

UWI Guild wants more security measures after 'crime spike'

WITH an apparent "spike" in reports of criminal acts against students at the St Augustine campus of The University of the West Indies (UWI), the Guild Council has put forward several recommendations regarding security measures.

This was revealed in an e-mail sent to university students on Tuesday from the Guild of Students, prepared by its president Jonathan St Louis-Nahous.

"These ongoing word-of-mouth reports include, but may not

be limited to, robberies, theft, and sexual assault. Naturally, panic and unrest have overcome the student population. Many have called for the organisation of protests, mass media engagement, and boycotting of campus activity as viable options to prompt an adequate response from the campus' administration," the e-mail read.

"It must be mentioned that official statistics of criminal activity within this period seem to not capture the actual frequency of these incidents. In response

to growing unrest, the Guild Council facilitated an open student forum on Thursday where discussions among students took place and recommendations for security measures were collected," it continued.

In the short term, the guild has recommended that there be station security personnel at all entry points to the campus from 5 p.m.; increased night patrols; stricter ID-checking activity upon entering the campus; and lighting towers for dark areas on campus. —AB