



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, WEST INDIES
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

World Teachers' Day Conference 2018 Report

The World Teachers' Day Conference was hosted by the School of Education, University of the West Indies, on Wednesday 3rd October, 2018 and from all indications, it was a success. The program started on time and flowed seamlessly into the afternoon session. The theme: **"The Right to Education means the Right to a qualified teacher"** was that of UNESCO's for World Teachers' Day 2018. The Director of the School of Education, Dr. Jennifer Yamin-Ali, Ms. Mala Morton-Gittens, Curriculum Coordinator at the Ministry of Education, Mr. Dennis Francis from UNESCO, and TTUTA's Mr. Darren Lee Him all brought greetings to the invited guests. The three keynote speakers addressed the audience and their messages impacted positively on the teachers in attendance: Mr. Ashram Deoraj, former Director of School Supervision, Mr. Adriel Benjamin, TTUTA Teacher of the Year 2017, and Ms. Josephine Torrel-Brown, VAPA Curriculum Officer and Chief Adjudicator, Soca Monarch Competition. Mr. Deoraj spoke on the topic of promotion, Mr. Benjamin addressed teacher excellence and Mrs. Torrel-Brown looked at the teacher, the all-rounder. Apart from the teachers who attended, also present were members of the differently-abled community who were assisted by qualified sign language interpreters.

Two cultural items, both of which were very stimulating and entertaining, provided a welcomed addition to the program. Mr. Gibson from Tacarigua Presbyterian School played a rendition on the pan, which renewed hope that the future of pan is in good hands. Mr. Mathison from The UWI's University School was also very well received with his dramatic monologue. Upon registration, teachers were asked to sign up for one out of ten 'Breakout Sessions' for the afternoon period. These sessions included the following: Teachers and the Law/Child Rights, ECCE, Technology Integration, Special Needs Students, Games Based

Learning, Creative Arts in Education, TVET, Teaching Children with Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder and Pedagogy. A most notable observation was the fact that for the afternoon session, teachers remained to participate in these sessions. The event was a team effort by staff, both academic and ancillary who gave of their time and effort to ensure that the event was a success. With a view towards going forward, the Director of SOE has indicated that this event should become a staple in our Calendar of Events.

SOE's World Teachers' Day Conference 2018 Snapshots



By Mr. Kenny Kitsingh, Lecturer in Sports Education and Chair, Visibility Committee, School of Education, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad.