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THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
CENTRE FOR GENDER AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

**A Report to the
Regional Coordinating Unit
for the period
September 2001 to August 2002**

**Prepared for the May 2004 meeting
of the RCV - CGDS
Cave Hill Campus, Barbados
17th - 19th May 2004**



Introduction and Overview

This report includes activities undertaken by the CGDS, St. Augustine Unit between September 2001 and August 2002. Dr. Rhoda Reddock was solely responsible for the unit's activities in the wake of Dr. Michelle Rowley's departure. Dr. Rowley left in August 2001. 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 existing initiatives to the Centre's calendar.

Administrative – 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 CGDS 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 and Planning on gender-related issues. Ms. Antoine also set about shaping the Centre's Outreach programme, in collaboration with other staff.

During this year, Dr. Reddock was promoted to the position 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, Professor Reddock received the Seventh Triennial CARICOM Award for Women at the Heads of Government Meeting held in Guyana.

Fulbright Scholar programme – During this academic year the St. Augustine Unit hosted three Visiting Fulbright Scholars. 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 lectured in the course SY27D – *Gender and Development with reference to Caribbean Society*.



Dr. Keisha Abraham, a junior scholar from January 9th to June 2002 and Professor Carol Boyce-Davies were attached to the Centre from March to July 2002. All of these scholars had teaching and Research interests in the areas of Caribbean, African and African-American women's literature. They all presented seminars in the lunchtime seminar series and have continued their interest in the Centre's work.

Dr. Roseann Kanhai of Western Washington University once again visited the CGDS during Semester II and was involved in teaching the course *West Indian Women Writers* with Dr. Paula Morgan.

Review of Operations – Sept. 2001 to August 2002

TEACHING: -

Undergraduate Programme: -

This academic year, the course *Gender and Development with reference to the Caribbean* was taught by Dr. Stephanie Seguinto from the University of Vermont.

Registration in this course was much lower this year 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 part of the problem.

Programmes available in this year included:-

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

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

Graduate Programme:-

During this year there were 20 students enrolled in the Mphil. Programme, 13 of whom were from the second cohort. One graduate course was taught – GD600 *Issues in Caribbean Feminism and Gender Relations*. This is a year-long course, aimed at “providing a structure for continued interaction and scholarly support among graduate students”. Student thesis seminar presentations were also part of this programme

RESEARCH: -

Work continued in a number of areas, including Centre Research Programmes, Regional Research and Individual Research. This research was beneficial, not only to CGDS and the University, but to Trinidad and Tobago and the region as well. In 2001/2002 these included: -

- ***Gender, Science and Technology***
The Nariva Swamp: A Gendered Case Study – completion of a video based on the research methods used in this research project.
 This 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.
- ***Constructions of Caribbean Masculinities*** – Work continued on the editing of the publication
- ***The Making Of Caribbean Feminisms*** – This project was launched at St. Augustine in August 2001. Funds came from a Campus Research and Publication Grant and Ms. Rosalie Barclay began to work on the *Biographical Dictionary of Caribbean Feminists and Women’s Movement Activists*. Negotiations continued with the UWI, St. Augustine Main Library on the preparation of the Deed of Gift.
- ***Gender, Sexuality and the Implications for HIV/AIDS in Trinidad and Tobago*** – This is a new research project being planned. It grew out of a long-term desire on Professor Reddock’s part 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 of Masculinities, in which she and Dr. Mohammed were involved. Discussions have begun with Dr. Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University and CGDS affiliate, Dr. Dianne Douglas on this project.

Regional Research Projects

Cultural Studies Institute

- **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.

DEPARTMENTAL 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. Outreach to the UWI Community

- **Key Issues facing Women in Science and Technology** - This two-day conference was held in collaboration with the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Sciences and NIHERST (National Institute for Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology) from April 30th to May 2nd 2001. Target groups included women scientists, education officers, other scientists and students. Participants came from a wide cross section of society and several Caribbean countries were represented. The conference focused on issues of key importance such as gender concerns in the teaching of Science and Technology and the dearth of data collection in this area.

Two major follow-up activities arising out of this conference were a Caribbean-wide autobiographical

project on Women in Science and Technology and a proposed workshop on gender disaggregated data analysis and collection in Science and Technology. The members of the organizing committee are also considering creating a Women in Science and Technology Group that would be regional in composition.

- **Workshop on Gender and Economics** - The CGDS organized a one-day workshop on Gender and Economics entitled, Re-thinking Development: Does Gender Matter?, in collaboration with the UNECLAC. The workshop was held on December 5th, 2001 and its aim was to engender debate on the ways in which gender analysis can influence the teaching and practice of economics. Participants included practicing economists, lecturers, researchers and non-governmental organizations
- **Open Days 2001** - The UWI Annual Open Day took place from October 17th to 20th. The Centre played an active role in this process through representation by the Outreach Officer at the Planning Committee level. The activities of the CGDS included an information booth, viewing of videos, cultural events and hosting talks on various topics for secondary school students at the Seminar Room. A brief video showcasing the staff of the Centre was also produced.

