

224

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS**

CENTRE FOR GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

**REPORT OF
OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES
FOR
SEPTEMBER 2001 — MAY 2004**

CGDS

Table of Contents

1. Introduction and Overview

- *Administration & Staffing*
- *Fulbright Scholar Programme*

2. Review of Operations

- *Teaching*
 - *Programmes offered*
 - *Supervision of Graduate Students*
- *Research*
 - *Centre-based*
 - *Regional*
 - *Individual*
 - *Publications*
- *Outreach*
 - *UWI*
 - *Schools and Educators*
 - *CBOs & NGOs*
 - *State Agencies*

3. Other Activities

4. Lunch-Time Seminar Series

5. Appendices

- *Core Courses and Electives offered*
- *Published Working Papers*
- *Newspaper Clippings of Activities*



INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

This report includes activities undertaken by the CGDS, St. Augustine Unit between September 2001 and May 2004.

Professor Rhoda Reddock was solely responsible for the unit's activities during the 2001-2 academic year, in the wake of Dr. Michelle Rowley's departure. Dr. Rowley left in August 2001 and Ms. Gabrielle Hosein, a postgraduate student, assisted by teaching the introductory gender course, **AR11C – Introduction to Women's Studies: Theoretical Concepts and Sources of Knowledge**, for this academic year and also added some exciting initiatives to the Centre's calendar.

The 2002 academic year saw the appointment of Dr. Patricia Mohammed¹, who now fills the post of Senior Lecturer at the Centre. Her contribution was immediate and significant, especially in relation to the graduate component of the CGDS' programme, as she serves as Coordinator of Postgraduate Studies. Dr. Mohammed also shares teaching duties with Professor Reddock. Dr. Mohammed also took over responsibility as Chair of the Editorial Sub-Committee.

Administration & Staffing – The Centre saw several other staff changes over this period. Ms. Alicia Blackman, temporary clerical assistant, left the CGDS in March 2002 and was replaced by Ms. Miriam Auguste, who joined the Centre in May 2002. Ms. Camille Antoine, who had joined the Centre as the unit's first Outreach officer in April 2001, was involved in numerous activities, ranging from responding to requests for talks and presentations, attending seminars and public discussions and organizing workshops. Representing the Centre at these events has served to strengthen links with the wider community, improving the Centre's capacity to respond to requests for training, seminars and talks and facilitating input into Public Policy Planning on gender-related issues. Ms. Antoine also set about shaping the Centre's Outreach Programme, in collaboration with other staff.

In 2001, Dr. Reddock was promoted to the level of Professor and was also awarded the Vice-Chancellor's Award for All-Round Excellence in Teaching and Administration, Research and Public Service. In July 2002, she received the Seventh Triennial CARICOM Award for Women at the Heads of Government Meeting held in Guyana.

In September 2002, Lara Roopnarine, Graduate Research Assistant, who had joined the Centre in October 2001, left, however, for the first time provision was made in the 2002/3 estimates for the post of Graduate Research Assistant and Ms. Heather Collins was selected to fill this position. She assumed duties in October 2002 but left the Centre after one year. Ms. Renette Feracho then filled the position.

Ms. Miriam Auguste left on August 8th 2003 to further her studies abroad and Ms. Devon Telesford replaced her three days later. These were both temporary positions. In the

¹ Former Senior Lecturer and Head of the Mona Unit of the CGDS.

budget of 2003-4, a permanent post of clerical assistant was added for the first time and Ms. Geeta Badloo filled this post in January 2004.

Fulbright Scholar Programme – The Centre has been fortunate in that it has hosted very good senior scholars who have enhanced its teaching programme. During the 2001/2 academic year, the St. Augustine Unit hosted three Visiting Fulbright Scholars – 2 Senior and 1 Junior. Professor Stephanie Seguino from the University of Vermont, U.S.A. who was attached to the CGDS from August 22nd 2001 until February 28th 2002 and taught the course, SY27D – *Gender and Development with reference to Caribbean Society*.

Dr. Keisha Abraham of Florida International University was attached to the CGDS from January 9th to June 2002 and Professor Carol Boyce-Davies was attached to the Centre from March to July 2002. Both of these scholars had teaching and research interests in the areas of Caribbean, African and African-American women's literature. They all presented papers in the lunchtime seminar series and have continued their interest in the CGDS' work.

Dr. Roseann Kanhai of Western University once again visited the CGDS during Semester II and was involved in teaching the course, *West Indian Women Writers* with Dr. Paula Morgan. She taught a module on Indo-Caribbean Women Writers.

Dr. Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University's School of Law joined the Centre for the academic year 2002/3. Professor Roberts contributed significantly towards the development of the research programme on Gender and Sexuality and the Implications for HIV/AIDS. She also taught in the course AR20M – Men and Masculinities in the Caribbean.

In 2003, Ms. Aisha Mohammed, a junior Fulbright Scholar, joined the Centre. Her specific research area was *Gender Negotiations in Cultural Art Forms* and she also supplemented her knowledge of gender studies with courses taught at this University. Ms. Mohammed spent one year at the centre.

In 2004, Professor Reddock was selected to receive a Fulbright New Century Scholar Fellowship. The research focus of this award is "Toward Equality: The Global Empowerment of Women". In April of 2004, she attended the Orientation and Goal-Setting Session at Emory Conference Centre, Atlanta, which was followed by a ten-week visit to the University of California, Berkeley from August to mid-October.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

TEACHING –

Undergraduate Programme – In academic year 2001/2 registration was much lower than the previous year and it was felt that deliberate discouragement on the part of peers, as well as lecturers, could be one of the reasons. Timetabling issues and the system of registration were also identified as contributors to the problem.

Programmes available during this period included: -

- Cross-Faculty Undergraduate courses (see Appendix I)
- Minor in Gender Studies (Faculty of Humanities and Education)
- Minor in Gender and Development Studies (Faculty of Social Sciences)
- Certificate course in Gender and Development by Distance Education.

