



St. Augustine News

# STAN

The University of the West Indies



> January – March 2005

**GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS**

**INTERNATIONAL HALF MARATHON**

**ADVANCED NURSING**

# LEADERSHIP IN FOCUS

On behalf of the Campus community, I take this opportunity to welcome Vice Chancellor Eon Nigel Harris to the St. Augustine campus, to congratulate him on his installation as Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies on February 26, 2005, and to wish him success as he assumes the mantle of Leadership of this great West Indian institution over the next several years.

Professor Harris follows six great Vice Chancellors who have all distinguished themselves in the University and elsewhere. It is said that seven is a lucky number, so we look forward to great things from our seventh Vice Chancellor as he seeks to make his own indelible mark on the University, the region and the world.

Although the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture was established in Trinidad in 1923 and the University College of the West Indies was established under a scheme of special relationship with the University of London in 1948, it was not until 1962 that The University of the West Indies got its first Vice Chancellor in the person of a distinguished economist who would go on to win the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1979, Sir William Arthur Lewis then, Dr. William Arthur Lewis. Although formally appointed Vice Chancellor in 1962 Sir Arthur played the role from 1960-1963.

Sir Arthur, was followed by the equally distinguished Dr. Phillip Sherlock, an historian with a great love for the humanities and creative arts who served from 1963-1969 and who received his knighthood while serving as Vice Chancellor.

Sir Phillip was followed by Sir Roy Marshall, a legal luminary who served from 1969-1974 as Vice Chancellor and

played a leading role in higher education throughout the Commonwealth.

The years 1974-1986 were difficult years for the University as it found itself in a financial crisis. It was during this period that Dr. Aston Preston became Vice Chancellor holding the University together and maintaining academic standard, in spite of the financial crunch. He rose to the position after serving as Bursar of the Mona Campus and was trained in Accounting as well as Law.

Sir Alister McIntyre, Economist and Caribbean Public Servant served for ten years between 1988 and 1998, established a committee to look at Governance and proceeded to restructure the University in keeping with their recommendations, facilitating greater autonomy on each Campus.

He was followed by Professor Rex Nettleford, also a man of many parts including trade union educator, social and cultural historian, political analyst and an exponent of Dance and the Performing Arts, who brought a spirit of teamwork and collaboration to the University and never tired of reminding us of our regional mandate.

Professor Harris is a Medical Researcher with an international reputation who comes to the job after serving for several years as Dean of a Medical School. With significant international exposure and a solid West Indian background, he seems poised to make a significant contribution to the development of the University and the Caribbean region generally. We welcome our new Vice Chancellor and we take this opportunity to wish him well and assure him of our support to ensure that The University of the West Indies achieves greatness under his tenure.

This University needs to press on with a



*Bhoendradatt Tewarie*

**Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie Campus Principal-UWI St Augustine**

meaningful research agenda; we must continue to produce leaders, creators and innovators in every sphere and more than ever, we must be responsive to the market, to world of work requirements, to the knowledge and research and development needs of industry and the policy needs of governments. This means that quality has to continue to be of paramount importance at this University.

The teaching and learning environment that we create and nurture must be of the finest quality. The research culture that we cultivate and support must be of the most enabling and ennobling kind facilitative of talent, merit and genius. The stake-holder relations that we form, build and strengthen, must enhance the value of the University, increase the University's appreciation of our stake holders and win us tangible support from the community for the work that we do.

The employees we attract, the work that we recognise and the achievements that we single out for notice must help to build a genuine meritocracy in an achievement oriented institution.

We know our Vice Chancellor shares our yearning for a great University and that he will provide the visionary leadership to spur us all on to higher heights and greater accomplishment.

We look forward to a Leader by example.<



Anna Walcott-Hardy



**THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES**  
ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

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**Educating Students on HIV/AIDS** pg7

**Palace of the Peacock** pg8

**Premium Teachers** pg 21

**UWI International Half-Marathon** pg22

**Beyond Plastics** pg 35

**The Science of Managing Art & Culture** pg 41



**On the Cover:**  
School's Out -  
undergraduate students  
relax on the lush gardens  
of the St. Augustine  
Campus

**Male/Female Performance in Education** pg 6

**Relevance of Howard Gardner's Theories** pg 10

**Coast to Coast at Invaders Bay** pg 12

**School of Advanced Nursing Opens** pg 12

**By George...he's got it!** pg 13

**Rally' Round UWI** pg 14

**Landslide** pg 15

**Crime&Punishment** pg 18

**Graduation 2004** pg 25

**Regional Student Scholarships** pg 26

**Book Mark** pg 30

**Beyond Plastics** pg 35

**StateofIndependence** pg 39

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Michael Dash

## Michael Dash Lecture The Space of Memory in French Caribbean Narrative 10<sup>th</sup> February

Professor J. Michael Dash, former Professor of Francophone Literature and former Chair of Modern Languages at UWI Mona Campus, will deliver a lecture entitled **The Space of**

**Memory in French Caribbean Narrative** on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February at 1:00 p.m. at the Learning Resource Centre. Trinidad-born Michael Dash has worked extensively on Haitian and French Caribbean literature over the years, translating various works among them, Edouard Glissant's *The Ripening* and *Caribbean Discourse*. Some of Dash's publications include *The Other America: Caribbean Literature in a New World Context*, *Libete: A Haiti Anthology* with Charles Arthur and *Culture and Customs of Haiti*. <



Prof. Eric Hershberg

## UWI Distinguished Open Lectures Prof. Eric Hershberg 25<sup>th</sup> February Prof. Graeme Bell 14<sup>th</sup> April

Following its successful running in 2004, The UWI Distinguished Open Lectures Series will again feature an array of internationally

renowned professors in 2005. *Industrial Upgrading in Developing Countries: Social and Environmental Implications* will feature Professor Eric Hershberg of Columbia University. Professor Hershberg will highlight the effects of globalization, a topic particularly relevant to developing countries such as Trinidad and Tobago. Professor Graeme Bell of the University of Chicago will lend the knowledge gained through his research into diabetes. Professor Bell's April lecture is entitled *Diabetes: A Permanent Cure in Sight*. <



Vice Chancellor Prof. Eon Nigel Harris

## Installation of Vice Chancellor 26<sup>th</sup> February

Professor Eon Nigel Harris will be installed as The University of the West Indies' Vice Chancellor in a gala ceremony at the JFK Auditorium. The Guyanese-born Professor Harris, assumed duties on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004, succeeding Professor The Honourable Rex

Nettleford. Recognized internationally for his research in Rheumatology, Professor Harris has also served on the board of several organizations including the Association of American Medical Colleges and the National Centre for Research Resources (NCRR). A graduate of Howard and Yale Universities as well as The University of the West Indies, Professor E. Nigel Harris brings a wealth of experience as an administrator, academician and researcher to the University. <

## The Hemispherical Student Summit of the Americas 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> March

The UWI Guild of Students in collaboration with UWI St. Augustine Campus, will host the first Student Summit of the Americas at the Campus. Students, government agents and tertiary education providers from over 50 countries will discuss a range of issues, including examining the impact on tertiary education of decisions coming-out from the FTAA. <

## UWI/Guardian Life Sonny Ramadhin Cricket Lecture featuring Dr Ali Bacher 7<sup>th</sup> April

Former Managing Director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa and veteran cricket administrator Dr. Ali Bacher will speak at The University of the West Indies (UWI) /Guardian Life Sonny Ramadhin Annual Distinguished Cricket Lecture at the St. Augustine Campus. The lecture is held in honour of legendary cricketer Sonny Ramadhin during the cricket season in Trinidad and Tobago, preferably on the evening before a major cricketing event involving a touring team. Mr. Sonny Ramadhin played for the West Indies between 1950 and 1960 in 43 Test matches and took 158 wickets at an average of 28.98. He is fondly remembered for his bowling performances of 5 for 66 and 6 for 86 in the Second Test between England and the West Indies at Lords in June 1950, which the West Indies won, by 326 runs. <

## Vice Chancellor's

### Cricket Match 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April

The Vice Chancellor's Cricket Week will culminate with the exciting VC XI Cricket match against South Africa featuring some of the best cricketers. Cricket enthusiasts can also look forward to a week of cricket activities, which begin from 11<sup>th</sup> April 2005. <

## Caribbean Arts Education Symposium- The Practice and Prospects of Arts Education For Societies In Crisis 27<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> June

In 1999, the Director-General of UNESCO issued an appeal for the promotion of arts education and creativity as a means of fostering a climate of peace globally. In response to this appeal, the upcoming UWI Second International Symposium in Arts Education held jointly by the The Centre for Creative and Festival Arts and UNESCO will address *The Practice and Prospects of Arts Education For Societies In Crisis*. This year's symposium will also provide a forum for teachers, students and policy makers concerned with the implementation and development of the CXC and SEMP secondary schools examinations in Performing & Visual Arts. <

**For more information please call 662-2002 ext. 2510**



Earl Lovelace

## Earl Lovelace 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday Conference 13<sup>th</sup> July

The upcoming conference celebrating the works of internationally acclaimed playwright and novelist, Earl Lovelace will take place at the Learning Resource Centre, UWI, St. Augustine. Author of *The Wine of Astonishment* and *The*

*Dragon Can't Dance*, Lovelace has received numerous awards including the distinguished Chaconia Medal, Pegasus Literary Award and the Commonwealth Writers Prize. Lovelace's award winning plays will also be performed at theatres throughout the country in July. <

**For more information on attending this conference please call 662-2002 ext. 3493.**



West Indian artifacts

## International Association for Caribbean Archaeology

### 21<sup>st</sup> Congress 24<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> July

After achieving a tremendous nomination during its 2003 Conference in the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago was chosen as the site of the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> Congress of The International Association for Caribbean Archaeology. The Department of History, Faculty of Humanities and Education, St. Augustine will host this biennial international conference, which will be attended by approximately 250 delegates. Trinidad and Tobago is an ideal location for the Conference with over 280 sites. The IACA is engaged in the study of Caribbean prehistoric terrestrial and marine archaeology, as well as public education. For more information please call 662-2002 ext. 3306 <

## Re-mapping the Americas: Globalization & The FTAA 19<sup>th</sup> –21<sup>st</sup> October

The University of the West Indies and the University of Alberta will co-host a hemispheric conference on Re-mapping the Americas: Globalisation, Regionalisation and the FTAA. This conference follows the highly successful planning workshop held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> October 2004 at UWI, St. Augustine. Topics for discussion include The Americas in the Changing World Order; Hemispheric Trade and Economic Relations; Social Political and Cultural Implications of Emerging Hemispheric Relations. <

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The Centre for Gender and Development Studies at The University of the West Indies (UWI) in collaboration with the Regional Coordinating Unit on the UWI Mona Campus has embarked on a regional research project that will study the factors which contribute to male/female educational performance at the secondary and tertiary levels of education systems in the region. Entitled *Gender Differentials at the Secondary and Tertiary Levels of the Educational System in the Anglophone Caribbean*, this is the first comprehensive regional research programme of this magnitude, ever undertaken to provide an understanding of the factors that contribute to the educational performance of males and females.



## UWI to Study Male/Female Performance in Education

“Despite the existence of individual country-based research initiatives, (including an on-going pilot study on Trinidad and Tobago which focuses on various issues with regard to the impact of gender on education) no extensive regional research programme has been undertaken to provide a regional analysis of the problem which could guide policy formation and optimize education in ways appropriate to both sexes,” Professor Rhoda Reddock, Head of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies, UWI, explained recently.

