Dr Jassodra Vijay Maharaj

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# A. QUALIFICATIONS

**The University of the West Indies St Augustine**

2009 PhD

Dissertation: ‘A Caribbean *Katha:* Re-visioning the ‘Indo-Caribbean’ ‘Crisis of Being and Belonging’ through the Literary Imagination.

2007 Certificate in University Teaching and Learning (CUTL)

2000 BA (Hons)

**Corinth Teachers College Trinidad and Tobago**

1996 Teacher’s Diploma

# B. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2018 - Present **The University of the West Indies, Augustine**

Full time Lecturer, Department of Literary Cultural and Communication Studies

Postgraduate Thesis Supervisor

Undergraduate Thesis Supervisor

Academic Adviser

Coordinator – Interdepartmental Lunchtime Staff Seminars (2019-2020)

Coordinator Postgraduate Seminar Presentations (2019-2020)

Undergraduate Coordinator (2019-2020)

Postgraduate Coordinator (2020- present)

Departmental Webmaster (2019- present)

2000-2018 Temporary full time / part-time undergraduate and postgraduate Lecturer and Academic Adviser

Department of Liberal Arts

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures

Faculty of Social Sciences UWI St Augustine.

2000-2011 **College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)**

Part-time Lecturer

**University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) (Previously Trinidad and Tobago Institute of Technology)**

External Examiner and Moderator

**Ministry of Education – GORTT**

Valencia High School

Principal (Ag)

Vice-Principal (Ag)

Head of Department

Teacher III

# C. PUBLICATIONS

Scholarly Books and Edited Collections

*Seepersad and Sons: Naipaulian Creative Synergies* Ed. J. Vijay Maharaj Peepal Tree Press, 2019.

Scholarly Referred Chapters in Books

Introduction *Seepersad and Sons: Naipaulian Creative Synergies* Ed. J. Vijay Maharaj. Peepal Tree Press 2019. pp.7 – 17.

‘Shastri Maharaj: A Grain of Mustard’ In *Seepersad and Sons: Naipaulian Creative Synergies* Ed. J. Vijay Maharaj Peepal Tree Press 2019. pp.110 - 120

‘Unknown Protagonists of Independence’ In *Fires of Hope: Fifty Years of Independence in Trinidad and Tobago* Ed Debra Mc Collin. Kingston, Jamaica: The UWI Press, 2016. pp.167 - 185.

‘*Cascadura* Lovesongs: Displacing Indo-, Afro-, and Other Centricities in Selvon’s Romance’ In *Beyond Calypso: Re-reading Samuel Selvon.* Ed. Malachi McIntosh. Kingston Jamaica: Ian Randle Press, 2016. pp101 – 118.

‘The Nation in the Literary Imagi-Nation: A Question of Human Dignity’ In *Contemporary Caribbean Dynamics: Reconfiguring Caribbean Culture* ed. Beatrice Boufoy-Bastick and Savrina Chinien. Kingston Jamaica: Ian Randle Press, 2015. pp82 – 111.

‘A Study of the Imperial Gaze: Jenkins’s *Lutchmee and Dilloo*’ In *Postscripts: Caribbean Perspectives on the British Canon from Shakespeare to Dickens* ed. Barbara Lalla and Giselle Rampaul. Kingston, Jamaica: The UWI Press, 2014. pp124-154.

‘Mr Biswas: Paragon of Creole Virtues’ In *V. S. Naipaul’s* A House for Mr Biswas: *Critical Perspectives* ed. Meenakshi Bharat. New Delhi: Pencraft International, 2013.pp73 – 93.

‘Caribbean Politics and Poetics’ - Chapter in *Critical Perspectives on Indo-Caribbean Women’s Literature* ed. Mariam Pirbhai and Joy Mahabir. New York and London: Routledge, 2012. pp.93 – 121.

‘A Mala in Obeisance: Hinduism in Select Works by V. S. Naipaul’ In *Created in the West Indies: Caribbean Perspectives on V.S. Naipaul* ed. Jennifer Rahim and Barbara Lalla. Kingston, Jamaica: Ian Randle, 2011. pp121 – 135.

Articles in refereed journals

‘The Poetics and Politics of Aesthetic Recognition: A Case of Too Many Masseurs?’ *Tout Moun: Caribbean Journal of Cultural Studies* (May 2019): 1-18.

