

THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING

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WORK OF THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING, MONA



The UWI School of Nursing, Mona (UWISON) focused on creating a teaching/learning environment that facilitates the delivery of quality programmes and highlighted its achievements during its 40th anniversary celebrations (1966-2006). To mark this historic landmark Dr. Jean Yan, Chief Nurse Scientist, World Health Organization (WHO) became the first nurse and female to receive the Sir Alister McIntyre Award at the University of the West Indies Diabetic Outreach Project

(UDOP) Conference in Ocho Rios, March 2006. UWISON increased its visibility through radio telephone interviews and exhibitions on Campus as well as at urban and rural secondary schools and other nursing events. The School was internally audited by the Quality Assurance Unit on April 4, 2006 and received commendation as “an outstanding example of good practice in quality assurance procedures and one which other departments could emulate”.

UWISON’s main targets for 2005-06 were to: increase academic and administrative staff cadre to meet the teaching/learning needs in classroom and clinical areas; extend the physical facilities to accommodate teaching, administrative and skills development needs of nursing students; equip classrooms and nursing skills laboratory to reflect the Nursing Council, the Regional Nursing Body and international nursing standards; attract research grant funds for the asthma proposal and resubmission of the HIV risk reduction proposal; improve staff research publication in peer reviewed journals; become designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for nursing and midwifery in the Caribbean; establish Endowment Fund to mark the 40th Anniversary of the School; convert undergraduate courses for electronic and distance education delivery and sustain visibility by hosting international research conferences and celebrating achievements over the past forty year.

Staffing: A Teaching Assistant and an Assistant Lecturer and number of part-time clinical preceptors were employed to meet the education and training needs of students. A Programme Coordinator was added to the staff to facilitate the research projects with which the School was engaged and to facilitate the development of the Nursing and Midwifery Centre. The two additional administrative staff members helped to improve the management of the increased volume of workload during the academic year 2005-06. However more senior administrative support is urgently needed. As the student population grows the need for more staff, both at the academic and administrative level is of priority if the quality of the programme is to be sustained.

Extension of Physical facilities: Despite continuous appeal and promises to have the building expanded to meet the student population needs for the period 2006-07, the year has ended without any evidence of this occurring. This has implications for the number of students who can be admitted to the programme for the new academic year in the midst of an increasingly competitive environment.

Skills Laboratory: The School has been acquiring new mannequins and teaching simulators for the nursing skills laboratory. However, the small existing laboratory cannot accommodate the students causing staff to be transporting these to any available space in the Hospital to enable students' practice. We expectantly await extended facilities to attain the international standards to which we aspire.

Research Projects: *Jamaica Asthma and Allergies National Prevalence Study* received funding from the National Health Fund J\$10,561,720.00, the CHASE Fund – J\$3,800,000.00 and the UWI New Initiative Funding- J\$1,500,000.00. The proposal on *Reducing HIV risk behaviour among Jamaican Adolescent males Project* done in collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing was submitted to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in January 2006. The proposal received a high score therefore enabling a revision to be made and subsequent resubmission.

Staff publication: The overall per capita publication improved. Although the target set was not attained, the prospects are positive as abstracts have been converted to papers, several manuscripts are in preparation and some have been accepted for publication.

UWISON was assessed from August 24-26, 2005 to become a World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre in nursing and midwifery. The review from the PAHO/WHO Regional Director was

positive. The final stages of the designation process are currently being discussed in Geneva.

As part of the 40th anniversary, an **Endowment Fund** was launched with **US\$2,500**. Plans are in place to have the fund increased to facilitate research and scholarships for students and staff.

The School is preparing to offer undergraduate programme via distance education. Due to the tremendous clinical teaching workload of staff up to July, the conversion of course for web delivery was greatly slowed. A draft proposal was developed for delivering the BScN degree to practicing registered nurses through e-learning and distance education. The proposal was developed with a team from the R. Chang School of Continuing Education at Ryerson University. Dr. Raymond Chang Jamaican/Canadian philanthropist has expressed the desire to fund the pilot project.

