

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND PHILOSOPHY

Kathryn Shields Brodber, BA, PhD, Dip.Ed. *UWI*
– Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Initiatives in Keeping with the UWI Strategic Plan

All sections of the department have been involved in the review and upgrading of their curricula, in keeping with one of the aims of the current University strategic plan to prepare “a distinctive graduate for the 21st century”.

Writing & Speaking Across the Curriculum, Language

Dr. Ingrid McLaren, Mrs. Alison Altidor-Brooks and Ms Rufina Taylor of the Language section continued the implementation of Writing across the Curriculum (WAC) & Speaking across the Curriculum (SAC) initiatives, which started in September 2007. Apart from the training and developmental opportunities in the area given to staff, the WAC initiative aims at enhancing students’ critical thinking and communication skills, and assisting them to develop discourse and organisational abilities appropriate to their disciplines, through a process of writing infusion in selected courses across the curriculum. In the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, (Life Sciences & Chemistry) writing has been integrated in some courses; in the Faculty of Social Sciences, (Economics, SALISES, Government, and Psychology, Sociology & Social Work) a special Committee for Enhancing Student Learning has been set up, with WAC courses being integrated into each level of the degree programme. The SAC initiative involved a pilot in Speech Communication & Presentation Skills to 5 streams of student volunteers, who attended an hour per week face-to-face class in speech, and did their regular 2-hour seminar in writing on line.



The level 3 English Language courses: The Art of Public Speaking & Business English: Principles & Practice are oversubscribed, with their offer being limited by the resources available.

Cross Campus Collaboration, Linguistics

Cross-campus Linguistics meetings, once per year, have been continued. Following the 2007 meeting at St. Augustine, and the 2008 meeting at Cave Hill, the 2009 meeting was held at Mona, April 28-29. Collaboration has been achieved on field trips; post-graduate supervision, a first year Linguistics text book (in progress), video conferencing and classes for Sign Language courses, participation in the Society for Caribbean Linguistics and other international conferences. The first Caribbean Language & Linguistics Institute (CLLI) was held at Mona in summer 2008, with participation for staff and students of the three campuses, as well as from international universities.

Postgraduate taught courses in Linguistics at Mona are currently of one-year duration, but are being repackaged as semester courses, in keeping with the practice on the other campuses. Where possible, courses from those campuses will also be adapted and offered at Mona, to enhance the offerings available and reinforce cross-campus integration.

New Developments, Philosophy

The Philosophy Section mounted two new undergraduate courses in 2008-9: Philosophy of Sex & Love, (level 3) and *History of Ancient Philosophy* (level 1). New Majors and Minors in Ethics are also being conceived, including Philosophy with Business Ethics / Environmental Ethics / Sports Ethics / Medical Ethics / Bioethics / Law Enforcement Ethics. Regular revisions of existing courses are also being undertaken.

The section has recommended to the Principal the establishment of a UNESCO Chair in Ethics in the department, and continued its advocacy for implementation of its 5 year old proposal for the setting up of a UWI Centre / Institute for Ethics, to be housed in the department.

Student Mentorship and Development: The Better Experience for Students (BEST) Committee

Dr. Michèle Stewart carried forward the department policy, introduced in 2007, to enhance the quality of the academic experience of our

student clients, through the activities of this committee. Seminars on taking examinations and mentorship activities were organised throughout the year.

Customer Service Delivery

The department continued to use funds earned in summer school to support a post-graduate Philosophy student, Ms Avaloi Forbes, assisted by Linguistics and Philosophy undergraduate student workers, in the development and provision of improved customer service delivery and a client-friendly experience in the department. Ms Forbes developed the department handbook and an intra department on-line communication facility which contributed to the raising of student assessments of this area from 3.0-3 at the beginning of the period, to a variable 3.8-4.0 per quarter, since.

Staffing: Philosophy

Two visiting Professors, Dr. Rex Welshon, on a Fulbright fellowship from the University of Colorado, and Dr. Olufemi Taiwo, on sabbatical, supplemented the staffing arrangements for 2008-9, and facilitated the delivery of post-graduate courses and supervision in Philosophy. Both Professors also gave public lectures which were well received.

Dr. Adejare Oladosu, a visiting Senior Lecturer in Philosophy from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria who had joined the department temporarily for the calendar year 2008, was also offered a permanent appointment as Senior Lecturer, beginning 2009-2010. There were also two Assistant Lecturer appointees to the section: Ms. Sandra McCalla, the first UWI (Mona) MA Philosophy (with Distinction) whose 2007 appointment was renewed, and Mr. Simeon Mohansingh, who returned at the end of 2007-2008 after completing the European MA Bioethics with Distinction, from a European Commission Scholarship, tenured at three Universities: Leuven in Belgium, Radboud in Holland and Padova in Italy.

Self-financing Unit: The Jamaica Language Unit

This unit, under the direction of Professor Hubert Devonish, has developed a number of funded research projects, including: UNESCO Caribbean Indigenous and Endangered Languages (CIEL) Project (US\$12,600); Caribbean Child Support Initiative (US\$7,500 – Van

Leer Foundation); Jamaican Country Sign Research Project (Euro 2,450 - International Centre for Sign Languages and Deaf Studies, University of Central Lancashire); Guide to the Jamaican Language (J\$1,750,000 – Carreras Group).

It has also provided consultancy and research services to the International Corpus of English (in collaboration with the University of Freiburg, Germany); the Diploma in Public Service Interpreting (DPSI) programme (in collaboration with the Institute of Linguists UK) and the Caribbean Sexuality Research Group. Collaboration with the Bible Society of the West Indies and the Jamaican Language Company has led to the broadcasting, on Youtube, of news commentaries and interviews, as well as Bible translations, all in Jamaican Creole.

Collaborative Departmental Publications

We are happy to report the collaborative efforts of members of the department, which have resulted in a number of publications with their joint input. These, listed below, include research articles in two volumes of the Caribbean Journal of Education edited by department members, as well as a rhetorical reader.

Awards

Several members of staff gained awards during the 2008-2009 academic year:

Promotion to the Status of Professor of Linguistics (awarded May 2009): Dr. Silvia Kouwenberg, Coordinator Linguistics.

The Research Day Award: Most Outstanding Researcher in the Faculty, 2007-8: (awarded January 2009): Dr. Tunde Bewaji, Senior Lecturer and Coordinator, Philosophy.

Guardian Life Awards for Excellence in Teaching: Mrs. Ama Ababio, Miss Deidrea Dwyer, Dr. Carmeneta Jones, Mrs. Lileth O'Connor-Brown, Ms Schontal Moore, (Language) and Colonel Dr. Rocky Meade (Linguistics).

MEd in Educational Studies (Caribbean Programme), The University of Sheffield: Mrs. Ama Ababio - awarded October 2008.

PhD in Literacy Education with high commendation, The University of the West Indies, Mona: Ms. Carmeneta Jones - awarded June 2009.

Mona Research Fellowship: Dr. Ingrid McLaren, Coordinator Language Section.

Mona Initiative Grants: Dr. John Ayotunde Bewaji, Professor Hubert Devonish and Dr. MichPle Stewart.

Overall Teaching Achievements:

Assessment	Semester I	Semester II
Lecturers' Mean Score	4.2	4.2
Courses' Mean Score	3.7	3.8

PAPERS PRESENTED

- **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Requiem to Western Education in Africana Societies”, CBAAC International Colloquium on Teaching and Propagating African History and Culture to Diaspora and Teaching Diaspora History and Culture to Africa, State University of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, November 10-14, 2008.
- **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Wiredu in Global Africana philosophical context – an exploration”, Conference on Reason, Culture and Humanism – the Philosophy of Kwasi Wiredu, University of Louisville, Kentucky, USA. October 31 – November 1, 2008.
- **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Teaching Philosophy in English Speaking Caribbean” UNESCO Meeting on the Teaching of Philosophy in Latin America and the Caribbean. San Domingo, Republic of Dominica, June 8-9, 2009.
- **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Federalism, African Peoples, and Civil Society – Discourse on Leadership Politics” Symposium on the United States of Africa at the Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal. July 27-30, 2009.
- **Carpenter, Karen.** “The victim as a survivor: The role of counselling”. Symposium on the Holistic Management of

Survivors of Sexual Assault. Terra Nova Hotel, Jamaica. July 10, 2009.

- **Carpenter, Karen.** “The Medical Doctor and Clinical Sexologist working together for optimal patient care”, 15th Annual International Diabetes Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, Ocho Rios, Jamaica, March 26-29, 2009.
- **Carpenter, Karen and Hubert Devonish.** “Ou wi laan fi taak a wi yaad: Jamaican parent-child interaction in home language development”. Caribbean Child Studies Initiative Learning Event. St Kitts, (2008).
- **Carpenter, Karen.** “Gendered Perspectives, Lived Experiences: Questioning the Binary in Human Sexuality”; 7th Association for Cultural Studies; International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, UWI, Mona, (2008).
- **Cumberbatch, Keren.** “Auditory Disabilities: Presenting Challenges and Coping Strategies”. Office of Special Student Services and Development; The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus; March 13, 2009.
- **Cumberbatch, Keren.** “Collecting Language used by Jamaican Deaf.” Sign Language Corpora Network Workshop on Data Collection; University College London; July 26, 2009.
- **Hubert Devonish and Karen Carpenter.** “Uu se dat: Child Language Stereotyping in Jamaica.” Seventh Association for Cultural Studies; International Crossroads in Cultural Studies Conference, The UWI, Mona, (2008).
- Caryl James, **Karen Carpenter,** Steve Weaver. “Opposing Worldviews: Factors that Lead Psychiatric Patients to Choose Between Western Biomedicine and Traditional Medicine in Treating their Mental Illnesses”. UWI, Mona, (2008).
- **Devonish, H.** “Endangered Languages and Endangered Identities: The Maroons of Jamaica”, 2nd Annual Anthropology Day, Faculty of Social Sciences. UWI, Kingston, March 2009.
- Thomas, E.A.C., and **H. Devonish.** “Mathematical and Empirical Studies of English/Creole Language Variation”. 16th

CAS Biennial Conference on Science and Technology;
October 11-13, 2008.

- **Kouwenberg, Silvia.** Seminar series: “Fieldwork methodology, with special reference to the methodology and pitfalls of elicitation”; “Dancehall Lyrics: A Window on Language in Jamaica”, and “African Languages in Early English Jamaica: The Akan-dominance myth”; University of Puerto Rico (Rio Piedras campus), October 2-4, 2008.
- **Kouwenberg, Silvia.** “The typological status of Berbice Dutch and the problem of word order in Atlantic creole languages”, International Colloquium on Typology of Creole Languages. University of Toronto, August 20-22, 2008.
- **Kouwenberg, Silvia & Darlene LaCharité:** “The typology of Caribbean Creole reduplication”, International Colloquium on Typology of Creole Languages. University of Toronto, August 20-22, 2008.
- **McLaren, I., Dyche, C., Altidor-Brooks, A., Taylor, R., & Devonish, H.** “Bottom-up activism and WAC implementation: Navigating the terrain of institutional inertia”. Fifth EATAW [European Association of Teachers of Academic Writing] Conference 2009: Coventry University, United Kingdom, June 30 – July 2, 2009.
- **Milson-Whyte, Vivette:** “Questioning Code Meshing: (Re-) Articulating Transcultural Rhetorics.” 60th Annual Conference on College Composition and Communication Convention, San Francisco, California, March 2009.
- **Mohansingh, Simeon A.** “Palliative Sedation: Is it killing the helpless or assisting the vulnerable?” The Caribbean Studies Association Conference, Hilton Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica, June 2, 2009.
- **Scott, Nicole.** “Predicator Complementation: A Comparative Analysis of English and Trinidad French-Lexicon Creole”, Linguistics Society of America (LSA) and Society for Pidgin and Creole Linguistics (SPCL) Conference (Winter) in San Francisco Hilton January 9-10, 2009.

- **Scott, Nicole.** “Trinidad French Lexicon Creole: A Grammar of Definiteness”, Postgraduate Research Day, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy, UWI, Mona Campus, May 2009.
- **Shields Brodber, Kathryn.** “Why Bother with a Patois Bible?” Rotary Club of North St. Catherine, at Hayfield Clubhouse, Windalco, Ewarton, Jamaica, August 2008.
- Péters, Hugues/ **Stewart, Michéle M.** “The Syntax of Determination in a Corpus of oral productions of Jamaican learners of French” 7th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities Beijing, China. June 2-5 2009.
- **Taiwo, Olufemi.** “Africa and Her Challenge to Philosophy.” Postgraduate Research Day Programme, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy, UWI, Mona Campus, May 15, 2009.
- **Walters, Kadian.** “I had to convince her to assist me”: A Thematic Analysis of the Reactions of Two Bilingual Callers to Public Service Representatives. 54th Annual International Linguistics Association Conference, St. John’s University, New York; April 3-4, 2009.
- **Robert Welshon.** “The Spark of Awareness: Evolutionary Neuroscience and the Emergence of Complex Forms of Consciousness.” Postgraduate Research Day Programme, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy, UWI, Mona Campus, April 28, 2009.

PUBLICATIONS

Books & Monographs

- * **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Philosophy, Cultures and Errors of Ontogenesis – Challenges, Opportunities and Dangers” in Roxanne Burton, Ed Brandon and F. O. Odhiambo, eds. Conversations in Philosophy – Crossing the Boundaries. Cambridge: Cambridge Scholars Publishing. Pp. 198-212. September 2008.

- * **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “African Aesthetics” (A – 29) in A Companion to Aesthetics. Eds. Stephen Davies, et al. New York: Wiley-Blackwell Publishing. May 2009 Pp. 139- 142.
- * **Bewaji, J. A. I.** “Education and Society – Requiem for Western Education in Africana Societies to transcend Plantocracy, Coloniality and Neo-Coloniality”, in Tunde Babawale ed. Teaching and Propagating African History and Culture to the Diaspora and Teaching Diaspora History and Culture to Africa. January 2009. Electronic Publication: [http://www.cbaac77.com/brazil/brazil_lectures-bewaji.htm\(25p.\)](http://www.cbaac77.com/brazil/brazil_lectures-bewaji.htm(25p.)).
- * **Harry, Otelemate Gaibo.** Editor, Special Issue: Language Use and The Jamaican Educational System. Vol. 29; 2, *Caribbean Journal of Education*, September 2007 Issue Published in 2008. pp219.
- * **Kouwenberg, Silvia & John Victor Singler (eds.)** Handbook of Pidgin and Creole Studies. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell. 2008.

Chapters in Peer-Refereed Books

- * **Carpenter, Karen and Hubert Devonish.** “Race, Language and Self Concept in Caribbean Childhoods” in Perspectives on Caribbean Psychology. Department of Psychiatry, UHWI, Mona, 2008.

