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As an academic community we are determined to build upon our legacy as our brother’s keeper. Traditional images of campus isolation and aloofness that have not served us well in the past are targeted for deletion. There is no denying the urgent need to bring the nature of our mission and modus operandi in line with our public ownership. Demonstrating daily that we are a force for development and transformation, with ‘an inward stretch and global reach’, is our primary source of strength and compelling proof of relevance. Securing adequate resources to sustain our efforts will depend upon the effectiveness of our strategies and depth of our integrity. Once again, our students have assured us that the magnificence of the Caribbean intellectual culture demands celebration and respect. Engaging their colleagues from over a hundred universities in global debating contests, they returned with gold, lifting our spirits and reassuring our souls. Let it not be said that the need for an increase in public investment in regional tertiary education cannot be justified. Cave Hill stands as testimony to student excellence, and to the effects of ‘an inward stretch and outward reach’.

Who we are, and why!

Our faculties continue to illustrate similar commitment. How proud we are of our colleague, the distinguished professor of biochemistry, Winston Tinto, and his team of environmental scientists! Through them we were provided with an opportunity to do the right thing, and to do it well. Rightly, they have won the commendation of the Barbados Minister of Education, the Honorable Reginald Farley, for the excellent work that led to public assurances with respect to the university’s ability to comprehend and diagnose national environmental challenges. We will continue to work with stakeholders of the Louis Lynch School. Meanwhile, we wish students there all the very best in the resumption of their studies.

It is within these and such like contexts of expectation and confidence, we believe, that the Owen Arthur Administration saw it fit to invest a considerable amount of public lands in the university. I am sure that our students, administrators, and professors will continue to function with distinction in all public spaces thereby ensuring the integrity of this public declaration of trust.
The University of the West Indies (UWI) and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) successfully staged a two-day Symposium on the Financing of Tertiary Education in the Anglophone Caribbean on November 21-22, 2005 at the Cave Hill campus.

The symposium was an opportunity for the leading tertiary level institutions from Jamaica, Belize, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada, St Lucia and Barbados, bilateral and multilateral agencies, international universities, experts from the Caribbean Development Bank, the World Bank and the International American Development Bank (IADB), and representatives from the region’s private and public sectors, to discuss several of the major issues facing the funding of tertiary institutions in the region. Over the two days, participants focussed on strategies to foster collaboration with the UWI’s stakeholders and to enhance student support and financing, mechanisms for improving the funding available for research, and ways of enhancing productivity, efficiency and quality at tertiary level institutions throughout the region.

UWI Vice Chancellor Professor E. Nigel Harris noted that, while these institutions were grateful to the Governments of the region who had financed and facilitated tertiary education over the years, in order to be involved in research and innovation, which was vital to the growth and development of the region, tertiary institutions must broaden their financial base.

President of the Caribbean Development Bank Professor Compton Bourne underscored the need to expand tertiary education opportunities. However, he noted the high cost of doing so, and the inability of regional governments to continue to support the sector. He indicated that a more equitable balance would have to be sought between public and private support for tertiary institutions.

Strategies emanating from the working groups for improving the funding of tertiary institutions in the English-speaking Caribbean included the development of industry/university research consortia, the harmonisation of fiscal incentives for private and corporate donations, networking to achieve economies of scope, the optimal utilisation of technology which would facilitate distance education, and the development of reward and incentive systems which would promote an entrepreneurial spirit within institutions.

Other key recommendations emerging from the Working Groups included the need to create viable and sustainable student lending agencies which would allow students to participate more actively in the financing of their education while at the same time ensuring increased access to tertiary education, especially for students from lower income households, and the development of a Caribbean Research Foundation. A major role of the Foundation would be to drive development and competitiveness through improving the region’s research capacity and productivity; the development of inter-university linkages in order to access funds and to attract more knowledge-based industries to the region.

Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI), Sir George Alleyne, has slammed the stigma and discrimination against people living with AIDS.

Addressing the evening graduation ceremony of the UWI Cave Hill campus in October 2005 at the Wildey Gymnasium of the Garfield Sobers Sports Complex, he said although Barbados had shown signs of successfully addressing the AIDS epidemic, discrimination (which was evident throughout the Caribbean) remained a big problem.

He lauded the efforts of the Commonwealth Secretariat and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation for their support for a chair in education and HIV/AIDS at the UWI.

“I continue to be concerned about the depth of feeling about this disease and opprobrium for the social and sexual practices that are assumed often in error to be epidemic.

“I hope that we will not stand aside from trying to educate our publics of the harm done to society when stigma and discrimination drive the AIDS epidemic underground and make control more difficult,” he said.

Noting that development problems like HIV/AIDS were a concern for Caribbean societies and governments, Sir George urged the graduates to play a more active role in the AIDS fight.

Apart from HIV/AIDS, he also said that CARICOM heads of government were still concerned about other diseases like obesity, hypertension and diabetes.

Sir George said a number of surveys done in Barbados revealed that about 60 per cent of Barbadian women and 42 per cent of men were overweight or obese and this had enormous consequences for the island’s health services.

He praised the efforts of Professor Henry Fraser, Dean of Clinical Medicine and Research and former director of the Chronic Disease Research Centre, in seeking to control obesity and chronic diseases.

Madame Justice the Honourable Desiree Bernard, the first female judge appointed to the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) wants Caribbean states to move on the issue of full recognition of women’s rights by signing the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW Convention.

Delivering the Eleventh Annual Public Lecture in the ‘Caribbean Catalysts for Change’ series on November 18, 2005 hosted by the Centre for Gender and Development Studies at Cave Hill campus in honour of the late Dame Nita Barrow, Justice Bernard spoke to the spirit of peace, equality and the empowerment of women championed by the former Governor-General of Barbados throughout her life.

Justice Bernard noted that Belize was the only Caribbean country to have ratified the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW Convention, an international agreement that is named for the UN Committee that developed it – the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

Despite ratification of the CEDAW Convention by all Caribbean states, virtually all territories had baulked at taking the further step of signing the Optional Protocol, although Barbados has indicated it would shortly take steps to do so.

Explaining the significance of the Optional Protocol, Justice Bernard said that it provided individuals with greater access to the redress of injustices against them. CEDAW, which comprises twenty-three experts of high moral standing from the geographically accepted regions of the world, is the UN Committee mandated to examine and regulate reports with respect to state parties’ compliance with their treaty obligations.

According to Justice Bernard, who served as Rapporteur and Chairperson of the international Committee for several years, the interaction of parties in most international agreements – for which the generic label treaties is used to generally cover conventions and compacts – such as the CEDAW Convention, is between the monitoring mechanism or committee and the state party.

“However, most of them – that is, international agreements – also provide for a complaints mechanism where individual members of a state party that has ratified a treaty has access to the monitoring body,” she explained during her address. “It is in the power of this body to consider complaints and make recommendations for redressing breaches.”

Justice Bernard added: “This complaints mechanism is usually given effect to by the ratification by a state party of an Optional Protocol to the treaty, thereby extending the interaction between the monitoring body and the citizens of the ratifying states.”
On November 10, 2005 the UWI Cave Hill hosted one of the world’s most famous work psychologists, Professor Peter Saville, who delivered a lecture on how cutting-edge personality research could help to achieve success.

Pursuing a theme that gripped his audience, particularly those from the local business community, Professor Saville said a number of groundbreaking research findings were being applied in situations where talent pools appeared limited.

“Personality tests and research can have a wide application, both in the selection of the best candidates for jobs as well as at all levels of management in organisations,” he said. “Thus, while personality tests are not pursued to change people completely, they are excellent tools for developing people’s strengths and identifying weaknesses that they can work on to achieve greater job success.”

Professor Saville, who is also Chairman of Saville Consulting, an international group of work psychologists, human resource, business and IT consultants who specialise in the professional assessment and development of people at work, noted that the application of personality research and psychometric testing may prove particularly useful in developing and streamlining teams in organisations.

Citing recent research findings emerging from the UK, Professor Saville suggested that the more effective teams were those composed of a variety of personality types who assumed specific roles in the team.

“This research looked at major personality types which the researcher asserted that a consistent team needs,” he said. This includes, “the Shaper who is the driver of the team, the Coordinator, the Team Worker, the Nice Guy, the Lubricator brings people together, the Plant, the person with ideas and the Finisher actually takes the idea and implements it.”

According to Professor Saville, the research showed that if a number of persons of the same personality type were placed together in a team it was not as productive as having a team where the different personalities were present.

“For example, if you get several ‘Plant’s’ together, nothing gets done; because they are all generating ideas and no one actually gets down to do the work,” he said. Professor Saville also pointed to the area of competencies – defining requirements for jobs in skill blocks – as a new development that flowed from personality research and which placed an increased emphasis on psychometric testing. He noted that this represents the foundation of modern scientific job selection.