During this year students who had completed the minors graduated for the first time.

By 2002/3, interest among the student population for the Centre's programmes was once again on the rise and there was an increase in enrolment figures. The Ar11C intake was approximately 60 and the SY27D intake totaled 35 students.

Nevertheless, problems with the registration of minors continued. It was suggested that Professor Reddock write to the Faculty Board as a matter coming from the Board of Studies, CGDS. The latter noted that minors in the Faculty of HUED were not declared in advance as in other faculties – instead, minors were declared when students were about to graduate – and this might be contributing to the problem.

Two new courses, *AR20M – Men & Masculinities in the Caribbean* and *NS21B – Gender and Science*, were introduced in Semester II, 2002/3 in the Faculties of Humanities and Education and Agriculture and Natural Sciences respectively. The Academic Board also approved a second course, *Race, Ethnicity, Class & Gender in the Anglophone Caribbean* for offer at a later date in the faculty of Social Sciences.

The two-year certificate programme by distance, offered through the Regional Coordinating Unit, started in January 2003 with 34 new students. The preparation of course materials for this programme continued.

Graduate Programme – During the 2001/2 academic year there were 20 students enrolled in the MPhil. Programme, thirteen (13) of whom were from the second cohort (that had begun in 2000/1). One graduate course was taught – *GD700 Issues in Caribbean Feminism and Gender Relations*. This is a yearlong course, aimed at “providing a structure for continued interaction and scholarly support among graduate students”. Thesis proposal seminar presentations were also part of this programme.

Dr. Patricia Mohammed, in a new position of Graduate Studies Coordinator, held introductory meetings with registered graduate students in the 2002/3 academic year. Ms. Hebe Verrest, a University of Amsterdam PhD. Candidate, was a Research Affiliate, whose comparative research examined the livelihood strategies of lower-income families in Paramaibo and Port of Spain. Professor Rhoda Reddock and Dr. Asad Mohammed of the Dept. of Land Surveying and Information, Faculty of Engineering are locally supervising Ms. Verrest.

Ms. Gabrielle Hosein and Ms. Donna Drayton, postgraduate students, had submitted their theses. Ms. Hosein has since received a scholarship from the University of North London for a PhD. in Anthropology.

In 2003/4, the third cohort of students entered the graduate programme. The Centre's programme places quite extensive requirements on students during their first year; nonetheless this cohort has proven itself to be extremely committed. Many of the students have prior experience in their chosen areas of research and it is felt that this will assist in the timely completion of their respective theses.

RESEARCH -

The Centre continued its work in its core research themes, as well as on individual, staff research and contract research. Listed below are the CGDS' research projects for the period under review: -

- **Gender, Science and Technology**

The Nariva Swamp: A Gendered Case Study – completion of a video based on the research methods used in this project. The video was presented at a public viewing on the campus where it was well-received. It was also well-received by the residents of the Kernahan and Cascadoux communities at the viewing that took place in August 2002.

- The project came to an end in 2003. Six research reports were distributed, but one had to be recalled for revision. A public viewing of the video entitled, *Living with the Wetlands: Women, Men and the Nariva Swamp*, took place on January 28th 2003 at the UWI Learning Resource Centre. This event was planned in collaboration with the Marketing and Communications Department of the St. Augustine campus and copies were presented to the Main Library, the Library of the Environmental Management Authority (EMA) and the then-Minister of public Utilities and the Environment.

Based on the success of the first video, the Centre was asked to apply for additional funds in order to produce a second video, focusing on the biophysical aspects of the research. This process is on-going.

- **Women, Gender and Water**

This is a new interdisciplinary research project examining the gendered use of water and water resources in Trinidad & Tobago and the implications for policy that began in 2002/3. On October 16th 2002, a round-table discussion entitled, *Women, Gender and Safe Water: Claim Your Right* was held to mark the occasion of World Rural Women's Day. The theme for the year was *Your Right to Safe Water* highlighting the importance of safe water to daily life and productive and reproductive activities for rural women in particular access is a major issue, central to the survival of their families and livelihood. While rural women play an important part in developing the nation's economy, from food production to farming, their contributions often go unnoticed. They examined the various issues surrounding the importance of a safe water supply system.²

Dr. Schneiderman's presence in Semester II of 2002/3 facilitated the initiation of the Women, Gender and Water research programme. The research paper, *Women, Gender and Community*, prepared in collaboration with Professor Reddock, was presented at the 2003 CSA Conference, and at a seminar held on June 16, 2003

Since then a meeting of interested stakeholders was organized in November 2003. Representatives from the UWI Faculties of Engineering and Agriculture and Natural Sciences and Kairi Consultants attended. Drs. Fredericka Deare and Dawn Phillip have agreed to be joint coordinators of this project. A follow-up meeting has since been held on September 16th 2004, in order to begin preparations for a workshop that will take place in early 2005.

- **Constructions of Caribbean Masculinities**

Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities: Theoretical and Empirical Analyses - the collection, edited by Professor Rhoda Reddock, was published in January 2004. This collection drew on papers from the 1996 Symposium on the Construction of Caribbean Masculinities organized by the Centre for Gender and Development Studies. Additional papers were commissioned and the original papers revised for this collection.

- **The Making Of Caribbean Feminisms**

This project was launched at St. Augustine in August 2001. Funds came from a Campus Research & Publication Grant and Ms. Rosalie Barclay began to work on the *Biographical Dictionary of Caribbean Feminists and Women's Activists*.

Work on the Biographical Dictionary continued into the 2002/3 academic year but, unfortunately, Ms. Barclay could not complete her work on the transcripts of women interviewees that she had been conducting and Ms. Kimberly Byng replaced her. Ms. Byng is currently conducting the research for this publication. The biographies of 30 women were prepared and five more remained.

