CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

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Cave Hill’s writer wins Prize
Prof. tops the Commonwealth
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As it advances to take its place as a first rate University environment, the Cave Hill campus is undergoing significant transformation that is impacting academic programming, teaching and research facilities, and social amenities.

The expansion plans involve developing the infrastructure on the current site, and implementing the master plan for the 35 acres of Black Rock lands invested by the Government of Barbados in the UWI. The first infrastructure development planned for the Black Rock site is the building of a quality facility to accommodate the expansion of post-graduate academic programmes.

Already, the changes taking place are much in evidence and this is expected to accelerate in the coming months as we strive to create a modern physical plant that is critical to Cave Hill’s strategic vision. We are in a race against time. Universities are very competitive internationally. If we do not compete and win we will not survive at the level of sophistication our people will deserve and expect. We can only compete aggressively with quality programmes and facilities.

The rapid developments in the Barbadian economy, and the restructuring of the OECS economy, coupled with an upsurge in the number of offshore universities offering programmes in the sub-region, have changed considerably the market economy of higher education in Cave Hill’s immediate jurisdiction.

An aspect of the modernisation of the campus entails the creation and delivery of new, cutting edge academic programmes, particularly at the Masters level, calibrated to match the evolving needs of the private and public sectors and the development agenda of the region. These needs have intensified against the backdrop of the advancing CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) and the demands of sectorial liberalisation within the globalisation agenda.

These developments have prompted us to initiate a series of strategic innovations, such as the recent transformation of the Centre for Management Development into the Cave Hill School of Business which will expand its range of offerings, and diversify its agenda in ways that successful Business Schools are globally doing.

The new infrastructures for postgrads are designed to facilitate the offering of a series of new Masters programmes. These include the MSc in E-Governance for Small Island Developing States, the MSc in Public Law, the MSc in cricket studies, and many others. These programmes complement others that have recently come on-stream such as the MSc in International Trade Law and Policy, and the Executive Diplomas in Event Management, Insurance Management, and Spanish for Business Purposes.

If we do not compete and win we will not survive at the level of sophistication our people will deserve and expect.

We can only compete aggressively with quality programmes and facilities.

The expansion of the campus is expected to push our outer boundaries not only to Black Rock, but to Pleasant View and Wanstead. While all this is taking place we are committed to a beautification process to ensure that the campus environs reflect the natural beauty of the island’s tropical surroundings. The expansion plans contemplate capital projects that will continue to consolidate the special partnerships between the UWI, Government of Barbados, and other regional governments, the private sector, and the International Donor Community.

The challenge before the campus community is considerable but there are many opportunities for sustainable progress. Thankfully, our academics, administrators, service staff and students have all shown the value of collective leadership and responsibility, and we celebrate them most sincerely for their deep commitment. As a result, Cave Hill is well on its way to being a more relevant academy in the rapidly changing regional and international tertiary sector.
As Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Endowment Fund, Cave Hill Campus and a member of the Campus Council and Finance and General Purposes Committee since 2003, I have discovered a new level of commitment among the academic community both at the teaching and student level which I had only assumed prior to being given the opportunity to experience it hands on.

I was fortunate to become involved at a point in time when change was at the center of the University’s growth. From the installation of the current Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Cave Hill Campus, Hilary Beckles, the Chancellor, Sir George Alleyne and the Vice-Chancellor, Nigel Harris there was a sense of a wave propelling Cave Hill and the extended campuses to new heights built on a solid foundation, a celebration of the progress made over the past forty years. The targets established for growth over the period leading up to the year 2020 have come to be known as the “2020 vision” and have already transformed the University from a vision into a reality which cannot be denied.

There is a new willingness to take risks which from a business perspective can be seen as calculated risks and from which the greatest benefits arise. One only needs to admire the impactful design of the new Creative Arts Center across from Cave Hill’s main entrance to appreciate that this is no “business as usual” group of decision makers.

The conclusion to be drawn here is that a careful route is being mapped out which could easily confirm the period from 2005 onwards as the implementation of a new wave of activity aimed at propelling the University into becoming a World Class Institution. I truly believe that this is possible and I am not suggesting that Cave Hill currently does not meet the threshold of such a classification.

I should take this opportunity to congratulate the editorial staff of the “CHILL News” which itself sets a standard of quality consistent with other areas of development at the new Cave Hill.

This article also provides me with an opportunity to represent the Endowment Fund. One of the missing links to long term institutional strengthening suggests that the present weakness in Alumni support and Major Donor Funding must be altered. Such support is critical to the overall expansion plans at Cave Hill. In this regard there are a number of plans at the implementation stage aimed at strengthening both of the categories referred to above.

Alumni support must be directed to specific objectives, e.g. the creation of an Alumni circle, encouraging successful past students to complete Covenants to be directed towards structured and continued expansion of the physical as well as educational needs of the Campus. Similarly large corporations continue to be encouraged to follow that pattern of helping to make Cave Hill achieve its full potential. The acquisition of the additional lands to the North and the continued planned expansion beyond the Creative Arts Center require that level of support.

The Principal’s objective of achieving one University graduate in every household by the year 2020 must be applauded as the future economic growth of our island is fully dependent on achieving this target among the widest cross section of our population.

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**Endowment Message**

**FROM THE DESK OF PAUL ALTMAN**

Corporate Barbados continues to throw its financial support behind the Cave Hill Campus with RBC Royal Bank of Canada handing over the second installation of a pledged donation of $600 000. The money is to be paid over a five year period.

Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal of the campus, Professor Hilary Beckles received the cheque from Rey Royer, Vice President, RBC Royal Bank.

The funds will support the development of the near-completed Creative Arts Centre at the campus and assist in expanding the academic programme through interdisciplinary creative arts majors in film, drama, dance and the visual arts.

The Principal expressed gratitude to RBC on behalf of the campus community, and arts specialists in particular, for the investment it has made in the Creative Arts Centre. He said it was a good example of education and enterprise working together to meet critical development imperatives and through such a partnership the University will be able to meet the needs of society and provide excellent opportunities for the students.

In his remarks, Royer said “RBC Royal Bank of Canada applauds the vision of the campus in the establishment of this Centre, which will redound to the benefit of our communities. The bank has a long history of service in Barbados and is a major provider of financial services to the University. We have also been able to facilitate e-commerce which allows students at the campus to pay their fees via Royal Online Internet Banking Service, thereby making the administrative process more efficient. We are extremely pleased to demonstrate our commitment to this project.”
Cave Hill impacting

In his recent address to the annual Campus Council meeting, Professor E. Harris commented on Cave Hill’s curriculum development, aggressive building programme and its attractive environment.

He noted there was an aesthetic glory about the campus which made a positive impact on visitors and incoming students.

Professor Harris also lauded the achievements of campus Principal Professor Hilary Beckles in reaching out to the community, saying this reflected well on him and his supporting team. He also congratulated the Deans whose Faculties had all reflected growth.

The Vice-Chancellor hailed the UWI as one of the most important potential agents of change in the region, adding that it far outstripped regional competitors in terms of the numbers of talented students, library resources, and other services.

He said that in the region there were real problems related to crime, competitiveness, poverty, and susceptibility to disasters among others, and said the institution must develop strategies to better mobilise its intellectual resources to address these problems effectively.

He stressed that already there was evidence of the tremendous contribution being made by UWI and that not a single day went by without reports of such contributions.

Professor Harris noted that the University’s student body had grown by 50% over the last five years, but there had not been corresponding growth in terms of the staff/student ratio. He promised that discussions would centre on creative ways to mobilise additional resources.

The Vice-Chancellor informed Council that the task force examining postgraduate studies had completed its report and had listed, among identified constraints, insufficient throughput, inadequate facilities and lack of financial resources. The Report was now being published and discussions on its findings were being invited. He said that once the recommendations were refined, the University would move towards their implementation.

The Vice-Chancellor said that financing the UWI was a major challenge and that the University Centre had established a Capital Development Task Force with a mandate to examine ways through which the university could finance its growth since this could not be achieved through government funds alone or the assumption of additional debt.

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Eminent Caribbean legal luminary, the late Professor Philip Telford Georges was remembered for his outstanding international work by the regional legal community at the Cave Hill Campus on March 31, 2006.

Outstanding Caribbean jurists, attorneys, lecturers, students of law and government officials were among those present to honour the memory of Dominica-born Justice Georges who became Chief Justice of three different countries, wrote numerous landmark legal judgments, and was eventually elevated to sit on Her Majesty's Privy Council.

The occasion was the inaugural Telford Georges Memorial Lecture which was delivered by the President of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ), the Rt. Hon. Justice Michael de la Bastide, to a standing room only audience in the Law Lecture Theatre.

The title of the lecture was “Judicial Supervision of Executive Action in the Commonwealth Caribbean” and Justice Georges was hailed as an awe-inspiring legal giant who wore his eminence with ease and grace. Those who gathered to pay tribute to the late legal luminary at the campus, where he once taught as a Professor of Law, testified to the wide scope of his influence and the great admiration with which he was held. Justice de la Bastide, who knew Justice Georges for over forty years, considered it an honour to deliver the first lecture in his memory, noting that he had developed “a great admiration for the quality of intellect of Justice Georges and the strength of his principles”. He recounted how, in August 1962, after he had returned from England and was appointed Crown Counsel, he was sent to Tobago to prosecute in the Assizes and found himself facing his friend in one of his cases. Justice de la Bastide said he ultimately lost after Telford had brilliantly brought counter-arguments, skillfully negotiated damning evidence and exploited a crucial weakness in the Crown’s case. From this experience, Justice de la Bastide said he had learnt a practical lesson in the art of advocacy.

Georges, who was born in Dominica on January 5, 1923, distinguished himself in his early years as an outstanding student and won the Dominica Island Scholarship at 17. The scholarship allowed him to proceed to the University of Toronto to read for a degree in Law, which he achieved with First Class Honours and was awarded a Gold Medal for academic achievement. Subsequently, he was admitted to the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple in 1948, and later entered private practice in Trinidad and Tobago for the next thirteen years. He was then elevated to a Judgeship of the High Court in Trinidad, and in 1962 was invited to serve as Chief Justice of Tanzania. He held this position for seven years, and then returned to serve as Professor of Law and, ultimately, Dean of the Faculty of Law at Cave Hill.

