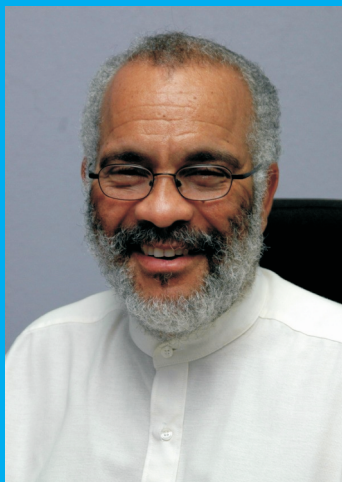


FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION

Year ending July 31, 2009



Dr. Swithin Wilmot, BA UWI, DPhil Oxf – Dean

Overview

The Faculty of Humanities and Education maintained its commitment to the major goals of the 2007-2012 University Strategic Plan and pursued various initiatives within the constraints of available resources.

Transformational Academic Initiatives

Teaching and Learning

The Faculty maintained its high reputation for quality teaching and several colleagues with minimum scores of 4.8 out of 5 in the students' assessments exercise received Guardian Life Annual Premium Teaching Awards for 2008.

The Faculty, committed to the infusion of modern technology to the enhancing of teaching and learning, has 162 courses with on line/e-learning components.

The Faculty also worked closely with the Instructional Development Unit (IDU) to develop and improve the pedagogical skills of its teaching staff. Sixteen (16) members of staff representing six of the eight undergraduate teaching departments registered in the Post-graduate Teaching Certificate Programme, and eighty three (83) colleagues, inclusive of graduate students, registered for at least one of the several modules/workshops to enhance teaching and learning effectiveness mounted by the IDU. Among these were Building Learning Communities in Cyber space, Design/Re purposing Courses Online, Teaching Skills Workshops, Writing Instructional Objectives, Becoming a Critically Reflective Teacher, Interactive Multimedia Power Point 1, and Teaching with Technology-The Learner Centered Way.

Turning out the Ideal UWI Graduate

Internships and other out of classroom learning experiences, locally, regionally and internationally, continued to form part of the students' exposure and training in disciplines such as Archaeology, Education, Communication, Library Studies and Modern Languages.

Notably, the Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management (ECEM) undergraduate programme, delivered through the Institute of Caribbean Studies, and which is into its second year, is an example of a course of study aimed at preparing a reflective UWI graduate with entrepreneurial skills. The simulation of cultural industry practices in the classroom was complemented this year by the ECEM's first Summer Internship involving various local businesses which provided the students with the opportunity to experience and apply industry practices in a real-world setting.

Concerned about the levels of the analytical and communication skills of students that come to us from the secondary sector, the Faculty requested that the Office of the Board of Undergraduate Studies conduct a Quality Review exercise of the Language Section of the Department of Language, Linguistics and Philosophy which delivers the Foundation Courses in English Language across the campus. The review is the first such and will be held in November 2009, and then sequentially on the other campuses. In the interim, the members of Language section busied themselves in the preparation of a detailed and self assessment report that will inform the review.

The Faculty gave its full support to initiatives to design an effective communication programme that will produce UWI graduates who are critical thinkers, problem solvers and effective communicators. Also, in keeping with the University's Strategic Plan of creating "distinctive graduates for the 21st century", the Language Section is assisting the Faculties of Pure and Applied Sciences and Social Sciences with their Writing across the Curriculum (WAC) and Speaking across the Curriculum (SAC) initiatives.

New Courses and Programmes (Undergraduate)

Four new BA Programmes in Journalism, Digital Media Production, History and Heritage and History and History Education, respectively were approved.

The Caribbean Institute of Media & Communication (Carimac) made significant headway in curriculum restructuring in response to the changing demands for media and communication skills that no longer require discrete entities – radio, newspaper, television, but skills that can work in multiple platforms.

