DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND PHILOSOPHY



Professor Silvia Kouwenberg, BA., MA., PhD. *Univ. Amsterdam*Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The year 2012/2013 saw the successful completion of the consultation processes around four new discipline-specific English language Foundation courses in Critical Reading and Writing and a six-credit year-long course. Having received the support from the Faculty Boards at Mona and the Academic Boards of each Campus, the courses were approved by BUS for first offering in 2013/2014, when the slate of courses will distinguish between students in programmes in Humanities (FOUN1012), Education (FOUN1015), Social Sciences and Gender Studies (FOUN1013), and Science & Technology and Medical Sciences (FOUN1014), thus providing opportunities to students to develop academic reading and writing skills which will allow them to function more efficiently within their disciplinary communities. Of special significance is the approval of

the year-long Foundation course (FOUN1019) for students unable to demonstrate what is considered a sufficient level of English language proficiency for academic success. This course will allow us to attempt to address such English language insufficiencies within the credit structure of the students' programmes. The design of the new Foundation courses arose from the department's proposal, developed by the English Language Section, for the enhancement of communicative competencies in the student population across disciplinary programmes at UWI Mona.

Dr Monica Taylor began her research on "The Role of Writing in National Development: a survey of the use and impact of writing in the public and private sectors in Jamaica," supported by a New Initiative Grant. It is expected that the findings of this research will have a further impact on our approach to the development of writing abilities in the disciplinary programmes.

The Linguistics Section undertook a complete review of its graduate programme, led by Dr. Michèle Kennedy, with active participation from senior and junior members of the Section. The new programme, approved by the Board for Graduate Studies and Research for 2013/2014, consists almost entirely of new courses, and has a clearly defined programme structure. Options for postgraduate study now include a 36-credit M.A in Linguistics and a 23-credit Postgraduate Diploma in Linguistics, the latter intended to lead into an MPhil in Linguistics. Highlights of the new programme include: course options for students with little background in Linguistics; the inclusion of elective clusters in applied linguistics areas; and the inclusion of required courses in academic writing, professionalism in linguistics, ethics, and research methodology.

Under the theme "Philosophy: A way of life for future generations", the department celebrated UWI/UNESCO World Philosophy Day on 15 November 2012. The activities, organised by staff and students of the Philosophy Section, included an exhibition on the different areas of Philosophy; a panel discussion on questions of morality; the review by Ian Boyne of Professor Bewaji's book *Narratives of Struggle* at the launch of said book; and the public lecture by Professor Niyi Coker of the University of Missouri on 'Entertainment, culture and social cohesion –

The case of film in contemporary society'. The day received media attention, and raised the public profile of Philosophy at UWI. Its undertaking formed part of the department's response to the Quality Assurance Review of the Philosophy programme of the preceding year.

The Communication Across the Curriculum Working Group spearheaded and produced a special issue of the OBUS journal *The UWI Quality Education Forum* on "Best Practices in Higher Education: Focus on the Caribbean," guest-edited by Dr Caroline Dyche. This constitutes yet another successful outcome of the group's work, demonstrating the value of a supportive environment for publication.

Visitors to the department included Dr April Baptiste of Colgate University in Hamilton, NY (USA), who spent her sabbatical year with us, collaborating with Professor Devonish on research in environmentalism; and Professor Darlene LaCharité of the Université Laval, Québec (Canada), who visited to further joint research with Professor Kouwenberg, and gave a talk entitled "The Chronicles of Rhotic," March 6, 2013.

PUBLIC SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH

In collaboration with The Department of Literatures in English and CARIMAC, the Department hosted the first Africa World Documentary Film Festival at the Mona Campus over four days in April 2013. This very successful event, chaired by Professor Bewaji of the Philosophy Section, was made possible by the support of the University of Missouri. It is expected to be the first of an annual series. Dr Ingrid McLaren and Dr Caroline Dyche continued to work with staff in the Faculties of Science & Technology and Social Sciences towards the inclusion of Communication Across the Curriculum approaches in the design and assessment of courses in programmes in those Faculties. They also conducted a workshop for Linguistics and Philosophy staff of the department on such approaches on April 23, 2013.