² Panelists included – Dr. Lester Forde, Water Resources Engineer; Ms. Niala Maharaj, Consultant to the Gender and Water Alliance and Global Water Partnership and Ms. Rose Rajbansee of the Network of Rural Women's Producers and the Plum Mitan Community.

Work also began on the full-length, popular biographies of Ms. Christina Lewis and Ms. Beatrice Greig, both women activists of the early 20th century. Ms. Naette Lee worked on the biographies during the vacation period of 2003/4 and Ms. Kimberly Byng continued this work.

The St. Augustine Campus Librarian, agreed to the establishment of a Special Collection on Caribbean Feminisms. Ms. Kathleen Helenese-Paul was assigned to work with the Centre on this project. Negotiations took place on the preparation of a Deed of Gift, a draft of which was sent to the University's Legal Officer and has subsequently been revised.

- **Gender, Sexuality and the Implications for HIV/AIDS in Trinidad and Tobago**
Planning for this project began in 2001 and grew out of a long-term desire of Prof. Reddock's to conduct research on sexualities in the region and the aborted effort to develop a collaborative research project on adolescent sexualities by the *Caribbean Network on Studies on Masculinities*, in which Dr. Mohammed and she were involved.

The research initiative came on stream over the 2002/3 period. It aims to examine the influence of gender norms, expectations, behaviours and the associated power relations, on sexuality and the implications for HIV/AIDS risk and prevention. The project is especially interested in understanding sexuality among youth, between the ages of 15-24, as it relates to their risk of HIV infection. Discussions began with Dr. Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University and CGDS affiliate, Dr. Dianne Douglas about this new research project.

A number of project proposals were prepared and work began on a pilot phase. This phase included: -

- The preparation of an annotated bibliography by Lirlyn Elliott on this theme (completed and presented to a March 2004 Symposium)
- A pilot study of attitudes, behaviour and taboos among UWI students under 25 years old using the focus group method (interviews completed and transcribed; analysis ongoing)
- An international symposium, which was held from March 11-13th 2004, in an attempt to convene experts to identify gaps in the research in this area and to give direction for future research. Professor Barry Chevannes was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony.
- Analysis of the data of the HIV/AIDS hotline (ongoing).

Work is continuing on the completion of these research activities and on publishing, in book form, the papers presented at the symposium. The bibliography is also to be published. The main researchers in this project are Prof. Dorothy Roberts, Northwestern University, Dr. Dianne Douglas, Yale University, Dr. Sandra Reid, UWI and Prof. Rhoda Reddock, UWI.

- **Gender Differentials in Secondary and Tertiary Education Systems in Trinidad & Tobago, 2002-2004**

This island-wide research project emerged in response to the current concern about male 'underachievement' in education. It is being conducted in collaboration with the School of Education and funded by a grant to Professor Rhoda Reddock. It entails an exploration of perceived gender differentials in educational performance at the secondary levels in Trinidad & Tobago.

An important element of this project is the observation of classroom interactions in six secondary schools in Trinidad & Tobago and the analysis of CXC data. One emphasis is the assessment of gender-disaggregated data on the education system in Trinidad and Tobago and the development of a preliminary understanding of factors contributing to gender differentials in educational performance.

- The project has three main components – a statistical analysis, by Dr. June George, of educational achievement using CXC data; a study of education and student identity being carried out by Dr. Jennifer Mohammed and Mr. Carol Keller and a classroom interaction study by Dr. Jeannette Morris.

The schools being used in the study are – Queen's Royal College, Signal Hill Senior Comprehensive School, St. Joseph's Convent and St. George's College. One of the CGDS' MPhil. students, Mr. Melvin Julien, is also conducting research in this area.

Regional Research Projects

- **Cultural Studies Initiative:³**
Caribbean Gender Ideologies
The Impact of Globalization on Representations of Gender Ideologies in the Caribbean – commissioned paper prepared by Professor Reddock as part of the Ford Foundation-funded Cultural Studies Project.
- **The Making Of Feminisms in the Caribbean**
This project aims to map the histories and constitution of 'feminisms' in the Anglophone Caribbean. It will bring together existing documents and materials of prominent and self-defined feminists, as well as the grassroots activities of persons who have challenged and redefined ideologies and structures of patriarchy and sexism in the Caribbean.

³ Both Professor Reddock and Dr. Mohammed lecture in the Cultural Studies programme on the St. Augustine Campus, which is administered by the Department of Liberal Arts.

- **Gender Differentials in Educational performance in the Secondary and Tertiary Levels of Caribbean Education Systems**

This project is the first comprehensive regional research programme of its magnitude (examining six territories), ever undertaken, to provide an understanding of points of male/female advantage and disadvantage at the secondary and tertiary levels of education systems in the region, with respect to certain key indicators.

The project is guided by six themes: -

Access to educational opportunities; Attitudes and perceptions about schooling; Perceptions of value of certification; Programme Offerings; Provision in relation to student aspirations; Certification and Labour Market trends.

Elements of the regional project include the execution of a Data Base Study and the examination of attrition/dropout rates; demographics; gender differentials in participation, performance and provision and the Alternative Pathways Project

Individual Staff Research: - Dr. Patricia Mohammed

- Image and Iconography in the Evolution of Caribbean Identity – Dr. Mohammed received a grant from the Campus Research & Publications Fund Committee for this project – this has since been exhausted. She is now working with a grant from the UWI Principal, which is being used to complete the first two segments of the documentary series and should be available for distribution by next semester. The book has been accepted for publication by Macmillan Caribbean (UK) and Palgrave (USA). The manuscript is due in December 2004.
- Navigating A Stream of Thought: Feminist Waves in the Caribbean – interdisciplinary study aimed at presenting a body of thought which we might constitute as the rivers of Caribbean Feminist Thought – this project is still in the pipeline.

