



St. Augustine News

STAN

The University of the West Indies

April – June 2006

10 Questions with
Tishan Maraj

Word Sound Music
The New Poets of Rapso

Saving Lives
The UWI Telehealth programme
brings world-class, affordable
health care to sick kids

A Place of Our Own
The St. Augustine Campus launches
a Major in Geography

STAN

St Augustine News

April - June 2006



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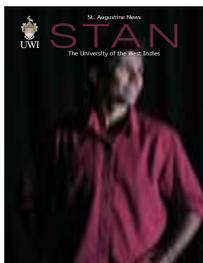
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[CONTENTS]

- 3 EDITORIAL
- 4 LETTERS
- 6 J'OUVERT
- 8 UWI PEOPLE
 - Photo Club gets close-up
 - Farming community to reap benefits
 - New Appointments
 - UWI Professors promoted
 - Standing Ovation
- 9 American foundation celebrates luminaries
 - Hall –Mark of Service
 - UWI SCS says farewell
 - bpTT aids Research at Matura
- 10 First Innings - Tishan Maraj
- 12 ON CAMPUS
 - UWI Goes To The UN
- 14 UWI PEOPLE
 - Word Sound Music
- 16 WORKSHOP
 - Caribbean at Crossroads:
IMF Deputy Director Outlines Path to
Integration
- 18 BOOKMARK
 - The Deosaran Files
- 20 ON SCREEN
 - Dream To Change The World
- 22 RESEARCH
 - Soufrière's Inferno
- 24 Saving Lives
- 27 ON STAGE
 - Ogun Iyan- As in Pan
Stan Online
- 28 NEW PROGRAMMES
 - A Place of Our Own
- 30 CONNECT: EDDIE BAUGH
- 32 ALUMNI
 - Colours Again
- 34 Margaret Burgess
- 36 IN THE NEWS
 - Unwritten
- 39 Regional Gender Interventions &
Tools For Redevelopment
- 40 From Qatar To The Caribbean



On The Cover

First Innings:
UWI Medical Sciences
student and national
cricketer, Tishan Maraj.

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www.sta.uwi.edu/stan

LET US PROVIDE ANSWERS THROUGH RESEARCH

The University of the West Indies was established shortly after the Second World War, to provide a cadre of trained professionals for the West Indies. Its mandate has always been to advance the intellectual, cultural and economic development of the West Indies through teaching, research, intellectual leadership and community leadership.

Over the years many changes have been initiated as we have moved from colonialism to Independence to a more mature appreciation of Caribbean solidarity in a more complex, competitive but interdependent world. Our system of governance has gone through significant changes; strategic planning has become the norm; technology has modified our teaching and learning practices; our collaboration with other tertiary institutions in the region has intensified and we have, over the years, been taking bold steps to undertake research that is of direct relevance and value to the society.

In the contemporary period, however, we are required to do much, much more.

In today's knowledge economy, in which any system of any sophistication is a knowledge system, it is the responsibility of our University to connect, cooperate, collaborate with other systems in the world so that the pool of knowledge to which we have access will expand and so that as an institution, we also may make our own contribution to the ever expanding global pool.

Another of our responsibilities is to create learners who in turn will create learning institutions and learning systems wherever they go, ultimately facilitating the development of a learning society. This is an important issue because, in the future, the competitive societies will be those that can perpetually learn and adapt.

And that brings us to a fundamental question, which is, what should we at The University of the West Indies be doing that would make the greatest impact on development in the region? There are many things that we could be addressing that would be of value because the region as a whole faces a great number of development challenges; however I think that three inter-related challenges lie at the heart of the development dilemma for the region and that we should be focusing on them.

The first is democracy. We have inherited a parliamentary system from the British and a liberal democratic tradition, by and large, which we would do well to nurture, develop and improve. On the nurturing side the key issue would be open access to education by increasing numbers; the development side would certainly involve the strengthening and development of existing institutions and creation of new institutions, and on the improvement side, I would think that greater participation by citizens and greater responsiveness by government would be key elements.

The second, not unrelated issue, is the issue of a meritocracy. A democratic society is often the foundation on which merit-based societies are built because it encourages those with talent to pursue their dreams. It is important that we continue to nurture and support such a culture which will, over time, provide us with our wealth generating capacity whether in sports, culture, academia, business or entrepreneurship in its variety of dimensions.

The third issue, integrally related, is the issue of equity. In a democratic society that is merit based, the gap between the haves and have nots can widen, and it is important that factors and situations which fuel such gaps be attended to, in the interest of justice and fair play.

It is time that the Faculty of Social Sciences, especially, begin to address such issues meaningfully so that the result can be enlightened policy. There is no reason why the tensions inherent in the goals of democracy, meritocracy and equity could not be addressed as part of an active research agenda which explores the interlinkages and interrelationships. Such a research agenda will probably, inevitably, end up addressing many of the current pressing challenges that we face such as poverty, poor schools, family disintegration, community challenges, institutional weaknesses, appropriate State interventions, the need for additional institutions and infrastructure and so on. So that at the end of the day, research on this subject may well involve scholars other than those from the Social Sciences.

We have come to understand that educational institutions are among the key drivers of development in any society or economy, and



Bhoendradatt Tewarie

Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie
Campus Principal - UWI St. Augustine

that healthy, well educated citizens are any country's most vital national resource.

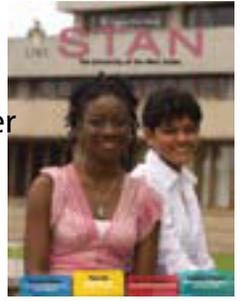
The brain power of a well educated population makes strong learning institutions possible and, in turn, strong learning institutions make a society and its economy competitive, more creative and adaptable. Moreover, a well educated, responsible citizenry tends to build social capital and community institutions even outside of their professional involvement at the workplace which further strengthens society and its democratic institutions. So that education of the many, in a way, creates its own virtuous circle, and is an important stimulus to genuine long-term development. So the University of The West Indies is already doing important work of a development nature in the region simply by turning out quality graduates.

But we must begin to make our impact decisively and dramatically in the field of development. What do we need to do to set these countries of our region on the path to democratic development, where merit can rise and justice and equity can also be served? It is not too much to ask The University of the West Indies to provide some answers to these challenging questions.

A Good Blend

Great issue (January to March 2006) I like the articles featuring the “ordinary” members of staff and their achievements. This issue is a good blend of academia and other important news.

Vibert Medford



We would like to thank our readers for taking part in the STAN 2006 survey and for your unique, succinct yet comprehensive suggestions, some of which we have taken under advisement and hope to implement within the year. The results on the latest poll of 145 respondents rated STAN as follows: 13.1% - Excellent; 44.1% - Very Good; 35.2% - Good; 6.2% - Average; 0% - poor; 2% did not respond to the rating question.

Congratulations to the four randomly selected winners of the 2006 STAN electronic survey (Second Quarter, 2006) ; and of course many thanks to our very generous sponsors: fashion designer MEILING, The UWI Bookshop, MovieTowne and Subway.

STAN SURVEY WINNERS



Javed Mohammed

Prizes: A MEILING Gift Certificate & A UWI Bookshop Gift Certificate

“[STAN] is very informative [you can] read all about UWI St Augustine. It tells about the academic and non-academic facets of the University in a colourful and attractive way.”



Harry Cassie

Prizes: A MEILING Gift Certificate

“[the printed version] is very good...[I recommend] more articles on ATS staff.”



Christelle Parris

Prizes: Two Subway Gift Certificates & Two Movie Towne gift certificates

“The research articles are usually very interesting.”



Adrian Ramlal

Prizes: Two Subway Gift Certificates

“[I would rate STAN] as excellent...I like the conciseness and relevance to Campus life...you can improve the newsletter by making it more accessible to the common student . Also some comics and jokes (if possible) wouldn't hurt.”

THE UWI MISSION

The St. Augustine campus of The University of the West Indies is committed to the development of Caribbean countries. At all times, it will seek to contribute to that development by producing graduates and research of high quality, relevance and usefulness in sufficient quantity and at minimum cost.

The St. Augustine campus, by the conduct of its own staff and students as well as by the content of its academic programmes, will strive towards the inculcation of social values of shared communal responsibility, social justice, and respect and tolerance for differences in beliefs, philosophy, ethnicity and culture.

The St. Augustine campus aims at being an intellectual bridge to the wider Caribbean region and the rest of the world, assisting its member countries to benefit from the rapidly growing and constantly changing world stock of ideas, knowledge and expertise, and itself contributing to that stock in ways that enhance the international standing of the Caribbean



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Association of Caribbean Historians Conference 14th - 19th May, 2006

The History Department of the Faculty of Humanities & Education at The University of the West Indies, will host the 38th Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Historians (ACH) from May 14th - 19th, 2006. This year, the conference will be used to mark the passage of 200 years since the Abolition of the British Slave Trade. The conference is part of a series of activities spearheaded by the History Department at the St Augustine campus, to memorialize this significant landmark. Conference themes include - The abolition of the slave trade; The Chinese in Trinidad; Race and Race Formation; Race and Nationalism, Independence and Nationhood, Haiti, Migration and History Teaching. For more information contact Dr. Heather Cateau, at 662-2002 ext. 3036.

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Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Conference 29th May - 3rd June, 2006

The 31st Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) will be held at the Crowne Plaza, Port-of-Spain from May 29th - June 3rd, 2006. The conference is themed - The Caribbean in the Age Modernity: The Role of the Academy in Responding to the Challenges of the Region. Sessions will address pressing Caribbean issues such as: poverty and hunger, sex slaves and the trafficking of women, crime, kidnapping and drug trafficking, environmental degradation and its impact upon agriculture and tourism, as well as the health crisis caused by the proliferation of HIV/AIDS. The Secretariat for the CSA, located at the Faculty of Social Sciences, St. Augustine campus, encourages interested persons to take advantage of early registration rates. For further information on the CSA, the conference and membership and registration, visit the conference website: <http://sta.uwi.edu/caribbeanstudies/> or contact the Secretariat at 662-2002 ext. 2670/ 2410.

3rd Sonny Ramadhin Distinguished Cricket Lecture Featuring Sunil Gavaskar 31st May, 2006

The 3rd Sonny Ramadhin Distinguished Cricket Lecture, hosted jointly by the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and Guardian Life of the Caribbean, will take place on Wednesday 31st May 2006 at 7:00 pm at the Learning Resource Centre (LRC), St. Augustine Campus. This year's feature speaker is Mr. Sunil Gavaskar, renowned test cricketer from India. The lecture, which is hosted during the cricket season in Trinidad and Tobago, is held in honour of the great achievements of legendary West Indian Cricketer, Sonny Ramadhin.

For further information about the cricket lecture, contact Mrs. Sandra Roopchand-Khan at 662-2002 ext. 3755

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Industrial Engineering & Management Conference 2006 31st May - June 2nd, 2006

The Faculty of Engineering will host the Industrial Engineering and Management Conference 2006, at the UWI St. Augustine campus from May 31st - June 2nd 2006. The conference is aimed at building engineering competence and leveraging the best management practices to meet the diverse needs of the Caribbean region.

For further information, contact Prof. Kit Fai Pun, at 662-2002 Ext. 2068/2069 or e-mail: kfpun@eng.uwi.tt.

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Fiddler on the Roof **UWI Festival Arts Choral** 29th June - 2nd July, 2006

The UWI Festival Arts Choral and the National Sinfonia, in association with the Faculty of Humanities and Education, will present four performances of the award winning Broadway musical Fiddler on The Roof, from June 29th - July 2nd, 2006 at Queen's Hall, St. Ann's. Bring the family and enjoy the classics including : "If I Was a Rich Man"; "Sunrise, Sunset"; and "Matchmaker". The comedy/drama will start at 7:30 pm on Thursday - Saturday, and at 6:30 pm on Sunday. The production crew includes Louis Mc Williams, Jessel Murray, Adele Bynoe, Hazel Franco and Ken Crichlow.

For information on ticket prices, email uwi.festival.arts.chorale@gmail.com or call 746-7499; 663-2141 or 663-2222.

SCL 2006 Conference 2nd - 6th August, 2006

The Society of Caribbean Linguistics (SCL), will host a conference themed 'Caribbean Language Studies and Educational Development', from August 2nd - 6th 2006. The pertinent areas of Caribbean language and linguistics will be addressed at the conference. These include: - Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, Lexicon, Sociology of Language and Sociolinguistics, Dialectology, Language Development or History and Language in Education. The conference is dedicated to the memory of Douglas MacRae Taylor (<http://www.lennoxhonychurch.com/heritage.cfm?id=248>), linguist, anthropologist, and authority on Dominican Island Carib language and culture.

For further information, visit the SCL conference website at <http://www.scl-online.net/callforpapers2006.html>.

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'Caribbean International Relations' GIIR International Conference 16th - 18th October, 2006



The UWI Graduate Institute of International Relations (GIIR) will host an international conference on the challenges of 'Caribbean International Relations' from 16th - 18th October 2006. The conference will address the themes Regional Integration: Opportunities and Challenges; Trade, Finance and

Debt Management Strategy; Caribbean Business Environment; Caribbean Perspectives on International Relations; Caribbean Foreign Policy; and Regional Development and Economic Growth. Papers are invited on the themes listed above.

For further information on the conference and the call for papers, visit <http://sta.uwi.edu/iir/news/default.html> or call 662-2002 ext. 2291.

Faculty of Social Sciences Conference: Governance, Institutions and Networks 18th - 20th October, 2006

The Department of Behavioural Sciences, of the Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI, will host an international conference - Governance, Institutions and Networks, from October 18th - 20th 2006 at the UWI Learning Resource Centre. Leading academics within the field of public administration will present at the forum. These include: Professor Gerald Caiden, Professor Naoimi Caiden, Professor Jean Claude Garcia Zamour, Professor B Guy Peters, Professor Tom Christensen and Professor Adrei Voludon . The conference will focus on five main themes: Re-engineering Government, Crisis of Governance in a Small State, Development in an Inter-Connective World, Peace and Security, and E- democracy.

