



The Tower

UWI CAVE HILL ALUMNI NEWS VOL 6 ISSUE 1 JUNE 2009



Cave Hill Builds the Research Enterprise
Barbados Government provides \$1 million for postgraduate scholarships

Witnesses to History
Students attend inauguration of US President Obama

Class of 2008 Produces Record PhD Crop
A look at the largest graduating class of PhDs in Cave Hill history

Whither CSME?
Former Prime Minister of St. Lucia calls for Caribbean unity

Editor's Note

An even number of males and females; 13 Barbadians, one Grenadian, two Dominicans, a Canadian and a Martiniquan; four from the Faculty of Social Sciences, four from the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences and 10 from the Faculty of Humanities and Education – this is the profile of the largest single group of PhD students to graduate from the Cave Hill Campus – the class of 2008, among them the Chief Education Officer of Barbados, the Director of Trade of Dominica, a former banker and several young aspiring academics. In this edition, we take a look at the members of the PhD Class of 2008 in a special Class Notes section. Eighteen stories of differing personal and professional motivations, but common advice about what it takes to successfully undertake a doctoral programme: good supervision and support from UWI, family and friends; good time management, especially if you want to work and study; a love of research and the subject matter; and a strong ability to stay focused and motivated amid the many challenges – personal, academic and financial.

We also discuss with Campus Principal, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, his vision for the growth of the Cave Hill Campus into a “highly competitive research university by 2012”, an initiative which will be of great interest to our alumni community, particularly those persons keen to pursue postgraduate studies.

Contributors:

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Rose-Anne Maxwell (*BSc. Management, 1999*)

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Cover Photograph

Dr. Jeffrey Elcock *PhD Computer Science* (with high commendation), is greeted by UWI Chancellor Sir George Alleyne (*MBBS 1958*) at the 2008 Graduation Ceremony.

Photo compliments of David Marshall (*BSc. Computer Science and Physics, 1997*)

UWI Alumni Weigh In

The results of the UWI Alumni Survey 2008 are in and we have heard your 842 voices. Our aim was to better understand how our alumni perceive UWI and to determine your preferences in terms of communication, alumni events and financial giving to UWI.

So what did you tell us? You want to hear from us every month, or at least quarterly. You want to hear mostly about social events, changes on Campus and new academic programmes either by email or newsletter. The events in which you would be most willing to participate are: career related; continuing education/training; social events; reunions; community activity/outreach; travel abroad; concerts; student performances; and faculty lectures. You are willing to make financial contributions to UWI, but you prefer to give to specific projects, which you consider worthwhile. Thanks to all who participated in the survey!

UWI Alumni Scorecard 2008

- 74% of respondents perceived the reputation of UWI to be either good or excellent.
- 77% of respondents found the quality of UWI education to be either good or excellent.
- 64% of respondents thought the public's perception of UWI was either good or excellent.
- 75% of respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with their UWI experience.
- 60% of respondents were either very satisfied or satisfied with UWI today.
- 55% of respondents stated that they would make a financial contribution to UWI if they knew what the funds were being used for.
- 47% of respondents said that UWI presented a very clear or clear case for financial support from alumni.

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Outstanding Service Celebrated

Five alumni have been recognised during the first five months of 2009 for their outstanding professional achievements and contributions to the University, through the *Alumnus/a of the Month Award*. The programme which was launched in April 2008, celebrates the achievement of excellence by graduates of the Cave Hill Campus.

Recipients must meet the following criteria:

- Have graduated from the Cave Hill Campus.
- Received outstanding recognition in his/her career field nationally, regionally or internationally or made exceptional contributions to his/her profession over a sustained period of time. or
- Have given noteworthy, compassionate, humanitarian or community service, which has improved or enriched the lives of others and the welfare of humanity. or
- Have demonstrated exceptional personal or professional contributions, dedication and commitment to the goals and objectives of the UWI through their consistent and continuous contributions of time, talent or resources. or
- Have received outstanding recognition in his/her sport nationally, regionally or internationally or made exceptional contributions to his/her sport over a sustained period of time.



January 2009

His Hon. Senator Dr. Branford Taitt (*LLB. 1980*)
President of the Barbados Senate

In recognition of his long and distinguished service in Barbados and internationally as a leader of Government, statesman, diplomat and scholar



February 2009

Mr. Peter Downes (*BSc. Social Sciences 1983*)
Managing Director of Profiles Caribbean

On receipt of the Barbados Small Business Association's Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2008



March 2009

Dr. Brian Charles (*BSc. Natural Sciences 1983; MBBS 1989*)
Executive Director, Sandy Crest Medical Centre

On receipt of the Barbados Silver Crown of Merit for significant contribution to emergency medicine in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean



April 2009

The Hon. Stanley Reid (*LLB. 1991*)
Deputy Governor of Anguilla

In recognition of his distinguished career in the public service in Anguilla, in particular his appointment as the first Deputy Governor of Anguilla



May 2009

Senator the Hon. Maxine McClean (*BSc. Public Admin. 1979*)
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Barbados

In recognition of her outstanding contribution to the UWI Alumni Association Barbados Chapter as President in 2007 and 2008, in particular her role as founding member of the Cave Hill Campus Alumni Circle

Official photographs of the awardees are hung in the Main Lobby on a special wall of honour designated for this purpose. Alumni are invited to make nominations to the selection committee, comprised of representatives of the Campus and the UWI Alumni Association. For detailed award criteria and nomination forms, please email alumnioffice@cavehill.uwi.edu.

Steady Leadership in Medical Emergencies

The name and face of Alumnus of the Month for March 2009, Dr. Brian Charles (MBBS 1989) are synonymous with accident and emergency management in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.

Surprisingly, Dr. Charles started his working career not as a medical doctor, but as a project engineer with Intel Corporation. But becoming a doctor was his childhood dream, so this 2008 recipient of the Barbados Independence Awards Silver Crown of Merit for his contribution to emergency medicine, went back to UWI for a second time in 1984 to start medical school. Born in Britain to Morris, a Dominican engineer and Joyce, a Barbadian teacher, Dr. Charles grew up in Dominica and moved to Barbados in 1979. He gained his first BSc. degree in Natural Sciences in 1983 with honours from the Cave Hill Campus, where he met his wife Catharine Foster (BSc. Natural Sciences).