Publications

Books:

- *Gendered Realities: Essays in Caribbean Feminist Thought*, Patricia Mohammed, Editor, The University of the West Indies Press and Centre for Gender and Development Studies, Mona, Kingston, Jamaica, 537 pp. (Reprinted in its first year of publication by the UWI Press due to regional

and international course demand and was third in the Best-sellers list for the UWI Press in the year 2002-3) (2002)

- ***Gender Negotiations Among Indians in Trinidad: 1917-1947***, Institute of Social Studies/Palgrave: The Hague and London, 319 pp. (2001)

Articles/Chapters:

- Unmasking Masculinity and Deconstructing Femininity: Problems and Possibilities in Feminist Epistemology” in ***Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities***, Rhoda Reddock (Ed.), University of the West Indies (UWI) Press, Kingston, Jamaica, pp. 38-67. (2004)
- “Blueprint for Gender in Creole Trinidad: Exploring Gender Mythology through Calypsos of the 1920s and 1930s” in ***The Culture of Gender and Sexuality in the Caribbean***, Linden Lewis (Ed.), University Press of Florida, Gainesville, pp.129-168. (2003)
- “A Symbiotic Visiting Relationship: The Influence of Caribbean Feminist Historiography on Caribbean Feminist Theory” in ***Confronting Power, Theorizing Gender: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in the Caribbean***, Eudine Barriteau (Ed.), UWI Press, Kingston, Jamaica, pp. 101-125. (2003)
- “Refining Gender Methodology: Studying Masculinity through Popular Song Lyrics” in Caribbean ***Masculinities: Working Papers***, Rafael L. Ramirez, Ineke Cunningham, and Victor I. Garcia-Toro (Eds.), HIV/AIDS Research and Education Center, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico, pp. 33-56. (2002)
- “The Creolization of Indian Women in Trinidad” (Revised paper first published in 1988) in ***Questioning Creole: Creolisation Discourses in Caribbean Culture*** (In honour of Kamau Braithwaite), Verene Shepherd and Glen Richards (Eds.), Ian Randle Publishers and James Currey Publishers: Kingston and Oxford, pp. 130-147. (2002)
- "Taking Possession: Symbols of Empire and Nation" in ***Small Axe 11: A Journal of Caribbean Criticism***, pp 31-58. This volume entitled *Narratives of Empire*, edited by Anthony Bogues, Indiana University Press, Indiana, USA, March 2002
- “Refining Gender Methodology: Studying Masculinity through Popular Song Lyrics” in ***Caribbean Masculinities: Working Papers***, Rafael L. Ramirez, Ineke Cunningham and Victor I. Garcia-Toro, HIV/AIDS Research and Education Centre, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico pp. 33-56, (2002)
- “A Very Public Private Man: Trinidad’s Eric Eustace Williams (1911-83)” in ***Caribbean Charisma: Reflections on Leadership, Legitimacy and Populist Politics***, Anton Allahaar (Ed.), Ian Randle Publishers and Lynne Rienner Publishers: Kingston, Boulder and London, pp. 155-191. (2001)
- “The Emergence of a Caribbean Iconography in the Evolution of Identity” in ***New Caribbean Thought: A Reader***, Brian Meeks and Folke Lindahl (Eds.), UWI Press, Jamaica, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, pp. 232- 264. (2001)

Individual Staff Research – Prof. Rhoda Reddock

Ethnicity, Class and Gender in Contemporary Trinidad and Tobago: Intersections and Contestations – This study encompasses a number of research and collaborative initiatives that seek to examine this complex phenomena. It involves the examination of the historical and contemporary factors affecting gender relations among ethnic, inter-ethnic and cultural groups in Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean.

Publications

Books:

- *Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities: Theoretical and Empirical Analyses*, University of the West Indies Press, Kingston, Jamaica, 2004.
- *Caribbean Sociology: Introductory Readings*, Ian Randle Publishers/ Marcus Weiner, Kingston/New York 2001 (Co-edited with Christine Barrow).

Articles/Chapters:

- “Conceptualizing Difference in Caribbean Feminist Theory” in *New Caribbean Thought: A Reader*, Brian Meeks and Folke Lindhahl (eds.) – The University of the West Indies Press, Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad, 2001.
- “Cambios en la situacion de las mujeres en el Caribe a traves del siglo XX”, Alice Colon y Rhoda Reddock in OP Cit, *Revista del Centro de Investigaciones Historicas* Num. 14, 2002, Departamento de Historia, Facultad de Humanidades, Recinto de Rio Piedras, Universidad de Puerto Rico, 2002
- “Contestations over Culture, Class, Gender and Identity in Trinidad and Tobago: The Little Tradition” in *Questioning Creole: Creolization Discourses in Caribbean Culture* (In honour of Kamau Brathwaite), Ian Randle Publishers and James Currey Publishers: Kingston and Oxford, 2002.
- “Masculinity, Ethnicity and Identity in the Contemporary Socio-Economic Context of Trinidad and Tobago” in *Caribbean Masculinities: Working Papers*, Rafael L. Ramirez, Ineke Cunningham and Victor I. Garcia-Toro, HIV/AIDS Research and Education Centre, University of Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 2002.
- “Women and the Process of Democratization in the Anglophone Caribbean” in Jaime Behar, Ulf Johnson and Mats Lundahl (eds.) *Currents of Change: Globalization, Democratization and Institutional Reform in Latin America*, Institute of Latin American Studies, Stockholm University, 2002.
- “Men as Gendered Beings: Masculinity Studies in the Caribbean”, *Social and Economic Studies*, Vol. 52, No. 3, September 2003.

