It was a memorable Old Yard for the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) this year. With a parlour, a market and a rum shop for atmosphere, traditional Carnival characters frolicked with the large crowd who came to mingle with Dame Lorraines, Baby Dolls, Jab Molasses, Midnight Robbers, Dragons and other devilish folk. In this Abigail Hadeed photo, a rather querulous bunch of primates, it seems, gave pause to onlookers at the February event, formerly known as Viey La Cou. (See pages 14 & 15)
Planning for the Future

As The University of the West Indies begins to plan for its next five-year Strategic Plan, going beyond 2007-2012, the future of the University is being shaped by a number of challenges influencing higher education: globalization, changing demographics, a technology-driven environment, “commodification” of education, financing, increasing demand for access and flexibility and the changing needs of learning outcomes. We need to grasp the opportunities presented in this changing environment and develop creative and timely responses.

The St. Augustine Campus must remain attuned to the changing needs of potential students, both undergraduate and postgraduate, of government, industry and society if it is to remain relevant and contribute towards human resource development.

The Campus seeks to improve our core functions and services for greater competitiveness, relevance and impact and our focus and priorities for driving the process will take account of a number of imperatives.

Financial sustainability is critical for long term development. Options for renewed and revised mechanisms for income generation and cost containment must be addressed. We are positioning the University as a leading research institution that exploits its Caribbean “uniqueness” to develop global competitiveness in Caribbean thought, knowledge creation and dissemination. The areas of research excellence in Tropical Agriculture and the Environment, Medicine, Caribbean Literature, the Creative Arts and History, for example are seen as opportunities for taking the Caribbean expertise of The UWI to international frontiers.

Continuous improvement requires transforming our systems and processes through harnessing new and emerging technologies towards greater efficiency and effectiveness in teaching and learning and in administrative services. This is pivotal to enhance the student experience and serve the future and diverse needs of stakeholders.

The Campus is well-poised to chart a new future in higher education that is responsive, far reaching, competitive, and sustainable and one that produces graduates and solutions to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century.

Clement K. Sankat
Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal

Higher Education Builds Healthy Civil Society

Reviewing the higher education system with a view towards “rationalization, building efficiency and effectiveness, and synergistic, collaborative relationships,” is one of the roles seen for the National Commission for Higher Education (NCHE) by its new Chairman, Pro Vice Chancellor and Principal of the St Augustine Campus, Prof Clement Sankat.

Speaking at a ceremony at the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education to hand over national instruments of appointment to State Boards on March 15, Prof Sankat said he felt the NCHE should “support Government’s vision of the creation of a diversified economy, a strong knowledge sector, and the proliferation of entrepreneurial initiatives yielding higher-end jobs and a better standard of living.”

“In multifaceted, often challenging societies like ours in Trinidad & Tobago, higher education must play a decisive role in building social cohesion and in laying the foundations of a healthy civil society based upon good governance and participative democracy,” said Prof Sankat.

He set out some of the immediate tasks before the new Commission: developing mission, vision, goals and objectives; establishing a secretariat and a Research Intelligence Unit, and noted that relevant legislation would have to be enacted to properly empower the NCHE, and funding would have to be secured.

“There is much to be done, to be achieved for our country and especially the young people of our country. We must give them hope that through engagement and continuous learning, there is a better day ahead. We must find the ways and means to keep them engaged in education, despite the challenges which we see as educational hurdles. We have a special responsibility here in building a better, thoughtful, understanding and forward-looking society and shaping the future of our country and region,” said Prof Sankat as he cautioned board members, “We cannot fail.”

Clement K. Sankat
Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal

Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education, Fazal Karim, presented the letter of appointment to the new Chairman of the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), UWI Pro Vice Chancellor and St. Augustine Principal, Prof Clement Sankat at a formal ceremony earlier this month.
ALCOHOL USE POLICY can be a model for others

A policy on alcohol use has been drafted by the St. Augustine Campus of The UWI for consideration by the Academic Board at its next meeting.

The policy is meant to encourage personal responsibility and mutual respect in the consumption of alcoholic beverages on the Campus, especially as existing legislation regulates the sale, but not the consumption of alcohol.

The genesis for this policy lay in the findings of a 2009 survey “Prevalence of Alcohol Use Disorders on The UWI St. Augustine Campus,” conducted by the Health Service Unit (HSU), which is headed by Dr Neil Singh.

“IT has long been stated that UWI Students abuse alcohol, however no concrete data ever existed. The HSU embarked on an alcohol use disorder survey which involved the WHO’s AUDIT questionnaire as a screening tool to assess the prevalence of Alcohol Disorders among students at the St. Augustine Campus. Of the 1500 students sampled, 69% confessed to drinking regularly,” said Dr Singh.

Basically, the policy sets out 19 items to guide the use of alcohol on Campus premises. It includes recognition of the age of 18 as the drinking age, prohibits alcohol use in public spaces (unless permission is granted) and defines private spaces to include rooms on the halls of residence, the Campus Bar, the Senior Common Room and the Staff Social Club.

The policy, which was a collaborative effort between the Deputy Principal’s Office and the Health Service Unit, sets out other conditions for alcohol use and disciplinary measures.

Alcohol abuse is acknowledged to be a societal problem, and The UWI’s proactive position may provide guidelines for other institutions and organisations to follow.

The policy noted that students face academic and social challenges, “including and related to developing a sense of autonomy, coping with new freedoms, peer pressure and meeting academic expectations” which could lead to coping mechanisms such as drug exploitation.

The 2009 survey found a 69% prevalence of alcohol use” among undergraduates, with binge drinking (five or more drinks at one sitting) being reported by 38% of those polled. The survey also revealed that 25% of the polled students had an “alcohol use disorder; 26.8% were engaged in “hazardous alcohol use;” 7.8% displayed signs of being dependent and 12.8% showed signs of “harmful alcohol use.”

The Campus Administration took heed of the implications of these findings with regard to issues surrounding “health and safety, sexual behaviour, academic performance and overall quality of life.” Other considerations included the general safety of students, as alcohol abuse may lead to sexual and physical violence.