‘The Trials of Becoming a Man in Cyril Dabydeen’s *The Wizard Swami*’ *Journal of West Indian Literature* Vol 21 Nos. 1&2 (November 2012): 60-83.

‘Negotiations of Multiculturalism through Mimicry and Hybridity’ *The Journal of the Department of Behavioural Sciences UWI St Augustine* Vol. 1 No 1 (March 2012): 34-51.

‘Banal Violence: Abject Plantation Legacies’ *Tout Moun: Caribbean Journal of Cultural Studies* Vol l No 1 (August 2011): 1-27.

‘A Mala in Obeisance’ *Anthurium: A Caribbean Studies Journal* Vol 5 No 2 (2007): 1 - 15.

Reviews and *Articles in non-refereed journals and magazines*

* Review of *Indo-Caribbean Feminist Thought* in *The Journal of West Indian Literature* November 2017
* ‘Teaching V.S. Naipaul in the Caribbean’ [The Conversation](https://theconversation.com/teaching-v-s-naipaul-in-the-caribbean-101653) August 28, 2018
* ‘A Writer’s People’: ‘Created in the West Indies’ [*UWI Today*](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/september_2018/article23.asp) September 2018
* ‘The Plenitude of V. S. Naipaul’ [*UWI Today*](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/september_2015/article16.asp)September 2015
* ‘Shiva in the Naipaul Dynasty’ [*UWI Today*](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/july_2015/article28.asp)July 2015
* ‘The Debunking of Myths’ [*UWI Today*](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/june_2015/article20.asp)June 2015
* ‘Seepersad and Sons’ [*UWI Today*](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/may_2015/article17.asp)May 2015

***D. FORTHCOMING***

In Press

Book Length Manuscripts:

1. The Mystic Masseur’s Wife. Leeds: Peepal Tree Press
2. *Global Indian Diaspora: Charting New Frontiers* Volume II Ed. J. Vijay Maharaj and Radica Mahase Delhi: Manohar Publications. Projected completion 2020.

* Introduction *Global Indian Diaspora: Charting New Frontiers* Volume II

1. *The First Naipaul World Epics: From* The Mystic Masseur *to* An Area of Darkness *and Beyond* (see attached contract). J. Vijay Maharaj Edited collection

First of series *V S Naipaul: A Compelling Enigma* Publisher: Bloomsbury.

**Series Editor: J. Vijay Maharaj**

* + - Introduction *The First Naipaul World Epics: From* The Mystic Masseur *to* An Area of Darkness *and Beyond*
    - Chapter 2 ‘Merchant-Ivory’s *The Mystic Masseur* and the Politics of Caribbean Literature and Bollywood Dreams.’
    - Chapter 11 ‘Another Middle Passage’

Other editorial activities

2018 - present Reviewer of submissions for academic journals:

*Tout Moun: A Caribbean Cultural Studies Journal*

*Caribbean Quarterly*

2014 Associate editor of *Contemporary Caribbean Dynamics: Re-configuring Caribbean Culture*. Ed. Beatrice Boufoy-Bastick and Savrina Chinien. Kingston, Jamaica: Ian Randle, 2015

***E. Work in progress***

Manuscripts

Volume II: *World Changing Epics: From 1967-1975*

Second edited collection in the series *V S Naipaul: A Compelling Enigma* Publisher: Bloomsbury, India.

* Introduction: Understanding Our Place in World Politics
* A Flag on the Island: Re-imagining the Caribbean for Film – Chapter one of *World Changing Epics: From 1967-1975*
* The Global Faces of Terror and Revolution in the 1960s and 70s – Chapter nine of *World Changing Epics: From 1967-1975*

**Essays**

* **The STABRESS Indian: Repression, Erasure, Suppression and Suspension in Self-Conception: The Indentured Route Project (Zoom) Conference NCIC Trinidad and Tobago. Panel moderator and discussant**
* **V. S. Naipaul’s Port-of-Spain**
* **The Urgency of Autobiography and Life Writing in the Literature of Trinidad and Tobago 1980-2020**

***F. Selected Academic Presentations***

**2020 “**Schooling and the Work of Caribbean Literature” **at the 13th Annual** Guyana Institute of Historical Research Conference, June 25 – 27 2020 “Decolonization – Fully Independent” **Invited**

**2019** “Metaphors and Ideology in the Works of V S Naipaul” Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, The University of Wisconsin-Madison. **Panel moderator and discussant**