“A typical set of competencies for, say, top managers for many organisations around the world would be leadership skills, the ability to communicate, to organise others, energy, innovation, analytical skills and abilities, empathy, emotional resilience and the ability to prioritise and make decisions,” he said.

According to the Professor, developing competency appraisals for jobs was becoming increasingly critical in light of potentially expensive litigations when conflicts arose between management and employees over performance in specific jobs in the workplace.
CDRC reveals itself to the public!

Members of the public were able to interact with the hard working staff at the Chronic Disease Research Centre when it threw open its doors at Jemmott’s Lane, St. Michael on November 23, 2005.

The CDRC was conceptualised by the School of Clinical Medicine and Research, at the Cave Hill campus, in 1990, in response to the growing epidemic of chronic non-communicable diseases in Barbados and the Caribbean. Lifestyle-related diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes, heart disease and their complications now account for the majority of morbidity and mortality in most of the region.

In 2000, the CDRC was incorporated into a new University-wide Tropical Medicine Research Institute (TMRI), designed to increase research on the major health problems of the region. It currently has a staff of 15, of which two thirds are funded through grants and contracts.

The prime goal of the CDRC is to conduct research into major chronic diseases such as high blood pressure, diabetes, obesity and heart disease. The Centre seeks clarify the impact of diseases and guide the optimal and most cost-effective prevention, intervention and treatment strategies. The Centre collaborates with the Ministry of Health and other institutions such as PAHO / WHO and non-governmental organisations such as the Heart Foundation of Barbados, the Diabetes Association of Barbados and the Diabetes Foundation of Barbados. Its research is focused on areas that are essential for improving health care, and the institution will continue to play a key role both in training for research skills, in education, consultation and advocacy.

Some of the major projects in which the CDRC is currently engaged are the Barbados Register of Strokes (BROS) a national register of first time strokes; the Barbados National Cancer Study; research on several fronts in HIV/AIDS and the elderly.

Economic Sexism

According to Professor Joycelin Massiah, women’s rights advocates in the Caribbean and elsewhere have been forced to renegotiate shifting trends which have propelled issues of globalisation to the forefront of the global agenda.

In an October 19, 2005 lecture at the Cave Hill campus, she argued that there was need to refocus attention on the plight still faced by women in the decade following the landmark Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China.

This conference has adopted the definitive Platform For Action (PFA) and the global blueprint for gender rights and social justice but Professor Massiah noted that women now had to struggle to recapture the agenda to ensure that Caribbean states delivered on commitments.

“The context of the Beijing Conference was the concept of sustainable development and the empowerment of women,” she explained in her address later described as a tour-de-force by Senior Government Minister Dame Billie Miller. “There was also a major conceptual shift from women’s issues to gender issues, which allowed for discussion of power relations between the two. The resulting PFA has become the blue print for action around the world. However, the ability of women and governments to implement the PFA effectively has been severely hampered by the drastic changes in the global development context.”

These drastic changes have been triggered by globalisation and the geopolitical implications spawned by this new phenomenon.

In the latter half of the decade, joining these powerful forces of globalisation has been the global preoccupation with the threat of terrorism and armed conflicts, and a host of other problems including, the rapidly spreading HIV/AIDS pandemic, the increasing incidence of trafficking in women and girls, and by more frequent and intensive natural disasters. Together, she suggested, these new and emerging threats have significantly diverted global attention and resources from the many serious challenges still faced by women in the region and elsewhere.

Professor Massiah also contended that globalisation was also having an impact on governments since, without the trade adjustment capabilities necessary to generate significant export earning revenue, the ability of regional governments to deliver traditional social services would be severely compromised.
Flying the UWI flag in U.S.A

A Cave Hill lecturer, who has broadened his research horizons from the traditional sphere of West Indian literary history and culture, has attracted interest in the United States.

Lecturer in the Department of Language Linguistics and Literature, Dr Victor Simpson who has researched and published on the iconic Puerto Rican author Pedro Juan Soto, was invited recently to be the keynote speaker at a symposium on Puerto Rican literature at Indiana University at Bloomington. The symposium was held from November 10 -11 2005.

"I really appreciate very much having been given the opportunity to speak, and at the same time represent UWI, at such a prestigious university," he said recently, noting that Indiana University was considered among the top fifteen in the United States in respect of both its undergraduate and graduate programmes.

The symposium, which was sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the university, focused on the literary culture of the Caribbean island of Puerto Rico and particularly the significant contribution made by Pedro Juan Soto in developing a distinctive narrative in the literature there.

"I sought to give a panoramic review of his career and offered an assessment of his contribution to the development of narrative in Puerto Rico," said Dr. Simpson whose wide-ranging research and publications of Pedro Juan Soto include his acclaimed publication last year Colonialism and Narrative in Puerto Rico.

Interest in Pedro Juan Soto and other leading Hispanic cultural icons have surged in the U.S as the Latino presence there has grown, making many of the themes explored at the symposium strikingly resonant. He noted that audience members, which included scores of faculty members, graduate students and visitors, displayed great interest and generated extensive feedback through questions and comments.

Simpson’s involvement at the symposium also included a round table discussion with other leading academics on the subject. The symposium also attracted other leading international experts including Professor Jorge Duany of the University of Puerto Rico, Professor Diana Vélez of the University of Iowa and Professor Vivian Halloran from Indiana University – who in 2001 participated in the (Re-)Thinking Caribbean Culture conference at Cave Hill – among others.

To be or not to be: Barbados as a Republic

A number of complicated issues surrounding the subject of making Barbados a Republic might help explain why the political debate has not yet gained further traction.

The S.A.L.I.S.E.S Caribbean Policy Forum held November 28, 2005 at the Cave Hill campus, which represented one of the highlights of a series of lectures and academic presentations as part of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) 2005 Seminar Series, focused on the current Republic debate in Barbados. The forum noted that the debate was particularly resonant in light of the number of intersecting social, political and economic issues.

Discussants argued that the debate had been influenced by issues as amorphous as the shifting moods of the times, the popularity of the political parties advocating various positions, as well as the seemingly mundane: socialisation fuelling resistance to change and external political forces.

"When Barbados moved to Independence, people were behind that," noted Dr. Letnie Rock, one of several campus lecturers who contributed to the discussion. "So what’s the difference now apart from the fact that people fear change? When people hear there is going to be a change, the average man on the street asks why is a change necessary; if it isn’t broken, why are we fixing it?"

Dr. Don Marshall, a research fellow at SALISES noted that a lot of time and resources were spent building up the moniker of “Errol Barrow: Father of the Nation” by the Democratic Labour Party (DLP) and a similar level of effort would likewise have to be expended by the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) to introduce a Republic in Barbados.

"We are socialised into thinking that Barrow and others delivered us a Constitution that gave us a certain degree of Independence," he noted. "Seemingly this dramatic change suggests a significant change is going to be made to this Constitution."

Some analysts suggested that late Prime Minister Barrow, unlike his fellow leaders in Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana at the time, may have avoided going the route of Republicanism because such a seemingly abrupt change may have disconcerted too many Barbadians.

"The question is why Errol Barrow had not taken steps at the time towards making Barbados a republic," said Professor Andrew Downes, Director of SALISES. "He likely got a reaction and realised that it wasn’t the best option; he may have been able to change the Constitution but changing the public mood was a different matter. But while it may have been too much in the Barbados context, it may not have been so in another context. So there are a number of complicated issues here."

Dr. Anthony Phillips who chaired the discussion and was one of the speakers at the event noted that unlike older generations of Barbadians, younger people may favour a move towards Republicanism.

"Younger adults, particularly those between ages 18 to 48 no longer have that sense of connection that many older generations felt to the Queen and the Royal Family," he noted. "These older generations may have followed the lives of the Royals closely. This is no longer the case. Thus when the question of Referendum is put to them I do not expect much resistance."

Some analysts highlighted the tension between the demands of multilateral organisations and democratic imperatives that flow from the agenda and the democratic platform attained through elections, that often exert their own unique pressures on political administrations.

The SALISES Caribbean Policy Forum follows closely in the tradition of the renowned institute as it has sought to embrace its vision to be a location of theoretical and philosophical reflection on development studies and to provide a highly challenging and rewarding intellectual environment for academics. It also engages in high quality research for publication in leading regional and international journals and monographs and provides policy advice to governments and other institutions.
New investment of $35 million will significantly expand the physical plant of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, on an additional 33 acres of land recently handed over by the Barbados Government.

With such expansion, Principal Professor Hilary Beckles said he had a vision to consolidate Barbados as a heritage site for education.

“We are going to help to brand Barbados’ reputation internationally as an island of education, knowledge and development,” he said on December 19th, following an on-site ceremony to formally accept the land at Black Rock (also known as the Lazaretto Lands) from Government.