At the 1997 Heads of Government Conference, state leaders throughout

the region spoke on the importance of enquiry into the optimal delivery and use of education within the region and charged the academic community with the responsibility to undertake “the necessary research into socialization processes, both in the home and in the school system.” In particular, there has been great concern expressed in many quarters over the educational performance of young males in the region and the impact of this on other aspects of life. <

**For further information on this research project please contact Professor Rhoda Reddock, Head of the Centre for Gender Development Studies, The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus 662-2002 ext. 3573 or 3572.**



Professor Rhoda Reddock

In 2002, the UWI established an HIV/AIDS Response Programme [UWIHARP]. The UWI is one of five collaborating partners in a European Union funded project designed to strengthen the capacity of institutions to respond to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. The main deliverables were economic impact studies, curriculum reform and postgraduate training.



UWI Professor Zulaika Ali

# Educating Students on HIV/AIDS

In 2003, under the guidance of Professor Karl Theodore, Health Economics Unit, and Professor Zulaika Ali, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWIHARP through the SIRHASC project, developed and implemented a plan for curriculum reform incorporating HIV/AIDS education in faculties at the St. Augustine Campus. They enlisted the expertise of Mr. Carol Keller of the School of Education, Dr. Brader Brathwaite, Centre of Medical Sciences Education, Instructional Development Unit and Ms. Neisha Ghany, Consultant, Curriculum Development to assist in the project.

The SIRHASC<sup>1</sup> project collaborated with UWIHARP to implement HIV/AIDS curriculum review & development. To deliver the project's objectives in curriculum reform and postgraduate training, several activities were undertaken, including: acquiring materials and other resources to conduct relevant research and deliver courses on HIV/AIDS; building a cadre of lecturers and tutors with the capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS sensitive material in the classroom; defining and supplementing the HIV content of existing courses; training peer counselors and social work students on HIV/AIDS - its biology,

virology and social implications; exposing librarians to the many facets of the pandemic; and conducting research in knowledge, attitudes, perceptions and beliefs into HIV/AIDS among undergraduate students.

The project funded the purchase of 110 texts with direct relevance to the HIV/AIDS pandemic. These are housed in the Medical Sciences Library. In addition, a few specially identified texts were acquired for the library at the UWI School of Education.

In collaboration with the UWI Instructional Development Unit, the SIRHASC project designed a format for workshops for lecturers and tutors to foster a fuller appreciation of HIV/AIDS and to encourage their inclusion of HIV in existing coursework. A total of 60 lecturers and tutors participated in these workshops in 2003. As a result a total of 35 courses across the campus have been infused with HIV/AIDS contents and two new courses were created, dealing with the Social Epidemiology of AIDS, and Social Health and Relationship Counseling. The SIRHASC project sponsored 29 scholarships across the Caribbean of which 7 scholarships and 2 fellowships were awarded to students on the St.

Augustine campus, for continuing studies in fields such as health economics, paediatric HIV and management.

The SIRHASC Project also sponsored a training session for 30 Early Childhood Educators from the School of Continuing Studies. The sessions focused on enabling Early Childhood Educators to work with children living with HIV/AIDS in the classroom and to relate positively with their parents and families. While working with the librarians at the Medical Sciences Library on the creation of a clearing house of HIV material, they expressed an interest in sensitizing key personnel on the psychosocial, economic and medical aspects of HIV/AIDS. SIRHASC supported their efforts by assisting with a workshop for 24 local librarians. Arising from the work described above, six papers were accepted for presentation at the XV International HIV/AIDS Conference in Bangkok, Thailand, 2004. The SIRHASC project ended in December, 2004 but there is an urgent need for support for UWIHARP to continue and expand the valuable work in HIV/AIDS education. <

**1 Strengthening the Institutional Response to HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases in the Caribbean**



**Professor Eon Nigel Harris**

# Palace of the Peacock

the new Vice Chancellor speaks  
 on integration, research and  
 Hurricane Ivan

Last year, on an extremely humid Saturday afternoon in October, I met the newly appointed Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, Professor Eon Nigel Harris.

A Guyanese by birth, Professor Harris was previously Dean and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, USA. He has a wealth of experience both as an administrator, academician and researcher. Having read about his many accomplishments and being a fan of the work of his father, poet and playwright, Wilson Harris, I was quite nervous. But my fears were in vain, The Vice Chancellor immediately greeted our party with great warmth and obvious charm. Renowned for his seminal research in rheumatology, lauded for his administrative acumen, he comes across as extremely modest, quick-witted and astute. Months later, after our region was ravaged by hurricanes, landslides and floods, I would realize just how astute.

On his first day in office, the Vice Chancellor (VC) would meet with the Executive of the UWI to begin work on the VC Hurricane Recovery Task Force. In the horrible wake of Hurricane Ivan, the Vice Chancellor had visited Grenada. On arrival he got to see the devastation first-hand, he explained that he “felt overwhelmed and exhausted” by the destruction of the force five storm, which had destroyed over 90 percent of the buildings on the island and claimed over 90 lives in the region. In October 2004, in response to the widespread destruction to a number of Caribbean countries from the very active 2004 hurricane season, The University of the West Indies initiated a ‘Vice Chancellor’s Hurricane Recovery Task Force’ to offer technical advice and assistance to countries affected by Hurricane Ivan, in particular. A database was compiled of the relevant

expertise available at the University, from among the academic and senior administrative staff, who could provide advisory and technical service in a broad range of sectors, including housing, education, psychological counselling, the environment, agriculture including livestock and fisheries, as well as economic and policy planning.

Professor E. Nigel Harris and Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Lawrence Carrington, who has responsibility for the Non-Campus Countries and Distance Education also met with the Prime Minister, Dr the Rt Hon Keith Mitchell, the Minister of Education, the Hon Claris Charles and with the staff and students of The University of the West Indies Centre in Grenada. One of the immediate measures undertaken was to waive the tuition fees of all Grenadian students currently enrolled at the UWI. Despite the fact that the University's finances are extremely strained at present, this concession, valued at over EC\$1 million, was a gesture which had the unanimous support of all constituents of the University. In addition, a benefit cricket match for Grenadian students was arranged by Professor Hilary Beckles, to be played at the 3Ws Oval, Cave Hill Campus.

Throughout the interview it was very apparent that Professor Harris had profound interest in the University's commitment to quality teaching, research and community outreach, which would in turn lead to regional development.

"I can think of few other Universities in the world today that could have contributed to their communities as UWI has contributed to this community," he explained just as a heavy down-pour began and we decided to move from the porch, indoors.

His ideologies of integration and

*"I can think of few other Universities in the world today that could have contributed to their communities as UWI has contributed to this community,"*

networking among the University staff and graduates throughout the region are innovative and even reminiscent of the theme repeated in many of his father's novels including, *Palace of the Peacock*. In terms of the influx of tertiary institutions into the region, he has a rather unconventional approach.

"I do not believe that we can block the competition – in fact competition drives you to be more competitive...I think we have a [very] good product...what we offer is excellent." Explained the Vice Chancellor who has the advantage of having studied and conducted groundbreaking research at some of the best Universities in the world, including, UWI.

A *magna cum laude* graduate of Howard University, with a degree in Chemistry, he proceeded on a fellowship to Yale University, where he received a Master of Philosophy degree in Biochemistry. He earned his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania, completing this within three years and again graduating with honours. He then returned to the Caribbean where he completed his residency in internal medicine at The University of the West Indies at Mona and was awarded the post-graduate degree, Doctor of Medicine (DM).

Internationally known for his work as a Rheumatologist, he is focused on "enhancing the research efforts" of UWI. With colleagues in London, he helped to define a disorder which they called the *Antiphospholipid Syndrome* and devised a diagnostic test (the anticardiolipin test) for it. For this work he shared with Dr Graham Hughes and Dr Aziz Gharavi of Hammersmith Hospital the Ceiba-Geigy Prize. Over

150 papers, editorials, reviews and chapters on this subject have been published by Professor Harris. He joined the University of Louisville, Kentucky, in 1987 and by 1993 became Professor of Medicine and Chief of the Division of Rheumatology. There he launched the Antiphospholipid Standardisation Laboratory which leads worldwide efforts in standardisation of the anticardiolipin test and distributing these standards to over 500 laboratories worldwide. The laboratory currently operates from the Morehouse School of Medicine and continues to attract international fellows.

His academic achievements and personal qualities have earned Professor Harris national leadership positions in organisations such as the Association of American Medical Colleges, the National Centre for Research Resources (NCCR) and the Association of Academic Health Centres. He has received many Honours and Awards, including the Centennial Award for Contributions to Medicine of the National Medical Association of America in 1995.

He is a great admirer of his predecessor, Professor Rex Nettleford, who created a half-century legacy of creative programmes, international tertiary institutional links and general good-will during his tenure as Vice Chancellor. As he assumes the reins of VC, Professor Harris has said that he wants the opportunity to "make a difference to the people you care about, the people who spawned you." <

**Anna Walcott-Hardy**



# Relevance of Howard Gardner's Theories to Teacher Development in Trinidad and Tobago

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Howard Gardner's theories remind us that children do not enter schools as failures. Rather, they acquire this debilitating label from a system that is strongly oriented towards a limited range of student abilities. According to Gardner (1997), "There are hundreds and hundreds of ways to succeed and many, many different abilities that will help you get there." Of significance to teacher education and professional development, Howard Gardner's theories indicate that students possess multiple cerebral channels for instruction that teachers must know how to "turn on".

In general, teacher education tends to place emphasis on a curriculum that specifically targets the predominantly linguistic and analytic abilities needed to achieve passing scores in national tests. This constricted focus on a limited range of abilities results in an education system that teaches and reinforces only certain types of achievement. As a result, most individuals, who may be competent or even gifted in non-traditional educational tasks, may experience frustration or failure.

Howard Gardner proposed that teachers must be guided toward educating multiple intelligences of which linguistic and analytical abilities are only two facets. Teachers must, therefore, develop awareness that all students have strengths, weaknesses, and unique combinations of cognitive abilities. Parents and teachers should look beyond the traditional concepts

of "intelligence" and be on the lookout for talents in children such as "adventurous", aesthetic perceptiveness, common sense, compassion, courage, manual dexterity, and emotional maturity, and nurture these talents. According to Gardner, each person has the following eight (8) distinct intellectual capacities that can be used to approach problems and create products.

- Linguistic intelligence: a sensitivity to meaning and order of words;
- Musical intelligence: the ability to understand and create music;
- Logical-mathematical intelligence: ability in mathematics and other complex logical systems;
- Spatial intelligence: the ability to think in pictures, to perceive the visual world accurately, and recreate

it in the mind or on paper;

- Bodily kinesthetic intelligence: the ability to use one's body in a skilled way, for self expression or towards a goal;
- Interpersonal intelligence: an ability to perceive and understand other individuals;
- Intrapersonal: an understanding of one's emotions;
- Naturalist intelligence: the ability to recognize and classify plants, minerals, animals, rocks, grass, flora and fauna.

An awareness of Gardner's theories have motivated teachers to develop non-traditional ways of helping all students in classes. For example, a history topic might be conveyed through a number of media and methods, ranging from art and



architecture to biographies and dramatic re-enactments of events. Students' development in an area such as music should be fostered through hands-on practice and experience. To address these varied intelligences, it is also recommended that teachers place emphasis on learning in context, particularly through apprenticeships.