Dr. Charles has the distinction of being one of the first two graduates with Master's and Doctorate degrees in Emergency Medicine in the region. He has sub-speciality interest in Hyperbaric Medicine and Emergency Cardiac Care and is also trained in Mass Casualty Management, Incident Command, and Medical Management of Disasters. "I started as a House Officer in the Accident and Emergency (A & E) Department of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) in 1990. I became a Consultant in 1997 and Head of the A & E Department in 2000," explains Dr. Charles. In 2008, he transferred into a general

hospital management capacity with a promotion to Director of Medical Services.

At 45, Dr. Charles' contribution to emergency management in the health care industry is impressive. He has assisted in the development of Mass Casualty Management Protocols, some of which have been adapted in other islands. He is an Associate Lecturer in Emergency Medicine at his alma mater and he serves as a reservist in the Barbados Defence Force at rank of Captain, conducting Medical Clinics and Hyperbaric Medical Services. He has been credited with the establishment of Training Centres in Emergency Cardiac Care in Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad, Guyana, St. Maarten, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Saba. These centres offer training to medical, paramedical, and lay persons in various levels of Life Support.

In discussing some of the challenges he has faced in recent years, Dr. Charles pointed out that he managed the medical coordination of two major global sporting events held in Barbados in 2006 and 2007. "In 2006, it was the World Cup of Golf and in 2007, I was instrumental in the design, bid, and medical coverage for Cricket World Cup (CWC 2007). I also led the training and certification for Basic and Advanced Life Support used in case of medical mishap in most of the venues for the CWC 2007," he explained. Subsequent to the fire at Glendairy Prison, he coordinates the prison medical service first at Harrison Point and now at Dodd's Prison. As a volunteer with the Department of Emergency Management, his administrative roles in Mass Casualty



Dr. Brian Charles

and Disaster Management were also put to the test in the 2007 Joe's River tour bus accident in which six persons died and the Britton's Hill Arch Cot tragedy in which an apartment building collapsed into a cave killing a family of five.

Dr. Charles, who now works as Executive Director of the Sandy Crest Medical Centre, the island's lone 24-hour urgent and general medical care clinic, which he helped to found, says his guiding philosophy is, "Forget self; help others." "Looking back at the hard long days (and nights), surrendering some personal freedoms for the benefit of helping others was worth all the hardship," he said. A firm believer and advocate for healthy living, Dr. Charles finds great reprieve in his hobbies, which include jogging, cycling, hiking, and kayak surfing. Apart from his two daughters, Ayana and Dominique, his other passion is partying and he enjoys most of the carnivals of the Caribbean.

When asked about how he feels about the award of Alumnus of the Month, Dr. Charles admitted that he considers it a great honour. "The UWI has produced so many great individuals who have proven to be stalwarts in many wide and varied professions and being considered one of them is humbling. I would encourage all those who have the opportunity to excel to do so without expecting recognition but do so for self satisfaction and gratification," he said.

Alumnus Makes History in Anguilla



The Hon. Stanley Reid

Accepting the nomination of Deputy Governor of Anguilla, the Hon. Stanley Everton Reid (LLB, 1991) as Alumnus of the Month for April 2009 was a task made delightfully simple by the thick wad of testimonies supporting the nomination submitted by Carla Harris Pascal, Head of the Open Campus in Anguilla.

The submissions ranged from that of the recently retired Governor of Anguilla, His Excellency Andrew N. George, who described the nominee as a man of “impeccable integrity and excellent judgment” to a newspaper article that mentioned a note from his former staff in the Department of Public Administration, on the occasion of his selection as Executive of the Year in 2004, in which they concluded “De man is just a super boss.”

The Hon. Stanley Reid is clearly a source of great pride for Anguillans. His selection as the first Anguillian

to hold the post of Deputy Governor in the British Overseas Territory was announced on Anguilla Day in 2006 by the Hon Chief Minister Osbourne Fleming and hailed as “part of a dream that all countrymen have had since 1967 that all Anguillans are placed squarely at the helm of all levels of government and administration in Anguilla.” Hon. Reid commented to The Anguillian newspaper on that momentous occasion, “I accept the appointment with immense pleasure, pride and a willingness to serve the people of Anguilla. I think the position is actually one of ultimate service.”

He attended the Cave Hill Campus from 1988 to 1991, where he obtained a Bachelor of Laws Degree, winning the Thorne de la Bastide Prize for outstanding work in Constitutional Law. It was at Cave Hill that he met his wife, Dawn Richardson, who was born in St. Kitts of Anguillian parents. He went on to secure his Legal Education

Certificate from the Hugh Wooding Law School at UWI St. Augustine, a Master of Laws Degree from the University of London and is now reading for a Master of Science degree in Public Policy and Management with the University of London’s External Programme.

The Deputy Governor’s life-long career of service to the community in Anguilla includes stints as a Customs Assistant, a school teacher, Crown Counsel, Senior Crown Counsel, and Permanent Secretary, Public Administration, and acting posts as Magistrate, Registrar and Attorney General. His tremendous leadership ability and dedication to hard work are hailed in Anguilla. As Deputy Governor, he manages the public service. In this capacity over the last three years, he has launched the “Tell the DG” website, published a code of ethics for the Public Service, launched the code as computer pop ups, and was integral in securing the enactment of two pieces of legislation which formalised Disaster Management and implemented a continuous voter registration system in Anguilla.

But it is the humility and other personal qualities of this Founding President of the Optimist Club of Anguilla that earn the greatest admiration. In the words of his staff at the Department of Public Administration, “He generally acts in the best interest of those whom he leads. He exercises sound judgment, knows when to advance and when to pause, is unafraid to criticise, is willing to praise and challenges others to excel. He leads more by example than directive. De man is just a super boss.”

UWI Welcomes New Rules for Philanthropic Giving in Barbados



The Hon. David Thompson (LLB, 1984), Prime Minister of Barbados, announced a change in the regulations governing philanthropic

gifts in his Budgetary Proposals presented to Parliament on May 18th, 2009 that could help stimulate UWI alumni financial giving in Barbados. The new regulations will abolish the need for donors to enter into a minimum three-year Deed of Covenant relationship with the charity receiving their financial contribution in

order to be eligible to claim an income tax benefit. The Prime Minister noted that the Covenant was overly bureaucratic and time consuming.

The new rules will abolish the need for a Deed of Covenant and replace them with an official donation receipt. In addition, both cash donations and property will be allowed for tax purposes and large donations of over BDS\$1 million may be carried forward for five years, with a restriction on the amount that can be claimed in each year. Large one-off donations to some specially scheduled charities with a major public purpose will be permitted to be written off in one year, since according to the Prime Minister, such donations will reduce the charities'

dependence on government.

The new regulations are expected to have a positive impact in increasing alumni philanthropic gifts to the UWI Cave Hill Campus Alumni Circle, a registered benevolent organisation through the Campus Development and Endowment Fund. "This change will ease the growing administrative burden on the Office of Alumni Relations as the number of members of our Alumni Circle increases steadily," said Business Development Officer, Sonia Johnson (B. A., *Caribbean and Latin American Studies*, 1983). "It will also provide an additional incentive for our alumni to support the Alumni Circle projects and more easily gain a tax credit while doing so," she said.

"This proposal was based on the philosophy that investing private capital for public return should be a new approach to development financing in Barbados."



For less than one dollar a day, UWI alumni can make a lasting difference in the quality of the educational experience at Cave Hill by contributing to these projects:

- Campus Landscaping and Beautification
- University Alumni House
- Law Faculty and Law Library Expansion
- Scholarships and Bursaries
- Unrestricted use

Membership levels are:

- Platinum: a total of at least BD\$6,500 over at least three years
- Gold: BDS\$4,001 - \$6,500 over at least three years
- Silver: BDS\$2,501 - \$4,000 over at least three years
- Bronze: BDS\$1,000 - \$2,500 over at least three years

For more information visit <http://www.cavehill.uwi.edu/alumni/giving.asp>



One of the wallpapers that can be downloaded from www.cavehill.uwi.edu

Cave Hill More User-Friendly on the World Wide Web

The Cave Hill Campus presence on the Internet has undergone a major facelift, aimed at enhancing usability and delivering more content. “The redesigned Cave Hill website was launched on January 17th, 2009. Alumni will want to check out the upgrades to the website of the Office of Alumni Relations, which now make it easier to stay informed of alumni happenings, update their contact information, and join the Alumni Association,” informed Campus Webmaster, Klintita Burke (BSc. Computer Science and Accounting, 1999). The new look website includes a photo gallery that captures important moments on Campus and a collection of desktop wallpapers of Campus buildings and flowers that you can download to your PC. It is even easier to stay informed of Campus happenings through the new News Section and Events calendar, as well as the quarterly Campus magazine, UWI Chill, which is now online.

“Cave Hill Evening” for Working Students

Working and studying at the same time will now be easier for UWI Cave Hill students come September 2009. This is when the Campus introduces the pilot of its “Cave Hill Evening” programme which aims to enable fully matriculated undergraduate students to register full-time, access all their courses after working hours and still graduate in three years. The pilot will begin with seven programmes: Education; Management Studies; Computer Science and Management; Social Work; Accounting; Banking and Finance; and Public Sector Management. Classes begin at 5.00 p.m. except in the case of Education which starts at 4.00 p.m.

Caricare Medical Assistance Plan for Students

All full-time and part-time students of the Cave Hill Campus are now covered by a comprehensive major medical plan. The plan offered through Sagikor, assists students in the payment of expenses for serious illnesses or accidents and covers most types of necessary medical expenses, except dental or vision care.

Students Shuttle Bus Service

The new student shuttle bus service, supported by funding from the Student Amenities fee, is now fully operational, providing students with the opportunity to travel to and from Campus at no cost and more safely, especially at late hours. The service, which runs weekdays from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm, operates along three routes. The Campus to City Express runs along Spring Garden Highway into and through Bridgetown with stops in Probyn Street and Lower Broad Street in the city. The NCF Shuttle runs through West Terrace, Oxnards and Haynesville. The Warrens Shuttle runs through White Hall, Green Hill, Lodge Hill, Clermont, Prior Park and Wanstead. The shuttle also connects the main Campus with the new Graduate Studies Complex at the Lazaretto.



Witnesses to History



Melanie Price

No doubt each of us remembers exactly where we were on January 20, 2009 when the United States of America inaugurated its first black President.

For four UWI students from Cave Hill that day was an extra special one, as they had the opportunity to be among the two million persons on the National Mall in Washington D.C witnessing the historic event. Melanie Price, Amanda Rae-Riley, Julia Welch and Kamal Wood were in the US capital during inauguration week to attend the University Presidential Inaugural Conference (UPIC) with approximately 5,000 other students from around the world, including students from the Mona and St. Augustine Campuses of UWI.

The group was chosen to participate in the UPIC, as alumni of the Global Young Leaders Conference, which they attended in Vienna, Prague and Budapest in 2006. UPIC allows young leaders from around the world to experience first hand the pageantry and ceremony of the inauguration, to hone their leadership skills and to exchange ideas with some of the United States' top policy officials,

lobbyists, journalists, diplomats and academics. "We heard key note presentations from persons such as former Secretary of State General Colin Powell and former Vice President Al Gore," explained 18-year old Barbadian student, Melanie.

The lone male in the group, Kamal Wood, a second year student in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences from St. Vincent, found the event enthralling. "It was excellent to hear the speakers and to reconnect with some of my old friends from the Global Young Leaders Conference. Apart from the speeches, there were focus groups and seminars delivered by prominent people such as, political strategists for the US Democratic Party Paul Begala and James Carville and Republic Party strategists Tucker Carlson and Mary Matalin," he said.

The group arrived in Washington on January 17th and stayed at the Grand Hyatt Hotel, just five blocks from the White House, Washington Convention Centre and the U.S. Capitol. "It was pure exuberance. Everywhere you turned persons were wearing sweaters, caps or drinking out of mugs with Obama's picture on it," said Melanie. "I left my hotel at 3:30 in the morning in order to go to the inauguration. The buses were not allowed to pass certain areas, so my group walked to the National Mall. There were Secret Service men all around – even snipers on top of buildings," explained Melanie. "It was a feeling unlike any other," she said. "The person who stood next to me was a man who works in the Attorney General's Office. He said to me: I voted for McCain, but I wasn't going to miss this for anything!" Kamal said he saw the inauguration

"at a rather awkward angle, near the back of a crowd, huddled around one of the large monitors near the Washington Monument".

But Kamal and Melanie both agreed enthusiastically that just being in Washington was a privilege. "I did not get to meet President Obama," said Melanie, "But, the experience is one I will always remember. I know that this does not mark the end of racial barriers, economic, social or political differences in the United States, but it reinforced the fact that no mountain is too high and every obstacle can be overcome when you believe in yourself. Nothing can hinder self-fulfillment if we believe in change," she said.

