

## DEPARTMENT OF LITERATURES IN ENGLISH

David Williams, BA, MA *UWI* – Head of Department

### WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT



**T**he Department continued to expand its course offerings, in line with its commitment to increasing its involvement in Cultural Studies, Comparative Caribbean Literature, African/Diaspora Studies, and Film Studies. New undergraduate courses were staged this year in all of these areas. The list included:

Introduction to Film Studies (E10F)

Writing Africa from the Diaspora (E21M)

African Literature (E36A)

Reggae Poetry (E27F)

Latin American Cultural Studies (E29A)

Literature and Ideas in the Caribbean (AR22A)

The Department also deepened its investment in the teaching of Postcolonial Literature and Theory at the undergraduate level. New courses in Environmental Literature, Crime and Science Fiction, and Borderlands Cinema will be added in the coming year. A new course on Writing for Screen and Stage (E26F) was also taught (by Mr Trevor Rhone) during the 2005 summer session, while our courses in Creative Writing (Poetry and Prose Fiction) were this year taught by Mervyn Morris and Donna Hemans.

At the graduate level new courses in African Literature and Writing the Nation in Jamaican Poetry were made available to students in the MA and MPhil programmes. The department has also completed a proposal for a new MA in Caribbean Literary and Cultural Studies which will soon be offered for approval to the Board for Graduate Studies and Research. All of these new ventures are intended to broaden the range of choices available to our majors and to students from outside the Department, even

as we maintain our core strengths in Shakespearean and modern drama, West Indian, British and American literature, and literary theory.

Our teaching activities were enhanced by the efforts of Department members to provide a wide range of material for on-line access by students, and by our attempts to make use of the technology now available within a limited number of classrooms. The Department will also shortly produce a journal, edited by Dr Michael Bucknor, which will feature the best essays submitted across the range of our undergraduate courses. The on-going Friday afternoon Staff/ postgraduate seminars, organized by Dr Victor Chang, continued to provide a lively forum for discussion of ideas and issues.

Another forum of a different sort was represented by this year's career seminar for our final-year students, which featured presentations by Mr Wayne Brown, Ms Tanya Batson-Savage, and Dr Kim Robinson-Walcott, graduates of the Department who have all gone on to make viable careers as writers. The Department also continued to explore the possibility of linkages with other institutions, with Prof Carolyn Cooper visiting Malmö University, Sweden, in order to continue discussions on staff/student exchanges.

The Department staged readings by Donna Hemans, author of *River Woman*, and Dr Kim Robinson-Walcott, winner of the Commonwealth prize for best short story.

The Department participated in the launch of new creative work by Kamau Brathwaite, Eintou Springer, Thomas Glave, Ramabai Espinet and Andrew Kei Miller, and sponsored the launch of new academic publications by Dr Curdella Forbes and Dr Kim Robinson-Walcott. Various Department members also gave lectures to high school students. The Department also continued to be involved in designing and teaching courses for the BEd Secondary (Distance) programme which is offered at centres across Jamaica.

The Department's work has benefited from the acquisition of a fax machine, and from the attempts by some members of the teaching staff to increase our stock of DVDs and other material, particularly for the new courses in Film and Cultural studies.

The Departmental Consultative Committee continues to function effectively as an opportunity for students to engage lecturers in discussions about the delivery of our courses. The system of academic advising, in which students are assigned to specific lecturers, was not utilized as fully as we would wish, despite our invitations to students. We have also not progressed as quickly as we hoped with our Department website.

## **PAPERS PRESENTED**

### **Emeritus Professor Edward Baugh**

- “‘Maps Made in the Heart’: Caribbeans of Our Desire.” 25<sup>th</sup> Annual West Indian Literature Conference, UWI, St Augustine, March 2006.
- “The Caribbean Writer, the Caribbean, the World.” IX<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Society for Caribbean Research, University of Vienna, December 2005.