In the 1970’s Justice Georges served as Chief Justice of Zimbabwe, and then returned to the Caribbean to serve as the Chief Justice of The Commonwealth of The Bahamas from 1984 to 1989.

In 1989, he was appointed a Member of Her Majesty’s Privy Council. He was also bestowed with numerous awards and honours, and served on numerous commissions and in many other jurisdictions as a part-time judge.

Chief Justice of Barbados, Sir David Simmons said that despite his international acclaim, Justice Georges was always steadfast in his commitment to the region and in his dream of a final Court of Appeal for the Caribbean.

Sir David remembered Justice Georges as a pioneering campaigner for the Caribbean Court of Justice. “Telford was always engaging, charming and self effacing. Always, he challenged your intellect. And always, he made his commitment to this region very clear. He had an undying love for the region and the people of this region and an unshakable confidence that we are mature enough as a people to be the masters of our own judicial system at the highest level. He wrote with compelling lucidity to make the case for the Caribbean Court of Justice,” Sir David said.

Dean of the Faculty of Law, Cave Hill, Professor Simeon McIntosh, told the audience in his opening remarks that Justice Georges’s judicial opinions gave evidence of the excellence of his mind, and that these opinions now form an essential part of the political narratives of our people and of the common law of the region.

The lecture, Dean McIntosh noted, was therefore a special way of celebrating the life of Professor Georges and honouring his contributions to legal education and to the development of a regional jurisprudence.
The establishment of a fourth, virtual campus of the UWI may be the way forward for OECS countries to ensure their interest is better served and to propel the relationship between the UWI and its non-campus partners even further, according to Dr. Vivienne Roberts.

In her lecture entitled “More Promises than Substance? Assessing UWI Cave Hill’s Historical Commitment to the Sub-region” that she delivered on May 23, 2006 at the Central Bank of Barbados, Dr. Roberts suggested this bold new step may be what is needed to pull these countries into a stronger gravitational orbit with the UWI that many of them desire, while also addressing their urgent educational needs in the rapidly shifting global landscape.

“It may well be that the dormant seed awaits the funding, the political will, the co-operation and commitment of the governments and the private sector of the Sub-region, the conviction not only of UWI administrators but also of its faculty, and the interest and enterprise of would-be learners of all ages, stages and academic and social backgrounds,” she said.

“Such an environment would ensure the gestation and birth of a new plant, a virtual fourth campus of the University of the West Indies, fully dedicated first to the socio-economic and educational development of the non-campus countries but also to the wide world of learners.”

Dr. Roberts acknowledged that increasing numbers of Caribbean students were already using overseas on-line courses from other universities, but insisted that they lacked the peculiar value-added component of the UWI offerings: relevance to the West Indian reality.

“These programmes are not sensitive to Caribbean nuances,” she said, noting there were already plans afoot to develop a virtual campus to expand the offerings of the UWI Distance Education programmes. “The UWI programmes are distinctive in this respect.”

She noted, however, that the establishment of a virtual campus may be one means to preserve the unitary, regional character of the UWI and slow the impetus towards the growth of national institutions in countries in the Sub-region.

Her suggestion of a fourth virtual campus, however, hints at the possibility that existing formal relationship between the UWI and outside entities may have to be revisited and a fuller and more assertive partnership between the UWI and NCCs established.

At present, according to Dr. Roberts, the UWI Statutes and Ordinances acknowledge two types of UWI/TLI relationships: “Affiliation of Colleges and Institutions” and “Recognition of Institutions and Subjects Taught Therein.” Codrington College and the Caribbean Meteorological Institute in Barbados are affiliated institutions, which jointly design and deliver UWI degrees that have within the degree structure, discrete UWI constituent courses and distinct college courses. The Barbados Community College is a recognised institution whose associate degrees are accepted for normal matriculation or advanced placement to UWI. This acceptance is based on articulation arrangements which establish equivalence and formal links between independent programmes.

Dr. Roberts also pointed to two other relationships: validation and franchise.

“Validation is a form of endorsement by UWI of a college qualification,” she explained. “This has been a long standing practice in Teacher Education where UWI, through a Joint Board for Teacher Education arrangement, endorses the certificates from the Teachers’ colleges or education departments of Community colleges.”

She added: “Franchise is an arrangement which allows an institution to deliver UWI programmes to its college students, in the college setting, by college teachers who are approved by UWI.” But according to Dr. Roberts, the more ideal solution may be to examine the notion of a fourth campus, albeit a virtual one, powered by the explosive power of information technology and situated with a global presence in cyberspace.

“At this stage of regional development, relationships between UWI and its non-campus partners must progress to a higher level, beyond an occasional franchise and a trickle of articulation arrangements,” she said. “Looking ahead and based on our earlier analogies, ideally what develops in the future must be a win-win situation. Such progress requires mutual trust, respect, understanding, money, risks and meaningful dialogue. Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados did it their way and in their time and no doubt, at great financial sacrifice. Perhaps it is time for governments of the sub-region to take a bold step to ensure that their interest is better served.”

Dr. Roberts’ extensive background in educational administration across the region provides her with a unique grasp of the possibilities that her suggestion raises. Currently Senior Programme Officer of the Tertiary Level Institutions (TLI) since 1996, Dr. Roberts has acted as Director of the Unit on several occasions. She has also been associated with the delivery of the on-line M. Ed in Educational Administration, and although her full time job at the UWI Cave Hill is mainly administrative she also provides guidance to graduate students in the Masters in Education programme at the UWI.

UWI Campuses falling short... Virtual Campus needed

“...a virtual fourth campus of the University of the West Indies, fully dedicated first to the socio-economic and educational development of the non-campus countries but also to the wide world of learners.”
The Cave Hill Campus and the Centro Universitario Vila Velha of Brazil signed a historic agreement recently that now allows students from both universities to participate in study exchanges.

Professor Manoel Ceciliano of Centro Universitario Vila Velha, who came to Cave Hill to sign the agreement, praised the exchange agreement as a tremendous benefit to students of both institutions and one that would propel them to appreciate new dimensions of the increasingly globalised world.

“Education is much more than learning a subject; it aims at quality and global integration,” he said. “Students will be able to study for one semester in another part of the world, where they will sit in one community, one University and they will be part of the world. That is the way we learn about other cultures, that is the best way: this is the experience of globalisation.”

Professor Ceciliano’s visit also coincided with a special seminar at Cave Hill on the Brazilian model of higher education that Centro Universitario Vila Velha represent. Professor Ceciliano presented ideas of the distinctive policies pursued by his university that had resulted in its success.

“At Centro Universitario Vila Velha we emphasise the model of extension,” he said. “By that we mean interaction of the university with the community.”

He suggested that this overarching idea governs the university’s policies and shapes many of the projects it pursues. These projects range from Physical Education with a special focus on gymnastics, to research and healthcare, all anchored within the firm ethos of community extension and participation.

Another feature of the higher education model in Brazil that Centro Universitario Vila Velha pursues, he said was connections between degree programmes to make them more relevant and marketable, and to deepen the university education experience for students.

In touting the benefits of the new relationship between Cave Hill and Centro Universitario Vila Velha, Dr. Pedro Welch, Deputy Dean for Outreach in the Faculty of Humanities and Education, emphasised several potential areas of cooperation.

“Sports is one of your flagship areas at Centro Universitario Vila Velha and Cave Hill similarly has a strong tradition of Sports and Physical Education,” he noted. “But cultural studies I believe may be another area that can be closely scrutinised because there is a sense of shared history between Latin American Brazilian history and Caribbean history that may allow you to collaborate with Cave Hill. The African presence and component in both regions also has resonance. Barbados is part of the Americas and this agreement is an opportunity to know more about each other.”
The UWI’s Centre for Management Development (CMD) at Cave Hill has been renamed the Cave Hill School of Business (CHSB). This is a move stakeholders expect will reposition the campus to continue its mandate in retooling the region’s business resources and to leverage its unique capabilities to capitalise on new and emerging opportunities in the Caribbean and the global economic space.

During a June 14 official launch ceremony at the Hilton Hotel – where the CMD was launched fifteen years ago – speakers pointed to accelerating developments across the global business landscape and emphasised that the name change was symbolic of the CMD’s transition, its careful calibration to match these realities and to propel its vision of becoming a leading edge global organisation.

“As we make this transition, we reaffirm our commitment to continue to retool and educate the region’s human capital to allow them to compete and win,” said chairperson Charmaine Gardner.

Principal and Pro-Vice Chancellor of the Cave Hill Campus Professor Hilary Beckles, who also serves as the Deputy Chairman of the CHSB, noted: “The CMD has reached a moment in time filled with enthusiastic optimism and to take the next step which is to offer Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean specifically, and the wider region generally, a School of Business that will facilitate the realisation of all of the goals born of this vision.”

CHSB Programme Director Ann Wallace, who served as the moderator of the official launch ceremony, suggested that the CMD’s transition to a School of Business was a historic restatement and reaffirmation of the vision that spurred the Centre’s creation.

“We are here at this place at this time to be a part of a fundamental movement upward towards a new future,” she said. “The CMD takes a new step forward – not to get rid of its past – but rather, bringing to a greater realisation that which was envisioned at its conception.”

Amidst the laudatory tributes that accompanied the official launch of the CHSB, there were also clear signals of high expectations for the newly christened organisation by stakeholders. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economic Affairs Mia Mottley emphasised the nexus between developments at the CHSB and the UWI and prospects for further economic development of Barbados and the wider region.

“I look forward to the structure of the Cave Hill School of Business, not just delivering the skills that are sorely needed but also equally, providing the framework for research and to have the capacity not just at the level of those formal programmes but to provide a level of satisfaction that is critical,” she said.

According to Minister Mottley, in the rapidly shrinking global economic space, a premium was placed on information, and to be able to compete aggressively against global competitors, local and regional businesses must be able to measure and analyse their performances, keep records and data, and continually assess trends. This, she said, should be increasingly reflected in the CHSB’s training repertoire.

“I look forward to the role that the Cave Hill School of Business can play... this transition reaffirms our commitment to continue to retool and educate the region’s human capital... to compete and win...”
in changing the business culture within our society, to one that is more aggressive in its understanding of the value of data and information analysis and to reposition (itself) in the tumultuous global economic environment in which we find ourselves.”

