

## DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES



Dr. Paulette Kerr, BA, MA *UWI*, PhD *Rutgers*  
Head of Department

### WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

During the academic year the Department focused on implementing aspects of its Operational Plan in keeping with objectives of the UWI Strategic Plan 2012–2017, while addressing recommendations of the Quality Review, and continued to enhance the quality of its offerings through varied initiatives and activities. Highlights include:

- Staging of the 40th Anniversary Research Conference
- Honoring of Professor Emerita Daphne Douglas via the Daphne Douglas Distinguished Lecture
- UNESCO/DLIS Workshop on Metadata
- Public Research Forum on Media and Information Literacy
- Formation of Student Society – UWI-LISS

- Curriculum review and enhancement –
  - o Offered new graduate courses in metadata, information literacy and integrated library systems
  - o Overhaul of technology courses; Developed new undergraduate courses in database management, information technology and digitization
- Sustained outreach activities to schools and colleges
- Principal's Research Awards to Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson
- Open Campus discussions towards online course offerings
- Successful Proposal to UNESCO for assistance in developing Archives/ Records Management Programme
- Successful Proposal for Principal's New Initiative Research Grant
- Articulation with Council of Community Colleges in Jamaica

#### **ACHIEVEMENT OF OPERATIONAL PLAN 2012–14**

Operational Plan 2012–14, was guided by the focus of the UWI Strategic Plan 2012–17, recommendations from the 2012 DLIS Quality Review as well as by strategic objectives set by the Department in 2011/2012. Initiatives of focus include:

- Enhance programme offerings with new courses and develop new undergraduate major in information management
- Create minors/major for joint degrees
- Offer hybrid/online courses in MLIS programme
- Improve and promote research profile of the Department
- Increase awareness of health and safety issues

#### **QUALITY REVIEW ACTION PLAN**

Action Plan from 2012 Quality Review was developed after discussions at the Departmental Retreat in June 2012. Areas addressed include:

- Curriculum Review of specific areas
- New Course Development/Flexible Course Offerings
- Staffing
- Outreach and Promotion
- Physical Facilities: Emergency Staircase

While the Department attempted to realize key initiatives, it was hampered by lack of full-time staff to be assigned to these initiatives.

## **TEACHING AND LEARNING**

### **Curriculum Review**

Ongoing curriculum review was the order of the day for the academic year. Addressing recommendations from the Quality Assurance Review, a review was done of Management Courses including Level I undergraduate courses towards enhancing with requisite competencies of financial and project management. Postgraduate courses were consolidated towards offering a single management course.

Proposal for an undergraduate Major in Information Management was put on hold as a result of lack of full-time staff to assign to this and other important areas. The increasing dependence on part time staff to carry out the vision of the Department is unhealthy. It has become challenging to require this staff to perform duties beyond teaching since the current Human Resource Division system does not recognize remuneration for such activities. Programme/Course development is an intense responsibility which demands payment.

### **New Courses Offered**

Partly to address recommendations of the Quality Assessment Review, and to address evolving needs of the Library and Information profession, the department offered the following new courses:

### **Graduate**

- LIBS6203 – Metadata and Resource Discovery. Although approved in May 2012, this approval was forwarded to Student Records Unit only in September which led to low uptake for the course.
- LIBS6003 – Information Literacy Instruction
- LIBS6504 – Integrated Library Systems
- LIBS6503 – Introduction to Digital Libraries

### **Undergraduate**

- LIBS3006 – Caribbean School & Public Libraries: Practices & Issues
- LIBS3604 – Teaching Information Literacy

### **New Courses Developed**

Following a review of technology courses, it was decided to extensively upgrade undergraduate courses which had not been done for a number of years. Complete restructuring of LIBS1501 and LIBS3501 was done, which resulted in two new courses being developed and approved for 2013/14 academic year:

- LIBS1502 – Information Technology for Information Professionals
- LIBS3502 – Technology in Libraries: Database Design and Management

LIBS2502 – Creating and Managing Digital Collections, developed by Mrs. Frances Salmon and Mrs. Maureen-Kerr Campbell of the UWI Library is being redesigned to meet the requirements of the Faculty Quality Assessment Committee.

