



## DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT

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## ACCESS

The 2021-22 academic year signaled the 3rd year in which the University contended with the teaching and learning challenges presented by the global Covid-19 pandemic. While the pandemic continues to present many challenges to the teaching and learning experience, the Department has met these challenges by providing unique and rewarding student engagement opportunities. As such, during the 2021-22 academic year, five (5) students from the Department represented The UWI Mona at the Virtual Model Organization of American States (OAS) for the English-Speaking Caribbean and Historically Black Universities. Of the five (5) students, Ms. Ashera Barron received an award for Best Alternate Delegate Speech. Mr. David Salmon, Jamaica's youngest commissioner of the Early Childhood Commission (ECC) and one of the Department's public representatives and undergraduate student, successfully campaigned for the Governor General to declare 2022 the Year of Early Childhood Development.

At the 2021 virtual staging of the Harvard National Model United Nations (HNUMN), students from the Department's Model United Nations (UN) club won the social venture challenge. They received a cash prize of USD 5,000. The prize money has been used to improve the Information Technology's (ICT's) accessibility for primary school students within the Western Kingston region, Jamaica. Approximately 70 tablets were purchased for these students. In addition, Ms. Selvine Stephenson, one of the Department's MPhil student, received formal communication of her contribution to the development of Jamaica's Food System Assessment Profile. This recognition was made in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the European Union (EU)

and Centre de coopération international en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD). During the 2021-22 academic year, the Department of Government hosted three (3) academic seminars for students who are at varying stages of their MPhil and PhD research. In addition to the post-graduate seminars, the Department solidified existing partnerships while forging new partnership pathways through lectures targeting representatives from government, international and non-governmental agencies.

The first in a series of guest lectures was held on February 7th, 2022 with Mr. Alexander Sokoloff, Counselor for Economic and Political Affairs at the United States (US) Embassy in Jamaica as the presenter. The lecture focused on the United States foreign policy within the Caribbean region. Ambassador Sheila Sealy-Monteith, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, presented the second lecture within the series, which was held on March 18th, 2022. Ambassador Sealy-Monteith discussed the role and structure of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade. The final lecture within the series was held with Dr. Carla Barnett, Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). Dr. Barnett discussed the opportunities and challenges faced by countries within CARICOM and the opportunities and challenges facing CARICOM as an organisation. These lectures saw over 110 persons in attendance and were coordinated by Dr. Lisa Vasciannie. In addition to the lecture series, members from the Department namely, Dr. Kavita Johnson, Dr. Jean-Pierre Murray and Mr. Glenville McLeod, met with Ambassador Guyonvarch at the French Embassy to discuss the Embassy's continued commitment to the Master in Politics and International Cooperation (MPIC) programme. The MPIC programme is a joint 5 year UWI Department of Government programme with Sciences Po Bordeaux in France and Université des Antilles in Martinique. Upon completion, students are awarded UWI BSc and MSc degrees.

Finally, during the academic year 2021-22, The UWI Mona Model United Nations Club coordinated through the Department of Government, partnered with the St. Augustine Model United Nations Club to host a webinar titled 'Responding to the Venezuelan Migrant Crisis: Insights and Perspectives'. The speaker for this webinar was Professor Andy Knight, a Distinguished International Relations Professor from the University of Alberta, Canada.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

During the academic year, the Department held several lectures to bridge the gaps between theoretical and practical knowledge. These lectures allowed students to appreciate the real-world application of the knowledge being taught by the Department's teaching staff. Below is a list of guest lectures facilitated by the Department:

Mr. Howard Reid hosted a lecture which was delivered by Dr. Marc Thomas, Deputy Commissioner of Corrections responsible for Rehabilitation & Probation Aftercare. It focused on Jamaica's delinquency and juvenile justice systems.

Mr. Damion Gordon hosted a lecture which was delivered by Hon. Mr. Phillip Paulwell, MP, Former Minister of Technology. Mr. Paulwell discussed the modernizations of Jamaica's telecommunication sector and the transformation of the public services with the introduction of E-government.