For further information on the international conference on Governance, Institutions and Networks, visit <http://www.sta.uwi.edu/conferences/governance/index.asp>.

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4th Pan-Commonwealth Forum: Achieving Development Goals 30th October - 3rd November, 2006



The Fourth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF4), will take place in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, from October 30th - November 3rd, 2006. The theme of the conference is: *Achieving Development Goals: Innovation, Learning, Collaboration and Foundations*. The PCF4 will bring together stakeholders from governments and institutions, including

educators and allied professionals from throughout the world, to share ideas and help to set the agenda for using open and distance learning to advance international development. The deadline for the abstracts surrounding the conference theme has been extended beyond the March 31st 2006 date.

For further information on the PCF 4 and the call for papers, visit www.col.org/pcf4.



Photo Club gets close-up

In April the UWI Photography Club held an exhibition of works by members at the UWI Main Library, St. Augustine Campus. The exhibition featured some engaging images of Trinidad and Tobago in colour as well as black and white photography. Several members of the Club got up close and personal with the flora, fauna and cultural landscape of our islands, including **Darceuil Duncan** (President), **Nicholas Khan**, **Jason Reid** and **Elizabeth Seebaran**. To view more visit STAN on-line at www.sta.uwi.edu/stan.



Formalising the Agreement (l-r) Dr. Gregory Gouveia Head, Department of Food Production, Mark Loquan President of Yara Trinidad Ltd., and Mrs. Phillippa Forde Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources.



Farming community to reap benefits

Yara Trinidad Limited demonstrated its commitment to "developing people and enriching communities" with the recent signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on November 23, 2005 at the Hilton Trinidad between the Department of Food Production and The University of the West Indies and Yara International ASA / Yara Trinidad Limited.

Heralded as a "major benefit for the local and regional farming community," the MOU aims to provide collaborative

programmes for agricultural research, education, training and outreach in the Caribbean region. The alliance known by the acronym YUCAPA – Yara-UWI Community Assistance Programme in Agriculture, will achieve these objectives through cooperation between Yara's Hanninghof Centre for Plant Nutrition and Environmental Research in Dulmen, Germany and the Department of Food Production, based at The University of the West Indies campus in Trinidad. One key area of support will include access to fertilizer application technology developed by Yara - including the very popular N-Tester - which allows farmers to assess the plant's nutritional needs in order to optimise fertilizer application. **Dr. Gregory Gouveia**, who heads the Department of Food Production, and **Dr. Joachim Lammel**, Head of product and Application R&D at Yara's Hanninghof Centre exchanged visits and held discussions over the past year. Moreover, as a forerunner to the signing of the MOU, **Dr. Lammel** delivered a lecture/presentation in Trinidad to a full auditorium consisting of UWI lecturers and students in the Faculty of Agriculture, local farmers, representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources and regional agriculture associations. The lecture/presentation focused on realistic approaches for sustaining food production for a growing world population and increasing yields on limited arable land. Further sessions/workshops aimed at engaging local and regional farmers will occur in 2006.

NEW APPOINTMENTS Congratulations & welcome to:

Mr. Jeremy Callaghan, Campus Registrar, Office of the Campus Registrar, St Augustine.

Dr. Jerome Teelucksingh, Lecturer in History, Dept. of History, Faculty of Humanities and Education.

Mrs. Deborah Charles-Smythe, Senior Assistant Registrar, Graduate Studies & Research, Office of the Campus Registrar.

Dr. Cherrita Ramsaran, Students' Medical Officer, Health Service Unit.

Dr. Sarah Chin Yuen Kee, Student Counselor, Health Service Unit.

Dr. Ramesh Rao, Lecturer in Human Anatomy, Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Mr. Paul Seerattan, Instructor in Dental Technology, School of Dentistry, Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Dr. Abrahams Mwasha, Lecturer in Construction Materials, Faculty of Engineering, Civil & Environmental Engineering.

UWI Professors promoted January 25, 2006

Professor Dinesh Ramdath, Biochemistry Unit, Department of Pre Clinical Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences

Professor Funso Aiyejina, Department of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Humanities and Education

UWI Congratulates

Professor of Electrical Engineering, **Stephan Gift** on being honoured by The Friends of the Tobago Library Committee at the 14th Annual Awards Dinner in April at the Hilton Hotel, Tobago. Professor Gift was presented with the Individual of the Year Award 2006 by Dr Edwin Carrington, Secretary General, CARICOM. Former recipients include former President of the Republic, The Honourable ANR Robinson, Dr. Edwin Carrington and Dr Eastlyn Mc Kenzie.



In photo: (l-r) Elizabeth Buchanan-Hind, Institutional Advancement, University of the West Indies (UWI/ IAD); Dr. Hazel Carter, President of the UWI Alumni Association (NY Chapter) Chancellor of the UWI Sir George Alleyne, Celia Davidson Francis, Director Alumni Relations, IAD; and Vice Chancellor UWI, Professor Nigel Harris.



American foundation celebrates luminaries

In celebrating "distinguished individuals who have graciously supported the event", **Professor Nigel Harris**, Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, presented "AFUWI" Awards to William "Bill" Rhodes, Chairman, President & CEO of Citibank and Senior Vice Chairman Citigroup Inc. (accepted on his behalf by Citigroup Jamaica representative Peter Moses) at the Ninth Annual American Foundation for The University of the West Indies (AFUWI) Awards dinner in Manhattan, New York in February. NBC "Today" co-host Al Roker was presented with his award by Tonya Lewis Lee (wife of film director Spike Lee), Sir George Alleyne and gala dinner Chair Karl Rodney. Brazil's Minister of Culture, musician and activist Gilberto Gill was presented with the inaugural Bob Marley Award by Hon. Dr. Harry Belafonte Patron of the event and Professor Nettleford; while Professor Harris presented Vice Chancellor Achievement Awards to **Christopher Chambers, Christopher Cowan, Laurie Fenton, Paula Madison** and **Robert Riley**, recognizing them as "rising stars in their respective fields and as individuals who have made significant contributions to, or brought to prominence, issues that affect the Caribbean". **Sir George Alleyne**, Chancellor of The University of the West Indies then presented awards to Caribbean luminaries **The Hon. Arthur Bethel**, Chairman of Sagikor, Barbados; the **Hon. George Gobin**, General Manager of Microsoft West Indies; Sir Shridath Ramphal, former Chancellor, The University of the West Indies; the **Hon. Lloyd Williams**; **Hon. Maurice Facey**, O.J., J.P., Chairman of Pan Jamaican Investment Trust Ltd; **Ambassador Peter King**, Special Envoy of Jamaica; and **Professor Hon. Rex Nettleford**, O.J., Vice Chancellor Emeritus The University of the West Indies.

Hall-Mark of Service

Congratulations to His Excellency, The Most Honourable **Professor Kenneth Octavius Hall** O.N., O.J. for his recent appointment as Jamaica's fifth Governor General. On February 15th, 2006 the former Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, replaced His Excellency The Most Honourable Sir Howard Cooke as Head of State. A graduate of UWI (1966), Professor Hall went on to gain a postgraduate Diploma in International Relations at UWI St Augustine, as well as MA and PhD degrees in History at Queen's University, Ontario. A former Deputy Secretary General of CARICOM, he then joined UWI As Principal of the Mona Campus in 1996 and was able to achieve wider dissemination of research, curriculum reform, the modernization of facilities, increase enrollment and a greater focus on student centredness, among other initiatives, during his tenure.

UWI SCS says farewell

The UWI School of Continuing Studies (SCS) bade a fond farewell to **Roslyn Humphrey**, former Senior Programme Coordinator, in a function held at the Senior Common Room on Friday February 3, 2006. SCS staffers, tutors and well wishers paid tribute in word, song and by way of the presentation of tokens of appreciation to Ms. Humphrey, who served the School with diligence and dedication for 10 years. In his address **Dr. Bernard**, Resident Tutor / Head of the SCS spoke of Ms. Humphrey's indomitable spirit in the face of challenges, of her tireless pursuits to ensure that the School's programmes gained accreditation and of energy she put into ensuring that the Associate Degree programmes pioneered by the Mona Campus, came to fruition in Trinidad and Tobago. All speakers at the function spoke of Ms. Humphrey's affable manner, even with her demanding work schedule. Ms. Humphrey retired from the SCS on December 31, 2005. Also honoured at the function on February 03 was **Mr. Sunil Jogie** who left SCS in December for a position within another organisation. Mr. Jogie worked with the SCS for over two years.



bpTT aids Research at Matura

Recently at an official handing-over ceremony at bpTT head office in Port of Spain, officials from the energy company presented a cheque for \$375,000 to **Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran**, Head of the Department Life Sciences at UWI. The grant is being given to assist in funding fauna research at the Matura National Park. At the Ceremony were (from left) **Dr. Sirju-Charran**, **Dr. Mike Oatham** lecturer, Department of Life Sciences, **Tyrone Kalpee** bpTT HSSE Manager, **Annalise Younglai**, BpTT Environmental Challenger and **Rachelle Gibson**, HSSE Technical Assistant.

Tishan Maraj

FIRST INNINGS

"A lot of people call me a slow batsman because I stay at the crease a lot longer than a lot of other people to make the same runs. But that in itself requires patience," said UWI MBBS student and promising young batsman Tishan Maraj, in response to the first of our ten questions—"What is the most striking feature of your personality?"

The questions, admittedly, are not our own—well, not really. They’re actually inspired by the infamous Proust Questionnaire and Bernard Pivot’s 10 questions from *Bouillon de Culture* (probably more familiar to many as the 10 questions James Lipton asks during “Inside the Actor’s Studio.”) For this edition of STAN, we re-interpreted some of these questions, to gain a better insight into a UWI undergraduate student who admires honesty and patience and has scored an enviable balance between academics and sport. These are interesting times we live in - a small country of just over a million people producing a long list of gifted artists, athletes and academics from Nobel Laureate Sir V.S. Naipaul, to Peter Minshall, from Dwight Yorke and Shaka Hislop to Captain Brian Lara, all inspiring a new generation of Trinidadians and Tobagonians.



What is the most striking feature of your personality?

Patience

What is your greatest achievement?

I never really chose one as a “greatest” but I have several achievements that I hold close to my heart. Umm, winning the under-15 Cricket World Cup in 2000. I was the W.I. Captain and that was at Lord’s. That’s definitely up there. Also, making the finals of the under-19 World Cup in Bangladesh.

What is your idea of perfect happiness?

Knowing that everyone around me is happy.

What is your greatest fear?

To do something that was really disappointing to my parents. Not just disappointing but something that could not be repaired. That would be up there with my fear of snakes.

What do you most treasure?

Friendship. True friendship.

What quality do you look for in a woman?

Honesty.

What quality do you look for in a man?

In a guy, I don’t know. I don’t really look for anything.

What do you most value in your friends?

The same thing: honesty. I like when they’re honest.

What sound or noise do you love?

Silence. That counts as the lack of sound, I suppose.

How would you like to die?

Peacefully, without pain and quickly.



UWI GOES TO THE UN

11 UWI students travel to Harvard to take part in the model United Nations

In a continuing effort to provide opportunities to apply classroom skills to real world situations, UWI St. Augustine recently participated in the 52nd session of the Harvard National Model United Nations (HNMUN) from February 16th -19th 2006.

Able led by Faculty Advisor Gale Rigobert, an eleven-member delegation of postgraduate and undergraduate International Relations students traveled to Boston to take part in the event hosted by the prestigious American Ivy League institution, Harvard University. The Harvard National Model United Nations (HNMUN) affords students the opportunity to instigate active debate to grapple with issues of key international importance and to engage in procedures and discussions akin to the United Nations.

The UWI St. Augustine delegation was assigned the task to discuss issues of critical importance, concerning the Dutch speaking CARICOM state of the Republic of Suriname. The delegates participated in various committees of the UN General Assembly, specialised agencies of the United Nations such as the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean and committees specifically designed for HNMUN such as the World Conference on the Unilateral Acts of States.

In preparation for their participation at the conference, the team went through an extensive training programme that included debate and communications skills, parliamentary procedures, team building exercises, visits to the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname, lectures from seasoned Diplomats and Foreign Service officers and academic research on the history, culture, politics and foreign policy of the Republic of Suriname.

Students were provided with the opportunity to hone the skills that they would have acquired academically and to utilize them in an environment where theory meets practice. The three day event also allowed participants to interact with students from countries such as the Netherlands, India, Venezuela and China.

It was the first time that UWI St. Augustine took part in the event. In fact, UWI St. Augustine was the only Caribbean delegation. UWI's participation was viewed as a success by both the delegation and the organisers of the event.

Upon their return, the delegation hosted a presentation ceremony to publicly thank all those who contributed to their successful participation in the conference. At the ceremony which was held at the Graduate Institute of International Relations, the delegation showcased their Boston experience with the many well-wishers who attended the ceremony.

Charge d'Affaires of the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname, Ms. Gloria de Mees reflected on the time that she spent with the delegation describing the students as the "future diplomats of the Caribbean" in her feature speech. She also urged UWI St. Augustine to consider hosting a similar event for the region's students, such as a Model CARICOM conference or OAS Assembly.



Front Row (l-r). Narissa Seegulam, Keisha Scott, Ms Gloria de Mees (Charge d'Affaires, Embassy of the Republic of Suriname) Nicole Brown, Jessica Jones, Kimberly Gay
Back Row (l-r). Dindial Ramrattan, Jonelle Watson, Daryl Steele, Nicole Parris, Keron Niles



Delegate Narissa Seegulam (Special Political & Decolonization Committee) participating in an un-moderated meeting working on the resolution paper, which later became "draft resolution paper 1.1" which was eventually passed by the member states

Ms. Rigobert openly lauded the education derived from the UWI experience and noted that the greatest benefit of participating in the HNMUN conference was the reinforcement and cementing to the value of the "UWI" brand.

It is hoped that the overwhelming support that the 2006 HNMUN UWI St. Augustine delegation received will be replicated next year as UWI St. Augustine has been invited to participate in HNMUN 2007.