Months of collaboration with key law librarians resulted in the creation of LIBS6306 – Legal Information Resources. The course is to be approved by the Campus Graduate Committee.

### **Online/Blended Learning Initiatives**

With an aim towards offering graduate courses in an online/blended mode, a number of initiatives between Open Campus and DLIS followed the staging of the Blended/Online Learning Workshop conducted at the Department's 2012 Retreat by Mrs. Cynthia Meghoo-Ebanks, Educational Courseware Editor of UWI, CIO. The initiatives include:

- Preliminary discussions between Professor Gary Hepburn and Dr. Paulette Kerr
- Video Conference Meeting (December 2012) with DLIS teaching staff (full and part-time) at the UWI Open Campus and sensitizing staff to the process of offering courses in an online mode
- Meeting with staff from the Open Campus, Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Paulette Stewart (March 8, 2013)

This initiative has also been stymied by challenges including lack of full-time staff to address re-developing of courses and unclear directions of the Open Campus.

### **Articulation of Courses**

The decrease in student enrolment across the Faculty was evident in the Department especially at the undergraduate level. The Department is aware of the growing competition from other tertiary institutions and has begun discussions towards articulation with one tertiary level institution offering the Associate degree in Library and Information Studies. An initial meeting was held with Dr. Christine Marrett from the Central Office for Regional and International Affairs, who was instrumental in organizing a subsequent meeting with members of the Council of Community Colleges in Jamaica on June 27, 2013.

### **Proposal for Archives/Records Management Programme**

A successful proposal was made to UNESCO, Kingston Cluster Office towards a concentration/ graduate programme in Archives/Records

Management. Currently there exists no programme for education of archivists and records managers in the Caribbean. UNESCO has agreed to assist with funding a feasibility study and a Meeting of Experts in September 2013 to chart the course of any such programme. The Department is in collaboration with Mr. John Aarons and Dr. Stanley Griffin of the University Archives. Based on the Report from the Feasibility Study and the Meeting of Experts, the Department will focus on the way forward.

## **GRADUATE STUDIES AND RESEARCH**

### **Staff/Graduate Research Seminars**

The Department continued the successful staff/graduate seminars started in 2011 as a means of providing a platform for students, faculty and other librarians to present research ideas. A total of four sessions were held, organized by Dr. Paulette Stewart, Graduate Coordinator.

### **Student Research Award**

Mrs. Claudette Lambert, MLIS 2012 graduate published a part of her Research Paper as “Second Career Librarians: Teachers Transitioning to Librarianship” in *Library Review*, Vol. 61 Iss: 6, pp. 428–446. The paper received The Inaugural Research Award given by Springer Publishing.

### **Departmental Research**

#### **Public Research Forum – March 21, 2013**

A Public Forum entitled, “Achieving Media and Information Literacy: The Challenge to the Education System,” was held to disseminate research findings of the UNESCO funded DLIS Research on Media and Information Literacy in four Caribbean countries. The main presenter was Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson, Adjunct Lecturer in the Department and discussants were Mrs. Sheena Johnson Brown, Lecturer, Communication Arts and Technology, University of Technology, Jamaica and Dr. George

Dawkins, Vice Principal of Academic Affairs and Research, Shortwood Teachers' College.

### **DLIS Research Initiative**

To realise a major area of the Department's research agenda, a new initiative grant proposal was made for funding research entitled "Media and Information Literacy Levels at the Exit Stages of the Education System in Jamaican Schools." The proposal was successful and research will get underway in the 2013/2014 academic year.

### **Research Forum – postponed**

Plans were in place for the Department's hosting of its first Research Forum under the theme, "Showcasing Research in Library and Information Science: Implications for Practice". This was scheduled for Friday, May 31, 2013 but was postponed for the 2013/2014 academic year.