Addressing the handing over ceremony, Prime Minister Owen Arthur deemed the vesting of the 33 acres in the university a critical forward step in the development of the society.

“There is an obligation on the part of our generation to build upon the tremendous legacy of over a century of trying to transform the Barbadian society on the strength of social capital, but especially so on the strength of the country’s human resources,” he said.

There was no society, he added, that had been well-educated that had remained poor, and there was no society that had been illiterate that became prosperous.

UWI Vice Chancellor, Professor E. Nigel Harris told the audience that the expansion of the campus would enable the UWI to play a greater role in the Caribbean integration process.

With expanded facilities, he added, an exchange programme with students and academic staff among UWI campuses and the countries without large campuses could once again become a reality.

In his address, Guild President Floyd Green said he was pleased with the commitment the Barbados government had shown to education over the years and urged that Caribbean governments ensure that all costs surrounding education be kept to a minimum.

Professor Beckles said the expansion would enable the university to take on board another 8000 students, thereby realising its goal of having a student body of 15000 by the year 2015.

According to the Draft Master Plan for the development of the site approximately half of the land is to be used for...
teaching and research facilities in science and technology, in the humanities and education and in social sciences. There will also be buildings for teaching at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The other half of the site will provide accommodation and sporting & recreational facilities including a football field, an athletics track, and a multi-purpose gymnasium.

The new lands will facilitate a doubling of the present on-campus student accommodation of 270 beds, beginning almost immediately with dorms for graduate and international students and those in professional and executive education.

The campus plans to construct a 140-room complex to house officials and other guests of the 2007 Cricket World Cup.

The development will also include a Hospitality Facilities for evening/part-time and non-resident students; a day care facility and a religious center.

Professor Beckles gave the assurance the additional space at Black Rock would enable the university to globalise the campus and generate considerable revenue, noting that every year applications from a considerable number of international students were turned down because of lack of space.
She steers one of the most intensive postgraduate academic programmes to come on stream at the Cave Hill campus and her schedule is exceptionally busy. But with Jamaica-born Pamela Coke-Hamilton, it’s hard to tell.

Her demeanour is relaxed and self-assured, and there is barely a hint of the frenetic pace at which she and her team have been going in order to deliver on a vision that has secured enormous backing by the entire region.

That vision revolves around the creation of the Masters programme in International Trade Policy (MITP) which aims to build capacity in the region to engage in trade negotiations and other international trade issues.

“It actually began with a trade capacity building exercise conducted by the Organisation of American States (OAS),” she said, pointing to the involvement of Cave Hill’s Principal Professor Hilary Beckles.

“A subsequent proposal was made to Professor Beckles for the design and creation of the Masters programme here at the Cave Hill. And the rest, as they say, is history.”

Significantly, it is a history to which Coke-Hamilton is intimately tied. A little more than two years ago, the idea of a Masters in International Trade Policy was still being fleshed out through collaborative work by the Cave Hill Campus and the Organisation of American States.

Coke-Hamilton, who has extensive international experience in the field including a lead advisory role with the Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM), came to the UWI under the arrangement as Programme Manager of the MITP. The programme was supported initially by donor funds from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the OAS, and more recently by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the EU.

Since starting in August 2004 the programme has grown rapidly, in large part through the efforts of Coke-Hamilton and her team. It’s hard to miss the atmosphere of constant energy that pervades her office. In the background are the familiar sounds of the modern office environment but here it exudes an almost palpable energy: the constant ringing of the telephone, the frequent humming of fax machines and the busy swishing of papers as her Project Assistant J’anne Rudder assisted in negotiating the administrative minutiae of the Masters project.

“The Masters programme has been the most challenging and fulfilling of my entire career and I have no doubt that it will continue to be so,” she says. “My intentions probably far exceed what can be done, really, however it doesn’t hurt to try.”

Coke Hamilton, who has also taken over the role of Director of the Centre for International Services (CIS), is eager to chart new directions for the development of the programme.

The MITP programme completed its first year with fifteen students graduating in December and Coke-Hamilton revealed that efforts were on to expand the programme’s offerings.

“It is our intention over the next year to expand the Masters programme to include a certificate offering of four modules specifically geared at the private sector,” she explained. “The ultimate objective is to enhance the role of the private sector in the trade negotiations and in so doing strengthen the capacity of the region’s representatives to fully represent CARICOM interests at the negotiating table.”

To keep up with the intense demand for access to the programme in the region, and in particular to accommodate those who cannot relocate to Barbados, Coke-Hamilton says the CIS is also working on plans to place the Masters programme, or at least some of the modules on-line and to create a distance learning component.

Research is also another important element among her plans for the CIS over the coming year and she said the CIS would like to strengthen the research component to support the international trade negotiations and positions taken in international fora by regional governments. This, Coke-Hamilton noted, will be achieved through a series of collaborative linkages with the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and with such other organisations as the International Law Institute, the International Trade Centre and the WTO Centre on Advisory Law.
ST LUCIA’S UWI RESIDENT TUTOR & HEAD APPOINTED DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL IBC

Resident Tutor and Head of the University of the West Indies, St Lucia Centre, Mr. Matthew Roberts has been appointed a Deputy Director General of the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge England.

Matthew Roberts has always had a love for education, he served as a teacher from 1969-1974, where he moved on to Freelance Reporter and editor of one of St Lucia’s most prominent news paper the Voice.

Roberts has a wealth of experience having served, as the Speaker of the St Lucia House Assembly for several years. In September 1993 to present, Matthew has served as UWI School of Continuing Studies, Resident Representative.

Roberts said it was an honour that spoke highly of his contribution to education in Saint Lucia and the wider world, and also demonstrated Saint Lucia’s intellectual power.

Over the years several biographies of Roberts have been featured in ICB Who’s Who publications. Roberts will be working directly with ICB’s Director General Nicholas Law in an advisory role while it seeks to increase its membership of directories and reference titles.

The International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England, is a world leader in biographical publishing. Founded over thirty years ago, its range of reference titles has earned an international reputation for unrivalled scope and integrity.

The IBC has published more than 1 million biographies of people of note from all over the world in more than 200 editions of its reference works. These books are housed in libraries, research institutions and private collections all over the world. Entry into our books is based on merit alone and we never charge for inclusion.

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Minshall takes up ‘Residence’

Celebrated Masman Peter Minshall, the artistic visionary behind some of the most stunning concepts and designs featured in the Trinidad Carnival over the years, was the third Rockefeller Artist in Residence at the UWI Cave Hill campus during 2005. The programme is a collaboration between the campus and the Rockefeller Foundation and seeks to promote Caribbean art and culture.

Minshall followed appearances by internationally acclaimed Caribbean authors Olive Senior and Nalo Hopkinson and drew a large audience.

The work of the legendary Minshall, a Trinidad-born Caribbean son, has propelled him into the international spotlight, where he has designed and directed large-scale performances for numerous international events. These include the closing ceremonies of the Summer Olympics in Atlanta in 1996, the opening ceremonies for the Pan-American Games in Indianapolis, Indiana in 1987, the Summer Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, the last World Cup Football opening ceremony and his Emmy-award winning artistic direction of the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah in the USA in February 2002. During a lecture where he reflected on his work and inspirations, Minshall said he found it difficult to explain the work of the masman as the artistic creator for the masquerade tradition that characterise the Trinidad Carnival.

“I myself do not completely understand it, being so close I suppose, in the very midst of the thing. There are no textbooks on it, no analysis and theory, no guidelines, no context for it, no precedents, no name for it but Mas,” said Minshall.

“The playing of Mas is based on just what the words say – the playing of the Mas,” he said, “It’s the theatre. The magic of it is that the audience imagines the rest.”

Minshall’s signature style, which is generally regarded as the “theatre of the street”, involves full troupes of costumed performers in motion exploring such themes as environmental devastations, racial injustice and others. One international reviewer described them as simply “bold celebrations of human joy and harmony”.

Minshall told his audience that Trinidad and Tobago was a special place and provided basic inspiration and the primary philosophy that drives his work.
The entire body of records of the West Indies Federation (1958-1962), including some pre-Federal records (1945-1958) and post-Federal records (1962-1966), were handed over to the University of the West Indies. These records, now referred to as the Federal Archives fonds (records in their entirety), were transferred to their new home at the Federal Archives Centre of the Cave Hill campus. The fonds represents a watershed period in the pre-independence history of the Anglophone Caribbean. These records can now serve to facilitate research into the successes and failures of the West Indies Federation.

The records that form the Federal Archives fonds reveal the decisions and policies, plans and strategies, hopes and aspirations of those involved in the Federal Scheme. Therefore, the information recorded herein relates to all the aforementioned territories and give a comprehensive view of the social, economic and political situation in the British West Indies at the time of the Federation.

