

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES



Dr. Paulette Stewart, PhD *NCU, Jamaica*
Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Teaching and Learning

New Programmes

In keeping with the mandate to constantly upgrade the offering of the Department to reflect the University's Strategic Plan and cater to the demands of the workplace, the Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS) developed three new programmes which were approved as self-financing programmes. These are:

- Bachelor of Arts in Librarianship
- Bachelor of Arts in Information Studies
- Master of Arts in Archives and Records Management

The Bachelor of Arts in Library and Information Studies was divided into two programmes: The Bachelor of Arts in Librarianship and the Bachelor of Arts in Information Studies. It was evident that the one degree (BA in LIS) was not catering to the needs of the information sector due to the strong emphasis on librarianship and not enough focus on information studies. The Bachelor of Arts in Librarianship, which is close to the original programme, trains librarians to work in schools, public and special libraries. The Bachelor of Arts in Information Studies is aimed at preparing workers for other information units including documentation centres, museums, and archives, and also for a wide range of information intensive jobs such as researchers, information officers, information managers, records managers, online searchers and web masters.

Multi-modal delivery of the BA in Librarianship

The Department is continuing to add the online delivery to its face-to-face programmes as part of its commitment to The UWI's 2017–2022 Strategic Plan which emphasises “access” as one of the Triple ‘A’ strategies which hinges on widening access to quality tertiary education. In addition to these, there is the global trend in Library and Information Science education for multi-modal delivery; and the increased global and national competition for our students. The DLIS therefore conducted a Feasibility Study throughout the Caribbean Region between December 2016 and January 2017 to support the proposal for the introduction of the multi-modal delivery of the BA in Librarianship programme (Self-Financing). The following table on page 87 shows the findings:

It should be noted that these figures do not include other persons who may be interested in the programme as the survey was conducted among library staff only across the Caribbean. The Department is therefore in the process of seeking approval to deliver the BA in Librarianship in the multi-modal format.

Table 1: BA in Librarianship programme (Self-Financing)

| Country | Start Date 2 017/18 | Start Date 2018/19 | Start Date 2019/20 | Not sure | Total |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------|-----------|
| Bahamas | 10 | 1 | – | – | 11 |
| Belize | 3 | 1 | – | – | 4 |
| Jamaica | 22 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 38 |
| St. Lucia | 2 | – | – | – | 2 |
| St. Maarten (Dutch side) | 1 | 1 | – | – | 2 |
| St. Vincent & the Grenadines | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 9 |
| Trinidad & Tobago | 18 | 4 | – | 2 | 24 |
| Turks & Caicos | 1 | – | – | – | 1 |
| Total | 60 | 22 | 2 | 7 | 91 |

Courses Developed

- LIBS3007 – Caribbean Libraries and Information Units
- LIBS6504 – Information Sources in the Humanities, Social Sciences and Science and Technology
- ARCM6002 – Acquisition Organization and Access to Archival Materials
- ARCM6006 – Memory and Recordkeeping in the Caribbean
- LIBS1401 – Introduction to Online Searching and Information Retrieval

Teaching Resources

Virtual Conference Room

The Department has retrofitted one classroom and the computer lab with video-conferencing codecs (Lifesize and Polycom). These will be used with ZOOM to host virtual interactive lectures and meeting with students.

Print and Electronic Books

Through a request made by the Department to the UWI Mona Library, a number of e-books has been purchased to support the Graduate online programmes. Printed resources were also purchased to be placed in the academic libraries in countries where students reside. E-resources were also purchased for undergraduate face-to-face students.