### **Staff Research Awards**

Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson were awarded the Principal's Research Award for The Best Research Publication (article category) and The Research Project with the Greatest Development Impact, respectively.

### **INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

- St. John's University/UWI, DLIS Immersion Programme did not materialize due to insufficient student uptake for the programme. The Director, Dr. Sherri Lee plans to offer the programme for the 2013/14 academic year.
- The DLIS continues to represent the UWI at the UNESCO MILID UNITWIN (cluster of 8 universities on Media and Information Literacy Initiative Development). Dr. Paulette Kerr presented on media and information literacy initiatives at UWI and the greater

Caribbean at the annual meeting in May 2013. A joint paper on initiatives was also published in the *MILID Yearbook 2013*.

### **OUTREACH AND PROMOTION OF PROGRAMMES**

A concerted effort was made to promote the programmes offered by the Department via outreach activities to schools and colleges. Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington (temporary full-time assistant lecturer) was given responsibility to coordinate activities and was also nominated as the Department's representative to the Faculty of Humanities and Education's Outreach Committee. Mrs. Rodney-Wellington's work was outstanding and included the development of a video clip on the Department, which was used at most presentations and activities.

#### **November 23, 2012 UWI visit to Math Unlimited**

Mrs. Rodney-Wellington represented the Department of Library and Information Studies to final year students.

#### **November 28–29, 2012 UWI visit to Western Jamaica Campus' Open Day**

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington and Dr. Rosemarie Heath along with undergraduate students from the DLIS, presented fifth and sixth form students using multimedia presentation to showcase the versatility of a degree in Library and Information Studies. On November 29, Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson along with undergraduate students offered standing room only workshops on "Maximizing SBA/CAPE Scores: Mastering Research Skills" to high school and community college students.

#### **January 10, 2013 KC at UWI**

As part of the UWI, Mona recruitment drive, the Department was requested to offer the successful SBA/CAPE workshop and so Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson presented to a group of 200 Kingston College students.



**February 21, 2013 – Buff Bay High School; Annotto Bay High School**

Dr. Paulette Stewart conducted a workshop on “Cooperative Learning as a Successful Teaching Strategy” to teachers at the Buff Bay High School. Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington also made a presentation on the programmes offered by the Department of Library and Information Studies to students at the Buff Bay High School. Departmental brochures and flyers were distributed to students at the Annotto Bay High School during ‘Professionals Day’.

**February 28, 2013 – Brown’s Town Community College; Moneague College**

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington and Dr. Rosemarie Heath presented on the Faculty of Humanities and Education and highlighted the Department via the multimedia clip to a group of sixty CAPE students at Brown’s Town Community College. Flyers and brochures were also given to students. During the visit there was a twenty-minute question and answer session. A visit was also made to the Moneague College where Departmental programme brochures and flyers were distributed to students.

**March 21, 2013 – Ardenne High School**

Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney Wellington and members of the adjunct staff and graduates of the Department, made presentations to a group of thirty-three third form students at the Ardenne High School’s Career Day.

**RESEARCH DAY 2013**

The theme for Research Days 2013 was “Pathways and Opportunities for Regional Development.” The Faculty of Humanities & Education’s theme “Culture, Identity and Human Development,” was organised into six frames, of which the Department of Library and Information Studies participated in two:

1. Research and Projects in Literacy and Numeracy – The Foundation for the Development of Our People.
2. New Approaches to Library and Information Studies Developing Students for the Information Age.

