

# Annual Report 2022/2023



INSTITUTE of  
INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS

## CONTENTS

OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTE .....	iii
MISSION OF THE INSTITUTE .....	iv
VISION OF THE INSTITUTE .....	v
GOVERNANCE OF THE INSTITUTE.....	v
ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS .....	6
DIRECTOR SUMMARY .....	10
OVERVIEW .....	14
STAFF .....	14
Appointments, Promotions, Departures and Resignations .....	14
STUDENT MATTERS.....	17
Achievements & Awards, Enrolment, Graduation .....	17
2022 2023 Awarded Degrees .....	28
Registration and Throughput .....	29
PROGRAMMES .....	30
Strategy Review .....	32
DISTINGUISHED VISITORS .....	37
IIR ACADEMIC STAFF PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS .....	41
PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE OF STAFF .....	41
PICTURES FROM KEY EVENTS (ELECTRONIC FILE ATTACHED).....	44
Appendix I: Publications, Conference Attendance and Presentations .....	45
Appendix II: The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean .....	64

### **OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTE**

The Institute of International Relations (IIR) is a regional post graduate academic institution at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. Established in 1966, the IIR was the brainchild of the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Eric Williams. In light of the recent independence of Trinidad and Tobago and other Commonwealth Caribbean territories, Dr. Williams saw the need for a research oriented and training institution that would provide policy advisory services as well as diplomatic training for public officials of the region.

The IIR is the Caribbean's premier post-graduate educational institution in the field of international relations. Since its founding, the IIR has been dedicated to the conduct of advanced research and post graduate teaching concerning the international challenges of the contemporary world, providing policy research and advisory services and consultancies, public briefings and other forms of engagement concerning the evolving global political economy and global order. Special emphasis is placed on understanding the geopolitical, developmental and multilateral issues facing the Caribbean and Latin American regions.

The Institute has become a key component of the Caribbean's intellectual capacity repertoire and is today recognized as a hub for specialized knowledge in Caribbean international relations. Accordingly, across the Caribbean, the IIR's work is critical to the achievement of broader economic and human development goals. Consequently, the Institute has been integral to the development of post-independence foreign relations and nation-building in the region.

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023 - INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

The IIR's mission, to apply multidisciplinary lenses and perspectives to broadening an understanding of the Caribbean's role in international relations, is intended to bring to fruition its vision of developing an expert international relations workforce to provide the region's public and private sectors with the intellectual capacity and skills to effectively navigate a complex international landscape.

In addition to its Postgraduate Diploma, M.Sc. and MPhil/PhD programmes, the Institute of International Relations, through the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean (DAOC), meets policy related policy regional and national human resource development needs by offering short intensive modular training programmes for public and private sectors, and civil society personnel.

The IIR is home to the Norman Girvan Library, an expansive repository of research and scholastic material on international relations of the Caribbean and an indispensable feature of the Institute's teaching and research infrastructure.

Since its establishment, the IIR has built up an alumni base of over two thousand professionals, many of whom have distinguished themselves in their careers in the international organizations, national public or private sectors or with other civil society organizations. There is a very distinguished cadre of diplomats/retired diplomats and international civil servants, legal professionals and parliamentarians from the Caribbean who graduated from the IIR at some point in time.

### **MISSION OF THE INSTITUTE**

The mission of the Institute of International Relations is to enhance understanding of Caribbean international relations, applying multidisciplinary perspectives, while contributing to related

## ANNUAL REPORT 2022/2023 - INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

regional and national human resource development. The IIR offers excellent research, teaching and consultative assistance to diverse stakeholders. The Institute organizes, sponsors and co-sponsors workshops, conferences, and seminars relevant to the international relations related challenges of the region and is the institutional home of the Caribbean Journal of International Relations and Diplomacy.

### VISION OF THE INSTITUTE

The IIR brings together the expertise and energies of all the international relations academic staff within The University of the West Indies, as well as those of selected Associate Fellows located elsewhere, to respond to the needs of the Caribbean region's public and private sectors for research, teaching, consultancy and training, concerning the region's international challenges and opportunities, within multidisciplinary fields ranging from finance, business and management to politics, history, economics, education, and law.

### GOVERNANCE OF THE INSTITUTE

The governance of the Institute is vested in the Board of the Institute, which is chaired by The University of the West Indies (UWI) Vice Chancellor. The management of the Institute rests with the Director, who is responsible to the Board for the proper discharge of the Institute's functions.

## ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific
ACP-EU	African, Caribbean and Pacific – European Union
ACRL	Association of College and Research Libraries
ACS	Association of Caribbean States
AJL	Alma Jordan Library
ALA	American Library Association
ATINER	Athens Institute for Education and Research
ATS	Administrative, Technical Staff
B.Sc.	Bachelor of Science
BA	Bachelor of Arts
CAF	Development Bank of Latin America
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFORUM-EU	Caribbean Forum - European Union
CCR	Centre for Conflict Resolution
CCRON	Caribbean Child Right Observatory Network
CDRAV	Coalition for Development and the Reduction of Armed Violence
Cert.	Certificate
CILIP	Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
CIT&E	Community Intervention for Transformation and Empowerment
CL	Compulsory Leave
CLASCO	Latin American Council of Social Studies
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease (2019)

CPDC	Caribbean Policy Development Centre
CRIES	Coordinadora Red de Investigacion Economica y Social
CSA	Caribbean Studies Association
DAOC	Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean
DBA	Doctor of Business Administration
Dip.	Diploma
DIPG	Graduate Diploma
Dist.	Distinction
ECDPM	European Centre for Development Policy Management
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESG	Earth System Governance
EU	European Union
FIU	Financial Intelligence Unit
FLASCO-RD	Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales, Programa República Dominicana
FYE	For Your Entertainment
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GOTT	Government of Trinidad and Tobago
HNMUN	Harvard National Model United Nations
HNMUN	Harvard National Model United Nations
Hons.	Honours
IADB	Inter-American Development Bank
IIR	Institute of International Relations

IL	Information Literacy
ILO	International Labour Organization
IR	International Relations
ISA	International Studies Association
LASA	Latin American Studies Association
LATT	Library Association of Trinidad and Tobago
LEC	Legal Education Certificate
LLB	Bachelor of Laws
LLM	Master of Laws
LOA	Leave of Absence
MMIRA-CC	Mixed Methods International Research Association, Caribbean Chapter
MPhil	Master of Philosophy
MSc	Master of Science
NGL	Norman Girvan Library
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OJT	On-the-Job Trainee
PG Dip	Postgraduate Diploma
PG	Postgraduate
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
Q2	Quarter Two
Q3	Quarter Three
Q4	Quarter Four
R.O.C	Republic of China

RFSCC	Regional Financial Stability Coordination Council
RTW	Required to Withdraw
SALISES	Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies
SAS	Student Administration System
SIDS	Small Island Development States
SSLC	Student/Staff Liaison Committee
STA	St. Augustine
T&T	Trinidad and Tobago
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
US	United States
USC	University of Southern Caribbean
UWI STA	The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine
UWI	The University of the West Indies

## **Interim Director's Annual Report 2022 - 2023**

**Period: August 01<sup>st</sup> 2022 to July 31<sup>st</sup> 2023**

### **DIRECTOR SUMMARY**

The academic Year 2022/2023 was significant in the history of the Institute of International Relations. The major matters dominating the agenda of the IIR include:

#### **1. Budgetary Matters**

In 2019 – 2020, the budget of the IIR was dramatically reduced by 90 percent to one million TTD. In the approved budget estimates for 2020 – 2021, the funding was further reduced by 10 percent to 900 TTD. The Institute managed on its savings and reserves until December 2022 by which time this had been exhausted.