She also suggested that it was crucial that management be equipped for development needs, and that the CHSB should continue to tailor its programmes to meet urgent needs in the region, particularly for quality public service development and providing management training for middle and senior level law enforcement officials.

Professor Beckles noted that the CHSB was itself a strategic response by the UWI to the increasingly competitive academic environment, with sharply rising numbers of offshore institutions operating in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, and the urgent demands to meet critical skills deficits in the region.

The event also featured the unveiling of a new CHSB logo for the CHSB which acknowledges the idea of three Schools of Business located at the three campuses of the UWI under the overarching theme: ‘developing a global community of leaders’.

The CMD, which was officially launched on April 17, 1991, was conceived to meet the needs of critical training and human resource deficits in the Caribbean. These were reflected in the absence of qualified Caribbean people functioning in positions of management in the region. Begun as a project in 1989 and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the UWI later assumed its management and, with the support of the Caribbean’s leading public and private sector organisations, launched the CMD in Barbados two years later. When it started, it trained roughly thirty participants but has since grown to become the largest provider of executive management education in the region, with over 1,000 graduates.

Among some of the visionaries and stakeholders instrumental in its creation were Sir Keith Hunte, former Principal of the Cave Hill Campus and the first Chairman of the CMD, the Government of Barbados and governments of the OECS states, and private sector organisations in the region, as well as supportive international organisations.

The CMD’s transition to the CHSB also hinted at a broader vision of the organisation to assert a more dominant international presence and to continue to propel the vision embraced by its stakeholders. CEO and Director of the CHSB Dr. Jeanine Comma, who has headed the Centre’s Executive Team since 1995, acknowledged the increased levels of expectations for the CHSB from stakeholders, and suggested her team was ready to deliver.

“I am cognisant of the fact that with this transformation will come many expectations of the new entity, and I believe for the CHSB to be successful we will have to fulfill most of those expectations,” she said. “We remain centred on our vision and the overall strategic intention of the Board and the University. I am clear that in so doing we will acquire higher levels of efficiency and accountability by all staff, greater flexibility and creativity in order to achieve heightened levels of competitiveness, and increased focus on our customers and strong relationships with our stakeholders.”
When the decision was taken to establish the University College of the West Indies in 1948, the health status of our Caribbean citizens was known to be so deficient, and the medical services so inadequate, that training doctors was the top priority. And so the University College began with the Faculty of Medicine, in the wooden huts of the Gibraltar Camp at Mona, near Kingston, Jamaica, where hundreds of British refugees had been evacuated from Gibraltar in World War II. The first 33 students included distinguished Barbadians, the late Sir Ken Standard and Dr Charles Greenidge, Dr Lance Bannister and Dr Rosemary Weatherhead, and the first Registrar of the University was the Right Excellent Sir Hugh Springer, National Hero.

The size of the medical class increased gradually until 1962 to 64, when it was 55 students in the pre-clinical course. In 1964 the class size doubled, to 110, to meet the needs of Caribbean governments, and in 1967 the Eastern Caribbean Medical Scheme was started, with training at the QEH and the Port of Spain General Hospital, for final year students in the five year programme. In 1974 teaching began in Barbados and in Trinidad for fourth-year students as well, and Professor Errol “Mickey” Walrond joined as Vice Dean, to provide 27 years of leadership to the evolving programme from Eastern Caribbean Medical Scheme to the present School of Clinical Medicine and Research.

Over these 39 years the School has produced some 700 doctors and has served Barbados well, keeping the QEH and polyclinics staffed with competent, world-respected doctors.

Of course, like so many Caribbean people, locally-trained doctors also emigrate from the region, although fewer Cave Hill/QEH graduates do (about 50 per cent) than those from Mona, Jamaica (about 60 per cent). UWI graduates now comprise most of the full-time faculty of the School and the great majority of associate faculty and consultants at the QEH, including Professor Hassell, Director of Medical Services at QEH, the Dean Professor Henry Fraser and two of the other three Professors, Professor Moseley and Professor Prussia. Indeed the majority are graduates of Cave Hill/QEH programme, and include heads of most QEH departments such as Dr Rudy Delice (medicine), Dr Garth McIntyre (obstetrics), Dr Haresh Thani (accident and emergency), Dr David Callender (ophthalmology), Dr Cyralene Bryce (psychiatry), Dr Graham Thomas (radiology), Dr Vincent Clarke (Ear, Nose and Throat) and Dr Clyde Cave (paediatrics). But one of the greatest impacts of the medical teaching programme has been on the QEH and public health services as a whole. In 1977 the Department of Medicine had just two middle grade doctors, doing emergency duty every other night, and there was only one Postgraduate programme, the Diploma in Anaesthesia. With the start of the Medicine Postgraduate programme (DM or Doctor of Medicine) in 1978 (Dr Irving Brancker and Dr Bert Brathwaite were the first DM trainees) began a new era, leading to a fully staffed department, and gradually building up a cadre of specialists covering every subspecialty. Similarly in other departments and at the Chronic Disease Research Centre, Dr Anselm Hennis now leads a team of researchers publishing cutting edge research in several fields critical to Caribbean health.

There is no doubt that the QEH and the School of Clinical Medicine and Research of UWI demonstrate one of the longest, most successful partnerships in the Caribbean.
UWI World Cup Vision
3Ws on track

The 3Ws Oval at Cave Hill is currently being developed as a world class cricket venue, as the campus prepares to take its place in history as the first university honoured to host Cricket World Cup matches when it hosts matches in March 2007.

Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal of Cave Hill Campus Professor Hilary Beckles revealed recently that the famed cricket ground is on schedule to meet the time-table set by the International Cricket Council (ICC), including a battery of tests slated for the ground in August, ahead of the campus handing over the Oval to the ICC in preparation for the 2007 Cricket World Cup.

“We are the first university to be honoured in hosting World Cup matches,” he noted. “The world will be watching to see a university – Cave Hill – delivering World Cup matches. It’s a unique opportunity for any university. We are on course in bringing the 3Ws up to international standards to meet the needs of the World Cup.”

The international standards include a rigorous set of requirements laid down by the ICC which the 3Ws Oval has to meet in order to be declared a venue fit for World Cup matches. These include resurfacing the grass cover of the Oval to ensure that only the single, designated grass type is on the field of play, laying the gradient at five degrees from the centre of the field to the boundary line, reconsolidating the wicket to ensure it meets precise soil composition requirements, and laying drainage facilities to meet exacting drainage requirements of the ICC. Meeting these contractual demands have resulted in extensive infrastructural work at the Oval, including plans to construct a massive new players’ pavilion which will be situated along the perimeter of the field, close to the entrance of the campus.

Professor Beckles revealed that the developments have been secured through a $2.5 million investment by the Local Organising Committee (LOC) – Barbados World Cup and a $1 million injection from the private sector. The West Indies Cricket Board has also donated 1000 seats from Kensington Oval, which will be relocated and set up at the 3Ws Oval for the World Cup matches.

The selection of the 3Ws Oval represents the culmination of strenuous efforts by the campus to negotiate and market itself to the ICC and is also a testament of the strong legacy of cricketing greatness of the 3Ws.

“When the LOC Barbados made the presentation to the ICC and the World Cup Board to host matches at the ICC, we went into competition with many Caribbean countries who wanted this package,” recalled Professor Beckles. “The package was given to Barbados because there were many people in the room from all over the world, who when they heard that there was a cricket ground in honour of the 3Ws and it was on the campus of the University our case was well received. There was a warmth and celebration in the ICC, and they indicated they would be honoured to deliver these matches at a place named after the 3Ws and we won the bid.”

The 3Ws Oval along with Kensington Oval were designated as the two grounds to be used in Barbados during the World Cup, and the university venue is also on standby in case any of the original eight venues cannot host matches. The 3Ws Oval ground named after three West Indian cricketing giants from Barbados Sir Frank Worrell, Sir Everton Weekes and Sir Clyde Walcott is also revered as the final resting place of Sir Frank Worrell. Situated as it has been at Cave Hill, the 3Ws Oval has continued to bolster its legacy even as the campus has provided a unique environment to augment it further. The recent establishment of the CLR James Cricket Institute, devoted to the study and the improvement of the game in the West Indies, has also served to enhance this legacy even more.

Professor Beckles affirmed this legacy as he noted: “Barbados is distinguished for its education and cricket. These are the two things that have given a small nation a global reputation. This nation has produced on a per capita basis, more international giants in cricket than any other country in the world. It is therefore a legacy of the campus and the country, and therefore it follows that we could not have a campus in Barbados with that history and not have a first class cricket facility!”

Meanwhile, the Cave Hill campus also scored another first with the Sports Agronomy Unit (SAU), established in the campus’ Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, winning the ICC contract to take responsibility for the scientific development of the eight venues of the 2007 Cricket World Cup. These responsibilities include soil composition testing for the wickets and the fields at these venues and to monitor the performance of the eight surfaces on behalf of the ICC.
What excites me most as director is the role the EEC can play in the region effectively.

Dr. Obidah noted. “To do this, we need to establish advisory and consultancy services in areas of programme, personnel and institutional evaluation and in regional and international research.

Among our objectives is to develop and facilitate educational events such as public lectures, workshops and seminars aimed at creating fora in which all stakeholders have an opportunity to weigh in on the challenges within the educational sector,” Dr. Obidah explained.

“This year we’ve already held a two-day seminar on Student Indiscipline and Teacher Response at the Erdiston Teachers Training College in April and a series of public lectures on school violence.”

Additionally, the EEC has plans to consolidate and expand on some of its core strengths, including the provision of services such as training, research and the production of curriculum materials for the regional education sector; the coordination and supervision of international funding for regional education projects through research and consultancy; serving the faculty, staff and students of UWI through research partnerships and mentorship, and to establish meaningful partnerships with regional education bodies to enhance the standard of education within the Caribbean.

Dr. Obidah is excited rather than daunted at the prospect of tackling these challenges and has already begun laying the groundwork for realising some of the EEC’s key objectives over the next few years.

