

## DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo, CAPES *Haiti*, BA, MA *Besançon*,  
PhD *Lille III*, D.E.A *Antilles-Guyane*, *Palmes académiques Chev.*  
– Head of Department

### WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department welcomed five new members: Ms. Nathalie-Zoé Fabert (French), Ms. Nadia Bouadi-Barco (Spanish), Ms. Patricia Dos Reis (Portuguese/Brazil); Ms. Kumiko Yoshida, (JICA Volunteer/Japanese), and Mr. Clifton McCook, Language Lab. Technician. Dr. Françoise Cévaër went on Sabbatical Leave for 2008-2009. Dr. Paulette Ramsay was promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer with tenure effective August 1, 2008; she was also featured among the UWI scholars selected for the



special Issue of *The Pelican*, “60 Under 60,” and her research fellowship was extended for an additional year. Mrs. Doreen Preston who was on Sabbatical in 2007-2008 went on no-pay leave for the first semester and resigned effective July 31, 2009. Our colleague, Dr. Claudette Williams, was promoted to the rank of Professor and was elected to the University Council for 2008-2009. She continued to serve as Deputy Dean in charge of Student Matters, Academic Quality Assurance, and was appointed Chair of the Institute of Caribbean Studies. Thirteen members of the Department were recognized at the Guardian Life Annual Premium Teaching Awards 2008 on October 2 for scoring consistently 4.8 to 5 in Student Evaluation.

On October 30, 2008, the Department hosted a panel on “Beyond Language Barriers: Oral Traditions in the Caribbean,” in collaboration with the *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque*. Mr. Hector Poulet, from Guadeloupe and Ms. Amalia Posso Lú from Colombia, Mrs. Jean Small and Amina Blackwood-Meeks presented on Folk Tales and Proverbs of the Region.

The HOD met with the Heads of Language Sections and the Director of the Language Learning Centre at the Inter-Campus meeting held in Barbados in January 19-21, 2009 in order to foster cross-campus co-operation in the implementation of the University 2007-2012 Strategic Plan.

Confucius Institute. In February, a Confucius Institute, Jamaica was established at the Mona Campus under the umbrella of the Department. The inaugural lecture of the CI, entitled “Language, Learning and the Future,” was delivered on February 12, 2009, by Dr. Courtney A. Hogarth from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. A second Confucius Institute Lecture on “Hakka Castle Dwellings: World Unesco Heritage” was held on April 14, 2009 and presented by Dr. Keith Lowe, a former director of the Chinese Cultural Centre of Greater Toronto. The Confucius Institute was also associated with a slideshow series on China organized by the Chinese Cultural Association (June 3 and 10, July 1 and 7) and presented by Dr. Mai Ken Liu.

Obituary: The Department mourned on June 24, 2009 the unexpected death of its Administrative Secretary, Mrs. Maria Cover-Alao, a member of staff for 37 years .

### **Teaching and Learning.**

The French Section submitted its post-review Action plan to AQAC. The Department held its usual retreats at the end of each semester to review teaching and exchange about best practices. It was agreed this year that CSEC 1/2 and CAPE students should be separated as of September 2009. Another matter of concern was the attrition rate at the advanced level of the language courses. Two new Japanese courses were designed with a view to offering a Minor in Japanese. A new Level I Spanish course on popular Hispanic culture SPAN1214 was approved by AQAC. One French course FREN2702 was redesigned to be offered at level I and received approval for a year.

### **Evaluation of Lecturers and Courses**

The Department continues to be highly rated for its teaching and courses. The mean average was 4.6 (lecturers) and 4.3 (courses) for semester 1 and 4.5 (lecturers) and 4.1 (courses) for semester 2.

## **Publication output per capita**

3 per capita in the lecturer category and above, not counting Graduate students in Lecturer positions [21 publications: 16 refereed, 5 non-refereed].

## **Student-centered activities**

The Department received various donations of books and teaching material from the French, Japanese, Mexican and Spanish Embassies in Jamaica.

In October, the Spanish Club showed three Colombian films in collaboration with LACC and the Colombian Embassy. The Department organized a Modern Language Day at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts on February 12, 2009. On April 8, 2009, the Spanish Club staged successfully its annual *Noche Latina* at the Philip Sherlock Centre for the Creative Arts. Seven students participated in the Inter-Campus Modern Language Theatre Festival, which was celebrating its 10th anniversary at the Cave Hill Campus from March 23-24, 2009.