With the rapid expansion of The UWI’s student population – registered students in 2010 exceeded 17,000 – the burden of care and guidance has assumed greater proportions. The University examined the policies and guidelines of several tertiary education institutions globally to ensure that best practices would be emulated.

A programme of education on substance use and addiction will accompany the roll out of the policy.

“The Alcohol Survey and the Alcohol Use Policy are the initial components of a wider Alcohol Prevention Programme embarked on by the Health Service Unit,” said Dr Singh.

The final component of this programme involves the establishment of effective health education and outreach activities geared at heightening the awareness of the effects of alcohol use and abuse as well as encouraging responsible alcohol consumption on Campus.

“The HSU will also offer assistance to students who believe they may have a drinking problem ‘addiction.’ Students can have access to qualified counselors and if necessary, referrals to appropriate specialists,” said Dr Singh. “Substance abuse screening tools will be available online to assist students in identifying if they have a drinking problem and students will benefit from a number of outreach activities.”

Dr Singh said that the celebration of National Alcohol Screening Day on April 7, is the next major activity.

“It has long been stated that UWI Students abuse alcohol, however no concrete data ever existed.”

Reporting on a 2004 Harvard School of Public Health study conducted on 747 four-year colleges in the United States, the expanded policy document noted the following:

34% have banned alcohol on campus for any student, regardless of age.

43% of all schools prohibited alcohol in all campus residence halls.

81% of colleges offered at least some alcohol-free dorms or floors.

44% of all colleges restricted alcohol use in at least some situations.

84% of schools provided alcohol education for freshmen.

72% alcohol education for fraternity and sorority members.

69% alcohol education for athletics.

69% of the colleges used educational initiatives and campaigns to address common misconceptions about alcohol use, thus aiming to reduce the student’s desire to drink.

90% of campuses offer counseling services to students experiencing alcohol abuse.

81% of colleges employ an assigned substance abuse official.

61% have a task force to deal with substance abuse issues.

48% of schools liaise with communities to deal with alcohol abuse.
Postgraduate student at the UWI, St. Augustine Campus, Sabina Gomez was rewarded for the feedback she provided on her student experience. Pro Vice Chancellor for Planning and Development, Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie presented the part-time, MSc Mediation Studies student with the grand prize of a Dell laptop for her participation in the 2010 Postgraduate Experience Survey tag-lined You talk. We listen.

As part of the University’s commitment to continuous improvement, its Office of Planning and Development and Quality Assurance Unit invited postgraduate students across the region to take an online student experience survey offering them the opportunity to share their views on the UWI experience.

Student responses to the survey afforded the University invaluable feedback in the areas of Programme Support; Programme Supervision; Teaching; Research Opportunities; Personal Skills Development; University Support Services and Overall Satisfaction all of which will inform reform in the specific areas as part of its strategic transformation process.

“Students are best positioned to give feedback on the University experience. I think that the information gathered from surveys like this should inform policy and I hope it results in improvements across the faculties,” said Gomez.

“Our current strategic plan, which is now 17 months to completion, identifies graduate studies and research as a core strategic aim in creating the true learning community that we envision for UWI. The kind of institution that we are aiming to become is one that attracts first-rate students and one that is consistently putting the needs of our students first. They are our biggest testimony so the University is committed to improving their experience; this in itself will make our students effective ambassadors,” said Dr Tewarie.

“We are continuously interested in developing and enhancing the St. Augustine Campus paper, UWI TODAY, and one way is to hear your thoughts on it and your suggestions for improving it. We’d like to invite readers to visit us online at http://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/survey and participate in a fairly short and simple survey that gives us some more insight into our readership and their expectations.

All you have to do is visit us online and answer the survey questions. It will only take a short time, but the responses will go a long way.

“Students are best positioned to give feedback on the University experience. I think that the information gathered from surveys like this should inform policy and I hope it results in improvements across the faculties.”
**GAS AND OIL CAN PAY FOR ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

“There can be no better way to develop alternative energy in Trinidad and Tobago than to let a thriving energy oil and gas sector foot the bill,” said the Energy Minister, Professor Sankat, at a public lecture in February. He reiterated his own and the institution’s commitment to alternative energy use into its grid. The Minister outlined several strategies and initiatives that are being undertaken and considered by the government, including the possible setting up of a photo voltaic manufacturing plant, removing the taxes on items like solar energy water heaters, and adjusting the relevant legislation to allow T&T to integrate alternative energy use into its grid. The University of the West Indies (UWI) has recently been contracted to supply its products to a large hotels, whose hot-water needs are high, but also services the domestic (residential home) market, and has recently been contracted to supply its products to a few Government buildings in Barbados. Between 1974 and 2002, he said, 35,000 solar water heating systems had been in existence in the country. In one of its larger clients includes the St George’s University in Grenada. In addition to the individual islands’ potential, said Husbands, there also exist regional possibilities in creating a submarine transmission network whereby power can be produced in one country, and exported to another. Dr Anthony Sabga, the founder and patron of the Caribbean Awards for Excellence, said he was pleased the Awards programme was able to contribute to the region’s development in such a direct way. This, he said, was their purpose, “to find people of talent, creativity, accomplishment, and entrepreneurial drive right here in the Caribbean”.

A video of Mr Husbands’ lecture can be found on the Caribbean Awards for Excellence YouTube Channel, ANSCAFE, or it can be accessed via the Awards’ Facebook page.
PART I

As all Grenadians know, it was here in St. George’s 95 years ago that T.A. Marryshow flew from the masthead of his pioneering newspaper The West Indian the banner: The West Indies Must Be West Indian. On that banner, Westindian was symbolically one joined-up word – from the very first issue on 1 January 1915. What was ‘Teddy’ Marryshow signaling almost a century ago? That first issue looked to “the day when, our islands linked together in an administrative and fiscal union, the West Indian Dominion will take its place, small though they may be, in the glorious Empire.”