RENOVATION OF LIBRARY

In a continued effort to further modernize the Department, renovation activities carried out in the Dorothy Collings Learning Resource Centre have resulted in improvements to the infrastructure of the DLIS Library. The renovation includes relocation of the main Reading Room area in order to convert the space into an additional class room. The main entrance door of the Dorothy Collings Learning Resource Centre was also retrofitted with a lightly tinted glass door and windows which greatly enhance the aesthetics of the new library space, as well as to facilitate the installation of air conditioning units. The new library space now houses the Department's reserved books collection; children's literature collections; a circulation area; a computer station to access **UWIlinc** – The information portal for UWI information resources; **InMagic** – The Department's internal database that is used to access all its research papers; an area for postgraduate students to review thesis papers; and a general reading room area. Additional upgrades to the new library space will include retiling of the floors, as well as acquisition and placement of new furniture to further enhance and modernize the space.

INTERNATIONAL ACCREDITATION FOR PROGRAMMES

Since indicating its interest in international accreditation, the Department has approached and requested documentation from the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP). CILIP is a UK-based library and information professional association that has offered international accreditation to library and information studies programmes outside of the UK, including university programmes in the Middle East. From the documentation accessed and reviewed to determine if the Department could qualify for CILIP accreditation, DLIS realized that the main criteria for qualifying for CILIP accreditation is to provide courses that allow our students to have the same competencies as those outlined in CILIP's Professional Knowledge and Skills database. An initial review of the documentation for accreditation, focusing on the skills and competencies that the Department currently does not have and need to add, was completed in February 2017. The Department is to seek support and approval from the Dean, FHE and the UWI Principal before continuing the process.

GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH

Staff/Graduate Research Seminars

The following Staff/Graduate Research Seminars were held during the year.

Lisa-Gaye Vernon

- Halls of Residence Librarian Programme at a University in Jamaica: An Evaluative Case Study, March 30, 2017.

Ruth Baker-Gardner

- Ignorance or Intent? A Case Study of Plagiarism in Higher Education among LIS Students in the Caribbean, March 30, 2017.

Sammara Reynolds

- A Survey of Employers' Perceptions of the Employability Skills of Recent Graduates of a Library School in Jamaica, April 13, 2017.

Treveann Harris

- Contemporary Technologies in Academic Library Services: A Study of Students' Usage, Preferences and Their Implications, April 13, 2017.

DLIS Principal Research Initiative

The Principal Research Initiative Grant of \$1.5M which was used to conduct research on "*Media and Information Literacy Levels of the Exit Stages of the Education System in Jamaican Schools*" is completed and now being edited for delivery to the Principal's Office.

Research Forum

The Department hosted a Research Forum on February 2, 2017 under the theme "*Stimulating Scholarship: Connecting Research and Practice in the Library and Information Science Environment.*" Dr. Orville Taylor, Head of Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work in the Faculty of Social Sciences was the Guest Speaker. Eleven posters were presented on varying topics in Library and Information Science and Archives and Records Management. Presenters were faculty, graduates and practitioners in the information science environment. The Forum was co-ordinated by Dr. Rosemarie Heath, Lecturer in the Department.

UWI Research Days – February 1–3, 2017

The Department participated in Research Days with the following activities which were co-ordinated by the librarian, Mrs. Marisa McPherson:

- Poster presentation
- Booth set up in the Humanities Courtyard
- Information Jeopardy Game
- National Library of Jamaica and The UWI Mona Library Bindery Book Repair demonstration
- UWI Archives Display
- Giveaway of DLIS souvenirs

Daphne Douglas Distinguished Lecture

The 2nd Daphne Douglas Distinguished Lecture was held on Thursday, May 4, 2017 in honour of Professor Daphne Douglas and her work and contribution to Library and Information Science Education in the Caribbean and the development of the Department of Library and Information Studies. Mrs. Karen Barton, Director General of the Jamaica Library Service was invited to be the Guest Speaker. The theme of her presentation was, “Impacting Development: The Genesis of the Transformation of the Jamaica Library Service.”