At the core of Carimac's strategic plan is the production of graduates competent in a converged media platform (radio + television + print + newmedia) and a converged communication platform (public relations + advertising + social marketing + e-commerce). Accordingly, in addition to the new programmes in Journalism, Digital Media Production, two other BA programmes in Integrated Marketing Communication and in Media and Communication Studies, respectively, will be designed for the 2010 academic year.

Significantly, in designing its new programmes Carimac benefitted from inputs from media and communication training institutions and from the media and communication services, and looked at other institutions for benchmarking, including, the National Council for the Training of Journalist in the United Kingdom; the School of Journalism and Communication at the University of Queensland, Australia; the School of Media Arts and Studies at the Scripts College of Communication, Ohio University, USA; and the Department of Journalism Studies, University of Sheffield.

Carimac also pioneered the Faculty's involvement in the Western Jamaica Campus in Montego Bay with its Public Relations programme, and for 2009/10 it will expand its offerings to include the new Digital Media Production programme.

The Departments of History and Archaeology and Educational Studies collaborated in designing the new BA programme, History and History Education, underscoring the synergies attainable across the sections of the faculty. The new programme strengthens both the subject matter and pedagogical and professional preparation in the discipline and teaching of History and the graduate will be recognized as a trained teacher. For the next academic year, other disciplines in literature and modern languages will refine related proposals so that full advantage can be taken of the combined resources and expertise in the faculty.

The Department of History and Archaeology also designed a new BA programme in History and Heritage. Besides the hospitality and tourism industry, graduates will be prepared to serve in private and public sector

organizations, institutions and agencies interested in Caribbean heritage recovery, management, and preservation.

Graduate Studies and Research

Graduate Students Enrollment 2008/09

	PG students 08/09	MPhil (F/T)	PhD (F/T)	Total # of research students (F/T)	% full-time researchers
Humanities	449	76 (42)	44 (14)	120 (56)	46.7
Education	419	35 (11)	20 (6)	55 (17)	31

Graduate Students Graduation 2004-2008

	Total Number of Higher Degrees			
	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08
Humanities & Education	232	212	180	166

Faculty	Total No. of Research Degrees Awarded (High Commendation)				
Humanities & Education	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09 as at July 31
	9 (1)	13 (2)	18 (2)	14 (3)	11 (1) + 2 pending

Trends in throughput rates reflect that the majority of graduate students are part time with financial responsibilities. This remains a major concern. It is hoped that the Campus initiative to markedly increase the value of postgraduate scholarships and departmental awards will reverse the trend. To this end, the Faculty in 2008/09 also increased by 33% the number of departmental awards funded directly from its funds, up to 24 from 16.

Initiatives to strengthen Research supervision and Programme quality

The Dean's Office temporarily resumed responsibility for the Institute of Caribbean Studies (ICS) on August 1, 2008 because of serious concerns about the administration of the Cultural Studies Graduate programme and the inadequate monitoring of the large number of research students (57) involved. The Deputy Dean was designated to oversee and regularize its administrative operations and one of the main tasks was to ensure appropriate supervision and monitoring. To enable this, the decision to suspend the intake of new students for 2008-2009 has been extended to the 2009-2010 academic year. Meanwhile, Advisory Committees have been nominated, non-functioning supervisors replaced, some supervisors changed and full time ICS academic staff have been assigned active supervision or co-supervision of students.

Various meetings were also held with ICS faculty and graduate students, the Campus Coordinator for Graduate Studies and Research and Pro Vice Chancellor Ronald Young. An important outcome of these meetings is the decision to adopt the MA in Cultural Studies as originally agreed and as currently implemented at the Cave Hill and St. Augustine campuses. This will help to address inadequacies in the preparation of students for undertaking research projects. It was also agreed that greater rigour will be exercised in the selection of future applicants.