The Hon. Dr. Peter Phillips, MP, Former Government Minister of Finance provided GOVT1012 and GOVT2037 students with a captivating guest lecture on public sector reform efforts and the experience in reforming the economy under an IMF programme.

The Department's students, namely those enrolled in the Political Management and Strategy course received five (5) guest lectures during the academic year. These lectures were also open to all students enrolled in the Department of Government and were carried out by:

1Mr. Julian Robinson, MP, Opposition Spokesman on Finance & Planning – former General Secretary, Peoples National Party (PNP).

Hon. Senator Matthew Samuda, Minister without Portfolio (Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation) – former G2K President, and current Chair of the Jamaica Labour Party's (JLP's) Public Relations Committee

Mr. Raymond Pryce, Opposition Spokesman on Information – former Deputy General Secretary of the PNP

Ms. Tashan Hendricks, Public Relations Specialist and

Mr. Matthew MacMillan, International Political Consultant

The Department's teaching staff also participated in several national and international knowledge-sharing academic seminars. These seminars facilitated the growth of junior and senior staff members through the presentation of research materials and the generation of new knowledge. During the period, the following teaching staff participated in the academic seminars:

Dr. Jean-Pierre Murray participated in several panel discussions, such as, the "Reflections on Dissertation Journeys: Evolution of Research Design and Lessons Learned," the "International Organizations Distinguished Scholar Roundtable Honouring Professor Margaret P. Karns," and the "Exchange Programs and Joint-Degrees" organised by the EU-funded project, Linguistic Exchanges and Innovative Learning through Mobility (ELAN). Dr Murray also participated in two (2) radio interviews focused on Haiti's socio-political challenges and international communities' response to these challenges. In addition, Dr. Murray presented four (4) research papers during the academic year. These papers focused on migration and security concerns in Haiti and the Dominica Republic.

Professor Eris Schoburgh participated in the annual conference of the International Research Society for Public Management (IRSPM) by presenting the paper entitled: Citizens' perceptions of quality and accessibility of local government services: Pathways to institutional change in a post-COVID era, which was co-authored by Dr. Sonia Gatchair, Miss Stephanie McDonald and Dr Gavin Daley. Professor Schoburgh also participated in the 45th annual conference of the Caribbean Studies Association. At the conference, Professor Schoburgh and Ms. Regan Reid presented their paper titled, The Debt Culture: Dissecting its dimensions and the implications for public policy. In addition, Professor Schoburgh participated in a panel discussion on Creating the Intelligent Political Economy: Issues and Prospects for Caribbean Development.

On March 15, 2022, Professor Suzette Haughton participated in the Faculty of Social Sciences public seminar on the Russian-Ukrainian Crisis. Her presentation was entitled "International Relations underpinning the Russian-Ukrainian War: Implications for the Caribbean Region". The other seminar presenters were Dr. Christine Clarke from the Department of Economics at UWI Mona and Ambassador Ward.

In addition to academic seminars, the Department utilised other mecha-

nisms for professional development of junior and senior faculty members. One such mechanism includes the establishment of research clusters. These clusters facilitate a collegial approach to developing research material while encouraging senior staff to work alongside junior members in a mentorship capacity. Research clusters also act as a pragmatic solution in facilitating collaborative research and in generating improved research outputs.

The Department continued its collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation (JICA) resident office in Kingston, Jamaica and the JICA Chair was established. The Chair's programme began with the UWI/JICA public lecture on February 15, 2021. This lecture was delivered virtually by Dr. Kayashima Nobuko, Senior Research Advisor, Ogata Sadako Research Institute for Peace and Development, Tokyo, Japan who spoke on Educational Development and Modernisation in Japan. The lecture was well attended and Prof. Suzette Haughton moderated the session.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

During the 2021-22 academic period, the following book chapters and papers were published or accepted for publication:

Professor Christopher Charles produced an election forecast manuscript titled, *The Role of the Economy, Security and Party Leader Acceptance in Forecasting the 2020 General Election in Jamaica*. This has been accepted for publication in *The Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública (RLOP)*. Professor Christopher and Dr. Tracy Johnson Myers co-authored a book chapter titled "Election forecasting using integrated method," which has been accepted for publication in *SAGE Research Method Cases*.

