

## Ghany takes charge at UWI's SALISES

Political scientist Dr Hamid Ghany is the new director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) at the university's St Augustine Campus.

He succeeds Professor Patrick Watson, who has served as Director since 2003. The appointment took effect on October 1.

SALISES was established in August 1999 through a merger of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, created in 1948, and the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences, formed in 1985. It was named after Sir Arthur Lewis, 1979 Nobel Laureate in Economics, and the first Vice-Chancellor of The University of the West Indies.

The institute's mission is to undertake high-quality research and graduate teaching in the areas of social and economic development policy, governance and public policy with special reference to small developing countries.

SALISES operates on the three landed campuses of The University of the West Indies—Mona, St Augustine and Cave Hill.

Prior to this appointment, Ghany was senior lecturer and former Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at UWI, St Augustine (2003-2012).

He has a BA from The University of the West Indies, an MA from Fordham University, New York, USA, and a PhD from the London School of Economics and Political Science, University of London, England.

He was the recipient of a Chaconia Medal (Gold), for "long and meritorious service to Trinidad and Tobago" in the field of Education on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Independence of Trinidad and Tobago in 2012.

Ghany's public service over the years has been extensive.

More recently, he has served on the Constitution Commission of T&T (2013-2014) and chaired the Public Consultations on Constitution Reform towards Internal Self-Government for Tobago (2012).

He was also a member of the Round Table on Constitution Reform (2008-2010) chaired by the late Prime Minister Patrick Manning and also served as Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves' representative on the Drafting Committee for the St Vincent and the Grenadines Draft Constitution (2009).

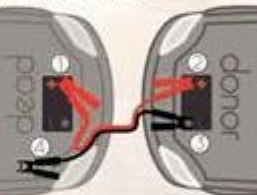
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## Teach T&T patriotism in schools— Opposition MP

GAIL ALEXANDER

UNC MP Rodney Charles has taken issue with schools which don't teach T&T patriotism and civics, but are like the Maple Leaf School which teaches Canadian history and geography, he says.

Raising the issue in his contribution to the budget debate in Parliament, Charles said he wasn't against Maple Leaf, but wanted T&T citizens to be taught about T&T also.

"We can't have T&T citizens attending schools where the curriculum teaches Canadian history and geography. It's fine for teaching Canadian citizens, but I have a problem with fellow citizens learning Canadian history and geography at the expense of T&T patriotism and civics."

Charles said the Education Act allowed Government to regulate a private school's curriculum.

On Government accusations that UNC MPs were unpatriotic by "blanking" Independence and other award functions, Charles said attending functions don't constitute patriotism. He said in periods of 2010 and 2015, PNM's Keith Rowley, Colm Imbert and Faris Al-Rawi didn't attend award functions.

Charles said he'd only heard indications of what Government "intended" to do on crime and not what they're doing about it. He said a UNC government would reduce crime by 10 per cent annually.

He noted budget allocation cuts for programmes including the Civilian Conservation Corps, Military-Led Youth Partnership of Apprenticeship and Reorientation Training Programme (MYPART) and Military-Led Academic Training (MILAT) for youths.

Despite that, he noted Education officials saying the four students suspended from a Siparia school this week could be sent to such programmes.

"So the left hand (Education) don't know what the right hand (Finance) is doing in cutting programme funding," he said.

Charles said females are outperforming males in education and deficiencies in the system putting males at disadvantage must be addressed. "...if we have to deal with crime—because 90 per cent of our criminals are males."

Charles slammed Education for allocating money to build more schools when Reform Hindu School and Reform and Ben Lomond Early Childhood Centres remain unopened with vines overrunning the latter two. He queried why the Foreign Affairs Ministry stopped paying ex-diplomats gratuities and allowances. "One woman had to borrow money from the One Percent to send her child to school overseas."

Charles added: "This budget favours the One Percent who'll pass costs to consumers, while Government's even taxing your dreams for Play Whe."



Rodney Charles.  
PICTURE MICHAEL BRUCE