

**Greetings by Delano DeSouza, Guild President of the Guild of Students
Induction of Professor V. Eudine Barriteau as Principal and Pro-Vice-Chancellor
of the UWI Cave Hill Campus**

**Roy Marshall Teaching Complex, Cave Hill Campus
Saturday 12th December, 2015 15:00 p.m.**

Ladies and gentlemen good evening. On this one year sojourn as Guild President there are two (2) critical allies that you must have if you are to stomach the challenges of leadership and make any meaningful contribution to the academic and social lives of the study body. With just four months remaining in my tenure I like to believe that the alliances that I have formed thus far with the new Campus Principal, Professor Eudine Barriteau, and my good friend Dr. Johnnie Walker will endureth to the end.

Although they are plenty, my role here today is not to speak about the scholastic and many other meaningful achievements and pursuits of Professor Barriteau. There will be many others to elaborate on those. To me, my words here today should speak to her service to the student body over the years. They too are plenty; From her days as Campus Coordinator, Graduate Studies and Research, [and my good friend Dr. Walker was keen to remind me that she was the first woman to hold this position, to her six (6) years as Deputy Principal, during which time she served as Chair of the Campus' Institutional Accreditation Exercise, which resulted in full accreditation of the Campus for six years, as well as serving as Chair of the 2011 UWI Games Organising Committee.

Over those years the Guild of Students has enjoyed a close working relationship with her as Deputy Principal. Therefore it should be little surprise that this has continued in her new role as Principal. In a time where the expectations of the students would dictate that they take little time to realise that ours was a campus in the midst of a leadership transition unseen in over a decade, or allow them to grasp the reality that ours is also a campus experiencing serious financial challenges, it was critical that she hit the ground running. What was required was a Principal who not only spoke to the importance of student development and support, but one who exemplified it daily.

As Guild President, I have been impressed by her willingness to find solutions to the issues and challenges of the student body. Upon taking office she reaffirmed that her approach would be one of student and staff engagement with the aim of unifying the campus in the search for solutions. In some ways her leadership has taken away from the pressure of my office. I can remember meetings where despite the restlessness of faculty and staff, she refused to move to the next item on the agenda until all matters brought by the Guild of Students were properly discussed and action items identified for their remediation. Needless to say, after meetings like those, Dr. Walker and I would have no choice but to celebrate with a toast in the name of student progress.

Professor Barriteau, on behalf of the student body, the Guild of Students salutes you for your years of service, dedication and sacrifice. We wish you every success

going forward and would only ask that the student body remains at the heart of what you are able to plan and accomplish for this campus and university. I thank you.