### *International Relations.*

On February 13, 2009, the Vice-President of China, H.E. Mr. Xi Ping, while visiting Jamaica, presented the Confucius Institute Plaque to the Campus Principal.

Four students went on exchange programmes: two spent the first semester at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras; one spent the year at the UAG, Schoelcher Campus in Martinique and the other one at the Université Bordeaux IV.

Two graduating students from the Japanese language programme were selected to participate in the JET programme and four students were offered Assistantships in France.

## PAPERS PRESENTED

### Françoise Cévaër

- “Facing Irrationality in Crime fiction from Africa and the Americas,” 5th International Symposium of the Centre for Caribbean Studies in Brazil, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, September 30 – October 3, 2008.
- (with Hugues Péters). “Réflexions sur un corpus oral d’apprenants B la didactique des langues secondes dans les Caraïbes anglophones,” Linguistics Graduate Programme and International Colloquium. University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras, February 4-6, 2009.

### Lindy Jones

- “Opening Up Towards Africa: Cuban Politics and the Poetry of Nancy Morejon”. Queen’s University Conference: *The Measure of a Revolution: Cuba, 1959-2009*. Toronto, Canada, May 7-9, 2009.

### Gilles Lubeth

- “Between Past & Present, Negotiation Tables and Roadblocks. Does the Guadeloupe Crisis Mark the End of a System?” Graduate / Departmental Research Seminar of the Department of Government, Faculty of Social Sciences, March 26, 2009.

### Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- “Césaire et La tragédie du roi Christophe: l’histoire haïtienne comme ferment de la lutte anti-colonialiste.” October 15-16, 2008, Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre Y Maestra (Santo Domingo and Santiago de los Caballeros).
- “Using CALL to Teach Advanced Writing Competence.” Inter-campus Modern Language Symposium, UWI, St. Augustine, May 26, 2009, Trinidad and Tobago.
- Dominican Views of the Haitian Revolution: Carlos Esteban Deive’s *Viento negro, Bosque del Caíman*. LASA Congress, June 11-14, 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

### **Ileana Sanz**

- “Vacío cultural vs. vanguardia: los albores de un discurso autóctono en el Caribe anglófono y sus resonancias en Cuba decimonónica.” LASA Congress, June 11-14, 2009, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

**Papers presented at the 34th annual conference of the Caribbean Studies Association, Kingston, Jamaica, June 1-5, 2009.**

### **Caroline Cousins**

- “Heteroglossia and Fluid Subjectivities in Caribbean Women Writing.”

### **Françoise Cévaër**

- “Re-interpreting Haitian History through Vodou.”

### **Lindy Jones**

- “The African Womanist in Georgina Herrera’s poetry.”

### **Warrick Lattibeaudiere**

- “From Chameleon to Matador and Back: Towards a Feminist Politics of Change in Montero’s *Del rojo de su sombra*, *Chamoiseau’s Texaco* and *Confiant’s Mamzelle Libellule*.”

### **Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo**

- “Establishing a Compulsory Foreign Language Requirement for the Degree at The UWI, Mona Campus? Challenges and Prospects.”

### **Patricia dos Reis**

- “Brazilian Portuguese and the New Orthography.”

### **Ileana Sanz**

- “CASA and Caribbean Studies.” Panel “Casa de las Américas: 50 Years on the Move.”
- “The spirit of Africa in contemporary Cuban literature.”

## Maria-Tereza Villoria Nolla

- “Invisibility Undone: Heterogeneity and Mestizaje in Mayra’s Montero’s *Son de Almendra*.”

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed

#### Cévaër Françoise

- \* “Facing irrationality in crime fiction of Africa and the Americas”, in “Conexões Afro-Atlânticas Caribe Literatura Pós-colonial [Afro-Atlantic connections / Caribbean post colonial literature]”, *Revista Brasileira do Caribe*, Vol.IX, n°18, CECAB, Brasília, Jan-Jun 2009, 589-620.
- \* “Harlem-New York – Haarlem PARIS: America- Martinique: Daniel Picouly’s Caribbean Bridge over the Atlantic. CQ *Caribbean Quarterly* Vol.55, No. 1, March 2009. Kingston: UWI, 75-97.
- \* “Enquêtes occultistes: les policiers du Sud face au surnaturel.” In *Présence Francophone*, “Enjeux du populaire”, Françoise Naudillon, No. 72, Worcester, USA: College of the Holy Cross, 2009, 48-66.
- \* “Mythes et stéréotypes, vecteurs de la ‘constriction identitaire dans l’Impasse de Daniel Biyaoula.” *Présence Francophone*, No. 71. Worcester, USA: College of the Holy Cross, 2008, 101-121.
- \* “Sur les traces de Chester Himes: intertextualité et identité transnationale dans le polar francophone.” In Littérature francophone contemporaine: essai sur le dialogue et les frontières. Samira Belyazid (Ed.). New York, USA: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2008, 37-51.