Marryshow was not alone; there were others from other islands, like Capt. Cipriani of Trinidad and Rawle of Dominica and Critchelow of British Guiana and Grantley Adams of Barbados and Bradshaw of St. Kitts. They were a collective – these early regionalists – not yet bound by a blueprint of structured unity – but united by an intuitive awareness that, if they were to go forward to the goal of freedom from a still cramping colonialism in their several homes, they had to struggle together in their regional homeland: that the West Indies had to be West Indian.

In the slogan was a double entendre. To be West Indian was both the goal of self-determination attained and the strategy of unity for reaching and sustaining it. That was the 1920s and ’30s. It is intriguing to remember that at that same time, today’s united Europe had just fought one civil war and was about to fight another. Our goal of freedom kept changing its form as the world changed: internal self-government in the pre-war years; formal independence in the post-war years; the reality of freedom in the era of globalization; overcoming smallness in a world of giants.

But the strategy of regional unity, the strategy of oneness, kept changing its form as the world changed: internal self-government in the pre-war years; formal independence in the post-war years; the reality of freedom in the era of globalization; overcoming smallness in a world of giants. But the strategy of regional unity, the strategy of oneness, would not change, at least not nominally: we called it by different names and pursued it by different forms – always with variable success: federation; integration, the OECS, CARIFTA, CARICOM, the CSME, the CCJ. It is that ‘variable success’ that today begs the question: IS THE WEST INDIES WEST INDIAN? Nearly 100 years after Marryshow asserted that we must be, are we yet? Worse still, are we less so than we once were?

As West Indians, we have always faced a basic contradiction of oneness and otherness, a basic paradox of kinship and alienation. Much of our history is the interplay of these contrarieties. But they are not of equal weight. The very notion of being West Indian speaks of identity, of oneness. Today, CARICOM and all it connotes, is the hallmark of that triumph, and it is well to remember the processes which forged it – lest we forget, and lose it.

Throughout history our geo-political region has known that it is a kinship in and around an enclosing Sea. But, through most of that time it suited local elites – from white planters, through successor merchant groups, to establishment colonials – to keep the Sea as a convenient boundary against encroachment on their ‘local control’; to ensure that the West Indies did not become too West Indian.

Times changed in the 1920s and ’30s – between the ’world wars. The external economic and political environments changed; and the internal environments changed – social, political and most of all demographic. Local control began to pass to the hands of local creoles, mainly professionals, later trade unionists, and for a while the new political class saw value in a strategy of regional unity.

It was a strategy that was to reach its apogee in the Federation of The West Indies due to become independent in mid-1962. It is often forgotten that the ‘the’ in the name of the new nation was consciously spelt with a capital ‘T’ – The West Indies – an insistence on the oneness of the federated region. But, by then, that was verbal insistence against a contrary reality, already re-emerging. The new political elites for whom ‘unity’ offered a pathway to political power through ‘independence’ had found by the 1960s that that pathway was opening up regardless.

In any event, regional unity was no longer a precondition to ‘local control’. Hence, Norman Manley’s deal with McLeod and the referendum in Jamaica; and Eric Williams’ self-indulgent arithmetic that ‘1’ from ‘10’ left ‘0’; even ‘the agony of the eight’ that ended the dream. Despite the rhetorical passion that had characterized the latter years of the ‘federal movement’ the imperishable impulse for local control had revived, and the separatist instincts of a controlling social and political elite had prevailed. Within four months of the dispersion of the Federation (on the same day in May 1962 that it was to become a single independent member state of the Commonwealth) Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago became so separately. We can act with speed when we really want to!

In an interdependent world which in the name of liberalization made no distinctions between rich and poor, big and small, regional unity was compulsion. West Indian states – for all their new flags and anthems – needed each other for survival. Only three years after the rending ‘referendum’ came the first tentative steps to ‘unity’ in 1965 with CARIFTA; tentative, because the old obsession with local control continued to trump oneness – certainly in Cabinet Rooms; but in some privileged drawing rooms too; though less so in village markets and urban street corners.

Despite the new external compulsions, the pursuit of even economic unity, which publics largely accepted, has been a passage of attrition. It has taken us from 1965 to 2010 – 45 years – to crawl through CARIFTA and CARICOM, through the fractured promises of Chaguaramas and Grand Anse, and through innumerable pious Declarations and Affirmations and Commitments. The roll call of unfulfilled pledges and promises and unimplemented decisions is so staggering that in 2011, a cal de sac looms.

At Grand Anse in 1989 West Indian political leaders declared that “inspired by the spirit of co-operation and solidarity among us (we) are moved by the need to work expeditiously together to deepen the integration process and strengthen the Caribbean Community in all of its dimensions” They agreed a specific work programme “to be
implemented over the next four years” with primacy given “towards the establishment, in the shortest possible time of a single market and economy”. That was 22 years ago. The West Indian Commission (also established at Grand Anse) confidently charted the way, declaring it a “Time for Action.” West Indian technicians took their leaders to the brink with the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. But there was no action – no political action, no political will to act. In 22 years, nothing decisive has happened to fulfill the dream of Grand Anse. Over those two decades the West Indies has drawn steadily away from being West Indian.

Not surprisingly, when Heads of Government meet here in Grenada next month [February] it will be at a moment of widespread public disbelief that the professed goal of a Single Market and Economy will ever be attained, or even that their political leaders are any longer “inspired by the spirit of co-operation and solidarity” or “moved by the need to work expeditiously together to deepen the integration process and strengthen the Caribbean Community in all its dimensions” as they proclaimed at Grand Anse in 1989.

The West Indies cannot be West Indian if West Indian affairs, regional matters, are not the unwritten premise of every Government’s agenda; not occasionally, but always; not as ad hoc problems, but as the basic environment of policy. It is not so now.

In the 21st century, despite all we know of the brutality of the global environment and the need for collective action to survive it, the isolationist claims of local control still smother the demands of unity of purpose and action. We are still so many plantation enclaves obsessed with outdoing each other. It is puzzling that it should be so; for we have assuredly made large gains in what ‘unity’ most demands: identity.

It is not an identity crisis that we face. We are a family; we know we are. But our family values are less sturdy than they should be – those values that should make regional unity real, should move it from rhetoric to reality, should make integration an intuitive process and the CSME a natural bonding. Until we live by these values, smoothing out the wrinkles so that all the family prospers, we degrade that identity.