Traditionally, teacher education programmes in Trinidad and Tobago have encouraged teachers to reinforce a learning profile that emphasizes linguistic and logical-mathematical abilities to the exclusion or detriment of all other possible intelligences. Demonstrations of other abilities have not always been met with acceptance and recognition. However, teacher education reform includes the beliefs that the education system now values diverse areas as indicators of intelligence rather than deviance, and deemed worthy of further nurturance and development.

Education reform in Trinidad and Tobago now encourages a better understanding of "learner". In growing degrees and in keeping with the theory of multiple intelligences, school programmes are now allowing students to direct their learning while safely exploring and learning in

different ways. Curriculum designs and teaching techniques for both teachers in training and students, currently encourage an understanding and appreciation of their strengths and an ability to identify real world activities that will stimulate further learning. Teachers are increasingly encouraged to understand that their effectiveness in dealing with student diversity depends on how they organize their classes and instruct their students; and the awareness that is always important to teach also includes the use of a variety of media, evaluation techniques, portfolios, and other strategies that will employ multiple intelligences in a practical way.

Regardless of the grade level or subject, Gardner's theories can have a profound impact on the teaching/ learning process. Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence theory transcends the boundaries of how we traditionally learn. In Trinidad and Tobago, as we strive towards development status, the challenge for teacher educators is to continue to develop in teachers, an understanding that the students should be increasingly encouraged to thrive by mastering literacy and



computation; as well as to become real-world problem solvers who understand how to access and manipulate all kinds of information in incredibly flexible ways in order to be productive. Howard Gardner's multiple intelligence theory provides us with the tools to accomplish this challenge. (Article provided by The Ministry of Education) In January, The Institute of Critical Thinking at UWI, St Augustine Campus, in collaboration with The Ministry of Education, hosted a series of lectures featuring Howard Gardner. The lectures enabled thousands of teachers, UWI staff and members of the public to discuss issues and ideas on multiple intelligences and education.<

**“Intelligence is the ability to find and solve problems and create products of value,, in one’s own culture”**

Howard Gardner



# Coast to Coast students survey Invaders Bay

The new, innovative Postgraduate Diploma programme in Coastal Zone Processes offered by the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering is providing research in key areas. The programme began in January 2004, with the main mode of delivery being on-line. Following examinations at the end of the first semester, the students embarked on a compulsory one week intensive field course in Coastal Zone Information Technology to study the coastal region of the land reclamation site at Invaders Bay, to the West of Port of Spain.

The programme offers both theoretical information as well as practical research from experts in the field. Dr Keith Miller from the

Department of Surveying and Land Information delivered the course that includes further academic input by Dr Joanna Ibrahim, coordinator

for the programme, from the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering and David Neale from Cane Associates Ltd. Specialised technical support and equipment is provided by Cane Associates Limited, Coastal Dynamics Limited of Trinidad and Tobago, and the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago.

Following a reconnaissance visit on Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> students spent the week surveying the shoreline and coastal bathymetry, observing currents, taking salinity, temperature and tidal measurements, tracking drogues and acquiring water and sediment samples. Students provided a comprehensive report describing the physical environment of the study area. <



Dean Pitt-Miller

In January 2005, the much anticipated School of Advanced Nursing Education (SANE) at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine opened its doors. Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences at UWI, St Augustine, Dr Phyllis Pitt-Miller and The Director of the School, Dr Meryl Price, both spoke of the many benefits the school will bring to health-care professionals and institutions, not just across the country, but throughout the Caribbean.

## School of Advanced Nursing Opens

The first cohort of thirty-two students entered a special training programme which began on 17th January. Many of these graduates after gaining a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing, will become employed at schools and facilities across the country, while others will share their experience and expertise as teachers at the school, alongside the staff of the Faculty of Medical Sciences.

"The importance [of the School of Advanced Nursing Education] is that [it will] upgrade the nurse educators and health visitors...ultimately it will upgrade the health care of the country and the Caribbean to another level," explained Dr Price.

The opening of SANE and the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex at Mt Hope will create quite a

paradigm shift, according to the Minister of Health, Mr. John Rahael who spoke at the launch.

"This programme has been designed to shift the calibre of nursing in Trinidad and Tobago from a more technical paradigm to one that is more theoretically based...More specifically this programme will better prepare nurses for vital aspects of care...including school health programmes and nursing education," the Minister explained.

Dr Price went on to explain that in September, approximately thirty-five nurses from Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean will be admitted into the programme. She is also aware that a holistic, integrated approach must be taken as the infrastructure may in turn need to be enhanced to capitalize on the expertise of these professionals. <

Marvin George's talent is unmistakable, he seems to be following in the tradition of local greats like Albert La Veau, the late, Wilbert Holder, Nigel Scott and Wendell Manwarren. George comes across as quite low-keyed, and modest by nature, yet on stage he's on fire; your eyes immediately focus on the UWI graduate. He has the innate knack of understanding the depth or superficiality of the characters he portrays and the complexities of his craft. He's a master thespian who immediately connects with his audience and has a character range that is to say the least, impressive. From his tragic, portrayal of Walcott's Henri Christophe in *The Haitian Earth*, (UWI Haitian Bicentenary Conference) to his hilarious rendition of a wannabee night-clubbing student-recruit (UWI Life Orientation) with the Arts-In-Action troupe, his portrayals are both humane and germane. George is an actor's actor and has been described by his peers as being incredibly generous.

Growing up in Mount D'Or, Trinidad, Marvin George knew he wanted to become an actor at age eleven, when he played a sailor with the Best Village Community group. He names among his mentors Michael Cherry, Curtis Gross, Mark La Veau, Eric Barry, Camille Quamina and Samatha Pierre and ironically claims that his one fault is "laziness". An honours graduate of The University of the West Indies Centre for Festival and Creative Arts (CCFA), he gained a Bachelor's Degree in Theatre Arts last year and has "signed-up to pursue a Cultural Studies (MPhil.)". George is currently rehearsing for the upcoming CCFA production *An Evening of August*, featuring the works of award-winning playwright August Wilson, carded to open in April. Later in the year, he'll be featured in Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott's play *Steel*, featuring a score by Broadway composer Galt Mac Dermot (*Hair*). One to watch – the talented Marvin George. <



By **GEORGE...**  
**he's got it!**

# Rally'Round

THE UNIVERSITY  
OF THE WEST INDIES

## UWI CRICKET TURF, ALI BACHER CARDED TO SPEAK



Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences  
Hamid Ghany

In April 2005, while cricket fans are looking ahead to rally 'round The West Indies Cricket Team in the Second Test Match against South Africa, they can also get in the game at the UWI St Augustine Campus. The University will christen its new state-of-the-art Sir Frank Worrell field with a series of historic, international cricket matches and special events. The Vice Chancellor's XI, is a traditional cricket match, which features some of the best players in the world who will play alongside some of the young, talented rookies that UWI has to offer.

"The hosting of the Vice Chancellor's match on the St. Augustine Campus will indeed be a historic occasion on a historic ground, as the original cricket pitch here at St Augustine was laid by the great Sir Frank Worrell," Dr. Trevor Alleyne explained recently.

"Were Sir Frank alive today, I am sure that he would be proud of the refurbished facilities. There is no doubt in my mind that the new facilities will be of great benefit to cricket, not only on this campus but throughout the region. Also we expect that the activities associated with this tenth anniversary of the VC's games will serve to deepen the existing ties between West Indies cricket and The University of the West Indies", says Dr Alleyne, who has been integral to the development of cricket activities on the Campus and is key to the coordination of the upcoming Vice Chancellor's XI match and week. The Campus Committee, which is being chaired by Professor Gurmohan Kochhar is organising a week of matches featuring University cricketers and international players from the region, South Africa and Sri Lanka.

Another much anticipated event on the University calendar is the lecture by

former Managing Director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa and veteran cricket administrator Dr. Ali Bacher. He will speak at The University of the West Indies (UWI) / Guardian Life Sonny Ramadhin Annual Distinguished Cricket Lecture on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2005 at the St. Augustine Campus.

Dr. Bacher previously served as the Managing Director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa from 1991 to 2000 and was appointed by the United Cricket Board of South Africa from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2001 as the Executive Director for the International Cricket Council (I.C.C.) Cricket World Cup, which was held in South Africa in February – March 2003. He also served as the Chairman of the I.C.C. Development Committee from 1996 to 2000. This annual lecture series is a collaborative initiative of the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and Guardian Life of the Caribbean. The inaugural lecture was held in April 2004 at UWI St. Augustine and was delivered by none other than renowned West Indian cricket journalist, Tony Cozier. <

**For further information please contact Mrs. Sandra Roopchand-Khan at (868) 645-5383 or (868) 645-3232-9 ext. 3048.**

# Landslide

Four months after the deadly storm, which claimed the life of her sixteen year-old daughter Kathy Ann, Shirley Ferguson of Delaford, Tobago remains warded at the Port-of-Spain General Hospital. She has had to have her left leg amputated. The deadly storm, which hit Tobago in November 2004, developed massive landslides and widespread flooding causing untold damage to roads, homes and livestock. Like many other families, the Fergusons did not escape unscathed; their home was completely destroyed. The visible environmental damages caused by the landslides and flooding were immense. Today, massive soil erosions along the roadsides in areas like Delaford and large deposits of mud and slush along beaches such as Speyside, serve as monuments to the environmental implications of such geohazards.

The social, economic and health implications derived from geohazards are far-reaching. In August 2004, 52-year-old Ayoue Mohammed and his family of four, were forced to sleep under a mango tree after a landslide completely destroyed their Barrackpore home. One month later, Nariva experienced massive flood waters, which left villagers marooned for several days. Roads such as the Cunapo Southern Main Road, Guaico/Tamana Road, Cumuto Main Road and the Little Coora linking the Cumuto Main Road and Guaico/Tamana Road were virtually impassable. In January 2005, the North Coast Road to Maracas Beach remained closed for several days due to endangering landslides and soil

erosion. In that same month, little Ganesh Maharaj, a Standard Three pupil of Mt. Pleasant primary School in Claxton Bay, broke his leg after falling from a landslide, which had threatened the school building for the last three years. The nation can scarcely forget the recent television news report, which showed a house being swept away by floodwaters.

These geo-hazards have not been restricted to Trinidad and Tobago, but the wider Caribbean and beyond. Recently, Guyana experienced the worst flooding in 100 years. While the eastern globe attempts to pull itself together after the Boxing Day tsunami, Trinidad and Tobago and the Eastern Caribbean question its own state of disaster preparedness in the wake of these natural disasters.

Recognizing the need for relevant research into the challenges facing the region, a group of researchers from The University of the West Indies formed the Centre for Caribbean Land and Environmental Appraisal Research (**CLEAR**). The Centre, established in 2002, operates out of the Office of Research. The list of research themes and topics covered by the Centre include managing land use/cover; natural habitat loss; evaluating the potential impact of Global Climate Change and Sea Level Change on the Caribbean Region; Mapping, Modeling and Managing Geohazards and analyzing socio-economic and infrastructure for Energy, Banking, Insurance and Emergency services.

## WHAT TO DO AFTER A LANDSLIDE WHAT TO DO



- Stay away from the slide area. There may be danger of additional slides.
- Check for injured and trapped persons near the slide, without entering the direct slide area. Direct rescuers to their locations.
- Help a neighbor who may require special assistance - infants, elderly people, and people with disabilities. Elderly people and people with disabilities may require additional assistance. People who care for them or who have large families may need additional assistance in emergency situations.
- Listen to local radio or television stations for the latest emergency information.
- Watch for flooding, which may occur after a landslide or debris flow. Floods sometimes follow landslides and debris flows because they may both be started by the same event.
- Look for and report broken utility lines to appropriate authorities. Reporting potential hazards will get the utilities turned off as quickly as possible, preventing further hazard and injury.
- Check the building foundation, chimney, and surrounding land for damage. Damage to foundations, chimneys, or surrounding land may help you assess the safety of the area.
- Replant damaged ground as soon as possible since erosion caused by loss of ground cover can lead to flash flooding.
- Seek the advice of a geotechnical expert for evaluating landslide hazards or designing corrective techniques to reduce landslide risk. A professional will be able to advise you of the best ways to prevent or reduce landslide risk, without creating further hazard.



