



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, WEST INDIES

OFFICE OF THE CAMPUS PRINCIPAL

Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Clement Sankat, *BSc (UWI), MSc (UWI), PhD (Guelph), FIAgrE, CEng, FAPETT*

Launch of the International Master in Business Administration Program in Tobago Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute, Blenheim, Mount St. George, Tobago

Thursday 26th August, 2010 5.30pm

Remarks

Salutations

- The Honourable Dr. Vernella Alleyne-Toppin, Minister of Tobago Development
- Assemblyman Claudia Groom-Duke, Secretary of Education, Youth Affairs and Sport, Tobago House of Assembly
- Professor Miguel Carrillo, Executive Director and Professor of Strategy, Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
- Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Professor Funso Aiyejina
- Kamla Mungal, Academic Director, Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
- Dr. Verleen Bob-Lewis, Coordinator of School Management/ Post Secondary and Tertiary Education
- Mr. Michael Gray, Programme Director
- Other Representatives from the THA and Staff and Management of Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business
- Students of the IMBA Program
- Invited Guests, Well wishers
- Members of the Media
- Ladies and Gentlemen

- Good evening. It is truly an honour for me to speak at the Launch of this IMBA programme in Tobago as it marks a significant milestone in our efforts as a University to continuously be of service to both Trinidad AND Tobago. Before I continue, let me at the outset thank the Executive Director of Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, Professor Miguel Carrillo for making this vision a reality.
- As Campus Principal and Chairman of the Board of Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, I must say that I am very proud of the partnership and in particular the initiative of taking this IMBA Programme to Tobago. I truly believe that this initiative will no doubt enable us to build and produce better leaders in all spheres of Trinidad and Tobago and particularly Tobago.
- To this end, let me commend Arthur Lok Jack's, Academic Director, Mrs. Kamla Mungal and all the management and staff who were instrumental in making this launch a success - well done and continue with the good work. Let me also commend the team at Arthur Lok Jack for the **corporate social responsibility** personified in their efforts to reach our students in Tobago. The St. Augustine Campus is always pleased to be associated with the achievements of the UWI community, particularly where these developments lead to increase

access to quality education in the smaller, non-Campus territories. In fact, expanding our scope in response to the demands, needs and interests of traditionally under-served communities is one of four pillars of our Strategic Plan 2007 - 2012. As such, the launch of this IMBA programme here in Tobago continues to demonstrate the commitment of the UWI to achieve this mandate.

- Let me also take a moment to thank the representatives of the Tobago House of Assembly (HTA) and the Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI). I must say that the THA under the leadership of the Honourable Mr. Orville London and the THTI has been very supportive of a number of UWI initiatives for which we are indeed grateful. In fact, just three months ago in May of this year, the St. Augustine Campus of The University of the West Indies signed a Memorandum of Understanding with The Tobago House of Assembly (THA) and the Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI) right here in Tobago in the presence of THA's Chief Secretary, the Honourable Mr. Orville London and Chief Administrator, Dr. Elton Bobb. I am therefore very pleased with today's launch as **our vision for serving Tobago is increasingly becoming a reality** which will undoubtedly translate into tangible benefits for the population of Tobago. As a result of the MOU signing, our collaboration has been formalized as the UWI St. Augustine Campus offers - the B.Ed. Primary

Education (Early Childhood Care and Education), the Diploma in Education (Science option) and now today in collaboration with the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School for Business we're launching the IMBA. Our fully owned subsidiary - the UWI School of Business and Applied Studies trading as ROYTEC also has programmes in Tobago. At the UWI, we take pride in appreciating partnerships such as this one as these greatly impact on the wellbeing of our people and by extension the development of our country and region. I must also recognize and thank our Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Professor Aiyejina for his drive to enhance our presence in Tobago and foster the necessary partnerships.

- Let me also take this opportunity to say a few words to our first cohort of IMBA students here in Tobago - Welcome to Arthur Lock Jack and the UWI community. I hope that your time with us is both productive and rewarding! I also wish to commend you on your decision to further your education and also to thank you for choosing the UWI and the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business. You have joined us at a very special time, as our Campus celebrates 50 years of committed service to Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean region this year.

- As can be seen in the caliber of our alumni, Arthur Lok Jack, UWI programmes are of a high quality and very effective. I have no doubt that these programmes will lead to the enhancement of your professional skills and abilities which in the medium term will help to advance the development priorities of Tobago. However, I urge you from the onset to develop your communities in a way that speaks to moral ideals, ethical principles, and honest business practices. You must therefore seek to foster and promote an ethical management culture whether in the public or private sphere. Remember to balance your business responsibility with societal care. Demonstrating creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship would also be one way of building a sustainable future for Tobago.
- Ladies and gentlemen, I see this launch as another step forward in the process of meeting and serving the development needs of our Tobago students and in so doing meeting the development needs of our country and region. The UWI St. Augustine Campus under my leadership is committed to this despite the challenges! The continued success of this initiative will require the enthusiasm and understanding of all our stakeholders. I am therefore counting on the support of both the public and private sector in this area as we strive to build our human capital base in every corner of Trinidad and Tobago.

- As I close, let me again extend my gratitude to all instrumental personnel from the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, the THA and the THTI and from the UWI for making the launch of this IMBA possible. I extend best wishes to our first cohort of IMBA students here in Tobago; I wish you professional success and personal fulfillment.
- Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you.