This grand building which we are rededicating today is a mature lady, 85 years old this year. From the start, it has been the flagship building of the two institutions of learning which have occupied the St Augustine campus: ICTA and UWI.

ICTA, or rather the WIAC as it was first named, opened its doors in October 1922, long before this building began to be constructed (the refurbished Old Yaws Hospital, in the area now occupied by the Bookshop building, was used as its temporary accommodation). But from the start, the first Principal, Sir Francis Watts, wanted ‘a central block of reasonably dignified proportions’ to house the library, classrooms and laboratories, and administration offices. The architect was British (Major Corlette), probably chosen because he’d designed the new government buildings in Kingston after the devastating earthquake in 1907. As Watts put it, ‘a dignified building is essential to secure the confidence and respect of the public,’ and this was the brief for the architect. He opted for ‘the Spanish Colonial style.’

(continued on Page 4)
We now face inevitable financial pressure as a result of the financial landscape globally. We cannot ignore the issue; everything we want to accomplish in higher education depends on a solid, sustainable system of funding,” said Professor Clement Sankat, St Augustine Campus Principal of The UWI, at the West Indies Group of University Teachers (WIGUT St. Augustine) seminar on “Sustainable Funding of Higher Education in Challenging Times,” held in early March at Daaga Hall Auditorium.

As Prof Sankat brought greetings to participants, he noted that, “It is imperative that our institution and others, both public and private, discuss and explore innovative and feasible policies to protect and grow significant investment in higher education in Trinidad and Tobago and the region.”

The WIGUT seminar featured six panels exploring challenges faced in funding higher education. Presenters examined a range of practical issues, such as traditional and entrepreneurial approaches and models in higher education, quality assurance and return on investment, funding models and case applications in higher education, cost-cutting and workload issues, and funding the academy.

Dr Godfrey Steele, Senior Lecturer in Communication Studies and WIGUT President, welcomed participants and outlined a higher education investment policy that incorporates the views of the academy, meets and increases funding commitments, and balances the interests of all stakeholders. Later that day in response to a comment from Labour Minister Mr Rennie Dumas that government was committed to funding higher education, Dr Steele acknowledged with appreciation the support of the State. However, he lamented that although WIGUT had submitted its pay proposals for 2008-2011 in June 2008, to date it had neither had a response nor had been invited to begin negotiations for Academic, Senior Administrative and Professional Staff. This was having a negative impact on the institution, its staff and its students.

Mr Emmanuel Gonsalves, President, College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) noted that existing funding models were demand driven and depended on State revenue. He suggested a fund be set up specifically for tertiary education needs, and that it be constitutionally protected and managed by qualified, experienced and independent professionals.

Dr Steele is compiling a summary of the presentations for public information.

Earlier this month, we launched the 50th anniversary celebrations of the UWI St Augustine Campus, and rededicated our Administration Building. It was a time of reflection, of restating our values and vision and I would like to share some of my words from that historic occasion.

We have built an extensive community of alumni, academics, partners, supporters, friends and well-wishers, and through their collective efforts and support, this Campus has withstood the test of time. It is also because of the generous support of our regional governments and especially the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago, that The UWI St. Augustine Campus has been able to grow and develop over the past five decades.

In addition to serving our community, our commitment to regionalism is another unique and defining characteristic of our beloved institution, but let me say that the essence of regionalism goes beyond the unique and into the philosophical realm. For regionalism is premised on a philosophy that is noble. It subsumes values that are inclusive, compassionate and benevolent, values that promote reaching out, embracing and supporting our Caribbean brothers and sisters.

This is a philosophy that has guided and nurtured my own life. Like many, I began my journey as a young, inexperienced—though, I thought then, witty and charming—undergraduate student. The UWI St. Augustine Campus soon became the anchor of my personal and intellectual development, the compass that steered me towards the pursuit of excellence in my chosen field and the wind in the sails that took me to later represent my Department, Faculty, Campus and University in places I had never even dreamed of, when I was growing up in Corentyne, Berbice, a rural town in Guyana. That was in 1969! That is the power of education, the spirit of freedom, to be creative and innovative and the potential for achievement by all, to which each and everyone here at the UWI St. Augustine Campus is devoted.

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL
Professor Clement Sankat

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
Mrs. Dawn Marie De Four-Gill

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Our Historical Heart

(From Page 1) Construction began in mid-1923, and was well advanced when the foundation stone was laid on January 14, 1924, by the governor of the day. By then the College’s name had been changed to ICTA, the name on the stone, along with its motto: Via colendi haud facilis (the way of farming is not easy), a quotation from Virgil. The new building was occupied during the first term of the 1925/26 academic year and formally opened early in 1926. The Principal’s and Registrar’s offices, the library, and several departments, with classrooms and laboratories, were transferred to it. The second Principal, H. Martin Leake, was very dissatisfied with the state of the building and its workmanship and fittings. I’ve examined a bulky file in the Library which is stuffed with letters and memoranda of complaints from him, and the rather defensive replies from the architect’s representative in Trinidad. The more things change…nevertheless it was, indeed, a ‘dignified’ structure which immediately became the College’s flagship building commanding the whole ‘St Augustine Savannah’.

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For the whole of ICTA’s existence—up to 1960—the building was the centre of its operations, housing the library on the top floor, administration offices including the Principal’s, laboratories and classrooms. It was used for a more sinister purpose during the Butler Riots of 1937: Principal Evans recruited staff and students (mainly the British postgraduates) as a volunteer force to help keep the peace and prevent unrest spreading to the campus area, and an ‘armory’ was set up on the ground floor of the building. Evans personally drilled his ‘troops’ and trained them in the use of rifles in front of the building.

