

## THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING (UWISON), MONA



Dr. Steve Weaver, RN, Cert. of Nursing Ed., BScN, MPH, PhD  
Head of School

### HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK IN THE SCHOOL

The academic year 2017/2018 was highlighted by a number of accomplishments that allowed the School to strengthen its identity and image as a leader in the Caribbean region in delivering undergraduate and postgraduate evidence-based nursing education which reflects international standards.

**Regional Nursing Body (RNB):** The Head of School attended the Forty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Regional Nursing Body held August 8–11, 2017 in Georgetown, Guyana. In his capacity as Director of the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre, Dr. Weaver attended the PANMACC meeting in Washington DC on October 2 & 3, 2017. He was accompanied by the Assistant Director, Professor Eulalia Kahwa

who was the chair (elect) of the PANMACC, a network of WHO Nursing and Midwifery Collaborating Centers in the United States of America, Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean.

**Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO):** On January 22–29, 2018, Dr. Irmajean Bajnok, Former Director, International Affairs and Best Practice Guidelines Centre, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario (RNAO) and Ms. Heather McConnell, Associate Director, Knowledge Transfer and Guideline Implementation visited the UWI School of Nursing, Mona and the University Hospital of the West Indies (UHWI) where they conducted the Academic Best Practice Spotlight Organization (BPSO) Audit and a Service Audit respectively. Subsequently, the UWI School of Nursing, Mona, made history in becoming the first in the Caribbean to be designated a Best Practice Spotlight Organization.

**Simulation Lab:** On June 7, 2018, Dr. Steve Weaver, Dr. Tomlin Paul, Dr. Wayne Palmer and Mrs. Tania Rae from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, visited the University of Tennessee's Health Service Center and the University of Miami's School of Nursing Health Services to view the simulation labs that are used by both institutions to provide clinical experience for medical and nursing students. This is against the background that The UWI School of Nursing, Mona plans to construct a High Fidelity Simulation lab at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.

**Symposiums, Workshops, Conference & Internship:** The School hosted a number of symposiums and workshops as follows: On November 23, 2017, Lecturer, Mrs. Cynthia Pitter, hosted a Gender Based Violence Public Lecture entitled "When Did He Stop Treating Me like a Princess?" Mrs. Pitter as well as Dr. Gillian Mason- Lecturer, Department of Sociology, Psychology and Social Work and Dr. Christopher Charles – Senior Lecturer, Department of Government, were the presenters for the lecture.

On Friday, February 1, 2018 The Family Planning Association (FPA) met with a select team from the School to engage in discussions about the "Cancer Screening Services Available in The Private and Public

Sector and Any Challenges Experienced in Providing Screening and Prevention Services.” Staff member, Heather Silvera, was elected as one of the Directors of the Family Planning Association Board.

On March 13, 2018, the School facilitated the delivery of a course by Jamaican Obstetric Teaching and Training in Emergencies (JOTTIE) to a cross-section of medical professionals. Approximately forty (40) persons, including one staff member, participated in this exercise.

On March 23, 2018, the School hosted students and colleagues for a symposium entitled: “Combatting Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) through Tobacco cessation: Nurses joining the Battle”. Approximately thirty persons participated which included four external facilitators.

On May 22, 2018, The UWI School of Nursing, Mona hosted the 4th annual Syringa Marshall-Burnett lecture in memory of the late Mrs. Syringa Marshall-Burnett for her outstanding achievements and contributions to the Nursing profession. Professor Catherine Georges, Professor and Chair of the Department of Nursing at the Lehman College & Graduate Center of City University in New York, was the Keynote Speaker. On May 24–25, the 28th Nursing & Midwifery Research Conference & 29th Mary J. Seiwright Day was held under the theme\_“Promoting Excellence in Patient Care through Evidence Based Nursing & Midwifery Practice”. Dr. Barbara Howard-Hunt, Senior Lecturer & Researcher at the Birmingham City University, was the Keynote Speaker. Professor Joy Notter, Professor of Community Health Care at Birmingham City University was the speaker for the distinguished Dr. The Hon. Mary J.

Seiwright Lecture. There were approximately 530 attendees which included health care professionals and students from across the region, as well as, the United States of America and Canada.

During the period May 28 to June 22 2018, the 5th Annual International Research Internship for Health Researchers was held. There were eleven registrants, one of which was an international graduate student. The main objectives of the Internship were to: acquire knowledge and skills in health systems research; examine multiple intervention programme design and evaluation issues in health systems; acquire knowledge and

skills essential for competitive grantsmanship; and extend the repertoire of cutting edge research designs and approaches to health systems.

