# FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION Mona

Year ending July 31, 2013



SWITHIN WILMOT

BA UWI, DPhil Oxon

Dean

# - Dean's Overview -

The Faculty of Humanities and Education maintained its commitment to the major goals of the 2012–2017 University Strategic Plan and pursued initiatives within the resource constraints.

# TRANSFORMATIONAL INITIATIVES

In support of the Single Virtual University (SVU) initiative, the School of Education (SOE) began developing a pilot to provide programs to Montserrat, St Lucia and the Western Jamaica Campus. The startup date is scheduled for January 2014.

Important strategic links were cemented between the SOE and the Ministry of Education (MOE), in keeping with the Mona Campus' commitment to provide special support to the MOE. Foremost were the SOE's special interventions to improve students' performance in CSEC Mathematics and English at Grades 10, including participating in the training of approximately 400 CSEC English A and Mathematics teachers. The SOE also served on the team that developed the National Mathematics and Numeracy Policy which defines standards for the teaching and learning of Mathematics with the aim of improving the quality of teachers of Mathematics. Further, the SOE developed proposals for Special Programmes to upgrade teachers in Early Childhood Education and to upgrade Secondary School Teachers in selected subjects.

The SOE has agreed to the request from the MOE that the Joint Board of Teacher Education (JBTE) examines the Teachers Colleges of Jamaica students and award degrees to those who have satisfied requirements for such an award, and on-going discussions as to the mechanisms to facilitate this development are continuing.

Moreover, so as to increase the capacity for training Leaders in Education, the SOE collaborated with the Mona School of Business and Management to submit an expression of interest for the IDB/MOE NCEL Principal's Professional Qualifications Programme consultancy, which was short listed and is subsequently negotiating a possible contract award.

# **ACADEMIC INITIATIVES**

Curriculum Reform and Renewal occupied the collective focus of the Faculty which remains determined to preserve UWI's reputation as an institution of higher learning dedicated to the attainment of the human potential of its students. Indeed, the Faculty responded to external questioning on the relevance of the Humanities by enhancing and expanding its course offerings.

- Foreign languages courses now afford out of faculty students an avenue to fulfill their requirements for Foundation courses and also expand opportunities for preparing more globally ready graduates.
- The Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) developed two new Level 3 courses on the Commercialization of Modern Sport and on Artist Management which are in the process of approval.
- The Department of Literatures in English mounted two new film courses, Film Adaptation and Reggae Films, which were well received by the students.
- The History and Archaeology Department designed new courses in 20th century European History and also designed a new cluster of courses on the history of Asia and the Middle East. Work also commenced on revising two degree programs, Africa and African Diaspora and, in conjunction with the SOE, History and Education.

- CARIMAC designed two new courses, Basic Media Production to provide Level 1 students with hands-on production training, and Cross Cultural Communication that will be offered as an elective, particularly at WJC.
- The Department of Library and Information Studies overhauled technology courses and developed new undergraduate courses in Database Management, Information Technology and Digitization.
- Two new Linguistics courses were also approved: Introduction to Language for Teachers of Language, and Early Language Acquisition in a Creole-speaking Environment

# **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

The Faculty solidified its reputation for high quality teaching with several colleagues attaining minimum scores of 4.5 and above out of 5 in the students' assessments exercise and remains committed to the use of modern technology to enhance teaching and learning. Members of various departments registered in the Post-graduate Teaching Certificate Programme, and others, including graduate tutors, registered for IDU modules/workshops to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness.

## TURNING OUT THE IDEAL UWI GRADUATE

Internships and other out of classroom learning experiences, locally, regionally and internationally, formed part of the students' exposure and training in disciplines such as Archaeology, Education, Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management, Integrated Marketing and Communication, Journalism, Library Studies and Modern Languages.

In keeping with the goal of the Strategic Plan to produce graduates capable of oral communication in English and with communication skills for the world of work, the Language section of the Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy developed new courses that diversify

the English Language Foundation course offerings. Additionally, a new year-long six-credit Foundation course for students unable to demonstrate a sufficient level of English language proficiency for academic success was approved for implementation in 2013/14. Intake in the two level three courses, Public Speaking and Business Communication, was also expanded.

# MANAGEMENT, QUALITY AND CONDUCT OF GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Improved throughput levels for research degrees reflect improved departmental focus and increased Faculty capacity to manage programmes. Whereas seven students in the Faculty were awarded PhDs in 2009/2010, 12 PhDs were awarded in 2012/2013, with two more currently under examination.

The Faculty maintained the commitment to enhance graduate studies and a range of new and revamped programmes were approved. These included the MA in Translation, the MA in History, the MA in Heritage Studies, and a complete review of the Linguistics' Graduate Programme. The Department of Library and Information Studies also designed new courses in Metadata, Information Literacy and Integrated Library Systems, and the SOE also developed additional courses for the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes.