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As the campus expanded in the 1960s, with the College of Arts & Sciences as well as Agriculture and Engineering, the Library expanded too, under the leadership of Alma Jordan. Such was the pressure on the Library, trying desperately to cater for the ever increasing number of staff, students and courses, that at one point (1967-69) it occupied virtually the entire building. The Principal, Registrar and most of their staff were evicted—they were housed in the building now occupied by CITS. Fortunately, by 1969 the new library in the JFK Complex was ready for occupation; the Library moved out in the long vacation of that year, and the Principal and Registrar moved back in. From 1969 on, the Admin Building housed the offices of the Principal, Registrar and Bursar, and their respective staffs.

Because of its central location, and because it housed the Principal’s office, the Admin Building became the focus of student and staff protests and demonstrations, especially during the turbulent period between the late 1960s and the early 1980s. Many marches and demos focused on the building and its environs. In 1980, Principal Brathwaite was ‘besieged’ in his office by a large crowd of students, some of whom threw files and furniture around. The riot police were called in to restore order. (Characteristically, Brathwaite later said that his main concern had been the risk of students suffocating—there were about 70 people in a fairly small office). In the 1960s, too, graduation and other big ceremonies were held in front of the building, before they were moved to the JFK Quadrangle.

In 1996, the Principal and his immediate staff moved out of Admin—where Principals had been based ever since 1925—to the refurbished Principal’s Residence. Of course, the rapid expansion of the campus meant that Bursary and Registry staff were also expanding steadily, and indeed, run down in its internal appearance and arrangements. Relief was at hand: the opening of the new Student Administration Building saw the relocation of the Registry and Bursary staff who dealt directly with the student body. The opportunity was taken to give the old building a thorough internal remodeling, external extension, and repainting of the façade.

Ladies & gentlemen, we have been right to cherish this grand old lady, our flagship building and our historical heart. May we all be around to celebrate her centenary in 2025.

Professor of History, Bridget Brereton’s book, From Imperial College to University of the West Indies: A History of the St Augustine Campus, Trinidad & Tobago, will be launched in October as part of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations of the St. Augustine Campus. This was her presentation at the rededication ceremony for the Administration Building on March 12, 2010.
EDULINK IN CAPE TOWN TALKS

Dr. David Rampersad, Director, Business Development Office, The UWI, is preparing for the conference of the International Organisation for Research Management Societies (INORMS) to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, in April.

“My presentation will highlight the EDULINK funded project, Capacity Building for the Financial Sustainability of ACP Higher Education Institutions,” he said, of the UWI-led initiative.

The UWI and other Higher Education Institutions in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States and the European Union Member States that are signatories to the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) are collaborating on the EDULINK initiative, which funds cooperative projects between its members.

With this EDULINK project, academic and administrative staff of all partner universities will be trained in revenue generation techniques with a focus on philanthropy, grantsmanship, commercialisation of research and business development. The project is also expected to result in the formulation of a professional development programme in resource mobilization and the establishment of a virtual office at which will provide guidance and manage the implementation of this project.

While Small Island Developing States (SIDS) offer considerable potential for research, they have special needs but few have a mature research funding infrastructure, networks of higher education institutions (HEIs) and a cadre of professional staff capable of undertaking revenue generation and research management, said Dr. Rampersad.

“The paper will demonstrate how The University of the West Indies, a regional HEI which serves 15 countries and for which research is a strategic priority, is working with its African, Caribbean and Pacific partners with funding provided under the EDULINK programme, to design a programme that will result in the establishment of a more diversified funding base which emphasises third-stream funding coupled with cross-border collaboration,” he said.

The focus will be on training academic and administrative staff in comprehensive revenue-generating skills and in the skills required for all aspects of research management who will serve as trainers for their institutions.

This is the first time that the INORMS conference will be held in Africa, and representation from African universities and institutions should be strong, due to bursaries provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities and the Wellcome Trust.

WOW GIVES STUDENTS A HELPING HAND

2010, included two feature presentations. Giselle La Ronde West, Corporate Communications Manager of Angostura delivered an interactive presentation titled “Dressing for Success”, and Derek Chin, Founder of MovieTowne, spoke about the roots of his entrepreneurial success.

Final-year students at The University of the West Indies (UWI) annual World of Work (WOW 2010) Interview Preparation and Resume Writing Workshop, which took place on February 4, 2010 at the UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC). The workshop was designed to teach participants how to prepare competitive resumes for the global job market.

(Left to right) Ms Deirdre Charles, Director of UWI Student Services, Mrs Giselle La Ronde West, and Mr Chandar Gupta Supersad, UWI Careers and Placement Officer at The University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine World of Work programme (WOW 2010), which took place at the UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC) from February 6th to March 12th, 2010. For the fourth consecutive year, WOW is being fully sponsored by Republic Bank Limited.
ANSA McAL Award for Excellence

A Professor of Pathology at The UWI Mona Campus in Jamaica will soon receive TT$500,000 to support her work and professional development. Professor Kathleen Coard is expected to accept the cash award, along with the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence (ANSCAFE) medal and citation, at a formal award ceremony on April 17th, 2010.

Named ANSCAFE 2010 Laureate for Science and Technology, Professor Coard is the first female graduate of The University of the West Indies’ Medical DM (Pathology) programme to become Professor in Pathology. She is a widely respected researcher, author, and teacher in the field of medical pathology. Her research has been published in internationally recognised journals and she has over 60 publications to her name.

In a career that has contributed to understanding and treating cardiovascular diseases, prostate cancer and soft tissue tumors, the Grenadian-born pathologist has received more than six medical awards, including a Jamaica Medical Foundation award in 2009 for outstanding achievement in the fields of pathology and research. She is a founding member of the Caribbean Cardiac Society and the Jamaican Association of Clinical Pathologists, and has held key leadership positions during her career, including Consultant Pathologist to Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, U.K., in 1996.