Acknowledging the key contributions of previous directors Professor Earl Newton and Dr. Workeley Braithwaite, who both left a powerful legacy, Dr. Obidah expressed confidence in steering the EEC, with the support of her tremendously talented staff, to confront challenges in education in the region effectively.

“What excites me most as director is the role the EEC can play in the development of education in Barbados as well as in the region, in terms of evaluation and assessment,” she explained.

“I believe that the Centre can play a critical part in such areas as teacher and staff development, curriculum implementation, and school reform. I’m also excited to be a part of the UWI Campus community,” she said.

This has translated into a vision of the Centre providing leading edge advisory and consultancy services in areas of programme, personnel and institutional evaluation and in regional and international research.

“One of my major priorities is for the EEC to become an income generating entity,” Dr. Obidah noted. “To do this, we need to establish links with educational institutions regionally and internationally in an attempt to make them aware of the services offered by the EEC and to build a clientele. We are also focusing on establishing a greater awareness of the EEC within the University and in the region.”

The goals of the Centre reflect increasing scrutiny in the education sector throughout the region and have been reaffirmed amidst efforts by the UWI to increase its leadership role in the sector and to bolster the increasing number of education initiatives by the government. The selection of Dr. Obidah to this critical leadership position underscores the emphasis by the UWI and the government to develop EEC as a premier regional and international research and evaluation unit and attests to her formidable talents and experience in educational leadership.

Dr. Obidah joined the staff of UWI, moving from a tenured position at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) – one of the leading colleges on the U.S West Coast. She held the position of Principal Investigator of the Gaining Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programme (GEAR UP) before assuming duties at the helm of the EEC in January 2006.

Dr. Obidah brings a wealth of academic, research, and leadership experience to her new post. She began her academic career in the U.S, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelors degree in Sociology from Hunter College, City University of New York, in 1989 and later completed an honours thesis as part of her Masters degree in African American studies at Yale University in 1991.

“I believe that the Centre can play a critical part in such areas as teacher and staff development, curriculum implementation, and school reform. I’m also excited to be a part of the UWI Campus community,”

She then earned her doctorate in Education at the University of California, Berkeley in 1995. That year she was also awarded a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Postdoctoral Fellowship which she completed at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

Dr. Obidah’s first teaching appointment was at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She left Emory after four years and in 2000 returned to California where she accepted a faculty position in the department of Education at the Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, at UCLA, where she received tenure in the fall of 2002.

Dr. Obidah has also conducted extensive research in education, particularly in the areas of the social and cultural contexts of urban schooling, focusing specifically on issues of school violence, multicultural education, racial and cultural differences between teachers and students, teachers as critical pedagogists, and teacher preparation.

She has published over 20 research articles and co-authored one award-winning book. She has also presented academic papers at conferences all around the world, served on editorial boards, and reviewed numerous articles and conference proposals.

Expressing her happiness at returning to her native Barbados, Dr. Obidah sees her new role as Director of the EEC as presenting an opportunity to pursue both personal and professional goals.
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A MAN OF ALL SEASONS

His association with Cave Hill Campus spans just over a quarter of a century. And his contribution during that period, as student leader and distinguished administrator, has been monumental and, perhaps, unparalleled.

Indeed, as University Orator Professor Henry Fraser stated in tribute, Andrew Gordon Lewis “has been responsible, directly or in partnership, for every new development at Cave Hill for nearly two decades”.

It was that contribution for which the former Campus Registrar was awarded the Vice Chancellor’s Special Award for Outstanding and Distinguished Service to the University, only the second recipient of such an honour in the history of the University of the West Indies.

Family, friends, and university colleagues and well-wishers crowded Lecture Theatre One in the Roy Marshall Complex to hear several speakers pay glowing tribute to Lewis at a special presentation ceremony held in his honour on May 24.

Lewis, who has been intimately associated with most of the campus’ physical development and transformation in recent years, began his association with Cave Hill campus as a foundation student in 1963. He served during his student life as Secretary, then President of the Guild of Undergraduates, earning along the way the distinctions of Student of the Year in 1966, and postgraduate Scholar in 1967.

He joined the staff of the University in 1980 as an Assistant Registrar, rapidly rising to Senior Assistant Registrar in 1982, reassigned as Senior Assistant Registrar, Planning in 1987 and promoted to Campus Registrar in 1990.

On his retirement from the University in 2003 Lewis was appointed on post-retirement contract as Director of Special Projects and Planning. In all of this he brought to bear a catholic range of skills and work experience as an economist, historian, tourism consultant, teacher and trade unionist.

Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Hilary Beckles who started off the tributes deemed the occasion a “joyous celebration” of Lewis’ contribution to the development of the university.

“It is a celebration of the spirit of commitment, the value of loyalty, the virtue of hardwork, the importance of responsibility and the skill of leadership. We celebrate Andrew because he has represented with excellence all of these features so vital to the upliftment of our academy.”

He added: “Andrew (has been) a good sport. He has had to endure terrible academics, rebellious students, disenchanted administration, deeply probing media and he has responded with his characteristic
... a celebration of the spirit of commitment, the value of loyalty, the virtue of hardwork, the importance of responsibility and the skill of leadership.”

laughter and beaming eyes.”

During his tenure as Campus Registrar from 1990-2003, Lewis was responsible for a number of initiatives which paved the way for the smoother operation and increased dynamism of the campus. It was in the area of Campus development, and, in particular, planning and projects that he made what may be his most lasting contribution to the Campus. He has been responsible for the preparation of all the development and strategic plans for the Cave Hill Campus since 1985, delivering a product which belied the fact that the he was the sole Planning resource at the Campus. The responsibility for the preparation of proposals for funding these development initiatives was, up to the time of his retirement, largely his.

These include his design of the Cave Hill component of the IDB and CDB loans for the Capital Development Programme in Science and Technology; of the EDF loan and grant application for funding of the construction of the Sir Frank Worrell Hall of Residence; the conceptualisation of the Campus’ Teaching Complex as a multipurpose inter-Faculty teaching facility, and his management of that construction project at cost saving in excess of $1.2 million; his development of proposals for the improvement of Student Services; for cultural development and for additional space, for funding through Barbados Government Guaranteed Bonds.

Speaking to an audience which included Government representatives and University-wide officials, Professor Fraser said although Lewis was a family man, he served the university with distinction. Quoting Vice Chancellor Emeritus Professor Rex Nettleford, he said that if Lewis did not exist, then one would have had to “invent him”.

“Happily he exists, so only his Maker can take the credit for this down-to-earth, noble character,” he said.

Vice-Chancellor of UWI, Professor Nigel Harris, described Lewis as a role model whose resourceful leadership made him the ultimate professional.

In response, Lewis thanked those who contributed to his success and said he was “humbled” to be the recipient of the award.

"I was overwhelmed by Errol Barrow’s vision for education that is accessible to all Barbadians, at all levels. But I am afraid that the Right Excellent has to give way to my own mother who, as a virtual single parent, showed me and my four siblings, how to make bricks without straw."

As Director of Planning and Special Projects, Lewis is assigned responsibility for the coordination of the development project for the Black Rock Lands: the 33 acres contiguous to the Campus which the Barbados Government has agreed to make available to the University for the expansion of the Cave Hill Campus. He was assigned responsibilities, by the Principal, for leading the negotiations with Government which led to the acquisition of the lands, and is now coordinating and managing the design and development phases of the project, which will lead to a fundamental transformation of the Cave Hill Campus.

ANDREW GORDON LEWIS

Andrew Gordon we salute you today
You are being honoured in a special way
We have watched your progress over the years
Since your sojourn in Student Affairs
With the creation of the Office of Planning
That fledgling unit you were soon manning
But destiny quietly took you from there
To sit in the Campus Registrar’s chair
You worked by faith and by sight
Sometimes long hours into the night
Soul searching to reach the correct decision
Yet always trying to act with precision
Vigilant, you kept your ears to the ground
And was aware of what was going around
Sometimes you wore more than one hat
In each capacity you really could bat
With Appointments and Student Affairs to oversee
You covered all sections efficiently
An untidy campus you did not tolerate
Lost your cool if the cleaning crew was late
As stern as you appeared to be
There was the soft side some could not see
With any sob story you could empathise
Offer assistance and sympathise
I was part of that faithful band
Who, through many graduations held your hand
Frequently in your effort to get things together
You would have us close to the end of our tether
That phase ended – the circle was complete
To Planning you returned in the driver’s seat
But you and Planning had never really parted
So the old love was quickly restarted
Here you continue with amazing ease
We ask God to shower his blessings on you
Touching your life and everything you do
Andrew Gordon Lewis, take a bow
We honour you in the here and now
The university applauds your contribution
Given in love to this great institution!

June Mascoll
Passing the baton...

The new Students Guild Council for the period 2006/07 was installed during an elegant ceremony on April 1st at the Cave Hill campus.

The handing over ceremony was a picture of sophistication as the incoming and outgoing guild councilors were joined by fellow students to celebrate a wonderful year gone and welcome a new one.

Outgoing Vice President, Duane Barker, reflecting on the past year, delivered a powerful speech with fitting metaphors. In paying tribute to his fellow councilors he addressed them as Camelot Knights of the roundtable. Barker also noted that the 2005/06 period was a dynamic year for Cave Hill campus as there were not only physical changes but also changes in the mental and psychological make-up of the guild. In his entertaining but stirring address to the members of the student body, he concluded: “we became a family and each of us will miss the guild and the dozens of students who volunteered their time and energy to make it happen… we began with protest and ended with protest. Long live the Guild of Students!”

Outgoing President Floyd Green shared similar sentiments in his final public address to the students of the campus. Green said though he would miss the people he met and the bonds that were formed, he was also pleased that they were able to accomplish successfully the goals they had set. “We set out on a mission to get back to the basics of student representation and we were able to accomplish this,” he said.

Green quoted fellow Jamaican, late reggae star Robert Nesta Marley, and implored the students to “just say something”. “We as university students have a habit of only responding when it suits us and only reacting when it affects us,” he explained, “People would listen to us when we speak, but we choose to remain silent.”

Green further urged UWI students to work towards truly integrating the region. “The older generation has played their part, now it is time for us to take the mantle. We need to make integration work. It is up to us to unite the nation.”

The final year Law student and aspiring entertainment lawyer also stated that the only thing that separated the world’s best universities from UWI was financial resources. He went on to say that the university community had a vested interest to ensure that the institution was recognised globally.