PART II

Nothing speaks louder of this current debilitation than our substantial denial of the Caribbean Court of Justice. The Bar Association of Grenada is host to this Lecture Series which is a memorial to a great West Indian lawyer. It is poignant that the Inaugural Lecture in this series delivered in 1996 by J.S. Archibald Q.C. was entitled: Essentials for a West Indies Supreme Court to replace the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council as the final Appellate Court for Commonwealth Caribbean States and Territories. Fifteen years later, it is still apposite that I address this issue when we talk of being West Indian.

In 2001, 12 CARICOM countries decided they would abolish appeals to the Privy Council and establish their own Caribbean Court of Justice to serve all the countries of the Caribbean Community with both original jurisdiction in regional integration matters and appellate jurisdiction as the final court of appeal for individual CARICOM countries. As of now, only Guyana (which had abolished appeals to the Privy Council on independence, believing it to be a natural incident of sovereignty), Barbados and now Belize have conferred on the CCJ that appellate jurisdiction. It is instructive that Guyana, in adopting the CCJ as its final court of appeal, dispensed with its national final Court of Appeal, subordinating its own sovereignty to the logic of a Community Court of Appeal.

Constitutional amendment is required for the abolition of appeals to the Privy Council. In practical terms, this means bipartisan political support for the CCJ. In Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago (where the Court has its much sought-after location) that political consensus does not exist – because the political party now in office in each of those two major regional jurisdictions has turned its back on its regional court. In St. Vincent and the Grenadines, a referendum last year rejected the transference of appeals to the CCJ.

The situation has been complicated by the issue of the death penalty on which the Privy Council, reflecting contemporary English (and EU) mores and jurisprudence has been rigorous in upholding Caribbean appeals in death sentence cases. Someday, the Caribbean as a whole must accept abolition of the death penalty; I believe we should have done so already; but, in a situation of heightened crime in the region, popular sentiment has induced political reticence. Even so, however, the Privy Council’s anachronistic jurisdiction persists; and the Caribbean Court of Justice remains hobbled in pursuing its enlightened role in Caribbean legal reform.

It is almost axiomatic that the Caribbean Community should have its own final Court of Appeal in all matters – that the West Indies at the highest level of jurisprudence should be West Indian. As a West Indian I despair, as a West Indian – that the West Indies at the highest level of jurisprudence remain hobbled in pursuing its enlightened role in Caribbean legal reform.

This absurd and unworthy paradox of heritage and hesitancy must be resolved by action. In law, as in ourselves, the West Indies must be West Indian. Those countries still hesitant must find the will and the way to end this anomaly, and perhaps it will be easier if they act as one. The alternative to such action is too self-destructive to contemplate.

But let me add what we all know, though seldom say: to give confidence to our publics in their adoption of the CCJ as the ultimate repository of justice in the West Indies, our Governments must be assiduous in demonstrating respect for all independent West Indian constitutional bodies (like the Director of Public Prosecutions) lest by
transference, Governments are not trusted to keep their hands off the CCJ. And Courts themselves, at every level, must be manifestly free from political influence and be seen to be sturdy custodians of that freedom. In the end, the independence of West Indian judiciaries must rest on a broad culture of respect for the authority and independence of all constitutional office holders: for the Rule of Law.

PART III

There is another major respect in which the West Indies is not being West Indian in the Marryshow manner: is not being true to itself. We are failing to fulfill the promise we once held out of being a light in the darkness of the developing world. Small as we are, our regionalism, our West Indian synonymy, inspired many in the South who also aspired to strength through unity. We have all but withdrawn from these roles, and in some areas like the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with Europe we have fallen into the trap of not preserving unity with our brothers and sisters in other countries of the South, whatever their own lapses. Recently, the former President of Tanzania, Ben Mkapa, who was our brother in arms in the North-South arena, was warning Africa against the same EPA of which we have made Europe such a gift. Solidarity has been lost not only amongst ourselves, but also collectively with the developing world.

Were we making a reality of our own regional unity we would not be false to ourselves and we would have inspired others who, in the past, had looked to us as a beacon of a worthy future. Instead, we are losing our way both at home and abroad.

Have we forgotten the days when as West Indians we were the first to daringly bring the 'Non-Aligned Movement' to the Western Hemisphere, when we pioneered rejection of the 'two China' policy at the United Nations and recognised the People's Republic; when, together, we broke the Western diplomatic embargo of Cuba; when we were in the front rank (both intellectual and diplomatic) of the effort for a New International Economic Order; when from this region, bending iron wills, we gave leadership in the struggle against apartheid in Southern Africa; when we inspired the creation of the ACP and kept the fallacy of reciprocity in trade at bay for 25 years; when we forced grudging acceptance in the United Nations and in the Commonwealth that small states required special and differential treatment? In all this, and more, for all our size we stood tall; we commanded respect, if not always endearment.

Is it not a sad commentary on our present lack of cohesion and, indeed of collective courage, that today we have succumbed to threats from the EU into signing a full EPA while other ACP regions have not, and have failed to build in the WTO and in the IMF on our previous success in convincing the UN and the Commonwealth that, as small states, we should be given special and differential treatment? Today, amid rampant globalization, those failures are already taking their toll on our Caribbean economies.

The burden of my message tonight is that we have become casual, neglectful, indifferent and undisciplined in sustaining and advancing Caribbean integration: that we have failed to ensure that the West Indies is West Indian, and are falling into a state of disunity which by now we should have made unnatural. The process will occasion a slow and gradual descent – from which a passing wind may offer occasional respite; but, ineluctably, it will produce an ending.