(Jonelle Watson)

THE NEW TOYOTA YARIS



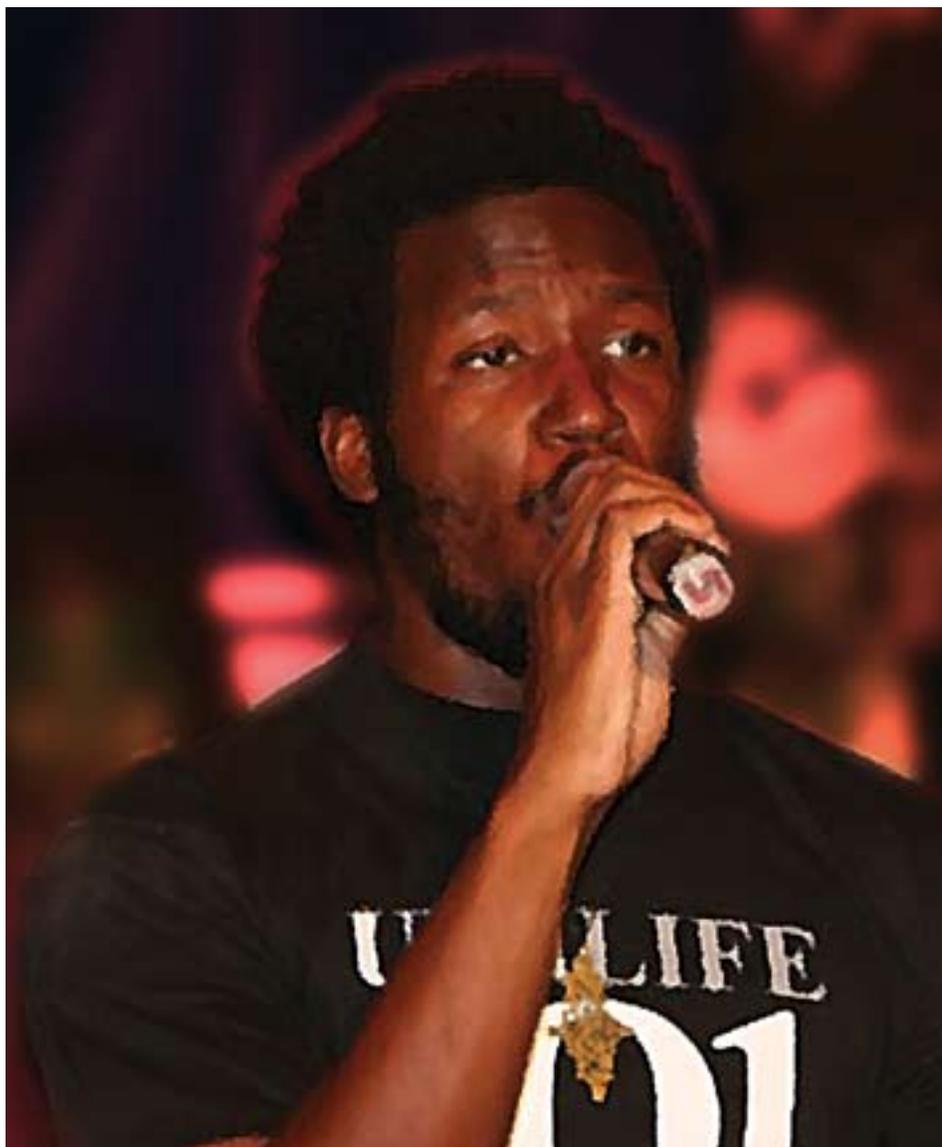
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WORD SOUND MUSIC

The emergence of the new poets of rapso

When my brother Chike said he was joining a rapso band, it made sense. The art form's reputation for socially-conscious lyrics and fiery delivery was no doubt attractive to someone from a family where *Sunday Lunch and Friday limes* often turn into (lovingly) loud cross-generational spats about issues of national and global importance. Add to this his determination to learn and teach more about the history and culture of the West Indies, Africa and the African diaspora...Perhaps he realized that one of the most memorable ways to make your point is over a beat. But he is only one member of the band Word, Sound and Power that has begun to make waves on the grassroots music scene. Chantwell (Mark), Mudd (Muhammad), Skeeto (Kyle), Bukka Roots (Chike) and Akinlabi, are five young men with unique abilities, backgrounds and interests who, as their sobriquets indicate, have equally non-conformist tendencies, and a shared love of music and poetry.

In fact, their musical and literary sensibilities can be described as "selectively diverse", with treasured collections that include Frantz Fanon, George Beckford, Karl Marx, Noam Chomsky, Paulo Coelho and Khalil Gibran alongside Lovelace and Shakespeare, Salman Rushdie and Marcus Garvey. Some of the band members' favourite music selections include reggae artists like Peter Tosh, Richie Spice and Chuck Fenda, Maximus Dan's Soca-Reggae blend, Dancehall and Zouk, unforgettable voices like Nina Simone, Tracy Chapman and Nora Jones, the Love Circle, the indomitable Stevie, Jill Scott, Lauryn solo and with the Fugees, jazz and classical virtuosos with names like Jaco Pastorius and Nitin Sawhney, and of course, the giftedly tortured Miles. In other words, in rapso they have found a space like the one in their CD cases, where old time kaiso meets rap - delete 50 Cent and BET booty-shaking escapades and think artists like Mos Def, Nas and Immortal Technique.

>

One of the other things they have in common is that they are all UWI students; a reality which surprises those who mistakenly equate “culture” on the St. Augustine campus with “Free-drinks Thursdays”. On the contrary, this group dances to the beat of their own drum, played in this case by drummer Akinlabi, with the occasional accompaniment of flutist David, pannist Derren, and Stephan, a guitarist.

Along with their shared energy and passion, it is difference that perhaps most gives this band an appeal among their growing following. This includes the expression of each member’s individuality that comes out in their performances. And I’m not just talking delivery and dress, but the actual content of their songs which are usually composed through a collaborative process. Their lyrics reveal that Word, Sound and Power has a lot to say about the current state of UWI, our country and the world. And given all the cries about “the alienation of the young black male” in our society - it’s probably worth listening to, even if you don’t necessarily like, agree, or feel comfortable with everything you hear.

Which raises the question, what do they sound like? When we hear the word “rapso” most of us rightly think Brother Resistance, Ataklan, Kindred, Ozymajic and 3 Canal. Word, Sound and Power builds on this heritage, and that of one of rapso’s “fathers”, Lancelot Lane, by creating a different sound that is drum-based, with tighter, faster rhythms. Yet while their style is more akin to the spit and flow of spoken-word artists in cafes in Philly and rap artists from US inner cities, refreshingly the language and accent is 100% Trini, with locally-inspired content. Combine this with the complex lyrics of guys who bridge the sometimes gap between intellectual and activist and were born into the quintessentially kaiso art of double entendre, and you have a pretty good idea of what you’re in for.

So for all those who thought calypso was boring and rap for (wannabe) gangsters - think again. This hybrid, uniquely Trin-bagonian musical artform may join local reggae as a rising star of our music - bringing rhythm, musicality and meaning together in a way that some claim is long overdue. Rapso, like reggae, is not first and foremost party music, so even though this music

can get you moving, most of all it wants to encourage you to think, to reflect on the life you have and the one you want.

The love of music meets the life of the mind...A revelation that there is nightlife in Trinidad beyond clubs and fetes, to be found not only in the annual Rapso Explosion and 3 Canal Show, but in monthly events like U-WE Speak, Speakeasy, Songshine. Never heard of them? Well neither did I until my brother began inviting me along. Word, Sound and Power making a name for themselves on this scene. But these events are not only for rapso fans, having shifted the concept of the all-inclusive from drinks and food, to the scope of the performances. Coming to the mic are emerging poets and short story writers, instrumentalists and vocalists in genres that range from rock, pop, reggae, folk, neo-soul, jazz and calypso, to those that have yet to be, and may never be defined. Sparks of mostly young talent, using their voices and instruments to speak of their lives to the world; calling for positive change.

It is only a matter of time before their sound becomes so loud that they cannot be ignored. *Alake Pilgrim*

SPOKEN WORD

Here’s a brief and by no means complete survey of some monthly Spoken Word and Musical gatherings in Trinidad

WHAT’S HAPPENING	WHEN	WHERE	CONTRIBUTION	CONTACT (EMAIL)
Circle of Poets	1st and 3rd Wed	City Hall, Port of Spain	Free	Nikita Yearwood circleofpoetstt@gmail.com
Moonlight Gathering	Twice monthly	Blue Basin Park	\$15	Tyehimba Salandy - ndweleifwa@yahoo.com
Songshine	1st Sun	Trevor’s Edge, St. Augustine (opp. Scotia Bank)	\$20 (\$10 - UWI students)	Gillian Moor - gillianmoor@yahoo.com
Speakeasy	1st Thurs	Skybar, Ariapita Ave. Woodbrook	\$20	Dara Njeri and Muhammad (see contact below)
U-WE Speak	2nd Wed (semesters only)	Student Activity Centre Ampitheatre	Free	Muhammad - Attn: Mudd wordsoundandpower@gmail.com
Writers’ Block	3rd Wed	Auditorium, Queens Royal College/Bishop Anstey High School POS	Free	Kheston Walkins - museworks1@gmail.com

CARIBBEAN AT CROSSROADS: IMF DEPUTY DIRECTOR OUTLINES PATH TO INTEGRATION

Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Dr. Agustin Carstens has said that the region is at “crossroads” in facing globalisation. He was speaking at the Opening Ceremony of the 2nd Biennial International Conference on Business, Banking and Finance, which was held at the Hilton Hotel and Conference Centre in May.

As the key note speaker, Dr. Carstens went on to explain that “the right time” to exploit key opportunities “is now”. During his presentation he addressed a myriad of issues facing the region, including migration, policy convergence and the importance of integration as a means to improving competitiveness. “Our own experience from looking at other countries around the world indicates to us that reduction of trade barriers – not only within the region but with the rest of the world - convergence and coordination of economic policies, and steps to strengthen financial sector linkages are key to successful integration.” Dr. Carstens went on to speak to the audience of over 200 members of the business and financial sector on policy convergence and coordination, as well as the development of financial markets.

“Since independence the [Caribbean] region has strived to develop financial markets that have strong cross-border linkages, but a question you may wish to ask yourselves is: are these markets being tapped to serve the re-

gion’s strengths? In the decade to 2005, financial depth indicators for the Caribbean showed great improvements,” Dr. Carstens continued. For example, the ratio of broad money to GDP increased on average in the region from about 50 percent to 80 percent during the period. At the same time, however, public debt increased rapidly. Indeed the region is now home to seven of the world’s ten most indebted emerging market countries, with the average level of public debt to GDP rising above 90 percent, up from 70 percent in the mid 1990s.” In outlining the strengths of the region he also focused on the “existence in most countries of vibrant democracies...[where] pluralism and democracy have flourished and racial gender equality have long underpinned the political process.” In addition to Dr. Carstens, who gained world wide recognition for his recommendations for preventing and managing crises and for his work on economic policymaking following the Mexican banking crisis of 1994, the Minister in the Ministry of Finance, Senator Christine Sahadeo, hinted at Government’s intention to introduce corporate governance ratings to state-owned enterprises, as part of an ongoing series of Government initiatives geared towards boosting investor confidence.

Speaking at the Conference at The University of the West Indies’ Learning Resource Centre, she revealed Government’s intention “to establish regulations that are in conformity with



Dr. Agustin Carstens

international best practice for, among other things, international disclosure and standard corporate governance.” The Minister explained that the globalised context of trade and investment were creating a high demand for principle-driven, ethical leadership, characterised by good corporate governance values such as accountability and transparency. “The only way we will improve is when we measure,” Sahadeo said, underscoring that improving the governance of state-owned enterprises was an important objective of public policy. “What are suggesting today is that we measure governance.”

Sahadeo’s co-presenters on the Day Two session on Corporate Governance were Dr. Surendra Arjoon and Dr. Emily Dick-Forde, who lecture at the University’s St. Augustine and Cave Hill campuses respectively. Hosted by The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, The Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago and Caribbean Money Market Brokers, the conference featured presentations from local policy makers as well as international and regional experts. Mr. Ewart Williams, Governor, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, Mr. Ram Ramesh, Managing Director, CMMB, Mr. Brian Wynter, Executive Director, Financial Services Commission, Jamaica, Mr. Errol Simms, Head, Department of Management Studies, UWI, Dr Anthony Bowrin, UWI Lecturer and Mr. Rabi N. Mishra of Harvard University were also featured at the Conference.



Emerging Ideas: A cross section of the audience at the Conference’s Opening Ceremony

THE REWARDS OF FINDING THE SILVER LINING

For some people, turning 30 is no big deal. For Kevon, his birthday two years ago was the day he decided to stop living for today, and take control of his future. Every month since then Kevon's put 10% of his salary into UTC's Growth and Income Fund.

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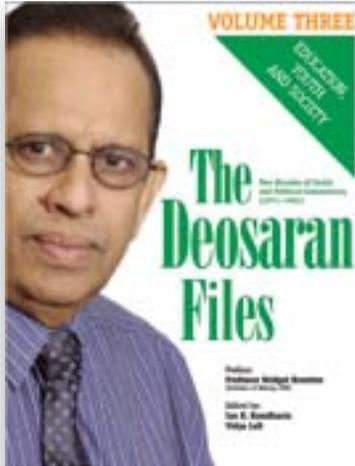


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BOOKMARK

Ramesh Deosaran has always been an engaged scholar, “public” intellectual, a University academic who has maintained a consistent engagement over some three decades with political and social issues critical to Trinidad and Tobago. He has always been involved in the public arena, for a brief time as a party politician and electoral candidate, for a much longer time (and up to today) as an Independent Senator, and for an even longer time as a regular columnist for the nation’s newspapers. It is his work in this last capacity which is featured in the present publication.



to the reader of 2004; there is plenty of unfinished national business here! For instance, there is a 1979 column on the need to decentralize education, to give effective control over schools to

local bodies. The infamous shift system is condemned in a 1981 article as the “breeding ground” of anti-social values and attitudes inimical to learning – it is still with us 23 years later. The inadequate command of English possessed by secondary school graduates engaged Deosaran’s attention in columns published in 1985 and 1986. In the latter piece, he responds to a demand for the teaching of Hindi as a second language in the schools with dry wit: “Right now,

I am still very worried about English as a first language. After all we are still officiously saying “creamatorium”...’