Green ended his address by giving thanks to God and to his councilors. “It has been a good year,” Green noted, “I thank the council and the Lord for councilors of strength such as Barker and Sandiford. I also would like to big up Campus Crusade for Christ (CCC), they always know when to provide the right message.”

As Green retired, Browne stepped promptly into place after the official handing over of the Guild. “There was a smooth transition from the outgoing council to mine. The theme for the night is “I grandi lavor continuano pre sempre”: Great works continue forever – I believe that”.

The host and hostess for the night were the outgoing Public Relations Officer, Khaled Holder, and Returning Officer Omonike Robinson-Pickering.
Five new student organisations were formed over the past year, as students of the Cave Hill Campus celebrated a landmark year of participation and contribution to the campus community through the creation of clubs and associations.

Among the newly formed clubs were: The Young Economists Association (YEA), which is devoted to economic research; The Lambda Mu Sigma, aimed at enriching the social life at the campus; The Literary Society, which is dedicated to developing students’ literary skills; The Dance Society, revived after an absence of several years and devoted to students exploring the world of dance, and Chimera Opus, a society dedicated to celebrating the arts.

The clubs, which sprang up from within the student body and not the Guild of Students Executive, singularly represent the vision and creativity of students coupled with their own dedication and organisation. Often inspired by one or several members, these clubs developed their own distinctive visions that resonated with students and assured their collective buy-ins. The result has been an animated student culture that recognises the possibilities of leadership and vision, and prompted many students to view Cave Hill as a crucible to inspire their future leadership endeavors.

This, particularly, has been the story of Chimera Opus, and it is a story that many of its members feel is worth retelling. Originally conceived by Georgiann Jackson, then a 20-year old undergrad majoring in Psychology, who was eager to rekindle her passion for performing and visual arts that she missed from her years as a student in her native Cayman Islands, she suggested the idea to several of her closest friends.

“We were disappointed by the lack of Arts related activities on campus,” recalls Tonia Kellman, a 21-year old student majoring in Literatures in English and one of Georgiann’s closest friends who would later become the first Vice President of Chimera Opus. “Georgiann, before she came to Cave Hill, was into a lot of sports and humanities-based endeavours, but here she did not feel there was much of a forum for her creative energies, and this has been the experience for many of us who were happy to support the idea of this club.”

Ramona Grandzson, a 19-year old student majoring in Psychology with a minor in Spanish, who is currently the Public Relations Officer of Chimera Opus, echoes this.

“I was into a lot of arts related activities as a student at Queens College and when I came to Cave Hill, I didn’t feel as if there was a forum and an outlet for my creative energies,” she said. “That’s why the idea of Chimera Opus instantly appealed to me and many other students.”

So armed with her idea and the support of friends, Georgiann approached the Guild of Students Executive with her proposal. With their enthusiastic backing, the group produced their own Constitution, list of members and decided on its name: Chimera Opus.

“It means a diverse and hybrid creation,” said Toni with a humorous twinkle. She had been the one to decide on the name, and recalls how she used her trusty Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus to make sure she got it right. “And that is exactly what we wanted it to be. We didn’t want it to be a visual arts club, a music club, a song or dance or drama club, but rather a club of the arts, where everyone can come and express themselves creatively through the arts.”

The club meets two or three times a week to ensure that each member is able to attend at least one meeting and gets a chance to participate in its many activities. In addition to their planned performances – where the role of Artistic Director revolves among members of the Executive Team – Chimera Opus also collaborates with the monthly staging of Poetry Slam on campus as well as in-house movie nights featuring independent films.

Now boasting a membership of over twenty-five with an Executive Team of eight, the club continues to attract a steady stream of students interested in joining. It also plans to launch a member recruitment drive to coincide with the beginning of the new academic year.

“It is important for us though, to have a manageable group, in order to collaborate with each other effectively,” explained Toni. “So it is limited at this point to around 50 for it not to be too large. In the long term, however, Chimera Opus plans to expand its membership and not only confine it to Cave Hill students.

“We’ll be looking at persons from the community and around Barbados and beyond, who are interested in being a part of a club devoted to the arts,” said Ramona. “We’re very excited about the future.”

Clearly then, if Chimera Opus is used as a measure, the student organisations at Cave Hill are poised for even greater developments and possess bright prospects for the future.
Watch your business save over 50% on printing costs by upgrading from your old inkjet to a new Xerox Laser Printer. There’s a new way to look at it.
A UWl Cave Hill lecturer has scored an historic first by winning one of the top two literary prizes for 2006 in the Commonwealth world of English literature.

Professor of West Indian Literature Mark McWatt, whose first work of fiction *Suspended Sentences: Fictions of Atonement* was published and launched last April at the campus and swept two major regional literary competitions winning rave reviews, has cemented his place as one of the world's best writers by winning the Overall Best First Book Award in the 2006 Commonwealth Writers’ Prize in Australia in March.

The book, hailed by judges as a “tour-de-force of invention” in which McWatt “presents a delightful caravan of stories that explore the changing character of Guyana”, had previously won The Best First Book Award in the 2006 Commonwealth Writers’ Prize for the Caribbean and Canada Region and the 2006 Premio Casa de las Americas, one of the most prestigious Latin American literary prizes. The Overall Best First Book Award for the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize, however, overshadowed the previous two in international stature and recognition.

The competition involved writers from several regions in the Commonwealth, encompassing entries from all the countries that were previously part of the far-flung British Empire in its imperialist heyday. Thus, the competition saw entries from the four designated regions spanning the globe: Eurasia, Canada and the Caribbean, Africa and South East Asia and the South Pacific.

Professor McWatt, who received his award from His Royal Highness, Prince Edward, Earl of Wessex, KCVO, ADC at a ceremony at The State Library of Victoria, in Melbourne, Australia, commented afterwards:

“I’m very happy to have won the overall prize for Best First Book, especially since I have come to know, over the past days, the work of the other regional winners and to realise how wonderful all the competing books are. I feel deeply privileged that my book was chosen as overall winner.”

The award which also comes with £3,000, is one of two signature prizes awarded annually by The Commonwealth Writers’ Prize and is aimed at rewarding the best in Commonwealth fiction written in English, by both established and new writers, and to take their work to a wider audience. The other signature prize, the Overall Best Book Award went to *The Secret River* by Kate Grenville of Australia.

Professor McWatt’s book, which captures the author’s artful interweaving of eleven disparate stories, purportedly written by a group of sixth form students, within a single narrative frame, set against a sweeping backdrop of time, imbued with fomenting post-colonial passions and idealistic dreams following independence in his native Guyana in the 1960’s, impressed judges and reviewers profoundly and led them to write their judgments in almost ecstatic terms.

The book, acclaimed internationally as original and a breakthrough, has been described as “a work of short fiction that refracts light like a powerful and many-faceted diamond” and also as “an excellent literary example of high aesthetic value and also a revealing document on the Caribbean”. One reviewer wrote: “Its characters circle multiple challenges as they struggle to throw off the yoke of colonialism in Guyana. This is a wonderfully sophisticated threading of voices and variety. *Suspended Sentences* takes tremendous risks, an amazing accomplishment”.

Professor McWatt, who is currently working on a third volume of poetry and also planning a novel, has a long and extensive record of publications. He is an acclaimed poet, having published two collections of poetry, *Interiors* in 1989 and *The Language of Eldorado* in 1994, which won The Guyana Prize and is the joint editor (with Stewart Brown) of *The Oxford Book of Caribbean Verse* (2005), which has also received favourable reviews. McWatt began his academic career at the University of Toronto where he took his first degree before completing a PhD at Leeds University. He has since lectured at the Cave Hill Campus and served in several administrative leadership positions.

While expressing personal surprise at the international acclaim that has
attended his work, he explained that his supportive family were not surprised. They read the drafts of the stories as they were completed and offered helpful (or mischievous) comments, and his daughter designed the book’s cover.

“My wife and children have all been very supportive and helpful and accommodating in this project – I think they believed in it more than I did and are not as surprised as I am that the book won …. I suppose all families are like that,” he said.

Mark McWatt. Suspended Sentences: Fictions of Atonement.

This review by Lisa R. Brown will be published in the JOURNAL OF WEST INDIAN LITERATURE 15, 1 & 2 (November 2006) and is reprinted here with the permission of the editors.

Readers familiar with Mark McWatt’s poetry are hardly surprised at the tenor of his debut into the world of prose. The collection of eleven short stories, prefaced by a three-part introduction and culminating with a chapter updating readers on the lives of the storytellers, is written with the keen and self-conscious eye of the pilgrim poet we have come to know in Interiors (1989) and The Language of El Dorado (1994).

Both volumes of poetry interrogate the multi-faceted nature of Guyanese identity by plumbing personal and national memory for signifiers of belonging and reconciliation.

Suspended Sentences: Fictions of Atonement is a compilation of the stories by a ‘gang’ of school leavers who vandalise the Sports club at the Imperial Bank after A-Level exams and Guyana’s Independence in 1969. After a mock ‘trial’ each member is ordered to write a short story about the meaning of the country’s new status by way of punishment. But this is not all. The collection of the stories is halted when Victor Nunes the head boy and appointed editor goes missing on a journey up the Pomeroon River. Victor’s disappearance provides the perfect opportunity for McWatt to reveal his own involvement in the vandalism, his doubts of the legitimacy of the ‘sentences’ and his reluctance in assuming the burden of editorial duties.

The ‘gang members,’ seven boys and two girls, write their stories in the twenty-odd years it takes McWatt to re-establish contact, remind them of their ‘sentences’ and request revisions. In this time, most have found success in their chosen fields, weathered personal and life changing difficulties and, most important of all, left Guyana. The text pivots on the fusing of multiple binaries established early in McWatt’s double role as a convicted perpetrator of crimes against Guyanese nationhood and the reluctant but effective enforcer of justice in the matter of these crimes. The double is central to the stories’ many connections between past and present, the profane and the sacred, the guilty and innocent, the marginal and the central, among others. The ‘suspended sentences’ are served not only to expiate the guilt of the twin offences, vandalism and national abandonment, committed that night, but to belatedly celebrate Guyanese nationhood and support the creation of new and relevant epistemologies which reconcile diverse perspectives.