### **Professor Carolyn Cooper**

- “Welcome to Sunsplash: Reggae Tourism and the Politics of Identity in Jamaica,” Florida International University, July 2006.
- “Celebrating the Arts of Regional Integration in the Poetry of Louise Bennett and Derek Walcott.” The Inaugural Cherrie Orr Memorial Lecture, hosted by the Jamaica/St. Lucia Community, Castries, St. Lucia, June 2006.
- “Torrid Zones: Sexual Politics in Jamaican Dancehall Culture,” Annual Conference, British Forum for Ethnomusicology, Winchester University, March/April 2006.
- “African Diaspora Studies in the Creole-Anglophone Caribbean: A Perspective From the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica,” Symposium on “African Diaspora Studies and the Disciplines,” University of Wisconsin, Madison, March 2006.
- “From Beowulf to Bounty Killa: Or How I Ended Up Studying Slackness,” Annual Conference on West Indian Literature, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, March 2006.
- “‘What the Backside All You Want?’: Interrogating Rastafari in Derek Walcott’s *O Babylon!*,” Conference in honour of Professor Barry Chevannes, University of the West Indies, Mona, January 2006.

- “I Shot the Sheriff: Gun Talk in Jamaican Popular Music,” Annual Conference, American Anthropological Association, Washington, D.C., November 2005.
- “Sweet and Sour Sauce: Sexual Politics in Jamaican Dancehall Culture.” The Annual Cheddi Jagan Lecture, Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, York University, Toronto, October 2005.
- “‘Mi No Talk Like Foreigner’: Mother Tongue and Body Language in Jamaican Dancehall Culture,” 2005-2006 Presidential Lecture Series, Medgar Evers College, City University of New York, September 2005.

**Dr Curdella Forbes**

- “Re/Making the Nation, Making the Trans-nation: The Poetics of Body and Voice in the Work of George Lamming and Marlene Nourbese Philip.” 25<sup>th</sup> West Indian Literature Conference, University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad, March 2-4, 2006.
- “Some Thoughts on Caribbean Literature and Tourism, with reference to Earl Lovelace’s *The Dragon Can’t Dance* and Julia Alvarez’s *In the Time of the Butterflies*.” Colgate University, November 2005.

**Dr Mawuena Logan**

- “Modern African Literature: The Oral-written Interface.” Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, lecture organized by the African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica, February, 2006.
- “Eurocentrism or Globalization in Children’s Literature: the Harry Potter Phenomenon.” Second International Globalization Studies Network (GSN) Conference in Dakar, Senegal, August 2005.

**Dr Anthea Morrison**

- “Voyage to a ‘new’ Africa: Maryse Condé’s *La femme cannibale*.” 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on West Indian Literature, UWI, St. Augustine, Trinidad, March 2-4, 2006.

**Emeritus Professor Maureen Warner-Lewis**

- “Affirming the Subaltern: the Contribution of J. D. Elder”, International Society for Oral Literature in Africa, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad, July 20-23, 2006.
- “African Muslim Presence in the Caribbean”, St. Michael’s Theological College, Mona, 2006 Seminar Programme, April 1, 2006.
- “Literary Traditions on the Continent of Africa”, African Caribbean Institute of Jamaica/Jamaica Memory Bank, Emancipation Park, February 16, 2006.
- “Heritage Languages, Retentions and Obsolescence”, Cultural Studies Graduate Colloquium, UWI, St. Augustine, September 26, 2005.
- “The Oral Tradition in the African Diaspora”, Cultural Studies Distinguished Public Lecture, UWI, St. Augustine, September 22, 2005.
- “African Retentions in the Languages of Trinidad and Tobago”, Undergraduate Caribbean Dialectology Class, UWI, St. Augustine, September 21, 2005.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### ***Books and Monographs***

#### **Emeritus Professor Edward Baugh**

- \* Derek Walcott. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2006

#### **Professor Carolyn Cooper**

- \* Sound Clash: Jamaican Dancehall Culture At Large. N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004, 348 pp. Reprinted 2005.