Importantly, informal consultations took place between IIR and Trinidad and Tobago government actors, specifically the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs and the Minister of Finance and follow-ups with the Minister of Education. Deepest gratitude to IIR staff who contributed directly and indirectly to the lobbying efforts. This was consolidated by the formal interventions of Professor Rose-Marie Antoine, Principal and Pro-Vice Chancellor of the St. Augustine Campus with the Ministers of Finance and Education on the restoration of funding to the IIR. We wish to thank Professor Antoine for her support of the Institute. We are also very grateful to our Dean, Dr. Acolla Lewis-Cameron for her advice and support of the IIR's efforts throughout the process.

Noteworthy, is the receipt of correspondence, dated 6 February, 2023 from the Minister of Education, based on the Minister of Finances' directives that the IIR's allocation would be increased to \$TT9 million for the year 2023. Despite this announcement, and the interim financial provisions which had been made for the IIR by the UWI St. Augustine Campus, the IIR continued to be financially conservative in its spending during the reporting period.

## **2. Processes related to the Vice-Chancellor's Task Force to discuss the way forward for the IIR.**

A Task Force was mandated by Vice-Chancellor Sir Hilary Beckles on July 25, 2022 to discuss and chart a way forward for the IIR, in light of its severely depleted funds. At its first meeting of August 26, three working groups were set up to discuss the details for the work of the Task Force. Task Force and Working Group meetings lasted from August 2022 - March 2023. The main agenda of Working Group One was to deliberate on the structure and management of a "Centre", the governance structure recommended for the IIR by the Task Force, at its first meeting.

A stakeholder consultation was conducted with both internal and external actors in partial fulfilment of the mandate of Working Group (WG) One. The main objectives of this exercise were to identify gaps and needs in the market for the IIR and to suggest funding options and ideas for revenue generation. All interviewees were familiar with, and had varying degrees of involvement in the affairs of the IIR. They also had sound experience, knowledge/expertise, and prolific careers in the field of International Relations. Unquestionably, all interviewees agreed on the significance and importance of the Institute to The University of the West Indies and beyond. They also noted that the IIR has a competitive advantage in the areas of international studies, foreign policy, and diplomacy, compared with similar institutions in the region. However, it was noted that the regional profile of the IIR had been eroded over time.

The deliberations of Working Group One drew heavily from the findings and recommendations of the 2021 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) report, including the restoration of the government subvention, at least in the short term. The findings of the stakeholder report were also reflected in report of Working Group One. The Working Group recommended that the restoration of funding should be prioritised because new or revised governance arrangements would not solve the funding challenge. Simultaneously, the restructuring of the IIR should be aligned with the recommendations of the QAR report, including exploring alternative sources of funding and revenue generation.

Working Group Two (Human Resource Review) proposed two scenarios for the IIR's restructuring: Scenario One, aimed at adjustments for greater efficiency and Scenario Two, mirroring the "Centre" governance structure, encompassing a significant scaling down of the IIR.

Based on the recommendations of both Working Groups and the pledge from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to provide the IIR with 9 million TTD for 2023, the Task Force deliberated and made some recommendations on the following areas: The IIR's governance structure, including the membership and operations of the Board of Directors; the relationship between the IIR and the DAOC; and the IIR's overall operations, including revising/re-adjusting certain job specifications.

### **3. IIR's revised programmes**

The IIR maintained full delivery of its three academic programmes and the award of its postgraduate diploma, M.Sc. and PhD degrees. Notably, three PhDs were awarded in the 2022/2023 period.

The IIR's taught programmes underwent a major review which occurred over the period of over four years, receiving approval in May 2022. Among the major revisions include: the Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations was changed to a Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations and Global Studies; The MSc. in International Relations was re-introduced and offered alongside the MSc. in Global Studies. An important innovation in the revised curriculum is the opportunity for Post Graduate Diploma students to transition to either of the MSc. programmes after the first semester, having met the requirements. The MSc. programmes will be completed in three semesters rather than two in the previous dispensation. The rationale for the latter is to allow additional time to produce a quality research paper. Following the approval, the IIR spent a significant amount of time and resources fulfilling the various administrative requirements for the implementation of the revised programmes which began in September 2023.

#### **4. Public Outreach, Research and Profile**

This period was marked by a high number of public events, in-person and online modality of various types, including Diplomatic Dialogues, panel discussions, symposia, special guest lectures among others. These were largely done in partnership with regional organizations, high level officials, the Diplomatic Corps, the private sector, academic institutions, other UWI departments and alumni. There was enthusiastic response from public officials, individuals, alumni and the Institute's regional and international networks. This gesture continues to raise the IIR's visibility as a national and regional repository and distributor of knowledge, and helps to attract new local and international students in the following year.

The IIR's participation continued in the international collaborative research project on Climate Change and Community Responses (via the work of Dr. Michelle Scobie). Also, of note is its strategic partnership with the Caribbean Policy Consortium (CPC), a network of academics, policy advocates, public officials and private sector representatives from North America and the Caribbean who work to strengthen United States-Caribbean relations and raise the visibility of Caribbean development concerns in the partnership.

Academic staff have continued to produce high quality and relevant academic and technical publications, and to partner with international organizations and other local and regional entities in preparing technical reports, policy briefs and providing expert advice geared to address the multiple challenges facing the Caribbean and the global community. They have all contributed their expertise to a wide range of online discussions, public lectures and academic conferences.

Importantly, the latter part of the reporting period saw the IIR re-gaining momentum after a period of uncertainty, upheaval and the COVID 19 Pandemic. In sum, the IIR is confronting the current era with determination, energy and a focus on renewal in all its activities.

#### **5. Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean**

With regard to implementation of its a primary teaching mandate in the area of diplomatic studies, spanning the period August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023, the DAOC delivered five (5)

online training modules. As regards its secondary outreach and advocacy-related function on the nexus between the Caribbean and diplomacy, by way of a series of the Manager's published works during the said period, the Diplomatic Academy focused particular attention on contributing to and engaging in practitioner and scholarly debates on the ever-evolving geopolitical and international environment.

## OVERVIEW

### STAFF

#### **Appointments, Promotions, Departures and Resignations**

##### **Staff Appointments and Departures**

There were no new full-time teaching appointments in 2022/2023. However, part time appointments were awarded to three colleagues to lecture as follows: Dr. Indera Sagewan (INRL 6004, Semester I and INRL 5007 in Semester II); Dr. Madgerie Jameson-Charles (INRL 6020 in Semester I) and Dr. Priya Marajh (INRL 6001, Semester I and INRL 5002 in Semester II). The IIR appreciates their contributions to the quality of its courses and the experiences of the students.

Dr. Lancelot Cowie, founding Head of the Centre of Latin America and the Caribbean was appointed as Honorary Professor of Latin American Studies in April 2023 for a period of two years. The IIR welcomes Dr. Cowie and we look forward to his contribution towards the expansion and diversification of the Institute's offerings and engagements on Latin America issues.

Miss Unika Omowale was seconded from the Alma Jordan Library as a Librarian Grade One to direct the Norman Girvan Library *ad interim* following the retirement of Mrs. Cherril Farrell in AY 2020/2021. Ms. Omowale remained in that role in 2022/2023 and in February 2023 Ms. Omowale continued to steer the library through this academic year with quiet dedication to duty, efficiency and collegiality. We are grateful for her contribution, and we acknowledge the sterling support of the Campus Librarian in facilitating her placement at the Norman Girvan Library and her fixed appointment.

Mr. Daniel Baboolal was reassigned from the Human Resources department to the IIR as a Grade 2 Office Attendant with an additional responsibility allowance to replace Mr. Zaahir Hamid, Grade

6 Technical Assistant I, for the period May 01, 2023 to September 08, 2023. Mr. Baboolal brings much needed support to Mr. John Maloney in facilitating IIR/DAOC training and public events. We welcome Mr. Baboolal to the IIR and wish him a fruitful and enjoyable experience with us.

Following a series of renewal of assignment contracts for Miss Wenda Rocke since 2021, from the Dean's Office, Faculty of Humanities and Education, Miss Rocke was laterally transferred to the Institute of International Relations effective April 1, 2023.