As we grapple with problems of violence in the secondary schools, problems which many recent commentators seem to think are new, it is instructive to read Deosaran’s articles on this subject. In 1981, Deosaran was calling for trained counselors in each secondary school and for teachers to receive basic training in student counseling. His guardian column of July 2, 1989 indicates that school violence was a big issue in the 1970’s, when he headed a committee which made several recommendations to deal with the problem. In 1989, a “national consultation” was held on the issue. Some of his columns on education could easily have been written in 2004.

Deosaran also engages with issues related to family life and sexual behaviour. In his sensible, rational way, he argues for proper sex education in the secondary schools, pointing out that ignorance among teenagers about sexuality

and conception is a major reason both for the spread of HIV-/AIDS and other STDs, and for unwanted pregnancies. “The church preaches self-control”, he notes, “but less of the realities of sexual biology. Self-control can be better served with an understanding of the biological reality of puberty”. In another column, Deosaran points out that parenthood is not simply a personal matter; there is a social responsibility in procreating, and rational approaches to family planning are urgently required. In general, he takes a common sense, level-headed line on issues relating to sexual morality and family life, which is both helpful and refreshing. An interesting column of 1990 titled “The psychology of the East-West Corridor Youth” is as relevant today as it was when first published.

And we find the same balanced approach when Deosaran engages with cultural issues. In a thoughtful piece in the Guardian in 1988, he writes on the assertion of ethnic cultural identity versus the forces of globalization (without using the latter word, which had not yet become the cliché of today). It is a prescient discussion of issues which have only become more relevant since 1988.

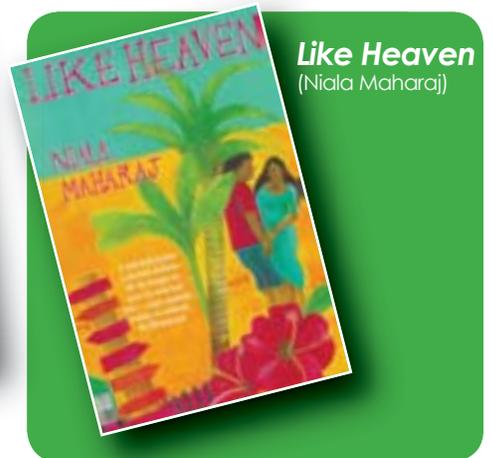
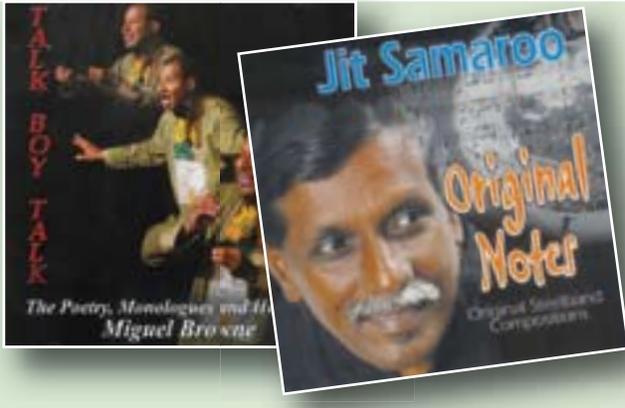
As an academic who was also a part-time journalist, Deosaran devotes any articles to the media. He consistently appealed for a free press; while he can be critical of the media (he apparently once sued a newspaper for articles about him), he always insists that a free press is the bedrock of a democratic society and polity.

There is much we can learn from the articles in this volume. The issues engaged in are still, by and large, highly relevant and Deosaran’s balanced, sensible views are welcome in this time of hysteria and special pleading in the nation’s public discourses. (From *The Deosaran Files*, Preface for Volume 3, Focus on Education, Youth & Society, by Professor of History, UWI, Bridget Brereton.)

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In celebration of the life of political and cultural activist, writer and publisher Dr John Anthony La Rose, the film *Dream to Change the World* by prolific Trinidadian film-maker, Horace Ove, was recently featured at The UWI Learning Resource Centre, St Augustine Campus. At the showing introductions were made by Professor Gordon Rohlehr and David Abdulah, who both underscored the many achievements of the poet and publisher.

The documentary directed by the award-winning Ove has been described as drawing “on the visual archive of past events in the multi-cultural history of Trinidad...to tell the story of La Rose’s life”. Having worked extensively in film over the years independently and with the BBC, Ove has produced gems such as *Baldwin’s Nigger* (1969) featuring James Baldwin and Dick Gregory, *King Carnival* (1973) which explores the diversity of our local festival, *Pressure* (1974) and *Playing Away* (1986) with a screenplay written by Caryl Phillips - based on a Brixton Cricket team and the journey to play against an English County cricket side.

In *Dream*, La Rose talks about his life in Trinidad and his travels abroad from Africa to Europe. Although he left his homeland almost forty years ago, he has been heralded as “undoubtedly one of the most important people in the political and cultural life of the Caribbean in the latter half of the 20th Century” by David Abdulah.

Born in Arima, Trinidad on 27th December 1927, La Rose’s father was a cocoa trader and his mother a teacher who became Principal of the Arima Girl’s R.C. School. After graduating from High School and a brief teaching stint at his alma mater, St. Mary’s College, he went to work with the late Cyril Duprey in the very early days of Colonial Life Insurance Company in the Executive Office. He was an active member of the cultural and literary life of Arima and Trinidad, being involved with an Arima Literary group which included Neville and Undine Giuseppi and Arnold Thomasos. La Rose saw the importance of local cultural forms and was very interested in the calypso, so much so that he co-authored with the Kaisonian Raymond Quevedo (*Atilla the Hun*) the work “Kaiso a Review” later

DREAM TO CHANGE THE WORLD



Photograph Courtesy Horace Ove

Home and Away: new world artists from left Samuel Selvon, John La Rose and Andrew Salkey in North London in the 1980s.

published as “*Atilla’s Kaiso*”. Years later he would publish “Kaiso Music”, co-authored with David Rudder.

An Executive Member of the Federated Workers’ Trade Union (FWTU), led by Quintin O’Connor, La Rose was part of a delegation which included Dr. Cheddi Jagan of the Guiana Agricultural Workers’ Union of British Guiana, John Rojas of the OWTU and Quintin O’Connor of the FWTU of Trinidad and Tobago, Ebenezer Joshua of the Federated Industrial and Agricultural Workers of St. Vincent and Richard Hart of the Trade Union Council of Jamaica, which met with Grantley Adams of the Barbados Workers’ Union to discuss the future of the Caribbean Labour Congress (CLC) in light of the formation of the US funded Caribbean Area Division of ORIT (CADORIT). Later La Rose would renew his union activism. An activist and Honorary Member of the European Representative for the Oilfields Workers’ Trade Union (OWTU), he was awarded the OWTU’s highest award, the Labour Star, in 1988 for outstanding service to the Union and the working class.

David Abdulah’s extensive biography went on to focus on La Rose’s multi-faceted career as a founding member of the Marxist group the Workers’ Freedom Movement (WFM would become the West Indian Independence Party); which had as forefront members Christina King and Jim Barrette, two of the leaders of the

Negro Welfare Cultural and Social Association (NWCSA) which had played a central role in the organizing of the June 1937 strike and anti-colonial revolt.

In 1961 he migrated to London and in August, 1966 founded New Beacon Books together with his partner Sarah White. This bookshop and publishing house, was named in the tradition of the pioneering publishers in Trinidad in the late 1920’s and early 30’s – the Beacon Group – which had notables such as CLR James, Albert Gomes and Alfred Mendes.

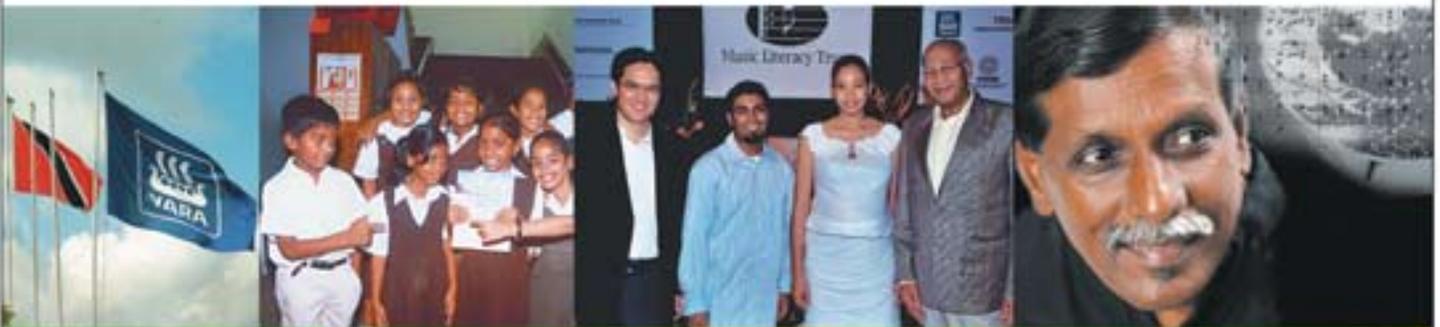
Also in 1966 John La Rose was an integral member of the group which included Edward Kamau Brathwaite, Andrew Salkey and Aubrey Williams that founded the Caribbean Artists’ Movement (CAM) and was involved in the publishing of CAM’s journal – “Savacou”.

“His multi-faceted talent saw him being a film producer, the most important being *The Mangrove Nine*, which dealt with the resistance of the largely West Indian community to police attacks on the popular restaurant named the *Mangrove* in the Nottinghill area of London. In 1973 he produced a film for the BBC on the Black Church in Britain,” Abdulah explained.

After an exceptional life of innovation and activism, John Anthony La Rose died at Whittington Hospital, London, England on Tuesday 28th February, 2006.



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Soufrière's Inferno

UWI scientific team pioneers project on St Vincent Volcano



A team of staff and research students recently undertook a field trip to the Soufrière Volcano in St. Vincent – the first of many aimed at building a 3D model of the volcano. The model is a pioneering initiative, for while geological models exist for volcanoes in other regions in the world (eg Hawaii, La Réunion), models have rarely been generated for the explosive type that prevails in the Lesser Antilles.

The Soufrière volcano is one of the most active volcanoes in the Caribbean and has erupted explosively four times in the last 187 years. Although the most recent eruption was in 1979, steam and hot gases with the smell of rotten eggs still vent almost continuously from hot springs (fumaroles) on the solidified volcanic “plug” inside the crater. The rocks in such areas are too hot to touch with bare hands, and probes thrust into the fumaroles indicate temperatures close to that of boiling water.

The Seismic Research Unit at The University of the West Indies has established a significant level of earthquake and volcano monitoring throughout the Lesser Antilles. Recently, it has begun detailed monitoring

of the Soufrière volcano on St. Vincent as a template for similar hazard monitoring in other volcanic island nations. The team is focused on improving the efficacy of volcano monitoring by building a geological model for this volcano on St. Vincent. The model will lead to a better understanding of the volcano’s structure and behaviour in turn leading to an improved ability to predict eruptions of Soufrière and other similar volcanoes in the Caribbean.

Several techniques will be used to construct the model which will relate surface features and subsurface structures and underground networks of water and molten rock (magma).

The diverse backgrounds of the team members reflect the skills and experience required to construct the model. Members include Dr. Keith Miller, Head of Surveying and Land Information Department, and surveyor student, Ms. Arlene Atwell-Martinez; Dr. Nicolas Fournier, volcanologist, Seismic Research Unit; Professor Joseph Hamilton, Head of the Petroleum Geoscience Unit, and hydrogeology student Ms. Magali Fournier.

In addition, considerable logistic support (vehicles, drivers, aerial photographs, maps, guide) was made available to the team through the Soufrière Monitoring Unit at the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fishery in St. Vincent.

In a region with several active volcanoes it is interesting to note that two science disciplines are to be newly applied to Soufrière: the study of the distribution and flow pathways of water within the volcano (hydrogeology); and of the detailed gravity distribution over the volcano. Gravity distribution helps us to understand the internal structure of the volcano. And both require measurement of the precise locations of sampling points using modern surveying techniques.

Just how important the presence of water could be in promoting explosivity of eruptions is poorly understood. A significant amount of water around the summit area could act as a thermal buffer during renewed activity.

In contrast, a small amount of groundwater would have the opposite effect and favour highly explosive eruptions as >

Aerial view of the Soufrière volcano crater.
Diameter of the crater is about 1 - 1.2 km.
Photograph courtesy of the Central Planning Unit,
Ministry of Finance, Planning and Development



The Soufrière Volcano is one of the most active volcanoes in the Caribbean and has erupted four times in the last 187 years.

it vaporizes on contact with hot molten rock. It is intriguing that prior to the explosive 1979 eruption a substantial crater lake had existed but subsequently has not reappeared.