Through the Jamaican Language Unit (JLU), the department provided critical consultancy services to the Bible Society of the West Indies

towards the successful completion of Di Jamiekan Nyuu Testiment (The Jamaican New Testament). The JLU delivered its final report for the Bible Translation Project and manual for the Bible Translation in the Jamaican Language in November 2012, and co-sponsored a public seminar with the Bible Society entitled "A celebration of the Jamaican Creole" on August 30, 2012, in which presentations were made by Professor Hubert Devonish, Ms Nickesha Dawkins, Dr. Celia Blake-Brown and Dr. Michèle Kennedy. Dr Kennedy, along with Mr Bertram Gayle, also presented on Jamaican language and the Bible translation at the 143rd Anglican Synod held April 2013. Dr Monica Taylor gave a public lecture entitled "Towards an informed response to writing in Jamaican: The case of Di Jamiekan Nyuu Testiment" at Providence Methodist Church on April 13, 2013.

A Panel Discussion entitled "It's not just Patwa: Language in Jamaica and the Caribbean" was held on October 17, 2012, at the Montego Bay Civic Centre, with the support of the Western Jamaican Campus, the Montego Bay Community College and the St. James Parish Council. Presentations by Professor Hubert Devonish, Dr Nicole Scott, and Linguistics graduate students Nickesha Dawkins, Kadian Walters and Kedisha Williams highlighted the lessons from a variety of research projects on language in Jamaica and elsewhere in the Caribbean. Other public events with a linguistic focus included a public lecture by Professor Devonish on "Language in Jamaica – then and now: 50 year reflection", held September 18, 2012 on the Mona campus, and participation by Professor Devonish and Dr Michèle Kennedy in a panel discussion on "Language in Jamaica: the way forward" on Language Awareness Day, held November 2012 at the Edna Manley School for the Performing Arts.

A team consisting of Dr. Nicole Scott, Andre Bernard, Georgette McGlashen, Tyane Robinson and Kadian Walters embarked on a news translation project whereby Jamaican translations of the midday news as well as the 5pm evening news were produced and broadcast on NewsTalk 93 FM. This was continued as a class project for final-year linguistics students, exposing the students both to the experience of radio news

broadcasting and to the language issues that arise when doing translations from standard English into Jamaican.

It is worth noting that the above-mentioned activities as well as the earlier mentioned Philosophy Day could not have taken place without the critical support from part-time lecturers and tutors, who are either postgraduate students in the department or graduates of our postgraduate degree programmes. Through their services to the department, they enable our offering of complete and varied undergraduate programmes and raise our public profile in events, and generally strengthen the department's accomplishments.

Individual staff members lent their expertise to a variety of causes both within and outside the university. A selection follows:

Dr. Lawrence Bamikole spoke on "Divination in African Religion: Implications for Social and Cultural Realities in the Caribbean". Presented at the Founders' Week 2013 – Caribbean Theology: Ecumenism in the Context of Empire. United Theological College of the West Indies, 6th March 2013.

Professor Tunde Bewaji assumed the position of Vice Chairman, Jamaica National Bioethics Committee of UNESCO in July 2012, and has been Consultant Lecturer to the Caribbean Maritime Institute, Kingston, Jamaica since 2011.

Dr. Keren Cumberbatch and Professor Hubert Devonish assumed duties as Secretary and President, respectively, of the Society for Caribbean Linguistics for the 2012–2014 period.

Dr. Caroline Dyche spoke on "Copy Editing" for trainee copy editors of the *Caribbean Journal of Psychology* and graduate students in the Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, May 1, 2013.

Dr Michèle Kennedy is member of the Board of Governors of the Catholic College of Mandeville since 2008; chairs the Selection Committee for Scholarships for Tertiary Education of the Percy and Alice Chang Education Foundation; and has been Financial Officer at Mona for the Society of Caribbean Linguistics since 2007.

Dr. Carmeneta Jones presented on "Believing is Achieving" to second formers at Jamaica College in March 2013; "Critical Thinking and Self Control: Practical Solutions to Substance Abuse" at Patricia House (Drug Rehabilitation Facility), January 2013; "Celebrating Jamaica Fifty Through the Art of Story Telling" at Youth Camp, Kingston, August 2012; and conducted several workshops at inner-city schools.