Collectively, we must recover our resolve to survive as one West Indies – as one people, one region, one whole region. Imbued by such resolve there is a future that can be better than the best we have ever had. Neither complacency nor resignation nor empty words will suffice. What we need is rescue – by ourselves, from ourselves and for ourselves. We cannot be careless with our oneness, which is our lifeline. As it was in St. George's in 1915, so it is now: The West Indies must be Westindian!
Expansion and Change

BY SIR GEORGE ALLEYNE, CHANCELLOR

This is an important step in our history. I wish to comment on this happy occasion and relate it to the development of the University as a whole and our relations with our governments. Perhaps I do have a certain advantage as I am a proud alumnus of this University, was an early graduate and I have seen the University as student, faculty member, member of Council and now as Chancellor. I never ceased to be impressed at the manner in which we have faced and faced down the challenges of change.

It is trite but true to say that at a global level we have seen changes in the nature and functioning of universities in the past 50 years that would have been thought impossible. We have seen massive expansion of tertiary education in the Caribbean as in the rest of the world. I witnessed the expansion from a cozy, little residential institution at Mona to the campuses at St. Augustine and Cave Hill and more recently, a fourth campus. This has been a response of the University to the new order: the fourth age. Our civilization has passed through the Renaissance, the age of discovery, the industrial revolution and now we are in the age of knowledge. Knowledge is the capital essential for humans to acquire the elements necessary for the exercise of our essential and existential freedoms. Knowledge is the essential ingredient to fomenting the competitiveness which is critical for our survival as a people and as a region.

Universities have had a few choices in their response to the new imperatives of an age of knowledge and interconnectedness. One option is not to change and remain stuck in the orthodoxy of yesterday and follow the inflexible law of nature: those who do not change and adapt die. They could have gone totally virtual – and some have – but our University chose to change by expanding its campuses and its offerings with the belief that there is still some intrinsic value in a physical locus as the centre for collection and dissemination of information and as a locus for the human interaction which is necessary for human development. This expansion here must be seen in this light and I predict other expansions to other campuses in and outside of the Caribbean.

Although we have not become entirely virtual, we have adapted to the different forms of instruction. The transmission of information before the Renaissance was essentially in the nature of an apprenticeship system and until fairly recently ancient professions still followed this mode: lawyers were clerks and solicitors were articled to a master. Then came the change to the classroom with the master lecturing or reading to the disciples, and now this campus and the University as whole is increasingly embracing the model of the teacher being more of a coach.

One of the more significant changes has been in the relationship of governments to the University. Governments wish to see more and more of the young acquire knowledge; in Trinidad and Tobago the aim is to have 60% of the eligible cohort in tertiary education. But still they give tremendous latitude to the student as to the form of knowledge acquired. It is refreshing to note that our governments, although making it clear as to the societal needs, have not forced on universities the choice between considering knowledge as intrinsically good or as strictly utilitarian – a distinction which in my view is not helpful. But in terms of relationship, we note a change from what could have been seen as one of principal-agent to a stewardship type of arrangement in which there is more of a partnership, where the Governments and the University share in a grand enterprise of creating and disseminating the information needed for our modern Caribbean society. This change, of course, implies that there will be other partners beside governments in this enterprise.

The flagship faculty and the first to be established here is that of law, in great part because of the demand for that discipline. The University has gone to great pains to ensure the common curriculum across the campuses in this discipline. Perhaps the establishment of the faculty of law here is recognition of how law was practiced in ancient times. Before the Roman Emperor Claudius allowed it, lawyers were not allowed to charge fees, but practiced rhetoric for the love of it. Thus this campus and the faculty may be a demonstration of social generosity and its students will be encouraged to return to the pre-Claudian era and not charge fees. Or it may be because of the recognition of the preeminence of law above other forms of training, for as the famous politician/philosopher Edmund Burke said of law; “a science [the law] which does more to quicken and invigorate the understanding, than all the other kinds of learning put together.” Maybe that may have been the reason why Dr. Eric Williams at the establishment of the St. Augustine Campus 51 years ago envisaged that it would not be complete without the teaching of the Law.

I wish this campus well and am sure it will be a magnificent addition to the facilities and possibilities of the main Campus at St. Augustine and to The University of the West Indies as a whole. This land which was watered by the sweat and blood of the fathers and mothers of many of you here today will one day be populated with beautiful buildings, beautiful trees and will echo the voices of young people arguing and debating and pursuing that knowledge which will be their trampoline to individual progress and fulfillment.

“One of the more significant changes has been in the relationship of governments to the University. Governments wish to see more and more of the young acquire knowledge; in Trinidad and Tobago the aim is to have 60% of the eligible cohort in tertiary education.”
This is a historic moment for The UWI St. Augustine Campus. For me, as Campus Principal, it is an occasion filled with immense jubilation, anticipation and gratitude; one that marks not only the dedication of lands for the establishment of a South Campus but the realization of a dream! A dream I have had for quite some time and even shared with my colleagues at the first Academic Board meeting I chaired after assuming the office of Campus Principal in January 2008. Very simply, this dream was to extend the Campus beyond the walls of St. Augustine into South Trinidad and to provide more remote communities with increased access to tertiary education, to reach students wherever they may be and give them opportunities for personal advancement.

My dream for students across all communities in Trinidad and Tobago was based on my own experience as a little boy growing up in a small village in Corentyne, in rural Guyana where the only chance for educational and personal development meant that from the tender age of 11, I had to leave my family behind for months and with a heavy heart, travel to the capital city in Georgetown to be able to enter secondary school and hopefully, one day, university. I am sure there are those present from the communities in the South with a similar story.

While this may have been decades ago, in another part of the Caribbean, my firm belief that children, no matter where they live or what their socio-economic background, should have easy access to an education that could change their lives forever, has been a driving force for me as an educator and an administrator at The University of the West Indies.

At The UWI we are committed to reaching out to our students in all countries across the Caribbean and serving the needs of our national and regional stakeholders. We have been achieving this outreach through satellite sites of our resident Campuses, such as the already-established UWI Mona Western Jamaica Campus located in Montego Bay and through the various sites of the Open Campus, particularly in Eastern Caribbean countries and in Belize.

The realization of this vision to establish a South Campus on the outskirts of San Fernando, our second largest city, is but the first step in a process of transformation that begins today. This ground-breaking ceremony to dedicate these lands will inevitably change the course of history!