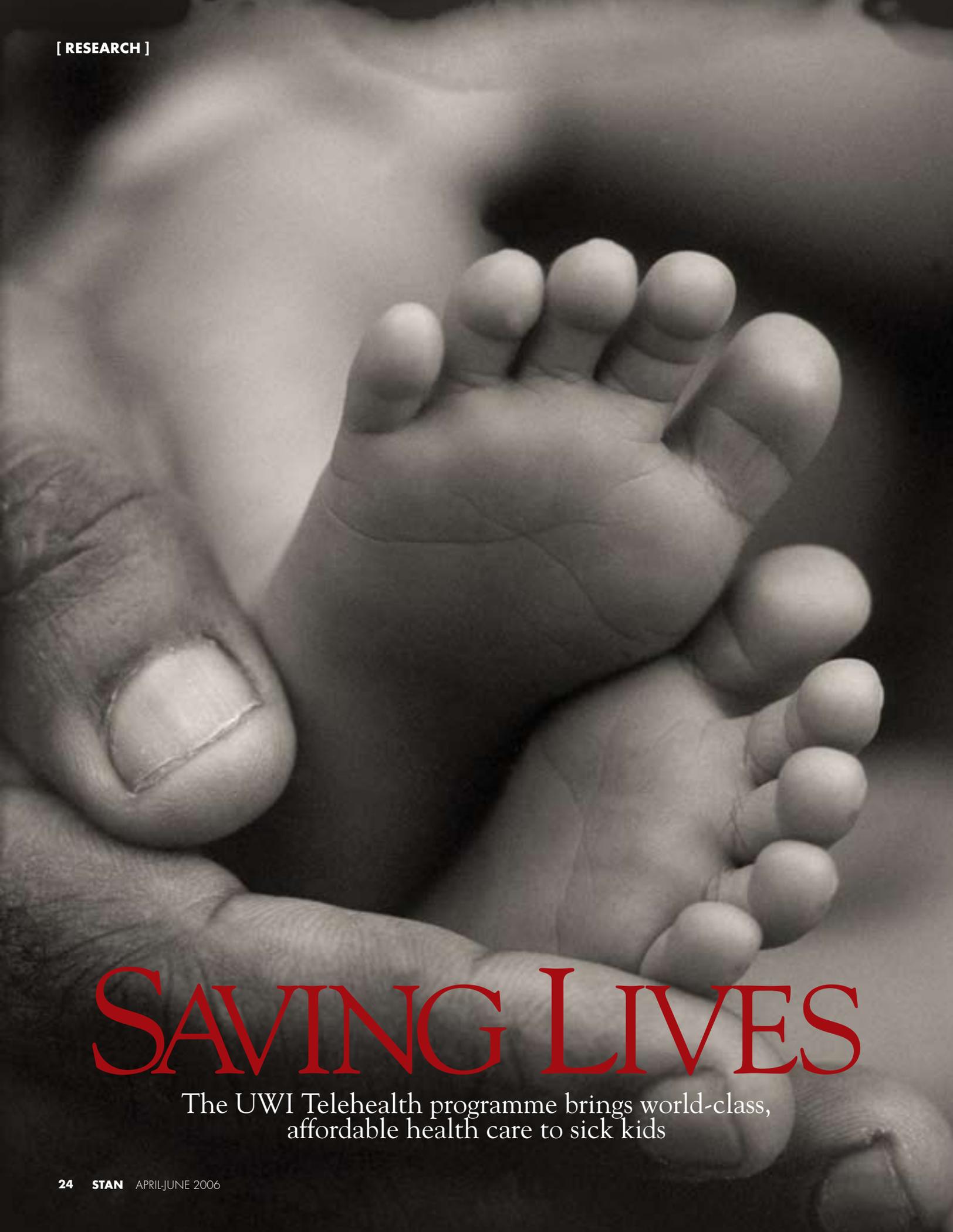
During subsequent field trips the team of University of the West Indies students and staff will undertake repeat hydrogeological and gravity measurements that will allow both the assessment of the presence of water at the top of the volcano and the temporal variation of the water table if any. Understanding the groundwater system near the top of the edifice, as well as the internal structure of the volcano, is therefore essential to better assess future eruption styles at Soufrière.

Financial support of this project has been provided by the Research and Publications Funding Committee, the Seismic Research and Petroleum Geoscience Units and the Departments of Chemical Engineering and Surveying and Land Information.

MPhil student Magali Fournier installing temporary rain gauges in the floor of the volcano's crater.



(Photograph from N. Fournier)



SAVING LIVES

The UWI Telehealth programme brings world-class,
affordable health care to sick kids

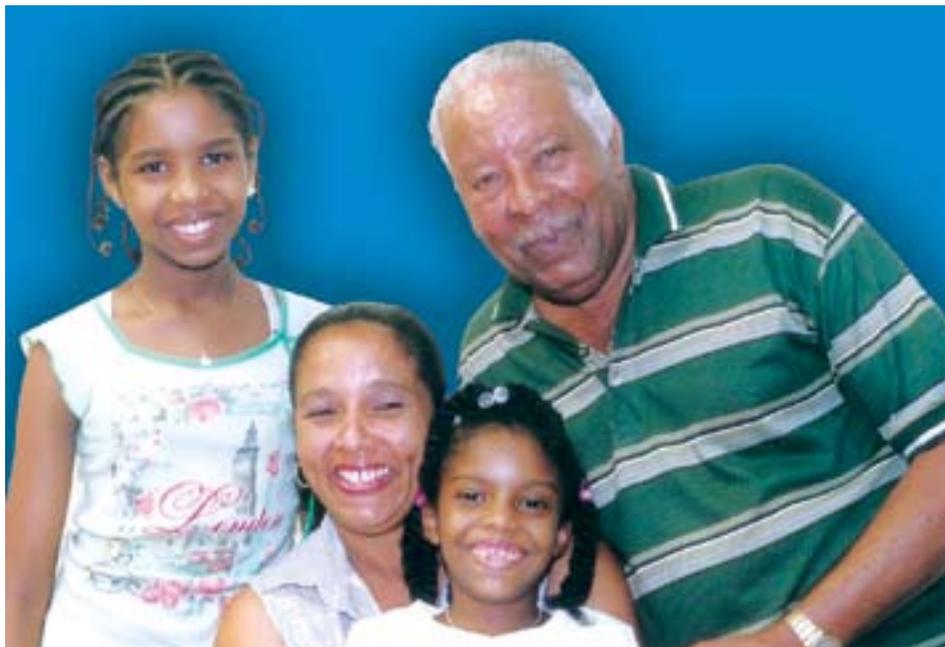
A toddler laughs loudly in the background and talks to his brother in the secret language of young children. Leslie Sookoo speaks gratefully about the programme that helped her sons become the healthy children they are today.

Johan and Tariq were born with anal atresia, a defect of the intestinal tract. At birth they were given a colostomy by Dr. Barrie Landreth-Smith, one of the paediatric surgeons at the Mount Hope Women's Hospital, who advised Mrs. Sookoo that they were not adequately equipped to treat her children's condition, and referred her to the SickKids Hospital in Toronto, Canada. After months of research and fund-raising, she took the babies abroad for two surgical operations (one on Mother's Day and the other on the 4th of July).

"[Dr. Langer], the physician taking care of my boys told me about the [UWI Telehealth] programme. He said that it would save me money because I would be able to communicate with him via videoconferencing and make fewer trips to Canada."

The Telehealth programme was established by the collaborative effort of the UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences, the world-renowned SickKids Hospital, the Atlantic LNG Company of Trinidad & Tobago (T&T), the Herbie Fund and the Ministry of Health (T&T). It was formally launched under the patronage of His Excellency Professor George Maxwell Richards on September 14, 2004 to the great satisfaction of Professor Zulaika Ali, Programme Director. Through innovative teleconferencing technology, "real time" consultations take place between local health care professionals and specialists at the SickKids Hospital. The linkage also strengthens local continuing medical education in paediatrics and its sub-specialties, as well as promotes and supports collaborative research between medical

"[Dr. Langer], the physician taking care of my boys told me about the [UWI Telehealth] programme. He said that it would save me money because I would be able to communicate with him via videoconferencing and make fewer trips to Canada."



Members of the Juman family.

investigators in Trinidad & Tobago and Canada.

Mrs. Sookoo is a willing advocate of the programme saying, "Nisa Philip [Programme Manager] was very helpful in making all the arrangements. The appointment went well. It was just as if we were there with Dr. Langer. I think that [UWI Telehealth] is efficient and cost-effective a thousand times over. The boys are doing very well. They are as normal as can be, thank God." Recently good news was also given to one of the first recipients of the UWI Telehealth service: Natalia Juman, a seven year old who loves cartoons and looks forward to going to school to study the sciences, was suffering from a serious medical condition at birth that had proved fatal for three of her aunts. In April 2005, doctors in Trinidad were able to consult and discuss her case with their colleagues in Canada. Almost exactly one year later after several video-conferences, Natalia has returned home after a highly successful medical procedure in Canada.

Through the surgery and consultations, the family was saved the medical expense of TT \$270,000 through this programme.

"Well actually this whole procedure is a lifeline to me...it's very cost-effective," explained her mother. Similarly for Natalia's grandfather, Andrew Lara, the service was seen as extremely beneficial.

"It was wonderful - I never thought we had that technology here...[we've had] a lot of suffering...from the time she was a baby."

For Professor Zulaika Ali, Director of the Programme, its progress has been very gratifying, "It was very satisfying to actually see the whole thing come together after working on this since 2001."

The UWI Telehealth programme has already benefited numerous children like Johan, Natalia and Tariq, and it is expected to help many more.

Alake Pilgrim (UWI Annual Report) & Anna Walcott-Hardy (STAN)

We have Energy on line



As a prime mover in the economy, The National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited is involved in key segments of the natural gas value chain, and is also the only buyer, aggregator and seller of natural gas locally.

Our experience in natural gas marketing, transmission and distribution, offshore compression and the construction of the country's gas pipeline network has helped us to play a key role in the development of Trinidad and Tobago's gas resource for optimal and sustainable development.

Our current growth includes the expansion of pipeline capacity from 1.4 Bcf/d to 2.4 Bcf/d, increase in gas sales to 1.5 Bcf/d, thereby increasing group assets and revenues which are close to \$9 billion and \$1 billion respectively.



**THE NATIONAL GAS COMPANY
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO LIMITED**



Following its 2005 production 'An Evening of August', the UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts (CCFA), 2006 season continued with 'OGUN IYAN- As in Pan', in April. Held at the Scherzando Pan Theatre, the play captured a wide audience throughout its run.

Written by playwright Rawle Gibbons, 'OGUN IYAN- As in Pan', is a description of the genesis, struggle and victory of the Steelpan. The play is set within the period 1939 – 1950, a time in Trinidad's history when black cultural expressions (religious and celebratory) were banned. By interweaving the history of steelpan with the religious beliefs of the Orisha, the playwright links the desire for free expression - the development of the steelpan (OGUN IYAN), with religion - the Orisha gods, Ogun and Oshun. The play examines the struggles that the pioneers of the steelpan movement endured to make the instrument locally, regionally and internationally accepted.

Bringing the script to life was a cast of veterans and newcomers, all of whom are associated with the CCFA. Lead characters included Paul Massy (Kanga), Marc Antoine (Ogun), Karen Carnavon (Oshun), Jeffrey Biddean (Cutter), Damian Richardson (Shabba), Anthony Fredrick (Bull) and Samantha Stafford (Ana).

Play director, Louis McWilliams, kept the audience engaged and involved in the fast-paced scenes, while musical director, Harold Headley, ensured the play's message was at the forefront with compositions of drums, iron and steel, which played throughout the production.

Kudos to all who worked tirelessly on stage and behind the scenes from set to costume design. *Carlene London*

STAN ONLINE

St. Augustine Campus News and Features available exclusively at <http://www.sta.uwi.edu/stan>



STAN Website Relunched

The official STAN website relaunches this month, with a new design and more exclusive online content. You can also sign up to receive the e-STAN newsletter, which includes updates on St. Augustine Campus happenings, more photography and opportunities to win great prizes.



Business, Banking and Finance Conference

Recap the Business, Banking and Finance Conference: view Conference highlights and read presentations made by the Honourable Patrick Manning, Prime Minister of The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Deputy Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Dr. Agustin Carstens.

Caribbean Philanthropy Conference

Read about the UWI Development and Endowment Fund's second Conference on Caribbean Philanthropy, held on May 2 – 5, 2006. Presentations included those from world-renowned actor and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador **Danny Glover**, Reverend **Dr. Calvin Butts**, Pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York and **Rita Marley** of the Rita Marley Foundation. This conference aimed at formulating an agenda on how to maximize philanthropy for the development of the Caribbean.

A PLACE OF OUR OWN

The St. Augustine Campus launches a Major in Geography

And now for something lighter.

*I went to the botanical gardens
in West London.*

*Kew? (queue)
Yes, it was really busy.*

*I stubbed my foot
on a recent visit to an
Indonesian volcano.
Krakatoa? (crack a toe)
Yeah, and I'm still limping.*

***“The [geography]
department will
eventually be established
either as a full-fledged
Department of Geography or
as a part of the Department
of Natural Resource
Management***

While geographers are not commonly known for their sense of humour, geography jokes, as you can tell from the examples above, are definitely, well, in a class of their own. The St. Augustine Campus' new Geography major promises to be just as special.

The programme's Level Two and Level Three course syllabi, which have already been approved by the FSA Board and the St. Augustine Campus Academic Board, are expected to gain final approval at the May sitting of the UWI Board of Undergraduate Studies just in time for the full BSc undergraduate degree to be launched in September.

The University of the West Indies already has an established Geography undergraduate degree at its Mona Campus. But the move to establish the St. Augustine Campus geography degree comes, at least partly, in response to a longstanding demand from administrators within the Ministry of Education. Professor Narinesingh, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Agriculture (FSA), cited one document signed by a Curriculum Officer, which stated, “The teaching of Geography has suffered because of the dirth [sic] of teachers to teach the subject. This has been exacerbated by the unavailability of the degree locally.”

The new offering, which has found a home in the FSA, certainly provides a facility for Advanced Level Geography students seeking to further their studies without incurring the expense of traveling abroad. But students and ministry officials aren't the only ones expected to welcome the new programme with open arms. Secondary school teachers seeking to remain current in the field will now benefit from the option to further their studies right here at the St. Augustine Campus.

One case in point is Giselle Shalto, a Geography/ Food & Nutrition teacher at Providence Girls' Catholic School, Belmont.

“When I became a teacher five years ago, there was no Geography programme in existence here and I hadn't picked up a Geography text book in years,” said Shalto. “I think if you're a teacher, you should at least have a degree in your subject area.”