Dr. Lisa Vasciannie published an article entitled "Jamaica and Covid-19: Issues of law and policy in the first year", in *The Round Table Journal of International Affairs*.

Mr. Damion Gordon co-authored three (3) chapters in a recently-published book entitled "Tourism Resilience and Recovery for Global Sustainability and Development: Navigating COVID-19 and the Future". The chapters are:

Chapter 6: "Cyber-crime, cybersecurity and the tourism sector: What we need to know and what we can do ." Lloyd Waller and Damion Gordon  
Chapter 7: "Post-Pandemic Recovery Strategy for Air and Cruise Travel." Howard Reid, Damion Gordon, Lloyd Waller and Tyesha Turner  
Chapter 13: "The Future of Caribbean Tourism: Re-imagining Tourism Resilience in post-COVID-19 pandemic era." Damion Gordon and Lloyd Waller.

Dr. Carol Nelson authored a chapter entitled "Tourism Actor Networks and Risk Management" in Prof. Lloyd Waller and Edmund Bartlett's edited book entitled 'Tourism Resilience and Recovery for Global Sustainability and Development- Navigating COVID-19, and the Future', which was published by Ian Randle Publishers, 2022.

Mr. Howard Reid co-authored a chapter in Prof. Waller's edited book on Tourism Resilience and Recovery for Global Sustainability and Development. This Chapter was entitled "Post-Pandemic Recovery Strategy for Air and Cruise Travel" and included the following authors: Howard Reid, Damion Gordon, Lloyd Waller and Tyesha Turner.

Dr. Jean-Pierre Murray article titled "The UNODC and the Human Rights Approach to Human Trafficking: Explaining the Organizational (Mis)Fit" was accepted for publication by The Journal of International Organizations Studies.

Prof. Suzette Haughton published a chapter entitled "A State under Siege? Drug Trafficking and the Case of Jamaica" (p. 232-256) in Holger Henke and Fred Reno edited book "New Political Culture in the Caribbean", UWI Press, 2022.

## ALIGNMENT

### **PUBLIC SERVICE**

During the 2021-22 academic year:

Professor Eris Schoburgh served as President of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA). Her role as President of the CSA allowed her to involve other members of the Department, notably Drs. Eleanor Henry, Sonia Gatchair, Stacey-Ann Wilson, and Mr. Howard Reid as part of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) and the Scientific Committee (SC) for CSA 2022. Under Professor Schoburgh's presidency, the CSA for the first time in its



history successful executed a virtual conference.

Dr. Yonique Campbell became Senior Policy Advisor to Jamaica's Minister of Health Wellness effective January 2021.

Professor Eris Schoburgh became the manager for Human Martin Scholarship Fund (HMSF), which operates under the auspices of the Optimist Club of Kingston.

## AGILITY

During the 2021-22 academic year, three (3) members of the Department's staff received awards or were promoted in recognition of their distinguished academic achievements to date:

Professor Christopher Charles was appointed as Distinguished Scholar at the P.J. Patterson Centre for Africa- Caribbean Advocacy, UWI Mona.

Dr. Lisa Vasciannie was promoted to Senior Lecturer (effective August 2022)

Dr. Suzette Haughton was promoted to Professor (effective February 2022)

Dr. Jean-Pierre Murray successfully defended his dissertation for a PhD in Global Governance and Human Security, University of Massachusetts Boston, March 11, 2022.

Professor Eris Schoburgh received four (4) awards for service to the youth in many capacities from the Optimist International, the Optimist Club of Kingston, Jamaica Chapter. Professor Schoburgh was named Optimist International Distinguished Secretary for the 2020-2021 administrative year.