

Remarks on behalf of the Open Campus by Dr. Luz Longsworth, Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor, UWI Open Campus at the Induction of Professor 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 | 5:00 p.m.**

Chancellor, Prime Minister of Grenada, Dr. the Right Honorable Keith Mitchell, Chief Justice of Barbados, the Honorable Sir Maston Gibson, Minister Donville Inniss and other ministers of Government, members of the Cabinet, Vice Chancellor Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Members of the Platform party, Members of the diplomatic corps, Members of the Senate, Members of Parliament, alumni, members of the Guild of Students, Members of the Media, Distinguished ladies and gentlemen good evening.

Today I am also able to use a greeting that has never before been used in this University when I greet Professor Eudine Barriteau as my SISTER PRINCIPAL. Indeed for us in the Open Campus, today is a double celebration as we honour Professor Barriteau's induction as Principal of The Cave Hill Campus, but also joyfully congratulate her as a part of the Open Campus family having been Principal for the short but significant gestation period of 9 months. In this ceremony Chancellor I hope the Historians are taking note. Not only is Cave Hill inducting its first female Principal, but this

Principal is I believe the first one to hold the post of Principal in two different campuses of the UWI.

My colleagues and I in the Open Campus therefore feel a very close tie to the new Principal of Cave Hill, who embraced the Open Campus ethos and quickly became an advocate for the Campus' reach and outreach. This should not surprise us, as Professor Barriteau is a quintessential Caribbean woman whose work and life has centered around service to the region, this university and to the understanding of West Indian womanhood. As Deputy Principal for Cave Hill and later Principal of the Open Campus she has shown her dedication to the students of the campuses taking a deeply compassionate and open approach to those with whom she came into contact. This compassion is often wrapped in a pragmatic and solutions-oriented focus which prompts her colleagues in the Open Campus whom she led for a brief period to describe her as straightforward, fair and balanced in her judgements.

Quick of mind and, if you ever see her on her daily walks, quick of step, it is not an easy task to keep up with her. As someone who

has benefitted from her advice during my own orientation to the post of Ag Principal, I appreciate her frankness but her empathy, her tell-it-like-it-is persona but her sensitivity to others' feelings, her seriousness of purpose but her hilarious sense of humor which often leads to muffled laughter when she whispers a wry comment or observation in your ear in the middle of a sometimes stuffy University meeting. Chancellor we will not comment on her academic pedigree which will be and has been lauded many times throughout this ceremony. What we in the Open Campus wish to say can be summed up in a composite sentence sent from her former Management Team in the Campus. I yield my words to theirs and quote :

“ Your assumption of the office of Principal Cave Hill re-affirms that Caribbean women, and women as a whole continue to shatter the glass ceiling by making their print in leadership roles in some of the region's top organisations. Such achievement is due not only to the recognition by the status quo of the need for change but more importantly to your sterling achievement over the years in the field of higher education, and other areas in the region. We in the Open

Campus are truly proud of you and wish you well in your stewardship of the Cave Hill Campus"

Professor Barriteau, your impact on the Open Campus reaffirms the statement made by Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook and author of the best-selling book **Lean In : Women, Work and the Will to Lead**

Leadership is about making others better as a result of your presence and making sure that impact lasts in your absence."

Although brief, your impact has lasted and I personally thank you for leaving the Open Campus a better place for me to succeed you. I believe you know, but I wish to reaffirm the pride, admiration and yes love that your colleagues in the Open Campus have for you. In a way, the child has become a parent, and we feel a mixed sense of joy and sadness as you are returned back to your beloved Cave Hill Campus. One thing we are sure of is that your tenure at the Open Campus will have helped to prepare you for the many challenges to

be faced in the management of the Cave Hill Campus as we share many of the same challenges. Know that you have our support and commitment to assist in any way we can, and if we can't at least we are just next door and we can share a cup of tea (or something stronger, depending on the issue)!

Finally as your Sister Principal I wish to adapt a well known Irish Greeting to our Caribbean Reality and leave you with the following words

“May the Road be pothole free as it rises to greet you each morning on your walk

May the Bajan Sun, the Nation and the Advocate always shine only on your good deeds

May the Trade Winds blow gently at your back and spare you from any storms, hurricanes, earthquakes, and other disasters whether natural or man-made, real or imagined.

And May you know always that you are loved, appreciated and valued by those who matter.”

Our best wishes for success in your tenure as Principal of Cave Hill

Thank you.