Research Conferences: The School successfully co-hosted the UDOP in which Dr. Jean Yan, WHO Chief Nurse Scientist and recipient of the Sir Alistair McIntyre award gave the feature address. The Annual Nursing Midwifery research conference and Mary Jane Seivwright day took the form of an international conference with several new features. The keynote address was delivered by the noted Professor Loretta Sweet Jemmott, University of Pennsylvania on the first day of the conference while Professor Rosemarie Parse, Loma Linda University gave the feature address on the Mary J Seivwright Day. The conference was attended by a large number of internationally renowned nurse scientists as well as regional and international nurses and nursing students. Major outputs of this conference were the launching of the Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery and the establishment of an Endowment Fund at the gala alumni banquet, under the theme “Honouring our heritage, acknowledging achievements and moving forward with confidence”. Mrs. Scarlett Gillings, UWISON’s Board member was the guest speaker at which the Honourable Syringa Marshall-Burnett’s contribution to UWISON was celebrated.

The targets for 2006-07 are to:

- ❖ increase clinical teaching staff for the BScN (generic) degree by 100% thus enhancing students’ transfer of knowledge to practice;
- ❖ revise undergraduate and graduate curricula;
- ❖ expand the physical facilities of UWISON with offices, classrooms, state-of the art equipped skills laboratories to

- accommodate the growing student and staff population and maintain a competitive edge in undergraduate and graduate nursing education;
- ❖ convert and deliver the BScN degree courses to practicing registered nurses nation-wide and Caribbean-wide through e-learning and distance education modes supported by international partnership;
 - ❖ support academic staff in engagement with national and international interdisciplinary research team building to build capacity;
 - ❖ strengthen nursing and midwifery research programmes and scholarship and increase staff publication output by at least 50%;
 - ❖ collaborate with University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing in submitting fundable research project;
 - ❖ recruit international nursing scholars through Visiting professorship and Fulbright scholarships to strengthen the experience of the academic staff and encourage international research partnership in nursing and midwifery research;
 - ❖ be designated a World Health Organization Collaborating Center for Nursing and Midwifery in the Caribbean and provide the forum for dissemination of nursing and midwifery research;
 - ❖ improve the administrative staffing level to expedite the turnaround time of information to and from the school;
 - ❖ generate administrative tools for guiding staff and student performance and making the operations of the school more efficient and effective in delivering and maintaining best teaching and learning practices;
 - ❖ increase the recently established Nursing Endowment Fund with the involvement of alumni to facilitate scholarships for students and staff research development;
 - ❖ participate in an external quality assurance evaluation of the UWISON programmes in 2007.

Overall Teaching Achievement:

Teaching Assessments of Courses

Students' assessment of teachers ranged from 3.7 to 4.7 in Semester I and 3.7 to 4.6 in Semester II.

There are 12 full-time faculty members with a per capita staff publication of 0.3 and 1.3 for papers and abstracts respectively.

PAPERS PRESENTED

- Bailey, E. **Stewart H.**, Hewitt, H. **Green, R.** "A case study of Midwifery Services in Jamaica" Annual Nursing Midwifery Research Conference June 1, 2006, Sunset Jamaica Grande, Ocho Rios.

Duff, E.

- "Health and the Environment", Annual General Meeting, Portland Environment Protection Association, Portland Health Services Department, October 22, 2005
- "Ethics in Nursing Research" Nurse Practitioners' 50th Biannual and 2nd Annual Seminar, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, December 2, 2005
- "Oxidative stress in Jamaican adults with diabetes mellitus" International Nursing Midwifery Research Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, June 3, 2006
- "High levels of oxidative stress in Jamaican adults with diabetes mellitus", 21st Caribbean Cardiac Society Conference, Half Moon Hotel Conference Centre, Montego Bay, July 22, 2006

Hewitt, H.

- "Strategic planning meeting" Caribbean HIV/AIDS Regional Training Network (CHART)/I-Tech Nursing Working Group, Accra Beach Hotel and Resort, Barbados, January 17-19, 2006;
- "Developments at UWISON" Nursing Council of Jamaica Tutors' Conference, University Hospital School of Nursing, January 31, 2006
- "The UWI School of Nursing" Bermuda, February 21, 2006

- “Developments in Nursing Education at UWISON” to Baccalaureate nursing students from Winona State University;
- “Regional Midwifery Accreditation” in Bermuda, February, 22, 2006
- “Honouring Mary Jane Seivwright” Annual Nursing Midwifery conference June 2, 2006 Ocho Rios
- “Honouring Syringa Marshall Burnett” June 3, 2006 anniversary banquet, Ocho Rios.