CLEAR has maintained links with several local, regional and international universities, research institutes, non-governmental and governmental agencies over the years.

According to CLEAR coordinator Professor Serwan Baban "...a holistic and a regional focus are needed in order to address the challenges and to better serve the needs of the Caribbean region."

In December 2004, CLEAR collaborated with the British Council and the Office of Research, UWI, St. Augustine to host a timely one-day workshop entitled *Enduring Geohazards (Landslides and Floods) in the Caribbean Region*. It was an attempt by CLEAR to 'move geohazards work from being reactive to proactive'.

Issues of reducing the risks of landslides and flooding in Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean were in focus. Designed to introduce participants to the concepts of mapping and modeling regional geohazards, the workshop looked into the application of modern analytical tools such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS), remote Sensing, Interpretation and Spatial Analysis to assess potential hazards. Participants at the workshop gained

an understanding of issues and data requirements for geohazard modeling and the tools necessary for spatial variability assessment. The causes and impact of deforestation, soil erosion, damage to roads and water pipelines, as well as water quality degradation were also analysed. Featured speakers included Dr. Derek Gay who spoke on *Engineering Approaches to Landslide Research*; Professor Baban who examined *Mapping Critical Slopes: A Proactive Approach to Landslides*; while the Ministry's Drainage Division presented *A Review of Major Flooding Issues in Trinidad and Tobago*.

Some short-term resolutions arising out of the workshop were to develop and adopt objective and holistic scientific methods to manage hillside development, reforestation and unplanned settlement issues; to establish realistic national geohazard inventories and databases required for scientific analysis; to develop early warning systems for landslides and floods processes and triggering mechanisms; to replace the 1995 Disaster Response Map of Trinidad and Tobago with a more realistic and detailed map series indicating susceptibility and vulnerability to geohazards; and to develop effective programs for public awareness, education and information.

Over the past year, CLEAR has assisted various government agencies. The centre has automated data sets at the Forestry Division and provided training for its staff members. Recently developed risk maps by CLEAR, will enable NEMA Tobago to easily identify areas that are high risk to soil erosion and landslides.

This is just one of the many areas in which the UWI actively works with agencies and individuals to develop the region and help ensure the preservation of our people and environment. <

## Medical Students attend Glasgow Conference

In September 2004, Vishala Parmasad, UWI Medical Student and Jason Matthew, UWI M. Phil student in Pharmacology, crossed the Atlantic to attend the European Respiratory Society (ERS) Glasgow 2004 Congress, UK. At this historic event, these two award-winning students represented the UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences, St Augustine for the first time.

In her presentation, *Antimicrobial Prescribing for Pediatric Upper Respiratory Tract Infections in General Practice in Trinidad, West Indies*, Parmasad's findings were selected from a year three group project on which she worked with five of her classmates. The project received first prize among the student research projects co-coordinated by Dr. Celia Poon King of the UWI Public Health and Primary Care Unit. The project also garnered the Best Poster Presentation at the Trinidad and Tobago Medical Association Annual 10<sup>th</sup> Research Update later in the year.

Similarly, Matthew's presentation entitled *Viral Infections and Dust Triggers for Pediatric Asthma in Trinidad, West Indies*, was gained from research towards his M.Phil Degree. Dr. Lexley Pinto Pereira of the UWI Department of Paraclinical Sciences supervised both students' projects and The UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences supported their travel to Glasgow.

The conference allowed the students the opportunity to present their information on an international stage; it also facilitated the sharing of data and provided opportunities for collaborative research. <



Professor Deosaran

# CRIME & PUNISHMENT

UWI launches new Criminology Degree

*As the Muslimeen held their guns at the throat of the Prime Minister and cabinet ministers on July 27, 1990, Trinidad & Tobago went into a state of panic, pain and passion. The widespread lawlessness in the society provided a receptive environment for the Muslimeen actions. Law and order must rest on a wider framework of political accountability, judicial efficiency and public morality.*

This stark reminder of the problem of crime and lawlessness was drawn by Professor Ramesh Deosaran from the book *A Society Under Siege* as part of his address at the launch of the UWI Centre of Criminology and Criminal Justice's graduate programme. According to Professor Deosaran, who is the Centre's Director and well-known for his investigations of delinquency in schools: "This Graduate programme emerged out of two converging considerations. Firstly, there is the great concern over crime, personal security and civility, among governments, civic organizations and citizens across the Caribbean. Secondly, since it was established the Centre has generated research, policy papers and a number of international contacts. However, we felt that there was a missing link... We needed a programme to train people in crime reduction, management and prevention."

The MSc, MPhil and PhD degrees in Criminology and Criminal Justice are designed for persons interested in, or

currently pursuing a career in such professional areas as the protective services, social welfare, counseling, teaching, research, judicial administration, mediation and rehabilitation.

Since applications were invited for entry into the programme, there have been hundreds of enquiries, including calls and e-mails from persons in Antigua, St. Lucia, Barbados, St. Kitts, Grenada, and Guyana. Master's students from around the world who wish to do their PhD or research component have also shown an interest and the programme has even attracted Caribbean students based abroad, who are now considering returning to the region to continue their studies.

The programme will balance practical experience and theory through a synergy between teaching and the research being undertaken by the Centre in penal reform, delinquency, poverty and crime, restorative justice, mediation and many other areas. **Students can also benefit from the Centre's links with renowned international institutions such as Oxford University, Florida State University, John J. College of Criminal Justice, and the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge.** At the same time, Professor Deosaran is adamant that "teaching has to be grounded in indigenous experience...because those are the conditions which you want to change."

"The Centre is very grateful for the way the Faculty Dean Dr. Hamid Ghany has been an active partner in helping to implement this programme." The Campus now offers a graduate programme in Criminology and Criminal Justice that can help us not only understand the problems, but create the solutions to crime.

*The Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice was formally established on February 24, 1997 and is a specialized teaching, research, policy development, training and publication unit of the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. The Centre is actively engaged in teaching research, publication and public policy formulation. Since January 1996, it has published the Caribbean Journal of Criminology and Social Psychology (CJCSP), the region's only international criminology journal. The Centre also offers advisory and consultancy support to local and regional Governments, associated non-governmental agencies and institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), The World Bank, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) among others. < (AP)*

**For further information, contact  
The Centre via Tel/Fax: 868-645-1020 or  
E-mail: [crimrd@trinidad.net](mailto:crimrd@trinidad.net)**



Professor E. Nigel Harris

## VC Installation: History in the Making

Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies, **Professor E. Nigel Harris** will be formally installed at the St Augustine Campus on 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2005 at The JFK Auditorium. The Vice-Chancellor is the principal academic and administrative officer of the University. In concert with the Campus Principals, he provides strategic direction and leadership and helps to position and represent the University regionally and internationally. The historic installation is a significant ceremony which officially welcomes the Vice Chancellor into the academy. The ceremony contains elements which are centuries old, based on the tradition of the medieval university such as the gowns, oath and mace. <



David Dulal-Whiteway

## UWI Graduates move-up at RBL

A STANDING Ovation to UWI graduate **David Dulal-Whiteway** on his recent promotion to Managing Director of Republic Bank Limited (RBL) taking over the reins from veteran banker and UWI Development and Endowment Fund Head, Ronald Harford. Congratulations also to **Gregory Thompson another graduate of UWI**, on his recent appointment as Deputy Managing Director of RBL, these appointments will become effective on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2005. <



Gregory Thompson

## Young UWI Scientist gains research award



Dr Brian N Cockburn

Congratulations to **Dr Brian N. Cockburn**, lecturer and subject leader in Biochemistry, Department of Life Sciences, UWI, on being awarded the Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Prize for Young Scientists 2004 in the Caribbean region. A graduate of UWI, Dr Cockburn has been working in the field of diabetes using classical enzymology and molecular biology techniques since 1994. In 2004, Dr Cockburn published a paper on a project that originated in Trinidad which involved novel research on maturity-onset diabetes of the young (MODY). Dr Cockburn's study drew individuals from the diabetic clinics of the two major hospitals in Trinidad. The study was a collaborative effort requiring input from clinicians, Dr Surujpal Teelucksingh of EWMSC and the late Dr Deepak Mahabir of the Ministry of Health in Trinidad, as well as Professor G.I. Bell of the University of Chicago, USA, Dr K. Docherty of the University of Aberdeen, UK and Dr R. Stein of the Vanderbilt University Medical School, USA. He was also assisted by graduate student, Ms Laura-Lee Boodram.

The study investigated the prevalence of insulin promoter factor-1 (IPF-1) mutations in familial early-onset diabetes mellitus in Trinidad. Dr Cockburn's current research activities also include the determination of levels of glucose-6-phosphate Dehydrogenase in diabetics and analysis of the impact of the deficiency on antioxidant status of the individuals. **TWAS** provides financial assistance to national science academies, scientific research councils, ministries of science & technology, and high-level research organizations in a number of developing countries, to enable them to institute a scheme of TWAS prizes for young scientists. The TWAS prizes are awarded each year in the fields of biology, chemistry, mathematics, and physics on a rotating basis. <

# PREMIUM TEACHERS

## UWI & GUARDIAN LIFE RECOGNISE OUTSTANDING EDUCATORS



Since its inception in 1988, the UWI Guardian Life Premium Teaching Awards has grown from a local event to a regional one, having been successfully instituted in Barbados and Jamaica. Therefore, it was only fitting that on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2004, the indefatigable Mrs Betty Rohlehr, retired Head of the Instructional Development Unit (IDU) and proponent of the scheme, was honored at the event along with her colleagues Drs. Cambridge, Jagai, Jules and Lewis.

**The 2004 awardees included:**

**Dr. Innette Cambridge** - Coordinator of the Minor in Social Policy, Social Work Unit, UWI. Her research activities include international refereed publications on social work education, children with HIV and Beetham Gardens.

**Dr. Vena Jules** – Senior Lecturer in the Teaching of Geography and Social Sciences Department of Education, UWI. A CIDA scholar and graduate of Queens University, Canada, she later obtained her doctorate at The University of the West Indies. Her extensive career spans 42 years at several levels of the education system and the development of a new bachelor of Education Programme for primary level teachers.

**Dr. Winston G. Lewis** - Senior Lecturer and Head of Department, Department of Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering. A past President of the Association of Professional Engineers, he is a member of the Cabinet appointed Steering Committee to establish the new University of T&T.

**Dr. Tennyson Jagai** - Lecturer, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, UWI. He has been a member of the Society of Petroleum Engineers for the past twenty two years and is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors to the Trinidad and Tobago section of the Society.