One thing is certain for both students though. The experience has not motivated them to become involved in politics. Not even, Kamal, who is the President of the Debating Society; the Vice President of CARICOM Relations of UWI Students Today Alumni Tomorrow; and a member of the Guild of Students' Constitutional and Electoral Committees. "I intend to contribute to the Caribbean's social, intellectual and technological development. I'm especially passionate about regional integration," he said. "But I currently have no intention of becoming involved in politics, although I'd like to contribute in whatever other ways I can."



Kamal Wood

Whither CSME?

The Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) is at a delicate juncture in its short history. Its foundation has been severely compromised and weakened. It has lost momentum and direction.

This was the message of former Prime Minister of St. Lucia and Member of Parliament of St. Lucia, Dr. Kenny Anthony (*BSc. Government and History 1976, LLB 1983 & LLM 1986*), as he delivered the third annual Patrick Emmanuel Memorial Lecture on November 27, 2008 at the Cave Hill Campus under the theme “The Present Caribbean Moment: Challenges and Future Prospects.”

In his remarks, Dr. Anthony examined a long list of factors which were contributing to the limited progress with the implementation of the CSME, including internal differences and competing visions among the Heads of Governments, linked to the seven changes of government across the region over the past two years. Disagreement on the free movement of labour within the Community; lack of progress on the establishment of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ); the ambivalence of the OECS to the CSME; doubts over Jamaica’s commitment to the CSME; and renewed cynicism and suspicion at the prospect of the political union between the OECS and Trinidad and Tobago, were some of the other issues Dr. Anthony identified.

On the current hot topic of the free movement of labour in the region, Dr. Anthony was of the opinion that

the initiative was compromised from the outset, since some states were never faithful to the agreed legislation governing the movement of skilled nationals. Calling for an audit of existing legislation and administrative practices, he stressed that if the issue remained unresolved, it had the greatest potential to undermine the efforts to establish the CSME. “It nurses



Dr. Kenny Anthony

“The primacy of the CSME should be restored. A single unified vision must emerge to guide the region.”

fear, arouses deep seated animosities and brings out unwarranted xenophobia,” he said.

Dr. Anthony said that in his view, some members of the OECS seem

to think that there is nothing to gain from the CSME since they have enjoyed benefits in a number of areas by the OECS itself. He said that this feeling is driven by what he described as a “historical, socio-political and even geo-political, misplaced fear” that OECS producers and retailers would eventually be marginalised and overwhelmed by their better capitalised CARICOM competitors.

But, is there any way to get the CSME back on track? Dr. Anthony offered several suggestions. “Heads of Government need to convene in advance of the regular summit of the Heads in July 2009 to review the impact of the global economic crisis on the economies in the region and to begin the process of preparing the people for the inevitable stresses and adjustments that lie ahead. There must be urgent reconsideration of the place of CARICOM in the emerging world order, post the global economic crisis. Heads of Government need to devote time and attention on the foreign policy options facing the Community. The perceived differences between the vision of OECS leaders and their counterparts must be narrowed. One step which would help this process is the establishment of a Regional Economic Task Force to undertake a study of OECS economies to determine what options are available to sustain their viability. The issues which have emerged in respect of the movement of skilled national and member states need quick resolution,” he said.

The Next Level: Cave Hill Builds the Research Enterprise

“Cave Hill must be a highly competitive research university by 2012. Over the next three years, our key focus will be on transitioning the Campus from a primarily undergraduate institution into one that is well equipped to drive the 21st century economies of our Caribbean nation states through cutting edge research, innovation and aggressive relevance to industry needs.”



**Professor
Sir Hilary
Beckles**

The rapid transformation of the Cave Hill Campus over the past decade has been described by many as extraordinary.

Dramatic expansion in undergraduate enrollment; strategic renewal and growth in undergraduate and graduate academic programming; strengthening of quality assurance and management systems; steady diversification and enhancement of student services and amenities; and impressive growth and aesthetical improvement of the physical plant are some of the major achievements highlighted by Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles in his annual report to the Cave Hill Campus Council on April 3, 2009.

But already, Sir Hilary has set out a dynamic new agenda of targets and priorities for Cave

Hill, at the mid-point of the 2007 – 2012 strategic planning period. Already, the Government of Barbados has pledged its support to the new strategic thrust by committing BDS\$1 million to fund postgraduate scholarships for students pursuing full-time research degrees. “This is an historic development,” said Sir Hilary.

“This will transform Cave Hill Campus. It will revolutionise what we are doing here. This new initiative will enable us to develop a long-term research agenda in critical strategic areas, recruit the best students on a full-time basis and attract a cadre of world class, dedicated researchers and staff. We are transitioning to a world-class research-oriented enterprise.”

According to Sir Hilary, “if

developing countries like our Caribbean nations are to avoid intellectual and economic marginalisation, it is imperative that we make knowledge creation, innovation and the development of our intellectual and human assets of prime importance”. Sir Hilary explained that without a guaranteed and sustained source

The School for Graduate Studies and Research has been relocated to a new building dedicated to postgraduate students



of funding for research programmes focused on finding Caribbean solutions to problems that the Caribbean judged critical to its development, the Campus had been forced to pursue its research mainly on a project by project basis and typically, of necessity, more aligned with those areas deemed relevant by funding agencies and international foundations.

The Principal explained that over the past three years, the first phase of the initiative had seen the Campus moving swiftly to strengthen capacity and expand programme offerings in Postgraduate Studies and Research. “We rolled out eleven new professional taught masters degrees in areas such as Tourism and Hospitality Management, Banking and Finance, Counselling Psychology, Electronic Commerce and Public Law,” he said. In addition, the Campus strengthened

administration of the School for Graduate Studies and Research, including the establishment of a new post of Senior Assistant Registrar. An aggressive marketing programme was launched through a regional Graduate Student Recruitment Fair mounted in six countries and a new teaching facility exclusively for the use of graduate students was constructed. The new Graduate Students Complex at Black Rock came into full use in September 2008 and provides 11,000 square feet of space. It houses a lecture theatre with seating for 100, seven classrooms, a computer lab, e-library facilities, a student’s lounge and recreational area and office space for academic and administrative staff.



Academic year 2009/2010 will see a number of new professional Masters degrees coming on stream. “We are responding to requests from employers,” said Sir Hilary, who indicated that 15 research clusters had been proposed in order to develop new Faculty-based research centres.