On May 30, 2018 the 2nd Annual Evidence Based Practice Workshop, facilitated by Dr. Leah Shever, was also held at the School to assist staff in enhancing their skills in Evidence Based Practice to improve quality care of patients.

On July 31, 2018, Mrs. Cynthia Pitter hosted a workshop in collaboration with midwives from the Victoria Jubilee Hospital, Spanish Town Hospital and Bustamante Children Hospital focusing on 'Respectful Maternity Care'.

**Caribbean Honour Society of Nursing (CHSN):** On August 9 &10, 2017 The UWI School of Nursing, Mona and the Caribbean Honour Society of Nursing hosted approximately one hundred and forty (140) students for two days at its health fair held 2017 to provide school medical to new Grade One students of the Mona Heights Primary and the Randolph Lopez Schools as part of a collective community outreach activity. Additionally, twenty-one Nursing students were inducted to the CHSN.

**Staff Retreat and Planning Meeting:** On January 10 and 11, 2018, a special retreat was held where we discussed the CAAM-HP/Quality Assurance process led by Mrs. T. Rae. The Head of School engaged the staff in the UWI's Triple A Strategy in an overview and UWISON's alignment with the strategies.

**External Collaborators:** There were a number of external collaborations where Undergraduate students and Faculty came to observe the Health Care System in Jamaica and engage in a global research experience. Additionally, opportunities for collaboration and research were discussed. These collaborations are as follows:

**Institute for the International Education of Students (IES):** During the period December 7–15, 2017, the School welcomed fourteen (14) students and two (2) faculty members from (IES).

**Columbia University School of Nursing:** During the period April 1–May 7, 2017 students from Columbia University visited the School. Additionally, during the period June 10–13, 2018, Dr. Maureen Georges visited to explore the possibilities of collaboration in research with members of staff.

**Winona State University:** During the period May 12–16, 2018, faculty and students from the Winona State University visited The UWI School.

**University of Alabama:** During the period May 14–19, 2018, faculty from the University of Alabama in a partnership through the PAHO/WHO Collaborating Center for Nursing & Midwifery led by Dr. Penni Watts and Tracie White visited the School for the *‘Trainer of Trainers to build Capacity for the Integration of HFS in the Curriculum’*. Thirteen members of staff and three Faculty members received certification for ‘Instructor Training in Clinical Simulation’ at the end of the course.

**McMaster University, Canada, UWISON, Mona and PAHO/WHO CC for Nursing & Midwifery in the Caribbean:** During the period May–July, 2018, students visited. The PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing & Midwifery in the Caribbean in partnership with UWISON, Mona and McMaster University developed an instrument for a research project assessing ‘Human Resource for Health: A Survey on the status of Nursing & Midwifery Human Resource in the Caribbean Region’.

**University of Miami:** During the period December 13–15, 2017, Dr. Johis Ortega, PhD, ARNP, ACNP-BC, ENP-BC, FNP-BC, Associate Professor of Clinical and Associate Dean for Master’s Programs and Global Initiatives University of Miami School of Nursing & Health Studies as well as Dr. Karina Gattamorta, Research Associate Professor, visited the School.

During the period June 4 2018–July 28, 2018, two students visited the School under the supervision of Dr. Karina Gattamorta.

**Visit of Hartwick College:** During the period January 10–24, 2018, the School hosted twenty (20) students and three (3) faculty staff from Hartwick College, New York on an observational visit.

**Kristianstad University- Sweden:** On February 3, 2018 the University of Kristianstad sent Mrs. Ava Garnath and Dr. Liselott Jaksoobsson to strengthen the relationship for scholarships to facilitate a staff/student exchange process.

**Visit to Birmingham City University, UK:** During the period March 5–14, 2018, Donnahae Rhoden-Salmon, Dr. Steve Weaver and Dr. Tomlin Paul, Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, visited. During the period April 22–29, 2018, Joyette Aiken, Melissa Walker, Cynthia Pitter and Heather Silvera visited for international professional development opportunities.

### **The UWI School of Nursing, Mona Franchise Institutions**

The UWI School of Nursing, Mona continues to visit our local franchises twice per academic year and our International franchises, every two years.

*St. Kitts – Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College – (CFBC):*

During the period January 14–19, 2018, The Head of School and his team visited the CFBC franchise in St. Kitts to meet with staff and faculty to provide support for staff and students.