Professor Coard is among three ANSCAFE 2010 Laureates to be honoured at the gala ceremony next month. Mr Adrian Augier, St Lucian poet and dramatist, has been named 2010 Laureate for Arts and Letters, while Guyanese-born sustainable tourism pioneer, Mr Sydney Allicock, is the 2010 Laureate for Public and Civic Contributions.

New Cocoa Head

Professor Pathmanathan Umaharan, Professor of Genetics in the Department of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science & Agriculture, is the new Head of the Cocoa Research Unit. This appointment was made recently by the Council of the University of the West Indies.

Vice Chancellor Receives Martin Luther King Jr., Legacy Award

UWI Vice Chancellor, Prof. E. Nigel Harris, has earned the prestigious “Martin Luther King Legacy Award for International Service” from the Washington-based Institute for the Advancement of Multicultural & Minority Medicine.

This year’s awardees included His Excellency Cyrille Oguin, Ambassador of the Republic of Benin to the USA, who also received a Martin Luther King Jr., Legacy Award for International Service; Sally Quinn, Washington Post Journalist, recipient of the Dr. Dorothy I. Height Leadership Award and US Congressman Hon. Elijah Cummings. The awards were presented in January at “An International Salute to the Life & Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.,” a breakfast celebration hosted by the Committee at the Willard International Hotel in Washington “as a way of sharing Dr. King’s historical work at home and abroad.”
NEW PROGRAMME
CERTIFICATE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT STUDIES

The UWI Office of the Campus Principal and the Faculty of Social Sciences launched the Customized Certificate in Local Government Studies on Monday 22nd February, at the Centre for Language Learning Auditorium, UWI St Augustine.

The Customized Certificate in Local Government Studies, which the Faculty of Social Sciences will deliver for staff of the Ministry of Local Government, will develop the Human Resource capability of the Ministry of Local Government, thus enabling it to discharge its programmes and policies with greater efficiency.

For more information, please contact Mrs Sandra Roopchand-Khan at Sandra.Khan@sta.uwi.edu or (868) 662-2002 ext. 3232.

The Honourable Hazel Manning, Minister of Local Government, shakes hands with Professor Clement Sankat (right), UWI Pro Vice Chancellor and St Augustine Campus Principal, who has just received a cheque presented by Mrs Cheryl Blackman (centre), Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Local Government. The University has launched a customized Certificate in Local Government Studies.
You’ve said that your switch from practising law to writing was a surprise to you most of all. Why was this?

Simply, and maybe not so simply, because when I was growing up here in Trinidad and Tobago a career in writing was not something that anybody entertained and certainly parents weren’t thinking of anything like that for their children. You would come down the hierarchy, doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, the civil service, you know? That was what every parent wanted best for their children. That’s what they were aspiring to, so certainly a life of writing was not something we thought of or that we were even encouraged to get into, so that was why I said that it was a big surprise for me.

Today when I come here and see students doing an MFA in writing, it’s really encouraging in the sense that change is possible.

When did you start writing?

I started writing in terms of writing with a view to publishing probably in the late seventies. While I was practicing law I published two books of poetry. I had been keeping a journal for several years before that. That was a more personal thing, but certainly writing with a view to thinking maybe somebody might be interested in what I have to say—it would be the late seventies.

How would you describe your journey as a writer?

It has been difficult. It has been very difficult in Canada because the first thing that comes to mind in my case is when I was writing, which as I say was in the late seventies, eighties, Canada was still overtly Eurocentric. I say overtly because I still think it is Eurocentric today although there is a more public discourse about multiculturalism and so on. As a woman from the Caribbean writing in Toronto, there were no models that we could look to, to pattern ourselves on in terms of writing, so there is a sense in which people like myself who are from Trinidad, Dionne Brand, Claire Harris, and others from other islands, we actually were almost creating the tradition as we were writing in terms of, you know, when we began writing, in the seventies and eighties.

Moving from Tobago to Trinidad was the biggest event of M. NourbeSe Philip’s childhood, but it was when she went to Canada that her career as a writer took off. Philip graduated from The UWI in 1968 with a degree in Economics, practised law in Canada for seven years before devoting herself to writing: poetry, novels, plays, short stories.

As the guest writer at the 2010 Campus Literature Week at The UWI, Philip attended readings and closed the week with a reading on March 5. She feels that the Literature Week is “exciting” and that literature is a good investment at every level. She spoke with Serah Acham on her journey as a writer.
I was always interested in reading. I read voraciously as a child in Belmont, in Tobago, but no, I can’t say I always wanted to be a writer. I have an essay, “The Absence of Writing or How I Almost Became a Spy” and, if anything, probably wanting to be a spy was much more real because as I say, writing wasn't on the horizon for anybody, and I used to read books about World War II and people spying for England. There’s a way in which I think writing does entail spying because you’re always observing gestures, what people are saying, stories they’re telling and so on. So I think there’s a sense in which I did become a spy.

What is most challenging about being a writer?

What’s most challenging I think is earning an income—if you’re doing it in the way that I have tried to do it for the last few years—which is freelancing. I have taught at universities for as long as five years at a time, but I don’t have a permanent position there and, so not having financial stability is, I think, the most challenging thing.

Is there any recurring subject or theme that you like to focus on in your writing?

Language. Language in all of its manifestations. What do I mean by language? I think what intrigues me is the fact that for many of us, particularly African people in the Caribbean, we lost our languages and historically there was the intent to split different linguistic groups, split up the groups so that they couldn’t talk to each other; they couldn’t work together to revolt and so on. There was this deliberate destruction of one’s linguistic heritage and coming out of that you have this, what I call mother tongue English which is also a father tongue in the sense that it is the language of oppression, domination, empire, all those things. And we have to master this language, literally to prove that we are as good as our former owners and oppressors, so starting from that, exploring issues of what language do we use in writing. Do we use Standard English? Do we use the vernacular? Is that a language? Will people want to hear it? So language in all those permutations, you know? And how do I work with that? What language do I work in? Do I work in the vernacular? That can affect market. Because if you write something in the vernacular, the publisher might feel that it's not going to sell. You want something that’s more Standard English.