“It is vital that this growth be focused in areas of national and regional strategic need and in partnership with our stakeholders, in particular business and industry. Building a faculty-industry innovation culture is key. We have invited the private sector to participate in the research agenda by funding professorial chairs in target areas,” he added.

Sir Hilary indicated that the Campus basically recognised the need to consolidate and revolutionise its research

output. We believe that the research should be largely relevant to regional development. “We have interacted with all of the stakeholders of the campus community and we have had the opportunity to work closely with the national strategic plans. We fully understand the content and the direction of those national strategic plans. We have done this for Barbados as well as most countries in the Eastern Caribbean. We are fully supportive of the approved strategies to modernise and to sustain economic, social and cultural development and to strengthen the process of governance.

We believe that as a university we ought to assist governments especially in developing research-based policy initiatives,” Sir Hilary noted.

“We have set ourselves some aggressive targets. The Strategic Plan projects that by 2012, we will have more than 1,100 graduate students at Cave Hill, almost doubling the 2006 enrollment numbers. One in every nine students at Cave Hill will be enrolled in higher degree and advanced diploma programmes.”

Proposed New Research Centres

- Centre for Law of the Sea Research
- Public Policy Research Group
- Centre for Sustainable Tourism
- Centre for Transportation Research
- Renewable Energy Group
- EPA implementation Unit
- Language Learning & Research Centre
- Centre for African Studies
- Food Safety and Management Research Centre
- Heritage and Archaeology Research Centre

New Masters Degrees to start in 2009/10

- M.Sc. Marketing
- M.Sc. Human Resource Management
- M.Sc. Financial Management
- M.Sc. Management
- M.Sc. Investments & Wealth Management
- M.Sc. Tourism & Project Management
- M.Sc. Tourism & Events Management
- M.Sc. Tourism & Sports Management
- M.Sc. Sociology

Prevention Better Than Cure

Chronic non-communicable diseases account for over eighty percent of deaths in Barbados. With a markedly high prevalence of diabetes and vascular disease in the adult black population, the island has one of the highest rates of diabetes-related amputations of lower extremities in the world. Despite these startling facts and the belief that prevention strategies are the most prudent method of reducing the impact of these diseases, current diagnostic techniques for diabetes do little to actually gauge a patient's risk in the pre-disease stage. Existing tests either confirm that patients already have or do not have a particular disease.

This deficiency is now the focus of a research study currently underway at the Cave Hill Campus. Led by biochemist Dr. Thea Scantlebury-Manning and her postgraduate student (Angela Carrington), the study seeks to identify and quantify the biomarkers for diabetes and vascular disease in both persons who are experiencing the symptoms of these diseases and those who are not. Dr. Scantlebury-Manning is aiming to accurately identify the early biologic indicators that precede disease onset, and use these indicators to control disease progression. The benefits of this research are obvious: asymptomatic persons en route to developing diabetes and/or vascular disease can be identified in the pre-disease stage and can either prevent or delay the onset of disease through

customised treatment or lifestyle change.

The research represents a breakthrough for Barbados, as it will be the first attempt to establish a national biomarker for the staging of diabetes and vascular disease. Currently, local markers are patterned after North American indicators, despite the dissimilarities between the majority black and majority white populations with respect to disease progression. Merits of the study aside, it has not been without its challenges. Securing funding and overcoming the misconceptions of potential study participants are some of the major issues Dr. Scantlebury-Manning and her postgraduate student has had to face.

One cause for hesitation among potential participants is the concern over the amount of time participating in the study requires. While participants are monitored for two years, meetings with researchers occur only at six month intervals, requiring only four visits over a two year period. Dr. Scantlebury-Manning is also mindful of confidentiality concerns, and assures participants that their identities will not be known to researchers, and that only those tests related to the study will be performed on participants' samples. The study's focus on participant confidentiality is so strict, in fact, that it precludes researchers from directly matching test results with a participant's name, or sharing test results with participants.

Another challenge has been raising sufficient funds for the research project. Dr. Scantlebury-Manning has been making the case for support to



Dr. Thea Scantlebury-Manning

insurance and other private sector companies who stand to benefit greatly from the study's findings: a population that knows where they stand in the pre-disease stage can take steps to prevent or delay disease onset, therefore substantially reducing insurance claims and lost productivity due to illness, or death. Generous donations from companies such as Pine Hill Dairy, Thorpes International Produce, Spectrol Labs, BCPS Ltd., Allicoz, Collins Ltd., and other small businesses and groups have raised \$80,000 in cash and kind donations to date, and Dr. Scantlebury-Manning hopes to add to these funds as the study continues. Sponsors and persons interested in participating in the study are asked to contact Dr. Thea Scantlebury-Manning at 246 417-4356 or via email at thea.scantlebury-manning@cavehill.uwi.edu.



Mummy Dearest

Would you like it if your mother was attending the same UWI classes as you were? How about your great niece or your aunt?

This was the interesting predicament of four members of the Clarke and Pollard families, three of whom graduated in October 2008. Getting a university degree was a mother-daughter experience for Margaret Pollard (BSc. Social Work, 2008) and her daughter Karla Holder (BSc. Accounting, 2007) and Susan Clarke (Margaret's niece) (BSc. Accounting, 2008) and her daughter Shari Clarke (BSc. in Tourism Management, 2008).

Margaret took the bold step to pursue her teenage dream of becoming a UWI graduate in 2003 at age of 48 when Karla was in sixth form. She was then joined at Cave Hill by her niece Susan in 2004, her daughter Karla also in 2004 and finally her niece Shari in 2005, although Karla was the first to complete her studies. For the youthful looking Margaret, the experience of studying with family members was not only hard work but lots of fun. Snacking by Linda's van, which they all did after lectures because everyone was starved, holding seats for each other during classes or hearing voices shouting "Auntie!" or "Mummy!" from some part of the Campus are some of the fond memories Margaret

holds of her time at UWI. "By the time I completed my degree, I'm sure that the entire university knew that I was both an auntie and a mummy" she said.

Karla's help and support were indispensable for Margaret. "My daughter and I were in the same statistics class and even though she passed the course before I did, she was instrumental in making sure



From left to right: Margaret Pollard graduates with her great niece Shari Clarke and her niece Susan Clarke

that I understood some aspects of statistics," she recalls. "I could not understand regression and my daughter was the first person who properly explained regression and histograms to me, so much so that I actually enjoyed doing them. She would actually stand next to me at the table with a ruler in her hand and threaten to hit me with it if I made a mistake," she said with a laugh. She noted that overall she found that the

mature students did not share and were not as caring or appreciative of each other as the younger students.