The text is haunting, magical and profane. It validates the irresistible lure of the transgressive imagination. McWatt restores our faith in the power that lies in both writer and reader to reclaim old territories and establish connections between previously disparate entities; the power to speak from liminal positions and own both defeat and triumph.
Robin on Fish

Professor Robin Mahon, of the Cave Hill campus, has contributed to the authorship of two new books that trace the governance of the fish chain – from ecosystem through to processing, distribution and marketing and offer a rare glimpse into the complex interplay of forces required to successfully manage the world’s fisheries resources.

The two books “Fish for Life: Interactive Governance for Fisheries” and “Interactive Governance for Fisheries: A Guide to Better Practice” both hew to the Interactive Governance Approach as an emerging paradigm for the governance of fisheries. This approach accommodates the new reality of rapidly shifting socio-political landscape of many societies that demands less heavy-handed intervention by state governments and acknowledges the need to secure the buy-in of all stakeholders in the process, even as fisheries – the most complex human-nature systems – continue to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances.

Although involved with the Network even before he joined the UWI in 2003, Professor Mahon was able to devote himself even more intensively to the activities of the Network after he came to Cave Hill. The efforts eventually yielded in 2005 the two volumes. The first, “Fish for Life: Interactive Governance for Fisheries” was a multi-authored volume with Prof Mahon taking the lead in the concluding chapter entitled ‘Fisheries Governance in Action’; and the second “Interactive Governance for Fisheries: A Guide to Better Practice” was also co-authored by him.

While ostensibly about the management of fisheries, the books coalesce a wide variety of viewpoints and perspectives that incorporate a number of disciplines.

This interdisciplinary perspective is particularly evident in “Interactive Governance for Fisheries: A Guide to Better Practice” which is aimed at communicating what was learned in the project to a wide audience including management practitioners.

Professor Mahon notes that this is critical, since achieving success in establishing governance systems is tied to securing the support of all stakeholders and not merely that of the government. “Success is strongly related to the quality of arrangements and interactions among stakeholders,” he explained. “Key also is the recognition that command and control systems – using the heavy hand of the State – are likely to fail in addressing the problems of complex, adaptive, human-in-nature systems.

Some of the foundational activities that are likely to enhance adaptability with minimal government intervention are shared principles and values, equitable participation of all stakeholders and systems that facilitate learning from experience and wide sharing of what is learned,” said Professor Mahon.

In his current position as Director of CERMES at Cave Hill, Professor Mahon is well positioned to take on the challenge of communicating this message of interactive governance to stakeholders. Long committed to the preservation and successful management of fisheries in the Caribbean, Professor Mahon in 1974 undertook postgraduate studies at the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada. After graduating with his PhD in 1981, he worked as a fisheries scientist with the Canada Department of Fisheries and Oceans on Canada’s east coast for several years before returning to the Caribbean in 1986 to serve with the United Nations FAO in the eastern Caribbean.

When CARICOM started its fisheries resource assessment and management project in 1990 he became Chief Scientist there. In these job situations and subsequently as a self-employed consultant he saw first hand that the struggle for rational use of marine resources was mainly about managing the people, not the fish. His attention shifted steadily from the science of fisheries to the institutional arrangements for managing them at local, national and regional levels.

The research and publication of these books reflect his continuing commitment to promote this approach to fisheries management among all stakeholders. For the future, he sees the area of governance achieving even greater resonance among stakeholders as they recognise its urgent relevance.
Barbados occupies the mid-tier position, while Jamaica leads and Guyana trails in a line-up of Caribbean countries pursuing public sector reforms, according to a new book by internationally renowned academic Professor Paul Sutton.

In his lecture entitled “Modernising Leviathan: Improving Public Service in the Commonwealth Caribbean”, Professor Sutton suggested that the public sector reform experience of four countries – Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Guyana – which he examined can stand as a proxy for the region in terms of their levels of development and commitment to reform.

Citing other research conducted in the region, he noted this was not always the case. A comparative study of the reform process in the four countries undertaken by Dr. Ann Marie Bissessar, a Trinidadian academic at the UWI in St. Augustine, for instance, concluded that in 1996, Barbados was ahead of Jamaica in introducing NPM reforms.

According to Professor Sutton, who highlighted this theme as one of the principal ones he explores in his new book, the simple reason why Jamaica has led the reform process was its continuing commitment to reform and involvement of its top leadership. Other factors, he said, were the successful co-optation of significant sections of the bureaucracy into supporting and promoting reform; the careful attention to an incremental process of reform with improved prospects for economic and political development; the ‘customisation’ of foreign models of reform to ensure their ‘fit’ with local goals and practices; and the recognition that public sector reform is a long term business that requires substantial economic and political resources.

He acknowledged no single reason accounts for why Barbados may have slipped in the rankings and Jamaica taken the lead, but suggested that the ‘politics of reform’ which he examines extensively in his new book, is one that may stand out.

“The politics of reform combines an analysis of the ‘policy process’ within countries with the political behaviour of the ‘bureaucracy’,” he explained. “There is a theoretical distinction between them but also much overlap in practice and in my researches in the Caribbean and in small states in general I find it difficult to draw too strong a line between them.”

Caribbean Public Sector Reform

Dr. Hennis gave a lucid Powerpoint summary of the main findings.

The book is available in book shops or from the CDRC. It is hoped and expected that these findings will have a major impact and guidance on care of the elderly in Barbados and other Caribbean countries. Dr. Hennis and his team must be congratulated on bringing off a major study with great success, which will demonstrate the relevance of good research to the public health.
When was the last time you read a Caribbean textbook or viewed a Caribbean video in your academic career? If your experience has been anything like most UWI students, the last time may have been secondary school. This lack of Caribbean-based information has been a particular concern, especially for students interested in professional counselling, a growing area of study for psychology and social work students at UWI Cave Hill Campus.

Karen Ring, who has taught the Theory and Practice of Counselling I and II, believes that students in the Caribbean would benefit in their studies and practice of counselling, if they could identify with the profession from a Caribbean perspective. Although professional counselling, as we currently understand it, has its roots in North American and European culture, it is steadily growing as a necessary and viable intervention and occupation in the Caribbean, especially with the increasing personal, familial, and social problems being faced in contemporary Caribbean societies.

Early in 2004, Ring held a meeting for psychology and social work students who expressed interest in continuing their professional development in counselling and in producing a video on counselling in the Caribbean. During the summer of 2004, two six-week support groups were held dealing with personal growth, professional development, and the practice of group work. Students not only were able to take turns leading the groups but also wrote and submitted journals sharing their personal experiences. Also that summer, 12 students attended a meeting which was the genesis of a creative production team focused on developing a video which would educate students and the general public about professional counselling. The video seeks to address the myths and stereotypes about the counselling relationship. The students wanted the video to be one with a difference and one stated: “I hope that with our video, we set the trend for others like it, showing Caribbean people that it is not merely okay, but that it is a great idea to seek counselling.”

The “myths” presented in the video are based on research that was conducted by the video production group with each student surveying individuals throughout the Barbadian community. Three focus groups were also held, targeting different age groups about their knowledge and understanding of professional counselling. It is hoped that the research into peoples’ beliefs about counselling will be expanded to other areas of the Caribbean.

At the current stage of the project, with the research and the “scripting” of the video completed, the team is in the process of securing funding for the production costs and hope to begin filming as soon as possible. Although the current active team members are six psychology students who have graduated from UWI, they still meet with Ring, and are dedicated to completing the project. They include: Virginia Armstrong, Sadie Goddard, Paula Hector, Janelle Hinds, Rashi Holder.

“I hope that with our video, we set the trend for others like it, showing Caribbean people that it is not merely okay, but that it is a great idea to seek counselling.”

One group member explained her involvement in the project thus: “When the idea of a video was first posed to me I was very interested in it. It was not until I became part of the group that I realised the extent of hard work, self-motivation, dedication, and all the other words used to describe commitment, that were needed in order to complete a project of such magnitude and importance. What I will take away with me is not only satisfaction of being part of such a project but also the insight into the strengths and weaknesses of my personality; for these are lessons I will most definitely use in other areas of my life. Thus to summarise my experience would be to use the words ‘challenging’ and ‘insightful’.

Ring states that for her the project “has been a series of ups and downs. The ‘down’ side has been the frustration of dealing with everyone’s different schedules in order to meet, the length of time it is taking to progress, and the necessary and sometimes tedious focus on details. The ‘up’ side has been the collaboration with students and the relationships formed.

She said: “There is a strong bonding belief that what we are doing will make a difference in how people see professional counselling in the Caribbean...and perhaps someone will choose to get help or choose a career in counselling because of seeing the video. Whether the video is a marketing success or not, all the members feel that they have learned quite a bit about counselling and producing a video, but most of all that they have learned about themselves.”
Kirk Douglas believes he was divinely inspired. Six months before the avian influenza, commonly known as the bird flu, made its appearance in Asia in December 2003 and began claiming hundreds of lives around the world, the Cave Hill graduate student had begun pioneering microbiological research on the virus that causes the deadly flu.

His surveillance research on the virus – known as the H5N1 – was the first of its kind ever carried out in the Caribbean, and yielded groundbreaking results that won Kirk and the UWI Cave Hill recognition and acclaim from leading scientists from around the world.

“Honestly, I can’t help but feel that I was divinely inspired,” he said in a recent interview, noting that he had already begun his research before the genesis of the H5N1 avian influenza epizootic in South Korea three years ago.

Douglas, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Microbiology from Cave Hill in 2001, began the M.Phil in Microbiology at the campus two years later, intent on studying viruses, particular those that may have an impact on Barbados and the Caribbean.

“As with every other researcher the likelihood of finding something novel or elucidating – a fact that was previously unknown – was what most excited me and led me to continue studies in the field,” he explained. “The field of virology – the study of viruses – has totally fascinated me since I was first introduced to the wonderful world of microbiology in my undergraduate studies.”

He chose to study avian flu, and specifically how to strengthen avian influenza surveillance of migratory birds within Barbados and the Caribbean. The study, the first of its kind ever done in the Caribbean, pioneered avian influenza surveillance in the region and proved conclusively that North American migratory birds carry ‘bird flu’ viruses.