The interesting thing about English is that English is itself a vernacular language. It’s a mixture of Celtic, French, Anglo-Saxon words, German words and so on. You have different kinds of English. In the last couple of decades there's much more acknowledgement of what people call pidgin patois and people have been writing in it now, so all those issues fascinate me. What happens, or certainly what happened to me, is that the issue chooses you and then you’re condemned to keep rehearsing it, exploring it from different vantage points.

Do you think it would have been easier here?

No. I don’t think so necessarily. I think it would have been a different kind of struggle. But you have writers here, like Merle Hodge or Pearl Eintou Springer and so on, who have published here. Unfortunately, we still don’t have a lot of women writers. I think it’s because you have to have another source of income because you really can't sustain yourself writing. It probably meant that I would have had to have gotten a job at the university or doing something else and once you have a job and you have a family and so on, all those demands call for time. You only have so much time in any day. It would have been a different kind of struggle perhaps. Being further away from your matrix gives you a certain kind of perspective, but it also puts you at a distance from it. Being closer, the positive aspect of that is that you’re really immersed in the culture, but then sometimes there's more resistance within the culture if you want to push things. I think there are benefits and disadvantages on both sides.

When did you know that you wanted to become a writer?

I would say sometime around the seventies when I began writing and thinking, in a very tentative way, “oh, you know, maybe I have something to say that somebody might be interested in.”
How we are **Breaking the Silence**

**BY PROFESSOR RHODA REDDOCK**

The Breaking the Silence Project is a component of a larger research programme of the Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS): Gender, Sexuality and the Implications for HIV.

It is a response to a request from stakeholders in the social and HIV sector for an understanding of the meanings underlying the practice of incest which they found was prevalent in the society yet not well researched, or understood.

The project is funded by the UN Trust Fund for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and UNICEF at around US$400,000, and is an action-research project and collaboration among a number of groups and organizations.

Later this year, or early next year, a regional conference is planned to share the knowledge and the intervention model with others.

The research included a number of components:

1. A study of agencies in Trinidad and Tobago who provide services related to health, children, HIV, social services, etc. The completed findings were presented to two workshops in January, one in Trinidad and one in Tobago.
2. Ethnographic case studies in three communities—Aranguez, Toco and Charlotteville—on the meanings of incest in people's lives.
4. A Community based intervention in the three communities.

**THE COMMUNITY INTERVENTION**

In each community, liaison committees were established. These committees worked with the intervention team to

1. **Adolescent Centre and the Tobago gender Secretariat.**
2. **Aranguez, Toco and Charlotteville.**
3. **The breaking of silence project.**
4. **Support for women survivors of child sexual abuse and incest.**

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It is a response to a request from stakeholders in the social and HIV sector for an understanding of the markedly deleterious effects of child sexual abuse. This initiative is part of the “Gender, Sexuality and Implications for HIV” research project, being conducted by the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), directed by Professor Rhoda Reddock, Deputy Campus Principal of The UWI, St. Augustine.

The Gender, Sexuality and Implications for HIV programme grew out of the realisation that for change in sexual behaviour to occur to curb HIV transmission, “it was imperative to look at the factors that impact sexuality and sexual behaviours” explained Dr Reid, because one must understand what underlies sexual behaviour in the first place.

At the project’s regional conference an additional theme emerged. Dr Reid recalled that, “there was lots of interesting discussion, it was an opportunity for caregivers to share, and a recurring topic was child sexual abuse and incest.” Caregivers were reporting its prevalence, but there was no documentation or research. It was known that HIV statistics for children included an unspecified group for whom cause of infection was unknown and this new anecdotal evidence created a “powerful driving force.”

A hypothesis began to develop: child sexual abuse and incest needed to be understood and the link with HIV explored. This led to the Breaking the Silence project.

Dr Reid said that child sexual abuse and incest have been associated with some of her most painful caring experiences, “the hurt, the pain, the psychological trauma that attends child sexual abuse. Children are such innocent victims and they experience an intensity of trauma, which affects their life so potently.”

“It was startling to recognise how intricately woven child sexual abuse is into our culture,” she said. Children are perceived as having no rights, females are held responsible for sexual advances, and communities accept this. Myths, alcohol and drugs also play a role in facilitating inappropriate behaviours. She was also surprised that “service providers themselves are not immune to the myths and stereotypes.”

The project team has been delighted by the willingness of both service providers and the community to reveal and share. For the first time in Trinidad and Tobago, an understanding of child sexual abuse and incest has been scientifically documented. Information and findings will now be disseminated to communities, service providers, policy and law-makers, and the wider Caribbean. Dr Reid is optimistic that the project has broken the silence, but acknowledges that to change behaviours, “the work has only just begun.”

**UNCOVERING HIDDEN SEXUALITY**

As co-creator of the ‘Breaking the Silence’ project, Dr Sandra Reid, a Lecturer in the Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine, UWI St Augustine is passionate about promoting understanding of the markedly deleterious effects of child sexual abuse. This initiative is part of the “Gender, Sexuality and Implications for HIV” research project, being conducted by the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), directed by Professor Rhoda Reddock, Deputy Campus Principal of The UWI, St. Augustine.

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A hypothesis began to develop: child sexual abuse and incest needed to be understood and the link with HIV explored. This led to the Breaking the Silence project.

Dr Reid said that child sexual abuse and incest have been associated with some of her most painful caring experiences, “the hurt, the pain, the psychological trauma that attends child sexual abuse. Children are such innocent victims and they experience an intensity of trauma, which affects their life so potently.”