#### **Prof John Lennard**

- \* The Poetry Handbook: A Guide to Reading Poetry for Pleasure and Practical Criticism 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, Oxford: OUP, with companion website, 2005; see:  
<http://www.oup.com/uk/booksites/content/0199265380/>.

#### **Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris**

- \* I been there, sort of: New & Selected Poems. Manchester: Carcanet Press. 2006, 92pp.

### **Refereed Book Chapters**

#### **Professor Carolyn Cooper**

- \* “Welcome to Jamrock?: Reggae Tourism and the Politics of Identity in Jamaica” Kenneth Hall and Rheima Holding, eds. Tourism: The Driver of Change in the Jamaican Economy? Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers, 2006, 358-374.

#### **Dr Norval Edwards**

- \* Introduction . Caribbean Culture: Soundings on Kamau Brathwaite The Press UWI, 2006

#### **Prof John Lennard**

- \* ‘Introduction’ to The Oxford Dictionary of Rhymes Oxford & New York: Oxford University Press, 2006, pp. ix-xxxii.

#### **Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris**

- \* “Miss Lou, Some Heirs and Successors,” Caribbean Literature in a Global Context ed. by Funso Aiyejina & Paula Morgan. San Juan, Trinidad & Tobago: Lexicon, 2006, pp. 304-316.

### **Refereed Journal Articles**

#### **Dr Michael Bucknor**

- \* **Bucknor, Michael A.** “Austin Clarke.” *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black Experience in the Americas.* 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Volume 2. Ed. Colin A. Palmer. Detroit: Macmillan Reference, 2006. 483-484.
- \* **(with Daniel Coleman).** “Introduction: Rooting and Routing Caribbean-Canadian Writing.” Special Issue on Caribbean/Canadian Writing. (Guest-edited with Daniel Coleman, John Corr and Elizabeth Jackson.) *Journal of West Indian Literature* 14. 1 & 2 (November 2005): i-xliii.

#### **Prof John Lennard**

- \* 'Without Title', The Liberal: Poetry, Politics, Culture (February/March 2006), p. 55. (Reviewing Geoffrey Hill, *Without Title*).

**Dr Mawuena Logan**

- \* "The Diasporic Griot: James Berry and His Fiction for the Young." *Children's Literature Association Quarterly* 30, 2 (2005): 179-93.

**Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris**

- \* "Transitions" and "Boarding School", poems, in *The Caribbean Writer*, Volume 19.

**Non-refereed**

**Emeritus Professor Edward Baugh**

- \* "Walcott's 'Here' and 'Elsewhere' and the Problematic of Identity," Caribbean Literature in a Global Context, ed. by Funso Aiyejina and Paula Morgan. San Juan: Lexicon Trinidad, 2006.

**Professor Carolyn Cooper**

- \* "'Vile Vocals': Exporting Jamaican Dancehall Lyrics to Barbados." Funso Aiyejina and Paula Morgan, eds. Caribbean Literature in a Global Context, San Juan: Lexicon Trinidad Ltd., 2006, 195-223.
- \* "'A Whole Ton-Load a Lie': Doing Ethical Research in the Creole/anglophone Caribbean," published electronically in the Proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Caribbean Ethics Conference, UWI, Mona, April 28-30, 2005.

**Peer Reviewed**

**Dr Mawuena Logan**

Entries in Encyclopedia of Children's Literature. New York and London: Oxford University Press, 2006

- \* "Africa, Sub-Saharan." (22-25).