Over the course of the academic year, there were 3 departures from the IIR, reassignments to other UWI departments: Miss Zara Weekes-Rhyzer, Grade 7 Secretary to the Human Resources Division (Appointments Section); Miss Marissa Diaz, Grade 6 Clerical Assistant III (DAOC) to the University Office of Research; and Mr. Zaahir Hamid, Grade 6 Technical Assistant I to the Faculty of Sciences and Technology.

Dr. Michelle Scobie, proceeded to no pay leave for a six-month period, effective January 15, 2023. Drs. Michal Pawinski and Nand Bardouille went on full study leave, for one out of the three months (April 1 to 30, 2023) and three months (January 9 to April 13, 2023), respectively.

## **Promotions, Staff Training and Development**

### **Promotions**

Dr. Jacqueline Laguardia-Martinez was promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer with effect from January 01 2023, Dr. Michal Pawinski crossed the merit bar with effect from August 1, 2023 and Dr. Georgina Chami was awarded indefinite tenure with effect from August 1, 2022. The IIR congratulates colleagues on their well-deserved achievements.

### **Staff Training and Development**

Academic, and Administrative, Technical, and Service Staff engaged in several training and professional development exercises. These included the A.D.V.A.N.C.E Programme hosted by the Faculty of Social Sciences in semesters one and two, commencing from November 3, 2022. Staff who participated were Marion Bailey, Chinelle Chadee, Liu Joseph, Harriett Modeste, John

Maloney and Michelle Seeraj (IIR Secretariat) and Premma Ramsawak, Gina Ravello and Malika Charles (Norman Girvan Library).

The IIR Secretariat staff participated in other sessions, for example, COVID 19 Training for Cleaners (Marion Bailey); Emergency Management and Fire Extinguisher (Chinelle Chadee and Liu Joseph); Mindfulness-Based Stress Management (Wenda Rocke and Liu Joseph); Train the Trainer for OJTs (Wenda Rocke).

The Norman Girvan Library staff engaged in the following training exercises: CETL Cool Tools in Education (Premma Ramsawak and Malika Charles); Mould Remediation: Preservation Training for Staff of Campus Libraries (Gina Ravello and Malika Charles); and What You Need to Know About Copyright, by the Intellectual Property Office, Trinidad and Tobago (Malika Charles); Warden Training (Malika Charles); Dr. Michal Pawinski completed the teaching software training: FeedbackFruits Training Series: Increasing Interactivity in online and hybrid course design and UWI Online Short Courses in Mathematics and Statistics, SPSS Beginner and SPSS Intermediate.

### **Staff Research Output and Scholarly Activity**

During academic year 2022/2023, eight academic staff members accounted for 29 publications, out of which 15 were peer reviewed, as illustrated in the table below. Academic staff members made 33 presentations at conferences, webinars, seminars or public lectures and moderated at 6. Details can be found in **Appendix I**.

<b>Peer Reviewed Edited Book</b>	<b>Peer Reviewed Book Chapter</b>	<b>Peer Reviewed Journal Article</b>	<b>Essays and Commentaries</b>	<b>Conference Papers and Presentations</b>	<b>Conference Chairing Moderating</b>	<b>Conference Attended</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>

## STUDENT MATTERS

### Achievements & Awards, Enrolment, Graduation

## STUDENT MATTERS

### Registration

There was a slight increase in overall student registration from 67 (2021/2022) to 72 (2022/2023), however, considering the withdrawals in this period, enrolment this year is lower. Many cited personal constraints and work commitments for their inability to cope with the programme. Possible explanations for the general low registration lie in the adverse economic and social impacts of the pandemic which have negatively affected individuals and households. The removal of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago 50 percent GATE fee subvention for its citizens pursuing graduate programmes at tertiary institutions may have also decreased students' capacity to access post graduate education.

The figures illustrate that students continue to be overwhelmingly from Trinidad and Tobago, with about 10 percent being from the region and other parts of the world. Though very few, it is noteworthy that regional and international enrolment has increased from previous years due to teaching via virtual modes. This consideration must inform policy-making on future programmes, their delivery modes and target markets.

### Student Registration 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 by Origin

Year/Student Details	MPhil/PhD	M.Sc.	Postgraduate Diploma	Total
2021/2022	14	39	15	67
Regional and International Students	2	3	2	7
2022/2023	17	39 (6 withdrawals)	16 (2 withdrawals)	72
Regional and International Students	3	3	1	7

It is anticipated that student numbers will improve in a post - pandemic environment as the IIR continues to explore effective marketing strategies.

### **Student Throughput**

Student throughput in the current period decreased from 2021/2022 as illustrated in the table below:

Year	Postgraduate Diploma	MSc	MPhil/PhD
2021/2022	6	15 (9 with distinction)	4 PhDs
2022/2023	7 (3 with distinction and 1 with merit)	9 (1 with distinction, 2 with merit)	-

The IIR heartily congratulates all graduating students. We wish them all the very best in the future and we hope for continued engagement with them as valued members of our alumni network. Special mention must be made of Dr. Lisa Gordon who published her PhD work only one year later with Routledge, a top-tier publisher. Preparations are being made for the PhD Viva of Ms. Candia James. Dr. James was awarded on September 29, 2023.

### **Staff/Student Liaison Committee: Student Feedback**

During the last Academic Year, the Staff/Student Liaison Committee met twice: November 2022 and April 2023. The Committee is made up of 6 persons. It is chaired by Dr. Keron Niles, IIR Faculty. One member of the Secretariat and Library are represented, with one student each from IIR's 3 programmes. The comments of students at the two meetings are as follows:

1. Inability to/Difficulty Accessing Journal Articles

The library has indicated that students can use the document delivery system to retrieve articles that may be difficult to access.

2. Mode of teaching

Students expressed appreciation for the continuation of online classes and the ease of access especially for those from overseas. Similar views were shared last year, including for students in distant parts of Trinidad.

### 3. MPhil/PhD student supervision

PhD students stated concerns of feeling isolated from their supervisor on their PhD journey. This matter will be addressed in the new academic year with regular meetings for MPhil/PhD students to discuss their concerns and develop a sense of community. Seminars to assist them on their PhD journey will also be convened.

### 4. Academic achievement of IIR graduate

They sent congratulatory messages to Dr. Lisa Gordon (PhD 2022) who launched her book entitled “*International Trade and the Music Industry: Live Music Services from the Caribbean*” on April 28, 2023 at the IIR.

## **Programme Marketing and IIR Visibility**

The IIR academic and administrative staff are cognizant of the ever-increasing importance of marketing the IIR and DAOC programmes and events, especially with the declining numbers during the COVID pandemic and in the immediate post COVID 19 era. The advertisement of public lectures and webinars is executed by Marketing and Communications and by dissemination through the IIR and DAOC networks and mailing lists.

Based on these findings, a key recommendation is the urgent need to update and redesign the IIR website. The IIR is in the processes of sourcing an Associate Professional through the Ministry of Education, Scholarships and Advanced Training Division for one year to re-design the IIR website. In the interim, the IIR expanded and increased the dissemination of programme information throughout the Caribbean region utilizing the IIR’s institutional and alumni networks as well as the channels in Trinidad and Tobago, including via the IIR and NGL websites and social media pages, print and radio/television media. Attractive brochures were sent to various Government Ministries of CARICOM countries and beyond and to the IIR’s expanded mailing list.

## **Curriculum Review**

Part of 2022/2023 has been spent tying up the loose ends (such as approval for two new courses) and putting the administrative requirements for the implementation of the revised diploma and MSc programmes for AY 2023/2024. The revised programmes have several innovations. First,

the Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) in International Relations has been converted to a PGD in International Relations and Global Studies. This change was to resolve the dilemma of having a PGD in international relations yet a Masters in Global Studies and not international Relations. Second, under the old programme, one of the requirements for entry into the Masters programme was successful completion of the PGD in IR. With the revised programme, a student has the option of “transitioning” to the MSc in International Relations or MSc In Global Studies after the first semester if an A average is maintained. Third, two Masters will now be offered: re- introduction of MSc in International Relations and continuation of MSc in Global Studies.

