

ABSTRACTS

Volume 30 No. 1 March 2005

Citizens By Descent 'Foreign-Born' and 'Young' Returning Nationals to St. Lucia

by Robert B. Potter, University of Reading, United Kingdom

The focus of this article is the study of a relatively new group of Caribbean migrants, namely those second generation overseas-born St Lucians who have decided to migrate to the country of birth of at least one of their parents. After a brief review of the circumstances surrounding this relatively new and innovative migratory path, the empirical insights gained from an exploratory investigation of such migrants are presented, focusing in particular, on their socio-economic and demographic characteristics, the reasons for their move and the adjustments they have made and those which they feel that they still face. The analysis shows that issues of racial identity, as mediated by the colour-class system, are particularly crucial. Throughout the analysis, the results are set alongside those of a parallel study carried out by the author in Barbados. In unison with the returnees to Barbados, those to St Lucia expressed major problems with forming local friendships. However, in contrast, they seemed to experience far fewer difficulties stemming from their national identity being seen as English, and their English accent. In several respects, the essential 'hybrid' and 'inbetween' positionality of such transnational citizens by descent is emphasised.

Pages: 1-30

Key Words: migration, returning migrant, young returning nationals, foreign-born returnees.

Leadership Issues in West Indies Cricket: A Theoretical Analysis of the Leadership Styles of a Purposive Group of Captains

by Eddie Corbin, University of the West Indies, Barbados

This article assesses the leadership styles and associated behaviours of a purposive selection of leaders from the West Indies (WI) cricket team who achieved high levels of winning outcomes. The article argues that these leaders seemed to have utilised leadership styles similar to those identified in transformational and multidimensional models of leadership, which were manifested in the presence of behaviours such as: intellectual stimulation, charisma, inspiration, individual consideration, focus on training and instruction, social support, positive feedback, autocratic and democratic. The article highlights the need for further research to test the hypothesis that there is a positive relationship between a captain's use of transformational and multidimensional leadership and outcomes of winning.

Pages: 31-53

Key Words: West Indies, cricket, leadership, transformational leadership, multidimensional leadership, winning.

Unequal Negotiations: Small States in the New Global Economy

by Patsy Lewis, University of the West Indies, Jamaica

This article looks at the emerging phenomenon of free trade agreements between developing and developed countries. Its particular focus is on a sub-grouping of developing countries, the small states of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) grouping.

These countries are either considering or are actively involved in negotiating such agreements with developed countries both inside and outside of their respective regions. The paper presents a case study of the experience of Caribbean ACP small states in negotiating the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) with larger 'partners' in North America and South America. In so doing, it seeks to illuminate some of the challenges these countries, and other small states, are likely to confront in what are viewed as unequal relationships. It argues that, given the similarity of challenges confronting both groups in negotiating these arrangements, that it would be beneficial for them to form strategic alliances across issues and negotiating arenas to strengthen their position and safeguard their interests.

Pages: 54-107

Key Words: negotiation, regionalism, liberalization, small island countries, free trade areas.

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Enhancing Access to Tertiary Education in Barbados: Promises to Keep

by Bevis Peters and Gladstone Best, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

This study examines the stated policy of the Government of Barbados to expand access to tertiary education in order to reach a target of one university graduate per household. This paper links access to the possible demands, interests and academic ability of students seeking to enrol in tertiary education programmes in Barbados; the institutional capacity of the providers to meet expanded demands; and the enabling environment and supports in place to ensure that the targets are indeed attainable and sustainable. The study concludes that while it is clear that the goal is desirable, issues concerning the feasibility and affordability still need to be addressed.

Pages: 1-40

Key Words: higher education; human resources; national development objectives; feasibility.

The Competitiveness of Trinidadian Manufacturing Firms in an Increasingly Liberalised Trading Environment

by Lou Ann Barclay, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica

For the past two decades, less-developed countries have been increasingly liberalising their trade regimes. However, the beneficial effects of liberalised trade are uncertain. Yet, it is clear that the manufacturing sector of small, less-developed countries is especially vulnerable to the consequences of liberalised trade. Thus, the future viability of their local manufacturing firms is highly questionable. In light of these issues, this paper examines the competitive strategies implemented by successful Trinidadian exporters in the context of a liberalised trading environment. It found that many of the firms studied might not be able to compete in a liberalised trading environment. Indeed, the future viability of Trinidad's manufacturing sector rests on the purposeful efforts of both policy makers and firms.

Pages: 41-74

Key Words: Trade liberalisation; Competitive Strategy; International Competitiveness.

New Evaluation Form, 'Same Old Attitude'? A Study of Perceptions of the Lecturer Evaluation Process

by Joseann Small and Sonia Mahon, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

The assessment of a lecturer's performance is often gauged from student evaluations. However, student ratings are reliable only to the extent that students see the value of the evaluation process, and make the effort to provide honest and thorough assessment.

This study examines perceptions of the lecturer evaluation process held by a cross-section of students attending the Cave Hill campus of the University of the West Indies. Findings suggest that this University's administration, and by extension, University administrations worldwide, should pay attention to whether students see the evaluation process as an effective and transparent mechanism for controlling the quality of instruction which they receive.

Pages: 75-90

Key words: lecturer evaluation, customer satisfaction, University of the West Indies.

Volume 30 No. 3 September 2005

Barriers To Starting A Business in Barbados

by Xiomara Archibald, Denny Lewis-Bynoe and Winston Moore, Central Bank of Barbados¹

It is a commonly held view that the cost, time and complexity involved in starting a business in Barbados are prohibitive. This point of view, however, has never been verified by a substantive study on the ease of starting a business. This paper presents benchmark estimates of the time, cost and number of procedures needed. The results of the study suggest that while Barbados is among the countries with the lowest number of procedural requirements, there are still some bottlenecks which should be addressed.