Past winners of the local award have also gained international acclaim, including Dr. Shirin Copilah, lecturer in UWI Department of Physics, who was recently awarded the Distinguished Teacher Award from the Association of Atlantic Universities (AAU) in the U.S.A. Dr. Kim Mallalieu, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering also copped the award three years ago. <

**In photo above (l to r):  
Mr Gerard Pinnard, Dr. Innette Cambridge,  
Dr. Winston G. Lewis, Dr. Vena Jules,  
Dr. Tennyson Jagai and Professor  
Gurmohan Kochhar**



We are the Champions: from left Tatyana Pozdynakova, Curtis Cox, Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova, Pauline Davis Thompson and John Muriethi Muriuki

# UWI INTERNATIONAL HALF - MARATHON

"The University of the West Indies should be commended for [its] show of efficiency and professionalism in hosting the event which must be held up as a model for all other sporting events to follow," praised a sports journalist in the popular local newspaper, Newsday (15. 11.04).

"Aided by a team of volunteers and professional facilitators, the event lived up to its buzz and looks poised to become one of the region's premier road racing events, with plans for it to become more of a festival beginning on a new Mondo track to be laid on the Sir Frank Worrell Field," the reporter added.

The race, the brainchild of Director of Sport and Physical Education at UWI, Dr Iva Gloudon, certainly lived up to the marketing "buzz". The event was also heightened by the number of

"firsts" The University of the West Indies Sport and Physical Education Centre's International Half Marathon brought to the local and international arena, including being the first IAAF internationally registered road race in the country; the first traffic-free road race (held 'accident-free' along the priority bus route – thanks to the permission gained from the Honourable Minister Franklin Khan and the key organizational skills of the volunteers, UWI Security and the National Police Force) in the country; and the impressive cash prizes of over \$110,000.

The University had targeted a maximum of 400 runners to participate, with the first 300 across the finish line being awarded medals. The great demand by participants for the race increased in momentum in the last two weeks before the November 14<sup>th</sup> event, but wanting to ensure it

remained a high-quality, international event, the planners did not exceed the target. The morning of the race 400 local, regional and international runners assembled at the front of the modern sport centre. Kenyan runner John Muriethi Muriuki, West Indian Ronnie Holassie, Russians Tatyana Pozdynakova and Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova were in the front row, waiting anxiously for the sound of the starting gun to be fired by Bahamian Olympic Gold Medalist Pauline Davis-Thompson. Veteran sports journalist Ruskin Mark and his 100FM team provided exciting live





**SPEC manager Sherlan Cabralis presented several prizes at the Award Ceremony**



**Dr Iva Gloudon Director of Sport and Physical Education**



**Dianne Henderson accepts her award at the prize giving ceremony**

coverage of the race which was eventually won by Muriuki (1:09:41), with Curtis Cox in second (1:10:45) and Pamenos Ballantyne in third (1:11:18). Firaya Sultanova-Zhdanova (1:17:24) took home first place for the women. The half-marathon was also popular among UWI staff and students. Darrin Grenade winning in 1:25:30 for the men and Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw crossing the finish line first for the women in 1:56:12. Among UWI students Anthony Cummings took first place for the men (1:38:49) and Leisl Puckerin (1:52:48) won for the women. In the University student category Roger Rojas' winning time was 1:36:48 and Leisl Puckerin won in a time of 1:52:48. The UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC) is a leader in athletic development in the region. The Centre focuses on athletic as well as theoretical and technical development of sport management, coaching and performance. The University's state-of-the-art Sport and Physical Education Centre will be further enhanced in two phases. Phase One will include the fencing of the Sir Frank Worrell field, developing parking, building, an internal access road, upgrading the playing field area to meet International Cricket Council (ICC) standards, a new artificial all weather track; while plans for Phase two include the construction of a cricket pavilion, an artificial hockey surface and upgrading the fields. Runners can look forward to an earlier start to the popular event next year. <



**Going for Gold: Many members of UWI Staff took part in the race and gained cash awards and gift baskets**

**For more information please contact (868)-645-9239 on the UWI International Half Marathon.**

## One Celebration



In December, after a very demanding and highly successful year, staff at the St Augustine Campus celebrated the Season at an Open House on the beautifully landscaped grounds of the Office of the Campus Principal. Staff turned out, en-masse to eat, drink and be merry to the sounds of Parang music and steelpan. Congratulations to the One Celebration Committee on organising a truly enjoyable event.<



## College Fairs



In October and November 2004, staff of The University of the West Indies three campuses at St Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, Cave Hill, Barbados and Mona, Jamaica, traveled to locations throughout the Caribbean to speak with students about the offerings of UWI. Staff from the Admissions Department, various Faculties and the Marketing and Communications Office, spoke to thousands of high school students, teachers and members of the general public and distributed newsletters and booklets at College/University Fairs in islands including Antigua, The Bahamas, Dominica, Nevis and St Lucia. The UWI booths were extremely popular at the Fairs across the Caribbean and students have shown an overwhelming interest in the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes at the leading tertiary institution in the region. Many thanks to the resident tutors in the Non-Campus Countries who, along with their staff proved invaluable to the success of the initiative.<

## Thanks from Simon Fraser University



For the fourth consecutive year students from the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada traveled to UWI to study at the School of Education for one semester. In 2004, the students, accompanied by Professor Paul Bishop, attended classes at UWI and had the opportunity to take part in teaching practice at schools in the St. Augustine area. From all reports they greatly enjoyed the experience and expressed their thanks in cards and momentos sent to the Department. UWI has links and student exchange programmes with over 60 international Universities and institutions across the globe.<

## Staff Appointments



**Dr. Jonas Addae**

Congratulations to the following members of staff at The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, who have attained Professorships:

- Professor Balswaroop Bhatt  
Mathematics & Computer Science
- Professor Kit Fai Pun  
Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering
- Professor Stephan Gift  
Electrical & Computer Engineering,  
Faculty of Engineering
- Professor Clement Imbert  
Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering
- Professor Godwin Isitor  
School of Veterinary Medicine,  
Faculty of Medical Sciences
- Professor Zulaika Ali  
Department of Clinical Medical Sciences,  
Faculty of Medical Sciences
- Professor Jonas Addae  
Department of Pre-Clinical Sciences,  
Faculty of Medical Sciences
- Dr. Adam Figiel  
Lecturer in Marketing, Management,  
Faculty of Social Sciences

GRADUATION 2004

# Perception & Reality

Valedictorians speak on the “total UWI experience” to the largest – ever graduating class

“My expectation upon entering UWI was that I would meet individuals brimming with intellectual confidence, unwavering commitment to industry and a single-minded focus on professional progress,” explained honours student and UWI Valedictorian, Liselle Sophia Foote. The Faculty of Social Sciences student was speaking before thousands of parents, graduands and specially invited guests at the modern Sport and Physical Education Centre on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2004.

“I did meet a few such individuals, but truthfully they were in the minority,” she went on to explain. “Surprisingly the majority of the UWI population was much more ‘real’ than that. Many of us opened our minds and hearts to the total UWI experience and we understood the need to lead quality lives. That’s right, most of us lived...It dawned on us that we were not here for anyone else but ourselves. We were now part of this prestigious and powerful institution and we each had the chance to maximize the opportunities and overcome the challenges it presented,” Foote added during her speech at the historic occasion which is steeped in pomp and ceremony.

In double ceremonies at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2004, over 2,200 students graduated from the St Augustine Campus and celebrated the achievements of three national icons.

The Doctor of Letters (DLitt) was conferred on Trinidadian sculptor, Dr. Ralph Baney and the Doctor of Laws (LLD) was awarded to Trinidadian educator, Fr. Anthony De Verteuil and posthumously to Trinidadian businessman, Nazir Ahamad.

> continued on pg 26



“I am no longer afraid...”Liselle Foote



Dean Hamid Ghany congratulates Honoree Dr Ralph Baney



Musical Interlude by the Police Band



Over 2200 students graduated from the Campus

“Admittedly, leaving the sanctuary of my Southern home on Sunday evenings to face another grueling week on campus at first filled my heart with trepidation. The Northern Range looming before me at the end of the Solomon Hochoy Highway was a foreboding sight. Thankfully by the end of the second semester of Year One instead of feeling as though I was leaving everything behind, I began to accept that I was coming towards something new. The mountains gradually came to signify the coming to a new life- one which had a purpose, filled with new people and new experiences. They started to symbolize the challenge to ‘climb.’ I entered UWI a naive and scared little girl and I am leaving with a good start as a woman. I am no longer afraid of the unknown or untried”. Valedictorian, Liselle Foote



**UWI Chancellor, Sir George Alleyne**

<continued on pg 25

Dr. Baney is one of the most prolific and talented sculptors in the Caribbean. He has exhibited in Trinidad, Washington, New York, Baltimore, Brazil, Canada, and England. His career includes being Art Officer, Ministry of Education and Culture, Trinidad and Tobago, participant in the International marble-carving symposium Anandjelovac, Yugoslavia, Professor and Professor Emeritus of Community College Baltimore County, Dundalk. In 1973 his name appeared in Who's Who in American Art and that same year he was awarded the Gold



**The graduation is steeped in tradition, complete with Marshalls and Mace bearers**

Medal of Merit by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago.

Mr. Ahamad was an eminent leader in the business community in Trinidad and Tobago and contributed significantly to the social and economic development of the wider Caribbean region. He was the Chairman of several leading organizations including the Neal and Massy Group, Universal Investments Ltd., Caribbean Finance Co. Ltd., Guardian Holdings Ltd., Caribbean

Packaging Industries Ltd., and Director of Agostini's Limited. In 2003, the government of Trinidad and Tobago awarded him The Gold Chaconia Medal for Long and Meritorious Service in the field of Business.

Fr. De Verteuil is a long serving Roman Catholic priest, an eminent educator and a prolific historian of Trinidad and Tobago. Fr. De Verteuil is an educator par excellence. He served as Principal of St. Mary's College from 1978-1992 and after his retirement continues to teach "A" Level classes in History and Geography. Fr. De Verteuil is a meticulous researcher and careful writer with a formidable output of publications which have enhanced the understanding of Trinidad's history.

The occasion was an historic one, and the Valedictorians gave invaluable advice to the graduands.

"A quick look at the graduands indicates the racial makeup of this university. In addition to the different races there are also a plethora of religions and points of view. I must refer again to the Faculty of Humanities and Education and proudly say that most of us as students looked beyond colour and beliefs and displayed cordial interaction and respect for one another," Del Carmen Constance, an honours student with a degree in English Language and Literature with Education stated. She went on to focus on her journey towards self-realisation and success at UWI. She underscored the virtues she hoped that all UWI graduates would embrace including diligence and tolerance.

"However, if this has not been the experience of all here, I urge you to pattern after the students of this faculty and show this nation that our education not only qualifies us academically but also enables us to tolerate the views and positions that others embrace and occupy in life. This we can do without having to lose our identity," she explained.<



**All Dressed-Up: Graduands before the Ceremony, get ready to enter the Sport and Physical Education Centre**

In 2004, the Coca-Cola Foundation, not only renewed its commitment to the scholarship programme to assist students of The University of the West Indies, but the international company also increased its funding from US\$50,000 in 2002 to US\$123,600. Awardees will include nationals from throughout the Caribbean: Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Jamaica, Antigua, Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

As an expression of their continued support for higher education, the Coca-Cola Foundation launched the enhanced UWI/Coca-Cola Scholarship Programme on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2004 in the Office of the Principal, UWI, St. Augustine.

In her address, Jillian Stephens-Thomas, Human Resource Director, Coca-Cola Caribbean Bottlers stated that, "everyday, society and business, experience higher education's dependence upon the pipeline that feeds us. UWI has recognized this and begun the nourishment process...and they must be commended for being the pioneers and leading the charge". She went on to



Previous awardees of the Coca-Cola scholarships

state that, "... at The Coca-Cola Company and Caribbean Bottlers are also very focused on this critical pipeline because we represent around the world, the greatest business system. This education pipeline is vitally important to us as we look into the future. In fact, we see it more as a lifeline for an improved, productive higher education system. A lifeline for a vibrant, competitive business community and a lifeline for a healthy, skilled nation...therefore-the world."