We are grateful that the process is completed and students applied for the revised programmes. The IIR is very grateful for the sterling contributions of Dr. Michelle Scobie, Chair of the Curriculum Committee for three years and Dr. Dave Seerattan who took over during her study leave. The IIR also wishes to acknowledge the contributions of the Diploma and Masters programme coordinators, respectively, Drs. Georgina Chami and Michal Pawinski for their input. We are also grateful for the hard work of Miss Wenda Rocke and Ms. Usha Lakhan for administrative support. The IIR also received tremendous support from the Director and staff of the Office of Graduate Studies and Research, CUTL Programme Coordinator Dr. Justin Zephyrine of CETL and Dr. LeRoy Hill, Director of CETL. **It is important to note that the revisions of the PG Diploma and MSc Programmes are closely aligned with many recommendations made in the Quality Assurance Review Report of the IIR which was delivered in March 2021.**

### **IIR Post Graduate Certificates, Multidisciplinary Certificates and Short Courses**

The IIR conducted a survey to determine which courses should be packaged as IIR post graduate certificates and multidisciplinary certificates (a combination of courses from the IIR and other departments); and areas in which short courses should be developed. The survey was completed and analysed and Dr. Keron Niles led in the development of a post graduate certificate with the support the IIR Secretariat.

### **Latin American Studies Programme**

The IIR has two courses on Latin America on its books and only one was being taught. An expanded Latin American Studies programme is envisaged at the IIR, in line with the original

scope of the Institute 's programmes to focus on all aspects of international relations, with specific emphasis on Caribbean and Latin American Studies. Justification for such an initiative can also be found in the recommendations of the 2021 Quality Assurance Review (QAR) Report that the IIR should become the hub for specialized knowledge and expertise in the discourse and practice of Caribbean and Latin American diplomacy. It is on the basis of the above that Dr. Lancelot Cowie, founding Director of the Centre of Latin America and the Caribbean (CENLAC), was brought in to contribute to the expansion of Latin American Studies at the IIR. The IIR hopes to expand and consolidate its networks in the academic and policy spheres in Latin America and Caribbean frameworks through this programme.

### **Teaching and Learning, Curriculum Enhancement**

Teaching and learning enhancement has been provided via the diverse public events and in-course guest lectures by practitioners and experts in various fields which were offered by the IIR. The DAOC training modules offer professional development beyond the classroom. Internships are another avenue through which students can receive additional professional training. In the second semester of the academic year, efforts were made towards revamping the internship programme. With the help of a OJT Ms, Maryam Ali- Khan, the internship data base was expanded and updated, and letters sent to organisations to secure regular internships in the new academic year. The objective was to establish formalised arrangements with participating organisations to guarantee annual internships for our students.

Following travel bans and COVID restrictions, overseas and local student study tours were discontinued. Local study tours were reinstated in the reporting period, under the direction of Dr. Jacqueline Laguardia Martinez. Attempts were made to organise a study visit to Guyana and Suriname with the assistance of Dr. Mark Kirton. However, very few students showed commitment to the trip. This could have been caused by the lack of solidarity among students to mobilise fund raising because of online teaching, awareness of reduction of sponsorship and donor funding in the marketplace and general economic hardship from the aftereffects of COVID.

Dr. Georgina Chami continued her work as Faculty Advisor for the UWI STA Model UN Club in 2022/2023. While this club attracts a mainly undergraduate membership, it offers tremendous

developmental benefits to the students. The group did not participate in HNMU 2023 because of lack of funding. However, the interest in the club did not wane. The number of meetings increased from weekly to bi-weekly due to increasing student demands. The activities of the academic year focussed on aspects of a Model UN conference, including writing position papers, clauses, raising awareness on issues related to the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals such as trade and the economy, global security, geophysical and environmental issues. Meetings also addressed a wide range of topics relating to the UN and its functions. The leadership of the UWI MUN activities here since 2018, is one of the many ways in which the IIR adds value to the St Augustine Campus. Dr. Chami is to be commended for all the hard work she has put into developing this Club and nurturing the undergrad students’ development as well-rounded Caribbean citizens.

### **IIR’s Public Outreach Events**

The IIR hosted/co-hosted and organised a total of 21 public events to July 31, 2023 as illustrated in table 1 below:

<b>Diplomatic Dialogue</b>	<b>Panel Discussion, Symposium, Forum, Other</b>	<b>Meeting of the Latin American Forum</b>	<b>Book Launch</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>

*Table 1: Summary of Public Outreach Events 2022/2023 (as of July 31, 2023)*

These events are intended to promote discussion and exchange of ideas with government officials, practitioners, experts, students and the general public on issues of relevance to international relations and regional development. Importantly, the events give the IIR’s work a regional reach, promote its public presence, generate knowledge and advance the policy relevance of its work. Many of these events are executed collaboratively with individuals and a wide range of organisations, including, research and policy bodies, think tanks, national and regional governmental and non-governmental organisations. These partnerships highlight among many things, the multidisciplinary nature of the IIR’s work and its ability to bridge the gap between theory, policy and practice.

While all the seminars are important for the reasons mentioned above, special mention must be made of the two “CARICOM at 50” events to commemorate CARICOM’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary,

organised in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat – (i) a symposium and (ii) a youth forum, at which the keynote speakers were Dr. Carla Barnett, CARICOM Secretary General and the Honourable Kerryne James, Minister for Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy of Grenada, respectively. Honourable Kerryne James, is perhaps the youngest elected member of Parliament in the CARICOM region. The Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, Senator the Honourable Amery Brown and the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. Acolla Lewis-Cameron delivered remarks. Other speakers at the symposium were among the most notable scholars and best placed practitioners in the region in the area of regional integration. The participants at the youth forum included representatives of the various chapters of the UWI Guild of Students as well as those from regional youth organisations.

### **Latin American Forum (in Spanish)**

Among the initiatives of the Latin American Studies Programme is a Spanish Language Latin American Forum, launched on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2023. The Forum builds on the earlier activities of CENLAC from 2003 to 2016. The meetings of the Forum consist of presentations on relevant historical, political, economic, social and international relations issues in the Latin American context. A wide cross selection of society attended the inaugural session, including Ambassadors from Mexico, Venezuela, and Brazil, as well as diplomats from the embassies of Panama, Chile, Argentina and the Dominican Republic.

The Ambassador of Mexico to Trinidad and Tobago, H.E. Víctor Hugo Morales Meléndez presented the inaugural lecture entitled: **Francisco Villa, Vida y hazañas de una leyenda**, on Thursday May 18, 2023 at 2:30 p.m. Following this inaugural meeting, there were two Latin American Forums in the reporting period. Presentations were delivered by the Ambassadors of Mexico and Peru.

Other events on issues of high public importance and/or which generated significant interest were on the Haitian Crisis in collaboration with the Caribbean Policy Consortium, the war in Ukraine, in partnership with the EU Delegation to Trinidad and Tobago, challenges and solutions around the repatriation and reintegration of Trinidad and Tobago nationals in Syria, with the International

Parliament for Human Rights and reflections on Climate Change and COP27, in collaboration with the Arthur Lok Jack School of Business.

Noteworthy are the 3 book launches, which generated rich discussions and commentaries.