These activities proved to be extremely successful in highlighting the Centre, its role, mission and activities and in raising the awareness of the public on issues relating to gender. Students of the CGDS assisted in working at the booth and many members of the public were engaged in useful discussion on Gender Studies, with some visitors indicating an interest in furthering their knowledge in the area.

For this occasion, the Centre collaborated with the Gender Affairs Division and CAFRA T&T to facilitate rap sessions on various topics. The Centre also liaised with three women artistes to host a cultural event.

- **Senior Management Luncheon** – This event came about because of the Centre's omission from the 2000 Open Day. The event was a great success, with very good participation. This was the first activity of Ms. Antoine, the new Outreach and Research Officer and she was ably supported by Ms. Michelle Rowley.
- **Sowing Sisterhoods Workshop** – This was a one-day workshop held for young activists from August 16-17 2002. Organized by Ms. Gabrielle Hosein, it brought together young women of various women's groups for training in organizing and mobilization. *Sowing Sisterhoods: A Toolkit* was prepared for this workshop.
- **International Women's Day Celebrations 2002** - The Centre participated in the national celebration for International Women's day on March 8th organized by the Network of NGOs. The day comprised booth *march* displays, cultural events and the annual rally through the main streets of the city Port of Spain. The Centre organized a booth display with members of staff and students giving their time to work in the booth. The Centre also participated in the planning meetings before the event.
- **Annual International Women's Day Cultural Event** - The Centre produced its annual cultural event at the Learning Resource Centre, UWI on March 25th. This year's event celebrated the life and achievements of Beryl Mc Burnie, the acknowledged "Mother of Caribbean Dance", entitled '**Movements and Rhythms: A Celebration of Beryl Mc Burnie**'. It featured several artistes in the areas of dance, rap poetry, and drumming. Performers included the Creative Arts Centre's Dance group, Gabrielle Hosein, graduate student of the CGDS and the winning duo for Scouting for talent 2001, Christine Ramirez (Malick Folk performers) and Michael Kalicharan (Shiv Shakti Dance Group). *performing The Sango and The Nle*

To further mark this special occasion, former members of the Grand Dame's dance group, as well as associates

in the artistic community were specially invited guests for the night. A special display highlighting Ms. Mc Burnie's numerous performances and contributions was put together by members of staff, Ms. Eaulin Blondel, part-time documentalist at the Centre and a former member of the Dance company, with the help of Mr. Aubrey Adams, cultural impresario.

- **UWI HARP** - The St. Augustine campus formed a committee to spearhead a response to the prevalent HIV/AIDS problem. The St. Augustine HARP, forms part of a regional University HARP committee coordinated at Mona. The Centre agreed to be part of this steering committee that held its first meeting in February 2002. Ms. Camille Antoine, Outreach and Research Officer, is the Centre's representative on the HARP committee.

In August, the Outreach Officer attended a two-day, regional HARP strategic planning meeting in Mona, Jamaica This meeting took place from August 7th to 8th, 2002.

HARP is currently engaged in curriculum development activities aimed at infusing the present curriculum with modules in HIV/AIDS, as well as in developing new courses relating to raising awareness about HIV/AIDS. Courses taught by the CGDS such as *Sex, Gender and Society and Men and Masculinities* have been identified as a guide for developing the type of interactive and interdisciplinary courses that are necessary.

2. Outreach to Community-Based Organizations

- **Workshop on Gender, Peace and Development** - The Centre, in collaboration with UNESCO conducted a two-day workshop on Gender, Peace and Development in the Caribbean from September 19th-20th 2001. The purpose of the workshop was to present the findings of a research study, also commissioned by UNESCO, with the aims of devising a programme of activities on Gender, Peace and Development in the Caribbean and

establishing a core group to implement the programme. The research was carried out at the CGDS, Mona and St. Augustine Units. Representatives from local, regional and international organizations and members of the public and private sector participated.

The study was co-ordinated by Dr. Gwendoline Williams and administered by the CGDS on behalf of UNESCO. Two teams from the St. Augustine and Mona Campuses conducted the research. The members were Mr. Tracy Hackshaw and Ms. Gabrielle Henderson of St. Augustine and Ms. Shakira Maxwell and Ms. Nicola Smith from Mona. 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 Trinidad and Tobago** - This two-day workshop was organized by the Women's Institute for Alternative Development (WINAD) held from March 25th to 26th 2002 at Mt. St. Benedict. It brought together for the first time key stakeholders in Trinidad and Tobago on the issues of small arms and in particular, the effects of its prevalence and use on women. Two staff members of the CGDS, Ms Camille Antoine and Ms. Lara Roopnarine, participated in the workshop as well as lent support. Participants shared experiences and concerns over the rising prevalence of small arms and the rise in violence in society. There was unanimous agreement that this was a serious area requiring intervention. 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 International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA).