- “The Changing Status of Women in the Contemporary Caribbean” (with Alice Colon) in Bridget Brereton (ed) *General History of the Caribbean*, Vol. 5 *The Caribbean in the Twentieth Century*. UNESCO Publishers, Paris, Macmillan, London, 2004

Conference Papers:

- “The Role of Women in Democratization” – Paper presented at the International Conference to mark the 50th year Jubilee of the Institute of Latin American Studies of Stockholm University – October 2001
- “The First Mrs. Garvey and Others: Feminism and Pan-Africanism in the Early Colonial Caribbean” – Paper presented at The Berkshire Conference of Historians of Women, University of Connecticut, June 2001 (Also presented to Women’s Worlds Congress, Makerere University, Kampala, July 2002)
- “Caribbean Masculinities and Femininities: The Impact of Globalisation on Cultural Representations”, Mona Academic Conference, “Gender in the 21st Century: Perspectives, Visions and Possibilities”, August 29-31, 2003, Kingston, Jamaica.
- “Global Networks on Violence Against Women”, presented to Seminar, International Institute for the Sociology of Law, Onati, Spain – September 2003.
- “Reflections on Gender and Democracy in the Anglophone Caribbean: Historical and Contemporary Considerations: SEPHIS/CODESRIA Lecture No. 5, January 2004 (Published in Booklet)
- Professor Reddock compiled two thematic issues of *Social and Economic Studies* to mark the Tenth Anniversary of the establishment of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at UWI. The first issue was published in September 2003 and the second in December 2003

CGDS Publications

- In the 2002/3 academic year, the fifth and sixth Working Papers in the CGDS’ series were completed and published. These were entitled: -

Working Paper - Like Bush Fire in my Arms: Interrogating the World of Caribbean Romance – Paula Morgan

Working Paper - Aspects of Gender in the Spiritual Baptist religion in Tobago: Notes from the Field – Maarit Laitinen

- In the 2003/4 period two more Working papers were published. These are entitled: -

Working Paper - The Rite of Domination: Tales from Domestic Violence Court – Mindie Lazarus-Black

Working Paper - Why are Women more likely than Men to be Unemployed in the Caribbean? – Stephanie Seguino

- In January 2004, the Centre published the Tenth Anniversary Lecture delivered by Professor Elsa Leo-Rhynie on December 3rd. The booklet entitled *Gender Studies: Crossing Boundaries, Charting New Directions* has allowed CGDS well-wishers and members of the public access to this extremely relevant lecture.

OUTREACH -

The Centre's Outreach activities aim to make education and knowledge on gender relevant to the university and the wider community. The programme includes workshops, seminars, lectures and short training courses. Involvement in outreach activities has gained the Centre a great deal of attention and this has redounded to the University's benefit.

1. UWI Outreach

- **UWI HARP (HIV/AIDS Response Programme)**

The UWI, St. Augustine formed a campus-wide committee to spearhead a response to the HIV/AIDS problem. This committee forms part of a Regional University HARP Committee coordinated on the Mona Campus. In keeping with its Outreach commitment, the Centre agreed to be part of this steering committee that held its first meeting in February 2002. Ms. Camille Antoine is the Centre's representative. She attended a two-day, strategic planning meeting in Mona on August 7th and 8th, 2002. Part of HARP's mandate is to provide a UWI policy on HIV/AIDS, curriculum review, and research and information dissemination. UWI HARP is also intended to operate as a holding area for information on HIV/Aids.

Ms. Antoine also attended the Business & Scientific Meetings of the UWI/HARP, which was held at the Kapok Hotel, Trinidad on September 12th & 13th 2003 and at the Knutsford Hotel, Jamaica on June 10th – 13th, 2004.

The focus of this meeting was curriculum development and projects links to the School of Continuing Studies and the Caribbean HIV/AIDS Regional Training Centre (CHART)

- **Sowing Sisterhoods Workshop** – This was a one-day workshop held for young activists from August 16-17 2002. Organized by then-graduate student, Ms. Gabrielle Hosein, then a graduate student of the CGDS, the workshop brought young women from different organisations together for training in organizing and mobilization.
- **Book Launch - CREOLE RECITATIONS - Faith Smith**
The CGDS hosted “A Post-Carnival Interlude” at the Social Science Faculty Lounge on Thursday, March 6, 2003. The event, which was organized by Ms. Mirriam Auguste and Ms. Heather Collins, was held to introduce the book *Creole Recitations* and its author Dr. Faith Smith. The artist Christopher Cozier, whose work appears on the cover of *Creole Recitations*, was invited to present a selection of slides of past and ongoing work to the audience.
- **UWI Orientation Week**
As part of its continued support of the Women and Development Studies Group (WDSG) the Centre assisted in organizing an information booth for Orientation week, held in September of each year at the St. Augustine Campus.

2. Outreach to Schools and Educators

- **UWI Open Days 2001/3 & 2002/3** – The Annual Open Day for secondary school students and the general public took place in October. The Centre played an active role in this process through representation by the Outreach Officer on the Planning Committee level and in the implementation process. The activities of the Centre included an information booth, viewing of videos, cultural events and hosting talks on various topics. A brief video showcasing the work of the Centre was also produced. In 2002 activities included rap sessions on HIV/AIDS and sexuality, facilitated by Rapport of the Ministry of Health. This group is staffed by young women and men who use popular theatre methodology to educate young people on HIV/AIDS
- **Creative Strategies for Making a Difference in Secondary Schools: Reclaiming the Classroom – short-term training** - These two workshops were conducted in collaboration with the Social Work Unit of the Faculty of Social Sciences and aimed at addressing the mounting violence in our nation’s schools and providing teachers with alternative strategies to corporal punishment in the disciplining of children. The official opening of the schools’ workshops was held at the CGDS on August 19th, 2002. Ms. Camille Antoine appeared on Trinidad & Tobago Television’s Morning Show, Good Morning TNT with Dr. Maud Blair⁴ to inform the public of these workshops.