- (i) edited collection by IIR academic staff, Dr. Georgina Chami et al
- (ii) edited collection by Carlos Fortin, Jorge Heine and Carlos Ominami,
- (iii) single authored book by IIR alumna, Dr. Lisa Gordon, IIR PhD Graduate (2022)

It is important to acknowledge that the public events were led/co lead by various IIR Faculty with the support of the IIR Secretariat as follows: Annita Montoute and Jacqueline Laguardia – Martinez (Two CARICOM at 50 events); Jacqueline Laguardia Martinez (Cuba - CARICOM Relations; The 210<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chacachacare Expedition that Liberated Eastern Venezuela in 1813; and Kari Polanyi Levitt: Celebrating a True Caribbean Woman); Annita Montoute (The War Against Ukraine: How Will It End?; Soft power or hard power is the European Union a positive player in global security; The Haitian Conundrum: Challenges and Opportunities; Dynamics of Africa-Caribbean Engagement; and Taking the Profit out of Illicit Trafficking of Firearms in Latin-America and the Caribbean); Keron Niles, (COP 27: the need for unified Caribbean leadership) Michal Pawinski, (Repatriation and Reintegration of Syrian Refugees) Dave Seerattan,; (Cryptocurrencies and the Caribbean) and Professor Lancelot Cowie (Latin American Forum meetings).

We are grateful to Faculty who either took the initiative and/or agreed to lead the planning of IIR public events. As all the above events were delivered in collaboration with various organisations and individuals, the staff assisted in sustaining and/or expanding the IIR's networks and partnerships.

We are hoping to expand the IIR's outreach to regional governments and further integrate the DAOC and the IIR by offering specific needs driven capacity building workshops. We envision these to be delivered via the DAOC and planned and taught by IIR Faculty.

## **Quality Assurance Review Report Follow-Up**

The Implementation Plan following receipt of the 2021 Quality Assurance Review Report was completed last year and is awaiting further direction and feedback from the Board. The Plan addresses key recommendations made by the Assessment Team. Some of the recommendations are already being implemented as they were closely aligned with the IIR's Curriculum revision exercise. Importantly, many of the recommendations of Working Group 1 of the Task Force on the restructuring of the IIR mirror that of the Quality Assurance Review Report.

## **IIR's Collaboration and Partnerships**

The IIR continued to build on its networks and partnerships in the reporting period. This year the IIR and the WTO collaborated to establish and manage the Regional Trade Policy Course after a three-year hiatus due to the COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021 and low registration in 2022. For the second time, from 17 July to 8 September, 2023, the two parties provided an eight-week Regional Trade Policy Course for selected participants from Caribbean Members and Observers of the WTO. Dr. Dave Seerattan served as the UWI Coordinator. Dr. Indera Sagewan-Ali was the Academic Coordinator and the IIR Secretariat provided administrative support.

Our collaborators for seminars and public events, included: foreign embassies in Trinidad and Tobago (Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and the EU Delegation of the European Union, France), Caribbean Policy Consortium, The International Parliament for Human Rights (Parlamento Internacional para los Derechos Humanos, PIDH), American Chamber of Commerce, American Bar Association (ABA) Criminal Justice Section, Institute of Global African Affairs, University of Johannesburg Trinidad and Tobago; Arthur Lok Jack School of Business, CARICOM Secretariat, Republic Bank Trinidad and Tobago, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, UWI Guild of Student Chapters, various regional youth organisations, United Nations Development Programme, Pointe-a-Pierre Wildfowl Trust, The H-Empire of H-Net, China Institute of International Relations and Centro de Estudios del Caribe: Casa de Las Americas. We also collaborated with individuals including Professor Jorge Heine and our own Alumna, Dr. Lisa Gordon.

In keeping with the QAR recommendation that the Institute should expand its partnerships with foreign universities and international organisations to boost the IIR's capacity and research productivity, we sought to pursue such engagements. These include the University of Johannesburg Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation (IPATC) in the context of the joint UWI/UJ Joint Institute. The IIR hosted a delegation of staff and student from the University of Johannesburg's Institute for Global African Affairs (IGAA) Delegation, January 20 – 28, 2023. During the visit, the IIR and IPACT agreed to collaborate on several initiatives, including staff exchange, joint research and funding, supervision, seminars and publications. Depending on funding availability, IIR staff will be invited to visit the IPATC and a joint edited book project is underway between the IIR and IPATC. Dr. Annita Montoute (IIR) and Dr. Adeoye Akinola (IPATC) are co-editors of the Pan African Conversations: An International Journal, the flagship publication of the IPATC.

The IIR finalised an MOU with the China Institute for International Studies (CIIS) in December 2022. It was due to be signed during an IIR-CIIS large scale webinar which was to have been held on 19 and 20 December 2022. This webinar was postponed, due to severe COVID conditions in China, resulting in the delay of the signing of the MOU. The CIIS and IIR have discussed having a scaled down version of the webinar and signing of the MOU during the meeting. The MOU aims to facilitate joint research activities, exchange of faculty members and research students; staging of joint seminars, meetings and conferences; mutual participation of fellows and researchers in the events of both parties, exchange of academic publications and related materials and collaborative academic programmes which may involve cultural activities.

Dr. Pawinski and colleagues at Ming Chuan University of Taiwan have been delivering guest lectures to each other's classes. Dr. Laguardia has also been invited to participate. This has led to discussions between the two institutions to formalise the relationship. An MOU was finalised by the UWI Legal Department between the IIR and the Ming Chuan University of Taiwan. The MOU permits collaboration in the following areas: research and research funding, supervision, staff and student exchanges, information sharing about conferences, workshops, assistance to participate in each other's events, supporting activities/ services such as language training and orientations and preparatory courses.

The IIR continued to engage in EU-LAC Partnership forums and meetings hosted by the Carolina Foundation and the EU-LAC Foundation. Dr. Annita Montoute participated in the meeting of Research Centres and Study Associations based in Latin America and the Caribbean dedicated to the analysis of the European Union and Bi-regional Relations between Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, in December 2022. Dr. Jacqueline Laguardia Martinez participated in the Dialogue between European, Latin American and Caribbean Research Centres and Decision Makers: Perspectives and proposals to renew the Strategic Association between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean, in Madrid Spain, April 2023.

### **IIR Alumni Association (IIRAA)**

The IIR Alumni Association (IIRAA) was established last year, and this academic year registered as a professional sub-chapter of the St. Augustine Campus UWI Alumni Association. The IIR boasts over 2000 alumni, many of whom have had or are presently developing outstanding careers in international and regional organizations, national public life, private sector bodies and civil society development and advocacy spaces. A key strategic goal of the IIRAA is to institutionalize their relationship with the Institute and further harness their support and collaboration in building the Institute, while especially for younger alumni, supporting their ongoing professional development interests.

The alumni are a tremendous asset and source of pride to the IIR and we are committed to supporting the IIRAA in their objectives and endeavours. On the IIR website, we have removed the Alumni page as a sub-tab and placed it as a main tab to give it a more prominent position. A contact form has been created for Alumni to provide their updated information for the purpose of updating the Alumni database and mailing list to facilitate more widespread and further engagement with members. A note has been sent to alert members and to ask them to pass on to those whose emails have changed and are not receiving notifications of IIR events. Subsequently, the IIR will work with the IIRAA to explore Alumni support for securing internships and institutional partnerships. We will also work with the UWI Alumni Affairs Unit to link the IIR Alumni page and populate UWI Connect with relevant information.