### **Posters**

1. Shelley-Robinson, Cherrell. UNESCO. “Survey of Media and Information Literacy Among Teachers, In-Service and In-Training in in Four Caribbean Countries”
2. Kerr, Paulette. “Explicit Goals, Implicit Outcomes: Information Literacy Education in Developing University Graduate Attributes”
3. Stewart, Paulette. “Educating School Librarians in the English-Speaking Caribbean: The Case of the Department of Library and Information Studies, Mona, Jamaica”

### **Workshop Presentation to high school students**

- “Maximizing SBA Scores: Mastering Research Skills”

### **40th Anniversary Celebrations**

The Department continued its 40th anniversary celebrations which started in the 2011/2012 academic year. Activities include:

- a) The Daphne Douglas Distinguished Lecture – October 3 at the Faculty of Law Lecture Theatre. The Lecture was presented by Professor Jeannette Allis Bastian from the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College and was entitled “Local, Global, Virtual and for All: Information Technologies and Services Impacting Communities.”
- b) UNESCO/UWI Pre-conference Workshop on “Metadata and Resource Discovery” – October 3. 24 librarians representing 4 countries attended. Mrs. Fay Austin of Rutgers University was the main presenter.

- c) 40th Anniversary Research Conference and Gathering of Graduates  
– October 4–6 at the Mona Visitors' Lodge & Conference Centre.  
The Conference entitled, From Search to Discovery: Reimagining the Library and Information Landscape had 74 participants and highlighted the following:
- 20 Paper and Poster Presentations
  - Keynote & Plenary Sessions
  - Gala Dinner & Honouring of Outstanding Graduates
  - Launch of the DLIS Alumni Association
  - Exhibition “Blazing the Trail for 40 Years”

Keynote speakers were:

- Dr. Daniel Boivin, Executive Director, OCLC Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean “Libraries: A Force for Change”
- Mr. Carlton Samuels, Adjunct Lecturer, DLIS, UWI, Mona “The Information Professional in the Value Chain of the Knowledge Economy”.

### **Gala Dinner & Honouring of Outstanding Graduates**

Special Awards were made to the three remaining members of the 1971 Advisory Committee which designed the programme for the Department of Library and Information Studies.

- Professor Roy Augier
- Dr. Joyce Robinson
- Dr. Hazel Bennett

Past Heads were also honoured for their contribution to the Department.

- Professor Daphne Douglas
- Dr. Hazel Bennett
- Ms. Stephney Ferguson
- Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson
- Professor Fay Durrant

Twelve outstanding graduates of the Department were also honoured from the Decade of the 70s, 80s and 90s:

- Mrs. Laxmi Mansingh
- The. Hon. Charles Gibson
- Mr. John Aarons
- Mrs. Karen Barton
- Ms. Fay Austin
- Ms. Valerie Simpson
- Ms. Jennifer Joseph
- Dr. Paulette Kerr
- Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson
- Mrs. Shamin Renwick
- Mrs. Merline Bardowell
- Mrs. Cheryl Peltier-Davis

The Library and Information Studies Alumni Association (LISAA) was launched by Mrs. Celia Davidson-Francis, Director of Alumni Relations, UWI, Mona.

**Customer Service – Student Perception Survey**

The Department was rated as follows in the surveys conducted by the Deputy Principal’s office for the period September 2012 to January 2013.

Date	Mean	Percentage
January 2013	3.3	66.4
September 2012	3.5	70.1

### **Webpage Redesign**

The Department has now completed the redesign of its webpage. Several updates and links were made to photographs of academic staff, current news and events as well as copies of past examination papers and timetables.

### **Summer Workshops**

- *Workshop on “Information Literacy for Teachers and Information Professionals”* June 4–5, 2013.

**Presenters:** Dr. Paulette Kerr, Dr. Paulette Stewart, Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson, Mrs. Joan McDermott and Mrs. Karen Tryell. This workshop attracted 21 lecturers.