*St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College (SVGCC):*

During the period April 9–12, 2018, staff from The UWI School of Nursing, Mona along with the Registrar at the Nursing Council of Jamaica visited the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College to do a site assessment with the intention of establishing a franchise in that location. During the period May 1–4, a team from School, Dr. Kay Thompson, SPO, Quality Assurance Unit and Miss Sharon Estwick, Administrative Assistant, Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Global Affairs, Cave Hill Campus visited for the second site assessment. Towards the end of the academic year, the agreement was finalized. The SVGCC Franchise is expected to have its first cohort of students in the 2018/2019 academic year.

## **STUDENT POPULATION**

For the 2017/2018 academic year, the Undergraduate student population was a total of one thousand two hundred and ninety students. This includes all franchise institutions.

- Mona – 508 students
- WJC – 93 students

### **Franchises:**

- Excelsior Community College – 276 students
- Brown's Town Community College – 145 students
- Knox Community College – 147 students
- Clarence Fizroy Bryant Community College – 21

The BScN (Post RN) online delivery programme had a total of 106 students.

For the Academic year 2017/2018, the Postgraduate programmes had a total of 63 students:

- MPhil/PhD – 7 students
- MSc – 56 students

## **INCOME GENERATION**

The UWI School of Nursing, Mona has been inviting and accepting franchise relationships between small nation states and Schools. To date we have included St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and we are in direct discussion to franchise Antigua and Barbuda as well as Monserrat.

Another form of income generation is related to our student and staff exchange and external collaborations.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Refereed Journals

- **Pitter, C., & Dunn, L.** (2017). Profiling pregnant women exposed to domestic violence in Jamaica. *The International Journal of Childbirth*, December 2017
- **Agu, C., Rae, T., & Pitter, C.** (2017). Attitude towards teenage pregnancy and motherhood among midwives at specialty hospital, Jamaica. *The International Journal of Nursing*. December 2017
- **Pitter, C.,** Latibeaudierre, S., **Rae, T., & Owens, L.** (2017). Disrespectful Maternity Care: A Threat to the Maternal Health 2030 Agenda in Jamaica. *International Journal of Women's Health and Wellness*: volume 3, issue 3, open access doi: 10.23937/2474-1353/1510057
- **Wright-Myrie, D.,** Kahwa, E., & Reid, M., (2018). Nutrition in Critical Illness: CCRN's perception of nurses' role in nutritional management of critically ill patients. *Caribbean Journal of Nursing*, supp. 4(1), 14.
- Y. Gustave, **Wright-Myrie, D., & Kahwa, E.,** (2018). Parental perception of children's weight status: a quantitative assessment of urban families with children 2-5 years. *Caribbean Journal of Nursing*, supp. 4(1), 21.
- Asnani, M.R., **Barton-Gooden, A.,** Grindley, M., & Knight-Madden, J. (2017). Disease Knowledge, Illness Perceptions, and Quality of Life in Adolescents With Sickle Cell Disease: Is There a Link? *Global Pediatric Health*. 4:1-10
- **Agu CF, Oshi DC,** Abel WD, **Rae T,** Oshi SN, Ricketts-Roomes T, Tana Ricketts-Roomes; Meka IA, Harrison J, Dimkpa U, Weaver S. Alcohol Consumption and Sexual Risk Behaviour among Jamaican Adolescents. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 1–6.
- **Osh DC,** Abel WD, **Agu CF,** Ricketts-Roomes TF, **Weaver S, Rae T,** Whitehorne-Smith P, Harrison J, Oshi SN. Investigating the



Role of Alcohol in Behavioural Problems at School among Secondary School Students in Barbados. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 45–50.

- Oshi SN, **Oshi DC**, **Weaver S**, **Agu CF**, Whitehorne-Smith P, Ricketts-Roomes T, Meka IA, **Rae T**, Abel WD. A School-Based Study of the Influence of Students' Relationship with Teachers on Their Cigarette Smoking Behaviour in Jamaica. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 7–12.
- Abel WD, **Weaver S**, Ricketts-Roomes T, **Agu CF**, Whitehorne-Smith P, **Oshi DC**, Harrison J, Smith K, Mitchell G, Belinfante A, **Rae T**, Oshi SN. Risk Factors Associated with Frequent Alcohol Binge Drinking among Jamaicans: Does Gender Matter? *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 39–44
- Oshi SN, Abel WD, Ricketts-Roomes T, Meka IA, Harrison J, **Weaver S**, **Agu CF**, Whitehorne-Smith P, Omeje J, **Rae T**, **Oshi DC**. Does Risk Perception Affect Alcohol Consumption among Secondary School Students in Jamaica? *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 13–18.
- **Agu CF**, **Oshi DC**, **Weaver S**, Abel WD, **Rae T**, Ricketts-Roomes T, Oshi SN. Alcohol Drinking among Primary School Children in Trinidad and Tobago: Prevalence and Associated Risk Factors. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 51–55.
- **Weaver S**, **Oshi DC**, Abel W, **Rae T**, Oshi SN, Whitehorne-Smith P, Ricketts-Roomes T, Agu CF. A Population-based Analysis of the Influence of Religious Affiliation on Alcohol Consumption among Jamaicans. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 33–37.
- Oshi SN, Abel WD, **Agu C**, Omeje JC, Whitehorne-Smith P, Ukwaja KN, Ricketts-Roomes T, Meka IA, **Weaver S**, Rae T, **Oshi DC**. Single Parent Family Structure as a Predictor of Alcohol Use among Secondary School Students: Evidence from Jamaica. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 19–23.