**“Translating Life into Art” CARIFESTA Academic Forum, UWI. Panel moderator and discussant**

**A Case for Reparations in Earl Lovelace’s *Is Just a Movie* 16th Annual Meeting of the Caribbean Philosophical Association at Brown University Providence Rhode Island. Panel moderator and discussant**

**2018 The View from the Shoulders on which I Stand: On Ryhaan Shah’s *A Silent Life*  25th Anniversary Celebrations of the Institute of Gender and Development Studies, UWI, Cave Hill. Panel moderator and discussant. Theme:** Caribbean Epistemological Entanglements

Making Mas’ with V. S. Naipaul – Interdepartmental Lunchtime Seminar Presentation

**2017 ‘ISBN: Caribbean Theory and Faction’ presented at the 36th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, UWI, St Augustine. Panel moderator.**

**‘Interrogation of “Common Sense” in Ralph de Boissiere’s *Rum and Coca-Cola*’ presented at the second annual Stuart Hall conference, UWI Mona. Panel moderator.**

**2015 ‘Under the Sign of Unhappiness: Future Theoretical Directions for Reading the Naipauls’ Writing’ presented at the conference Seepersad and Sons: Naipaulian Creative Synergies. UWI St Augustine.**

**‘Beyond Words: The Mixed-up Life of the Indo-Caribbean Woman’ presented at the Indian Diaspora Conference hosted by the Department of History at the UWI St Augustine campus Panel moderator**

**2014 ‘Hinduism in Caribbean Literature: Moments with V. S. Naipaul’ presented at the annual International Conference on Caribbean Literature (ICCL) Curacao**

**2013 ‘Joining the Calls for Reparations for Enslavement: Earl Lovelace’s Call in *Salt*’ presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council for Black Studies at IUPUI, Indianapolis. Panel moderator**

**2012** ‘The Nation in the Literary Imagination: A Question for Human Dignity’ 31st Annual Meeting of the West Indian Literature Conference ‘Imagined Nations, 50 Years Later: Reflections on Independence and Federation in the Caribbean’ **University of Miami.**

‘*Antyesthi Samskara:* Messages from Experiences of Death’ Indian Diaspora Conference. Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) St Vincent. **Panel moderator.**

2011 ‘*Hum na Jani; Kuch na Bol:* Being and Becoming Indo-Caribbean’ Global South Asian Diaspora Conference, UWI, St Augustine

‘*Katha:* A New Research Methodology’ New Geographies: Globalization Conference. UWI St Augustine. **Panel moderator.**

2010 ‘Indo-Caribbean Women on the Political Landscape’ 29th West Indian Literature Conference, University of Guyana, Georgetown. **Panel moderator.**

2007 ‘The Cultural Revolution of Technology in the English Language Foundation Programme: A SWOT Analysis’ SOE Biennial Conference, UWI, St Augustine

2005 ‘Between Ariel and Caliban: Caribbean Cultural and Political Identity Theories’ Conference on Globalisation, Anton de Kom University, Suriname.

2003 ‘Racism and Political Trauma in *For the Love of My Name*’ West Indian Literature Conference, UWI, St. Augustine

2002 ‘Did the Precipice Move with the House?: Reconstruction of the Indo-Caribbean Home and Family’ Conference at the University of Guyana, Berbice.

‘The Imbrication of the Victorian Myth of the Family in *The Mystic Masseur*’ 21st West Indian Literature Conference. The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill.

2001 ‘Born with Cojones: Caribbean Subjectivity in Robert Antoni’s *Divina Trace*’ 20th West Indian Literature Conference. The UWI, St. Augustine.

# G. RESEARCH INTERESTS ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS

The following are primary areas of interest developed via traditional and less traditional publications:

* The making of political and cultural identities in relation to gender and sexuality, racialization, ethnicization, and globalization
* The present in view of the trauma of postcolonial/ modern history
* Literature, theory and ontology in relation to the epistemological impact on social and ideological change in the twenty-first century and beyond
* Neuroscience and Literature: Exploring mutual concerns and contributions of each to each
* Narrative construction and humanness
* Research methodologies: Indigenous technologies, action research, discourse analysis
* Learning Virtually - Visual Literacy, Games Based Learning, Audio and Audiovisual Learning

*LINES OF LIFE- THE NAIPAUL PROJECT*

Objectives of the project:

To produce a repository of cultural artefacts and teaching resources by establishing and maintaining a website dedicated to collecting and collating all available scholarship on V. S. Naipaul, discussing Naipaulian ‘events’ and issues, and making pertinent linkages to other sites and events engaged in similar work for example to Tulsa University Library

To provide visual imagery via short films and still shots of the settings of the Naipauls’ works for sharing with the public locally and internationally that would balance and provide a 3-D feel for the study of the locally-based literary texts.