The UWI/Coca-Cola Scholarship Programme, launched in 2002, provides financial assistance to a group of high achieving, first-year students in the Agriculture, Engineering, Humanities, Education, Sciences and Social Sciences field. The scholarship will enable students to complete their undergraduate studies by defraying their tuition and accommodation costs at a monetary value of US\$7,500.<

## The ROOTS of Calypso

It was quite apt that the Director of the UWI Centre for Creative and Festival Arts, Rawle Gibbons, delivered the feature address at the launch of *The Roots of Calypso Volume 1* by George Maharaj in November at the Audio Visual Room, National Library Building, Hart & Abercromby Streets, Port of Spain.

This book, with complimentary CD, offers a brief history of calypso by other writers, lists of road march calypsos, real names of calypsonians and the top calypsos of the 20<sup>th</sup>

century, the results of a survey conducted by Kaisoca International of Toronto via Internet poll.

George Maharaj is a collector and researcher of calypso records and memorabilia and a promoter of 'kaiso' in Toronto, Canada. He migrated to Canada in 1969 taking with him calypso and steelband records. He became an avid collector while in Canada and he began to promote events which showcased the music of Trinidad & Tobago.

He is well-known in Toronto for his hospitality and his 'kaiso' limes which he first held in his basement over 10 years ago. In 2002, with calypsonian Luv Bug (Herbert Tyson), he began the Kaiso Breakfast Lime. He is also the founder and first President of the Caribbean Limers Cricket Club.<

**George Maharaj maintains a very valuable website for calypso researchers at <http://www.rootsofcalypso.com> Please call George Maharaj 657 7484 for further details.**

## CMMB Pledges One Million Dollars to UWI



Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie, Campus Principal of The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine met recently with Caribbean Money Market Brokers (CMMB) Managing Director and CEO Ram Ramesh C.F.A. to plan the way ahead for CMMB's one million dollar support to the University. In a move consistent with the Caribbean Money Market Brokers mission, "To create, develop, educate and nurture the Capital Markets of the Caribbean", CMMB will provide funding to The University of the West Indies through investments in a number of research projects over the next five years. Funds will be allocated over the five-year period to assist in those research projects relating to Finance and Capital Markets at the University. Officials in the

corporate and financial sectors, as well as interested parties, will have the opportunity to benefit from the overall findings of these projects through annual seminars conducted jointly by CMMB and UWI. Funding may also take the form of scholarships, which may be awarded to deserving students in the areas of Financial and Capital Markets. <

## Lord Patel speaks on quality in Health Care



Renowned obstetrician and gynaecologist Lord Naren Patel, Honorary Professor and Consultant at the University of Dundee, Ninewells Hospital, spoke on *Clinical Effectiveness, Standard Setting and Quality in Health Care* at a lecture held on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2004 at the JFK Auditorium, UWI, St. Augustine.

Lord Patel is a member of the General Medical Council, whose purpose is the protection, promotion and maintenance of the health and safety of the UK's community. In bringing his wealth of experience in the field of clinical

effectiveness to Trinidad and Tobago's healthcare system, he chose to focus on his perspectives on Clinical Audit: the systematic and critical analysis of clinical care which incorporates the use of guidelines, resources and the effect of care on outcomes. Clinical Audit enables medical institutions to be analytical and critical of their actions and is aimed at improving the quality of patient health care.

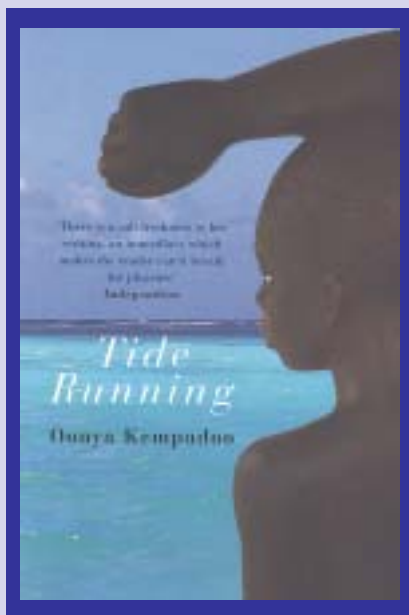
Recognized and honored globally for his work in the medical fraternity, Lord Patel has been awarded several Fellowships and Honorary Degrees from numerous institutions. He has been involved in the care of mothers in high-risk pregnancy for years, his most recent work being with the International Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, which focuses on developing centres for training and treatment for millions of women in Africa who suffer from obstetric fistulas due to unavailability of obstetric care. <

## Forestry research, training & development MOU Signed

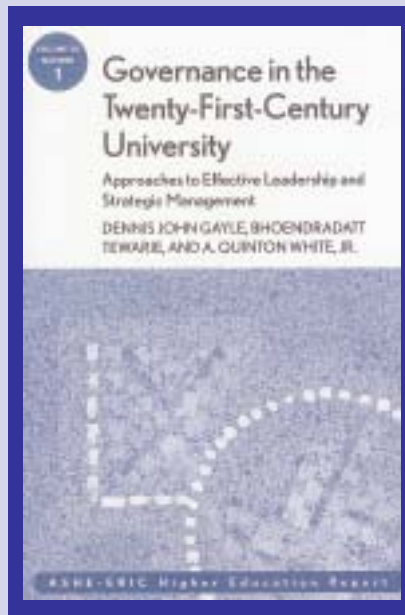


A Memorandum between U.W.I and the Ministry of Forestry which will foster joint research projects, education programmes, training, data collection, analysis and expert consultancy services in the field of forestry, wildlife, national park and bio-diversity was recently signed. Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal of The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus signed the landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities and The Environment (Forestry Division), Penelope Beckles at the Office of the Campus Principal on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2004. The agreement will ensure the exchange and development of relevant information, training and

public education for the benefit of the local, regional and international arena. Co-operative programmes in the areas of public policy, environmental education and resource management among others, will also be developed. <



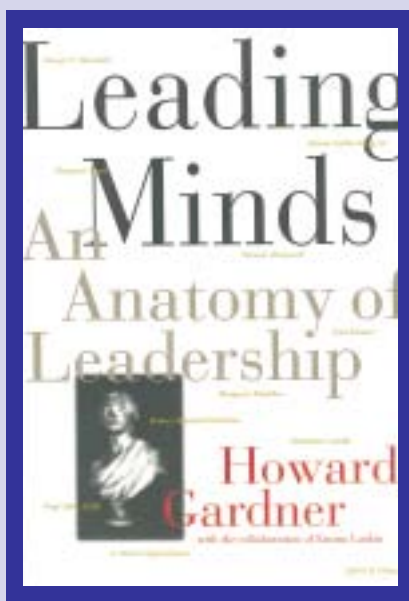
**Tide Running**  
by Oonya Kempadoo  
\$69



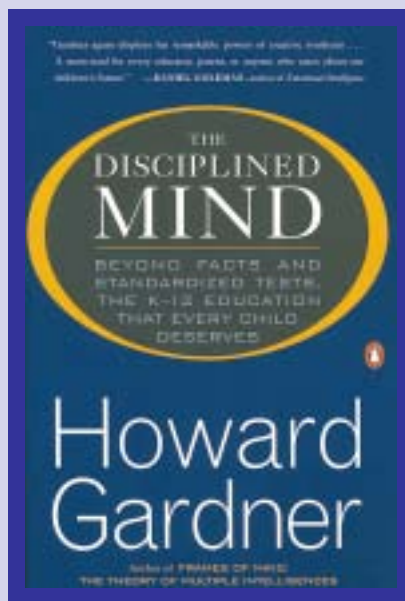
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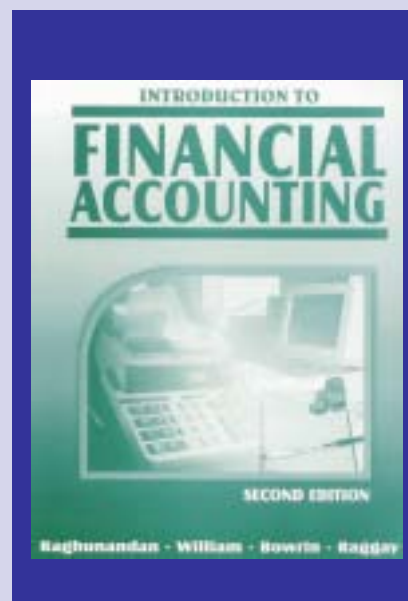
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NOW AVAILABLE AT THE UWI BOOKSHOP

# A Case of Adoption

By Alake Pilgrim

"I decided to write this diary because I felt that the early experiences my family had with our adopted child were so different from that which we had anticipated..."

Joan M. Porteous\*, the author of "A Case of Adoption – Feedback from an Adopted Mother" is a Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Medical Sciences. However, she draws more on her personal than professional experience in this frank, down-to-earth portrayal of life as an adoptive parent. The book is made up of diary entries and reflections on the day to day challenges and joys involved in the decision to adopt, the process of choosing a child, and the early years during which adjustments must be made on all sides in order for this child to become fully integrated into his new family.

Through a range of humorous, painful, and even frightening situations involving "Boysie"\*, their adopted child, the author and her family run the full gamut of human emotion. Speaking openly about the negative sides of adoption, which the author says, is not meant to discourage, but to alert people to the fact that adoption, particularly adopting an older child, is a serious decision which can lead to many stresses in the lives of all involved. "Parenting is an awesome responsibility, and one has to be absolutely selfless and giving to be a good parent." *A Case of Adoption* is a story of tremendous courage and love on the part of all the members of this family, including their youngest member.

"I wrote this book to help people who are considering adoption, who have adopted, or who were themselves adopted, so that they would know that they are not alone."

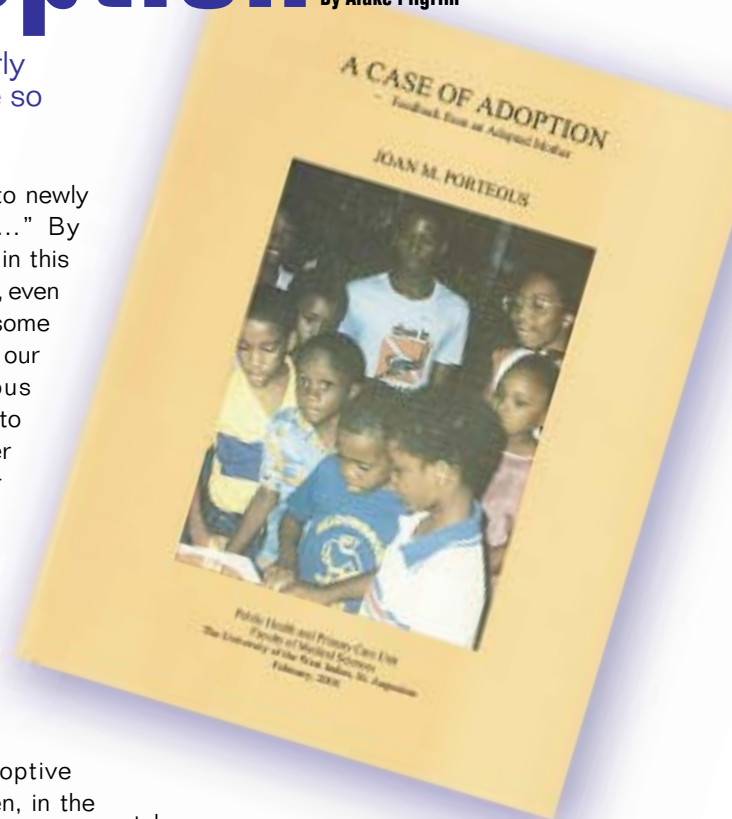
Dr. Porteous also hopes that her book will be useful to "Adoption Agencies,

Social Work students, and to newly qualified social workers..." By looking at the issues raised in this book on a broader social level, even policy makers can identify some key areas of intervention. In our interview Dr. Porteous emphasized that more needs to be done to reduce the number of children who come up for adoption by increasing social support systems for young parents and addressing the issue of unplanned and unwanted pregnancies from the primary school level. She also advised that there also needs to be more support for both adoptive parents and adopted children, in the form of more adoption offices, training for persons in children's homes, greater follow-up for the families, and counseling for all those involved in the process.