A wide range of formats abound in these unique records including administrative files, registers, the Federal flag, the Governor General's flags, a metal seal encased, minute books, pamphlets, debates, statistical data, court cases, reports, card indexes, visitor's books, oath books, newspapers, press releases, sound recordings, reel-to-reel film, legal instruments, the Coat of Arms on a mahogany plaque, correspondence, the Seal of the West Indies, savingrams, telegrams, gazettes, photographs, original instruments and architectural plans. At the Centre, the Archivists are undertaking the arrangement and description of the fonds in compliance with archival standards ISAD (G) and ISAAR (CPF). A catalogue of the fonds is being prepared in paper-based and electronic form.

The fonds is of political, economic and socio-cultural importance to the people of the Caribbean region. It is also of great significance to the holdings of the UWI Archives because comprehensive records of the West Indies Federation do not exist in any other repository in the world. A substantial number of the artifacts within the fonds for example, the Federal Flag and the Seal of the West Indies are irreplaceable items with unique intrinsic value. The fonds has already won international recognition having been nominated to the UNESCO Memory of the World Register. However, the fonds is in need of restorative work, preventive preservation measures, conservation of the original materials, retrospective conversion of magnetic materials, digitisation of photographic material and micro-filming of the paper-based materials for access. The archivists have begun the necessary work and remain optimistic about the acquisition of funds to complete the preservation of this important part of our historical heritage in its entirety.

The fonds was formally opened to the public on December 10th, 2005 by Prime Minister Owen Arthur. All of the records of the West Indies Federation are opened to the public subject only to their arrangement and description. It is planned that the records would be opened in phases to allow for the Archivists to effectively carry out their tasks. However, there are restrictions on the reproduction of the material for preservation reasons. Permission for any form of reproduction has to be sought from the archivists-in-charge of the fonds. The Federal Archives fonds is managed at the Federal Archives Centre where provisions have been made for its long-term preservation under the charge of two professionally trained and experienced archivists.

Company Focus

The Federal Archives
A Legacy for the UWI Cave Hill

Senator John Williams, Prime Minister Owen Arthur and Professor Hilary Beckles
People Helping People was the theme of the Cave Hill campus annual mentorship programme highlighting its overarching vision of student success and consolidating the gains made by the now highly successful scheme. The colourful opening ceremony on November 19, 2005 struck a deftly woven thematic backdrop with entertainment that included songs and dramatic presentations balanced with testimonies and short speeches that highlighted the theme.

The mentorship programme, now in its twelfth year of operation, has continued to secure increasing levels of community support as the university vigorously pursues its mandate of locating its ethos in community life and making learning relevant to the community it serves.

Director of Students Services Harriet Yearwood noted the tremendous benefits to be garnered by students from the mentorship programme, as she struck the theme of integrating mentoring and service learning as the linchpin of community building and economic prosperity.

"The benefits of mentoring internships and service learning speak directly to the educational and vocational needs of the Caribbean today," she said. "As we seek to integrate mentoring and service learning into university life our job is to make a positive impact on the quality of life in the Caribbean."

According to Yearwood, a central aim of the programme would be to propel students now involved in it to later make lifelong commitments to civic engagement, community building and economic prosperity, as skills, knowledge and other intangibles are passed on from generation to generation.

Director of Ann Reid Associates, Ann Reid who gave the main address noted the achievements and developments of the mentorship programme and outlined essential elements she felt were necessary for both mentees and mentors to gain the most through their experience in the programme.

"I congratulate the UWI for its development of this mentorship programme," she said. "Having journeyed through the years in the business world, I can say wholeheartedly to all of you gathered here and especially to the mentees that this mentorship programme, coming at this time of your development, is to be valued and will be of tremendous benefit if it is approached with the right attitude."

According to Reid, the right attitude which encompasses a genuine interest to be involved, adhering to a personal vision of success and excellence and pursuing a strategic vision that recognises and capitalises on opportunities and personalities while eschewing irrelevant issues, is essential. She cautioned mentees against getting involved merely to make useful connections, but rather placing their emphasis on gaining insights into the future through the eyes of their mentors. She also counseled mentors to provide planned and useful experiences for their mentees.

Reid suggested establishing profiles of outstanding employees and characteristics of good employers, dealing with conflict resolution in the work place, pursuing purpose driven lives and exposing them to the challenges from their own unique experiences.

"The mentorship programme is not only for the enrichment of the lives of the mentees, but is also an opportunity for the mentors to look back, around and forward as we seek to help others," she said.
Student Speaks...

My name is Kyrstle Ince. I am an exchange student* from Trinidad and Tobago, reading for a B.Sc. Economics and Management. You have probably seen me walking around campus, with my big red Digicel bag, which I got free for buying a phone, looking like I really need to get somewhere in a rush. Yeah, that is me, always rushing around. Why Cave Hill? This seems to be the first question anyone asks me on introduction. After battling for the best answer, I have come up with, “It seems like a nice place to study.” This often is met with looks of disbelief. However, thus far, my opinion has not been tarnished, despite minor frustrations such as the shuttle being down. To tell you the truth, this feels similar to an extended vacation, with work on the side. At home there is an ad that states, “There is never a dull moment in Barbados.” Between the beach and outings to places like Baxters Road and Lord Willoughby’s Tavern, I have found this statement quite true. Not only is this place beautiful but there is also lots to do.

August 29th, 2005. Probably one of the hottest days in history and I am sitting in LT1 of the Teaching Complex, taking in the orientation session, while mentally trying to lower my body temperature. Besides these two activities, there is this nagging concern over my registration status. The online system refuses to register me for my courses, despite numerous trials. I will have to bring this up with my on-campus liaison. What would I do without her? Facing those registration woes alone would have certainly preceded a minor breakdown. Nonetheless, I must give Cave Hill “props” for putting the online registration in place. It is a great move and when it is working properly, it will save a lot of time and remove the hassle often linked to the manual process.

During the summer vacation, Guild President Floyd Green travelled to the University of the U.S Virgin Islands where he took part in a leadership seminar. The dynamic two-week seminar, which brought together a total of about 48 potential world leaders representing 20 universities across the globe, was entitled “Summer Institute for Future Global Leaders.” With a global perspective, the seminar introduced the participants to different leadership styles and practices, while requiring them to participate in culture and communication classes where they were exposed to different languages such as Japanese, Spanish and sign language.

Green pointed out that the seminar was designed to make them understand leadership with a world focus and not to be closed-minded and confined to the educational institution or country in which they lived.

To further emphasise the main objective of the programme each attendee was required to present a leadership prospectus. “The leadership prospectus was an outline of where each individual planned to be in the next 50 years, their mission and how they planned to achieve it. The President explained, “That is, each of us had to list our assets and also outline the problems and challenges that we may face in going about our mission and how we would overcome them.”

He added that the seminar brought together people from all over the world with different points of view; however, with the same objective of peace and happiness for their country and the entire world.

Finally, the formal segment is over. Refreshments. My heart leaps and the mood picks up. You ever notice how many things fall into the right perspective after food? Everyone heads off on tours of the campus. My group has quite an amusing guide. I am caught between trying to understand what she is saying and interpreting her vigorous antics. I make a mental note to make sure I understand the accent before classes start.

The campus is small and neat. Getting from class to class should be manageable, not like at home where sometimes a walk from one lecture to the next could be a solid five minutes at a brisk pace.

The tour ends the day’s proceeding. Just to resolve my registration issue and head home, out of the sun. Everyone looks at me like I am crazy when I say this but I believe that the sun is closer to Barbados than Trinidad and Tobago.

With registration covered, housing becomes the primary issue. Unfortunately, rejection was all that was offered by Frank Worrell Hall. Probably a dozen calls are made before I finally find a place in West Terrace Gardens. It is a pleasant little house and there is a great view of the ocean at the end of the street. The thought of living on my own is enticing and intimidating all in one. What would my flat-mates be like? Will I miss out on campus life being off-campus? Is this a safe neighborhood?

Next time... Home away from Home.

*An Exchange Student: A student from another University studying at Cave Hill for a period of one semester or an academic year under a formal exchange agreement.

An array of leading Caribbean artists took centre stage for the final event which drew the curtains on a special week of student-organised activities that sought to further promote Caribbean integration.

Headliner Spragga Benz from Jamaica was joined by other leading Caribbean acts, including Trinidad and Tobago Road March King Shyrwayne Winchester, Fireman Hooper, Lyta and Sharpyon from St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Other performers included Electrik from Barbados and DJs Jon Doe, Peter Coppin and the Mighty Krysh.

Billed as Caribbean Integration “Creole Soca Fusion”, the concert aptly captured the overarching theme of the week and won plaudits from many quarters.