Dr. Vivette Milson-Whyte was Deputy Chair of the Membership Committee of the Jamaica Fulbright-Humphrey Alumni Association for 2012–13.

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Michèle Kennedy developed two courses which were approved by AQAC: LING1403 Introduction to Language for Teachers of Language, and LING2104 Early Language Acquisition in a Creole-speaking Environment.

Two new beginners' language courses were approved by AQAC: LING1819 Beginners' Caribbean Sign Language, developed by **Dr Keren Cumberbatch**, and LING1801 Beginners' Haitain Creole, developed by **Dr Nicole Scott**.

Also approved by AQAC was **Dr Vivette Milson-Whyte**'s LANG2003 Critical Analysis of Communicative Events.

PROMOTIONS, APPOINTMENTS, AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Ms Ava Mundell joined the department as Senior Administrative Assistant, bringing to the post a wealth of experience and good spirits.

Mrs Yvette Mundy-Whyte, the longest-serving member of the department's administrative staff, was promoted to Administrative Secretary as of July 1, 2013.

Dr Vivette Milson-Whyte and Dr Caroline Dyche enjoyed sabbatical leave, while Mrs Alison Altidor-Brooks was away on study leave for the year.

The Ph.D in Language Education was awarded to Caroline Dyche July 2013 after the successful oral examination of her thesis entitled "Demystifying Empiricism: Understanding English language education policy-making in a commonwealth Caribbean university" on October 29, 2012.

Dr. Ingrid McLaren was awarded a New Initiative Grant of \$1,000,080.00 for the period July 2013 to July 2014 for a project entitled "Modeling Speech and Writing Interventions in the University Science Classroom".

Dr. Michèle Kennedy received an Award for "Years of dedicated service and outstanding contribution to the Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning" at the Centre's 20th Anniversary Celebration and Awards Ceremony in April 2013.

Mr. Harvey G. Willis successfully defended his PhD Thesis entitled "A critical analysis of ethical theory and practice in business in Jamaica, with special reference to Grace, Kennedy and Company and Jamaica Broilers Group of Companies, on June 20, 2013.

Mr. Joseph Farquharson was awarded his Ph.D. degree in Linguistics in January.

STUDENT ASSESSMENTS OF TEACHING

Students assessed the overall teaching of the department as follows:

Assessment	Semester I	Semester II
Lecturers' Mean Score	4.1	4.2
Mean Score for Courses	3.7	3.7

THE INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM (IELTS)

The IELTS Centre was officially launched on February 7, 2013, on the first anniversary of its existence in the department, with the Principal, the Campus Registrar and the Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and

Education among many other guests in attendance. In his address, the Principal emphasized the importance of our position as the only test centre in Jamaica which administers the globally recognized IELTS test. A sample test administered to guests during the launch was well received. The launch was featured in the March 2013 issue of *UWIMONA Now* with usual circulation in the *Sunday Gleaner*. The IELTS Centre booth at the February 2013 Mona Research Day activities raised awareness and contributed to increased candidature. Four hundred and eighty-two candidates sat the IELTS test during the period August 2012 to July 2013. This translates into a monthly average of 40 candidates; with a record high sitting of 83 candidates in April 2013. Financially, the IELTS Centre continues to enjoy an operating surplus.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY TEST UNIT

Over 2012/2013, five test sittings of the Mona English Language Proficiency Test were held at different locations across the island for a total of nearly 1,200 candidates; the overall pass rate was at 40%. With the introduction of an English language Foundation course for students with English language skills considered below the threshold for academic success (FOUN1019), the test has been returned to its original role of placement test, and it is being reconfigured to better suit this purpose.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- Bamikole, L.O. "Critical Thinking", Critical Thinking Workshop, Faculty of Humanities and Education, University of the West Indies, Mona Research Days, February 7–8, 2013. (9pp).
- Bamikole, L.O. "The Identity of the African Woman in the Music of Sholla Allyson Obaniyi" International Reggae Conference: Traditional and Emerging Expressions in Popular Music, Institute of Cultural Studies, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, February 13–16, 2013. (12pp)