- *Summer Institute 2013 – “Legal Information Sources Unravelled”* June 17–21, 2013

**Presenters:** The Hon. Mr. Justice C. Dennis Morrison, Mr. Albert Edwards, Ms. Carol Ford, Ms. Camika Facey, Ms. Kaydian Smith, Mrs. Yvonne Lawrence, Mrs. Diane Clarke-Ottey, Mrs. Janette Powell, Dr. Floyd Barnett, Mrs. Claudette Solomon, Ms. Rochelle Davis, Ms. Jeanne Slowe, Mr. Byron Palmer and Mr. Dwaymian Brissette

- *Workshop on “Information Literacy” for HEART/NTA Librarians* July 29–30, 2013

**Presenters:** Dr. Paulette Kerr, Dr. Paulette Stewart and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson.

### **STAFF MATTERS**

Although staffing was a key area addressed in the recommendations from the Quality Assessment Review, the Department continues its long standing struggle with inadequate staff to meet programmatic and research needs. This continues to affect the work of the Department. The Department currently offers 22 courses at the undergraduate and 26 at the postgraduate level with 3 full-time and 18 part-time staff. Efforts

to recruit qualified full-time staff to fill needed subject areas especially in information technology were not successful for the second year. This is partly due to the current system of recruitment in the Human Resources Division. Applicants wait an inordinately long period for responses after initial interviews.

**New staff**

The Department welcomed 6 additional members of staff.

- **Full-time Staff:** Dr. Rosemarie Heath, Lecturer and Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington, Temporary Assistant Lecturer
- **Adjunct Staff:** Dr. Anthea Henderson, Mrs. Antonette Harriott, Mrs. Beverley Pellington and Ms. Audrey Saddler.

**TEACHING ACHIEVEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT 2012/2013**

	Mean Semester 1	Mean Semester 2
<b>Undergraduates</b>		
Lecturer Mean	4.2	4.4
Course Mean	3.9	4.1
<b>Graduates</b>		
Lecturer Mean	4.4	4.4
Course Mean	4.2	4.2

**RESEARCH AWARDS**

- Dr. Paulette Kerr and Dr. Cherrell Shelley-Robinson were awarded the Principal’s Research Award for *The Best Research Publication* (article category) and *The Research Project with the Greatest Development Impact*, respectively.

## **STUDENT MATTERS**

A mixed year as the Department saw the successful development of the DLIS Student Society, disbursements to three students from the Needy Students' Fund developed in 2012 and the death of a Level II Student, Omar Bailey who was killed in January 2013. Dr. Paulette Kerr, Head of Department, attended the funeral service and conveyed condolences to the family on behalf of the FHE, UWI.

### **UWI-LISS (University of the West Indies Library and Information Student Society)**

The Department is pleased that after months of planning, the proposed student club morphed into UWI-LISS with leadership from a group of outstanding undergraduates and assistance from Dr. Sasekea Harris, Adjunct Lecturer.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

1. To provide varied library and information related experiences geared towards the development of students in the field;
2. To provide a forum for sharing and learning about trends and issues in the field;
3. To provide opportunities to meet other persons engaged in or interested in the many facets of librarianship;
4. To promote a wider knowledge of library associations locally, regionally and internationally;
5. To provide opportunities for library and information students to make an impact in surrounding communities.

#### **Activities 2012–2013**

##### **1. “Dress for Success” Session**

On February 28, 2013, UWI-LISS hosted a “Dress for Success” Session at the Multifunctional Room, Main Library, UWI, Mona. The guest speaker was Ms. Charmaine Lewis, founder of Dress for Success, Jamaica. There were approximately 30 participants. The

session provided career development guidance with the objective of helping the attendees thrive in work and life. The event was sponsored by DLIS, the UWI Mona Main Library, the Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA), Mrs. Winsome Hudson and Ms. Judy Rao. The event was a success.

**2. Poster for DLIS 40th Anniversary Conference**

A poster on UWI-LISS was created for the DLIS 40th Anniversary Conference held October 3–6, 2012.

**3. Study Sessions**

Two study sessions were hosted by UWI-LISS. These included:

- Management of Information Systems – Guest Facilitator: Mr. Matthew Blake
- Cataloguing – Guest Facilitator: Ms. Antoinette Harriott

**4. Public Speaking Session**

A presentation was made by Dr. Rosemarie Heath on Thursday, March 21, 2013, in the DLIS Seminar Room. The session provided the membership with useful tips on delivering effective public presentations.