Summer Institute 2017

The Department held its annual Summer Institute from June 21–22, 2017 with a workshop on “Tech Talks for Information Environments,” co-ordinated by Mr. Mark-Shane Scale, Lecturer in the Department. The Institute was planned as an income-generating event for the Department and featured presentations on technology topics relevant to archives, libraries, museums and records management centres. The Institute, which was offered via online and face-to-face mode included local and international presenters. Local presenters included faculty from DLIS as well as personnel from various institutions and ministries. Among the international presenters were Leah Rosenberg, Associate Professor at the University of Florida; and Laurie Taylor, Digital scholarship Librarian, University of Florida and the Digital Library of the Caribbean. Twenty-four persons attended the Institute.

OUTREACH AND PROMOTION

Faculty Outreach Day – November 10, 2016

- The activities conducted by the Department of Library and Information Studies for Faculty Outreach day 2016 were meant to promote and highlight the programmes of the department with a view to encouraging students to consider pursuing a degree in Librarianship or Information Studies. The following activities were carried out:

- Showcasing of research that have been done in the Department by faculty and students.
- Display of two posters - one highlighted the skills that students will acquire by doing a degree in the Department and possible places of employment while the other provided information on the history of the department.
- Engaging students in a group discussion about the Department's programmes and courses and places of employment after completion of their programme of study
- Presentation by Dr. Paulette Stewart in the Neville Hall Lecture Theatre of an overview of the programmes offered by the Department. A part of this activity, third-year student Precillia Rivas-Thomas shared her experiences of being in the Department and encouraged students to consider pursuing a degree in the Department.

STAFF MATTERS

Academic Staff

Principal Research Awards for Excellence

Dr. Paulette Stewart was a recipient of the Principal's Research Awards for Best Research Article in the Faculty of Humanities and Education. The research is titled, "*Synchronous and asynchronous tools optimizing teacher immediacy in online learning in the English-speaking Caribbean.*"

Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)

Professional awards

Dr. Ruth Baker-Gardner received two awards:

- Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) Professional Award for Excellence for 2016
- Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) Award for Excellence for Community Service 2016

Resignation of Departmental Librarian

The post of Departmental Librarian was recently advertised, due to the resignation of Mrs. Marisa McPherson who was granted a scholarship to the Victoria University of Wellington in New Zealand to pursue her PhD.

UWI/CB 5K Run/Walk

Faculty and students from the Department participated in the 5th Annual CB Group UWI 5K and Smart Eggs Kids Walk/Run Events which took place on Sunday, November 13, 2016.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Feasibility Study

The Department completed its tasks assigned by UNESCO for the feasibility study to determine whether or not a Media and Information Literacy Institute is needed across the globe. UNESCO will complete the final research report which will reflect the findings and analyses of the responses from across the globe.

VISITORS TO THE DEPARTMENT

Mr. Alton Grizzle

The Department was visited by Mr. Alton Grizzle, UNESCO Programme Specialist – Media Development and Society Section, Freedom of Expression and Media Development Division, in Paris, France. Mr. Grizzle carried out his Research Stay during the period December 19, 2016 to January 15, 2017. He participated in a number of educational activities that were related to his course of study and dissertation that he is presently undertaking at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain. He presented an overview of his dissertation to the staff in the Department of Library and Information Studies, examined the research

papers on media and information literacy, met with Professor Hopeton Dunn, Director of Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication (CARIMAC), collected additional data for his dissertation and conducted a seminar titled, “Information Literacy: Transforming and Reforming Education.”

On May 15, 2017, the Department was visited by personnel from EBSCO. Discussions were on the inclusion of EBSCO personnel in future workshops to be hosted by the Department. Team members were Mr. Alfredo Rivera Ibarra, International Sales Director; Mr. Jesus Elizondo, Library Services Engineer and Mr. Damien Satterthwaite, Regional Sales Manager – Caribbean EBSCO Information Services.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Baker-Gardner, Ruth.** “*The Place of Plagiarism Education in the Secondary Curriculum.*” Institute for Educational Administration and Leadership – Jamaica National Conference. Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica March 2 3, 2017.
- **Baker-Gardner, Ruth and Heath, Rosemarie.** “*Copyright Legislation in the Caribbean and Latin America.*” International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) Conference. Columbus, Ohio. August 13–19, 2016.
- **Heath, Rosemarie.** “*Toward TVET Certification: The Experiences of Spa Therapy Trainees.*” Research paper presented at the 3rd International Conference on TVET in the Caribbean, at the Hilton Rose Hall Hotel and Spa, Montego Bay, Jamaica. May 10–2, 2017.
- **Scale, Mark-Shane.** “*Internet access to home-schooling information in Barbados: A qualitative case study of obtainable sources.*” National Educational Leadership and Management Conference. Knutsford Court Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica. March 2–3, 2017.
- **Stewart, Paulette.** “*School Library Design, Facilities and Resources for Sustainable Cognitive and Social Development of Students: An Evaluative Case Study.*” International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) Conference. Tokyo, Japan. August 16–22, 2016.