⁴ A former Visiting Scholar at the CGDS with expertise in School Discipline, Dr. Blair works in the UK Dept. of Education and Skills.

Two, one-week workshops were then held at SALISES, UWI and Mayaro. Dr. Blair facilitated.

- **Reclaiming the Classroom: Alternatives to Corporal Punishment** - Based on the success of the earlier workshops, the Centre developed a training programme comprising a series of eight one-day workshops for the Ministry of Education as a follow-up to the Creative Strategies Workshop held in August 2002. These workshops fell under the ambit of the Ministry's Project Peace programme that aimed at eliminating violence in schools. The target groups were teachers and principals of secondary schools. Approximately 320 teachers were trained in alternative discipline strategies, classroom management and gender awareness. Core elements of these workshops were youth developmental assets and the gendered dimension of youth assets. The workshops began on May 9th 2003 and ended on April 30th 2004.
- **UWI Open Day 2003/4** - This academic year, on October 14th, the Marketing and Communications Department decided to host a Guidance Forum for Teachers. This decision was taken because it was found that students knew more about the UWI system than their teachers. The Marketing unit will now alternate its focus between teachers and students. The CGDS played an active role in this event.
- **Workshop on Gender and Economics – short-term training** - The CGDS organized a one-day workshop on Gender and Economics entitled, *Rethinking Development: Does Gender Matter?* in collaboration with the UNECLAC. The workshop was held on December 5th, 2001. It aimed at engendering debate on the ways in which gender analysis can influence the teaching and practice of economics.

3. Outreach to CBOs and NGOs

- **Public Services Association Women's Conference** - The Centre participated in the Caribbean Public Services Association Women's Conference that was held from 9th to 10th August 2001. The Public Services Association of Trinidad and Tobago hosted the conference this year, the theme of which was "Women Wake Up- Celebrate Life and Achievement." The Women's Conference was part of a larger, regional conference of The Caribbean Public Services Association.
- **Workshop on Gender, Peace and Development** - The Centre, in collaboration with UNESCO, conducted a workshop on *Gender, Peace and Development in the Caribbean* from September 19th to 20th, 2001. The purpose of the workshop was to present the findings of a research project commissioned by UNESCO with the aims of devising a programme of activities on Gender, Peace and Development in the

Caribbean and to establish a core group to implement the programme. The study was co-ordinated by Dr. Gwendoline Williams. The Project Management team comprised Professor Rhoda Reddock and Dr. Kamala Kempadoo. Mrs. Claudia De Four, Interim Co-ordinator of the Women and Development Studies Group, provided advice on compiling the bibliography. Mr. Tracy Hackshaw and Ms. Gabrielle Hosein of St. Augustine Campus and Ms. Shakira Maxwell and Ms. Nicola Smith from the Mona Campus conducted research. Ms. Olatz Landa, a Basque volunteer at the UNESCO Kingston Office functioned as a member of the Mona Team.

- **Exploring and Analyzing the Illegal Use of Small Arms in the Caribbean: Issues for Governance** – Ms. Lara Roopnarine and Ms. Camille Antoine represented the Centre at this two-day regional workshop that was held from March 25 – 26 2002. Participants heard status reports from the countries represented and were involved in small group sessions devising strategies and recommendations around critical areas of demand/supply issues, measures to be taken and research needed. Recommendations included follow-up workshops, strategies for intervention, the identification of key research areas and linkages with organizations already involved in this issue. The workshop was sponsored by IANSA and the Centre had an advisory role in the development of follow-up events..
- **Exploring and Analyzing 11 - The Illegal Use of Small Arms in the Caribbean: Issues for Governance** - The second regional workshop on small arms took place from October 27th to 29th, 2002 at the Cascadia Hotel. Over the three days participants heard status reports from the countries represented and were involved in small group sessions. This workshop helped to strengthen the Centre's links with the Women's Movement as we collaborated with them in the conceptualization and organization of the event.
- **United Nations Development Programme** – Ms. Camille Antoine represented the Centre at a one-day stakeholder meeting of the UNDP on The *National Human Development Report*. This meeting brought together stakeholders with the aim of arriving at consensus on the topic of choice for the *2002 National Human Development Report (NHDR) of Trinidad and Tobago*. Ms. Antoine was a member of the support committee that worked towards the preparation of the report.
- **International Labour Organization** - The CGDS also participated in a roundtable discussion on employment discrimination organized by the ILO. This discussion was geared towards soliciting information on the prevalence and forms of discrimination in order to provide data for a wider regional project on discrimination in the Caribbean, with a view towards influencing policy making and legal drafting.
- **Panel Discussion on Gender and the Media** – In 2001, the CGDS participated in a panel discussion on Gender and the Media in response to a request the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA T&T). Ms. Camille Antoine, Outreach Officer, was a panelist in the discussion, which was part of their workshop on “Gender and the Media in the Caribbean.” The workshop served to set the context

for defining the term gender and the notions of gender-sensitive and gender analysis in order to provide participants with an understanding of gender as a tool of analysis.

- **Workshop on Gender, Law and the Legal System – short-term training** - this workshop was originally planned for April 2002 in conjunction with the Hugh Wooding Law School. The objectives of the workshop were to impart a gender perspective on issues of the Law and the operations of the legal system in Trinidad and Tobago. Target groups included legal practitioners, magistrates and judges, women's organizations, Crisis Centres and Domestic Violence Centres. The workshop actually took place from October 29th – November 1st 2003.

4. **Outreach to State Agencies**

- **The National Gender Policy** - Dr. Patricia Mohammed chaired the Teleconference on the National Gender Policy (NGP) on August 24th 2002 at the Canadian High Commission. Preparation of the NGP proposal continued throughout the academic year.