- **Agu CF, Weaver S**, Abel W, **Rae T**, Oshi SN, Whitehorne-Smith P, Ukwaja KN, Ricketts-Roomes T, Meka IA, **Oshi DC**. Are Adolescents likely to Start Smoking Early if Their Parents are Smokers? A Study of Jamaican High School Students. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 25–31.
- Oshi SN, Abel WD, Oshi DC, Whitehorne-Smith P, Ricketts-Roomes TF, Meka IA, **Weaver S, Rae T**, Mitchell G, Belinfante A, Agu CF. Parental Alcohol Drinking Habit as a Predictor of Alcohol Use among Secondary School Students in Barbados. *Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention* 2018; 19(S1): 57–62.
- **Books & Monographs: Lynch, Monique A.** (2018). *Building Your Confidence Workbook: A guide for BBW (Big Beautiful Women)*. Seattle, WA: Amazon Services LLC.
- **Wright-Myrie, D.** (2018). *Computations in nutrition: A guide for healthcare workers*. (1st Ed.). South Carolina: CreateSpace.

## **PUBLIC SERVICE**

### **Anderson-Johnson, P.**

- President, Caribbean Honour Society of Nursing.

### **Ashman, C.**

- Director of Club Service, the Rotaract Club of New Kingston.

### **Bolton, A.**

- The New Testament Church of God Renewal of The Mind National Young Adults Ministry Liaison, Youth Board Member and Teens Ministry Director.

### **Dover-Roberts, D.**

- Chairman for an Advisory Committee at a home for the aged in the Richmond Park district.

### **Garriques-Lloyd, S.**

- Vice President, Caribbean Honour Society of Nursing.

**Lynch, M**

- NYS Youth Ambassador, Founder & CEO of Chosen Stars Foundation, and other bodies.

**Pitter, C.**

- Member, Caribbean Regional Midwives' Association; Member, Jamaica Midwives' Association (Midwifery Educator), Member, Jamaica Family Planning Association Board, Member of the Board, The Nursing Council of Jamaica.

**Smith, S**

- Member, CHSN

**Weaver, S.**

- Member of the Lions Club.

**Wright-Myrie, D.**

- Advisor to the National Police Youth Club Council and Community Safety and Security Branch of the Jamaica Constabulary Force and other bodies.

**STUDENTS**

**Scholarships:**

- **Ophelia Simpson** and **Shellian Cowan** were awarded Scholarships from the Institute for the International Education of Students, valued at US\$5,000.00 each in December 2017. **Levon Smith** and **Sarika Williams** received Scholarships from the UHWI Batch 61, valued at US\$1,000.00 each. The award ceremony was held on April 20, 2018.

**Achievements:**

- **LASCO/ Nurses Association of Jamaica (NAJ) & UWI AWARDS:** The UWI, School of Nursing Western Jamaica Campus emerged the

School of the Year in the LASCO/ NAJ awards. Additionally, Mr. Desmond Campbell from the Western Jamaica Campus emerged student nurse of the year, the first male student to have ever received the award.

**Faculty Representative:** Mr. Demar Brown, is the current representative for the Faculty of Medical Sciences. He is the first Nursing Student to win this title.

**Faculty of Medical Sciences Students' Awards Ceremony:** Twelve students received awards at the Annual Faculty of Medical Sciences Annual Awards Ceremony.

The School also hosted the following:

- Students' Awards and Stripping Ceremony in November 2017 where students with GPA 3.6 and above were awarded.
- Student Enrichment Seminar in July 2018 for 4th year students in the BScN programme.

At the Annual Graduation exercise held on Saturday, November 4, 2017, approximately two hundred and forth three (243) students graduated from the Undergraduate programme. The franchisees had a combined total of one hundred and five (105).