The needs and wants of the Contemporary Student
Best practice in the 21st Century

PERSPECTIVES OF THE FUTURE CARICOM CITIZEN
INTRODUCTION

- What does the Modern Student Require?
- Weighing Wants vs Needs
- The Importance of Dialogue
- Student Representation and Engagement Key to Accomplishing Goals.
TOPICS IN THIS PRESENTATION

- Student Perceptions of the Job Market and the reason for pursuing a Degree
- Academics
- Regional and Global Competitiveness
- Culture of the University
- Student Services In the 21st Century
- Governance of the U.W.I.
- Conclusion
WHY DO STUDENTS WANT DEGREES?

- "Degree = Nice Paying Job"
- "Going to school will get me a job"
- Rise of the "Degree = Promotion" dynamic, the people who simply want the paper
- Few students following their passions
- Students and the Market discourages persons to be passionate about a job
- The University a factory for the Market?
- Internship and Placement, experience the job they want
How does one build a University to cater to the Students’ wants and needs?

STUDENT CENTERED, STUDENT FOCUSED
Regional experience necessary in addressing regional challenges

Less siloes, greater generalisation in degrees, advancing the gains of Foundation Courses

Students Reading for Exams and not degrees

Making content relevant to Caribbean Realities, the CLR James approach

Entrenchment of Academic Culture, the desire to learn, and keep doing so.
REGIONAL AND GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

- Multi – Cultural Experience to enjoy and grow from.
- A truly serene experience to study in a warm, hospitable welcoming environment
- UWI still the organisation which asks and researches the big questions of our time, here in the region.
- Must continue to shape the CARICOM Citizen through cross campus exchanges
- UWI should begin to consider its role in shaping the world we want
- Host International Delegates and Events
CULTURE OF THE UWI

- An institution of Academic Freedom and Open Mindedness
- Must be Cautious of the effects of students who do not seek degrees to broaden horizons
- Students should have co-curricular credits built into degrees
- Culture of Community Service must continue to be encouraged in students
- Rise of the Millennials and their place in UWI
- Research and Innovation must be continue to be encouraged
- Students should engage each other and lecturers in discussions on issues Nationally, Regionally, and Internationally.
STUDENT SERVICES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

- Let there be Internet!!! Wireless at the UWI
- A Job Placement Office
- Online Library Resources, the Way Forward for the UWI
- Ever Expanding Library Resources
- A Electronic Device at their Disposal (provided by perhaps preloaded with books)
- Evening Care Facilities, Caring for Children, Looking after Part Time Students
- Online Learning Options, how the UWI Remains Relevant
GOVERNANCE OF THE UWI

- Politics of Inclusion?
- Engagement with all stakeholders, a model for any system
- Starting on the Right Foot
- How “Great Power comes with Great Responsibility”, responsible student government, a key point to success
- Investing in good Student Governance, investing in future.
QUESTIONS?

“Dreams are realities waiting to happen”
- Unknown