“The ‘bird flu’ viruses that I isolated during this study were all low-pathogenic avian influenza H4N3 viruses, and not the highly pathogenic viruses for instance, like H5N1,” he said. “H4N3 viruses are not harmful to humans or poultry. However, the results of this study highlight the risk of ‘bird flu’ viruses arriving in the Caribbean via migratory birds.”

When the results of Douglas’ study were presented by him at a major world conference on avian flu held in Hanoi, Vietnam in June 2005, with many of the world’s leading scientists in the field of ‘bird flu’ in attendance, the effect on this rarefied audience was galvanic.

The results of Douglas’ study underscored the very real possibility that North American migratory birds that are involved in the annual migration through the Caribbean may carry the dreaded H5N1 if this particular strain does reach North America. Quite simply, the study effectively showed that the Caribbean’s fate was tied to the fate of North America: should the H5N1 strain be carried by migratory birds to North America, then the Caribbean would in all likelihood also be affected.

“It has been heavily debated whether or not migratory birds with ‘bird flu’ can travel long distances,” said Kirk. “The debate in my humble opinion should be disregarded. Migratory birds such as ducks have been co-existing with influenza viruses, as my study confirms, and transporting them all over the world for such a long time. The belief that sick birds don’t fly thus migratory birds are not spreading ‘bird flu’ ignores the fact that some bird species including ducks are asymptomatic – that is, they show no symptoms of infection – and can act as ‘silent carriers’ of ‘bird flu’ viruses.”

Douglas explained that bird species that are susceptible to the virus do eventually die, but it is critical that studies are done early to identify precisely those bird species that are ‘carriers’. His study permits early detection of ‘bird flu’ viruses as well as bird species that are susceptible to the virus. Hence studies like his are crucial as a first line of defence against the avian flu should it enter the region by way of migratory birds.

“If you wait until you see a bunch of wild birds dying you are not observing the entry of ‘bird flu’ but rather you are merely observing the spread to resident birds,” he explains. “By that time, it might already be too late as the virus is already circulating, hence the impetus in the United States to test migratory and wild birds to afford US officials the chance to act quickly before it reaches poultry and possibly humans,” he said.

Douglas, who expects to graduate from Cave Hill in October, currently works as a Microbiologist with Lenstec Inc., in Barbados, a leading intra-ocular lens manufacturer, and is also a member of the Barbadian Society of Microbiology (BSM) as well as the prestigious American Society of Microbiology (ASM). He has also been published in a number of leading international scientific publications, including the Journal of Infection and the West Indian Medical Journal and his research at the UWI has propelled him to recognition in the international scientific community, where he has become a special invitee to leading international conferences in his area of expertise. For now, however, his gaze remains focused on using his pioneering work in virus surveillance as a critical line of defence in disease control and management in the region.
Bajan Stickfighters Feared

Barbadians may regard aggressiveness as absent from their cultural DNA, but the history of sticklicking in Barbados and the region tells a different story.

In a May 22 public lecture at the Cave Hill campus titled Cover Down Yuh Bucket: The Story of Sticklicking in Barbados, historian and former Director of Culture in Barbados Elton Elombe Mottley presented findings from his research on the subject which show that Bajans were at one time feared for their aggressiveness throughout the Caribbean, particularly in stickfighting.

"Bajans were aggressive outside of Barbados, particularly in the post-

Emancipation period when large numbers of Bajans migrated to other West Indian territories,” he said during his lecture. “Bajans were heavily involved in stick-fighting gangs in Trinidad and British Guiana – now Guyana – and they were particularly prominent in the underworld culture of Trinidad.’’

He noted that the term ‘badjohns’ in Trinidad was actually a corruption of the colloquial reference of Barbadians – Bajans – and in many historical records Bajans were often singled out for their aggressiveness and rough behaviour. Barbadians also featured prominently in many conflicts, revolts and labour unrests across the region, often assuming the positions of leadership. One example Mottley offered during his lecture was that following the Virgin Islands Revolt of 1878, the trial of the revolutionaries revealed that two of the so-called leaders were Barbadians as well as most of the imprisoned participants of the revolt.

According to Mottley, much of this reputation for ‘badness’ that Barbadians developed came from their masterful handling of what was called ‘Bajan stick’ or sticklicking, a form of stickfighting that was distinctive from the Trinidadian form of stickfighting known as ‘kalenda’ or the Guayanese form known as ‘setu’ or the other forms familiar to other islands, such as ‘mayolet’ in Guadeloupe. Many Calypsonians would later record the prowess of Bajan Stickfighters, many times indirectly, as one famous Dominican Calypsonian did, saying he ‘was going to be as bad as a Bajan stickfighter’.

“Sticks were made from common or wild guava, black willow, rad wood, and bay wood,” he said, noting some of the trees used. “They were selected on the basis of weight, length and curing. In Barbados, sticks were prepared in various ways, often with linseed oil added to give it flexibility and sturdiness. In sticklicking, obeah seemed to be used and Bajan prowess in sticklicking was often attributed to obeah.”

Perhaps some aspect of Bajan aggressiveness in stickfighting may be attributed to sticklickers’ lack of scruples about what parts of the body to hit. In comparing the rules that applied to the various forms of stickfighting, Mottley noted: “In kalenda, you couldn’t lick below the waist, and blood from wounds would be drained in a blood hole, whilst with Bajan stick a fighter would lick you ‘from yuh head to yuh toe’”. He pointed out that it was from this practice that the term ‘cover down yuh bucket’ – which he used to title his lecture – emerged, referring to the defensive posture one must assume to protect yourself from a Bajan sticklicker.

Sticklicking was an early research interest of Mottley who interviewed scores of Barbadian sticklickers over several decades, as he compiled his research. When he returned to Barbados in 1966 after studying in the United States, he taught for a while but his passion for conducting research on Barbadian culture quickly asserted itself. He co-founded the Barbados National Theatre Workshop in 1967 and by 1969, he had founded Black Night, the association for writers and cultural activists. He established the famous Yoruba House in 1975, and in 1982 became Barbados’ Director of Culture. He has also worked as a radio host, newspaper columnist and has written extensively. Among his published works are: Identities Volume I and Identities Volume II and De City: A Volume of Poetry dedicated to the 375th Anniversary of Bridgetown and his latest work Cover Down Yuh Bucket: the Story of Stick Licking in Barbados which is to be launched later this year.
Ch. Hill News

Awards

Research Excellence

Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law, Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, has been honoured with the Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence for academic year 2005/06. She is one of four University of the West Indies (UWI) employees to receive this signal distinction and the lone recipient from the Cave Hill Campus.

It’s another major achievement this year for Dr. Antoine who received her professorship in January, and who has published prolifically in the area of offshore financial law. She earned her award under the category of research accomplishments.

Antoine wins Vice Chancellor Award

“It is good that persons in the international arena... can recognise that we can, and do, and that we have the capacity to stand equally with the best anywhere in the world.”

Professor Antoine joins fellow awardees Dr. Kim Mallalieu of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, St. Augustine (Teaching Category); Professor Helen Jacobs in the Department of Chemistry, Mona (Research Accomplishments) and Mona’s Senior Assistant Registrar (Examinations) Cordel Nelson (Service to the University Community) as the latest members of the UWI to be publicly recognised for their work by the institution’s highest ranking executive officer.

Each recipient receives US $5,000 for the award which was instituted by the Vice Chancellor in 1994 as a way of recognising excellence on the part of the academic and senior administrative staff.

This year, no awards were given in the area of Public Service and All-Round Performance.

“I am of course, deeply honoured to have received this prestigious award. I am also surprised as I did not nominate myself and only learned of the nomination by my colleagues after the fact,” said Professor Antoine, the first recipient from the Cave Hill Faculty of Law to win the Award for Research, and whose many awards, distinctions and honours include a special award in 2002 from Cave Hill’s Guild of Undergraduates for courage and dedication to students.

She added: “While it is a signal achievement for me to be recognised in this way, I view this award as even more important for my Faculty and my University. I say this because the Award Report indicates that the work for which I was honoured, particularly my publications and consultancies in Labour Law and Offshore Law, was lauded by distinguished international experts as not just excellent, but original and pioneering.

“Far too often, despite the Arthur Lewis’s, Walcotts’, Bob Marley’s etc., we in the region still harbour the prejudice that our people do not create – are not inventors and so on. It is good that persons in the international arena, and now my peers, can recognise that we can, and do, and that we have the capacity to stand equally with the best anywhere in the world. Awards like these allow us to reaffirm ourselves and as such, are important for all of us as a people. When we at the university do well and contribute to our region and even to the world, everyone, those on the campus and especially those in the non-campus territories who often know little of the happenings at UWI, need to know. This award is an excellent opportunity for this and it makes me proud that I am part of such a great tradition.”

Professor Antoine, wife of St. Lucian Prime Minister Dr. Kenny Anthony, has published five books to date, including two which she edited and co-authored. Her latest, Trusts and Related Tax Issues in Offshore Financial Law, a more than 500-page publication by Oxford University Press, earned such accolades as “splendid” and “excellent” and was regarded as a complement to her earlier release Confidentiality in Offshore Financial Law. The attorney-at-law, former legal officer at the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva and international legal consultant, who until recently served as programme director of the UWI Faculty of Law graduate law programme, includes among her specialist subject areas, Offshore Financial Law, Law and Legal Systems and Labour Law. She is the “subject leader” for Labour Law and Common Law subjects at the Faculty and has pioneered new courses in Offshore Law and Discrimination in Employment.
A Barbadian trade unionist, a Canadian musician, a prominent St. Lucian businesswoman and a retired Barbadian judge to receive honorary doctorates

A veteran trade unionist, a retired Barbadian judge, a prominent St. Lucian businesswoman and an internationally acclaimed Canadian-born musician will have honorary doctorates conferred on them when the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus holds its annual graduation ceremonies on October 28, 2006.

The distinguished awardees are internationally recognised labour leader Sir Roy Trotman, legal luminary Sir Frederick Smith, St. Lucian entrepreneur Charmaine Gardner and multiple Grammy award winner Oscar Peterson.

