

**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES  
CAVE HILL CAMPUS**

**Principal's Welcome Remarks**

**2018 Dinner  
in Celebration  
of the  
Honorary Graduands**

Chief Justice of Barbados, The Hon. Sir Marston Gibson; Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, The Hon. Dale Marshall & Mrs. Marshall; Minister of Health and Wellness, The Hon. Lt. Col Jeffrey Bostic; Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade, Senator Dr. Jerome Walcott; Minister of Small Business, Entrepreneurship and Commerce, The Honourable Dwight Sutherland & Mrs. Bynoe Sutherland; Minister in the Ministry of Finance, The Honourable Ryan Straughn & Mrs. Straughn; Minister of Creative Economy, Culture & Sports, The Honourable John King; Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Trade, The Honourable Sandra Husbands and Mr. Nurubaki; Chancellor, Mr. Robert Bermudez and his wife Ms Usha (Ousha) Rani Maraj; Vice Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles; Chairman of the Cave Hill Campus Council, Sir Paul Altman and Lady Altman; distinguished honorary Graduands, President of

the Caribbean Court of Justice, Justice Adrian Saunders and Mrs Marilyn Saunders, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Professor Ebenezer Owusu and Mrs Monica Owusu, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Mrs. June Chandler, Registrar of the Supreme Court, Mrs. Barbara Cooke-Alleyne; members of the Diplomatic Corps, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal of the UWI Open Campus, Dr. Luz Longsworth; Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Mona Campus, Professor Dale Webber; Deputy Principals, University Registrar, Mr. William Iton; University Bursar, Ms. Andrea McNish; Deans, senior officers of the Campus and wider University; our sponsors, distinguished ladies and gentlemen, members of the media, good evening and a brilliant, magnificent welcome to you, Akwaaba, Welcome to the UWI Cave Hill Campus's dinner in celebration of our Honorary Graduands.

Once again, we gather in this exquisite setting to celebrate academic excellence, distinguished leadership and exemplary public service. We are grateful for the achievements of the past year and anticipate another fulfilling year for our global university firmly rooted in enhancing the wellbeing of Caribbean societies. We mourn the passing of pioneering stalwarts and we are thankful that another

generation of UWI leaders, is waiting in the wings, anticipating their time to serve and burnish even brighter, the reputation of the University of the West Indies. Tonight we are honoured to welcome to the Campus many members of Cabinet of the new Government of Barbados. His Excellency, National Hero, the Right Honourable, Errol Barrow stated fifty years ago at the first graduation ceremony held at the Cave Hill Campus that, **“It is of the utmost importance that our statesmen and scholars, students and scientists should all realise that a university institution cannot survive unless it has as its constant goal, service to the communities which support and sustain its activities”** [Barrow 1968] The Cave Hill Campus has been listening, and we live the University’s dedication to serving the communities which support and sustain us. The University of the West Indies epitomizes continuity and change, and we welcome to the executive leadership of the University, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of the Mona Campus, Professor Dale Webber.

Before I present a profile of our honourees and highlights of our past year, do allow me to thank our corporate supporters. I extend a most gracious welcome to our corporate supporters, Mr Dimitris

Lianoudakis, CEO, Hyuna International Limited and Sir Trevor Carmichael of Chancery Chambers. KPMG continues to provide support. We thank you for your faith and commitment to the Campus's vision, and I encourage others to please join them in offering your support to the Campus. We need your support.

This year The UWI Cave Hill Campus honours two exceptional African and Caribbean men, who personify our vision of service and leadership. We are thrilled that as we celebrate the fifty-first graduation ceremony of the Cave Hill Campus we are inspired by the singular achievements of these two sons of Africa and its Caribbean diaspora.

**Justice Adrian Saunders** is one of the seventy outstanding graduates recently celebrated by the Cave Hill Campus to mark our University's 70<sup>th</sup> year, Justice Adrian Saunders first gained honours on graduating with a Bachelor of Laws from the Cave Hill Campus in 1975. Since then his renowned record of committed public service

has been a bestowing of honours on the legal profession, his country, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Eastern Caribbean, throughout which he has served, and with his latest appointment as the third President of the Caribbean Court of Justice, he now bestows honour on the Commonwealth Caribbean. Justice Saunders has served as a Barrister and Solicitor for nineteen years, and a judge of the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court for seven. I do not know if he pays attention to numerology, but we learn he will also serve as President of the Caribbean Court of Justice for a seven- year term. At his installation in early July this year, Justice Saunders was hailed by the political leadership of CARICOM, but most fittingly, outgoing President, Justice, Sir Denis Byron said, **“I can bear witness to his dedication to upholding the rule of law and his commitment to ensuring that justice is accessible to all people.”**

**Professor Ebenezer Owusu:** The University of Ghana like the University of the West Indies was established in 1948 as a college of

the University of London and like the UWI has grown into the premier higher education institution in Ghana with four different Campus sites in Legon, Korlebu, Accra City Campus and Distance Education.