Generally, there has been a significant improvement in student morale in the ICS, best evidenced by the fact that for the first time four students presented as a panel entitled, "The Politics and Aesthetics of Caribbean Culture", at the annual Caribbean Studies Association Conference held in Kingston, June 1-5, 2009. Also, the Quality Review of the ICS, under the auspices of the Board of Undergraduate Studies between April 6 and 9, 2009, has greatly assisted the Staff in coming to a better understanding of their role in the streamlined and stabilized Cultural Studies Programme.

In the coming academic year, the Faculty intends to work closely with the Campus Coordinator for Graduate Studies and Research to further streamline the administration of Graduate matters in the other departments in the Faculty.

Significant/Path Breaking Research

The research of the graduate students in the Institute of Caribbean Studies covers a range of topics of an interdisciplinary nature with much contemporary relevance. These include the visual arts and architecture, sports, story-telling, music and dance, fashion, theatre and cultural tourism. Many of the students are cultural practitioners with years of experience in their fields and the ICS provides them with a forum through which to add to the written repository of knowledge about Caribbean cultural expressions. The work of the graduate students is complemented by the research of the staff members who are establishing a name for themselves locally and internationally as scholars of Caribbean popular culture.

At the Mona Research Day Awards Ceremony in January 2009, Dr. John Bewaji, with six publications, including the book, An Introduction to the Theory of Knowledge - A Pluricultural Approach, received the Principal's Award as the Most Outstanding Researcher. Dr. Kathleen Monteith received the Award for the Best Research Publication (Book) for, Depression to Decolonization, Barclays Bank (DC)) in the West Indies 1926-1962, and Dr. Jenny Jemmott received an award for the Best Research Publications (Article) for the essay, "Recovering the Lost: Efforts at Reuniting Victims of Forced Separation after 1834. Some Case Studies from Jamaica, 1834-1860", published in the *Journal of Caribbean History*. Professor Zellynne Jennings-Craig and a team from the School of Education's project on "Absenteeism and Performance in the Primary Schools" won the Award for the Project Attracting the Most Research Funds, and the Project on Financial Literacy led by Roderick Sanatan and a team from Carimac won the Award for the Research Project with the Most Business/Economic/Development Impact.

Other research initiatives include Dr. Kathryn Shields-Brodber's ethnographic research on discourse practices in Jamaica, Dr. Michele Stewart's research on Jamaican Creole and Language Education and Dr Marjan De Bruin's research on HIV Prevention by way of specialized communication and Drs. Jossett Lewis Smikle's and Paula Daley-Morris' work on Across-the-Board Standards in Jamaican Primary Schools.

Worthy of special mention is Dr. Matthew Smith's book, Red and Black in Haiti: Radicalism, Conflict, and Political Change, 1934-1957, published in May 2009. The book is receiving excellent reviews in very

prestigious Journals and is already required reading for students of Haitian, Caribbean and Latin American Politics in several Universities.

National and Regional Outreach

This report highlights five initiatives in the School of Education (SOE) with significant local and regional impact.

First, the Joint Board of Teacher Education (JBTE) carried out its mandate of institutional strengthening services for teachers colleges in Jamaica, Belize, Cayman and in the Turks and Caicos islands.

Second, the Caribbean Centre for Teacher Training (CETT) Project which reinforces the competence of primary school teachers in literacy education, maintained its activities in eight Commonwealth Caribbean countries, including Jamaica. The project, which provides innovative leadership and develops materials to strengthen reading instruction in the Grades 1-3, utilizes information and communication technology to facilitate information sharing among institutions and to increase the scope of teachers' access to training. A total of 208 schools (43 in Jamaica), 978 teachers (241 in Jamaica) and 22,053 students (8,500 in Jamaica) have benefitted from the project.

Third, in July 2009, SOE and CXC entered into a collaborative Agreement that provides graduate students in the SOE with access to CXC data for their research, as well as supervision from approved CXC staff. CXC staff will also have access to the SOE's facilities for their research.

Fourth, the SOE hosted a forum on "Tertiary Education at the Crossroads" on May 7, 2009, focusing on the role of Tertiary Education in National Development and the Financing of Tertiary Education. Participants included colleagues from Jamaica's Tertiary Institutions, the Ministry of Education and the Planning Institute of Jamaica.