Sir Roy who received Barbados' highest honour for his contribution to the labour movement, and who has chaired several committees of the International Labour Organization's governing body will be awarded the Doctor of Laws (LLD) degree. So, too, will Sir Frederick, a retired Judge of the Barbados Court of Appeal and a distinguished Caribbean Jurist known throughout West Africa for his contribution to law and his work on the constitutional aspect of national independence.

Gardner, Chief Executive of Carasco & Sons, and who created history recently by becoming the first woman to hold the post of President of First National Bank St. Lucia Limited and chairperson of its board of directors, will also receive a Doctor of Laws (LLD) degree. The current chairperson of the Centre for Management Development (CMD), Gardner has received many honours in her country and has served admirably in the private and public sectors in promoting strategic initiatives for human resource development.

The fourth Doctor of Laws degree will be awarded to Mr. Peterson, an internationally renowned jazz composer, whose outstanding achievements were recognised in August 2005 with a commemorative stamp design in his honour. In Trinidad and Tobago, the St. Augustine Campus graduation ceremonies will also see the conferral of four doctorates – one Doctor of Letters and three Doctor of Laws degrees. Harvard University lecturer Jamaica Kincaid, will receive the Honorary Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) degree while Trinidadian economist, Lloyd A. Best, who has served in many capacities as an academic, will be awarded a Doctor of Laws degree.

The three other Doctor of Laws degrees will be conferred on former Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the St. Augustine Campus, Professor Max Richards, former Premier of Belize, the Rt. Hon. George Price, who played a leading role in guiding Belize to independence in 1981, and His Excellency Professor George Richards, the President of the twin island republic and also the recently appointed Chancellor of the University of Trinidad & Tobago.

At the Mona Campus in Jamaica, five eminent persons are expected to be awarded Doctor of Laws (LLD) degrees. They are Colonel Collin L.G. Harris of the Moore Town Maroons, a man with a distinguished career as a leader of a traditional Maroon community; Catholic priest Father Richard Ho Lung, known for his work with the homeless and poor; Grenadian, Justice Dr. L. Dolliver Nelson, renowned as a Judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of The Sea; American professor Sydney Mintz, an eminent anthropologist who devoted his life to research on societies of the Caribbean, and Belizean Governor General, Hon. Sir Colville N. Young.

Sir Colville is an educator and author, a linguist, lyricist and composer and was the first President of the University College of Belize in 1986.
Students Awarded for Outstanding Performances

Over one hundred Cave Hill students were awarded scholarships, prizes and bursaries for their outstanding performances when the campus held its 3rd Annual Ceremony for the Presentation of Student Awards. Against the theme “Rewarding Excellence”, students were urged to use their university experience and all the opportunities available to mould themselves into well rounded individuals with complementary academic and social skills.

Guest speaker and UWI alumnus Stephen Brathwaite, a cultural officer for music at the National Cultural Foundation (NCF) and Director of the Cavite Chorale, told awardees of the contribution non-academic learning could make to their future success.

“The examples of non-academic learning being of benefit to graduates are endless,” he said, noting that although he has a degree in Computer Science, he was now employed as a Cultural Officer at the National Cultural Foundation of Barbados with responsibility for music organisations, which was squarely based on his involvement and activity in music, including his directorship of the Cavite Chorale which he joined as a student in 1990.

“Your university experience should be multi-faceted and encompass as much of campus life as you can,” he said. “Never before has there been such a plethora of extra-curricular activity on this campus, the number of clubs and societies has ballooned over the last ten years and now, more than ever, there is opportunity for student interaction on several levels and for those of varying interests.”

He pointed to the soon-to-be completed Creative Arts Complex which he suggested would provide tremendous opportunities for student development. Other opportunities, he said, were provided in the myriad of clubs and associations on campus which helped to make students into well-rounded graduates.

“I would encourage involvement at some level, be it merely membership or leadership of student organisations,” he said. “But one cannot just be a face in the crowd; be active and take up the challenges thrown at you; do not believe that your involvement is so superficial that you could just drop out and it will be all good. Do not be a quitter!”

The Student Awards Ceremony featured three new sponsors and offered the opportunity for donors to make official presentations to the awardees. Scholarships and prizes were awarded on a faculty basis, based on the selection criteria established by the donors and the UWI.

This year, for the first time, the Kregg Nurse Award for Vision and Fortitude was given in honour of the late Cave Hill student who inspired many with his perseverance, academic ability and joie de vivre in spite of being wheelchair-bound with multiple sclerosis. Awards were also made to O’Neil Simpson and Wismar Gibson for their outstanding performances at the World Universities and Colleges Debating Championship (WUDC) as well as other members of the Debating Society who attended the championship in Ireland earlier this year.

Students Awarded for Outstanding Performances

STILL THE TOAST OF THE TOWN

Months after their sterling performance at the World Universities and Colleges Debating Championships in Dublin (December 27, 2005 to January 4, 2006) and the award-winning achievement of champion speaker O’Neil Simpson, the Cave Hill debating team continues to receive recognition from several quarters.

Among the latest honours was an award to the team duo of Wismar Gibson and Simpson, a former Cave Hill law student who lifted the title of World Public Speaking Champion from representatives of some of the world’s top universities.

The award took place at the Convention of the Caribbean Territorial Council of Toastmasters (CTCT), the regional grouping of Toastmasters International on May 20th at their Banquet and Awards Ceremony. The two were presented with their award by the Incoming District Governor of the CTCT, Erich Rene from Curacao.
Splashing!

Cave Hill swept 20 medals in a 42 event competition when the Studenten Sport Federatie Nederlandse Antillen (SSFNA) invitational swim meet took place in Curacao, April 21-22.

The participation by the Cave Hill team was the final step on a journey which had begun some eight weeks earlier, when the campus’ swimming programme started in February. Cave Hill’s commendable medal tally came in spite of the campus entering the smallest group – an eleven member contingent. The Mona squad comprised 20 athletes, one less than the representative team from the Netherlands Antilles which entered 21.

Director of Sports Roland Butcher attributed the performance of the swimmers to the thorough preparation that team coach Harold Lewis put the team through in the lead up to competition.

Among the many outstanding performances, two particularly stood out as both Roberta Dowell and Keione Rayside qualified for the CISC Championships in Puerto Rico later this year.

Butcher sees this as an excellent opportunity for these two athletes and says the overall performance speaks to the quality of athletes on Campus and also the hard work and dedication put into the swimming programme by both the Coach and the campus.

The University salutes Jay Alleyne, Lin Callender, Roberta Dowell, Corey Garrett, Ian Grimes, Tamara Haynes, Rhea Harewood, Anya Kirton, Simone Kirton, Keione Rayside, Julian Samuel and coach Harold Lewis on their outstanding achievement in Curacao.

Hockey tour of Canada

A forty member strong hockey contingent from UWI Cave Hill Campus, comprising male and female players, made a historic visit to Toronto, Canada from June 22-30, for a series of matches.

Under the supervision of coach Colin Elcock, the male team competed in four matches, giving a creditable account of themselves against competitive opponents.

The result from those matches for the Cave Hill team read: one win, two draws and one loss.

The female team was unable to score in any of their matches and was subsequently defeated in three of the four matches played. The Cave Hill female side earned a draw in one match.

Director of Sports Roland Butcher (head of delegation) and Steven R Leslie (manager) completed the management team of the touring party and both players and team officials described the tour as a good learning experience.
Building on an impressive performance during Barbados’ leading limited overs cricket competition, where they registered four victories in five matches, the Sagicor UWI cricket team recorded their first victory in Division I league cricket in Barbados in July.

Playing this season in the Banks Division One (3 day) competition for the first time, the UWI team defeated the Barbados Defence Force Sports programme (BDFSP) at the Wayne Daniel Cricket Complex in St. Philip.

Ramnarine Chattergoon sealed the victory at 3:15pm, on Sunday July 23, when he trapped BDFSP player Tyson Ifill leg before wicket (LBW) for just one run and sparked wild celebrations among supporters, players and management of the UWI team.

It was a historic victory and the first at the Division 1 level for the team captained by Shirley Clarke. That emphatic 145 run victory was set up by a classy unbeaten second innings century from Nekoli Parris (105), a half century from debutant Jason Maloney (51) and valuable all round contributions from captain Clarke, Nhamo Winn and Chattergoon.

UWI scored 233 all out in their first innings and dismissed BDFSP for 156, as UWI captain Shirley Clarke took five wickets for 31 runs with his offspin. With a first innings lead of 77 runs, the UWI team raced to a second (2nd) innings total of 222 for nine declared, setting the BDFSP 300 for victory. The BDFSP folded for 155 as all ten wickets fell to UWI off spinners Chattergoon (6 for 40) and Clarke (4 for 54).
An impressive line-up of speakers and delegates is slated to attend the 8th annual Caribbean Commercial Law Workshop which comes off at the Ritz Carlson in Grand Cayman August 20 to 22.

This year, the CCLW will focus on Financial Services, Commercial Trusts, and Corporate Governance from a Caribbean perspective. An added feature will be an update on the Cricket World Cup and legal issues of interest to commercial lawyers arising out of this momentous Caribbean event.

Monday August 21st

Financial Services The speakers include Peter Darrow, a partner in Mayer Brown in New York, who will present on Capital Markets Financing and Jim Patti his partner in Chicago, who will speak on Securitisation. The issue of Infrastructure financing will be addressed by Denise Grant, a partner in Shearman & Sterling in New York. Tim Leixner, a partner of Holland & Knight in Ft. Lauderdale, will address project financing issues.

Tuesday August 22nd

Commercial Trusts Justin Appleyard, the head of Maples and Calder’s Trust department in Cayman will be chairing the session which will look at Unit Trusts and their administration, and SPV Trusts and their administration.

Corporate Governance From the UWI Faculty of Law, Suzanne Goldson and Lesley Walcott will examine some of the emerging legal issues of corporate governance in the Caribbean. Chris Bovell, a partner in Dunn Cox in Jamaica, and Charles Quinn, a partner in Quinn & Hampson in Cayman, will share their broad experience as directors of many major public Caribbean companies.

An update and insight into some of the intriguing legal issues surrounding Cricket World Cup by Derek Jones, senior legal counsel of Cricket World Cup

This conference will be complemented by a full and interesting social agenda. For complete details and registration forms go to www.commerciallawworkshop.com.
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