In 2003 the Centre was contracted by the UNDP to collaborate with the government's Division of Gender Affairs in the formulation of a National Gender Policy and Action Plan (NGPP), for Trinidad & Tobago⁵. This became an extremely important component of CGDS' activities, as it responded to the demands of interested members of the local community. Activities for this undertaking began with a National Consultation on June 13th 2003 at the Trinidad Hilton, hosted by the Ministry of Community Development and Gender Affairs. Approximately 300 stakeholders attended. An internal review of the consultations was held and a report was prepared

Eight community consultations were also held – this was a major undertaking for the Centre and undergraduate and postgraduate students of the CGDS, as well as Ministry officials and members of women's organizations acted as facilitators and rapporteurs. They were trained in a one-day seminar held on June 11th 2003.

The CGDS has submitted a draft of the NGPP to the Ministry and is awaiting comment.

⁵ Funded by CIDA-GEF and the UNDP

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Meetings with Visitors to the CGDS

- Ms. Els Mulder – Institute of Social Studies, the Hague – visited the CGDS in February 2002 for the launch of Dr. Mohammed’s book, *Gender Negotiations Among Indians in Trinidad – 1917-1947*
- Baroness Amos – United Kingdom Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs – April 3rd 2002
- Ms. Denise Paiewonsky Di Franco, Centro de Estudio del Genero, Dominican Republic, Oxfam Consultant – September 6th 2002
- Delegation from the Republic of Suriname re: Drafting of Domestic Violence Legislation – September 11th 2002
- Ms. Harriet Massingberd, Representative of the British Council – September 23rd 2002
- Delegation of Banulact – On September 29th 2002, the CGDS met with members of Banulact, a network of women’s organisations from the Republic of Ireland that works toward attaining women’s rights and social justice.
- The Centre hosted Professor Sylvia Wynter, Distinguished Lecturer. A small luncheon was held in her honour on November 11th 2002. Prof. Wynter also presented a lunchtime seminar.
- Minister Diane Seukeran – Minister with Responsibility for Gender Affairs – February 3rd 2004

Annual International Women’s Day Production

2002 - This popular cultural event is held in commemoration of International Women’s Day, which is celebrated annually on March 8th. In 2002, on March 25th the event celebrated the life and achievements of Ms. Beryl Mc Burnie, the acknowledged “Mother of Caribbean Dance”. The performance was entitled *Movements and Rhythms: A Celebration of Beryl Mc Burnie*. It featured several artistes in the areas of dance, rap poetry, and drumming.

2003 - JAZZABELLE: Women and Caribbean Jazz – In 2003, the cultural celebration’s featured guest was Ms. Marjorie Whyllie, renowned jazz pianist, drummer, composer and

Head of the Music Unit, UWI, Mona, Jamaica. This concert was sold out, yet patrons willingly paid to stand and listen.

2004 – *Men Who Love Women* – On Sunday March 21st, the CGDS' concert highlighted artistes such as The Black Stalin and the popular all-male group, 3 Canal. Although this concert was marred by technical difficulties, patrons enjoyed the diverse performances.

International Women's Day - 2002, 2003 & 2004

The Centre participated in the national celebrations for International Women's Day on March 8th organized by the Network of NGOs. The days' activities comprised booth displays, cultural events and an annual rally through Port of Spain. The CGDS organized displays, with members of staff and students giving their time to work in the booth. The Centre also participated in the planning meetings before the events. Members of the public as well as Government officials visited our booths.

How To Publish Workshop

On February 22nd 2003, twenty participants gathered at the Life Sciences Conference Room, Faculty of Natural Sciences and Agriculture to participate in a seminar on *How to Publish*, organized by the WDSG and the CGDS. This seminar looked at publishing needs, perils and rewards as well as the different requirements and styles from the perspectives of the various disciplines. Panelists included Dr. Patricia Mohammed, Dr. Brian Cockburn (Dept. of Life Sciences), Dr. Sam Rawlins (Dept. of Microbiology) and Ms. Zaleena Ramnath (Office of Research). They spoke of their experiences in their respective disciplines and then elaborated on the best methods of proposal writing, accessing funds and getting one's work published.

The panelists called for the establishment of a regional research publication that would provide a space for young Caribbean academics.

Tenth Anniversary Celebrations - Regional

The Mona Academic Conference entitled *Gender in the 21st Century: Perspectives, Visions and Possibilities* was held from the 29th – 31st August 2003. Ms. Mia Mottley, Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney-General of Barbados was the keynote speaker. Professor Reddock and Ms. Gabrielle Hosein, then a graduate student of the Centre, both presented papers at the Conference, while Ms. Glenda Ottley attended on behalf of the Administrative, Technical and Service Staff (ATSS) of the unit.

Dr. Mohammed's presentation comprised a film entitled *A Different Imagination*, produced and directed by herself.

St. Augustine

At the St. Augustine Unit, the Centre's Tenth Anniversary celebrations included a Public Lecture and Award Ceremony in December 2003⁶ and the publication of a Tenth Anniversary Booklet⁷; the production and sale of 't-shirts', stickers and commemorative cards. It is hoped that a library exhibition and video-production will be produced within the coming academic year.

In an effort to acknowledge the support and contribution of individuals to the development of the Centre, seven awards were given to:

- Ms. Caroline Moore – the CGDS' first Secretary
- Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran
- Professor Selwyn Ryan
- Dr. David Dolly
- Dr. Paula Morgan
- Professor Bridget Brereton
- Dr. Marjorie Thorpe

Additionally, awards were presented to two of the longest serving members of staff – Ms. Susan Jacelon, Office Attendant and Ms. Glenda Ottley, Secretary.

⁵Professor Elsa Leo-Rhynie, Professor of Gender and Development Studies and PVC, Undergraduate Affairs, delivered the lecture on December 3rd 2003.

