The Think series is designed to position the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) of the University of the West Indies as a central player in national and regional discussions about all things related to the cultural sector. The Think series is aimed at interrogating the tried and tested paradigms about the cultural sector that have gone uncontested and/or have not been effective in the past. The recent discussions on the formulation of a national multicultural policy represent one such area that needs greater input from the widest set of stakeholders.

The inaugural Think forum will use the Trinidad Carnival Complex as a jumping off point to explore cultural policy development. Think 1 is entitled Carnival and Multiculturalism and will unpack the concepts ‘multiculturalism’ and ‘diversity’ as models for formulating cultural policies that are focused on creating cultural citizens. The discussions will be guided by an understanding that any national policy must enable self-determination, restructure power relations and re-imagine tried and tested notions of identity.

Programme

- Opening
  Representatives from the DFCA and the University.

- Session One
  ‘Carnival, identities and multiculturalism’ This panel examines the issue of diversity within the carnival space and questions the efficacy of using carnival as a platform for forging social cohesion and growing social capital.

- Keynote: Peter Minshall. Panel: Ravi Ji, Louis Regis, Gillian Moore
o Discussion

**BREAK**

o **Session Two - Carnival, transnationalism & multicultural citizenship**

This panel examines the concept of transnational citizenship by employing the Trinidad overseas carnival circuit as a vehicle for promoting diversity within and outside of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean diaspora.

o Keynote: David Rudder. Panel: Nestor Sullivan, Kim Johnson; Michael Low Chew Tung

o Discussion

**LUNCH**

o **Session Three - ‘Carnival and multicultural policy’**

This panel confronts the notion of whether or not the Trinidad Carnival complex can be used as a catalyst for developing a national cultural policy.

o Keynote: Pat Bishop. Panel: Peter Scoon (Media 21), Marcia Riley, Suzanne Burke

o Discussion

o **Closure** - Media Statement and handing over to Ministry representative