- **Stewart, Paulette.** *“Opportunities and Challenges for Intercultural Dialogue in Changing Multi-media Landscape: MIL as a Tool for Bridging the Divide (making a bridge) between Learning and Living in Formal, Informal and Non-formal Education.”* UNESCO Media and Information Literacy Conference, Sao Paulo University, Brazil. November 2–5, 2016.
- **Stewart, Paulette.** *“An Analysis of the Jamaican Grades 1-6 Curriculum for the development of a Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue Cross-Curriculum.”* Institute for Educational Administration and Leadership – Jamaica National Conference Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica. March 2–3, 2017.
- **Wu, Yan.** *“Automatic Taxonomy Induction for Image Collections.”* International Conference on Signal and Image Processing (ICSIP 2016). Beijing, China. August 13–15, 2016.
- **Wu, Yan.** *“Comparing Visual Interpretation of Web Interfaces by Viewers from Different Cultural Locations: A Case Study.”* Conference of the XVI World Congress of Comparative Education Societies on Dialectics of Education: Comparative Perspectives. August 22–26, 2016, Beijing, China.

Posters

- **Scale, Mark-Shane.** *“Exploring enterprise and entrepreneurship in Jamaica’s information industry: An examination of six case studies.”* Mona School of Business and Management’s Business and Management Conference in Kingston, Jamaica under the theme: Connecting the Dots: Enterprise, Entrepreneurship & Sustainable Development on November 10, 2016.

PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapter

- **Baker-Gardner, Ruth and Cherry-Ann Smart.** “Ignorance or Intent? A Case Study of Plagiarism in Higher Education among LIS Students

in the Caribbean” in Donna Vellaris (ed.) *Handbook of Research on Academic Misconduct in Higher Education*. 182–205. Hershey: PA. Information Science Reference. 2017. Print.

- **Baker-Gardner, Ruth.** “Teacher Induction in the Caribbean.” In Teresa Petty, Amy Good, and Michael Putman (Eds.) *Handbook of Research on Professional Development for Quality Teaching and Learning*. 517–545. Hershey: PA. Information Science Reference, 2016. Print.
- **Heath, Rosemarie,** Ruth Baker-Gardner, Russell, Jollette, Tricia Lawrence and Winsome Hudson. “*BIBLIOTECAS LAC: el impacto de la legislación de derechos de autor en la America Latina y Caribe.*” E-Book.

Newsletter

- **Scale, Mark-Shane.** “The Partner-Consultant: Partnering with Clients in Consulting.” *AIIP Connections* Volume 30 No. 3 (September 2016): 8-9 Web. <<http://www.aiip.org/resources/Documents/Connections/2016ConnectionsV30N3.pdf>>

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. Paulette Stewart

- Member, Government of Jamaica Records and Information Management Sub-Committee for Capacitation of Key stakeholders
- Member, National School Library Policy Development Committee
- National Judge, Jamaica Library Service National Reading Competition
- Committee Member, National Committee of the Appointment of Master Teachers, Ministry of Education
- Director, International Association of School Librarianship, Latin America and the Caribbean
- Member, International and Local Organizing Committee for the UNESCO Global MILID Week Conference to be held in Kingston, Jamaica October 24–27, 2017

