

THE ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS IN DEVELOPMENT

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COTE 2010

Recognition of the Stakeholders



- Students
- Graduates
- Sister Campuses at Mona, CH, UG and Suriname
- Policy Makers
- Business Sector
- Civil Society inclusive of CAPE Economics Students
- Media
- University Administration

Role of the Department to Stakeholders



- Teaching
- Research
- Technical Support
- Community Outreach

Our Students



- Our role is one of teaching and learning and linking the output of our research back into our teaching
- We must do so in concert with the attributes of the UWI graduate as set out in the 2007-12 Strategic Plan of the UWI
- While we cannot develop all these attributes to the fullest in each student, we must find a way to develop an optimal mix of these for each student. That optimal mix will vary from student to student.

Our Students



As far as content is concerned, the proceedings of COTE 2010 suggest that we provide students with

- An understanding of an economic system as recommended by Dr Gene Leon
- An appreciation for the environment in which the microeconomics merge to macroeconomics
- An appreciation of the role of the following in development

Our Students (continued)

- An appreciation of the role of the following in development
 - History of the discipline of economics
 - History of the Caribbean Situation so that they understand 'Where we are' and 'How and Why we got there'
 - Human Capital
 - Agriculture
 - Culture
 - Governance & Civil Society (and by extension, their own role)
 - Labour
 - The Environment
 - Policy Formulation and Implementation
 - Technology (inclusive of ICTs and Social Capital)
 - Monetary & Fiscal Policies
 - The Supply Chain and International Trade Agreements
 - Intellectual Property
 - SMEs
 - Sustainable Livelihoods
 - Data as used in situation analysis, decision making and simulation
 - Entrepreneurship & Innovation
 - Sustainable Resource Management
 - Marketing

Our Graduates – An Outreach Role



- Engage our graduates in constant dialogue on the issue of development using seminars, social networks and other media
- Have our graduates commit to being facilitators of the development dialogue in their communities across T&T and the Eastern Caribbean on behalf of the Department
- Publish one M Sc research paper each month in the print media
- Facilitate the participation of our Graduates in Career Guidance Initiatives at Forms 4/5 across the country

Our Sister Departments of Economics – A Teaching and Research Collaborative Role



- Sharing of Research Agenda
- Participate in Joint Research
- Co-opting academic staff from sister departments to work with our research clusters and the Centre for Health Economics
- Cross Campus Teaching of courses
- Rotation of COTE every second/third year to another campus having regard to the difficulty experienced by a significant number of academics at the sister campuses in coming to St Augustine for the Conference.

Policy Makers – A Technical Support Role

- Repackaging the research findings and related policy recommendations to meet the needs and short time window of policymakers
- Two-hour Forums to engage policymakers and familiarise them with the findings & policy recommendations of our research
- Sharing of research agendas of the Department and the policymakers
- Funding support from policymakers so that Research Assistants can be engaged to ensure that research requested by the policymakers is completed on time.

The Business Community – A Technical Support and Outreach Role



- Identify through the Chamber of Commerce the top five research issues of the business community
- Research support on the defined issues
- Work with the Chamber to establish a forum by which academia and business can exchange ideas and research findings

Civil Society – A Community Outreach Role



- Repackage the research findings and policy recommendations and present same at outreach activities at the level of the community
- Engage civil society in community based discussion on issues of development

CAPE Economics Students & Teachers – A Teaching and Outreach Role

- Provide 2 interventions per academic year that provide enhancements to either the content of the CAPE Economics Syllabus or the Pedagogy for the delivery of that syllabus
- Facilitate the social networking of CAPE Teachers so that proven good practice in teaching and content can be exchanged across all teachers of CAPE Economics in T&T
- Mount guest lectures to CAPE Economics students on a regional basis during the year.

The Media – A Community Outreach Role

- Network with the conventional print and electronic media to disseminate our research findings and policy recommendations to civil society, the business community and policy makers

The University Administration



- Build awareness of our role as defined
- Obtain support for this role
- Request resources for the delivery of this role