Persons are often advised to adopt children who are as young as possible, up to 18 months old, to facilitate the learning and bonding process. Dr. Porteous agrees that this is indeed an easier option, one which she herself would now advise to most parents considering adoption. Her book highlights some of the particular difficulties raised by adopting a child from a Children's Home who was around three years old, into a family which already had two young children.

So given these potential obstacles and struggles, why adopt?

Dr. Porteous says, "Children's homes are not the ideal place for small children. Persons who work in adoptive and family services will tell you that



these homes are meant to be transitional, but many children stay there until adulthood...An adopted child can have love, care, nurturing, and provision in a more focused environment...And you the parent will have the joy that comes from doing something to help a child."

An excerpt from the first entry in *A Case for Adoption* is a poignant reminder of the need for and importance of adoption in our society.

"I asked the house-mother, why were there so many boys and not an equal number of girls?...What is to become of these boys when they become too old for the homes...Who has ever loved them?...I hope I shall never see some of these sad and hurting eyes behind an M16 gun, or on the outside of the burglar bars, breaking in." <

• Pseudonyms are used by the author to protect the identity of those involved.



Funso Aiyejina

# I, the SUPREME

and other poems by Funso Aiyejina

documented the coincidence of world-view between the Caribbean and Africa, with specific reference to Trinidad and Tobago, identified many of the links, and affirmed that the predominant source of African influences in Trinidad is the Yoruba culture, with the Rada tradition of Dahomey, itself a cousin of the Yoruba, and a sprinkling of Igbo, Hausa, Congo, and Mandingo practices also in evidence (See J.D. Elder's "The Orisha Religion (Shango) as Resistance and Social Protest" (in Manfred Kremser (ed), *Ay BoBo: Afro-Caribbean Religion*, Vienna: WUV-Universitätsverlag, 1996) and Maureen Warner-Lewis's *Guinea's Other Suns* (Dover: Majority Press, 1991), *Yoruba Songs of Trinidad* (London: Karnak House, 1994) and *Trinidad Yoruba: From Mother Tongue to Memory* (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1996).

One of the consequences of the enslavement of Africans in the New World was that the enslaved Africans manipulated the religion of the enslaver into an unwitting agent and preserver of his/her world view. The New World African engaged in the coded insertion of African words, especially ritual words and phrases like **ebon** (sacrifice) and **ad obi** (to throw the kola nut seed in divination) into the language of the enslaver, such that he/she was able to speak about ritual plans without the master being any wiser to those plans. European lexical items such as "feast," "stool," and "parlays" were also invested with African ritual meanings, which were obvious only to the initiated. In addition, Yoruba **orison**, including some like **Balloon** and **Erinle** who are not that prominent in the Nigerian pan-Yoruba context, have been kept alive in Trinidad.

Although Rawle Gibbons and I are presently engaged in the documentation of the contemporary state of the Orison tradition in Trinidad and Tobago, the poem that follows is not an account of that tradition; instead, it is a celebration of a distinguished individual who has been at the forefront of the contemporary preservation of that tradition: Iyalorisa Melvina Rodney, anointed the spiritual head of the Orisa Movement of Trinidad and Tobago by the Oni of Ife – Oba Okunade Sijuade – in 1988. The poem grew out of a decision by her spiritual children to celebrate her birthday with an evening of cultural activities in 1996. My decision to contribute a poem to the celebrations was dictated by the fact that I know of no way to celebrate an upholder of the African/Yoruba tradition better than with a **oriki** (praise-poem)! The poem, which has been substantially revised since that first reading, is informed by a desire to capture Iya's calmness of spirit, her unstinting love of and devotion to her spiritual children, her sonorous singing voice, and her tantalizing dance steps, as well as her ability to display appropriately modulated anger whenever necessary. The poem also sets out to echo the imperishable spirit of Iya's antecedents who had struggled to keep the tradition alive; a quality so articulately captured in the bamboo's ability to repeatedly sprout back after the fires of every dry season. Incidentally, the bamboo is the source of the poles on which Orisa flags are flown in Trinidad and Tobago.

*I, the Supreme And Other Poems* is the second collection of poems by UWI Lecturer, Dr. Funso Aiyejina. His first collection, *A Letter to Lynda and Other Poems*, won the Association of Nigerian Authors' Prize in 1989 and *The Legend of the Rockhills & Other Stories*, 1999, won Best First Book, Africa, Commonwealth Writers Prize, 2000. He is the editor of *Earl Lovelace: Growing in the Dark (Selected Essays)* and *Self-Portraits: Interviews with Ten West Indian Writers and Two Critics*.

A Birthday Oriki for Iyalorisa Melvina Rodney

#### Pre-face

Of the various African cultural survivals in Trinidad – language, food, carnival masquerades, etc – the (Yoruba) Orisa tradition is by far the most intrinsic, iconic, deep rooted and enduring. Both J.D. Elder and Maureen Warner-Lewis have

>continued on pg 34

# A Birthday Oriki for Iyalorisa Melvina Rodney

(November 8, 1914-)

**I:**

Their dream: to fashion us into blind strangers; in our own world:  
Headless & demented: animals: seeking escape from mindless butchers.

We moan and cry our faces into landscapes with rivers of blue tears.

O lamentation: the purple garb of mourners with tears for hire....

While the indolent shelters under if-only-my-past-had-been-different  
The wise forges adversities into cautionary tales with vast masts.

**II:**

Iyalorisa Melvina Rodney, grand lady of the confluence of planes:  
Matriarch of the crossroads with the right angles of perfection:

Inheritor of Papa Neezar's regal wardrobes of endless healing songs  
Yours is the voice that awakens **Osanyin's** herbs into active service

Yours are the nation steps so exquisite on the sacred floor of our **palais**  
Even **Sango**, the master dancer, exclaims: "See, she dancing on air!"

**III:**

Iya dances **Ogun's** spirit of justice to make Sango jealous with envy  
She fans **Oya** awake into warriors to scatter our enemies beyond oblivion

Sings **Olokun** to send frothful waves to wash our dirty shores clean  
And invokes **Osun** to bless us with children to make us into ancestors.

**IV:**

Whenever they ask why there's always a flame under Iya's iron pot  
She answers: "I am atare: guinea pepper: house to a million seeds.

The beloved of Yemanja: Mother of Multitudes in whose miracle pot  
There is always enough for her children & their pick-up sides..."

**V:**

Of those who aspire to grow old & die & be proclaimed deities  
The world asks: Where are the descendants to perform the rituals?

The wag insists: A woman without children is a woman, not a mother.  
We, your children, invoke & sing your name. Come & abide with us.

When we stray, set us straight with the rightness of your anger  
And when we return, protect us in the sancta of your sacred garments.

**VI:**

Because they cannot move the elephant, they send matchsticks  
To pockmark the forest with bonfires, crackling with victory songs.

But they forget that the fire that ravages the king's fabled palace  
Only mandates that bigger & better be built to replace the old.

Though vicious & rampaging, a brush fire also prepares the land  
For future rains, for greener garments, & a faster growth, for style.

**VII:**

Because of flies on tailless cows, **Olodumare** created the friendly wind.  
Because of our blindness, **Iya** has eyes in this & in the next world.

She throws **Orunmila's obi** to her chant of **Esu gbaragbo o, mojuba!**  
And our: A re, a re, Bring down the power, the power & the glory.

**VIII:**

Behold! Our living ancestors: crowned with the glory of the future.  
Gods grow out: green bamboo shoots, after every season of fires.



**bppt President & UWI Graduate, Robert Riley**

# Beyond **Plastics**

*UWI & bp partner to gain an edge in the global race towards plastics recycling*

**By Nicole Cedeno**

The need for plastic recycling has certainly grown over the past 50 years. Back then, the world's annual plastic consumption amounted to just 5 million tons. Today, with annual plastic consumption increasing to over 100 million tons, overcrowded landfills worldwide have made recycling a necessity and a profound global challenge.

In Trinidad and Tobago, over 2.4 million kg of waste reaches our nation's landfills each day; approximately 10% is made up of plastic materials. This means that over 53,000 pounds of plastic is brought daily to landfills around the country in areas such as the Beetham and Claxton Bay landfills. The beneficial properties of plastic make it a popular choice over other existing materials (like paper), including its extreme durability, comparatively high resistance to chemicals and water, hygienic properties for food packaging and

relatively low production costs. However, it is these properties that may very well have adverse effects on the environment in the long term, with an average plastic bottle taking over 450 years to decompose.

Countries worldwide have been experimenting with methods of reducing plastic pollution. Trinidad & Tobago is no exception, with landfills and incineration (the burning of garbage) being the two main methods of solid waste management. These methods however, have benefits and challenges. If temperatures are allowed to drop below 900°C in incinerators, some burnt plastic release the deadly poison "dioxin", produced when chlorine and hydrocarbons are heated at high temperatures. In countries where overcrowded landfills have reached alarming levels, unconventional measures have been put in place to reduce plastic waste. A 1992 GreenPeace report on plastic recycling for instance, revealed that in 1991, US recycling companies sent over 35 million pounds of plastic waste to Indonesia. One Indonesian recycling company reported that over 40% of the imported waste received by the company, was eventually landfilled.



**UWI Lecturer Dr. Lebert Grierson, post-graduate student Jason Toney, Lecturer Jeffrey Smith, Geoff Smith (bp UK), Postgraduate student Nigel John, Dr Alan Keasey (bp), Prof. Martin Atkins (bp) and Christopher Allen (bppt)**

>continued on pg 37

## Beyond Plastics <continued from pg 35

The University of the West Indies, St Augustine, is also making its bid to address the handling of plastic and other polymer-like materials, with the help of a multinational energy company. In November 2004, The University of the West Indies and bp (British Petroleum), partnered to launch a phenomenal development in polymer research technology. The Polymer Recycling Project launched at the Chemistry Seminar Room, UWI, St. Augustine, represented a move by UWI and bp to engage in extensive polymer recycling research in the Caribbean. Plastics as we know it, are actually high molecular weight polymers which have been molded or laminated into various objects by application of heat or pressure after manufacturing and processing.

**What started as a series of Industrial Chemistry lectures to UWI undergraduates in 2002, has now blossomed into an expansion of UWI's Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Programmes.** Polymer Recycling forms an integral part of the Polymer Science course, one of two courses developed after a series of successful lectures delivered by Dr. Alan Keasey and Dr. Martin Atkins, on behalf of bp Chemicals, to UWI undergraduates in 2002. The Industrial Chemistry course, which is now being offered was another spin-off from these lectures.