## 2022 2023 Awarded Degrees

### Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations

No.	Year	Degree Awarded		Last Name	First Name
1	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Gray**	Elizabeth
2	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Melville-Christopher	Daniel
3	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Mohamed**	Atiyah
4	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Mohammed	Frieda
5	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Nahkid**	Zaynah
6	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Thomas^^	Christopher
7	2022	Graduate Diploma	DIPG	Wilson	Shurniece

**\*\*Three of the seven successful students graduated with Distinction from the Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations programme**

**^^ One of the seven graduated with merit from the Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations programme**

### MSc in Global Studies

No.	Year	Degree Awarded		Last Name	First Name
1	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Beazer**	Khalief
2	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Caliste	Patricia
3	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Frection^^	Renee
4	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Greenidge	Johnson
5	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Howard-Richards	Danielle
6	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Jeffrey-Joseph	Janelle
7	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Ramdoo	Pemba
8	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Sealey^^	Kelsi-Marie
9	2022	Master of Science	MSc	Tribanie	Shelly-Ann

**\*\*One of the nine students graduated with Distinction from the MSc in Global Studies programme**

**^^ Two of the nine students graduated with Merit from the MSc in Global Studies programme**

### PhD in International Relations

No.	Year	Degree Awarded		Last Name	First Name
1	2022	Doctor of Philosophy	PhD	Gafoor	Anthony

2	2022	Doctor of Philosophy	PhD	Lisa	Gordon
3	2022	Doctor of Philosophy	PhD	Kobina	Wilson

## Registration and Throughput

### Student Registration 2020/2021 and 2021/2022

Year/Student Details	M.Phil/PhD	M.Sc.	Postgrad. Diploma
2020/2021 Total	21	48	15
Regional/International vs TT nationality	5/21 = 24%	3/48 = 6.25%	0
2021/2022 Total	21	40	14
Regional/International vs TT nationality	2/21 = 10%	4/40 = 10%	2/14 = 14%

Student numbers at the IIR declined by almost 11 percent, from 84 to 75 during the past academic year. Contributing factors other than the removal of GATE include lapsed registrations and lower new enrolments due to the attrition caused by social and economic difficulties. These sobering results underscore the absolute imperative of investing more heavily in marketing campaigns, strengthening the support for our current students struggling to complete their programmes under more austere circumstances, and continuing to innovate and transform the IIR's programme offerings in order to increase competitiveness and tap into new markets.

One encouraging detail is the increased regional and international enrolment which has been facilitated by remote access to the M.Sc. and Postgraduate Diploma programmes. This is clearly evidenced in the 2021/2022 statistics where regional and international student registration ranged from 10 to 14 percent. **This fact must also inform policy-making on future programmes, their delivery modes and target markets.**

### Student Throughput

In 2021/2022, six PG Diplomas in International Relations were awarded. Two of the graduates received the grade of Distinction in their awards. Fifteen M.Sc. Global Studies degrees were awarded, nine with Distinction. Four PhD awards have been made in 2021/2022. The IIR heartily

congratulates Dr. Lynelle Clarke, Dr. Lisa Gordon, Dr. Kobina Wilson, Dr. Anthony Gafoor, and all other graduating students. We wish them all the very best in the future and we hope for continued engagement with them as valued members of our alumni network.

## PROGRAMMES

### **The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean**

The annual report on the operations of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean (DAOC) can be found in **Appendix II**. Suffice it to point out that the DAOC has met the objectives and exceeded the targets on participant numbers and revenue set in its Business Plan 2021/2022. The DAOC delivered five online training modules spanning the period August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023, These include: Energy Diplomacy: Foreign and Security Policy Contexts in the Caribbean; three iterations of Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional and Advances in Consular Affairs in the Modern Diplomatic Mission: A Caribbean Perspective.

### **UWI STA Model UN Club**

Dr. Georgina Chami continued her work as Faculty Advisor for the UWI STA Model UN Club in 2022/2023. The Model UN Club was able to transition from remote operations to face-to-face while maintaining protocols of sanitization, personal well-being, and public safety. Due to membership demands, meetings were held on a weekly basis (as opposed to bi-weekly done previously). There was further engagement with the membership through round table discussions of current events at the beginning of every meeting: local and international. The goal remains to be improving the club's visibility in the UWI community and to host informative and stimulating activities, establish internal and external collaborations, and engage in community work. The central activities this academic year focussed on aspects of a MUN conference and included writing position papers, clauses, sensitizing on the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as trade and the economy, global security, geophysical and environmental issues.

### ***Semester 1***

#### ***General club meetings***

There were 6 meetings of which the objective was to engage with members and execute the planned sessions. The meetings were meant to be informative and academic as well as entertaining to invigorate friendly competition between members through participation as delegates and as competitors in club game events. During this semester, the executive introduced the world of MUN to members as delegates. Countries were assigned to members who had the option of working in pairs or individually. The functioning and structure of the club (Constitution) were explained to students as well as what it means to be a part of the club (what to expect). Clauses, the resolution paper, rules of procedure, and public speaking were also covered.

### *Executive Body*

President and Head Delegate: Camila Indriago

First Vice President: Marlon Lazarus

Second Vice President: Anthony Greene

Secretary: Amaiya Carrington

Treasurer: Kaafiyah Shah

Project Manager: Tyisha Lovell

Public Relations Officer: Zarah Khan



### *Semester 2*

#### *General club meetings*

There were 9 meetings with the first one being held on January 19<sup>th</sup> 2023. These meetings continued along the same tangent as semester 1 seeing an increase in membership size and meeting attendance. With a recap of last semester's topics, the executive proceeded to cover additional information and topics, including history of the UN, organs of the UN, UN pillars, decision-making, the UN Charter, family organizations, and research ethics and skills (i.e. validity, morality, credibility, etc.) These topics were covered in the general meetings in - person at IIR Lecture Room I or online as appropriate.

### Games night

There were 2 games sessions where in place of research and academic work, there were light-hearted events which allowed members to become acquainted and engage in networking. The goal of these events was to engage with the new members in a lively and stimulating manner. These events always saw favourable responses and attendance levels. The total numbers in attendance averaged 20 – 25 members.

### Executive meetings

There were 4 of such meetings were to plan and update everyone on various plans and initiatives that were being organized by the Club and ways to strategize according to the needs or requirements of the particular event. Most of these meetings were online and tailored when everyone/most executive members were available. The Executive were either assigned or nominated the tasks to carry out the work for general meetings.

The Club remains committed to the goals, vision and mission of the UWI and continues its work on advocating the United Nations and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## **Strategy Review**

Strategic Objective	Strategy	Progress
AC1, AC2, AC3:	Implementation of Action Plan based on recommendations of the Quality Assurance Report of 2021.	The Plan was an agenda item at the June 2022 Board Meeting, the Board did not consider the plan because it was felt that its implementation would ultimately be determined by overarching decisions to

	<p>The objective of the Plan was to support the sustainable transformation and institutional continuity of the IIR as a valuable Campus and regional UWI resource for research, teaching, professional training and national/ regional/ international outreach of the UWI in matters of international relations, international public policy and global affairs.</p>	<p>be taken on the IIR's financial and institutional future.</p> <p>The Plan was also on the agenda of the 2023 Board Meeting however no decision was taken concerning the Plan.</p>
AC3; AC4	<p>Return to Full time Lecturer/Senior Lecturer position in International Trade</p>	<p>Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in International Trade had to be filled by temporary appointments.</p> <p>At the 2023 Board meeting, approval was given to make this appointment. However, this has not been actioned because the funding of the IIR has not been completely stabilized.</p>
AC1, AC2, AC3:	<p>Curriculum review and revision: revise and secure approval of Postgraduate Diploma, M.Sc. Global Studies and re-introduction of M.Sc. in International Relations Programme.</p> <p>Develop two core courses for the new programmes by November 2022 so that revised tuition fees and other information for the 2023/2024 handbooks can be prepared and approved by F&amp;GPC, Campus Graduate Studies Committee and other relevant bodies, adjust BANNER information appropriately and launch a proper marketing programme</p>	<p>In May 2022, the UWI Board of Graduate Studies approved the IIR revised Postgraduate Diploma, M.Sc. Global Studies, and M.Sc. in International Relations Programme was re-introduced.</p> <p>Some work was undertaken towards implementing the revised programmes in full at the start of Academic Year 2023/2024, including the development of the two new courses. The preparation continued in semester 1 and 11 of AY 2022/2023, including approval of the two courses. BANNER adjustments made as well as revisions for the 2023/2024 handbook.</p> <p>Marketing arrangements were discussed in semester 1 of AY 2022/2023 and will be implemented in semester 2 of this academic year.</p>