- Bamikole, L.O. "Sages as Epistemic Authorities in African Epistemology" Staff/Graduate Seminar Series, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy, February 21, 2013. (9 slides)
- Bamikole, L.O. "National Identity in the Multicultural State", Toyin Falola Annual International Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora-Etnicity, Race, and Place in Africa and the African Diaspora, held at Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria, July 1–2, 2013. (16pp).
- Bewaji, J. A. I. Workshop on Conflict Management and Prevention, Afe Babalola University at Ado-Ekiti (ABUAD), Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria. November 2012.
- Bewaji, J. A. I. "Identity, Memory and Memorials Challenges to Africana Development", at Geo-aesthetics Conference, Towson University, Maryland, USA. March 2013. (35pp).
- Bewaji, J. A. I. "Forging and Maintaining a Win-win, Parent-Lecturer Relationship in Tertiary Education". Invited Guest Lecture at Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, (ABUAD) Workshop on "Excellence in Teaching and Learning in the University System". Nigeria, April 2013. (32pp).
- Bewaji, J. A. I. "Discipline and Indiscipline in Tertiary Educational System". Keynote Address at Afe Babalola University, Ado-Ekiti, (ABUAD) Workshop on Excellence in Teaching and Learning in the University System". Nigeria, April 2013. (30pp).
- Bewaji, J. A. I. "Identity, Memory and Memorials Challenges to Africana Development", Keynote Address at Toyin Falola International Conference, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria. July 2013. (35pp).
- Lanesman, S.; Cumberbatch K. and Adone, D. "Sociolinguistic Factors in the Endangerment and Vitality of 3 Village Sign Languages", EuroBABEL Final Conference hosted by European Science Foundation in Leiden, Holland, August 22–26, 2012.
- Cumberbatch, K. "What's in a Name? Name Changes as an Indicator of Language Endangerment", Poster presentation at EuroBABEL workshop on Rural Signing Varieties: Social Dynamics and Linguistic Structure, held at Universiteit Leiden, Holland, November 7, 2012.

- Cumberbatch, K. "Challenging the Universal on Doubling Structures",
 Poster presentation at Theoretical Issues in Sign Language Research
 11 held at University College London, UK, July 10–13, 2013.
- Devonish, H. "The History of Jamaican Language". SALISES 50/50 Conference. Pegasus Hotel, Kingston: Jamaica. August 2012. (8pp)
- Devonish, H. Keynote address on "Jamaican Creole as a socio-cultural Capital in the Creative space of the Edna Manley College". The Edna Manley College Bilingual Conference. Edna Manley College, Jamaica. October 2012. (8pp)
- Devonish, H & Dayley-Morris, P. "Linguistic Analysis of Texting. Language amongst Primary School Children." Literacy Conference, held October/November 2012. (8pp)
- Dyche, C. "Developing Writing/English language Proficiency in the Academy: Progress and Possibilities". Speaker's Forum, Language, Technology and Research Centre, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies, University of Technology, April 25, 2013.
- Dyche, C. "The Embattled Language Situation in Jamaica: The roles of English and Creole in the Educational Arena". Institute of Linguistics & Applied Linguistics at Peking University, Beijing (China) on 30 August 2012, and at the Taiyuan University of Technology, Taiyuan, Shanxi province (China) on September 17, 2012.
- Harry, O.G. and L. M. Hyman, "Postlexical Construction Tonology: The Case of Kalabari" the Fifth Conference on Tone and Intonation in Europe (TIE5), Oxford University, September 8, 2012. (7pp).
- Harry, O.G. and L. M. Hyman, "Postlexical Construction Tonology: The Case of Kalabari" Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie, Université Paris, October 19, 2012, (7pp).
- Harry, O.G. and L. M. Hyman, "Postlexical Construction Tonology: The Case of Kalabari" Laboratoire de Phonétique et Phonologie, Universität Zürich, November 2, 2012, (7pp).
- Jones, C. "Arts-based Solutions: Promoting Literacy for Inner-Peace, Academic Progress and Economic Prosperity across the Jamaican