Refereed Journal Articles

- * **McLaren, I., Dyche, C., Altidor-Brooks, A., Taylor, R., and Devonish, H.,** “Reversing Power Relations and Curricula Reform: English Language Education Activism in the Academy: *The UWI Quality Education Forum: OBUS*, No.15, UWI, Mona, January 2009, pp.61-82.
- * Thomas, E. A.C., and **Hubert Devonish.** “Mathematical and Empirical Studies of English/Creole Language Variation”. *e-Journal of the Caribbean Academy of Sciences*, Vol. 3, No 2 (2009).
- * **Devonish, Hubert,** and Rufina Taylor. “Taking Action on Talk: A Subversive Approach to Implementing a Speaking Across the Curriculum Strategic Objective”. *Caribbean*

Journal of Education Vol 30, No 2, School of Education, UWI Mona, (September 2008), 379 – 398.

- * Boyd, F., Tennant P., Persad, G., Robinson, D. & **McLaren, I.** “Student Perceptions and Outcomes of a WAC Intervention Exercise in an Introductory Biology Course”. *Caribbean Journal of Education*. 30, 2 (2008) 217-247.
- * **Milson-Whyte, Vivette**, “How Changed Attitudes to Academic Writing and its Instruction may enhance Writing Across the Curriculum.” Spec. Issue of *Caribbean Journal of Education* 30.2 (2008): 399-423.

Other Peer-Reviewed Publications

- * **Devonish, Hubert**, “Language Planning in Pidgins and Creoles” in Handbook of Pidgin and Creole Studies ed. by Silvia Kouwenberg, Silvia and / John Victor Singler: Blackwell Handbooks in Linguistics, November 2008, Chapter 25.
- * **Kouwenberg, Silvia**. “The problem of multiple substrates: the case of Jamaican Creole.” In: Susanne Michaelis (ed.) Roots of Creole Structures: Weighing the Contribution of Substrates and Superstrates. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2008, 1-27.
- * **Kouwenberg, Silvia**. The demographic context of creolization in early English Jamaica, 1655-1700. In: Rachel Selbach, Hugo Cardoso and Margot van den Berg (eds.) Gradual Creolization. Studies celebrating Jacques Arends. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 2009, 327-348

Non-refereed Publications

- * **Kouwenberg, Silvia** & John Victor Singler. Introduction In: Handbook of Pidgin and Creole Studies. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2008, 1-16.
- * **Kouwenberg, Silvia**. Finding the Source: Creole Substrate Research in the 21st Century. *Proceedings of the 34th meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society, Special Session*. Berkeley, CA: BLS, University of California at Berkeley. 2009.

- * **McLaren, I.**, Dyche, C., Altidor Brooks, A., Taylor, R., & Devonish, H., “Reversing Power Relations and Curricular Reform: English Language Education Activism in the Academy”. *The UWI Quality Education Forum*, 15 (2009) pgs 61-82.
- * **Stewart, MichPle M.** Review of Claire LeFebvre, Lydia White and Christine Jourdan (eds) *L2 Acquisition and Creole Genesis*. *Dialogues in Studies in Language* Vol. 33: 1, January 2009. Pgs 223-232.

Report on Summer Programme 2008 - 2009

The Department Summer programme 2008-2009 had a total of 15 courses from all three disciplines – 8 Linguistics, 4 Philosophy and 3 Foundation courses. From the Linguistics section, three (3) of the courses (L21A, L23A and L24B) were taught in collaboration with the Bachelor of Education (BEd) Distance programme. The Department’s regular students registered for and did these courses alongside the BEd Distance students.

Three Foundation courses were offered. FOUN1001 (FD10A) was offered both online and face to face, FOUN1002 (UC10B) online only, and FOUN1401 (FD14A) face-to-face only.

All Units	Number of Students	Income	Expenditure	Profit
Grand Total	470	\$8,731,482.00	\$8,309,001.55	\$422,480.45

PUBLIC SERVICE

Dr. J. A. I. Bewaji

- External Examiner, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana.
- Board Member, Caribbean Philosophical Association, USA.
- Editorial Board Member, Caribbean Philosophical Association, USA.
- Staff Advisor, UWI Mona Undergraduate Debating Society

- Chairman, Board of Studies, Jamaican Institute of Management
- Member UNESCO Jamaica National Bioethics Committee.