#### Nzengou-Tayo Marie-José

- \* “*La colonie du nouveau monde*: Condé’s Pessimistic Views of a Caribbean Utopian Community. CQ *Caribbean Quarterly* Vol.55, No. 1, March 2009, Kingston: UWI, 61-74.

## Ramsay Paulette

- \* Vivienne Harding, Janice Cools and Ingrid McLaren. Blooming with the Pouis: A Rhetorical Reader for Caribbean Tertiary Students. Critica Thinking, Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum. Kingston: Ian Randle Publishers, 2009.
- \* (with Anne-Maria Bankay). On Friday Night. Translation of Luz Argentina Chiriboga's En la noche del viernes. Kingston: Arawak Publishers, 2009.
- \* "Cross Cultural Poetics: Debating the Place of Afro-Mexican Poetry in the Context of a Caribbean Literary and Cultural Aesthetics." In Perspective on "the Other America." Kerstin Oloff and Michael Nibliss (eds). Amsterdam and New York: Rodopi, 2009, pp. 197-217.
- \* "On Page and On Screen: An Examination of Gerardo Fullea León's Placido (1982) and its Cinematic Representation. In *College Language Association* Vol. II, No. 3 March 2009, pp. 221-237.
- \* "Vale la pena siempre ... la Resistencia. Presenting an Outstanding Afro-Cuban Dramatist." *Palara*, No. 12, Fall 2008, pp. 71-81.
- \* (with Claudia Bailey). "Integrating Discourse Communities: Using WAC Strategies to Enhance the Learning of Mathematics in a Grade 7 Class." *CJE* Vol. 30, No. 2, 2008, pp. 345-378.

## Sanz Ileana

- \* "Early Groundings for a Circum-Caribbean Integrationist Thought." *CQ Caribbean Quarterly* Vol.55, No. 1, March 2009, Kingston: UWI. 1-14.
- \* (with Valentine Egan, Douglas L. Rideout, Doreen Preston). (Translation). Complete Guide to Conjugating 12000 French Verbs. Loïc Hervouet (Ed.). Montreal: Editions Hurtubise, 2009.

## Williams Claudette

- \* "With all due respect...": Postmodern Parody, Drama, and Antislavery Politics in Antonio Zambrana's *El negro Francisco.*

*Afro-Hispanic Review*. Vo. 28, No.1 (Spring 2009), pp. 133-156.

- \* “Cuban Antislavery Narrative with a *Costumbrista* Twist: Francisco Calcagno’s *Romualdo, uno de tantos*.” *Palara*, No. 12 (Fall 2008), pp. 1-15.

## Non-refereed

### Nzengou-Tayo, Marie-José

- \* (with Velma Pollard). Foreword. *CQ Caribbean Quarterly* Vol.55, No. 1, March pp. v-vi.
- \* “Ralekase” (Preface). [Reprint] Serge MadhPre’s second augmented edition of *Govi Lavi* (Life’s Magical Jars). Washington: Sophex, 2009. pp. 7-11.

### Ramsay, Paulette

- \* “Milk to the World.” (poem) *Caribbean Journal of Education*, Vol. 30, No. 2, 2008, 429.
- \* “A Word to History.” *BIM Arts for the Twenty-First Century*. Vol. 2, No. 2, May-November 2009, pp. 36-37.