This is precisely what happened 50 years ago with the establishment of the St. Augustine Main Campus, which evolved into a central hub of teaching and research, firstly in the field of Agriculture, then in Engineering, Medicine, the Natural and Social Sciences, Humanities, Education, the Arts, Law and a range of other disciplines. The UWI St. Augustine Campus has not only been pivotal to knowledge creation, training and development of the human capital needed to bolster the economic development of Trinidad and Tobago from the 1960s to today, it has served as an impetus for the growth of industries, the establishment of partnerships and the flourishing of communities in its more immediate environs - so much so that the area encompassing St. Augustine, Tunapuna, Curepe, St. Joseph and El Dorado has been branded a 'University Town'.

Similarly, the establishment of a South Campus is as prophetic as it is pioneering. It will transform lives, educational and business opportunities, particularly for those living in south Trinidad and lay the foundation for the host of new possibilities for the future. Just as the founders of the Campus planted a seed at St. Augustine, 50 years ago, on agricultural lands, so too are we doing today - planting another seed, this time in Penal/Debe; an area also primarily known for its rich agricultural heritage: cocoa, coffee, rice and sugar cane. And we do this with the firm resolve to build a centre of excellence for teaching, graduate studies and research, one that will create opportunities beyond the field of Agriculture, in a range of disciplines beginning with the flagship Faculty of Law.

I am sure you will agree that law, legal obligations and human rights underpin and infiltrate all that we do in society. As we look to the future, law and legal studies will become more and more integrated into all disciplines and so, with our flagship Law Faculty located right here in Penal/Debe, the UWI St. Augustine Campus is establishing an academic and research centre that will be the beacon for the scholarship of law at the undergraduate and postgraduate level in a host of areas - constitutional law, criminal law, civil law; business law, international law and development law, to name a few.

For me, as Campus Principal, it is an occasion to mark the handing over of lands by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to The University of the West Indies for the establishment of a south campus.

For the very first time, students in Trinidad and Tobago interested in pursuing studies in Law will be able to do all three years of the LLB programme here in Trinidad. I expect that by August 2013, some 450 students will be housed in a beautiful, new Campus right here in Debe.”
AFUWI HONOURS TWO EMMY WINNERS

Other Stars at 2011 Gala

Emmy Award winner, US Entertainment Industry mogul, Suzanne de Passe; former President of Verizon, Patrick Gaston, and NY1 News co-anchor, Brenda Blackmon, were among honourees celebrated at the 14th annual Legacy Awards Gala of the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies (AFUWI), at the Pierre Hotel, New York on January 26, 2011.

The gala, held annually in New York, raises funds to support scholarship programmes at The UWI and is its premier fund-raising event in the USA.

Another of the premier fund-raising events for The UWI is its Toronto Gala, which was scheduled to be held yesterday (March 26) at the Four Seasons Hotel in Toronto. This black-tie event, hosted by lead chair, Scotiabank and The UWI raises funds for the UWI Scholarship Fund and this year as well, the UWI Haitian Initiative.

Ms. De Passe, co-chair of de Passe Jones Entertainment, formerly of Motown, is credited with discovering Michael Jackson and the Jackson Five, Lionel Ritchie & The Commodores and numerous other multi-million dollar selling artistes. She is the first female to receive the AFUWI Bob Marley Award, made annually in recognition of individuals whose contribution to the advancement of arts and culture transcends boundaries of race, colour, creed and geographies, uniting people throughout the world in a spirit that embodies the essence of the music and lyrics of the Hon. Robert Nesta Marley, O.M.

Patrick Gaston, now serving as a senior advisor to the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund, received the AFUWI Special Award in recognition of his outstanding professional accomplishments, as well as his years of dedicated service and commitment to the mission of the AFUWI.

Brenda Blackmon, four-time Emmy Award winner and celebrated broadcaster, recognized in 2010 as “one of the century’s most influential,” was one of three recipients of the Vice Chancellor’s Achievement Award.

Also honoured in this category were acclaimed Jamaican-born artist and author, Michael Escoffery who has exhibited in over 160 solo exhibitions and over 200 group shows worldwide and has had his work published in over 70 books in nine languages.

The third Vice Chancellor’s Achievement Awardee was Jeanine Liburd, Executive Vice President, Corporate Communications & Public Affairs for BET Networks who has had a distinguished career in communications including previous senior positions at Viacom, where she oversaw all media relations initiatives and corporate messages for the company’s business units, including MTV Networks, BET Networks, and Paramount Pictures.

Jamaica-born Dr. Michelle Johnson, Associates Chief of Cardiology, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center, New York and mentor to scores of Caribbean medical students and Trinidadian the late Carlos Lezama “Mr. Carnival”, who presided over the West Indian American Day Carnival Association for 34 years and whose shared vision of carnival is now immortalized in the annual Brooklyn Labour Day Carnival.

Jamaica-born Ambassador Carlton Masters, President & CEO of Goodworks International LLC was the fourth “Caribbean Luminary” honoured by AFUWI. At Goodworks he negotiates and coordinates all client engagements and provides strategic counsel to governments throughout Africa and the Caribbean. He also plays a lead role in partnering Fortune 500 companies with Caribbean and African nations.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the Rex Nettleford Fellowship in Cultural Studies, 2011.

The Fellowship was established by the Rhodes Trust to mark the centenary of the Rhodes Scholarships in the Caribbean in 2004 and to honour the distinguished contribution of the late Professor the Honorable Rex Nettleford O.M. to higher education and to the cultural life of the Caribbean.

The terms and conditions of the Fellowship are:

- The awardee should be a resident of the Caribbean under the age of 35 years.
- All areas of scholarship in the field of Cultural Studies, including the creative arts, may be pursued.
- The value of the award will be £10,000 with an associated travel grant of £2,000.
- The award holder will be expected to use the tenure of the award to either complete an existing piece of work or to develop a new project.
- The award holder will be expected to give a number of public lectures, which would be made more generally available on the website of the Rhodes Trust.

The closing date for receipt of applications by the Jamaica/Caribbean Secretary to the Rhodes Trust, the address of whom is stated below, is April 30, 2011.

