

Issues and Challenges in Programme Renewal: Faculty Perspectives

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This paper examines the challenges and issues encountered by twenty-one teacher educators during the process of programme renewal. The context is the School of Education of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. The programme that was being renewed is the postgraduate Diploma in Education for secondary school teachers. All participants were interviewed individually and were asked to describe the challenges they experienced during the process as well the issues they encountered. The transcripts were analysed to produce categories and themes. Findings revealed that the main challenges of programme renewal that emerged for the teacher educators fell under the broad categories of lack of staff commitment, logistics, democratic process, lack of staff's understanding and resistance to change. The issues they identified as having arisen during the process had to do with dissatisfaction with details of the programme, the loss of "giants", inconsistent use of research, competition from providers, the need to revise vs. modify and university policy. The paper identifies some areas of staff and institutional development to deal with some of the issues and challenges raised.

Keywords: *Teacher education, programme renewal, institutional change, challenges, issues*

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