“The slogan of the International Affairs Committee was encapsulated in the theme for the week – ‘Taking the world to UWI, and UWI to the World’,” said O’Neil Simpson, International Committee Chairperson of the Guild of Students.

“We focused on the theme of integration and engaging with the world. Caribbean integration is an imperative and globalisation is a reality, and so we’re highlighting it. We need to think globally and that is what this week was about,” added Simpson.

The week of activities began on Sunday November 13 with an early morning vigil and ecumenical service and continued during the week with a flag-raising parade, t-shirt day, an open day exhibition, a fashion show and a symposium and round-table discussion.

Simpson expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the week’s activities, highlighting the successful staging of all of the events and in particular, the success of the Caribbean Fashion Show on Wednesday night and the Beer Festival-Lyme on Thursday night.

Krystle Ahye, a final year Law student who was heavily involved in the planning and managing of the week’s events also agreed.

“The Caribbean Fashion Show and the Beer Lyme were definitely winners,” she said. “They were the highlights of the week, and then we ended the week with the concert on Saturday night. Some of the performers like Shyrwayne Winchester and Sharpyon really hyped up the crowd and brought a lot of energy.”
Student Centered

ENERGY CAMP 2005

Camp energy 2005! This was another coup for our new Guild. This long-standing outreach programme continued this year to chart new waters on the summer activity scene in Barbados. One of the first summer camps to open in Barbados some 15 years ago, its innovative programmes over the years have been the benchmark for excellence.

It was labelled Camp Energy to denote its devotion to investigating the intricacies of clean renewable energy by experimentation and observation. The camp activities also included heritage and cultural studies such as Bajan Sticklicking and Wari lessons. Sports also had its place with daily tennis, cricket and basketball tournaments. The arts were not neglected and students were taught dance, drumming, acting, to play the recorder, music theory and how to compose and perform rhythm poetry.

New additions were made to the curriculum such as aesthetics and etiquette. As this was an environmentally friendly camp, recycled paper-making was taught by local entrepreneur and volunteer Ruth Ann King. Her business, Papier Design, manufactures and sells hand made paper here in Barbados.

Along with tours to Farley Hill, Wild Life Reserve, CIRC, a local stable for riding lessons, Kids Expo and Folkstone Marine Park and Museum, the children enjoyed weekly concerts where they were afforded the opportunity to perform much of what they learned. They also held a carnival in which they made costumes from recycled materials.

When we caught up with our dynamic National Affairs Committee Chairperson, Rhea Gilkes, she was able to tell us more.

"It is an extremely challenging project to manage, but I felt that I, and all who were able to work on the project, gained immeasurably from the exercise," she said.

Commending her Summer Camp sub-committee, which met each Friday from April until July, she also extended her thanks to the Counsellors of the camp who regularly went beyond the call of duty. "Their dedication speaks for itself. Many of them walked the streets of Barbados promoting the camp on a volunteer basis and began to work on syllabuses and plans for the camp without the guarantee of a job”

Held under the auspices of the National Affairs Committee, the programme is one of which the Guild as a body can justifiably be proud. The programme, from curriculum to counsellors, was entirely planned and staffed by students.
Talk about the best...!

The start of 2006 has brought with it a buzz for the Cave Hill campus; leaving those knowledgeable of the matter with something to talk about. Indeed, speech would appropriately be considered the order of the day, as the campus is now home to the World Public Speaking Champion 2006, in the person of the International Affairs Committee Chairperson of the Guild of Students Council, O’Neil Simpson.

As a member of the campus’ delegation to the World Universities and Colleges Debating Championships, staged in Dublin, Ireland, from December 27, 2005 to January 4, 2006, Simpson, teamed with fellow Guild councillor, Wismar Gibson (Part-Time Students Rep.) to represent the campus in the XXVIth staging of the event.

The competition took place with the partnership of Proctor and Gamble, and was hosted by the University College of Dublin. It saw over 100 institutions from 53 countries field approximately 325 teams to compete for the award of World Debating Champions. Along with that award was contested the World Public Speaking championship, the English as a Second Language competition and the Comedy/Humour Competition. By the end of the first nine rounds of competition, the UWI Cave Hill team ranked as the second placed team from the Caribbean (which was also represented by the UWI, Mona campus, and the University of Technology, in Jamaica). However, Cave Hill pulled away with the best speaker points from the region in the debates, although not making it into the next stage of debates.

Thus, the accomplishment of the Jamaican, final year law student provided immense interest. This, the first time at which Cave Hill had competed in the competition, saw a promising display of skill, expression, and, according to one of the judges, “a mastery of language.” Additionally, it stands as the first time that the Caribbean region has placed in the top three of any of the competitions at the event, and by extension, the first time at which a Caribbean institution won an event. Mr. Leroy McClean, the coach and academic advisor of the delegation, indicated his immense pride and satisfaction at Simpson’s performance, indicating that this places “our region’s academic squarely on par with those from anywhere in the world.” Guild President, Floyd Green was equally as elated: “this is the type of performance that confirms what we here already know, that our campus possesses students of the highest calibre; it is the sort of achievement that perfectly encapsulates the developmental role of the Guild.”

The final of the Public Speaking Championships was contested between six individuals from institutions such as Australia’s Macquarie University and America’s Yale University, and saw the finalists expound on the topic “Beauty is an over-rated virtue.” While the interpretations were varied and interesting, one of the Australian judges noted that Simpson’s presentation blended theatre, language, logic and argument in such a way as to make “a listening pleasure” out of the speech. In response, Simpson indicated his joy at having been awarded the title, while reiterating that it has provided “the stimulus around which further consciousness can be had of the presence and validity of the Caribbean intellect, and its quality as against that of any other from across the world.”

Simpson is into his final year at Cave Hill, and has indicated his intention to represent the institution further afield in similar events.
O’Neil Simpson
World Public Speaking Champion

...judges noted that Simpson’s presentation blended theatre, language, logic and argument in such a way as to make “a listening pleasure” out of (his) speech.
Six Indigenous Awards

Efforts are on to turn around the dwindling number of students from the OECS who attend Cave Hill Campus. And an academic award targeting Eastern Caribbean students who are financially challenged to meet the cost of tertiary level education is already bearing fruit in this regard.

The Arthur Lewis Award for OECS citizens – including the Arthur Lewis Award for Indigenous People that offers scholarships to descendants of the region’s earliest inhabitants – was launched at Cave Hill Campus on December 9th. The ceremony brought together high-ranking representatives from the Campus, Carib and OECS communities, including Professor Vaughan Lewis, a former St. Lucia Prime Minister, UWI academic and nephew of the late Sir Arthur Lewis.

The award, named after the noted Nobel Laureate and former UWI Vice Chancellor, is now in its second year but the Indigenous People component has been added from the current academic year.

Principal of Cave Hill Campus Professor Hilary Beckles in his welcome remarks expressed concern over the low level of enrolment in tertiary level education in the OECS states.

“We thought that by focusing also upon that group of our community that for historical reasons has been the most disenfranchised with respect to higher and tertiary education that again we would make a positive and significant statement, and so we have said that we would offer six scholarships on an annual basis to our indigenous peoples and hope that over time we will begin the process of encouraging a discussion on focusing policy attention more closely on our indigenous peoples.”

Carib Chief and recipients of Indigenous Awards

“A presentation by Carib Chief Charles Williams to Principal Hilary Beckles"
Acknowledging that it would be necessary to develop a fund to finance this operation, he suggested that since Barbados enjoyed a positive balance of trade surplus with the OECS in recent years, the scholarships could be deemed a form of repatriation.

Chief of the Carib Territory in Dominica Charles Williams, from whose community three students are now enrolled at Cave Hill, praised the UWI, especially Professor Beckles who spearheaded the initiative, and urged that the region never forget that the millions of Caribs who occupied the region up until a few centuries ago have now dwindled to only a few in Trinidad, Guyana, St. Vincent and Dominica.

He said while the rough Atlantic coast, rain forest and rugged terrain had protected them from their invaders, the harsh and remote lands currently occupied by the 3000-strong Carib community in Dominica did not offer much hope for sustained economic survival, and they survived on hunting, fishing, handicraft and some tourist-related activities.

“Today we are no longer living in the dark ages, the world is at our finger tips, but because of our location, distant away from both seaports and airport, no sandy beaches, small population, limited educational capacity, the collapse of the banana industry through WTO... we are now faced with 70% of unemployment or under employment...” he said.
PRINCIPAL’S AWARD
FOR EXCELLENCE

A SCIENTIST, a historian, an administrative assistant and a computer programmer are the inaugural recipients of the Principal’s Award for Excellence and were celebrated at the December 15, 2005 Annual Retirees and Long Service Awards Ceremony.