⁶Ms. Karel McIntosh (student assistant) has completed writing the booklet. Ms. Donna Drayton (student asst.) has been assigned the duty of completing the publication process

LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES (LTSS)

The Centre's Lunch-Time Seminar Series for the period 2001 - 2004 was quite successful and was attended by the media, staff, students and a growing community of interested persons. As can be seen in the following list, the presentations covered a wide range of material: -

2001-2002

- Gender and Environment: SEWA's experience with women and water management in India – Ms. Preeti Misra
- Caribbean Looking Glass: A Reflection of Mirrored Images in History and Culture – Dr. Patricia Mohammed
- “And in those years my Life had become increasingly a Bridge and A Field of Women” – Dr. Keisha Abraham
- “Edwidge Danticat: For the Sake of Haiti” – Dr. Patricia Ismond

2002-2003

- Catching Dynamic Gender trends with simple Data Analysis: A Skeptical View – Dr. Mark Figueroa
- Race, Gender and the Meaning of Reproductive Freedom – Dr. Dorothy Roberts
- Women, Gender and Safe Water: Claim your Right- Niala Maharaj, Dr, Lester Forder, Rose Rajbansee
- “Ten years was not Enough in 1985”: Reflections on the History of Feminism and the Women's Movement – Sonia Cuales
- Gender Acculturation and The Muslim Community between the War – Halima-Sa'adia Kassim
- Human Rights Law and Social Change in relation to Women – Heather Collins
- *POCOMANIA*: Una Marson's 1938 play – Dr. Leah Rosenberg
- “*The Taste of Rum and Coca Cola*”: Calypso, Nationalism and American Audiences in Occupied Trinidad - Professor Harvey Neptune
- *Gender, Geology and Environmental Justice* – Dr. Jill Schneiderman
- *The Reality of Unsafe Abortion in Trinidad and Tobago*: A call for Abortion Law Reform – Dylis McDonald
- *Aestheticising Nationalism, Race, Gender and the Representation of America* – Professor Carroll Smith-Rosenberg
- *Theorising Black, Gay Subjectivity*: From Margin to Centre – Dr. Wesley Crichlow
- *The Gender and Social Implications of the Illegal use of Small Arms in the Caribbean* – Folade Mutota
- *Rescuing Diaspora*: Rethinking the role of migration and diasporic identity in international political economy – Chanzo Greenidge

- *Gender, Science and the Environment* – Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran and Dr. Jill Schneiderman
- *Women, Gender and Water: A presentation of research findings* – Dr. Jill Schneiderman

2003-2004

- February 6th (Friday) - Professor Maureen Cain – “Criminogenesis and the War Against Crime: In Search of a Feminist Method”
- February 11th – Ms. Adele Todd – “When You Dream Wedding!”
- February 18th – Ms. Rebecca Prentice – “Garment Workers in Trinidad – Notes from the Field”
- March 3rd – Ms. Louise Horne – “Politician and Activist”
- March 17th – Dr. Adele Jones – “Children of Migration: A study of the Psycho-Social status of Children in Trinidad whose parents have migrated”
- March 24th - Lawrence Scott – A reading from the prize-winning novel “Aelred’s Sin”
- March 31st – Dr. Jennifer Rouse – Gender and Ageing
- April 7th – Aisha Mohammed – Chutney: Gender Negotiations in Cultural Art Forms
- April 14th —Anslem Francis – Law, Peace and Development
- April 21st – Ms. Gale Rigobert – ICTs: Leading the Way to Sustainable Development
- April 28th – Rennette Feracho – Development as Empowerment: The Non-Traditional Skills Training for Low-Income Women Project
- May 5th – Michele Alexandre – “Dance Halls, Masquerades and the Law: a call to reform Gender-Biased Laws in Trinidadian Jurisprudence

Appendix I – Core Courses and Electives Offered – 2001-2004

Undergraduate Programmes: -

- Minor in Gender and Development – Faculty of Social Sciences
-Core Courses – AR22C; SY27D; SY37G
- Minor in Gender Studies – Faculty of Humanities and Education
-Core Courses – AR11C [recommended pre-requisite]; AR22C; SY37G

Courses taught by CGDS staff: -

- AR11C – Introduction to Women’s Studies: Theoretical Concepts and Sources of Knowledge
- AR22C – Feminist Theoretical Frameworks
- SY27D – Gender and Development with Reference to Caribbean Society
- SY37G – Sex, Gender and Society: Sociological Perspectives

Courses taught by affiliate staff in other departments: -

- AX39A – Gender Issues in Agriculture
- E21G – African Diaspora: Women’s Narratives
- E25M – Caribbean Women Writers
- E37B – African-American Women Writers
- F26H – French Caribbean Women’s Writers
- H30C – Women and Gender in the History of the English-Speaking Caribbean
- NS21B – Gender and Science
- S26D – Women in Hispanic Literature

Postgraduate Programme: -

- GD702 - Issues in Caribbean Feminism and Gender Relations
- GD712 – Feminist Methodology and Epistemology
- GD701 – Advanced Feminist Theory

Appendix II – Published Working Papers

1. Midlife and Older Women in Jamaica: Coping with Family Life and Work Situations by Joan Rawlins
2. Black Power, Gender Ideology, Cultural Change and the Beginning of Feminist Discourse in Urban Trinidad in the 1970s by Victoria Pasley
3. Feminist Methods: Women, Traditional Health Knowledge and Ethnoveterinary Knowledge by Cheryl Lans and Niels Poling
4. Law and the Politics of Inclusion: Women's Experiences in Antigua by Mindie Lazarus-Black
5. "Like Bush Fire in my Arms": Interrogating the World of Caribbean Romance by Paula Morgan
6. Aspects of Gender in the Spiritual Baptist Religion in Tobago: Notes from the Field by Maarit Laitinen
7. The Rite of Domination: Tales from Domestic Violence Court by Mindie Lazarus-Black
8. Why are Women more likely than Men to be Unemployed in the Caribbean? By Stephanie Seguino