AC1, AC2, AC3	Continued focus on marketing and outreach to regional/ international markets and strengthening remote technologies for engagement with all students Greater reach of public events to a regional and international audience	Online teaching of IIR's programmes and DAOC modules in semester one of AY 2022/2023.  Although student numbers declined by almost 11 percent, from 84 to 75 during the past academic year, regional and international student registration ranged from 10 to 14 percent as a result of remote teaching delivery.  Online and hybrid delivery of public events
AC1; AC2; AC3; AC4	Public Outreach Events Maintain public engagement on IIR related matters	Twenty-two public events consisting of a combination of diplomatic dialogues, guest lectures and panel discussions
AC1, AC2, AC3:	Utilise the alumni to leverage the good will and extensive professional networks of the to provide valuable support to the IIR in realizing its marketing and institutional projects and in enhancing the benefits available to the existing student body.	The UWI IIR Alumni Association (IIRAA) developed its constitution and held the inaugural Annual General Meeting in December 2022 where its plans were unveiled to support the work of the IIR. So far, the IIRAA has been building its foundation and has embarked on social events for graduands but have not engaged in more substantive work,
AC1, AC2, AC4:	Climate Change/ Environmental Conservation Engagement  Community engagement in climate change and environmental conservation	Voices of Toco: Community Action, Climate Change and Health Project in Toco, Trinidad and Tobago, managed by Dr. Michelle Scobie.  Public event in collaboration with ALG School of Business, titled: Climate Change and COP 27: The Need for Unified Caribbean Leadership
AC2; AC4; AG 1 AL 2	Expanding Partnerships and collaboration	Exploration of ongoing collaboration with University of Geneva  Collaboration with the Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa; MOU with Ming Chuan University of Taiwan.

		<p>Finalised MOU signing to be arranged with China Institute of International Studies</p> <p>MOU development in progress with Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio)</p> <p>The DAOC continued to have exploratory talks on collaboration with other diplomatic training entities.</p>
<p>Phase II: Revenue Revolution</p> <p>AC 1</p> <p>AC 2</p> <p>AL 2</p> <p>AG 2</p>	<p>Income generation</p> <p>Raising student fees and increasing student numbers.</p>	<p>Internally, the IIR set up two committees, one of which generated proposals for cost cutting. The other committee generated ideas for increased income generation. Most of the cost-cutting measures were implemented prior to the reporting period.</p> <p>The income generation committee made a number of interesting and practical proposals. However, few were implemented to date because the management of the IIR was in transition. The Director was on pre – retirement leave from July and retired on August 31, 2022 and the IIR was managed by 2 Acting arrangements in July and August, 2022.</p> <p>From September 1, 2022, an interim arrangement was put in place and remained in place throughout the reporting period. During that time, the focus was on discussions around the Vice – Chancellor’s Task Force for the restructuring of the IIR; reinstating the government subvention as an emergency measure and performing basic functions such as delivering the IIR’s programmes.</p> <p>At the first meeting of the Task force, the option of the merger of the IIR with the FSS was no longer on the table in light of the view that the Institute’s</p>

		<p>identity should be maintained. Members agreed that the IIR should be converted to a centre in light of its financial challenges and the limited scope of centres vis -a -vis Institutes.</p> <p>In light of a letter pledging additional funding from the government to the IIR in the amount of 9 million dollars in February 2023 and disbursement of the funds from April 2023, recommendations to reduce the IIR has been implemented.</p> <p>It is anticipated that all the proposals of the revenue generation committee and raising student numbers are promising and should be fully implemented in the near future as they will contribute to the economic viability of the IIR and the UWI STA Campus</p>
AC1, AC2, AC3	Expanding, updating and customising diplomatic training	<p>It is important to note that the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean has a full agenda of its usual professional training modules for AY 2022/2023 and some additional customized training modules that have been prepared in contractual arrangements with private sector clients, as well as its online panel discussions scheduled for Semesters One and Two. The DAOC's schedule of offerings have been prepared as part of its Three-Year Business Plan, Year Three of which was approved by the IIR Board meeting in June 2022. Its first event for AY 2022/2023, actually a delayed module from AY 2021/2022 on The Diplomacy of Energy Security, was delivered from August 2 – 5 2022.</p> <p>Preliminary discussions and preparation are underway for an orientation course for incoming diplomats to Trinidad and Tobago.</p>

## DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

### Distinguished Visitors to the IIR

A long list of distinguished visitors and collaborators which includes many ambassadors and members of the diplomatic corps, retired ambassadors, officials of international and regional organizations and university academics either visited the IIR in person or participated in our virtual events. These visitors' number **73** in all. The IIR greatly appreciates the opportunities to meet and collaborate with our guests and the good will and support they have extended to the IIR community.

No.	Visitor	Agency
1	Ms. Gisela Aijinbob	Consular Affairs Officer of the Argentine Republic to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
2	Dr. Adeoye Akinola	Head: Research and Teaching Head of Unit: African Union Studies Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation University of Johannesburg
3	Ms. Ana Barrera	Senior Programme Manager EU-LAC Foundation
4	Ms. Tricia Barrow	Political Advisor to the Association of Caribbean State
5	Senator the Hon. Amery Browne	Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
6	Dr. Anthony Bryan	Co-Director, Caribbean Policy Consortium
7	Mr. Andre Bueno	Counsellor of Brazil to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
8	His Excellency Peter Cavendish	Ambassador, Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago
9	His Excellency Didier Chabert	Ambassador of France to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
10	Mr. José Cisterna	Consul and Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Chile to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
11	Mr. Terrence Clarke	Senior Manager- Macroeconomics and Finance Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago
12	His Excellency David Comissiong	Ambassador of Barbados to CARICOM
13	Ms. Zhou Congyu	First Secretary, Political Section, Embassy of China to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
14	His Excellency Álvaro Sánchez Cordero	Ambassador of Venezuela to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

15	Ambassador Donna Forde	Assistant Secondary General Foreign and Community Relations, Caribbean Community Secretariat
16	Ms. Cherybelle Gomez	Deputy Head of Mission of the Dominican Republic to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
17	His Excellency Gerard Greene	Ambassador of Brazil to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
18	Mr. Karim Hamasni	Head, Crypto Asset Management, RBCx
19	Professor Ivelaw Griffith	Fellow, Caribbean Policy Consortium, Senior Associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington
20	Counsellor Yang Han	Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of China to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
21	Professor Cyril Kenrick Hunte	Professor, Economics Department Howard University and Former High Commissioner of Guyana to South Africa and other African countries
22	Dr. Mark Kirton	Retired, acting Director at the Institute of International Relations
23	H.E. Sergiy Kyslytsya	Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (non-resident)
24	Ms. Akasha Lewis	Protocol Officer, Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
25	Ms. Michele Lowe	Senior Co-ordinator, Hemispheric and Bilateral Negotiations Directorate of CARICOM Single Market and Trade
26	Mr. Deodath Maharaj	Chief Executive Officer Caribbean Export Development Company
27	His Excellency David David Málaga	Ambassador of Peru to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
28	His Excellency Victor Hugo Morales Meléndez	Ambassador of Mexico to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
29	Most Honourable Percival Noel James Patterson, ON, QC	Former Prime Minister of Jamaica and Statesman in Residence, The University of the West Indies
30	Mr Eric Phillips	Chair, Guyana Reparations Committee
31	Mrs. Joyra Castillo Quintero	Second Secretary of Diplomatic and Consular Career at the Embassy of Panama to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
32	Ms. Urvashi Ramnarine	Director, Americas Division Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