The Department of Literatures in English began work on refashioning their MA to include a Blended Masters Programme in Literary and Educational Studies which will be delivered jointly with the SOE so as to meet the demands in Teachers' colleges. The Department of Library and Information Studies is also exploring with UNESCO's encouragement a graduate programme in Archives and Records Management. The SOE began development of three new Masters programes in Higher Education Management, in Educational Planning and Policy and in Principalship and Central Leadership. The full review and approval process for these programmes will be completed in time for offer for the 2014/2015 academic year.

A workshop for Supervisors, under the theme "Profile of a Successful Supervisor" was held on June 25, 2013, with the support of the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. Plans are also well advanced, in conjunction with the staff of the Main Library, to mount a special workshop on thesis preparation for research students.

# RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

# **Publications and Awards**

Four colleagues published books during the period under review:

- Professor John Bewaji, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy.
- Dr. Daive Dunkley, Department of History and Archaeology
- Dr. Dave Gosse, Department of History and Archaeology
- Dr. Michèle Kennedy, Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy.

At the Mona Research Day Awards ceremony in February 2013, Professor Veront Satchell received the Principal's award for Outstanding Research for his book, *Hope Transformed. A Historical Sketch of the Hope Landscape, St. Andrew, Jamaica, 1660–1960,* (UWI Press 2012). Dr. Stephan Lenik received an award for Best Research Publication (Article) for "Mission Plantations, Space, and Social Control: Jesuits as Planters in French Caribbean Colonies and Frontiers" in the *Journal of Social Archaeology*. Dr. Paulette Kerr also received an award for Best Research Publication (Article) for "Explicit Goals, Implicit Outcomes: Information Literacy Education in Developing University Graduate Attributes" in *UWI Quality Education Forum*. Dr Cherrell Shelley-Robinson received the award for the Research Project with the Greatest Development Impact for the UNESCO sponsored Survey of Media and Information Literacy Among Teachers, In-Service and In-Training in Four Caribbean Countries. Dr. Kathleen Monteith was awarded the University of the West Indies

Press' Chancellor's Personal Award for West Indian Business History: Enterprise and Entrepreneurship, (co-edited with Barry Higman).

## NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

The Faculty maintained its national profile with departments mounting Conferences, distinguished public lectures, symposia and film festivals. Specific mention is made of the following:

- The SOE's Research Unit was part of a team that was commended by the Ministry of Education for its report on the status of the implementation of the National Curriculum, Language, Literacy, Numeracy and Modern Languages Strategies.
- The SOE was successful in obtaining funds for three years from CHASE which are being used for two purposes. The first is the establishment of the SOE Centre for the Assessment and Treatment of Exceptionalities (SOCATE) that will test children with a range of exceptionalities, including giftedness. The second purpose involves assisting 15 Basic Schools to meet the requirements for licensing by the Early Childhood Commission and also to assist with the upgrading of five primary schools, including those within the UWI Township Project.
- The SOE provided leadership for an inner-city project which involves the participation of 42 inner-city students from Operation Restoration Christian School in a pilot study on the effect of a music intervention on students' self-esteem, music efficacy and literacy skills.
- The Institute of Caribbean Studies, in collaboration with the British Council and Visual and Performing Arts Jamaica, hosted a two-day Creative Industries Seminar titled "Exporting Creativity", March 25 and 26, 2013. Long-standing members of the Creative Industry Sector, newer entrants, and students from the UWI, Edna Manley College and Excelsior Community College attended.
- In October 2012, the Confucius Institute launched the Affiliated Chinese Classrooms at Ardenne High School and Campion College,

and also administered the HSK Examinations for students hoping to eventually study in China.

 Several Departments mounted workshops on the Campus for teachers and students in support of the respective CXC/CAPE syllabi, and the SOE mounted two workshops on Teaching Caribbean Poetry on the campus of two Teachers' colleges.

# REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

Several colleagues in the Faculty supported the Caribbean Examinations Council's CSEC and CAPE examinations by serving on Subject Panels and as Chief and Assistant Chief Examiners in respective disciplines.

The ICS hosted the third International Reggae Conference, February 14–16, 2013 under the theme "Traditional and Emerging forms of Popular Music" which attracted a diverse mix of international academic/professional speakers, presenters and participants and generated significant electronic/print media attention, locally and internationally.

The SOE organized an international symposium on March 21–22 on the theme of *Literacy for Peace, Progress and Prosperity*, and it attracted participants from Jamaica, other Caribbean countries and several North American locations.

In collaboration with the Department of Literatures in English and CARIMAC, the Philosophy section, in conjunction with the University of Missouri, hosted the first Africa World Documentary Film Festival which was held at the Mona Campus over four days in April 2013.

With assistance from UNESCO, the SOE conducted an international workshop on May 15–17 on Education for Sustainable Development with special emphasis on Climate Change Education for Sustainable Development. The workshop was attended by participants from Jamaica, other Caribbean countries and the United States.

The annual Department of History and Archaeology's Field School in Archaeology was conducted in the period May 20-30, 2013, at Fort

# DEAN'S OVERVIEW

Rocky, Palisadoes, and undergraduate students from St. Mary's College, Maryland, and graduate students from the Appalachian State University in the USA participated, as did personnel from the Jamaica National Heritage Trust and two Jamaica Defence Force soldiers from the Military Museum at Up Park Camp.