The Polymer Recycling Project involves research to be conducted over a two-year period by Nigel John and Jason Toney, two outstanding postgraduate students in the Department of Chemistry, together with Chemical Engineering lecturer, Jeffrey Smith. Dr. Sydney Thomas, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Physical Chemistry Lecturer, Dr. Lebert Grierson, both instrumental at its inception, will supervise the project. Bp Chemicals will provide initial funding for the research at the cost of



Professor Martin Atkins of bp spoke about the advantages of the rig at the launch

US\$60,000 with substantial infrastructural costs being borne by the University. Recently, Glen Byer, Senior General Maintenance Assistant, Department of Chemistry, ensured STAN that the necessary infrastructural changes were instituted to make the project a reality.

The actual recycling process is carried out by the Polymer Recycling Reactor Rig, designed by Strata, a specialist engineering company in the UK on behalf of bp Chemicals at the cost of £70,000. The rig attempts to break down pure polymer into useful liquid and vapour samples. Here, parameters such as temperature and residence time necessary for the creation of these useful substances are observed. **The rig's unique ability to provide better flexibility and control of the recycling process gives UWI and bp, a cutting edge over various polymer recycling research around the globe.** According to Dr. Lebert Grierson, the art lies in the ability to combine the chemistry and chemical engineering technologies.

The Polymer Recycling Rig presently exists as a semi-technical model - larger than a typical research apparatus but smaller than a pilot plant rig. It is hoped that successful results obtained from the project would one day lead to the large-scale operation of such a process. The benefits to be

derived from large-scale operation of the rig are enormous. As Jeffrey Smith explained, if commercial viability could be achieved, it would certainly address significant environmental concerns presented by plastic waste today. The substances obtained from the process can form the basis of raw materials used in the manufacture of the same or other polymer-type products. **The rewards would be far-reaching – discarded plastic bottles for instance, which are essentially now just waste which ends up in landfills, could be transformed back to the monomer and eventually the polymer required to remake those bottles. This would represent a complete recycle process as opposed to the current option of reusing them to make park benches or landscape timber. In addition, the energy released from large-scale operation of such a rig could be used to power an entire industrial plant.**

This landmark project is just one of the many research programmes that have come to underscore the dedication to development of the West Indies by the University and the corporate community.

In 1994, the volume of waste disposed of at the major landfills in Trinidad and Tobago was 44 per cent more than in 1979 (Goodard 1997). <

# STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Edward Seaga to share knowledge & experience

The Honourable Edward Seaga, former Prime Minister of Jamaica, has had a distinguished career. He is the longest-serving Parliamentarian in Jamaica, having been appointed to the Upper House in 1959 and elected to the Lower House, as the Representative of Western Kingston, in 1962. He served as Prime Minister of Jamaica from 1980 to 1989 and has been Leader of the Opposition from 1989 until his recent retirement. Now, Edward Philip George Seaga, will share his expertise and experience as *Honorary Distinguished Fellow* at the Professorial level in The University of the West Indies School for Graduate Studies and Research, upon his retirement from active politics. The University looks forward to drawing on his tremendous knowledge and experience for the purposes of teaching, research and outreach services in the area of Development Studies.



The Honourable Edward Seaga

Seaga's contribution to the development of Jamaica is impressive and without dispute. He has established, encouraged, promoted and introduced several institutions covering a wide range of fields – in agriculture, community development, financial and tax management, human resource training, social and cultural development – which are today ingrained features of modern Jamaican life.

senior politicians and public servants, such as Sir Erskine Sandiford (at the Cave Hill Campus, Barbados), Mr William Demas (at the St Augustine Campus, Trinidad & Tobago) and the Most Honourable Michael Manley (at the Mona Campus), were invited to serve as Distinguished Fellows. Former Vice Chancellors, Sir Alister McIntyre and Prof the Hon Rex Nettleford as well as the former Chancellor, Sir Shridath Ramphal, are currently also serving in this capacity. And the opportunity will continue to be grasped, of inviting distinguished

Similar appointments have been made in the past, where former

political, business and public leaders, upon retirement, to share with our students and faculty members their knowledge and experience. In this way, the educational and research environment of the institution and, by extension, the Caribbean community will be significantly enhanced.<

## A D V E R T O R I A L

# The choice is yours!

With the arrival of Marios/Blimpies on campus, students at UWI St. Augustine now have more options than ever for affordable meals in a comfortable setting. At Marios, pizza is served "just the way you like it" in different sizes, with a range of meat and fresh vegetable toppings. There is more to it than pizza though, as grill and chicken selections are also available.

Right next door at Blimpies, students can have subs, wraps, and salads for the health and diet conscious. Marios also caters to diverse dietary requirements by only using halal chicken and beef

products, 100% vegetarian pizza dough, and rennet free cheese. Both Blimpies and Marios offer desserts to satisfy that sweet tooth. You can also have your choice of drinks, from mauby, to soft drink, juice, tea, specialty coffees, and bottled water. Marios/Blimpies is also doing its part to ensure that students with financial challenges have the opportunity to continue their studies, by providing four \$5000 bursaries each year. Gifts such as these enable UWI to provide a quality education for all its students. UWI is pleased to welcome Marios/Blimpies on campus, as we expand our students' dining choices. <

# The Science of Managing Art & Culture

The first graduates of the Arts & Cultural Enterprise Management programme speak on its benefits, breakthroughs and challenges



**Elizabeth Montano**, mother of soca star Machel Montano and one of the managers of the Xtatic Group stood confidently before her lecturers and fellow students to present *An Export Plan for Machel Montano & Xtatic Music Band*. This was one of the final presentations for the Postgraduate Diploma in Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management (ACEM). Other presentations included a business plan for the Barbados Jazz Festival, a marketing and export plan for Caribbean gospel music, and a feasibility study for researching and archiving indigenous folk traditions. The ACEM Diploma is a two year programme run by the Centre for Creative & Festival Arts in the Faculty of Humanities and Education. Copies of all of the presentations from this year's ACEM Diploma graduates are stored in the Creative Arts Library under the reference "ACEM files".

Montano, an enthusiastic ACEM student, shared *"I initially had no formal training in management although I have been involved the process for many years. This diploma outlined a more structural approach to management, particularly with regard to finances and intellectual property."* She was deeply impressed by the lecturers' knowledge of the cultural and entertainment industry, and learned progressive ways of managing the artistes and organizations with which she is affiliated. Her concerns about the programme revolved around the need for cultural management and the arts to gain increasing respect both within and outside of the University, with

improved systems and facilities being established to support education in this area.

**Kavita Nanhu**, a young graduate and talented dancer with the UWI Dance Theatre, agrees that the arts need more recognition in UWI as well as in the public sphere. She encourages further fine-tuning of the ACEM curriculum and structure in light of the feedback from its first graduates. Nanhu also looks forward to offers of internships in cultural management with various organizations, including government bodies, for the practicum which is required of all students in the programme.

As the Head of Department of Social and Cultural Development in the St. Maarten government, **Neville York** is in a position to craft, submit and implement policies that benefit the development of culture in his country and the region. Mr. York explained, *"Through these presentations, which are based on the practicum component of the diploma programme, I was able to share my ideas with a critical yet supportive audience."* He emphasized that his presentation, an *Economic Impact and Evaluation Assessment of St. Maarten Carnival*, and the wider ACEM programme, demonstrate that artistic and cultural activities are not only a leisure activity but also have a significant economic impact. "Once this potential can be demonstrated to corporate, governmental, and non-governmental entities, they will be encouraged to give more support to initiatives in the arts."

All the students spoke highly of their

lecturers, including **Suzanne Burke**, **Joanne Tull**, **Errol Simms** and **Keith Nurse**, who were present along with Director of the Centre for Creative & Festival Arts, **Rawle Gibbons**, to ask insightful and challenging questions after each presentation. According to Keith Nurse, *"The programme has helped students move beyond management by trial and error to acquiring the skills that enable them to demonstrate the value of the programme in practical ways...the graduates from this programme are equipped with management, marketing and other business skills to become more effective as cultural entrepreneurs, whether or not they are artists themselves."*

By offering this programme as a postgraduate diploma, a higher level of access is allowed to persons who may not have had the academic qualifications to pursue a Master's degree. However, some students including **Marielle Barrow**, a visual artist who has had several successful shows since the launch of *Marielle Studios*, are looking forward to a Master's degree being offered in Arts and Cultural Enterprise Management. Barrow points out that the quality and quantity of the work required is already, in many ways, at the Master's level. At any rate, this programme has been an important part of her ongoing quest to live from her craft. It has also been a stepping stone for further study as she is now pursuing an MPhil in Cultural Studies, a cross-campus programme recently established under **Professor Rex Nettleford**, former Vice Chancellor of The University of the West Indies. AP<

# 3 Month Calendar of Events 2005 St. Augustine Campus

## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WK
					1	2	1
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	3
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	4
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	5

**1st** - New Year's Day

**5th & 6th** - Howard Gardener Workshops at SPEC

**16th** - Semester II begins

**17th** - Teachings Begins

**20th** - Campus Appoints Committee Meeting

**21st** - Annual Credit Union 'Calypso & Ole Mass' Competition

**21st** - Distinguished Open Lecture Series featuring: Professor Douglas Osherooff, Stanford University, 1996 Nobel Laureate in Physics. Provisional topic: "Understanding the Magical World of Superfluids" at the UWI/LRC from 6:30 pm.

**27th** - Academic Board Meeting

**28th** - Campus F&GPC Meeting

**31st Jan. 31st to Feb. 4th** - Cross Campus Meetings (Mona Campus)

## FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WK
		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	8
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	9
27	28						10

**1st** - Capital Campaign Gala

**7th & 8th** - Carnival

**9th** - Ash Wednesday

**12th** - Alumni Valentine's Cruise

**17th** - Lecture by Ambassador Luigi R. Einaudi, Acting Secretary-General of the OAS will speak on "An OAS Perspective on the International Relations Challenges of the Caribbean" on Thursday 17th February 2005, in Auditorium B, UWI/Learning Resources Centre, from 3.00p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**19th** - WOW Seminar, Sport & Physical Education Centre

**24th** - WOW Resume Writing Workshops, Student Advisory Services

**24th** - Academic Board Meeting

**25th** - Distinguished Open Lecture Series featuring: Professor Eric Hershberg, Programme Director, Social Science Research Council, New York. Provisional topic: "Industrial Upgrading in Developing Countries: Social & Environmental Implications" at the UWI/LRC from 6:30 pm.

**25th** - WOW Resume Writing Workshops, Student Advisory Services

**26th** - Vice Chancellor's Installation, UWI/JFK Auditorium at 6:00pm

**28th-Mar. 4th** - World of Work (WOW) Workshops

## MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S	WK
		1	2	3	4	5	10
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	12
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	13
27	28	29	30	31			14

**2nd to 4th** - The Hemispherical Student Summit of the Americas at the Sport & Physical Education Centre, UWI, St. Augustine

**5th** - Alumni AGM

**5th** - WOW Mock Interview Session, Sport & Physical Education Centre

**10th** - WOW Recruitment Fair, Sport & Physical Education Centre - Open to all UWI students

**11th** - WOW Recruitment Fair - Sport & Physical Education Centre - Open to FINAL YEAR STUDENTS ONLY

**17th** - Campus Appointments Committee Meeting

**21st** - St. Augustine Campus Council

**23rd** - Professorial Lectures: Professor Brinsley Samaroo (Dept. of History), Engineering Room 101 at 6:30 pm.

**24th** - Academic Board

**25th** - Good Friday

**27th-Apr 3rd** - Semester II Break