- Primary School Curriculum." School of Education Literacy Symposium, University of the West Indies. March 2013. (26 slides).
- Jones, C. "A Group of Jamaican Male University Students' Passion for Writing: Influential Roles Played by Their Teachers", School of Education Literacy Symposium. University of the West Indies. March 2013. (20pp).
- Kouwenberg, S. "The prosodic system of Papiamentu: between stress and tone." Keynote address at the joint Annual Conference of the ACBLPE (Associação dos Crioulos de Base Lexical Portuguesa e Espanhola) and the Meeting of the ABECS (Associação Brasileira de Estudos Crioulos e Similares), held at the University of São Paulo (Brasil), August 1–3, 2012.
- Kouwenberg, S. "Arbitrariness and iconicity in total reduplication in Caribbean creoles". "Total Reduplication: Morphology, Pragmatics, Typology" workshop, Free University Brussels (Belgium), November 18–19, 2012.
- Kouwenberg, S. "Dutch Guiana: the historical context of creole language emergence in Berbice and Essequibo." "Towards a social typology of language contact and genesis in the (post-) colonial context: the overseas Dutch-based varieties" workshop, held at the Free University Brussels (Belgium), November 23–24, 2012.
- Kouwenberg, S. "Early morphology in Berbice Dutch and the process of language creation". "Rethinking Creole Morphology" workshop, July 23, 2013 at the 19th International Congress of Linguistics, held July 21–27, 2013 at the University of Geneva (Switzerland).
- McCalla, S. "An Identity Crisis: The Case of Skin Bleaching in the Jamaican Context." Toyin Falola Annual International Conference, Lead City University, Ibadan, Nigeria. July 1–3, 2013. (18pp).
- Milson-Whyte, V. "Economies, Identities, and Perceptions of Writing: Self-Portraits and Academic Writing Performance among Jamaican Students." A keynote presentation at the 2012 Watson Conference in Rhetoric and Composition, The University of Louisville, Kentucky. October 18, 2012. (6 slides + 10pp).

PUBLICATIONS

Books & Monographs

- Bewaji, J. A. I. Narratives of Struggle the Philosophy and Politics of Development. Durham, North Carolina: Carolina Academic Press. November 2012. 486 pages.
- Bewaji, J. A. I. Black Aesthetics Beauty and Culture: An introduction to African and African Diaspora Philosophy of Art. Trenton, NY: Africa World Press. February 2013. 364 pages.
- Kennedy, M. Quantification in Jamaican Creole. The syntax and semantics of evri ('every') in interaction with indefinites [LINCOM Studies in Pidgin and Creole Languages 11]. Muenchen: Lincom, 2012.

Chapters in Peer-Refereed Books

- Adone, D., A. Bauer, K. Cumberbatch and E.L. Maypilama. "Colour Signs in Two Indigenous Sign Languages" in Sign Languages in Village Communities: Anthropological and Linguistic Insights. Ed. U. Zeshan and C. de Vos. Preston; Berlin: Ishara Press; Mouton de Gruyter, 2012. pp. 53–86.
- Bewaji, J. A. I. "Esu and Liminality in Yoruba thought system a leadership perspective" in Esu *Yoruba God, Power and the Imaginative Frontiers*. Ed. T.Falola. Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press. 2013. pp. 131–154.
- Carpenter, K. & Devonish, H. "Boys will be boys: Gender and Bilingual education in a Creole language situation" in *Language, Culture and Caribbean Identity*. Eds. J.Allsopp & J.R.Rickford. Kingston, Jamaica: UWI Press. February 2013. pp. 161–176.
- Cumberbatch, K. "Sociolinguistic Sketch of Konchri Sain" in *Sign Languages in Village Communities: Anthropological and Linguistic Insights*. Ed. U.Zeshan and C.de Vos. Preston; Berlin: Ishara Press; Mouton de Gruyter, 2012. pp. 387–388.