The four are Senior Lecturer in Epidemiology and Director of the Chronic Disease Research Centre (CDRC) Dr. Anselm Hennis; Professor Alvin Thompson of the Department of History and Philosophy; Jennifer Hinkson of the Sir Arthur Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) and senior computer programmer David Marshall.

The award was introduced as a novel feature of the annual blue-ribbon event and awardees were chosen by a committee of university and non-university representatives whose background, Campus Registrar Jacqueline Wade told the ceremony, “reflect excellence in their own fields of endeavour”.

A prolific researcher and outstanding contributor to many facets of university life, Dr. Hennis was awarded for “his remarkable capacity to create research ideas, write successful grant applications, manage large research teams and collaborate successfully with internationally acclaimed scientists”.

He joined the staff at the University in 1996 and has been involved in a number of major projects including the Barbados Eye Study; The Incidence and Risk Factors for Diabetes Related Amputation in Barbados; the Barbados Register of Strokes Study and the Barbados National Cancer Study.

Dr. Hennis acknowledged feeling “truly humbled” by what he called a “signal honour” noting: “Nothing would have been achieved however, without the sterling efforts of many colleagues and collaborators both regionally and farther afield. I must also thank my patient and long suffering family who have been more than understanding and supportive.”

He added: “The CDRC is a relatively new department of the university and represents the realisation of a big bold vision guided by Prof. Henry Fraser. Many have contributed along the way, and it is with pride that we have seen the department grow with its incorporation into the Tropical Medicine Research Institute, now recognised as a flagship institute of the UWI. My award is recognition of just how far we have come, but I believe that the journey has only just begun, and once we focus on excellence in whatever we do, with the support of the entire community, there is much more that we can achieve in order to contribute to the well being of our nation.”

Professor Thompson who has published four books in the past three years, with another two pending imminent publication, was recognised for “his remarkable research output, skilled editorship of the Journal of Caribbean History, his presentations at international conferences and meetings.

He said afterwards: “I was delighted to receive the award for the work I’ve done. But I have to thank a lot of people, including family and colleagues for their incisive comments.”

Hinkson whom many regard as the linchpin in the SALISES department and whose contributions have been critical to the department’s success since she became Administrative Assistant in 1998, was awarded for “outstanding support for the work of SALISES and the campus, her creativity, good organising ability and excellent professional leadership”.

She thanked SALISES Director Professor Andrew Downes and her departmental colleagues for nominating her for the prestigious award.

“I am honored and elated to have been chosen as one of the recipients of the inaugural Principal’s Awards for Excellence,” Hinkson said. “A high level of commitment to my vocation coupled with hard work are two approaches I have used in my professional life and they seemed to have worked.

“This award is especially significant as it publicly recognises the value of the contribution made by the ATS staff. I hope that this will encourage other individuals in non-teaching professions to strive for excellence, whatever their profession.”

Marshall whose mastery of computers could easily earn him the sobriquet “whiz-kid” or “technological linguist” has assisted in creating and safeguarding the campus’ online data bases including confidential records.

He earned his recognition for “outstanding support to the administrative, managerial and professional units... and for displaying new and innovative thinking, creative ideas and practical solutions that have increased the efficiency and effectiveness of work on Cave Hill”.

He said: “It was truly a surprise and an honour to have been nominated for and eventually selected as one of the recipients of the Principal’s Award for Excellence.

I enjoy the work that I do. Even with the challenging role that Information Technology plays at the Cave Hill campus, I’m proud to be able to contribute in whatever way I can and, of course, happy to be recognised for my efforts!”
The University of the West Indies has added to its catalogue of published economics texts a second book in the growing field of econometrics. The recent publication Theoretical and Empirical Exercises in Econometrics both complements an earlier bestselling text on the subject and branches out in innovative new directions.

The text written by Cave Hill academic Dr. Nlandu Mamingi, newly promoted Professor in the Department of Economics at the campus, blends both modern and classical econometric techniques, while offering a unique window into the application of econometrics in novel and innovative ways.

“The text is based on over two decades of research and teaching,” noted the Director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) Professor Andrew Downes who gave introductory remarks on the text at the book’s December 15th, 2005 launch at the Cave Hill campus.

“The challenge of teaching Econometrics – which is a strength Nlandu brings – is really to convey the exciting nature of the subject matter.”

In 2002, the University published A Practical Introduction to Econometric Methods Classical and Modern by Patrick Kent Watson and Sonja Sabita Teelucksingh, then the first published text in the burgeoning field of econometrics by the University Press. The book has since gone on to rank among the University’s top ten bestselling books.

“To a large extent these two texts complement each other and go a long way towards educating both undergraduate students and non-specialist traditional problems in econometrics; applications of econometrics, and macroeconomic forecasting.

There is also a steady focus on panel data and macroeconomic models with relevance to regional economies to yield policymaking perspectives. A Practical Introduction to Econometrics: Classical and Modern which represents one of several collaborations with the authors, Dr. Patrick Kent Watson and Sonja Sabita Teelucksingh hews to a similar Caribbean focus. While adopting an expansive view of the field of econometrics that is useful to the academic readers irrespective of geography, the book, like Dr. Mamingi’s recent publication, also pays special attention to econometrics as it applies to the region.
Barbados celebrated its 39th anniversary of independence with the curtain going up on Precious another historical play put on by the Cave Hill campus. The presentation depicted the election of Barbados’ first Black parliamentarian Samuel Jackman Prescod to the House of Assembly and represented the second installation in the National Heroes on Stage project, a series designed to portray the lives of our ten National Heroes through drama.

Principal Hilary Beckles who had earlier penned Blesséd in tribute to slave revolt leader and National Hero Bussa and which played around Heroes Day in April, was again the literary craftsman in bringing alive the 1843 election victory of the 37-year-old Prescod.

The joint undertaking between Cave Hill and the Ministry of Culture again paired the playwright skills of the noted historian with the artistry of director Harclyde Walcott; following their earlier collaboration on Blesséd which had depicted the island’s 1816 slave rebellion.

In its examination of post Emancipation Barbadian society, Precious, explored the challenges faced and overcome by the inimitable Prescod, through a cast of characters that provided portraits of several aspects of the social and political climate of the times.

The completion of our stage-of-the art Creative Arts Centre in early 2006 is expected to give greater momentum to the National Heroes on Stage project when theatre lovers can expect to witness a further unfolding of Barbados’ history through the creative talents of other playwrights.

Veteran actor Patrick Foster is expected to pen a production about Sarah Ann Gill who defended the religious faith of Methodism in the face of grave persecution; while Walcott has already begun to script a play on Clement Payne whose resistance inspired the working class to organise themselves and hold out for better conditions.
Webchat: Wes & Shontelle

At age 22, UWI student Shontelle Layne, is one of Barbados’ newest music sensations. Winner of both the Best Soca Single Female and Best Hip Hop Single in the 2006 Barbados Music Awards, this singer/songwriter/entertainer/artist and 3rd year Philosophy major at Cave Hill recently shared some of her thoughts in an instant messaging interview with Exchange student Wes Adkins, and got the Californian actor to talk about his as well.

Wes: Ok, so...what’s new in ur life?
Shontelle: Well, music’s been my life from the day I first saw light, but this year was my debut onto the local music scene. What about you, Wes?
WES: Man, it’s seems like I just landed here and now I’m heading off. I came from Cali on an exchange program and since I’ve been here I’ve auditioned for Precious (a play written by Hilary Beckles) and landed a leading role playing Samuel Jackman Prescod … tell me,what music projects you got going?
SHONTELLE: I got a deal to work with Rihanna’s producer Evan Rogers in NY writing for her and another group called J-Status. This all came up cuz they really loved the song “Roll” which I wrote for Alison Hinds this crop over. They decided to let J-Status do an adaptation of the song to go on their debut album! Next they wanna do an artist development project with me. They saw me this season doing my thing on an exchange program and since I’ve got a deal to work with Rihanna’s producer Evan Rogers in NY writing for her and another group called J-Status. This all came up cuz they really loved the song “Roll” which I wrote for Alison Hinds this crop over. They decided to let J-Status do an adaptation of the song to go on their debut album! Next they wanna do an artist development project with me. They saw me this season doing my thing on an exchange program and since I’ve
WES: well its a weird thing for me basically, i got dyslexia. and I battled with it as a kid. and even now... but as a kid i hella gave up and found this weird comfort and escape in movies and the arts.
SHONTELLE: What’s the most significant difference between Cali and the 246
WES: Black people in college, FOR FREE !!!
SHONTELLE: hahahaha did you ever miss home cuz you seem to have settled in with no problems at all I mean we all love Wes!
WES: Awww
SHONTELLE: I mean it you know we’ll miss you right.
WES: Naw man! I love Barbados.
SHONTELLE: you had no choice!!!
WES: Exactly.
SHONTELLE: But no seriously! I’m glad ya like it here...makes me feel all patriotic and stuff...after all I am “Proud to be a Bajan...ya know representin’ blue, yellow, blue” I pun...lol...but man I really wann go to Cali myself.
WES: Man I wish I had the chance to work with (drama lecturer) Rob (Leyshon).
SHONTELLE: yea for real, he’s really something else, most exciting class I’ve ever had in my entire academic life! The man is a genius too man. That’s the best course being offered at UWI. I can’t wait until UWI actually offers a major in Performing Arts or Film and Theatre, you know. It’s time we diversify... we also need to have a Music major. Hopefully that will happen in my lifetime. It’s time we diversify. We need to take the Arts more seriously and realise it’s not a hobby but extremely viable and important venture and a great investment for any country too. Everyone everywhere wants to be entertained. It’s a lifestyle. It definitely needs more support in Bim.
WES: Yea, I was looking at coming back for a masters program if the arts department is up and running after I graduate next year.
SHONTELLE: Oh man! we get the famous Wes back in Bim!! I’m so excited.
WES: I look fwd to it! Can’t wait to be in Bim again!
SHONTELLE: ok well thnx for ur time Wes and good luck with your shows and your very real fame future.
WES: fa sho.
Former Deputy Principal Professor Christine Barrow believes the changes taking place at Cave Hill will enable the campus not only to compete but to win in the globalised tertiary education arena.