For Susan, Auntie Margaret was a true inspiration. "She is the person I admire most because of her determination to succeed against the odds," she said. "When Karla enrolled at UWI, Auntie Margaret insisted that I should enroll too and she ensured that the forms were picked up and completed to meet the deadline for acceptance." But Susan noted that her daughter, Shari, was initially less enthusiastic about attending the same classes as her mother. Shari said that her inspiration for coming to UWI was her passion to pursue a degree that would empower her to focus on a subject that would build and equip her to reach her destiny in life. She said her two main passions in life are customer service and business.

All four agreed that their UWI experience was enriching and rewarding, though very stressful at times. Margaret said, "In it all we all enjoyed a good laugh and thoroughly enjoyed the conversations we shared, not only with each but with Karla's friends as well. We found comfort and support in each other's company. At the end of the night after classes were done we were all happy to be heading home together."

Helping the Poor Realise the Bajan Dream

When a student can credit his university alma mater with changing his life, something must be going right at the institution. The story of my Bajan Dream Project began in 2005.



Jovan Reid

It was my third semester at UWI, the year when I took a course that would shape the rest of my professional and academic career, and challenge my staunchly individualistic character by forcing me to consider the needs of others – initially all for six credits and the prospect of graduation. ‘Care 101’ – as it was once dubbed by a colleague – officially known by its more obscure name of Communication Analysis & Planning, is a mandatory course in the BA Media & Communication degree offered at the Mona campus. In it, students are faced with the two-year challenge to conceptualise, design, market and project manage a social initiative that redounds in some way to the public good, thereby making social entrepreneurs out of media students who often are written off as lowly, nonacademic ‘story writers’.

Being barely middle class via none-too-noble lineage, it was not too difficult for me to agree that my project should focus on the poor here in Barbados, a group that is often maligned, but a demographic which I am acutely aware

can include anyone, should chance take a turn against them. Thus began the Bajan Dream Project, a social initiative that gives the disadvantaged the necessary educational, social and financial tools to escape the throes of poverty. Now in its fourth year, the project that was not to extend beyond its two-year timeline at UWI has persisted despite numerous odds and, at times, my personal disillusionment with it. Word of mouth momentum has ensured that those who need the project’s help find it, and a reawakened conscience ensures that any thought to wind the project up does not persist for too long.

False starts and many trial and error iterations have seen the project’s model revised greatly over the course of the past four years, but its staple interventions remain in education, skills training, business support and access to credit. In most instances, those who approach the project can expect to freely or cheaply obtain the basic qualifications required for UWI matriculation, or the skills necessary to start their own businesses. At the very least, they can expect assistance in finding a job. Apart from its substantive role in people development, the project also runs an advocacy campaign through its online blog, touching on social, economic and political currencies in Barbados and the Caribbean. Focusing on youth affairs, gender, poverty and reproductive health, a team of volunteer writers attached to the project act as ‘shop stewards’ for those who have neither platform on which to speak, nor empathy for their daily struggles, bringing the conversation to an average

of 2,500 monthly unique online visitors per annum.

All of the above notwithstanding, the sobering reality is that the demands of the project have outstripped its capacity. A significant number of persons who approach the project for help are declined and referred to government agencies. The advocacy campaign at times flails for lack of new volunteers and the decidedly nonprofit, fully self-financed venture will eventually reach the point where the private funds allotted to it are spent. It also goes without saying that nonprofits make no profit (and frequently make a loss), and the tradeoff between finding a ‘real job’ and working for the unquantifiable ‘public good’ will inevitably mandate that I, and the other volunteers, eventually move on from this exercise. In any event, social change does not begin or end with one effort. Great inequality gaps do not only affect those at the lower end, but create tensions which ultimately affect the society as a whole. Collectively, if we as UWI alumni truly believe in our alma mater’s mission to ‘unlock West Indian potential’, it needs to start with us realising the immense capacity we have to create social change when acting in concert, and work towards achieving it.

Jovan Reid holds a BA in Media, Communication and International Relations (UWI), 2006, and an MA Social Development (Sussex), 2007. <http://blog.bajandream.org/>



Practical Reminders on How to Cut, Contrive and Thrive in the Recession

Have you made any changes to your personal financial management strategies yet? With many of the world's largest economies in a recession and the Caribbean experiencing the inevitable impact, we asked two chartered accountants what advice they would give to fellow alumni in the current tense economic climate.



Tighten your Belt

Oral Dowell (BSc. Social Sciences, 1983) is the founder

and CEO of Dowell's Advisory Services Inc.

My advice would be to take stock of how you spend, invest and save this commodity called money. Although I hear many persons complaining about price increases and the cost of living, they are still shopping in droves, buying up items on credit, signing up for unsolicited pre-approved credit cards or loans and traveling overseas to pack barrels. Here are my suggestions to those who want to modify their financial behaviours.

- **Set a Budget and Stick To It:** You may not necessarily get a salary/wage increase soon (if at all!) and if you do, it certainly will not compensate for the increase in your basket of goods. So you should be examining your spending habits very carefully. Look for leakages in your everyday spending and see where you can eliminate most of them. For example, if you determine you should spend \$150 per week on petrol, and this will only buy you 56 litres and you are used to using 70 litres per week, since you cannot change the price of petrol, you can determine how much traveling you do, but stick to your budget. Instead of buying lunch from restaurants and fast food outlets, cook simple, healthy and clean meals at home

to take to work and for your children to take to school. You will be amazed as to how much money you would keep in your pocket.

- **Start planning for retirement now:** Regardless of your age right now, you should be looking at your retirement plans – even if you are 25 or 50. You should get the advice of a financial advisor; talk to at least three different insurance companies/brokers to see if they meet your goals. Then get a professional independent financial advisor to review all of the proposals with you. But whatever you do, do something now.
- **Save and Invest:** When you receive refunds from health insurance plans and income tax filings, etc. do not spend these – ‘you can’t miss what you never had’. Instead deposit them into an interest bearing money savings account, like a money market account. This would create the opportunity for you to save intentionally for either an emergency fund or for investments into stocks, bonds, property and similar instruments.



Use the Oil you have in your house!

Donna Every (nee Barrow) (BSc. Mathematics

(Hons), 1988, FCCA, MBA), left Ernst & Young in 1988 to start her own Training and Consulting Business. She is married and has two children.