When she stumbled across the Geography programme while registering for second year courses in Human Ecology, she immediately signed up but kept her fingers crossed. In the previous year (2004), she had applied without success for a scholarship to pursue undergraduate studies in Geography on Mona Campus. This time, however, she would not be disappointed with the outcome of her application;

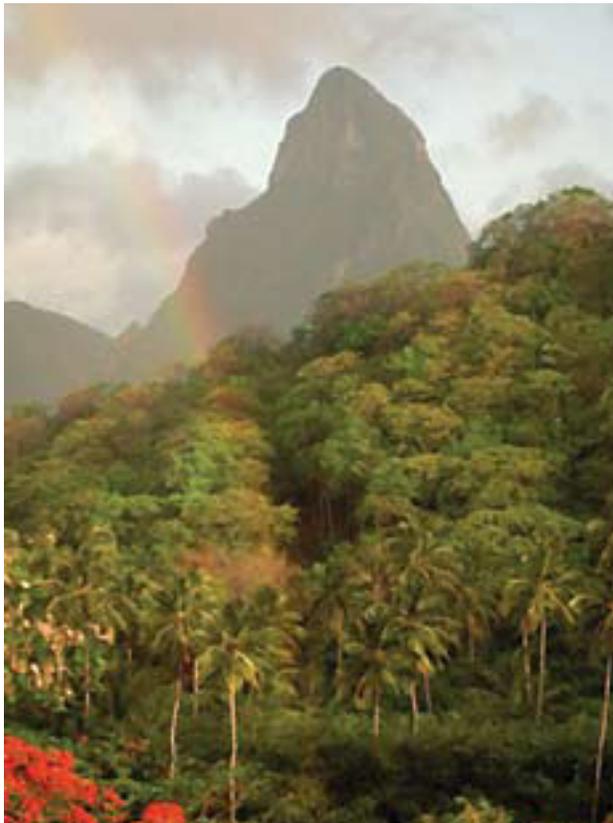
nor with the quality of the programme, for that matter, although she did point to some of the practical difficulties with staffing, pedagogical materials, lab facilities and logistics of physical accommodation that still had to be overcome.

"Well, it's still a work in progress," she told me. "It's just getting off the ground."

Dr. Gregory Gouveia, Head of the Department of Food Production, chairs the multidisciplinary committee considering these and other issues relevant to getting the Geography programme "off the ground", so to speak. Their ultimate vision is a programme covering both physical and human geography, with compulsory (core) courses including Geomorphology, Caribbean Landforms, Biogeography, Anthropogenic-Environment Interactions, Cartography, Climatology, Caribbean Hazards, Culture-Environment Issues, Locational Issues and Earth Science.

"Even without any formal advertisement, we were able to get a class of forty. We simply advertised it to the students on registration week," noted Gouveia, underscoring that the new programme's focus on local geography, applied geography and issues affecting Small Island Developing States (SIDS), give it a "unique emphasis", distinguishing it from other existing offerings.

**"Even without any formal advertisement,
we were able to get a class of forty"**



Himself an environmental soil chemist, Dr. Gouveia was one of many lecturers, drawn from a variety of disciplines, who taught the wide range of Level One courses offered in its debut academic year.

"Geography is an integrationist study," pointed out Dr. Judy Rocke, the programme's geographer and another member of the Programme Development Committee, "and we draw on different fields all around us to come up with our own geographic analysis. When you see it as an integration of all these different ideas, I believe that that's when people will begin to see themselves as Geographers."

For Dr. Rocke, the Technical Advisory Services manager at the Institute of Marine Affairs, the establishment of the new

programme is a watershed moment for the nation in the study of geography.

"As students get exposed to more of the advanced work in Geography, they'll step away from saying, 'Well, what can I do with Geography?' as much as, 'This is what I'm able to do with my Geography!'" Rocke said, acknowledging in the same breath that the programme would, at least for now, keep "closer to the mainstream."

"We have to consider what we want to expose the students to. There is the core and then there is the edge. When I say the edge, I mean, the latest development. In Europe, they're studying the Geography of Homosexuality and the Geography of Advertising Campaigns. This is what I'm talking about when I say the edge. But we couldn't go there. Not yet." Gerard Best

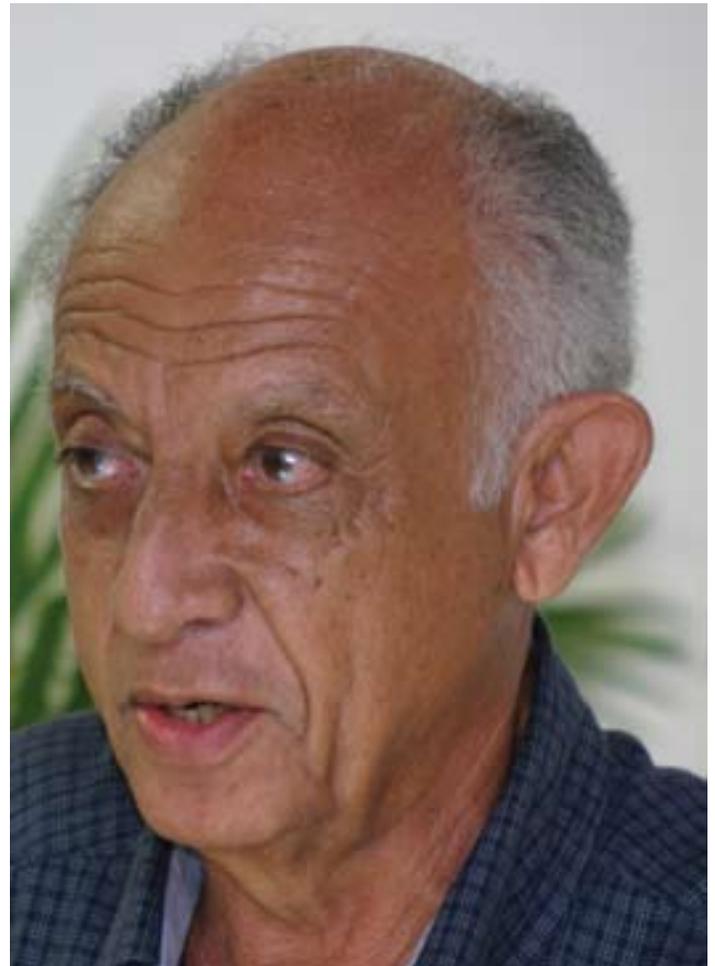


Professor Dyer Narinesingh

STAN recently caught up with celebrated writer and UWI Emeritus **Professor Eddie Baugh** at the successful 25th Anniversary Conference on West Indian Literature at our Campus.

So, how do you define a Caribbean writer now?

Oh, well, that's one of those almost impossible things. But perhaps a useful definition would be that a Caribbean writer is one who writes out of Caribbean experience and writes to Caribbean experience. And not exclusively because, for example, some of these writers overseas, their audience is legitimately also British, international as any writer hopes to be. But their work is energized by, and the subject matter has very much to do, either with the Caribbean or with the fact that they are products of Caribbean heritage. That's a kind of wide and vague [definition] but the truth is that these definitions [...] always have grey areas and blurred edges. One could say, for example, that a Caribbean writer has to be somebody born in the Caribbean but it seems to me that if you do that you then create as many problems as you solve. It's a working definition: it limits the area in a very sort of mechanistic way. Kwame Dawes, a prize-winning poet and fiction writer, he was actually born in Ghana of a Jamaican father and a Ghanaian mother. But there is no way that anybody reading his stuff would think of him as anything but a Caribbean writer. The long-standing woman novelist, Paule Marshall, of great eminence, is a black American writer, but she is very much a Caribbean writer in some of her books because she was born in the States, out of Barbadian parentage. And her work, some of it anyway, if you pick it up, you wouldn't have any reason, unless you know otherwise, to think that this wasn't a Caribbean person writing.



Professor Eddie Baugh

Does she call herself Caribbean?

I can't tell you definitely but I believe so.

Is Naipaul a Caribbean writer then?

Oh, well my answer to that is unquestionably yes. But everybody knows that Naipaul has almost made a point of saying that he does not wish to be considered as a Caribbean writer, because he finds that too limiting and so on. But it's perfectly legitimate for him to define himself as whatever. It's also perfectly legitimate for me to say, whatever he calls himself, I will still call him a Caribbean writer. Every writer, ultimately, addresses the world, but addresses the world from their specific location in the world. So a short answer to your question—Yes, I would call Naipaul a Caribbean writer.



From left: Leroy Clarke, Lloyd Best, and George Lamming

By that logic, it isn't necessary for the writer to define himself or herself as from the Caribbean.

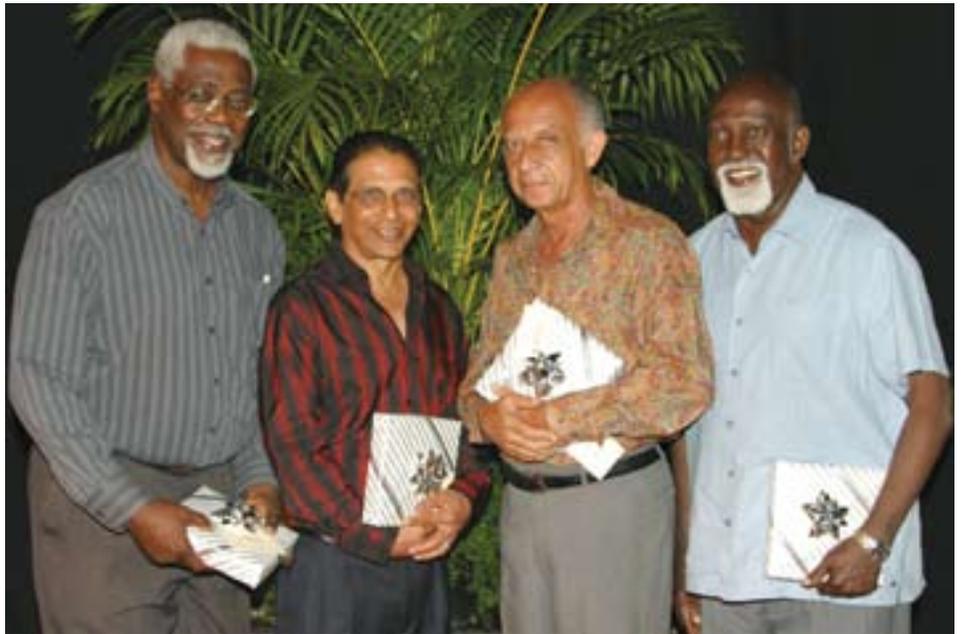
Exactly, by my logic.

What's happening to the book, in the 21st century, as a product and as an art form?

There were dire predictions in some quarters that the book would die with all the new digital technology, but there's no sign that this is happening. What is happening is that literature is being diversified. For instance, there are a lot of literary magazines that are only on-line. They're not published in print. You can only download them. What that has done for the literature is, it has opened up publication opportunities. People are not bound now to go to print publishers and get a book accepted. I'm just saying that, in a general sense, that must be a good thing.

The down side of that, of course, which is inevitable and must be accepted, is that any old thing can get on-line. So there's that aspect but one has to accept that as part of the general opening up of opportunities.

Of course, a practical corollary of this is the business of copyright, you know, how do you protect things that are on-line. Well, all of that is being worked on. Just to give a specific instance of this "opening up", I have a book on Derek Walcott that was published last week in London on the 31st of March. It's just called Derek Walcott; it's just been published by Cambridge University Press. And I'd signed a contract years ago to write this book for print publication and it has been published. But not so long ago I got from Cambridge University Press a letter inviting me to sign another contract which would make my book available for digitisation in due course. And they explained that they'd worked out systems whereby I would still get royalties from it and it would still be protected and so on.



The Honourables: Dr. Gordon Rohlehr, Professor Kenneth Ramchand, Professor Eddie Baugh and Professor Mervyn Morris (Mona)

In what way was this 25th Anniversary Conference special?

Well, first of all, obviously it was special simply because it was the twenty-fifth, but that's not an answer. You want to know about the Conference itself. Well, it was special because the organisers, [Conference Administrator] Dr. Barbara Lalla and her team, organised it to have a certain international resonance. They made a point of opening it up to some outstanding international people. [...]

It was also special because, as an acknowledgement that the event had been going on for 25 years, the organisers made a point of using the occasion to honour four persons who had taught for many years in the UWI Literatures in English department, namely Professor [Kenneth] Ramchand, Professor [Gordon] Rohlehr, and from Mona, Professor Mervyn Morris and me. [...]

One other way in which the Conference was special was that they made a point of inviting Caribbean writers from outside, notably Lorna Goodison, the poet, who is Jamaican and who lives and works in the USA, and Shani Mootoo, of Trinidadian origin. [...]

Apart from holding annual Conferences, what do you think is the role of the University in Caribbean literature?

Well, our role as researchers and teachers really, is to keep trying to find forward-looking insights into and approaches to the criticism of literature. But of course, our basic function is to teach students. [...]

And of course, part of the function was, inevitably even if not deliberately, to help to promote West Indian literature on the international scene, and to the extent that some of the people from UWI, like the people who were honoured-Ramchand, Rohlehr, Morris-and others, like Prof. Carolyn Cooper, Dr. Maureen Warner-Lewis and other people, they have become recognised now as international authorities. The image of The UWI has been projected through them. All these people are known and sought after internationally. So that that is UWI on the world stage. GB

Colours Again

STAN spoke with YARA Trinidad's President about the focus on "developing people and enriching communities"

It's not often that you find the President of a leading multi-national organisation, who's also an accomplished composer and musician.

Enter the unassuming President of Yara Trinidad Limited, Mark Loquan; a UWI honours graduate with a first degree in Chemical Engineering and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the Fuqua School of Business at Duke University - with a penchant for the steel pan.

Loquan, is not a proponent of the "quick fix", instead he is committed to innovative, heavy-duty initiatives with lasting returns.