For further information, please contact The Jamaica/Caribbean Secretary to the Rhodes Trust, 21 East Street, Kingston, Jamaica. Tel: (876) 9223960, Fax: (876) 922757, or The Office of Administration, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica, Tel: (876) 9772407 or online at www.rhodes-caribbean.com
MAS LESONS FROM HAITI

BY MARVIN GEORGE

As if bored with creating award-winning theatre productions, musicals, and thought-provoking dance recitals and art exhibitions, the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA), entered the Carnival arena with its first showing of a major carnival band this year. Haiti: Mudder of Civilization however, was no ordinary Jouvert band.

The band was part of a larger arts project called Jouvay Ayiti, which is the brainchild of Rawle Gibbons, Senior Lecturer at DCFA and the project’s Artistic Director. Prompted by the Haitian earthquake crisis of 2010, and with Carnival being one of the shared languages of Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago, Jouvay Ayiti situates Jouvert mas-making and performance as the nucleus for a series of other transformative arts experiences. The project combines Carnival arts, theatre, performance, education and regional integration and approaches the task of creating a discussion of Haiti amongst the national community through six main experiences:

- Individual masquerade characters under the theme: “Haiti: Gods, Villains and Heroes.”
- A Haitian RaRa band (Haitian traditional masquerade) within The Old Yard at The UWI St. Augustine Campus.
- A Jouvert band titled, Haiti: Mudder of Civilization.
- DCFA’s annual theatrical production.
- A virtual mas camp and mini film festival showcasing films and images of masquerade, Carnival and various Haitian experiences.
- “Rendezvous Jâcme” – for which the DCFA is proposing to send a group of students and lecturer to Jâcme (the Haitian centre of the RaRa) to collaborate on the production of a masquerade that captures the hope of the Haitian people in this period of regeneration.

Against this backdrop, the mas was developed. There were no costumes for sale. Using the logic of the traditional Jouvay process, the masquerader, the performer, is also the designer and maker of the mas. In this way, the performer is closer to his subject than the masquerader who walks into the mas camp to purchase a costume. To design their mas, players were given the following scenarios to work with:

1. When the earthquake hits Haiti we are left with rubble. If you remove the rubble what item of beauty or value can you find? That item is turned into Mas.
2. One year after the earthquake in Haiti, the rest of the world is hit by a terrible earthquake, which leaves much devastation. Haiti is spared. We are forced to turn to Haiti for advice, for help on how to live based on what they’ve been doing or have learnt to do to survive over the years. What they (can) teach us is what inspires the Mas.

In the end, the band comprised DCFA and other UWI students and staff, the National Commission for UNESCO’s Clubs (project partners), Studio 66, exchange students from Trinity College and the Pacific Lutheran University and other members of the public. Designs for the individuals were solicited from local artists, as well as students and lecturers from the DCFA: Carlyle Harris, Brian Roberts, Dean Arlen, Chadd Cumberbatch, Kenwyn Murray, and Larry Richardson. The individuals were entered into the various NCBA competitions and the Haiti: Mudder of Civilization hit the road on Jouvert morning with 100-plus masqueraders and music by Curepe Scherzando.

So far, the band placed fifth overall in the Jouvert band competition and Kenwyn Murray’s “Anacoana: The Taino Queen” placed first in the modern history category of the NCBA’s Carnival individuals’ competition. “Anacoana” and others will perform in the upcoming annual theatre production titled “Here’s My Ass; now try to Whip It.” Taken from the book “Walking On Fire” by Beverly Bell, the production tells the stories of seven Haitian women, and is directed by Rawle Gibbons and Camille Quamina. The Haitian women will tell their stories nightly from April 1-3 and April 8-10 2011 at the Learning Resource Centre, UWI.

But for the moment, the Jouvay Ayiti team and all of DCFA are celebrating the victories.

Marvin George is a part-time lecturer at the DCFA.

For further information, please contact the DCFA’s office at 663-2222.

CREDITS UNION CARNIVAL: A wide range of traditional characters showed up for the UWI Credit Union’s 2011 calypso and ole mas competition.

TWO PAN SCORES

Two students of the Music Unit of the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) – a past and a present – celebrated victories at the recent Panorama competitions.

Michelle Huggins-Watts, a graduate of the Musical Arts Programme and now the senior music teacher at Trinity College, Moka, was adjudicated as joint first-place winner in the National Panorama Championships: Medium Band Category. Her prize arrangement, “Do Something for Pan” with Valley Harps of Petit Valley, represents the first time that a female arranger has won in a major category at Panorama.

Mickiel Gabriel, a first-year student in the Certificate Music programme, led the Success Stars Pan Sounds from Success Laventille Secondary School to first place in the Junior Panorama Non-Schools Category. His prize-winning arrangement, “A Raging Storm” was conducted by Gerelle Forbes, a current student in the Certificate Music programme.

Jessel Murray, Co-ordinator of the Music Unit congratulated them for their successes in these “prestigious contests.”

FREEDOM TO CRY

For only one night, the UWI Arts Chorale, with the UWI Steel Ensemble co-producing, will present for the first time as a choir the theatrical concert ‘Cry Freedom.’ The concert will take place on Wednesday March 30, 2011 at the Daaga Auditorium on The UWI St. Augustine Campus, at 7pm.

Cry Freedom is a musical and the UWI Arts Chorale and the UWI Steel Ensemble will combine musical genres like calypso, gospel, folk and spirituals to celebrate freedom, a concept that spans racial and ethnic cultures.

The concert promises to be an exciting one, with well-known spirituals like Wade in the Water, the Argentinian Mass Misa Criolla, and excerpts from the Tony award-winning musical Elton John and Tim Rice’s AIDA. This concert is directed by Jessel Murray and choreographed by Adele Bynoe.

Tickets are available at the Department of Creative and Festival Arts on Agostini Street, St Augustine. For further information call 743-0841, 398-8576 or email uwi.arts.chorale@gmail.com.
MANAGING CARNIVAL

Recent Carnival celebrations have highlighted the need for a more comprehensive system to manage the country’s premiere event. According to Dr. Suzanne Burke of the UWI Department of the Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA), “as the scale and intensity of the Carnival grows, the need for a whole new range of skills including events management, artist management, marketing and promotion, business and financial planning and urban development will become even more critical”.