Pages: 1-24.

Key words: Entry regulation, bureaucracy, entrepreneurship.

Is Efficiency Important for the Growth of the Barbadian Credit Union Industry?

by Winston Moore, Central Bank of Barbados

This paper investigates the relationship between growth and efficiency in the Barbadian credit union industry. A stochastic frontier production function approach is employed to derive efficiency scores, which are subsequently utilised in an unbalanced panel growth model of 44 Barbadian credit unions for the period 1975 to 2001. The study finds that efficiency is positively related to growth, and is especially important for relatively new unions.

Pages: 25-43

Key words: credit unions, efficiency, growth.

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Are Persistent Current Account Deficits in Barbados Sustainable?

by Alwyn Jordan, Ryan Skeete and Kim Coppin, Central Bank of Barbados

This paper identifies indicators that are useful in determining the sustainability of persistent current account deficits on the balance of payments. The effectiveness of these indicators in forecasting a crisis is tested in the two periods of external crises in Barbados using the 'Signals Approach' and probit models. The results suggested that the good predictive indicators are: external debt/GDP, fiscal deficit/GDP, visible trade balance/GDP, ratio of the money supply to gross international reserves, growth in domestic credit, changes in the import reserve cover and movements in the treasury bill rate. Further testing showed that the current account deficits experienced from 1997 – 2003 were sustainable.

Pages: 44-72.

Key words: Current account sustainability, signals approach, probit models.

COMMENTARY

A Tale of Five Cities: Panache, Pain, Pleasure, and All That

by Jamal Khan, The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

This commentary by Professor Jamal Khan is inspired by a reading of a recent title *Managing Governance in South Asia: A Comparative Study* published by University Press Limited in Dhaka and authored by Kamal Siddiqui, Archana Ghosh, Sharit K. Bhowmilk, Shadid A. (2004).

Pages: 72-87.

Volume 30 No. 4 December 2005

Alcohol Use among Community College Students in St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Implications for Prevention and Education Programmes

by Karen Ring and Wanda Boob-Fraser, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill.

This paper presents the findings of a study conducted with a group of St. Vincent and the Grenadines Community College students to ascertain their alcohol use, reasons and influencing factors for initial and continuing consumption of the drug, and their prior involvement in school and community drug prevention and education programmes.

Some of the major findings of the study indicate that most of the respondents' initial use of alcohol occurred under the age of 10 years old and was given to them by a family member or relative, and a majority of the respondents had attended some type of drug education. Along with these and other findings, contributions to current prevention interventions and educational programmes aimed at youth in St. Vincent and the Grenadines are discussed.

Pages: 1-28.

Key words: alcohol use, youth drinking behavior, alcohol prevention programmes, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Means Testing as Screening for Financial Assistance for Tertiary Level Education (TLE) in Trinidad and Tobago

by R. Hosein, M. Franklin and B. Tewarie, University of the West Indies.

This article argues that tertiary level improvement can make a vital contribution to the economic growth process in Trinidad and Tobago, and indeed the wider Caribbean. However, the State should seek to implement a financial assistance programme which is both vertically and horizontally efficient as compared to a lump sum subsidiary which is typically riddled with vertical inefficiency.

Pages: 29-61.

Key words: income and asset ownership, benefits, means testing, tertiary level education, targeting schemes.

INTERVIEW

Caribbean Feminism in Transition: An Interview with Professor V. E. Barriteau

by Debra Providence, University of the West Indies.

How far have Caribbean women progressed since the colonial times? What has been their contribution to nationalist movements in the region? What is the state of Caribbean feminism and what does the future hold for the movement?

Professor Eudine Barriteau, Director of the Center for Gender and Development Studies at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies, shares her thoughts on these issues and much more in the following interview. She is the author and editor of several published texts on issues of gender and the state in the Caribbean region, including *The Political Economy of Gender in Twentieth-Century Caribbean* (2001) and *Confronting Power Theorizing Gender: Interdisciplinary Perspectives in the Caribbean* (2003). Barriteau highlights the transitional state of Caribbean women, discusses what she believes to be their ambiguous relationship with their 'mothers' and the overlapping public and private spheres of their lives. Similar observations can be made of Caribbean feminism; its role is of great importance in seeking to fill the gaps left by a predominantly androcentric view of Caribbean history, but it is in a state of flux. But to ensure its survival, Caribbean feminism needs to balance activism, which from all appearances seems to be on the decline, with disciplinary studies, the future of which seems a bit more promising as women's studies assume greater importance in academia. Caribbean feminism, like Caribbean women, is experiencing great changes. The challenge therefore is to strike a balance between the lessons of the past and the conditions of the present to effect a successful transition to the future.

Pages: 62-76.

COMMENTARY

The Nevis Secession Vote: The Search for Explanations

by Douglas Midgett, University of the West Indies.

Following the 1998 vote on secession in Nevis, the Observer noted that the voting pattern was along party lines, that areas of NRP strength were less likely to support the referendum than were CCM strongholds. Although this appeared to be the case, it begs the question of why this pattern occurred. In this paper, I demonstrate the extent to which the pattern persisted by comparing voting of the secession issue with the results of the 2000 Federal Election. I then examine the differential support for secession in light of other situations in the Eastern Caribbean in recent times.

Pages: 77-85.