To develop games and apply gamification techniques to the study of the works

To contribute to a documentary feature film on the Naipauls of Trinidad.

To disseminate research studies and resources on Naipaul via workshops, conferences, journal articles and the Annual VS Naipaul Memorial series

To train graduate students in the arts of web design and maintenance and in the processes of creating short films.

OUTCOMES

Film shorts including undergraduate student productions, a book series, seminar presentations and conference panels on which postgraduate students presented and for which they were mentored.

*Website Development: Lines of Life Naipaul*

(Supported by Research Grants CRP.3. NOV.18.7 and CRP.3. NOV.18.7 (1)

Website: [www.linesoflifenaipaul.com](http://www.linesoflifenaipaul.com)

Lines of Life Naipaul is a collaborative web development project established in 2018 for collecting and providing links to a comprehensive a collection of scholarship and commentary on / about / by Trinidad and Tobago’s only Nobel Laureate, V. S. Naipaul. It also serves to connect UWI scholarship to V. S. Naipaul’s global recognition. The site also responds to the pedagogical need to cater to the dominant visual literacies of today’s students.

*Annual Naipaul Memorial Lecture*

(Supported by Research Grants CRP.2.May19.55)

The objective of the lecture series is increased public sensitivity and knowledge about the value of the humanities and aesthetic production to a good life. The series invites a renowned scholar and creative writer to speak on the importance of literature and literary and cultural criticism to individual and social growth and development. Additionally, the event features the latest research and productions on the website.

2018. Initiated the first memorial function six days after V. S. Naipaul’s death on his birthday. 17th August 2018.

2019. Organised the first public lecture which was delivered by [Ngugi wa Thiong’o](https://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00094180/00117).

2020 Organized online lecture by Earl Lovelace

2021 Plans are being formulated for the annual lecture to culminate in a Literature for Emancipation ‘Summer School’.

**H. WORK EXPERIENCE**

### GRADUATE TEACHING

Taught and supervised students at the MA MPhil and PhD levels in various subject areas and disciplines including Literatures in English, Creative Writing, Cultural Studies, French and Spanish

**Courses Taught:**

* Modern Cultural and Critical Theory
* Caribbean Poetics
* Women’s Writing and Feminist Theory
* Postmodern Literature and Theory
* Postcolonial Literature and Theory
* West Indian Literature –Special Topics: History, Society, Politics and Systems of Human Categorization

**Modules delivered in the following courses:**

* Dynamics of Caribbean Culture
* Theory and Conceptualization of Culture
* Debates in Caribbean Cultural Identity
* Research Methods in Literary Discourse

### POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Literatures in English PhD dissertations: Works in Progress

* Cultural Memory and *Ramayanic* Performances in the Indian Diaspora – Serikha Singh
* Postcolonial Metaphysics and the Work of Gabriel Garcia Marquez, Salman Rushdie and Bessie Head – Sueann Rajbansie
* Seeking Resolution of Difference in Fantasy and Science Fiction – Divia Sookdeo
* Shamanism, Quantum Physics and Caribbean Social Realities in Wilson Harris’s Theoretical and Creative Oeuvre – Shareed Mohammed

Cultural Studies MPhil Theses - Completed

* The Role of Play in Early Adolescence – Kiza Felix
* The Preservation of Indigenous Rituals and Traditions in the Caribbean and Latin America - Soo Mahabir

Literatures in English MPhil dissertations – Works in Progress:

* The Spatial Parameters of Ismith Khan’s Oeuvre – Kerry Ann Abdool-Ramjattan
* Postmillennial Voices in the Literature of Trinidad and Tobago - Jason John

Literatures in English MA theses - Completed:

* A Quest for the Intangible: An Analysis of the Shamanic Journey in Wilson Harris’s *The Guyana Quartet* – Shareed Mohammed
* The Postmodern Caribbean Subject in V.S. Naipaul’s, *A Way in the World;* Wilson Harris’s, *Palace of the Peacock* and Nalo Hokinson’s, *Midnight Robber* – Varistha Persad
* Karma, Sectarianism and Education: Evolution of the Indo-Trinidadian Novel – Fariza Mohammed
* Key Concepts: Translation, Migration and Diaspora in Salman Rushdie’s *Midnight’s Children* – Avalon Ali
* The Caribbean Postmodern in the Postmodern Caribbean: A Study of the works of Oonya Kempadoo, Raymond Ramcharitar and Robert Antoni – Petra Robinson
* Danger Zones: Representing IndoCaribbean Sexualities outside the Box – Meghan Cleghorn
* Use and Abuse of Power in the Harry Potter Series - Serikha Singh

Literatures in English MA theses – Work in Progress:

* ‘Discovering’ the ‘Indian’ Man in Trinidadian Literature and Culture – Shivani Samaroo
* Nihilism and Contemporary Caribbean Thought and Culture – Emery Cournand
* Autobiography and Indo-Caribbean Women’s Writing – Usha Ramkissoon

### SELECTED POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION EXAMINATION

* Salman Rushdie’s “Within and Beyond the Nation: Reading the Postnationalist Condition in Selected Works of Salman Rushdie”. – Saadiqa Khan
* My Darling Indra – Gilberte O’ Sullivan
* The Divided Self in V. S. Naipaul’s *Magic Seeds* and *Half a Life* – Andra Ramdeen
* Compliance, Resistance, Rupture: Representations of Marriage and Sexuality In Female Authored Indo-Trinidadian Fiction. – Crystal Sylvester
* Caribbean Postmodern-Speculative Fiction: From Twentieth Century Writers to the Contemporary Writings of Raymond Ramcharitar and Rabindranath Maharaj – Jarrel de Matas
* Pegasus and Martin Carter’s Poetry – Leah Hernandez

### SELECTED POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR EXAMINATION

* The Politics of the Postnation: Empire, Political Society and Cultural Memory in Rushdie’s *Shalimar The Clown* and *The Moor’s Last Sigh*
* Women and Identity
* Communicating a ‘Sound’ Identity: (Con)Fusing the ‘Indo Soundscape’ through Chutney as a Culture of Remix in Trinidad
* Portraits of Sita: Tulsidasji’s *Ramacharitramanas* and Caribbean Literature
* The Caribbean *Zenana*: Agoraphobia in Indo Caribbean Women’s Literature
* From Chaucer to Walcott: Postcolonial Re-interpretations
* Sexuality and the Female Experience in Caribbean Women’s Poetry
* History and Landscape in V. S. Naipaul’s short stories
* Psychological Trauma and Lack of Self in West Indian Literature
* Representations of Fluid Sexuality in West Indian Texts: A Study of Works by Patricia Powell, Shani Mootoo and Michelle Cliff
* Through the Eyes of a Child: Analysis of Childhood Experiences in selected Trinidadian novels
* Alienation and Alien Nation – the treatment of alienation and womanhood in Nalo Hopkinson’s *Midnight Robber* and *Brown Girl in The Ring*
* A Critical Study of J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter Series
* Women as their own enemy: Oppression in the Short Stories of Ana Lydia Vega.
* The Role of Tradition in Selected Works of Federico Garcia Lorca
* Culture as a Site for Critical Pedagogy and the Transformation of Consciousness in the English Speaking Caribbean
* A History of Chutney Music in Trinidad and Tobago
* Women in Trinidad and Tobago Calypso: A Missing Generation
* Eliot, Lawrence, Brathwaite, Walcott: Versions of Modernism
* **The Psychodynamics of Gender and Sexuality: Harold Pinter's Dramatic Works**
* An exploration of the theme of violence in the works of Gisèle Pineau and Edwidge Danticat
* Comparison of the opposing world views of C. S. Lewis’ The *Chronicles of Narnia* and Philip Pullman’s *His Dark Materials* trilogy
* The Romance Hero in 19th Century West Indian Literature
* Space and Time in the Construction of the Divided Self in Selected Fiction of V. S. Naipaul
* Construction of Cultural Identity in the Progeny of Afro-Indo Marriages in Trinidad
* Pegasus and Martin Carter’s Vision of Restorative Justice
* African Diasporic Traditions in Caribbean Music: Jamaica’s Mento and Tobago’s Tambrin
* Power relations in male/female relationships: Earl Lovelace’s *Wine of Astonishment* and *Salt*
* The representation of the female drug trafficker in select Colombian novels
* Sexual abuse in Giséle Pineau’s *Macadam Dreams*
* The folkloric fictional worlds of Nalo Hopkinson, a cultural studies critique.
* Magical Realism and Healing in Walcott's *Omeros* and *White Egrets.*
* The Mystical in Selected Works of Carlos Fuentes
* The Creation of Story Worlds in Enid Blyton’s “The Enchanted Wood”.
* The Mythical Representation of Social Evolution in the Chilean and Colombian Boom Novel
* An analysis of myth-making in Salman Rushdie’s Haroun and the Sea of Stories.
* History, memory and identity: 21st century Anglophone and Francophone Caribbean novels
* Post colonial Criticism and the Historical Novels, *El reino de este mundo* and *El siglo de las luces* by Alejo Carpentier
* The presence, power and purpose of the fantastic in “Las Fuerzas Extrañas” by Leopoldo Lugones
* The Mother- Daughter dyad and Lesbian Identity in texts by Caribbean and Caribbean Diasporic Female writers
* Mothers and daughters in *Annie John*, *Wide Sargasso Sea* and *Harriet's Daughter*
* Representations of women: *Arráncame la vida* by Angeles Mastretta and *Papeles de Pandora* by Rosario Ferré
* Development of the Wounded Maternal Figure in The Other Side
* Maternity and Lesbian Invisibility in Mootoo and Persad

### UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING

Taught the following UWI courses:

**Literatures in English**

* Introduction to Poetry
* Introduction to Prose Fiction
* Introduction to Drama
* British Poetry: Donne to Byron
* Key Issues in Literary Criticism
* Twentieth Century Literary Theory
* Introduction to West Indian Poetry A
* Introduction to West Indian Poetry B: Selected West Indian Poets
* West Indian Prose Fiction
* Shakespeare I
* The Origins and Development of American Literary Prose
* African Literatures in English II: Drama and Poetry
* Advanced Seminar in West Indian Literature A
* Advanced Seminar in West Indian Literature B
* Tradition and Change in Modern Literature A
* Indian Literature in English
* Literature of the Indian Diaspora
* Gender, Violence and Trauma in Discourse

**Foundation Courses**

* English for Academic Purposes
* Argument and Report Writing
* Writing about Literature
* Scientific and Technical Writing
* Academic English for Research Purposes
* Caribbean Studies Project/undergraduate dissertation

Also designed and taught the course Caribbean Society and Literature for students of Kalamazoo College through Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI, St Augustine

**Courses taught at other tertiary institutions**

University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) (Previously Trinidad and Tobago Institute of Technology)

* Technical Communication I
* Communication in Science and Technology

College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT)

* Communication Studies I
* Comparative Literature

### OTHER TERTIARY LEVEL DUTIES AND EXPERIENCE

Coordinator Interdepartmental Lunchtime Staff Seminars

Duties included organizing, promoting, chairing and marketing informal staff seminars on research in progress across the departments.

Coordinator Postgraduate Seminar Presentations

Duties included liaising with postgraduate supervisors to encourage timely submission of abstracts and papers from supervisees, selection and guidance of examiners, vetting examiners’ reports and making appropriate decisions for feedback to supervisors and students. Chairing sessions – ranging between two – four per week

Undergraduate Coordinator

*Duties included:*

* Develop academic advising schedule and prepare necessary materials for use in the advising process
* Determine annual courses offerings based on agreed rationale with all members of the section
* Annual editing of the section’s offerings in the Faculty handbook
* Select first, second, university and external examiners for all courses
* Function as a member of the panels for filling staff vacancies
* Conduct bi-semester section meetings to keep abreast of and address staff and student issues to ensure consistent alignment with the university’s Triple A Strategic Plan 2017-2022, vision and mission
* Act as interdepartmental liaison for the delivery of the ELLE programme geared towards the requirements for teaching in the secondary school system
* Address all student complaints and redirect to the appropriate parties when necessary
* Address all staff concerns about students, for example regarding plagiarism or attendance, and resolve appropriately
* Collate exam results across the department to create the annual list of prizes for the faculty prize giving function
* Participate in student orientation exercises
* Oversee the student-staff liaison committee activities
* Respond to staff or student emergencies
* Negotiated the pathway to online delivery of all courses in the covidized environment of semesters two and three, academic year 2019-20

Departmental Webmaster

Duties include:

* Work with the AV technician to keep the departmental website up to date – re course offerings, staff details and processes within the department
* Highlight research and academic achievements of staff and students
* Disseminate material from and for departmental events
* Highlight departmental research
* Construct narratives to accompany all images of events sent to Marketing and Communications

# I. PUBLIC, PROFESSIONAL AND EXTRA DEPARTMENTAL SERVICE

Service to the University

Faculty Prize Giving Committee 2018-2019

Re-establishment of the UWI Book Club renamed and re-branded the Pelican Book Club and provision of guidance and support for students on the Club executive 2019-Present

Conference organizing committee member for the 36th Annual West Indian Literature Conference held from 4-7th October 2017 – Chair, moderator, panellist. Also supported organization of numerous other conferences held by the department and faculty between 2000 – present

Schools Outreach 2018- 2020 – Visits to secondary schools under the guidance of the Deputy Dean to encourage the study of the humanities

UWI Open Day – 2000 – Present – Interactions with the public in order to highlight the value and significance of the Humanities in general and Literatures in English specifically

Service through various NGOs and NGO projects

**Saving the Buffalypso: An Indigenous Creation.** 2017 – Present

Includes formal activities such as the conference *Revitalizing the Buffalypso: Our National Treasure* hosted by the School of Veterinary Medicine, Faculty of Medical Sciences & The Faculty of Food and Agriculture of UWI St Augustine as well as informal discussions and monitoring of the species in local and international contexts

**Milwaz Productions** 2016 – Present

Geared to the interweaving and fusion of the various arts – music, drama, photography, film, poetry, novel, play, short story, dance, painting and sculpture.

Judge, facilitator and lecturer for the project of translating classic literature for young local sensibilities in line with CAPE and CSEC internal assessment requirements.

Preparation of UWI students for interactive lecture sessions to secondary school students on various Shakespeare plays over the course of a two-day secondary school conference. Organizer for tertiary level participation in Milwaz’s Valentine’s Day Shakespeare Fest

**Friends for Mr Biswas 2014 – present**

Secretary of the NGO Friends of Mr Biswas with responsibilities for community and school outreach including most recently a joint function entitled ‘A Necessary Voice’ between Friends and the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago. Other notable recent events featured the work of the folklorist Al Ramsewak and the local progenitor of creative non-fiction, Tony Deyal.

The Secretary is also responsible for publications, fund raising for property maintenance and refurbishment, establishment of the Naipaul House as a United Nations Memory of the World Site and as a site for cultural tourism in Trinidad and Tobago, conferencing and all other such tasks as required by Act No. 52 of 2000 Parliament, The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago..

**NCIC National Council of Indian Culture 2014 – present**

Chair /Moderator / Panellist / Guest Lectures / Conference planning Committee Member and Literary Evening Coordinator. Key events included

* 2014 – NCIC International Diaspora Conference
* 2015 –The Indian Diaspora: Identities, Trajectories and Transnationalities
* 2016 – NCIC Caribbean Indian Diaspora Conference
* 2017 – Global Indian Diaspora: charting new frontiers
* 2020 - Post Indentureship Movements and Trends
* Guest Lecture one May 2019: The Role of the Visual Arts in the Indo-Caribbean Community: Reflections on Shastri Maharaj’s *Aagaman*
* Chair of the quarterly Literary Evenings established by the Indo-Caribbean Heritage Library launched to mark the 170th Anniversary of Indian Arrival

**NGC Bocas Lit Fest Trinidad and Tobago 2012 – present**

Chair / Moderator / Panellist / Interviewer

**J. SELECTED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**

* 1. Professional development certificates in

Moving from face-to-face to online teaching and learning

Using myelearning for alternative assessments

Developing the Teaching Portfolio

Webpage Development and Management

Technology Tools for Games-based Learning

Research Supervisor Development

2018-2019 Caribbean Philosophical Association Summer School

Professional development certificates in

Learning with Games

Virtual Learning – Ted-Ed Lesson Planning and Teaching Evaluation

Using Blackboard Collaborate

Course Design Bootcomp

K. PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

* International Society for the Empirical Study of Literature and Media (IGEL)
* Association of Literary Scholars, Critics and Writers (ALSCW)
* Modern Language Association
* Northeastern Modern Language Association
* Caribbean Studies Association
* National Council for Black Studies
* English Teachers’ Association of Trinidad and Tobago
* CARIBAPAN – Caribbean Association for Regional Policy Development on Addiction

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