“It was startling to recognise how intricately woven child sexual abuse is into our culture,” she said. Children are perceived as having no rights, females are held responsible for sexual advances, and communities accept this. Myths, alcohol and drugs also play a role in facilitating inappropriate behaviours. She was also surprised that “service providers themselves are not immune to the myths and stereotypes.”

The project team has been delighted by the willingness of both service providers and the community to reveal and share. For the first time in Trinidad and Tobago, an understanding of child sexual abuse and incest has been scientifically documented. Information and findings will now be disseminated to communities, service providers, policy and law-makers, and the wider Caribbean. Dr Reid is optimistic that the project has broken the silence, but acknowledges that to change behaviours, “the work has only just begun.”

**Dr Sandra Reid**

**Designed by Kathryn Chan of IGDS, the logo is to be launched during Child Abuse Awareness Month in April.**
The Department of Surveying and Land Information of The UWI has changed its name to the Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management.

"In the last 12 years, our Department really has outgrown its previous name," said Professor Jacob Opadeyi, the Department's Head.

The Department now offers programmes in Land Management and Geomatics Engineering, an emerging field of studies which includes a range of disciplines such as land surveying, geodesy, photogrammetry, remote sensing, cartography, land and geographic information systems, urban planning, cadastral systems, global navigation systems and hydrography. Undergraduate offerings include Bachelor of Science (BSc) degrees in Land Management or Bachelor of Science (BSc) degrees Geomatics. For postgraduate students, the Department now offers Master of Science (MSc) degrees in either Geoinformatics or Urban and Regional Planning. Two research programmes were recently introduced: the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in either Geoinformatics or Urban and Regional Planning.

Geomatics Engineering is a modern, rapidly developing field of study which integrates the acquisition, modeling, analysis and management of spatially referenced data. Geomatics engineers use their knowledge of science, engineering and measurement technology to solve complex world problems. Technologies developed within the discipline have revolutionised global navigation, resource and environmental management and urban planning.

Career opportunities for the Geomatics Engineer span over both the private and public sector markets and range from the technical engineering fields to policy making and planning. The Geomatics Engineer will be able to work in any of these sub-disciplines and many related fields in the built environment.

Land Management refers to disciplines involved in the process of managing land as a natural resource in a sustainable way. It includes the sub-discipline of Land Administration, which involves determining, recording and disseminating information about the ownership, value and use of land. It also includes urban and regional planning, which involves the organisation and regulation of physical development in both the urban and rural landscapes locally and regionally, as well as valuation surveying, which is the process of developing a fiscal value for real property. The Department offers a specialisation of property valuation at the undergraduate level as well as graduate programmes in land administration and physical planning.

Graduates of the land management programmes have several opportunities for employment in both the private and public sectors as they relate to physical planning, property valuation, fiscal cadastre development, as well as managerial responsibilities in local government agencies.

For more information, please visit http://sta.uwi.edu/eng/surveying/BScInGeomatics.asp, or contact Professor Jacob Opadeyi, Head of the Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management at jacob.opadeyi@sta.uwi.edu or (868) 662 2002 ext. 2108 or 3313.

Professor John Agard (above) delivered his Professorial Inaugural Lecture in February at the Learning Resource Centre, UWI St. Augustine. Professor Agard’s lecture, titled “Environment in Development: From Plantation Economy, Biodiversity Loss and Global Warming, Towards Sustainable Development,” argued that the Plantation Economy Model of Caribbean economic structures and characteristics can be further elaborated by the inclusion of the environment as a provider of ecosystem services.

Dr. John B. R. Agard is Professor of Tropical Island Ecology and Head of the UWI Department of Life Sciences, and has served internationally as Lead Author in the Fourth Assessment Report of the Inter-Governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 2007, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
The catalyst for this lecture was the death of Pierre Vernet, Dean of the Faculté de Linguistique Appliquée in Haiti, along with those colleagues and students who were in the building when it collapsed in the earthquake of January 12. Pierre had worked tirelessly to bring an effective language education policy to the territory and I had last seen him when he had invited a group of linguists into Haiti to give a series of lectures on language education policy. That was in January 2000, exactly 10 years from the day of his death. The work he was doing is needed more today than as part of the effort to bring the Haitian people to empowerment from within.

Masked in the initial coverage of the relief effort, but surfacing some ten days later as I wrote the lecture, was the difficulty of delivering aid to a devastated society, that, even before the disaster, had little infrastructure to sustain it. Off the world media radar for some years, and distorted in its image by constant association with violence, Haiti had had no way of transmitting its real internal situation. For they blamed themselves and their language for their misunderstanding of their situation was profound, however, when they are encouraged to acquire literacy it has been demonstrated that children acquire language to belong to a community, to fit in with its norms. When they are encouraged to acquire literacy in this first language they develop well but when literacy is taught in a second language against which their own is intertwined and it has been demonstrated that children acquire language to belong to a community, to fit in with its norms. When they are encouraged to acquire literacy in this first language they develop well but when literacy is taught in a second language against which their own is devalorized, a condition known as subtractive bilingualism develops, whereby the child ceases to progress in the both languages.

The Haitian language developed as the slaves needed a common interactional mode and this new code was realized out of contact among regional French varieties and niger-Congo languages including most saliently, Kwa and Bantu languages.

Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the people’s great hope, came to power in 1990, but was ousted seven months later, and in the three-year period of suppression which followed, extreme brutality was meted out to the population. When he returned with American support in 2000, his capacity to change circumstances for the masses was never actualized. Aristide ultimately proved ineffectual and was violently ousted from power in 2004. Haitians had believed that he would rule them justly and their disappointment was concomitantly more profound. René Préval, Aristide’s former protégé, has been President since 2006, supported by UN peace-keeping forces. Haiti remains a country where 56% of the population still lives on less than $1 per day.

