). Physical Activity and Metabolic Risk Factors among Jamaican Adolescents. *Austin Journal of Nutrition and Food Sciences*. In Press.
- Xuereb, G. C., Johnson, P., Ragoobirsingh, D and Morrison, E (2014). Impact of Programme to Improve Quality of Diabetes Care in the Caribbean. *Journal of Research in Diabetes*. In Press.

## INCOME GENERATION/FUNDING

### Research Grants

#### Prof. Helen Asemota

Postgraduate student, Ms. Sasha-Gay Wright received a grant from the Postgraduate Research Fund to present a poster at the 59th Annual CARPHA Health Research Conference in Aruba, May 1–3, 2014.

#### Dr. Paul Brown

Grant from Campus Research and Publication Fund, UWI, Mona; PI (Awarded to Terissa Thompson)

Project title: Virulence attenuation in *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) using siRNAs

Value: US\$2590

#### Dr. Lisa Lindo Shadae Foster

The Effects of Inositol, Inositol Hexakisphosphate (IP6) and its Combination on Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus Sprague-Dawley Rats. Amount: US\$5000.00

#### Tameika Bartley

Investigating the Effects of Phaseolus vulgaris on Blood Glucose Concentration in Normoglycaemic and Streptozotocin-Induced Type 2 Diabetic rats

Amount: US \$1,668.00

#### The University of the West Indies Research Fellowship

Development of Hypoglycaemic and Hypotensive Nutraceuticals and Diabetic Condiments from Compounds Isolated from *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*. Amount: JA\$2.4M

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Dr. Andrew Pearson**

- Chair, International Standards Organisation Technical Committee 93 (Starch and its Derivatives)

**Professor Wayne McLaughlin**

- Board Member, Coconut Industry Board
- Board Member, Seprod Limited

**Dr. C. R. Nwokocha**

- Member of the Organizing Committee of the FMSARC

**Professor Omkar Parshad**

- Director, Indian Cultural Society in Jamaica.
- Chairman, Sri Sathya Sai Baba Organization in Jamaica.
- Member, Lions Club of St. Andrew, Jamaica.

**Dr. Paul Brown**

- Member, 8-member Ambassador Task Force for the American Society for Microbiology.
- Chief Judge, American International School of Kingston (AISK) Middle School Science Fair.
- Review Editor, *Frontiers in Antimicrobials, Resistance and Chemotherapy*.
- Ambassador to Jamaica, American Society for Microbiology (ASM).
- Council member, International Society for Infectious Diseases.
- Editor, *Microbes and Health*.
- Independent Internal Examiner, Biology examination for course at UWI, St. Augustine.

**Dr. Kerith Golden**

- Vice President, Stock Farm Road Citizens Association, Golden Spring, St Andrew.
- Member of the Board (Vice President) for Jamaica Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

**Dr. Rachael Irving**

- Committee Member: National Sports Museum chaired by Honourable Portia Simpson-Miller, Prime Minister of Jamaica

**Professor Dalip Ragoobirsingh**

- Director UWI (Mona) Diabetes Education Programme
- Diabetes Association of Jamaica (DAJ) – Consultant Diabetes Educator
- The University Diabetes Outreach Programme (UDOP) – Director Research
- University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) – Consultant Diabetes Educator
- Ministry of Health, Jamaica (MOH) – Panel member on Technical Advisory Committee, The Chronic Diseases and Injuries Unit, updating the National Guidelines for the management of diabetes.
- Member, Special Technical Committee, Pan American Health Organization
- Member, Guideline Development Group, World Health Organization

**Dr. Lisa Lindo**

- Fulbright Alumni Association
- Chair: American Friends of Jamaica (AFJ) / Sue Cobb Lecture Series
- Member of Society for Scientific Advancement (SoSA)

**Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin**

- Member of the UWI Valedictorian Selection Committee
- Lector and Member of the Liturgical Committee of Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church
- Member of the Fund-raising Committee of Holy Cross Church
- Newly Appointed member to the Women in World Neuroscience (WWN)