These skills are not only required for the carnival sector but are also necessary to support the Government’s stated position of growing the country’s creative sector to lessen our dependence on natural gas and oil.

The Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management (ACEM) post-graduate programme was developed in 2003 specifically to address these diversification efforts. The programme, facilitated through the DCFA, was designed for practising and potential entrepreneurs, policy makers and artists to equip them with the skills to effectively operate in the creative economy. Since its inception, ACEM has trained persons from all over the Caribbean and has given them a basket of skills including cultural policy analysis and formulation, finance and business strategies for the arts, as well as marketing and promotion. This year, potential candidates will also benefit from two new courses including Creative Industries and Media, as well as Arts and Cultural Management and the Law.

ACEM alumni work in business, government and NGO sectors throughout the Caribbean region and have reported a marked improvement in their performance as a result of the programme. 2010 graduate, Ms. Glenda Rose Layne, Coordinator of Culture, Division of Community Development and Culture, Tobago House of Assembly said that “Through the post graduate diploma in the Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management, I was able to approach the arts in a professional manner. It enhanced my ability to manage, set goals and to view the arts as a business”.

ACEM is a year-long programme that is divided into four sessions that run from May of Year 1 to May of Year 2. Sessions one to three span from May to August of Year 1, while Session four follows with a nine-month period of independent study. The teaching methodology reflects the transdisciplinary nature of the programme and includes a mix of guest lectures from practitioners and field trips, along with a heavy emphasis on networking, which is expected to provide students with a realistic picture of the creative industries in the Caribbean.

Persons interested in the ACEM programme should visit our website at http://sta.uwi.edu/fhe/dcfa/postgrad.asp or email Dr. Suzanne Burke at Suzanne.burke@sta.uwi.edu or Michelle Wellington at Michelle.wellington@sta.uwi.edu.

With a parlour, a market and a rum shop for atmosphere, traditional Carnival characters frolicked with the large crowd who came to mingle with Dame Lorraines, Baby Dolls, Jab Molasses, Midnight Robbers, Dragons and other devilish folk at the Old Yard (formerly Viey La Cou) put on by the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) on February 27. Visitors were able to mingle with characters, buy clothing, art and craft items as well as food, and listen to the vintage calypsoes performed by David Bereaux and his band of friends.

There were Haitian Ra Ra dancers and traditional Guyanese characters, such as Fowl Cock and Hen and Mad Bulls.
UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS
MARCH – OCTOBER 2011

CTLPA 14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
30 June-2 July, 2011
Learning Resource Centre
UWI St. Augustine

The Caribbean Tertiary Level Personned Association (CTLPA) hosts its 14th Annual Conference, themed, “CTLPA: Bringing More to Student Learning and Professional Development in Higher Education.”

For further information, please contact the CTLPA Headquarters, UWI Mona Campus, at (876) 824-1683.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES
1-3 June, 2011
Port of Spain, T&T

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies (SALISES) joins the Turtle Village Trust of Trinidad & Tobago to host an International Conference, themed “The Sustainable Development of Coastal Communities: Challenges and Solutions.” This conference will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on critical issues related to climate change and coastal communities, biodiversity, turtle conservation, ecotourism, sustainable community development, the environment and related issues. Participation is open to scholars, policy makers, graduate students, professionals, NGOs, civil society and community-based organizations.

For further information, please contact SALISES at 662-2002 ext. 2037, 2391, or via e-mail at salises@sta.uwi.edu.

LAND CONFERENCE 2011
28-29 April, 2011
Daaga Auditorium
UWI St. Augustine

The Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management will host its Land Conference 2011 on the theme “Land Ownership in Trinidad and Tobago: Issues and Challenges.” The conference hopes to facilitate a forum where stakeholders can discuss the impacts of land tenure on development goals; explore potential actions that will ensure that challenges are addressed, and share best practices when dealing with tenure issues.

For further information, please contact Dr. Charisse Griffith-Charles at 662-2002 ext 2108/2109, or via e-mail at Charisse.Griffith-Charles@sta.uwi.edu.

CRY FREEDOM
Wednesday 30 March, 2011
7pm
Daaga Auditorium
UWI St. Augustine

The UWI Arts Chorale collaborates with the UWI Steel Ensemble to present, for the first time as a choir, the theatrical concert ‘Cry Freedom.’ The UWI Arts Chorale and the UWI Steel Ensemble will combine the musical genres of calypso, gospel, folk and spirituals to celebrate freedom, a concept that spans racial and ethnic cultures.

For further information, please contact the UWI Arts Chorale at 743-0841, 398-8576, or via e-mail at uwi.arts.chorale@gmail.com

30TH ANNUAL WEST INDIAN LITERATURE CONFERENCE
13-15 October, 2011

The UWI Department of Liberal Arts hosts the 30th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, themed "I Dream to Change the World": Literature and Social Transformation. This conference will take place from the 13th-15th October, 2011.

For further information, please contact Dr. Geraldine Skeete at Geraldine.Skeete@sta.uwi.edu, or Dr. Giselle Rampaul at Giselle.Rampaul@sta.uwi.edu.

UNDERSTANDING AND PREVENTING CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND HIV RISK: PRESENTATION OF RESEARCH FINDINGS AND AN INTERVENTION MODEL
6-9 April, 2011
Karl Theodore Conference Facility
Centre for Health Economics
Department of Social Sciences,
UWI St. Augustine

In partnership with UNICEF and the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women, the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) hosts a regional conference: Understanding and Preventing Child Sexual Abuse and HIV Risk: Presentation of Research Findings and an Intervention Model.

For further information, please contact the Institute for Gender and Development Studies, St Augustine at (868) 662-2002, exts. 3573/3577 or email at igds@sta.uwi.edu.

UWI TODAY wants to hear from you

UWI TODAY welcomes submissions by staff and students for publication in the paper. Please send your suggestions, comments, or articles for consideration to: uwitoday@sta.uwi.edu

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