The Bible story about a widow who was in a financial crisis was an inspiration to me. The widow went to the prophet Elisha for help. He said to her: “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?” She said that she had nothing at all, except a little oil. Once she began to work with the oil, God miraculously multiplied it and she was able to create a profitable business.

I started to look in my “house” to see what “oil” I had that I could use to generate revenue. Doing that led me to write the book “What Do You Have in Your House?” which was recently released in the US. I’m also offering my services to companies that are downsizing to work with the staff that are leaving and help them to transition into self-employment by using their “oil”.

So what’s your oil? What do you have that you can use right away to start earning extra income? It is that low-hanging fruit. Can you paint? Can you write? Can you bake? Have you got fruit trees? Can you do accounts? The list is endless. It may not be what you studied but it’s what you can start with relative ease. I have a friend who is a teacher but she paints and sells her paintings to subsidise her income. What’s your oil? What gift, ability or resource do you have that maybe you’ve overlooked like the widow? That could be the very thing you can use to get out of debt and live in financial freedom.



Class of 2008 Produces Record PhD Crop

In this special edition of ClassNotes, we celebrate the achievement of the 18 members of the graduating class of 2008 who earned their PhDs. They share with us a glimpse of their journey and offer sound advice on what it takes to succeed at this level.



Entrepreneurship, Business and the Economy

1 Dr. Cynthia Cumberbatch (PhD History)
 Nationality: **Barbadian**
 Thesis: **Out of Slavery: Wealth Creation by Free People of Colour in Barbados, 1780 – 1840.**

"I have always had an interest in the socio-economic structure of the Barbadian society and was curious as to the emergence of the black middle class. A review of the period 1780 – 1840 provided a unique insight into the financial lives and times of formerly enslaved/free people and provided a better understanding of the genesis of the black Barbadian middle class. The research looked at a number of free people of colour who transcended gender, race and class barriers to create wealth. The archival research was particularly exciting as I got a unique opportunity to look at how free people of colour created wealth "out of nothing at all". Their experiences and the support of my supervisor, Professor Alan Cobley, kept me focused."

Dr. Alfred Walkes (PhD Management Studies)
 Nationality: **Barbadian**
 Thesis: **Black Commercial Under-Representation in Barbados: Exploring Contemporary Theories.**

"My doing a PhD was unplanned. Now Senator the Hon. Maxine McClean pursued me for some time about publishing a paper that I wrote for the course 'New Venture Management'. Due to her persistence, I enrolled to do an M. Phil. Then Sir Hilary, on reading the paper, told me that I needed to go after a PhD. While I was working on the M. Phil, my supervisor, Dr. Jonathan Lashley asked me if anyone had ever told me that my work could become a PhD. I said, "Yes, Sir Hilary!" I took his suggestion to upgrade to a PhD."

Dr. Peter Morris (PhD Management Studies)
 Nationality: **Barbadian**
 Thesis: **A Philosophical and Empirical Investigation of Entrepreneurship, National Development and Cross Border Market Expansion: The Case of the Barbados Based Solar Water Heating Industry.**

"This is in tribute to the late Professor Oliver Headley and a small way to continue his legacy. My intention was to create a credible knowledge base where indigenous innovation can serve as a catalyst to foster sustainable development – to demonstrate that we can solve our energy problems, without using ecologically damaging traditional technologies; to move beyond the development theory constructs and into the actual practice of concretising our entrepreneurial capabilities at the national level. The experience of obtaining a Ph. D was a revelation and rewarding...like opening a positive Pandora's Box for other researchers to explore."

2 Dr. Eisenhower Douglas, Director of Trade of Dominica (PhD Economics)
 Nationality: **Dominican**
 Thesis: **Sustaining Economic Development in a Small Island Developing State: the Case of Dominica.**

"Studying for my PhD was a rough journey, but a most fulfilling experience. My research topic was based on my working experience in Government. As far back as 1990, I was P.S. Planning in the Government of Dominica under the Dame Eugenia Charles Government. Since then, I held a number of post including P.S Finance and P.S. Culture. In 2010, my objective is to convert my thesis into a book and to take the mathematical model of my thesis and work with the Professor of Mathematics at Cave Hill Campus to make a model so that Government can use it in their planning for Sustainable Development. UWI is a prime University in the English speaking Caribbean and I am pleased to have done my degree here as a Caribbean person. I intend to play my role and support the Alumni Association through the Dominica Chapter."



History and Culture

1 Dr. Tara Inniss (PhD History)

Nationality: **Canadian**

Thesis: **Fed with the Bread of Slavery: Children's Health in Barbados during Slavery and the Apprenticeship, 1790 – 1838.**

"In addition to the support that I received from my supervisors, I was awarded the Split-site Commonwealth PhD Scholarship, which allowed me to carry out further research and study at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine (CHSTM) at the University of Manchester. This proved to be the foundation of a formal academic relationship between UWI and CHSTM and at least three other students have since been able to pursue research there. I also used traditional Caribbean primary sources such as plantation records and narratives to reconstruct the lives of children in the past. All of a sudden, our children were not as invisible as we thought they were and in fact, they have always played an important role in the evolution of Caribbean culture and history."

2 Dr. Helene Zamor

(PhD Philosophy)

Nationality: **Martiniquan**
Thesis: **Music and Dance in the French Caribbean from Colonial Times to Present Day.**

"I really want to be a model for other non-native speakers of English. If I did it, others can do it. The world is very competitive, so it is very important to achieve the best."

3 Dr. Jennifer Hurley

(PhD French)

Nationality: **Barbadian**
Thesis: **Breaking away from Tradition: Dismantling Stereotypes and (Re) Constructing Womanhood in Selected Female-Authoried Francophone Fiction.**

"At times it was exceedingly frustrating, but overall the experience was academically fulfilling since I gained a lot of knowledge about Francophone Caribbean and African fiction and literary theory."

Science and Technology



1 Dr. Janice Cumberbatch

(PhD Environmental Studies)

Nationality: **Barbadian**

Thesis: **Analysing Practitioner Experience to improve the Practice of Participation.**

"I realise that the journey was certainly more important than the destination. Yes, the PhD is important. However, the lessons of determination and discipline; the ah-ha moments; and the value of friends who supported me were the lessons I gained. Anyone who is thinking about a doctorate should know that it is possible, once they are prepared to be tenacious and once they can ask patience of their family and colleagues from time to time."