"For myself, having a local perspective in a multinational company, is building local pictures for the long term," he explained, seated in his Office at the Point Lisas Estate.

"I feel a very strong sense that at a leading organisation like Yara, we would like to be affiliated with programmes and projects with long term value...I'm not really into the quick picture in the papers."

And he has continued to build on the support Yara, formerly known as Hydro Agri, has given to The University of the West Indies over the years. The company has continued to fund student bursaries, including an MPhil Scholarship of US \$10,000 for two years, to begin no later than September 2006; as well as the three million dollar donation towards the construction of the modern auditorium at the UWI Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business (formerly IOB).

"I feel a strong sense of utilising your company's expertise and know-how to benefit the community you are living in, because at the end of the day, these are the same people you recruit," explains Loquan (particularly important for the President of a company with an almost hundred percent local labour force).

It's not that difficult to imagine that the world's largest supplier of mineral fertilizers, a company with operating revenues

that exceed USD 5.6 billion and a mission to make farming more profitable and agriculture more sustainable, has partnered with The University of the West Indies in research, education, training and outreach.

With a business focused on ammonia and fertilizer production, Yara International ASA / Yara Trinidad Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on November 23, 2005 at the Hilton Trinidad with the Department of Food Production at The University of the West Indies.

Heralded as a "major benefit for the local and regional farming community," the MOU aims to provide collaborative



Mark Loquan, President of Yara Trinidad Limited

programmes for agricultural research, education, training and outreach in the Caribbean region. The alliance known by the acronym YUCAPA – Yara-UWI Community Assistance Programme in Agriculture, will achieve these objectives through cooperation between Yara’s Hanninghof Centre for Plant Nutrition and Environmental Research in Dulmen, Germany and the Department of Food Production, based at The University of the West Indies campus in Trinidad. One key area of support will include access to fertilizer application technology developed by Yara - including the very popular N-Tester - which allows farmers to assess the plant’s nutritional needs in order to optimise fertilizer application.

This alliance occurs at a time when the region continues to struggle with a high food import bill which, according to local economists, could be significantly reduced with more local food production, a cessation of preferential trading terms for agriculture exports in the European markets and by WTO policies. Dr. Gregory Gouveia, who heads the Department of Food Production, and Dr. Joachim Lammel, Head of Product and Application R&D at Yara’s Hanninghof Centre, exchanged visits and held discussions over the past year.

According to Loquan to help farmers and assist the development of the country by focusing on a key area (food production) is an area of major concern for Yara.

Just as much of a concern is music literacy and preservation. Founding Chairman of the not-for-profit, NGO Music Literacy Trust, he has a strong belief in the need for students of music to be able to read and even compose music. Accordingly, Yara has partnered with UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts for the development of electronic scoring and recording of compositions

by local composers such as Jit Samaroo (Original Notes) and Ray Hollman (Changing Time). Having partnered with the UWI in producing the Samaroo and Hollman music CDs in computerized format for teaching purposes for several UWI Courses including Pan Arranging, Pan Literature and Applied/Instrumental Music, Yara Trinidad Ltd. is also in “discussion with other local organisations and foreign universities and Steelpan European to have the scores included in their teaching material”.

“I wish there was a greater appreciation for the arts and culture and the contribution this can make in developing society,” Loquan explained.

Born in Trinidad in 1960, Mark E. Loquan was surrounded by music at an early age. There was always music in the Loquan house, and the two girls and three boys, loved to play the guitar and piano, especially at Christmas.

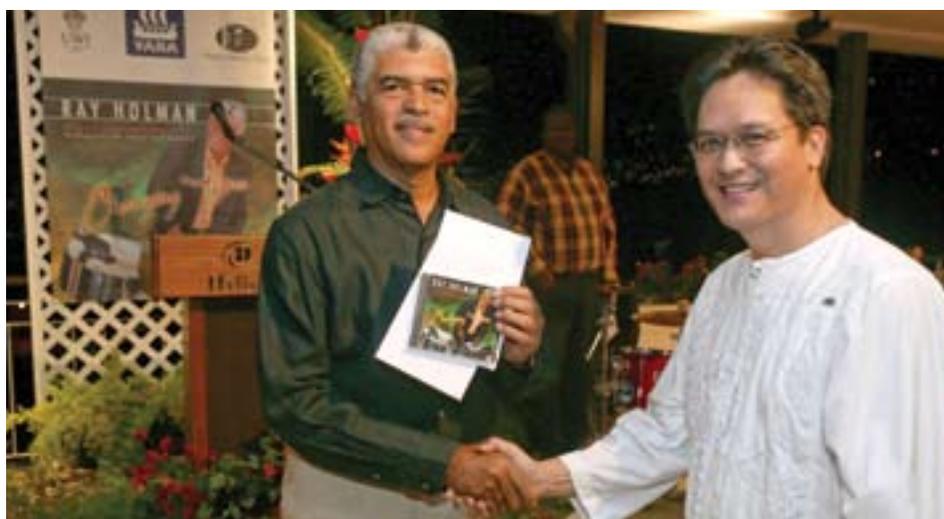
As a teenager while attending St. Mary’s College in Port of Spain, he took his interest a bit further and began not just playing music, but composing. He decided to start with “small goals that were built along the way”.

“I started to play the pan in 1993...and

joined the state side Silver Stars...It’s a serious hobby,” Loquan admits with a smile. Although he admits to being bitten by the “pan jumbie” this “hobby” had to be put on hold for a few years, as with his many promotions at work came an increase in the work-load and responsibilities.

Then in 1999, Loquan began competing in the major league with his debut Steelpan composition, “Glory”, which was played by one steelpan at the Panorama finals. Then, a few years later in 2006, he would score in the “big yard”, as no less than eight steel bands selected his popular composition, “Colours Again”, including: TCL Skiffle Bunch (arrangement by Liam Teague), Harmonites (arrangement by Earl La Pierre), Angostura Woodbrook Playboyz (arrangement by Pelham Goddard) and Merrytones (arrangement by Selon Gomes). Reminiscent of the melodic compositions of Kitchener, Colours Again, sang by Destra Garcia would become a favourite, not only for Steelpan, but for revellers and DJs throughout the Carnival season.

Undoubtedly, the multi-faceted UWI alum./composer/corporate icon etc./ Mark Loquan may be described in many ways, but it is without doubt, that he intends to bring a “local perspective” to a corporate multi-national. *AWH*



Changing times Ray Hollman and Mark Loquan

Margaret Burgess

Attorney-at-Law

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Kenrick Burgess

MBA, MA (Div), Dip. Const. Eng. & Mgt.,
Dip. Pub. Adm., Dip. Mgt., BSc (Hons) Civil Eng.

Margaret Burgess

LEC, LLB (Lond.), MEd, Dip. Ed, BSc (Hons)

What services does Global Competitive Strategies Ltd. offer?

Global Competitive Strategies Ltd. is a Project Management Company. We re-organise companies, and put systems and structures in place for the efficient functioning of the company.

I'm very interested to hear about the transition from your first degree [BSc in Botany, Zoology and Chemistry at UWI St. Augustine]...and how you ended up in Law and Project Management.

I am really more involved in Law than Project Management because in addition to serving as the attorney-at-law for this company, I have my own chambers. My husband is the Project Manager...

Well after I graduated from UWI in 1977, I taught Biology and Integrated Science, Forms 1 to 6, for 25 years at secondary schools...first in Tobago and then in Trinidad. I always loved Science and enrolled in UWI with the intention of sharpening my skills and knowledge to become a teacher. I studied for the Diploma in Education at UWI, and the Master of Education at UWI as well. [At that point] I had a choice between continuing in Education or moving into another area.

In what year did you decide to do that?

I started studying law in 1994 as a student in the external degree programme from the University of London and received tuition at the School of Accounting and Management. Having attained the LLB in 1997, I was accepted at the Hugh Wooding Law School and continued there for two years...I was called to the Bar in 1999.

How do you think UWI prepared you to make this career shift?

It contributed everything! It is at UWI that I first got exposure to higher education. I was able to explore the option of different careers because of my training. My training and experience in Science prepared me for Law because I apply the problem-solving method we use in Science to the practice of law.

In addition, UWI prepares you to access information and deal with unfamiliar situations. These are basic skills that you can apply in any discipline. This was the major benefit I received from going to UWI.

Do you have any mentors from your UWI experience?

Yes, my husband is my mentor, actually [he is] the first person who encouraged me to make the transition from teaching to law...It was at UWI that we really started our relationship. We graduated at the same time...After teaching for a number of years he challenged me to study Law because he recognised that the potential was there, so I decided to try, and found that I really love the Law - something I didn't even consider before. I also have mentors in the legal profession who willingly assist and guide me through difficult areas.

You came to UWI St. Augustine from Tobago. What was it like living on-campus?

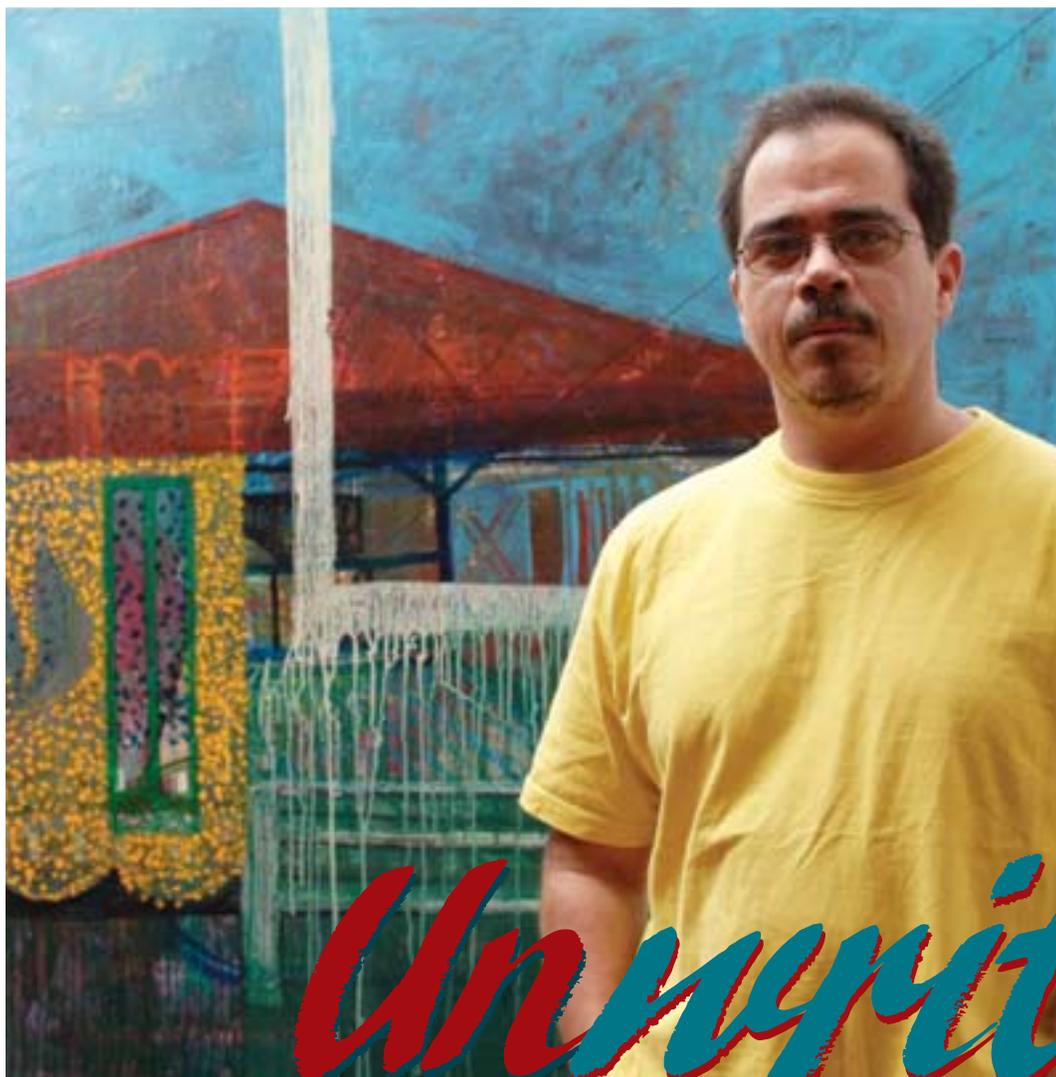
When I came to UWI in 1973, I lived on Trinity Hall. Back then it was just two floors...It was very challenging for me because it was almost like I had gone to a new country; this was my first time away from home. It really developed my independence. I had to depend on all the training I had received at home and the values that my parents had inculcated in me, to make sensible decisions.

I have friends from that time who are in different parts of the Caribbean. We still communicate via the internet or [in] other [ways]. Sometimes we share research or information....that network is important.

Is there anything you want to say to our up and coming graduates?

I want to encourage you the upcoming graduates to launch out, and to recognise that your first degree is just the start of your journey. There are many areas that you can get into. Continue studying and be versatile; you should be able to fit in wherever you find yourself, but this will only happen if you expand your borders, rather than staying within the narrow confines of your first degree. Never limit yourself!

“my husband is my mentor, actually [he is] the first person who encouraged me to make the transition from teaching to law...”



Unwritten

Artist Eddie Bowen on painting & patronage



“It’s all about colour,” artist and UWI lecturer, Eddie Bowen explained recently. “After being [in Trinidad] for 25 years, observing,...I’m not trying to analyse, [or] find meaning, I went straight to the canvas...and the architecture [component] is just the framework to hang thoughts on.”

Bowen was speaking about his latest exhibition, 9x5², which has been something of an Odyssey for the Trinidadian painter. It is not surprising to learn that as a boy, he had a profound love for architecture and even considered it as a career, but instead chose to study fine art at Croydon College, U.K. A teacher, developer, landowner and fine artist, his self-described style of “creating a road through abstraction” has taken a prolonged

“enquiry into the architecture of image making”. Through his technique he has created a language of memory, he has truly written on the canvas with colour. His art, wrought with motifs of roof tops, trees and tiered buildings, reflects the dexterity of a draughtsman.