Dr. Karen Carpenter

- Active Member of the Jamaican Psychology Society

Mrs. Keren Cumberbatch

- Advisor, Jamaica Association for the Deaf Board Subcommittee on Education.

Dr. Silvia Kouwenberg

- Board member of the Irish Town-Redlight-Middleton Citizens' Association.

Miss Sandra McCalla

- Member of UWI BESt Committee

Dr. Ingrid McLaren

- Member of Review Committee, Journal of Mixed Methods Research (JMMR), University of Nebraska, Lincoln, USA

Miss Schontal Moore

- Assistant Chief for CAPE Literatures in English, Caribbean Examinations Council.
- Judge for annual Secondary and Tertiary Level Essay Competition, Michael Manley Foundation Ltd.
- College Board AP Reader for English Language

Dr. Kathryn Shields Brodber

- Convenor, CAPE Communications Studies, Caribbean Examinations Council
- Chairman, Board of Governors, The Queen's Preparatory School (to February 2009).
- Member, Society for Caribbean Linguistics.
- Vice President, Rotary Club of North St. Catherine

Dr. MichPle Stewart

- Member of the Board, The Roman Catholic Archdiocesan Education Board

- Member of the Board of Governors, The Catholic College of Mandeville
- Member, Technical Working Group, National Education Inspectorate
- Member of the Selection Committee for Scholarship Awards for study at tertiary institutions, Percy and Alice Chang Education Foundation.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate:

Number of students in Undergraduate degree programmes by level:

Option/Major	Completing First Year	Final Year	Year I	Year II	Year III	Grand Total
Language & Linguistics	0	1	11	7	2	21
Language Comm. & Society	9	79	53	60	25	226
Linguistics	3	14	18	13	6	54
Linguistics & Language Edu.	0	3	2	3	2	10
Philosophy	7	16	30	17	11	81
Total	19	113	114	100	46	392

Number of graduands by Class of Degree (as at 1st September 2009):

Option/Major	First Class	Upper Second	Lower Second	Pass	Grand Total
Language & Linguistics	0	0	1	0	1
Language, Comm. & Society	0	9	29	23	61
Linguistics	2	2	3	2	9
Linguistic & Language Education	0	0	0	0	0
Philosophy	0	2	9	0	11
Total	2	13	42	25	82

First-Class Honours Awardees:

Linguistics: Victoria Cassandra Cole

Linguistics: Gavin Heoun Samms

Prizes Awarded:

Foundation Courses:

Best Student in UC10A Kereisha De’Anne M.Crossman
(Language Exposition)

Best Student in UC10B Ingrid Coretta McFarlane
(Language Argument)

Best Student in FD10A Morvin Oneil Harvey
(English for Academic Purposes)

Best Student in FD14A Ashleigh Rachanne Chatto
(Writing in the Disciplines)

Linguistics:

Best Level-I Student Simone Alicia McKen

Level-II Theory Prize Dakota Keneisha Marshall

Best Overall Student in Ardene Nicole Reid
Other Level-II Courses

Level-III Theory Prize Gavin Heoun Samms
Krystina Felice Sandré Lindo

Best Overall Student in Cavan Stewart
Other Level-III Courses

Best Graduating Linguistics Student Gavin Heoun Samms
– *John Reinecke Prize*

Philosophy:

Best Level-I Student Prize Cieanna Thasa Smith

Best Level-II Student Prize Rosina Victoria Casserly

Best Level-III Student Prize Kadian Nickeisha Brown

Best Graduating Student Cordia Davina Chambers

Postgraduate:

Enrolment in graduate degree programmes:

Option	Graduate Programmes Enrolment			
	MA	MPhil	PhD	Total
English Language	2	–	–	2
Linguistics	2	9	10	21
Philosophy	3	5	4	12