Delivering remarks on behalf of the awardees and retirees at the December 15th, 2005 annual Retirees and Long Service Awards ceremony, Professor Barrow said “... Cave Hill is really going places now. Intellectually, operationally, physically, the landscape at the Cave Hill Campus has been completely transformed...”

Acknowledging that much of this could be attributed to the current principal Professor Hilary Beckles, she noted: “Many of us were not around for (the campus’s) birth at the Harbour Site and we didn’t see her with her first unsteady steps as she came up the hill to the Cave Hill campus, but we were here through her adolescence, through her early adult hood and as she matured. And it is with pride that we’ve been on this campus for these different periods, we’ve see her grow and develop, we’ve seen faculties and departments and units being added to the campus.

“And then, just as we were getting comfortable, just as we were settling down to old age, and just as we were looking forward to our rocking chairs, along comes our Principal and shakes us up, lifts us up, give us a new lease on life and kicks us into the 21st Century. Hurricane Hilary arrives and we have to get moving again.”

She added: “There are many new initiatives ... that have placed this campus in the vanguard of national and regional development in Barbados, especially in the OECS and in the wider Caribbean; initiative that has prepared this campus, not only to compete but also to win in the age of globalised tertiary education.

Noting how much Cave Hill has meant to many employees at the personal level, she said: “In this environment we have honed our skills, we have received support, encouragement for our professional development, we have met and friends, we have enjoyed (knowing) the giants in the ATS staff (Administrative and Technical Staff), who not only perform skilfully, proficiently and effectively but also have a wonderful sense of team spirit, camaraderie and sense of humour. This campus has also nurtured other aspects of our development.

Some of us have been able to join choirs and sing, others have been able to do line dancing on Friday evenings, join the Tai Chi class, learn French, Portuguese...”

The professor in social development policy who has resumed teaching and research in the department of Government, Sociology and Social Work said the night’s celebration was not so much about looking back and being nostalgic but also of visioning the future of campus; imaging the way it will continue to develop and recognise its potential within the context of the University; and the celebrants then asking themselves how they can continue to make a difference.
Pat Emmanuel Remembered

...a great man and an intellectual giant with prescient vision who contributed much to the university and to public service.

The storied life of the late Dr. Patrick Emmanuel took on a new dimension recently when the Cave Hill campus launched the annual Patrick A.M. Emmanuel Memorial Lecture.

The inaugural lecture on October 26, 2005 was well attended by political leaders, academics, students and members of the general public, many of whom expressed ardent admiration for the late social scientist and his legacy. The event won plaudits from many quarters, as the late Cave Hill academic and former administrator was lauded as a “great man” and an intellectual giant with prescient vision who contributed much to the university and to public service.

In pre-taped remarks aired at the event, which was also attended by Dr. Emmanuel’s widow and son, June and Kwame, Principal and Pro-Vice Chancellor Professor Hilary Beckles noted the scholastic range of Dr. Emmanuel’s contributions both as an academic and public servant.

“Pat Emmanuel was a quintessential university man,” he said. “He was, of course, part of the 70’s discourse and he believed passionately in the scholastic imperative, meaning that scholars were empowered to share their knowledge with the community and to identify options that are always available for the attainment of social justice.”

According to Professor Beckles, Dr. Patrick Emmanuel brought to bear upon his political interventions, a highly developed, almost compassionate sense of social justice and he was a humane and collegial friend.

“When I reflect on how Cave Hill evolved, it is difficult to imagine Cave Hill today without the contribution of Pat Emmanuel, the mentality of Emmanuel. He was really a first class guy, and if the University can continue to produce persons like that – brilliant scholars and humane citizens and at the same time persons who are committed to their community – I think the University will thrive.”

Former Prime Minister of St. Lucia Professor Vaughan Lewis, who first met Emmanuel when he was in England completing his doctoral dissertation, noted the prescient vision and brilliance of the late scholar who among his other contributions developed and refined the science of political polling in the Eastern Caribbean.

“He focused his work on documenting and analyzing politics in the Eastern Caribbean in the context of evolving a methodology of comparative politics and government of small states,” he said. “Patrick was a fiercely independent academic in a period – the 1970’s and into the 1980’s – when the island was rife with ideologically oriented discussions of the way forward.”

Dr. Emmanuel who in his eventful life was incarcerated as a revolutionary, hailed as a political visionary and master craftsman of regional integration policies, a researcher and academic who published widely, and was a witty conversationalist and a loyal and humble friend, inspired widespread loyalty and admiration, and much of it was on display at the event.

Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences Dr. George Belle recounted some early memories of his former colleague and hailed him as one of the great and distinguished sons of the Caribbean.

“Dr. Patrick Emmanuel was a great man,” he said. “He possessed in his personality a combination of personal vision, brilliance of mind and humanity of person. He lit up wherever he was with his presence.”

Director of The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), Professor Andrew Downes, summed up the contributions of Pat Emmanuel to the university, noting in particular his intellectual, editorial and administrative contributions. He noted that Pat Emmanuel served as Director of the Institute of Social & Economic Research (ISER) – which later merged with the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences (CGSSS) in 1999 to form SALISES – in the early 90’s, managed the creation in 1975 of the Bulletin of Eastern Caribbean Affairs now a pre-eminent academic journal, and to date has written among other things, the top-selling book at SALISES: “Governance and Democracy in the Commonwealth Caribbean”. In addition, he also observed that Emmanuel served as Deputy Dean and then as Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, who despite his seeming aversion to administrative duties was an extremely meticulous and able administrator.

Memories and fond recollections were also shared by a number of persons, including childhood friends and colleagues. Professor James C. Millette who gave the inaugural address noted that Patrick Emmanuel lived a short life but crammed a lot into it, distinguishing himself in public service and as an academic and scholar.

“Pat is in several ways irreplaceable,” he said. “I took a look again at Pat’s CV and what struck me was the number of prominent names associated with him over the course of his professional life.”

The Late Dr. Patrick Emmanuel (1943-1996)
Community Outreach

CHILL NEWS

HIV/AIDS

UWI Chancellor Sir George Alleyne has helped to launch the UNESCO / Commonwealth Chair in Education and HIV/AIDS at UWI to strengthen regional planning for HIV/AIDS, promote the UWI’s role as advocacy on HIV/AIDS education and ensure that HIV/AIDS-related policies, procedures and programmes in higher education sectors are guided by a strong human rights approach that incorporates issues of gender and power.

An international AIDS charity website, avert.org, published that at the end of 2003, an estimated 430,000 people were living with HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean. Of these, 52,000 were newly infected during 2003. It also estimated that there were 35,000 deaths due to AIDS that year.

The website also noted that in three of the seven countries in this region – the Bahamas, Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago – more than 3% of the population is HIV-positive. Higher prevalence rates are found only in sub-Saharan Africa, making the Caribbean the second-most affected region in the world. Nearly half of adults living with the virus are women.

The University of the West Indies, guided by the overall goal of strengthening the Institutional Response to HIV/AIDS, has established a project aimed at reducing its spread and impact in the Caribbean.

At Cave Hill, the UWIHARP programme uses various methods of empowering students, with emphasis being placed on behaviour change interventions, education and information, research and reduction of stigma and discrimination.