2 Dr. Jeffrey Eleock

(PhD Computer Science)

Nationality: **Barbadian**

Thesis: **Process Scheduling in Distributed Computing Environments.**

"Doing the PhD was happiness, frustration, long hours, interesting and sometimes lively debates with my supervisor; and some amazement at the different approaches and views in tackling some challenging problems found in the research. Persons thinking about doing a PhD should ensure that their research area is an area they like, prepare to work hard and be patient."

Dr. Vince Payne

(PhD Chemistry)

Nationality: **Barbadian**

Thesis: **The Synthesis and Structural Characterisation of Some 2,6-Pyridinedicarboxylate-containing Complexes of Chromium, Cobalt, Nickel and Copper.**

"My research involved creating and identifying the chemical properties of a number of metal complexes, some of which may have the potential to be used in the treatment of diabetes. It was challenging - from "baby-sitting" an experiment overnight that you hope goes in the way that you designed it, to developing skills to relate to difficult people."

Dr. Gregory Robin (PhD Biology)

Nationality: **Dominican**

Thesis: **Genetic and pathogenic variation of Colletotrichum gloeosporioides Penz., causing yam anthracnose in Dominica.**

"I work for the Caribbean Agricultural Research and Development Institute (CARDI). An offer of funding and support from the Government of Dominica / Organization of American States, UWI and CARDI enabled me to further my skills and make myself more marketable. I cherished the experiences gained at UWI from careful planning, being patient and disciplined. My study examined the biological agents that cause diseases in yams in 11 yam varieties grown on eight farms distributed across the agro-ecological zones of Dominica."



Education and the Youth

1 Dr. Wendy Griffith-Watson (PhD Education),
Nationality: **Barbadian**
Thesis: **The Influence of Students' Perceptions of their Learning Styles on Academic Achievement in Selected Co-educational Secondary Schools in Barbados.**

"The purpose of the study was to present empirical data to inform the popular discussions on the differential academic performance of boys and girls in co-educational secondary schools in Barbados. Persons often express the view that boys and girls learn differently without investigating the matter, particularly from the students' perspective. Interviewing the students was the most exciting exercise I have ever conducted. Their openness about the issue and understanding of how they learn were particularly illuminating. I would now like to join some young teachers who would be willing to teach students according to their learning styles to find out whether their academic performance actually improves."

2 Dr. Ian Marshall (PhD Education).
Nationality: **Barbadian**
Thesis: **An Investigation into Perceived Principal Leadership Style and Job Satisfaction among a Sample of Barbadian Secondary School Teachers.**

"The main purpose for doing the PhD was to be able to speak with some authority on the issue of teacher satisfaction and address a worrying trend – mass exodus of teachers from the system lured by what appeared to be more lucrative contracts in the US and UK; upsurge in violent behaviour in the school system; emergence of a more litigation conscious parent body. In a sense, the school system was going through some measure of turmoil. The study was seen as an opportunity to offer some empirical analysis of the situation and see to what extent leadership was at the core of the problem."

4 Dr. Jennifer Crichlow
Nationality: **Barbadian**
Degree: **PhD Education**
Thesis: **Student Motivation and Student Performance Behaviours Among Barbadian Adolescents.**

My research measured the level of student motivation among a sample of 500 Barbadian secondary school children and first year college students between the ages of 13 and 17+. The experience was a good and exciting learning experience. The greatest challenge was working full time while writing up the dissertation."

Dr. Veronica Evelyn (PhD Sociology).
Nationality: **Barbadian**
Thesis: **Adolescent Interface with Electronic Media: Subjective Responses to Objective Possibilities.**

"I owed it to my father (and myself)! My mom died when I was very young and I love, admire and respect him, because he went all out to be both mother and father. He valued education greatly and somehow I felt that it was my 'inheritance'. The moral support of Dr. George Belle, Professor Wayne Hunte, the support of the School for Graduate Studies and the Department were most encouraging. Where Cave Hill lacked capacity, my travel for research purposes was facilitated. I did my library research at Howard University and the Library of Congress. I had a Fellowship to Brown University to develop my skills in managing statistical data. I also attended Essex Summer School on Social Science Data Analysis. Most significant, my supervisor Dr. Kathleen Valtonen, was A!!"

3 Dr. Benita Thompson (PhD Education)
Nationality: **Barbadian**
Thesis: **An Investigation into the Relationship among Certain Psychosocial Variables and Classroom Disruptive Behaviours in Barbadian Secondary Schools.**

"Personally, I had to prove to myself that a beautiful, poor, black, country girl, schooled at Princess Margaret Secondary (of which I am proud) could rise to the 'top' academically. It was a somewhat lonely experience – it was your work and yours alone. The research looked at the nature, level, impact and causes of disruptive classroom behaviours in Barbadian secondary schools – the extent to which the variables of self-esteem, parenting practices, school bonding, peer relations, gender and school type (older and newer secondary schools) were associated."

Dr. Anthony Felicien of St. Lucia and Dr. Martin Baptiste of Grenada also completed PhDs in Education and were members of the 2008 graduating class.



The Tower

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Office of Alumni Relations at (246) 417-4544/41 or alumnioffice@cavehill.uwi.edu



www.cavehill.uwi.edu/alumni

The UWI Alumni Association (Barbados Chapter) Elects its Executive Committee 2009-2010

The University of the West Indies Alumni Association - UWIAA (Barbados Chapter) recently elected its Executive Committee to serve the 2009-2010 term.

Mr. Ricardo Knight (*BSc. Accounting, 1989*) was elected President and in his acceptance speech, he pledged to foster a greater awareness of the UWIAA (Barbados Chapter) among its many graduates and pursue a robust public outreach programme with a view to increasing membership. Other members joining President Knight on the Executive Committee are: Jennifer Hinkson (*BA History, 1996*) – Vice President; Arlene Daniel (*BSc. Economics, 1998*) – Secretary; Natalie Hassell (*BSc. Accounting, 1999*) – Treasurer; Sandra Cadogan (*BSc. Social Sciences, 2000*) – Assistant Treasurer; Philip Chandler (*BA History and Management, 2001*) – Public Relations Officer; Gloria Grant (*BSc. Social Sciences, 1999*), Avis Gibson (*BA History, 1999*) and Cyril Burke (*BSc. Public Sector Management, 1999*) – Floor Members.

The Alumni Association works closely with the UWI by fostering and maintaining contact among its graduates,

encouraging a closer bond of affinity and commitment to the institution and engaging in fundraising and other activities to enhance the development of the University.



President
Ricardo Knight



Vice-President
Jennifer Hinkson