Kahwa, E.

- “Culture-specific factors influencing HIV-related sexual risk among Jamaican adolescents” International Nursing Midwifery Research Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, June 3, 2006

Lindo, J.

- “The general mental well-being of doctors and nurses in two hospitals in Kingston, Jamaica”, International Nursing Midwifery Research Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, June 3, 2006

Lopez, S.

- “Ethical Implications in Clinical Practice” Nurse Practitioners’ 50th Biannual and 2nd Annual Seminar, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort December 2, 2005
- “End stage renal disease patients receiving haemodialysis: Perceived severity, susceptibility to their illness and support given by health personnel”, International Nursing Midwifery Research Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, June 3, 2006,

Waldron, N.

- “Clinical Laboratory Investigations & Interpretation” Nurse Practitioners’ 50th Biannual and 2nd Annual Seminar, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort December 2, 2005.

Weaver, S.

- “Psychiatric patients’ evaluation of the efficacy of traditional medicine vs. western biomedical sciences in the treatment of their mental illness”, International Nursing Midwifery Research

Conference, Sunset Jamaica Grande Resort, June 3, 2006.

PUBLICATIONS

WIMJ = West Indian Medical Journal

Book Chapter:

- * **Dr. Hermi Hewitt** “The Nursing Process in the Caribbean”, in *The Nursing Process: A Global Concept* (Chapter 10). ed. by B. Habermann, L. Uys & B. Parfitt, Edinburgh: Elsevier Churchill Livingstone, pp. 135-144.

Refereed Journal Articles:

- * **E.K. Kahwa**, L.A Sargeant, A. McCaw-Binns N. McFarlane-Anderson, M. Smikle, T. Forrester & R. Wilks. Anticardiolipin antibodies in Jamaican Primiparae. *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* (2006), 26(2):122-126.
- * A O’Connor, N McFarlane-Anderson, **E Duff**, R Wright-Pascoe, **Y Wint**. “gh levels of F2-Isoprostanes in Jamaican adults with diabetes mellitus”. *International Journal of Diabetes & Metabolism* 14 (2006): 46-49.

Abstracts

- * A O’Connor, N McFarlane-Anderson, **E Duff**, R Wright-Pascoe, **Y Wint**. “Oxidative Stress in Jamaican Adults with Diabetes Mellitus”. *The Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 1 (2006): 55.
- * K Hutchinson, L Jemmott, E B Vasas, **H Hewitt**, **E Kahwa**, **N Waldron**, B Bonaparte. “Culture-Specific Factors Influencing HIV-related Sexual Risk Among Jamaican Adolescents”. *Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 1, 1 (2006):60.
- * **J Lindo**, J LaGrenade, A McCaw-Binns, M Jackson, D Eldemire-Shearer. “The General Mental well being of Doctors and Nurses in two Hospitals in Kingston, Jamaica”. *The Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 1 (2006): 59.
- * **J Lindo** et al. “Perinatal mortality rates of Jamaica health regions”. *WIMJ* 55, 2 (2006): 50.
- * **S Lopez**, D Eldemire-Shearer, A McCaw-Binns, J LaGrenade, E N Barton. “End Stage Renal Disease Haemodialysis:

Perceived Severity, Susceptibility to their Illness and Support given by Health Personnel”. *The Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 1 (2006): 57.

- * N Younger, F Bennett, M Tulloch-Reid, **J Mullings**, T Forrester, E. Ward, D. Ashley, R. Wilks. “The Validity of Blood Glucose and Cholesterol as Estimated By Finger-Stick”. *WIMJ* 54, 2 (2006): 22.
- * M Tulloch-Reid, N Younger, M Boyne, N. Zohoori, T Ferguson, F Bennett, **J Mullings**, E. Ward, D. Ashley, R. Wilks. “Hypercholesterolemia and Social Status in Jamaica”. *WIMJ* 54, 2 (2006): 20.
- * **H Stewart, H Hewitt, E Bailey, R Green**. “A Case Study: Midwifery Services in Jamaica”. *The Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery* 1 (2006): 45.
- * C A B James, **S R Weaver**, K Morgan. “Psychiatric patients’ evaluation of the efficacy of Traditional medicine vs. Western biomedical sciences in the treatment of their mental illness”. *WIMJ* 55, 2 (2006): 67.
- * **Y B Wint, E M Duff**, N McFarlane-Anderson, A O’Connor, **E Y Bailey**, R A Wright- Pascoe. “Barriers to Diabetes Control in Adults in Jamaica”. *The Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery*, 1 (2006): 55.