The training takes into account several methods of getting the information across to students. In the early stages of the project, emphasis was placed on curriculum development and infusion. UWIHARP seeks to be effective in minimising the impact and transmission of HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean, through information dissemination which recommends several behavioral change interventions, which is critical in the prevention and reduction of this pandemic.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE INTERVENTIONS

Objective: To enable students to make sexual health choices that may include delaying and interrupting sexual activity, and safer sex.

PEER EDUCATORS

Peer Educators are a select group of University students who are trained in issues related to sexuality. Peer Educators use the knowledge and skills they have gained from UWIHARP workshops and seminars to impart and educate their fellow peers at UWI and within the wider community. This type of informal education takes place through a variety of formats, utilising the campus community, their own residential districts and within some of the social service institutions.

PROMOTION OF HEALTHY SEXUALITY: CONDOM USE & ABSTINENCE

The UWIHARP program also includes the promotion of health sexuality. UWI in collaboration with the Domiciliary Care Coordinator from the Ministry of Health conducts both male and female condom demonstrations to the student body. Peer Educators also distribute condoms at all UWI Student Guild events. In addition, Peer Educators in their informal communication process, also seek to incorporate various approaches including providing information on abstinence as an option to students.

GROUP INSTRUCTION: LECTURES, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, VIDEOS & DRAMATIC SKITS

The UWI Chaplains in conjunction with UWIHARP had organised a panel discussion on Human Sexuality and HIV/AIDS. UWIHARP in collaboration with the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA) launched a video entitled: Awakening Our Own: A Caribbean Dialogue on HIV/AIDS. Also as part of the Tertiary level response to HIV/AIDS in Barbados, UWIHARP in collaboration with the Theatre Arts Department at the Barbados Community College, presented a dramatic production entitled No Escape: An Examination of Young People’s Attitudes to Sex, Sexuality and HIV and AIDS.

COUNSELLING AND TESTING

UWIHARP has also formed a partnership with the Ministry of Health, and participates in island wide free HIV/AIDS counselling and testing. This initiative of the Ministry of Health brings together Social Workers and Public Health Nurses to the various communities and institutions to conduct pre-test counselling and testing.

RESEARCH

UWIHARP is currently conducting a research project in Barbados, entitled “Gender, Sexuality and HIV/AIDS: A Psychological Examination of Power, Vulnerability and Disease.” UWIHARP was awarded a research grant to conduct this research and is currently seeking alternative funding sources to support this large scale study.

UWIHARP is at an interesting juncture as it seeks to fulfill its goal of minimising the impact and transmission of HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean.
Pioneering Medical Project to ID Early Signs of Chronic Diseases

A project has been launched by the Cave Hill campus with the support of corporate sponsors to investigate a cluster of medical conditions that can identify early signs of vascular disease risks in Barbados and other Caribbean populations.

The Identification of Vascular Disease Biomarkers in the Barbadian Population: Risk Differences with respect to Obesity and Type II Diabetes Mellitus is spearheaded by Dr. Thea Scantlebury-Manning, a lecturer in Biochemistry at the campus. The project launched December 7th, 2005 has already won plaudits as the first of its kind in the Caribbean, and gained financial support from Pine Hill Dairy, Spectrol Medical Laboratories Ltd., Thorpes International Produce and Alcoz.

The project captures the three current leading causes of death in Barbados – cardiovascular diseases, cerebrovascular disease, and Type II Diabetes Mellitus (Type II DM) – and examines the linkages between them and biological markers. These may include obesity and a cluster of other medical conditions in which there appears to be an interconnection between the various complications of Type II DM.

Enthusiastic expressions of support from corporate sponsors reflected the widespread feeling of excitement that the project will yield numerous benefits to Barbadians and other regional health care stakeholders in the future.

Managing Director of Pine Hill Dairies, Clyde E. Gibson who was on hand at the launching of the project deemed it “a pleasure to partner with the UWI and to play our part in this project. We’re committed to it and we’re looking forward to the results…”

Managing Director at Spectrol Medical Laboratories Ltd., D’arcy Evans described his first briefing with the project leaders and the impact it had on him: “[I]n the importance and enormity of the project at hand, and also the high cost for its implementation and maintenance. Subsequently, we pledged our support. We believe this research is invaluable and must receive the greatest possible help.”

The ultimate aim of the project is that in investigating the combination of vascular disease, diabetes and obesity, specific biological markers will be gleaned from the study and help in customizing treatment and/or improve monitoring of vascular disease and Type II DM.

From left to right: Mr. D’arcy Evans (Spectrol Labs), Mr. Clyde Gibson (Pine Hill Dairy), Dr. Thea Scantlebury-Manning, Mr. Coswin Carrington (Alcoz) and Angela Carrington (graduate student).

The University of the West Indies Tertiary Level Institutions Unit, Cave Hill campus visited the island of Saint Lucia to conduct a series of consultations in the hope of assessing the tertiary level needs of Saint Lucians.

The visit followed similar tours to Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. The meetings which took place at the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College involved the participation of several persons including students currently enrolled at tertiary level institutions on the island.

Director of the Tertiary level Institutions Unit Bevis Peters said these consultations would aid the Unit in developing a planning document that identified the human resource needs of CARICOM countries heading into the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

The students attending the sessions filled out questionnaires detailing what they believed were the human resource needs of tertiary level institutions on the island.

Peters said the students in focus groups would further study the four or five areas of need already identified in the questionnaire.

During the visit, the members of the Tertiary Level Unit also met with employers and persons who administer tertiary level institutions. The Unit also met with government and ministerial personnel to discuss their findings.

UWI Tertiary Level Unit visits the region
The University of the West Indies is pleased to announce the Arthur Lewis Awards
Open to nationals of the OECS
for FULL TIME STUDY at the Cave Hill campus towards a degree in any discipline, with the exception of Law and Medicine.

The programme honours the memory of the Caribbean’s most celebrated Economist, the late Sir Arthur Lewis of St. Lucia. A Nobel Laureate, the late Sir Arthur served the University at various periods as an academic, Principal and Vice-Chancellor.

*Nationals of the OECS who have gained admission to the UWI at Cave Hill
Nationals of the OECS who expect to qualify for entry to the Cave Hill campus*

The value of each award shall be equal to the value of the economic cost and tuition fees applicable to the Cave Hill campus for the duration of the Award.

*Selection of candidates for the Awards shall be based on the following: demonstrated capacity to complete the course of study, academic merit and financial need.*

Application forms can be obtained from the Records Section, Cave Hill campus or Telephone (246) 417-4140.

Completed Scholarship and Confidential Financial Needs forms must be submitted to:
Records Section, Cave Hill campus, P.O. Box 64. St Michael
The UWI, Cave Hill, and the Diabetes Foundation of Barbados, are collaborating on a project aimed at reducing the incidence of diabetes and its complications among Barbadians. The two-year agreement was announced on International World Diabetes Day, November 14, at the campus by Chairman of the foundation Dr. Oscar Jordan.

The major objective of the project is to develop a diagnostic test, which medical practitioners hope would eventually reduce the “burden” of amputations and other diabetic complications like blindness and kidney disease.

Dr. Jordan said it was hoped that the efforts would result in the development of a tailor-made kit to “enable us to diagnose which patients with diabetes are liable to develop foot disease”. Once this was achieved, he said, authorities would be better able to “allocate more resources to particular people who need those resources as a matter of life and death and have significant results in terms of reducing the amount of foot disease in Barbados”.

“Foot disease is a major tragedy in Barbados. We are known as the amputation capital of the world. I am not sure whether we actually deserve that, but our results are not good and emphasis must be to prevent the development of foot disease and reduce the number of amputations,” said Dr. Jordan.

The project will be a broad-based laboratory clinical partnership and will also involve collaborating physicians such as Dr. Anselm Hennis, Drs. Livy Forde and Mike Krimholz, diabetologist from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Also involved will be Dr. Carlisle Goddard and Dr. Peter Adams, Dr. Jordan himself and Dr. Collette George.

Professor Beckles said the research was critical for the Barbadian community, as diabetes had severely impacted the society both in modern times and historically.
A four member athletic contingent from Cave Hill campus took part in the 2nd Annual UWI/SPEC International Half Marathon in Trinidad and Tobago on November 6th, 2005. They were among 31 participants in the UWI student category of the 13 mile event which attracted more than 500 runners.

The first Cave Hill student to cross the line was Roderick Rock in a time of 1:47:16 (7th in the UWI University Student male category and 177th overall).

Millicent Maximillen was the second Cave Hill student in with a time of 1:56:28; she was 4th in the UWI University Student FEMALE Category and 240th overall.

Kemar Sobers followed her in a time of 2:00:57 – 12th in the UWI University Student male category and 274th Overall.

The entire Cave Hill group completed the race. United States exchange student Jennifer Sibilla, crossed the finish line in a time of 2:22:41, to finish 8th in the UWI University Student female category and 382nd overall.
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