

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

ACADEMICS

- ▶ **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 ask 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