INCOME GENERATION

Earnings from new ventures and graduate programmes amounted to approximately J\$64.8 million dollars.

PUBLIC SERVICE

Bailey, E.

- Assistant Editor, The Jamaican Nurse Journal;
- Member, Nursing Council of Jamaica Evaluation team.

Duff, E.

- Member, Nursing Council of Jamaica Research Committee

Green, R.

- Member, Planning Committee for the Nurse Practitioners' Continuing Education.

Hewitt H.

- Executive Board Member, International Academic Nursing Alliance
- Member, RNB/CARICOM Executive and Education Committees;
- Committee member, biennial relicensure of nurses, Nursing Council of Jamaica;
- Executive member, University Hospital League of Graduate Nurses;
- Committee member, *Jamaican Nurse Journal*

Lopez, S.

- Board member, Heart Foundation of Jamaica;
- Assistant Treasurer of the University Hospital League of Graduate Nurses;
- Committee member, the Jamaican Nurse Journal

Marshall-Burnett S.

- President, Senate of the Jamaican Parliament,
- Executive member of the PNP;
- Member, Nursing Council of Jamaica;
- Editor, *Jamaican Nurse Journal*.

Mullings J.

- Member, Orphans & Vulnerable Children Committee, Ministry of Health;
- Facilitator, MultiCare Foundation Sports Programme for Youth
- Member, Planning Committee - McCam Centre

Stewart, H.

- President, NAJ Credit Union's Board of Directors;
- Judge, NAJ student nurse of the Year competition;

- Member, National Council on Drug Abuse.

Weaver, S.

- Member, Lions Club.

Wint, Y.

- Member, Editorial Committee, The Jamaican Nurse Journal.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

All students in the BScN (generic) programme are full time. Of the 42 students in the BScN (post RN) programme, 37 are full time while 5 are part time. All 22 full-time students who entered the BScN (post RN) in 2004 will be graduating with Honours in November 2006.

UWISON’s 512 undergraduate students are as follows:

Undergraduate

Category of Students	New		Returning		Total	Graduating Nov. 2006	Status
	1 st year	2 nd Year	3 rd Year				
BSN (generic) Mona campus	93	124	-		217	N/A	
BScN (generic) franchised at EXED	65	66	-		131	N/A	
BScN (generic) franchised at Brown’s Town Community College	46	39	37		122	26/37	1 st Class= 3 Upper 2 nd =11 Lower 2 nd =12
<i>Sub-Total-BScN (generic)</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>229</i>	<i>37</i>		<i>470</i>	<i>26</i>	
<i>Sub-Total BScN (post RN)</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>-</i>		<i>42</i>	<i>42/25</i>	1 st Class =6 Upper 2 nd =13 Lower 2 nd =3
GRAND TOTAL Undergraduates	221	254	37		512	48	

Postgraduate:

The School started with thirty one (31) 1st and 2nd year post-graduate students and one (1) student from the 2004-05 class joined in the 2nd semester. One (1) student applied for leave of absence due to financial reasons and one (1) was asked to withdraw because of unsatisfactory academic performance in semester I. Of the remaining 29+1** students, 24 were full-time and 6 part-time. Nineteen (19) of the 23 eligible students completed the degree, of whom 10 received distinction. The MScN student population is as follows:

Category of Student	Fulltime	Part-time	Total	Graduating Nov. 2006	Status
MScN (Nursing Administration; Nursing Education)	11+1**	6	17+1**	12	Distinctions = 7
MScN (Family Nurse Practitioner; Mental Health/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner)	12	-	12	7	Distinctions =3
Total postgraduates students	23+1**	6	29 + 1**	19	

** 2004-05 class