In 1925, commenting on the work of the Italian born artist John Singer Sargent, Vernon Lee wrote “the individual temperament of every artist expresses itself with unconscious imperative far more in *how* he paints than in *what* he chooses to be painting” - this all seems very applicable to Bowen’s art.

Although he began construction on his “recent work” seven years ago, soon after the



“We may have about twenty Picassos - I’ve seen it - I’ve seen these kids hopping from the canvas. And when they go out there - it’s like a desert.”

birth of his son Zane, Bowen only returned to the pieces many years later; after emerging from the “emotional fall-out” from the disintegration of his marriage. And so in 2004 he brought the canvases from the gallery at Caribbean Contemporary Arts, where he had a residency, to his beach-house in Sans Souci. There he would paint late into the night, often allowing his son Zane to collaborate on some of the pieces. The collaboration proved successful - for instance in *Letters of Comfort*, Zane’s small, chunky blocks of blue draw the eye into the work, balanced by the robust strokes of his father.

The Munch-ian therapy found in the work, seems to be combined, or perhaps in harmony, with the architectural icons often

repeated in his images; both seeking a state of equilibrium (or perhaps more of a meditative state - Bowen is a great proponent of Yoga). Although the artist focuses on placement of colour and delineation of space, the pieces may also be therapeutic for the viewer, working through many psychological, as well as global, socio-political themes, from colonialism and squatter’s rights to the battle between industrialisation and the environment.

In March, in a room of about 50 students, painters, friends and patrons seated at the CCA gallery, Bowen spoke candidly about his work and the “lack of patronage” for the arts. During his talk, he also addressed the need for visual art to be at the “centre of

the University and not the periphery”. He spoke with despair on the difficulty of being an artist in Trinidad and Tobago and the future for those who choose the discipline as a career, as the “intrinsic value of the work is never taken into account”.

“We may have about twenty Picassos - I’ve seen it - I’ve seen these kids hopping from the canvas. And when they go out there - it’s like a desert.” Bowen explained with a dry laugh.

Yet after the paint has dried, Eddie Bowen can’t hide his commitment - which ironically may be something of a testimony to his enduring optimism. *AWH*

EMBRACE



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Looking After Life

Approximately twenty-five participants from across the Caribbean region came to Trinidad for an intensive training course on Gender Sensitive Policy writing, organised by the UWI Centre for Gender and Development Studies at the Chancellor Hotel, St. Ann's.

In putting forward the rationale for the course, Professor Patricia Mohammed noted that this was not to be constituted as a "workshop" but as an intensive training course geared to enhance serious understanding of the assumptions which inform gender and development strategies.

opment Studies (Cave Hill), and Dr. Roger Hosein, Department of Economics.

One of the highlights of the course was a screening of the film, *The Shape of Water*, by Professor Kum-Kum Bhavani of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Narrated by actress Susan Sarandon, the documentary shared unforgettable stories of the ability of several resilient women to empower themselves in varying situations of oppression and discrimination.

With great ingenuity, the film showed interviews with women from India to Senegal (Africa,) the Middle East (Jerusalem) to Brazil, giving "voices to the voiceless". In each

understanding of gender as well as their skills in the areas of policy formulation and application.

Apart from its on going offering of undergraduate and post graduate courses and degrees in gender and development studies on all three campuses of the UWI, the Centre for Gender and Development Studies (CGDS) is well poised after over one decade of formal institutionalisation to extend its services in different capacities to the regional environment. Not only has this tradition been inherited from com-



Professor Patricia Mohammed
CGDS, UWI St. Augustine

REGIONAL GENDER INTERVENTIONS & TOOLS FOR REDEVELOPMENT

Gender Training & Sensitive Policy Course launched

"What has become clear to those of us who teach gender and development studies is that, as with other complex and sophisticated new ideas, the transmission of knowledge and skills requires devoted time and commitment of learners. For too long it has been assumed that gender is mysteriously and easily transmitted without the benefit of applied learning and teaching. A course which brings together the valuable experiences of those who are actively involved in the field with the experiences of those who teach, write and research gender is necessary at this time."

Among the list of experts and facilitators were Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Trinidad & Tobago), Mr. Lester Efebo Wilkinson, Regional Programme Director for UNIFEM (Caribbean Office) Ms. Roberta Clarke, Legal Consultant Ms. Gaietry Pargass and Programme Coordinator for CARICOM-Gender Desk, Ms. Halima Sa'adia Kassim. Among UWI resource persons and participants were Professor Barbara Bailey, Regional Head Centre for Gender and Development Studies, Professor Patricia Mohammed, Acting Head Centre for Gender and Development Studies (St. Augustine), Ms. Gemma Tang - Nain Acting Head, Centre for Gender and Devel-

opment Studies (Cave Hill), and Dr. Roger Hosein, Department of Economics. One of the highlights of the course was a screening of the film, *The Shape of Water*, by Professor Kum-Kum Bhavani of the University of California, Santa Barbara. Narrated by actress Susan Sarandon, the documentary shared unforgettable stories of the ability of several resilient women to empower themselves in varying situations of oppression and discrimination. With great ingenuity, the film showed interviews with women from India to Senegal (Africa,) the Middle East (Jerusalem) to Brazil, giving "voices to the voiceless". In each

After the launch, participants traveled to the Penal/Debe Corporation to participate in an interactive consultation on creating a gender policy for that area. This was a practical component of the workshop and according to those present proved to be highly educational and useful.

A partnership with the Centre for Gender and Development Studies UWI, St. Augustine and the UNIFEM Caribbean office, led by director, Roberta Clarke, as well as Jeannette Bell of the Canada Caribbean Gender Equity Fund, Caribbean Policy Centre Development (CPDS) and the on going work with women's bureaux throughout the region, ensured that this intensive gender training course was a success. Undoubtedly, advocates, practitioners and academics in the field strengthened their analytical

portrait, gendered analysis and feminist (anthropological) methods were used to explore, discuss and highlight the struggle for change: from the politics of Israeli occupation to female circumcision. Ultimately, the 70-minute documentary proved to be an excellent tool for discussing the interplay between policy, practice and society, as the five-day workshop got off the ground. After the launch, participants traveled to the Penal/Debe Corporation to participate in an interactive consultation on creating a gender policy for that area. This was a practical component of the workshop and according to those present proved to be highly educational and useful. A partnership with the Centre for Gender and Development Studies UWI, St. Augustine and the UNIFEM Caribbean office, led by director, Roberta Clarke, as well as Jeannette Bell of the Canada Caribbean Gender Equity Fund, Caribbean Policy Centre Development (CPDS) and the on going work with women's bureaux throughout the region, ensured that this intensive gender training course was a success. Undoubtedly, advocates, practitioners and academics in the field strengthened their analytical



from Qatar to the Caribbean

The inimitable, award-winning Professor Dawe connects with Gerard Best on the UWI flagship Petroleum Geoscience & Engineering programmes, non-renewable resources and being British.

They talk about wettability.

They ask about miscibility, immiscibility and low interfacial tension displacement, all the physical properties of petroleum fluids. They say the oilfield is the cornerstone of modern civilisation. Which is only natural—they're Engineers. Petroleum Engineers, to be exact. And Professor Richard Alan Dawe, who heads Petroleum Studies at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine, is one of them.

Professor Dawe's office, located upstairs in the Petroleum Geoscience Unit, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, looked nothing like I expected. The office floor was a minefield of boxed-away files. The walls were plastered with busy-looking, stacked-to-the-ceiling, book-laden shelves that almost

dwarfed the six-foot Dawe, who sat at his PC, hunched over the telephone. To his left, on a small, blue, plastic server, were a bottle of Cremora, a box of crackers and a spray can of pesticide. Stranger than fiction.

"It's unique. There isn't another in the world like it," Dawe said, some way into our interview. He wasn't talking about his office though, but his Department's programmes: namely, the (relatively) new BSc. programme

in Petroleum Geoscience and MSc programme in Petroleum Engineering.

The three-year undergraduate degree programme, which allows students the option of specialising in either Petroleum Geology or Petroleum Geophysics, really is quite special in at least a couple of ways, the first of which is the fact that it is directed by something called a Joint Industry/Academic Advisory Committee (JIAAC). Described as "a sounding board

...the programme ... was asked for by the principal players of the petroleum industry of Trinidad, particularly the Geological Society of Trinidad and Tobago (GSTT); it has support from the government; and it has been accredited by the Geological Society of London.

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Professor Richard Alan Dawe

to obtain industry advice and reactions to proposals for change and improvement in our Petroleum education," the JIAAC is particularly helpful in obtaining industry scholarships, work placements, project ideas and funds.

Secondly and perhaps more importantly, the programme represents a point of convergence for Trinidad's political, corporate and education powerhouses. It was asked for by the principal players of the petroleum industry of Trinidad, particularly the Geological Society of Trinidad and Tobago (GSTT); it has support from the government; and it has been accredited by the Geological Society of London.

Professor Dawe says the BSc programme "has the potential to be recognised globally as an ideal setting for the recruitment of quality geoscientists for petroleum exploration and engineering." Dawe should know. The Professor was instrumental in fast-tracking the programme's development from conception to reality in a matter of months, from April 2001 to August of the same year. Furthermore, the programme was one of the main reasons that Dawe won, in 2005, the Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence for research accomplishments and service to the University com-

munity. Not that Professor Dawe is a stranger to academic distinction. As early as 1963, in his undergraduate days at Oxford University (St. Catherine's College), Dawe held an Ethel Behrens Trust Award; as a post-graduate, the Gas Council Scholarship. One entry, among a list of honours on Professor Dawe's CV, reads: "1993 - present, Referee for research projects, Kuwait University".

That's right-Kuwait. (Dawe is no stranger to the Middle East, either.) In fact, for two years before he came to UWI in 1999, Professor Dawe held the Occidental Chair in Petroleum Engineering at the University of Qatar.

Qatar, if you don't know, is a Muslim state bordered by Saudi Arabia. It is the country with the largest gas field in the world (now estimated to be some 900 trillion cubic feet) and is the richest country per capita on the planet. To get some idea of what it's like for a Petroleum Engineer to move from Qatar to Trinidad, consider this: there is an oilfield in Qatar that is approximately 61 miles long-almost the length of Trinidad!

"I spent two years there and it's a completely different culture, which is fascinating, having been in Britain all my life."

Indeed. Twenty-two years (1975-97) at the Imperial College, Department of Earth Resources Engineering, London. Before that, six years (1969-75) as a Senior Research Fellow in the Chemical Engineering Department of Leeds University. And one year, before that, as an Assistant Lecturer in the Chemical Engineering Department of the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology.

"Coming here is also fascinating because I don't feel totally foreign here, partly because you still have the remnants of the British Commonwealth. You drive on the same side of the road...on a good day. And, certainly, the UWI civil service, you know, the way UWI works, is very much like the University of London."

Yes, his sense of humour, apparently, is also British. But if there's one thing he's dead serious about, it's oil and gas. Wait, that's two things, isn't it? (I'm not much of an engineer myself.)

"When will the energy run out?" Professor Dawe asked me rhetorically. The answer was more unexpected than the question. "Energy itself won't run-out but oil and gas will. It's a non-renewable resource. So we should be using our time now to explore very carefully other methods. A lot of people think that there's got to be sustainability in energy. Well, the sun and the waves, if properly captured, can give plenty."

Sun? Waves? Trinidad? Alternative energy source? Coincidence? (I think not.)

"But there's still research to be done." cautioned Dawe, "New-fangled things are being invented all the time but we've got to have the money to pay for them or the inventiveness to recognise them and develop them ourselves."

GB

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For more information on
Prof. Richard A. Dawe,
visit his UWI webpage at
<http://www.eng.uwi.tt/depts/chem/staff/dawe.html>



Hmmm dis lime nice

This is probably your limit

Got a nice buzz now

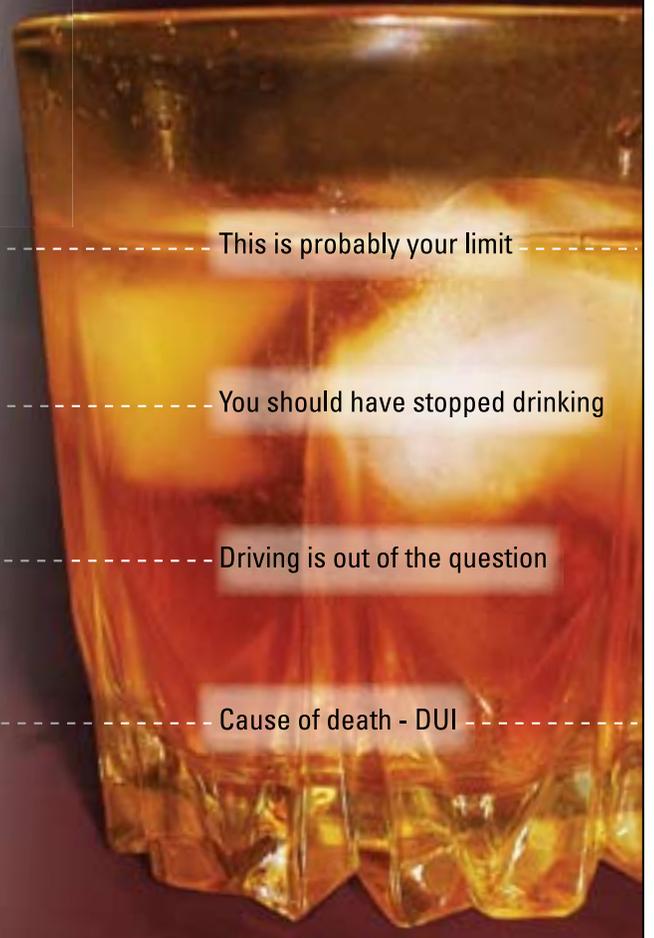
You should have stopped drinking

Ah wonder if ah could drive

Driving is out of the question

Dead on arrival

Cause of death - DUI



One for de road?
You need to know your limit
yuh think?



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