Fifth, in keeping with SOE's strategic decision to offer professional development courses for teachers and allied professionals, the SOE put on a seven day workshop from July 2-10, 2009 on "**Teaching Mathematics at the Early Childhood and Primary Level,**" with guest presenter Professor Dionne Cross, from the Indiana University, USA. The overall evaluation of this workshop by the 22 participants was very positive.

The Faculty also cemented its partnership with the Open Campus by way of the online BEd Degree that draws on various departments in the Faculty for content and/or professional courses.

The Faculty's long standing support for the Caribbean Examinations Council's CSEC and CAPE examinations continued with colleagues serving as Chief and Assistant Chief Examiners in respective disciplines, and Departments mounting workshops for teachers and students in support of the respective syllabi.

Finally, Carimac's Public Relations Programme was among those that pioneered at the Western Jamaica Campus in Montego Bay.

New Initiatives in International Collaboration

In addition to longstanding exchange programmes across the disciplines in the Faculty with universities in Europe, North America, Latin America and the Caribbean, I note the following new initiatives.

The Science, Mathematics and Information Technology (SMIT) Centre, Department of Educational Studies, and the University of Reading have agreed on an important initiative that aims to improve Mathematics and Science teaching in Jamaican schools. It involves 25 Jamaican teachers participating in a summer programme at Reading in June 2010, as well as Reading putting on a follow-up distance learning course on their return to Jamaica. It is also anticipated that there will be joint projects between the SMIT Centre and Reading as a direct result of the programme.

In partnership with Taiyuan University of Technology, China, a Confucius Institute Centre in Jamaica was established at the Mona Campus. Under the umbrella of the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures, the Institute promotes Chinese Culture and Language (Mandarin). On February 12, 2009, Dr. Courtney Hogarth, a Jamaican from the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing, delivered the Inaugural Lecture of the Confucius Institute, entitled "Language, Learning and the Future", and on April 14, 2009, Dr. Keith Lowe, former Director of the Chinese Cultural Center of Greater Toronto, gave the second Confucius Institute Lecture on "Hakka Castle Dwellings: World UNESCO Heritage".

The International Students Office is also in active dialogue with Department of History and Archaeology and Colgate University that

will have students from Colgate spending a semester on the Mona Campus once every two years.

Discussions are also well advanced for the setting up of a student and staff exchange programme between the Faculty of Humanities and Education and the Latin American Center at the Freie Universität Berlin.

Infrastructure

The year saw improvements. Four pagodas providing new spaces for students for learning were erected, and there was significant refurbishing and expansion of the bathroom facilities that were pressured from increased student numbers. We are grateful to the Administration for these initiatives. The Faculty also effected modest refurbishing of some faculty offices and the acquisition of new furniture for classrooms.

However, the challenges to accommodate the increased intake of students in the recent past remain, and the resulting shortage of space threatens sustaining the quality of programmes offered by some departments. Indeed, some academic staff offices are shared and this affects the ability of staff to perform their required counseling and student advising functions in privacy.

The Faculty's approach is guided by the reality of limited additional resources and the improved utilization of what already exists. With our commitment to our students as our main resource, we seek incremental improvement while visioning the possible when additional resources become available.

Awards Received By Staff

Emeritus Professor Mervyn Morris

- Order of Merit

Dr. Halden Morris

- Prime Minister's Medal for Excellence in Service to Education (2009)
- Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) USA – Professional Service Award, (2008)

Dr. Marcia Stewart

- Prime Minister's Medal for Excellence in Service to Education (2009)

Ms. Joan Tucker (recently retired)

- Prime Minister's Medal for Excellence in Service to Education (2009)

Ms. Mary Gray (Administrative Secretary)

- UWI 60th Anniversary Meritorious Award for Outstanding Service to UWI (2008)