

DLS MPhil/PhD students' research

Quarterly Digest #1: April 2023

What's new?

See below for the latest publications, conference participations, awards and other achievements during the period January – March 2023.

01

Vernessa Lewis, PhD Biochemistry

- ❖ Upgraded to PhD in Biochemistry with effect from January 2023

02

Sarah Evelyn, PhD Plant Science

- ❖ Evelyn, S., Elibox, W., Umaharan, P., De Abreu, K., Farrell, A.D. (2023). Genotypic differences in vase life of *Anthurium andraeanum* (Hort.) cut-flowers are associated with differences in spathe chlorophyll content. *Postharvest Biology and Technology*, 197, 112220. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.postharvbio.2022.112220>

03

Sarah Mathura, PhD Biochemistry

- ❖ Submitted thesis for examination in February 2023



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04
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05

Omar Ali, PhD Microbiology & Stephen Ramnarine, PhD Microbiology

- ❖ Attended a workshop at the UWI, St Augustine, 6 - 10 March 2023:
 - New Variant Assessment Platform (NVAP) Bioinformatics for COVID-19 Sequencing EQA and Reporting.
- ❖ Skills learned included using platforms and pipelines to standardize COVID-19 sequencing reporting and Quality assessment through variant validation using both Illumina and Nanopore sequencing Data.



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06

Richard Sebro, MPhil Microbiology

- ❖ Took part in a Competition on appropriate technologies organized by the T&T Intellectual Property Office
- ❖ Date: 29 March 2023
- ❖ Supervisor: Professor Adesh Ramsubhag

- ❖ Awarded the 3rd place for his presentation based on a bioremediation product entitled "SOCA Boom"



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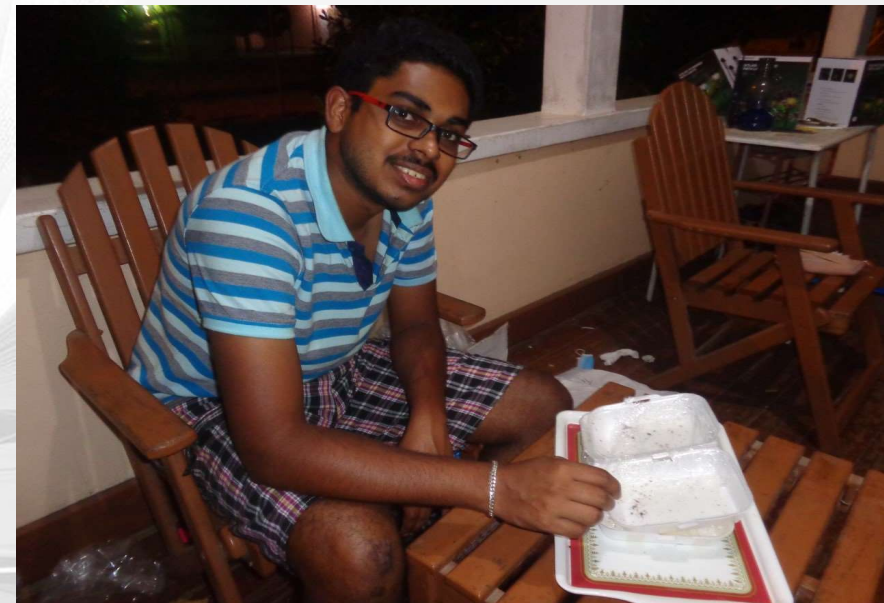
Welcome to our new MPhil student

Pragadish Jayaraj, MPhil Environmental Biology

- Start: Sem II, 2022/23 Academic Year
- Obtained a CITI Certificate
- Completed the ETHI 6000: Research Ethics course



... already carrying out field experiments and setting insect traps to identify the species and their abundance.



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On his way out of DLS, currently under examination for the award of a PhD

Stephen Ramnarine, PhD Microbiology

Assumed the role of a **Postdoctoral Scientist** at the UWI Mt. Hope Department of Pre-Clinical Sciences

- Start: February 2023
- Project: Arboviral surveillance in mosquitoes
- Supervisors: Professor Christine Carrington and Professor Christopher Oura

❖ Attended a Training workshop 2 - CADDE Workshop on Portable Metagenomics for Pathogen Surveillance hosted by the CADDE group at the USP, Sao Paulo Brazil, 13 -17 March 2023.

❖ Poster Presentation:
Stephen D. B. Jr. Ramnarine, Christopher Oura, Christine Carrington.
Research Proposal: Evaluating emerging and re-emerging mosquito-borne viruses in Trinidadian vectors using Nanopore virome sequencing. CADDE Workshop, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, 16th March 2023.