So what of language in all this?

Haiti has a population of 8.5M, all of whom are Kreyol speakers. Outside Haiti there are another 4M. Kreyol is modern Haiti’s national language and one of two constitutionally-recognized official languages, the other being French. Despite this, most official documents are written exclusively in French which is spoken by only one-fifth of the population. The Haitian birth certificate, for example, exists only in French. Such French-only policies create a situation of “linguistic apartheid” which goes against the spirit of Article 5 of the Constitution which states that “all Haitians are united by a common language: [Haitian] Creole”.

The particular problem which Pierre Vernet was concerned to solve was that of creating an appropriate education system. Children learn better in their mother tongues. Ethnicity, language and culture are deeply intertwined and it has been demonstrated that children acquire language to belong to a community, to fit in with its norms. When they are encouraged to acquire literacy in this first language they develop well but when literacy is taught in a second language against which their own is devalorized, a condition known as subtractive bilingualism develops, whereby the child ceases to progress in the both languages.

Efforts were made in Haiti to avoid this through the establishment of a standardized orthography in 1978 and a language education policy in 1987, but the latter was never properly implemented. The most forceful issue has been the incapacity to train teachers. Fifteen-year-olds graduating from high school go back immediately into the school as teachers.

We must not underrate the extreme thirst for knowledge of the Haitian people. In 2000, as we spoke nightly, crowds thronged the venues and asked myriad questions. They would return nightly until these were answered. Their misunderstanding of their situation was profound, however, for they blamed themselves and their language for their impoverishment. They were amazed to find that there were successful independent Caribbean nation states for they had been brought to see success solely in US terms; they were
empowered by the very notion of a Trinidad and Tobago which was self-sustained.

In Haiti, we see a society in which coercive and discursive control has been profound and within which the path to democracy is only slowly being forged; entailed within it is a battle over language, over having a voice at all.

If we look back to the ways in which the young adults we spoke to viewed their own position we can observe how insidious such control is. Without French and without literacy, they have been without an effective voice of their own, receiving only their own ignorance and failure from those in power. The government system has kept them subjugated and illiterate through a French official dictatorship which has consistently exploited them. In such circumstances Kreyòl has become the symbol of Haïtienité; though the language is both loved and despised through its inherited representation, it gives a voice to those who have none.

From the 1980s people have increased their demand for representation on radio which has become an ‘open microphone’ for the democratic movement. The delivery of news in Creole has brought access to happenings internal news for the first time. But twenty years, during which violent oppression has continued, is too short to change people’s image of themselves.

Externally, under-representation and misrepresentation also undermine the country. I have alluded to Haiti being off the world’s radar before the earthquake. That is the power of modern media: if you are not their focus then they subjugated and illiterate through a French official dictatorship which has consistently exploited them. In such circumstances Kreyòl has become the symbol of Haïtienité; though the language is both loved and despised through its inherited representation, it gives a voice to those who have none.

In the present crisis there has been much balanced coverage, but a ‘looting’ focus has also been established. Discerning readers have made comparisons to Hurricane Katrina when victims were ‘refuges’ and ‘looting’ was the label used to describe African-Americans searching for food. In Haiti persons looking for food have been referred to as ‘scavengers,’ and photographs labeled ‘looting and lawlessness’ show innocent people being harassed by violent police and military. The tragedy we see least in the media, is the extent of police brutality: one 15 year-old, was photographed, shot dead, over some worthless pictures she probably thought she might sell to buy food for her family.

In our local press, the reports from returning groups have been mixed. Some have clearly been distressed by the horrors but others have spoken of incipient violence in ways that have not been positive. In The Guardian of Saturday January 23rd (A5) we read a headline ‘T and T charity group mobbed in Haiti.’ On reading the article I found no evidence of ‘mobbing.’ Church doors were closed when those waiting for food started to press forward, but this was inevitable, for the evidence suggests that the majority have not received food and water despite the strong effort and many were watching their young and old die. The orderly lines we see in many photographs are a testimony to the people. Why we must consistently undermine the Haitian people, even now, is unclear.

The Caribbean must support the people of Haiti. Their entire life experience has been devastating. The capacity for survival which they have displayed is the greater because of what they have learnt to endure. We can never make up for the loss of life but, beyond that, a spotlight has been shone.

The past problem has been one of handouts which have robbed people of their self-respect and militated against sustainable growth. Amongst the plans, we need to return to education within Haiti.

Years ago, a plan was put to the CARICOM Secretariat for a language education project which took into consideration the physical, social-psychological and ideological factors. Any such plan must entail societal adjustment for proper implementation, so that schooling is related to community goals and provision of food to children as well as other skills development. Trainer training programmes in all languages to be used and taught are very important, since language is the vehicle of all other education. Only an educated people can transform Haiti and it has to be transformed ultimately by its own people, empowered in a way that can enable them to assume leadership in their communities and develop small scale industries and businesses. Haitians have been a profoundly hard working people but have lacked the educational support that would make them meaningfully independent. We can hope to do something about that now.

— The Dept. of Liberal Arts is preparing to mount language courses in Haitian Creole for experts going to Haiti as part of the relief effort, and to offer language training and language teacher training to Haitian students/teachers, in collaboration with the Centre for Language Learning.

This is an extract from Professor Youssef’s Inaugural Professorial lecture, Language, Education and Representation: Towards Sustainable Development for Haiti. Please go to http://sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar/event.asp?id=1133 for the full lecture.

The Association of Universities and Research Institutions of the Caribbean (UNICA) hosted its 2010 Conference on March 15th 2010 at the St. Augustine Campus of The University of The West Indies. The Conference themed “Partnering for Sustainability” focused specifically on mobilizing Caribbean Universities and Research Institutes to partner with Haiti in the rebuilding effort, with an emphasis on its tertiary sector.