- Devonish, H. & D. Thompson. "Guyanese Creole (Creolese)" in *The Mouton World Atlas of Variation in English: Grammar*. Eds. B.Kortmann and K.Lunkenheimer. Berlin/New York: Mouton de Gruyter. January 2013. pp. 265–278.
- Devonish, H. & E. Thompson. "Standards of English in the Caribbean" in *Standards of English: Codified Varieties Around the World*. Ed. R.Hickey. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. January 2013. pp. 179–197.
- Messam-Johnson, T. "L1 attrition in an L2 environment: a case of Jamaican Creole-Papiamentu contact" in *Multiplex Cultures and* Citizenships: Multiple perspectives on language, literature, education, and society in the ABC islands and beyond. Ed. N. Faraclas et al. Curação: FPI & UNA, 2012. pp. 271–282.
- Milson-Whyte, V. Pedagogical and Socio-Political Implications of Code-Meshing in Classrooms: Some Considerations for a Translingual Orientation to Writing." *Literacy as Translingual Practice: Between Communities and Classrooms*. Ed. A. Suresh Canagarajah. NY: Routledge, March 2013. pp.115–27.

Refereed Journal Articles

- Bamikole, L.O. "An Indigenous Yoruba social and cultural Model of Conflict Resolution" *Philosophy Study*, Vol. 3, No. 2, pp. 144–152. February 2013.
- Bamikole, L.O. "Political Violence: Its Neglected Dimensions" *International Journal of Arts and Commerce*. Vol. 2, No. 2, pp. 316–322. March 2013.
- Dyche, C and P. Coard. "Integrating Psychological and Sociocultural Dimensions into the Teaching of English to Jamaican Creole-Speaking University Students: A Case Study'. *The UWI Quality Education Journal* 19 (January 2013), pp.55–88.
- McCalla, S. "Human Knowledge, Survival Values and Social Order."
 International Journal of Arts and Commerce 2 (2) (February 2013), pp.145–160

• McLaren, I. and D.Webber. "The use of select Writing across the Curriculum strategies and their impact on science students' attitude to writing". *Global Journal of Human-Social Science Research* 13, 2 (2013): 5–14.

Other Publications

- Cumberbatch, K. Notes on Jamaican Sign Language. Kingston, 2012.
 PDF e-book.
- Devonish, H. "Language Evolution: Pidgins and Creoles" in *Encyclopedia of Applied Linguistics*. Ed. C.A.Chapelle. Hoboken, N.J.: Wiley-Blackwell. November 2012. pp. 2993–2998.
- Devonish, H. "Atlantic Creoles and Vernacular English" in *Encyclopedia of Race and Racism* [2nd ed.]. Ed. P.L. Mason. Detroit, MI: Macmillan Reference. February 2013. pp. 176–181.
- Dyche, C. (ed.) Special issue on "Best Practices in Higher Education: Focus on the Caribbean." *The UWI Quality Education Forum* 19 (January 2013).
- Harry, O. and Larry M. Hyman, 2012. "Postlexical Construction Tonology: The Case of Kalabari", *Phonology Lab Annual Report 2012*, University of California, Berkeley. http://linguistics.berkeley.edu/ phonlab/annual_report/annual_report_2012.html

PRIZES AWARDED

Foundation Courses:

Best Student in FOUN1001/FD1	10A	
(English for Academic Purposes)		Neenem Joel Dilworth
Best Student in FOUN1401/FD1 (Writing in the Disciplines)	14A 	Odile Adlin Blake
Best Student in FOUN1002/UC	10B	
(Language: Argument)		Alexis Kabrina Samuels

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION

Linguistics:

Best Level-I Linguistics Student ... Ayesha Yanike Hart

Best Level-II Formal Linguistics

Student ... Rochelle Angella Braham

Best Level-II Non-Formal Linguistics

Student ... Nyia N. Baptiste

Best Level-III Non-Formal Linguistics

Student ... Narda Crystal-Gail Rattray

Best Graduating Linguistics Student

(John Reinecke Memorial Prize) ... Narda Crystal-Gail Rattray

Philosophy:

Best Level-II Student ... Kehinde Oluwaseun

Bamikole

Best Level-III Student (Tie) ... Renee Anashay Dillon

... Troy Donnahyue Tyrell