- \* “Baden-Powell, Robert.” Vol. 1 (112-113).
- \* “Defoe, Daniel.” Vol. 1 (392-93).
- \* “Diop, Birago.” Vol. 1 (416)
- \* “Kingston, W.H.G.” Vol. 2 (367).
- \* “Meniru, Teresa.” Vol. 3 (66).
- \* “Nwankwo, Nkem.” Vol. 3 (184).
- \* “Salkey, Andrew.” Vol. 3 (389).
- \* “Saro-Wiwa, Ken.” Vol. 3(396).
- \* “Stowe, Harriet Beecher.” Vol. 4 (50-52).
- \* “Sutherland, Efua.” Vol. 4 (61).
- \* “Walker, David.” Vol. 4(156).

**Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris**

- \* “Calabash Crew”, review of six Calabash chapbooks, *Caribbean Review of Books*, August 2005.
- \* “Poetry in Jamaica”, *Poetry News*, Winter 2005/6.
- \* “Shard by Shard”, review of Kendel Hippolyte’s *Night Vision*, *Caribbean Review of Books*, May 2006.

**Dr Anthea Morrison**

- \* “Making Cassava Bammy from Scratch: An Interview with Olive Senior”, *Jamaica Journal*, vol. 29, nos. 1-2 (June-October 2005), 26-31.

**Dr Gregory Stephens**

- \* “‘Second Emancipation’: The Transfiguration of Garvey’s ‘Racial Empire’ in Rastafarian Thought,” *Africanism, Marcus Garvey, & W.E.B. DuBois*, ed. James Conyers (Edwin Mellen, 2006).

**Professor Emeritus Maureen Warner-Lewis**



- \* “The Nkuyu: Spirit Messengers of the Kumina”, Caribbean Women: an Anthology of Non-Fiction Writing, 1890-1980, Veronica Marie Gregg, ed., 415-46, Notre Dame, University of Notre Dame Press, 2005

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

### **Dr Michael Bucknor**

- Chief Examiner for CAPE Literatures in English for the Caribbean Examinations Council.
- Editor, *Postcolonial Text*.
- Editor, *Journal of West Indian Literature*.
- Member of the Editorial Board, *Pathways*.
- Chair, West Indian Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (WIACLAS).

### **Dr Victor L. Chang**

- Chair, West Indian Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies (WIACLAS).
- Editor, *Pathways*.
- Co-editor, *Journal of West Indian Literature (JWIL)*.

### **Professor Carolyn Cooper**

- Member, Board of Directors, the Calabash Literary Festival, 2001 - 2006.

### **Dr Norval Edwards**

- Associate Editor, *Small Axe: A Journal of Criticism*, 1996-
- Manuscript reader, The Press, UWI.

### **Dr Curdella Forbes**

- Assistant Chief Examiner, English B, Caribbean Examinations Council.
- Editor, *Postcolonial Text*
- Book Review Editor, *Journal of West Indian Literature*

- Editorial Advisor, *Anthurium*, online peer-reviewed journal of original Caribbean works and critical studies
- Associate Member, Smithsonian Institution
- Member, University of the West Indies Alumni Association, Washington DC Chapter

**Dr Mawuena Logan**

- External Exit-Examiner, Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, Jamaica, 2006

**Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris**

- Member of the judging panel, Creative Writing (Poetry), Jamaica Cultural Development Commission.
- Selector for a Bermuda Anthology of Poems.
- Chairman, Carreras Postgraduate Awards Committee.

**Dr Anthea Morrison**

- Reviewer, *Postcolonial Text*.

**Mr David Williams**

- Judge, JCDC Annual Literary Competition.
- Judge, National Book Development Council Literary Competition.

**CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS**

**Undergraduate**

**Number Registered**

Year I	554	(297 majors)
Year II	358	(255 majors)
Year III	560	(442 majors)

**TOTAL: 1,472 (994 majors)**

**First Class Honours:**

Terisa Bernal-Benjamin  
Tenesha Myrie  
Yanique Stewart

Eddie Whyte  
Shala Whyte

## **POSTGRADUATE**

### **Registration**

PhD	5
MPhil	12
MA	16

### **Award of Degrees**

MPhil	Donna Hayles
MA	Aisha Spencer