**5. Public Relation Initiatives**

A Twitter account and a Facebook account were created for the Society.

**Student Enrolment**

**Undergraduates**

Year	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
2012/2013	42	57	99

**Postgraduates**

Year	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
2012/2013	7	26	33



### Faculty/Departmental Awards

Awards	Criteria	Student
Amy Robertson Prize	Best student – B.Ed. School Librarianship	Marsha Chamberlain
Alumni Prize	Best Grade – Year 1	Telesea Stewart
Alumni Prize	Best Grade – Year 2	Drusilla Grant
Daphne Douglas Prize	Outstanding Professional Development	Kadian Chin
Dorothy Collings Prize (Graduate)	Best Graduate Performance	Shashan Thomas
Dorothy Collings Prize (Undergraduate)	Best Overall Undergraduate Performance	Carla McLaughlin

### PAPERS PRESENTED

#### Dr. Paulette Kerr

- “Media and Information Literacy and Intercultural Dialogue: Caribbean Perspectives”. MILID/UNITWIN Meeting, Cairo, Egypt. May 2013.
- “Strategies for Media and Information Literacy in Small Island States”. UNESCO Consultative Workshop. Castries, St. Lucia. July 2013.

#### Professor Fay Durrant

- “The Introduction, Development and State of FOI Legislation in the Commonwealth Caribbean”. Regional Conference on Freedom of Information: Improving Environmental Management. Kingston, March 20–21, 2013.

#### Mrs. Kerry-Ann Rodney-Wellington

- “Improving the Learning Experience Through the Library Programme: Implications for Community Colleges”. 13th Annual Conference of

the Council of Community Colleges in Jamaica. St. Ann, January 8, 2013.

**Dr. Rosemarie Heath**

- “Empowering the Learner: Exploring Students’ Voices in the Hermeneutic Circle”. DLIS 40th Anniversary Conference. Kingston, October 4, 2012.

**Dr. Paulette Stewart**

- “IASL Conferences: An Evaluation of the Attendance Pattern of Participants 1998–2010”. IASL Conference. Doha, Qatar. November 11–15, 2012.
- “Re-positioning Library and Information Science (LIS) Education in the Caribbean: Trends and Developments”. DLIS Conference. Kingston, October 4–7, 2012.

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Journal Articles**

**Dr. Paulette Kerr**

- Carroll, M., Kerr, P, Afzal, W & Abdul M. “Commonwealth of uncertainty: How British and American professional models of library practice have shaped LIS Education in selected former British Colonies and Dominions” *IFLA Journal* 39 (2) 121–133. 2013.

**Dr. Paulette Stewart**

- Stewart, Paulette, and Olivia Bravo. “Media and Information Literacy Dialogue at the University of the West Indies.” *MILID Yearbook*. 2013.
- “Educating School Librarians in the English-speaking Caribbean: The Case of The Department of Library and Information Studies”, University of the West Indies, Mona. *School Library Worldwide*.9:2 (2012): 21–34.

- “Benefits, Challenges and Proposed Future Directions for the International Association of School Librarianship Annual Conference”. *International Journal of Education and Research*.1 (5) 193–210. 2013.

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Dr. Paulette Kerr**

- Member, Board of Directors, National Forum on Information Literacy (USA)

**Professor Fay Durrant**

- Member, Board of Management, Jamaica Library Service
- Member, Board of Management, National Library of Jamaica

**Dr. Rosemarie Heath**

- Member, Executive Committee, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)
- Co-ordinator, Research and Publication Working Party, LIAJA

**Mr. Matthew Blake**

- President, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)
- Member, Board of Management, National Library of Jamaica

**Dr. Paulette Stewart**

- Director, IASL – Latin America and the Caribbean
- Member, Board of the East Jamaica Conference of Seventh-day Adventists Education Board
- National Judge for the Jamaica Public Library Reading Competition.