**UWI SERVICE**

**Dr. Lauriann Young-Martin**

- Chaired the scientific session on “Laboratory Studies” at the 22nd Annual Research Conference of the FMS, November 6–8, 2013
- Appointed Independent Examiner for the PhD degree in Neurosciences awarded in April 2014 to Mr. Ashton Rogers (St. Augustine Campus). Thesis entitled: Diet, Inflammation and the Rat Substantia Nigra (St. Augustine Campus)
- Appointed Remarker for MDSC2002 (MD20B)-Neuroscience & Behaviour for the Cave Hill Campus, Barbados in 2013
- Appointed Remarker for MDSC2104 – Digestive System for the Cave Hill Campus, Barbados in March 2014
- Appointed Team Secretary to the CAAM Review & Accreditation Team that reviewed the Medical Programme at the American University of Antigua and its clinical sites in Florida, New York and Atlanta, February – April, 2014.
- Chaired the first Stress Management Workshop hosted in the Department of Basic Medical Sciences in April 2014.

**UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS REGISTRATION**

**BB Med Sciences**

Year 1 = 71

Year 2 = 66

Year 3 = 40

**MB BS and Dentistry**

Year 1 = 390

Year 2 = 308

Year 3 = 253

**Physical Therapy**

Year 1 = 70

Year 2 = 60

Year 3 = 63

**FST (Biochemistry)**

Year 1 = 171

Year 2 = 108

Year 3 = 43

**FIRST CLASS HONOURS – BB MED SCI.**

**Pharmacology – 9**

Shanett Dawson

Deborah Dietrich

Kristopher Knight

Darien-Andrew Marsh

Kimberley McKenzie

Shanoy Powell

Davion Reynolds

Camila Smiley

Abigail Thompson

## **POST GRADUATE STUDENTS REGISTRATION**

### **Taught Masters**

MSc Forensic Science – 23

MSc Applied Pharmacology – 7

### **Research**

MPhil – 32

PhD – 8

## **POSTGRADUATE DEGREES AWARDED**

- Mrs. Denise Daley-Beckford, PhD
- Ms. Kesi Brown, PhD
- Ms. Alexia Harvey, PhD with High Commendation
- Mrs. Audrey Jacob, PhD
- Ms. Marshalyn McKoy, PhD
- Dr. Jacqueline Campbell, PhD
- Ms. Anishka Lewis, MPhil
- Mr. Lancedale Brown, MPhil (Pending)

**POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS AWARD**

**Shadae Foster**

The University of the West Indies and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research in collaboration with the Research & Publications Fund and Graduate Awards Committee. The Scholars' Breakfast Award for Academic and Research Excellence, March 13, 2014

**Alexia Harvey**

The University of the West Indies and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research in collaboration with the Research & Publications Fund and Graduate Awards Committee. The Scholars' Breakfast Award for High Commendation, March 13, 2014.

**Sasha-Gay Wright**

Miss Wright spent a semester at the School of Pharmacy at the Roosevelt University, Chicago to conduct her research studies on anti-cancer principles isolated from some Jamaican crops, at the laboratory of Professor Adeyeye, collaborator to her chief supervisor, Prof. Asemota.

**Racquel Wright**

Miss Racquel Wright, a PhD student at the Biotechnology Centre has been selected as the recipient of the NIH Fogarty Global Health Fellowship for 2014/15 based on her research surrounding anti-oxidants in moringa and their potential use in the alleviation of oxidative stress in the sickle cell anemia. Miss Wright is supervised by Professor Asemota, in collaboration with Dr. Andrew Wheatley, Professor Marvin Reid (Sickle Cell Unit, TMRI), and Dr. Jacqui Hibbert of Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA. She will also be studying in the overseas laboratories (Duke University, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Morehouse School of Medicine) of the collaborators to her supervisors.

**VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT**

- Dr. Hugh McLean, Associate Dean – Research and Graduate Education, Nova Southeastern University, College of Pharmacy – November 5–7, 2013.
- Dr. Sophie Turfus, Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, Melbourne, Australia
- Professor Moji Adeyeye, Head, School of Pharmacy, Roosevelt University School of Pharmacy, Schaumburg, Illinois, USA.
- Professor Joseph Bryant, Head of the Biotechnology facilities, Institute of Virology, University of Maryland College of Medicine, Baltimore, USA.
- Dr. Linda Csiza, Texas Woman's University, Texas USA Dr. Patricia-Smith- Garry, University of East London, UK.