



Connections

31 October 2007

An electronic bulletin about interdisciplinary research, teaching and outreach at the
Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES)
Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus
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New students

It's a new academic year (2007/08) and CERMES has opened its doors again to receive a new batch of students into our MSc Programme in Natural Resource and Environmental Management. This year we have 14 students hailing from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad. They will be specialising in one of the three streams being offered this year: Coastal and Marine Resource Management, Climate Change and, Water Resources Management, our newest and fifth stream. We welcome them into our CERMES family and look forward to strengthening our alumni with their inclusion.

MarGov project strengthening its networks

The IDRC-funded Marine Resource Governance in the Eastern Caribbean project (better known as MarGov) has been focusing on networking. Over the past three months, Patrick McConney and Kemraj Parsram have encouraged stakeholder participation by attending a number of meetings and workshops to share knowledge and research plans.

On 20 August, the two conducted a one-day training workshop in Trinidad and Tobago with the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), where Kemraj led participants through presentations on network concepts and methods. He and Dr. McConney demonstrated a simple matrix for mapping network relationships among participants. CANARI is the first recipient of a MarGov small grant and the workshop was aimed at building capacity to undertake research.

Kemraj shared his research proposal on 29 August in a seminar at CERMES entitled: "*Marine Resource Governance in the Eastern Caribbean in the Context of Complex Adaptive Socio-Ecological Systems*". This was the first of his three required PhD seminars.

Dr McConney collaborated with the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) fisher folk network project, serving as a resource person for a CRFM workshop in Grenada (26–28 September) where he introduced concepts used in MarGov to over 35 fisherfolk and other stakeholders from across the region.

From 3–4 October, Kemraj was in Guyana where he participated in the Caribbean Fisheries Forum review of the draft Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, the eventual outcome of which will have relevance to the governance of fisheries in the Caribbean.

Dr McConney also remains focused on creating synergies between MarGov and similar projects, having held meetings in September with Brian Davy of the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) on his Sustainable Aquatic Resource Management (SARM) initiative; and executive director of CANARI, Sarah McIntosh, in October, to discuss ways in which aspects of their research align with MarGov.

MarGov welcomes new Communication Assistant

The MarGov project recently welcomed a new addition to its team. Carmel Haynes has joined the project team as the Communication



Assistant, replacing Donna Roach who resigned in March to pursue other career options.

Carmel is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill and holds a BA (Hons.) in Literatures in English. She has been involved in the field of journalism for the last 10 years, most recently holding the position of reporter with the Nation Publishing Co. Ltd. She was also previously employed with Hoyos Publishing Inc. and has been a contributing writer to a number of print and electronic publications.

Junior Rangers coming soon to the Tobago Cays

Maria Pena (Project Officer) participated in the Tobago Cays Marine Park (TCMP) Junior Ranger workshop, 6 October 2007, Union Island. The purpose of this workshop was to examine the feasibility of adopting and adapting the Negril Junior Ranger Programme to the TCMP as an adaptive management activity arising from the CERMES project on *Evaluating the Management Effectiveness at three Marine Protected Areas in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Jamaica and*



School children reading through the Negril Junior Ranger Manual



Jean Brown, Negril, (far left) teaching participants a popular Junior Ranger environmental song

Belize. There was high workshop participation by TCMP staff, primary and secondary school teachers as well as students.

All participants were positive that a Junior Ranger programme such as that in Negril could be successfully implemented in Union. The next steps include collaborative drafting of a TCMP Junior Ranger Manual between the TCMP and school representatives in Union Island, as well as inter-school logo and pledge

competitions for the TCMP Junior Ranger manual.

GEF SGP MOU

On 26 October, Deputy Principal Professor Leo Moseley signed an MOU with The Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme (SGP) under which CERMES and the SGP will collaborate in provision of technical support and capacity building. The MOU provides for students to become involved in SGP activities for their research projects. At the same time CERMES received an additional US\$10,000 from UNDP to support OECS students in the Climate Change Stream of the MSc Programme. CERMES was represented by Ms Janice Cumberbatch, Prof Leo Moseley, Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, Resident representative, UNDP, Mr. Giles Romulus, GEF SGP Coordinator, and Mr. Ian King, UNDP Programme Officer.



L to R: Prof. Leo Moseley (UWI), Dr. Rosina Wiltshire, Mr. Giles Romulus and Mr. Ian King (UNDP)

Noble laureate in our midst

Our very own Dr. Leonard Nurse was recently awarded the grand commendation of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate for 2007. Following the release of its Fourth Assessment Report (AR4), the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to raise and disseminate greater knowledge about man-made climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change. Dr. Nurse, has been recognised for his contribution to the AR4. Dr. Nurse is the longest serving Caribbean member of the IPCC panel. His participation dates back to 1993 when he first contributed to AR2. Way to go Leonard!