### Williams Claudette.

- \* Review of Alexandra Isfahani- Hammond, ed. *The Master and the Slaves: Plantation Relations and Mestizaje in American Imaginaries*. *Afro-Hispanic Review*, Vol.27, No. 2, Fall 2008, pp. 234-237

## Income Generation

| UGC Fund                   | Income     |                                       | Expenditures |
|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sale of Manuals (UGC Fund) | 173,798.00 | Over expenditure of UGC Controllables | 21,183.82    |

| <b>Commercial Accounts</b>  | <b>Income</b>       |   | <b>Expenditures</b> |
|---|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| Colombian Exchange Donation received from the Latin American Women's Club | 50,000.00           | Rental                                      | 10,800.00           |
| Consultation + Other Departmental Fund                                    | 36,963.38           | Students' Awards and other expenses         | 33,000.00           |
| Courses and Translation services offered in the Language Laboratory       | 188,158.00          | Salaries, Reimbursement and other expenses  | 180,500.00          |
| Summer Courses  | 605,974.00          | Salaries and administrative charges         | 901,15.11           |
| <b>Total (UGC + Commercial Accounts) \$</b>                               | <b>1,054,893.88</b> | <b>Total (UGC + Commercial Accounts) \$</b> | <b>1,146,608.90</b> |

## PUBLIC SERVICE

### Françoise Cévaer

- Member, Jamaica Association of French Teachers.
- Vice-President, *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque*
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association
- Member, Latin American Studies Association

### Marie-José Nzengou-Tayo

- Member, Haitian Studies Association.
- Member, Jamaica Association of French Teachers.
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association.
- Member, Latin American Studies Association.
- Secretary, International Shotokan Karate Association of Jamaica (formerly Japan Karate Association of Jamaica).
- Ex-Officio member, Executive Committee of the *Alliance Française de la Jamaïque* (UWI Representative).

- Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Haitian Studies*, *MaComère*, *Caribbean Quarterly*, *Callaloo*, *Palimpsestes*.

**Doreen Preston**

- Assistant Chief Examiner, French CAPE, CXC.
- Examiner and Interlocutor for English, Jamaican Creole, French and Spanish (Database of Chartered Institute of Linguists in the United Kingdom).
- Certified forensic linguist, Chartered Institute of Linguists.

**Paulette Ramsay**

- Faculty advisor, UWI Chess Society.
- Guest Editor, *Caribbean Journal of Education*, Vol. 30 no. 2, Special issue on *Writing Across the Curriculum: Integrating Discourse Communities in the Academy*.
- Peer Reviewer, for *Palara*, *Caribbean Journal of Education*, *Hispanic Journal*, *Dissidences: Journal of Cuban Exile Writing*, *Journal of Education and Development in the Caribbean*.

**CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS**

**Undergraduate:**

**Registration: 1799**

**Preliminary Courses**

|            |     |
|------------|-----|
| French     | 209 |
| Spanish    | 390 |
| Portuguese | 50  |

**Hospitality & Tourism Management**

|         |    |
|---------|----|
| French  | 37 |
| Spanish | 90 |

**Non-BA Programme**

|          |     |
|----------|-----|
| Japanese | 130 |
|----------|-----|

## BA Programme

|         |     |
|---------|-----|
| French  | 199 |
| Spanish | 694 |

## Graduating Students

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| French (minor) | 4  |
| Spanish        | 18 |

## First Class Honours:

Marcia Jackson  
Ainsley Reid  
Keesha Robinson  
Sabrina Watson  
Shari Williams.

## Postgraduate:

### Registration: 11

|                           |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| MPhil French              | 2                       |
| MPhil Spanish             | 1                       |
| MPhil French/Spanish      | 1                       |
| PhD French                | 1                       |
| PhD French/Spanish        | 1                       |
| PhD Spanish               | 1                       |
| MA in Translation Studies | 4 (Spanish 2, French 2) |

## Degree awarded:

Dr. Gregory Stevens (MPhil Spanish).

## Prizes Awarded:

### French:

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| <b>Level I William Mailer Prize:</b>  | Renee Rattray                  |
| <b>Level II Prix Jambec:</b>  | Marcia Jackson                 |
| <b>Level III Prix Gertrud Buscher:</b>  | Jo-Lane Anderson-Figueroa      |
| <b>Level III French Embassy Prize for overall achievement over the three years:</b> | Noelle Hoskins                 |
| <b>Bridget Jones Memorial Award:</b>  | Safia Beersingh<br>Allena Hull |
| <b>Bridget Jones and William Mailer Travel Fund:</b>                                | Duran Duckett                  |

### Spanish

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Gabriel Coultard Prize:</b>            | Marcia Jackson   |
| <b>Paul Davis Prize:</b>                  | André Clarke   |
| <b>Kemlin Laurence Prize:</b>             | Noelle Hoskins   |
| <b>Latin American Women's Club Award:</b> | Ainsley Reid<br>Keesha Robinson<br>Natashalee Thompson |