- Co-Chair, Planning Committee, UNESCO GAPMIL MILID Conference 2017

Dr. Rosemarie Heath

- Chair, Awards Sub-committee, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)

Dr. Ruth Baker-Gardner

- Member, National Public Library Advocacy Committee
- Member, National School Library Policy Development Committee
- Executive Committee Member, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)
- Reviewer of the New Jamaican National Standards Based Curriculum for the Inclusion of the School Library on behalf of the Library and Information Association of Jamaica. May 2017

Mr. Mark-Shane Scale

- Assistant Editor and reviewer for *Africology: The Journal of Pan African Studies* (www.jpanafrican.org) special edition on Internet access and usage focused on people of African heritage around the world.

Dr. Yan Wu

- Member, Advisory Committee, The Jamaica Libraries and Information Network (JAMLIN) 2017
- Member, Technical Programme Committee, 4th Annual International Conference on Information Technology and Applications [ITA 2017], Guangzhou, Guangdong, China. May 26–28, 2017

STUDENT MATTERS

Meeting with Undergraduate Course Representatives

Two meetings were held with student representatives during this academic year. These were regular meetings called to gather feedback from students

regarding each course. Representation for the graduate courses was limited considering that many of these students are online and could not join the meeting at the specified times. Students were generally satisfied with the courses and styles of delivery, but suggested the moving of some courses from one semester to another based on the content of the courses and the relationship of these courses to others in the programme. They made suggestions as to how the departmental process for academic advising and orientation could be improved. These included: creating an orientation video that students can watch at their own leisure to get important information, and including a Frequently Asked Questions section on the department's website and Facebook page.

Student Enrolment 2016/2017

Undergraduates

| Full-Time | Part-Time | Total |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|
| 20 | 39 | 59 |

Postgraduates

| Face-To-Face | Online | Specially Admitted | Total |
|---------------------|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| 27 | 16 | 5 | 48 |

Practicum/Internship

A total of twenty-four (24) students were placed at various libraries in Jamaica, the USA, Suriname and Trinidad. There were twelve (12) undergraduates and twelve (12) postgraduates.

Faculty/Departmental Awards

New Prize for Records Management

This new prize was awarded to the student with the highest grade in ARCM6004 – Records Management in a Digital Age and was sponsored and presented by Ms. Sonia Black, Course Lecturer. The following prizes were awarded:

Department of Library and Information Studies

- Year I – DLIS Alumni Prize for Best Grade – Akeelya Williams
- Year II – Commonwealth Library Association (COMLA) Prize for Best Grade – Nadina Shorter
- Dorothy Collings Prize for Best Grade (Postgraduate – Graduating) – Kishana Munroe
- Dorothy Collings Prize for Best Grade (Year III – Graduating) – Alexa Lodge
- Gloria Baker Award for Best Grade in LIBS3006: Caribbean Schools & Public Libraries – Nicoleen Saunders-Grant
- Daphne Douglas Prize for Outstanding Professional Development – Michael Humphrey
- Hazel Bennett Prize for Best Grade in a Level I Management in Information Systems course – Russhaine Powell
- Fay Durrant Award for Best Grade in LIBS3901 – Access to Information in the Caribbean – Michael Humphrey
- Records Management Prize for Best Grade in ARCM6004 – Records Management in a Digital Age – Tamara Marshall
- Stephney Ferguson Award for Best Grade in LIBS6901 – Trends & Issues in Library and Information Work – Kevin Samuda

UWI LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDENT SOCIETY (UWILISS)

The UWILISS functioned for only one semester because there was no staff member who was readily available to provide the support needed by students. During the first semester students met every Thursday from 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. The first few meetings were spent electing new officers, re-organizing the Society and seeking support from all the students. Thereafter, the meetings were mostly used to discuss the activities for the year, chief of which was to adopt a school in the community and to make a donation of books to the library. The school was selected and the books were provided by the President of the Society, Akeelya Williams. The donation will be made in the upcoming academic year.