We are extremely honoured to have with us Professor Ebenezer Oduro Owusu, who as its Vice Chancellor is the academic and administrative leader of one of the most distinguished universities in West Africa. Professor Owusu is an accomplished scholar in the field of entomology. He has offered his expertise in Ghana, throughout Africa, and internationally in the areas of pesticide science, pest management, and agricultural project management and evaluation. He serves Ghana on the University of Cambridge African Research Partnership. He is the Editor in chief of the journal of the Ghana Science Association as well as regional Editor of the UNESCO African Journal of Science and Technology. Professor Owusu was decorated as a living legend by the People of Kochi, Japan for his contribution to science. He received Japan's prestigious Foreign Ministers

commendation award for his immense contribution and outstanding roles in the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries. And now to the Cave Hill Campus.

**The Cave Hill Campus** continues to grapple with many challenges and please join me in thanking the academic, Senior Administrative and professional staff, and our hardworking administrative and technical staff for enabling the Campus to complete another challenging year. We thank the government of Barbados for once again supporting Barbadian students pursuing undergraduate and postgraduate programmes under specified conditions. Enrolment has increased by 10 percent, but the Campus continues to experience a prolonged season of austerity. While the Campus has maintained quality assurance and accreditation standards in our teaching, research and outreach we need interventions in our operational budget to undertake the necessary capital works

upgrades befitting a global, 21<sup>st</sup> century university, one which brings solutions, recognition and prestige to Barbados and the Caribbean.

Here are some highlights of the Campus's achievements over the past year:

- We are steadily advancing our Smart Campus and Internationalization Initiatives
- The Cave Hill Confucius Institute has been so outstanding in advancing our internationalization agenda, expanding access to the University, preparing Caribbean citizens to deal with strengthening UWI-Government relations that in the international Conference of 500 Confucius Institutes in Xian, China in December 2017, the Cave Hill Institute won Confucius Institute of the Year award which was presented to me by the Deputy Premier of China, Madame Liu Yandong. It is the youngest Confucius Institute to have ever won the award
- The Cave Hill Confucius Institute is the only official testing site in the Eastern Caribbean to obtain certified proficiency in the Chinese language

- We have advanced plans to offer preclinical training in medicine to Ghanaian students and the University of Ghana and The UWI are finalising the articulation agreement to govern this process.
- In August, the Campus launched a Centre for Bio-security Studies and hosted an inaugural one Day, regional Symposium on Building Resilience to Bio- Security Threats in the Caribbean.
- Our first cohort of students pursuing the BSc in Software Engineering, Mobile Applications are now in Suzhou, China completing the last two years of their programme.
- We have introduced new degree programmes including a BSc in Environmental Science, a B.Ed in Early Childhood Education, two MScs: Nursing Administration; Education, and other certificate courses are in development; we introduced an MSc in Information Technology with specializations in Mobile Applications, and Web Development and Enterprise Systems

- We are offering a suite of courses for professional development through the recently launched Centre for Professional Development and Life Long Learning.
- We are finalizing a proposal for the introduction of a Faculty of Creative Arts and Culture
- The Institute for Gender and Development Studies: Nita Barrow Unit has started the Livity Project earning a European Union Grant of Bds \$993, 000 to do so.
- We anticipate the opening up of the Mutual Building as a multipurpose facility, focusing on subleasing to start-up companies as a technology hub, delivering continuous education programmes, and software engineering classes.
- Our student athletes continue to excel in Men's and women's cricket, football, volleyball, netball, chess and hockey. The Sagicor UWI Blackbirds Men's Cricket team won the 3 Day Competition in the Barbados Cricket Association's (BCA) Elite Division and the Elite T20 competition; The Female Blackbirds Volleyball team won the 2017 knockout title, while five of the

Blackbird netballers were selected to represent Barbados at the Commonwealth Games in Australia. Head Cricket Coach, Mr Floyd Reifer has been seconded to Cricket West Indies as its batting coach for the India and Bangladesh Test series

- We are completing a yearlong celebration of our University as the premier educational institution in the Caribbean.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you for gracing us with your presence, thank you for agreeing to celebrate with us, the brilliance and shining examples of the extraordinary achievements of our 2018 honorary Graduands, thank you.



Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in raising a toast to Professor Ebenezer Owusu, a scientist and internationally celebrated scholar, a leading academic and intellectual of Ghana, to President of the Caribbean Court of Justice, Justice Adrian Saunders in whose calm, dispassionate and learned, legal mind resides the region's confidence in the impartial dispensation of justice from our indigenous Court, to our distinguished honorary graduands! Thank you.

Professor V. Eudine Barriteau

October 19, 2018