- **Creative Strategies for Making a Difference in Secondary Schools: Reclaiming the Classroom** - Two, one-week workshops, facilitated by Dr. Maud Blair¹,

¹ a former visiting scholar at the CGDS with expertise in Discipline in schools. Ms. Blair works in the UK Dept. of Education and Skills

were held, targeting teachers, principals, social workers and administrators in the education system. In recognition of the fact that there were disparities between urban and rural schools and differential problems experienced by students and teachers, the Centre decided to hold one of the workshops at the bpTT Staff Complex in Mayaro and the other at SALISES, UWI. *St Augustine*

- These workshops were oversubscribed and registration for the UWI Workshop had to be closed off at 32 participants. The students had been extremely pleased and those unable to get into the UWI workshop traveled to Mayaro in order to participate.

participants

3. Outreach to NGOs, Community-Based Organizations and State Agencies

- **Public Services Association Women's Conference -** The Centre participated in the *Caribbean Public Services Association Women's Conference* which was held from 9th-10th August, 2001.
- **United Nations Development Programme -** The Outreach Officer represented the Centre at a one-day stakeholder meeting of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on the *National Human Development Report*.
- **International Labour Organisation -** The Centre also participated as a key informant in a roundtable discussion on employment discrimination organized by the ILO.

4. Lunch-Time Seminar Series

The Centre's LTSS 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: -

- Gender and Environment: SEWA's experience with women and water management in India – Ms. Preeti Misra, SEWA, India
- Caribbean Looking Glass: A Reflection of Mirrored Images in History and Culture – Dr. Patricia Mohammed, CGDS, *St. Moron, Augustine*
- "And in those years my Life had become increasingly a Bridge and A Field of Women" – Dr. Keisha Abraham, FIU, Miami
- "Edwidge Danticat: For the Sake of Haiti" – Dr. Patricia Ismond, Dept. of Liberal Arts, UWI
- "Nah Bow: Cultural Values, market Values and Sexuality in Jamaican Dance-Hall Music" – Dr. Patricia Saunders
- Women in Leadership – Ms. Leela Ramdeen
- Gender Studies Unit – An Inter-Disciplinary and Newly Developed Centre at the University Hamburg, Germany: Focus and Perspectives – Dr, Marianne Pieper
- The Depiction of Women in Motion Pictures – Mr. Yao Ramesar
- Breaking the Glass Ceiling: The Stories of Three Caribbean Nurses – Dr. Jocelyn Hezekiah
- 'Half the World': Transnational Feminist Practice of Claudia Jones - Professor Carol Boyce-Davies – African New World Studies Programme, Florida International University.
- The Rites of Domination: Tales of Domestic Violence Court – Dr. Mindie Lazarus-Black, Associate Professor, University of Illinois

5. Other

- A meeting to discuss the draft Strategic Planning Framework document took place at the Pax Guest House, St. Augustine on the 9th November, 2001. Associate staff, student representatives and some CGDS staff attended. A joint UWI/CGDS response was presented to Prof. Leo-Rhynie and Dr. Barbara Bailey.
- Meeting with Baroness Amos – United Kingdom Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs – the meeting took place on Wednesday April 3, 2002 at the CGDS Seminar room.
- Ms. Els Mulder of the ISS, the Hague, visited the CGDS in February 2002 for the launch of Dr. Mohammed's book, entitled *Gender Negotiations Among Indians in Trinidad – 1917-1947*. A luncheon was held in Ms. Mulder's honour, *with graduates from*

The ISS in various fields invited

Appendix I – Core Courses and Electives Offered

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: -

- AR600 – Issues in Caribbean Feminism...

Appendix II – Professor Reddock’s Publications

Publications

Staff Publications – Professor Rhoda Reddock

- “Cambios en la situación de las mujeres en el Caribe a través 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.
- *Caribbean Sociology: Introductory Readings*, Ian Randle Publishers/ Marcus Weiner, Kingston/New York, 2001 (Co-edited with Christine Barrow).
- “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.

Conference Papers and Presentations

- Reddock, Rhoda “Caribbean Women and the process of Democratization”, paper presented at the International Conference to mark 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 to The Berkshire Conference of Historians of Women, University of Connecticut, June 2002. (Also presented to Women's Worlds Congress, Makerere University, Kampala, July 2002).

Public & Professional Service

Professor Rhoda Reddock –

- Member, Board of Trustees, Mount Hope Patients' Trust Fund
- Convenor, Gender Sub-Committee – Preparation of a Strategy for Tertiary Education in Trinidad & Tobago, Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education.
- Member, Project Advisory Committee, CIDA-CARICOM Gender Equality Programme

Membership on University Committees

- Academic Board
- CGDS Campus Board of Studies – Chair
- CGDS Graduate Sub-Committee – Chair
- Social Sciences Faculty Board
- Oral and Pictorial Records Collection Executive

Awards and Honours

- 2001 October - Recipient of the UWI Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and Administration, Research and Public Service.
- 2002 July - Recipient of the VII Triennial CARICOM Award for Women, Caribbean Community Secretariat.