UNI

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A new Executive Sports Management programme from The UWI, FIFA and the International Centre for Sports Studies (CIES) could be just what the Caribbean needs to strengthen this region’s standing in international sport.

On February 19th, Professor Clement Sankat, UWI Pro Vice Chancellor and St. Augustine Campus Principal, hosted the launch of a new postgraduate diploma programme in Sports Management which is being described as the first of its kind in the region to be offered at a tertiary level. Professor Sankat acknowledged that the programme was made possible only by the combined efforts of government stakeholders, FIFA/CIES, the local sporting fraternity and the wider UWI family.

The programme, coordinated by the UWI Department of Management Studies, covers sport management, marketing, finance, facilities management and policy development issues, law, communication, and event management challenges involved in delivering sports services in a globalised environment.

Dr Iva Gloudon, Director of UWI Sport and Physical Education, has said she will call on private and public sector stakeholders to continue to support the initiative through its formative years.

Mr Vincent Monnier, CIES International Relations Director, reminded the new students attending the launch that through their enrolment in the new UWI/FIFA/CIES programme, they had become members of the International University Network (IUN), which includes nine universities from South Africa, Costa Rica, Argentina, Egypt, Senegal, Palestine, Turkey, Chile and Ukraine. As IUN members, students have gained access to resources from any of the member institutions of this network and have become part of the international student fraternity operated by the CIES, Monnier said.

Mr Brian-Anthony David, speaking on behalf of the inaugural class, said that the group was looking forward to pioneering solutions to challenges in local sport.

The history of the programme dates back to September 2008, when FIFA President Joseph Blatter and The UWI Vice Chancellor, Professor E. Nigel Harris signed a Memorandum of Agreement to undertake cooperative programmes in the areas of research, training, education and facilities development in sport within the region. The University’s new Master of Science degree in Sport Management began in February.

Larry Gomes, a Trinidad-born left-hander, whose calm and efficiency established him as a number three batsman for the West Indies during his career, was honoured at the 2010 UWI Vice Chancellor’s XI cricket match. Professor Clement Sankat, UWI Pro Vice Chancellor and St Augustine Campus Principal described him as, “a thoughtful, intelligent cricketer, who cared more for the success of the West Indian Cricket Team than personal fame. West Indian Cricket is not only about natural talent, but cricketers of today with the many opportunities available to them, have to be trained to develop their all-round professional skills, to put team before self, and bringing them into academics such as the UWI, can nurture and shape these.” The UWI salutes Larry Gomes as a model cricketer of our times.

For more information about these programmes, please contact Ms Charisse Broome at Charisse.Broome@sta.uwi.edu or the Director of Sport and Physical Education at Iva.Gloudon@sta.uwi.edu or (868) 662-2002 Ext. 2307.
A WELCOME RETURN TO NEW THOUGHT

BY BRYAN KHAN

It is now been many decades since Caribbean scholars have acknowledged that the theoretical explanations offered by mainstream academics have been too generalized to adequately capture the essence of the realities of the Caribbean experience. This has been a journey which has drawn on the intellectual capacities of some of the region’s greatest historians, political scientists, sociologists, and of course, economists. What is interesting to note, is that many of the major contributions to Caribbean thought are attributed to works which have blurred the line between these different disciplines.

A significant opportunity arises when a literary work is able to transcend these lines, and contribute to the development of not only its primary discipline, but to a uniquely relevant Caribbean ideology. It is in this context that the concept of the Plantation Economy Model stands out as a key piece of the mosaic that is Caribbean society. While the Plantation Economy is at heart, an economic model, its implications and adaptations have transcended the traditional economic framework, and have significantly contributed to the emergence of a holistic and continuously evolving developmental paradigm.

By establishing the premise that the history of our region cannot be isolated from our economic context, the Theory of the Plantation Economy has given us a construct in which we are able to analyze our positions. By shifting our focus towards a theoretical construct which is explicitly based on the unique context of our colonial heritage and history, the idea of the Plantation Economy is one which has propelled independent Caribbean thought to its rightful place.

Essays on the theory of Plantation Economy is a significant literary work which I am sure will find its way into the reading lists and course curricula of regional academics, and hopefully, also into the hands of any casual reader, interested in understanding the historical evolution of the Caribbean economic framework. While the various discourses in this book have been discussed, and in many instances published, at various points in the past, it is a significant accomplishment to have compiled these essays into a single cohesive literary work.

I would also like to highlight the fact this publication is certainly more than the sum of the individual essays of which it is comprised. It begins with a comprehensive and insightful forward by Professor Norman Girvan, appropriately titled ‘The Plantation Economy in the Age of Globalization’ which aptly sets the tone of the text, introducing the theme of the book not only from its historical perspective, but also adopting a contemporary perspective.

Chapter one is an appropriate opening - Best’s On the Teaching of Economics, first presented at the 1973 Conference of Secondary School Teachers of Economics. The book derives its tagline from Chapter two’s title – A Historical and Institutional Approach to Caribbean Economic Development. Like Chapter two, Chapters three to five are Best-Levitt collaborations, taking the reader through a discourse on the Legacy of the Plantation and the Structures of Caribbean Economies, where the core construct of the Plantation Model is explored in Revised and Expanded Model of Pure Plantation Economy - a comprehensive and seminal paper, accounting for almost a third of the book’s content. It is at this point, that the work identifies the plantation economy as a hinterland, characterized by subordination and dependency on the dominant metropole.

After being presented with the Best-Levitt Accounting Framework for the Plantation Economy’, the reader is seamlessly drawn into Levitt’s construction of ‘A System of National Accounts for Trinidad and Tobago’. With the emphasis on the historical continuities of dependency established, Levitt seeks to address the question of the requisite changes which would allow for the break with dependency, i.e., ‘In Search for Model IV’, or the connotatively labeled ‘anti-model’.

The last chapter reverts to the Best-Levitt formulation, and provides a Critical Review of the Contributions of Lewis and Seers, with specific reference to Issues of Industrialization and Employment in the Caribbean; rounding off the book’s theme of Caribbean Development, and leaving the reader to contemplate the evolution of perspectives within Caribbean Economic Thought.

With the global and regional economies quickly evolving via the technological progress characterized by today’s world, we are once again faced with a critical consideration: What is the impact and significance of the Plantation Legacy within our evolving economic landscape?”

While the Best-Levitt generation of economic thought has given us a construct in which we can explain and understand our regional economies, discourse on the appropriate way forward still rages on.

Bryan Khan, an economics graduate of The UWI, is Research Officer, Telecommunication Authority of Trinidad and Tobago

ON PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

New primary health care providers should be allowed to learn from the mistakes of those who have gone before. That is the philosophy behind a new book from a lecturer in Primary Care at The UWI.

“Psychosocial Issues in West Indian Primary Health Care” is the new book written by Dr Rohan Maharaj, UWI Lecturer in Primary Care and Coordinator of the UWI Family Medicine Programme.

Although written primarily for physicians, the book will be useful to many ancillary primary health care workers. Dr Maharaj sees the book as a tool for the training of medical students, residents and other primary health care workers in caring for patients.

THE BOOK IS AVAILABLE AT THE UWI BOOKSHOP AND OTHER BOOKSTORES NATIONWIDE.
UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS
MARCH – APRIL 2010

LUNCHTIME SEMINARS
Wednesday 31 March and April 7, 2010
Noon-1.30pm
IGDS Seminar Room,
St. Augustine Campus, UWI

The Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) continues to host lunchtime seminars that are free and open to the public.

David Lewis, of Indiana University, will discuss Musical Responses to HIV/AIDS in Trinidad and Tobago on March 31. Matt Bishop, a lecturer at the Institute of International Relations, UWI, will discuss Beyond the Impasse in Caribbean Development Theory on April 7.

For further information, please contact the IGDS at IGDS@sta.uwi.edu or 662-2002 ext. 3577 & 3573

FUTURE OF FINANCIAL SERVICES
Friday 30 April, 2010
8am-5pm
Hyatt Regency Trinidad Hotel, POS

The Caribbean Centre for Money and Finance (CCMF) at The UWI holds its annual Caribbean Business Executive seminar at the end of April on the theme: The Future of the Financial Services Industry after the Crisis. With two sessions—the first outlining the new financial order and post-crisis growth strategies, and the second looking at financing growth in emerging markets—the day offers vital information for businesses, governments and the financial market. The Feature speaker is Minister of Finance, Karen Nunez-Tesheira, among the other presenters are Mr Michael Mansoor, Mr Clarence Tong, Suresh Sookhoo, Dodridge Miller, Paolo Nogueira Batista Jr and Prof Jan Kregel.

For further information, please contact Ms. Kathleen Charles at kathleen.charles@sta.uwi.edu or at 645-1174 or visit the website at http://www.ccmf-uwi.org/.

100 YEARS OF REVOLUTION
Tuesday 6 to Thursday 8 April, 2010
The Centre for Language Learning (CLL),
St. Augustine Campus, UWI

An international conference to mark the 100th anniversary of the Mexican Revolution: “Cien Años de la Revolución Mexicana: Revisiones y Balances” or “One Hundred Years of the Mexican Revolution: New Perspectives and Reconfigurations,” will be held at the Auditorium, Centre for Language Learning (CLL), UWI, St. Augustine. It is being hosted by CENLAC (Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean), College of Science, Technology & Applied Arts of Trinidad & Tobago, the Centro de Investigaciones sobre América Latina y el Caribe, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México and the Pan-African Studies Department, University of Louisville.

Guest Speakers:
• Dr. Marcela del Río Reyes,
  Prof. Emérita University of Central Florida
• Dr. Adalberto Santana Hernández,
  Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
• Dr. Carlos Huamán López,
  Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
• Dr. Hermínio Niñe Villavicencio,
  Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México
• Dr. John Mraz,
  Universidad Autónoma de Puebla

For further information, please contact the Centre for Latin America and the Caribbean, UWI, St. Augustine, tel.: 1-868-662-2002 ext.2655, or email: cenlac2003@yahoo.com

A GATHERING OF LESBIAN AND GAY WRITING
PUBLIC LECTURE AND IGDS BOOK LAUNCH
Thursday 15 April, 2010
5.30-8.30pm
Daaga Hall Auditorium,
St. Augustine Campus, UWI

Thomas Glave, professor in the Department of English, State University of New York at Binghamton, will give a public lecture as the Institute of Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) launches his book locally at Daaga Hall. The book, Our Caribbean: A Gathering of Lesbian and Gay Writing from the Antilles, was published by Duke University Press in 2008. The event is free and open to the public.

For further information, please contact the IGDS at IGDS@sta.uwi.edu or 662-2002 ext. 3577 & 3573

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE
Tuesday 22 to Saturday 24 April, 2010
Hyatt Regency Trinidad Hotel, POS

The Caribbean Health Research Council is hosting its 55th Annual Scientific Conference, from April 22nd-24th, 2010, at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad Hotel, Trinidad & Tobago. This meeting is intended for researchers, policy makers, health care providers, students and other interested persons. The conference will include presentations on: HIV/AIDS/STI, Chronic Diseases, Communicable Diseases, Nutrition, Health Services, Clinical Studies, a research workshop and satellite meetings.

For further information, please contact the Caribbean Health Research Council, 25a Warner Street, St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago, Tel: (868) 645-3769; 7421, Fax: (868) 645-0705, email: chr@trinidad.net or chr@chr-caribbean.org, or visit the CHRC website www.chrc-caribbean.org