33	Ambassador Jose Francisco Piedra Rencurrell	Former Cuban Ambassador to Jamaica
34	His Excellency Rudolfo Sabonge	Secretary General of the Association of Caribbean State
35	His Excellency Rodrigo do Amaral Souza	Ambassador of the Federative Republic of Brazil to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
36	Ms. Reita Toussaint	Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
37	Ms. Ayesha Wharton	Director, CARICOM and Caribbean Affairs Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
38	Mr. Bruce Zagaris	Berliner Corcoran & Rowe LLP and CPC Fellow
39	Ms Dawne Spicer	Executive Director, Caribbean Financial Action Task Force, Trinidad & Tobago
40	Mr Alejandro Celorio	Legal Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Mexico
41	Professor Jessica Byron-Reid	Former Director, Institute of International Relations, St. Augustine campus
42	Dr. Félix Valdés García	Vice President, Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe, “Norman Girvan” University of Havana, Cuba
43	Dr. Graciela Chailloux Laffita	Adjunct Professor, University of Havana, Cuba
44	Dr. Michael Witter	Former Senior Lecturer, Mona campus, Jamaica
45	Dr. Patricia Northover	Senior Fellow, SALISES, Mona campus, Jamaica
46	Professor Bryan Meeks	Brown University, USA
47	Dr. Vanus James	Adjunct Distinguished Professor University of Technology, Jamaica
48	Madame Alexia Marchetto	Head of International Office, ISCID-CO International Business School, Calais, France
49	Dr. Roy McCree	SALISES, UWI St. Augustine
50	Dr. Acolla Lewis Cameron	Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, The UWI
51	H.E. Dr. Carla Barnett	Secretary General, CARICOM
52	Professor Wendy Grenade	Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, St. Georges University
53	Dr. Terri Ann Gilbert-Roberts	Research Manager, Economic Youth and Sustainable Development, Commonwealth Secretariat
54	H.E. Ambassador Ivan Ogando	Dominican Republic, Ambassador to Belgium and Head of Mission to the European Union
55	Dr. Anthony P. Gonzales	Senior Fellow, Institute of International Relations
56	Professor Patsy Lewis	Senior Fellow, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs and Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Brown University
57	Mr. Richard Jones	Officer in Charge, Caribbean Policy Development Centre

58	Ambassador Jorge Heine (Professor)	Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies, Boston University
59	Professor Emeritus Anthony Gonzales	Senior Fellow, Institute of International Relations
60	Dr. Samantha Chaitram	Fellow, Caribbean Policy Consortium, Author, American Foreign Policy in the English-Speaking Caribbean
61	Professor Winston Dookeran	Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago
62	Ms. Letta Tayler	Associate Director, Crisis and Conflict Division, International Human Rights Law and Global Trends in Repatriations
63	Nompumelelo Ndawonde	Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation (IPATC)
64	Odilile Ayodele	Institute for Pan African Thought and Conversation (IPATC)
65	Her Excellency Sonya Koppe	High Commissioner of Australia
66	Mr. Mike Wight	Deputy High Commissioner of Australia
67	Ambassador David Comissiong	Ambassador of Barbados to CARICOM
68	Dr. Kai-Ann Skeete	Trade Research Fellow, SRC, Cave Hill Campus
69	Ambassador Colin Granderson	Former CARICOM Assistant Secretary General for Foreign and Community Relations
70	Dr. Georges Fauriol	Fellow, Caribbean Policy Consortium
71	Dr. Scott Timcke	Network Editor, Senior Research Associate, H-Empire of H-Net
72	Dr. Sabine Manigat	Researcher and Lecturer in Political Science and Sociology, Quisqueya University, Port au Prince, Haiti
73	Ms. Jacqueline Charles	Haitian Journalist, Miami Herald

The IIR received invitations to attend events hosted by embassies and international organizations and met with the respective Heads. Please see the list of events below:

Date	Host	Event
September 14, 2022	Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Trinidad and Tobago	Lunch with His Excellency Jinwoo Jung, Deputy Head of Mission (Second Secretary)
September 15, 2022	Embassy of Mexico in Trinidad, and Tobago	Reception for the 212th Anniversary of the Independence of Mexico
September 22, 2022	Caribbean Court of Justice	Reception for Conference of the First Hemispheric Meeting of Regional Court

October 6, 2022	Embassy of Korea in Trinidad and Tobago	Reception, National Foundation Day, Republic of Korea
November 17, 2022	Delegation of the European Union to Trinidad and Tobago	Reception to commemorate the visit of the members of the Working Party on Latin America and the Caribbean of the Council of the European Union (COLAC)
February 24, 2023	Hosted by H.E. Ambassador and Mrs. Matsubara Embassy of Japan	Reception to commemorate the Emperor's Birthday
March 09, 2023	Embassy of the Dominican Republic	Reception for 179th Anniversary of the Independence of the Dominican Republic
July 3, 2023	Government of Trinidad and Tobago	Opening Ceremony 45 <sup>th</sup> Regular conference of CARICOM Heads of Government
July 3 2023	Embassy of China	Luncheon at the Chinese Embassy
July 6, 2023	Australian High Commissioner, H.E. Sonya Koppe	Cocktail reception – NAIDOC Week 2023

## IIR ACADEMIC STAFF PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

### PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE OF STAFF

#### **G. Chami**

- Member, International Studies Association (ISA) (2016)
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) (2016)
- Member, United Nations Association of Trinidad & Tobago (2010)
- Executive Committee, Mixed Methods International Research Association, Caribbean Chapter (MMIRA-CC) (2019)
- Research Gate Scientific Network (2015)
- Patron of Queen's Hall (1990)

#### **J. Laguardia Martínez**

- Member of the Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe 'Norman Girvan', University of Havana, Cuba.

- Regional Coordinator of the Working Group Crisis, Respuestas y Alternativas en el Gran Caribe of the Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (CLACSO) since 2016.
- Member of the editorial team in Spanish Language for the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Journal, UWI Press since its foundation (2021- ).
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Section Cuba of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), period 2019-2023.
- Member of the Editorial Board of Revista Anales del Caribe, Casa de las Américas, Havana, since 2017.
- Associate Researcher of the Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES).
- Member of the Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER).
- Member of the Cuba Research Forum, University of Nottingham, UK.
- Member of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA).
- Member of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA).

#### A. Montoute

- IIR Staff Representative, IIR Board
- Member, Faculty of Social Sciences Post–Graduate Sub-Committee
- Initiated and led the Institute of International Relations and Faculty of Social Sciences, ‘Grant Writing Workshop: Securing Successful Grants’ in collaboration with the St. Augustine Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, in December 2019
- Member, Latin American Studies Association
- Member, International Society for Third Sector Research
- Member, International Studies Association and Caribbean Studies Association
- Board Member, Catholic Commission for Social Justice

#### K. Niles

- Chairperson, Staff-Student Liaison Committee, Institute of International Relations, UWI St Augustine
- Member, Advisory Committee for Jo Francis, MPhil in International Relations student

- Represent the IIR on the Faculty of Social Sciences Staff/Student Liaison Committee
- Member, Caribbean Green Economy Action Learning Group
- Member, Trinidad & Tobago Green Economy Action Learning Group
- Member, Member, BP Advisory Council

#### **M. Pawinski**

- Member, Occupational Health and Safety Committee of the Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of the West Indies
- Member, Department of Global Security and Strategic Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland (2013-)

#### **M. Scobie**

- Member, of journal editorial boards:
  - Earth System Governance Journal
  - International Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics
  - Environment and Planning E: Nature and Space
  - Environmental Politics
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA)
- Member, International Studies Association (ISA) (2017-2019)
- Member of the 4-member **UWI Team of Experts for the CARICOM Regional Advisory Group on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction.** - This team appointed by the Vice Chancellor is tasked with supporting CARICOM's Governments and United Nations' Diplomats on the UN Law of the Sea International Agreement on Biodiversity and Resources Beyond Areas of National Jurisdiction.
- Board Member – Marine Conservation Institute. MCI is an active member of the High Seas Alliance, Deep Sea Conservation Coalition and National Ocean Protection Coalition, working for over 25 years to defend and advance marine protection in the USA and internationally. (July 2021-)
- Guest Editor – Frontiers in Ocean Science – Ocean Sciences and Ethics (2022)
- Member- Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) of the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (IAI) [1]. (2020-)

- Subject matter expert invited by the UN to advise the UN Secretary General – Expert Group Meeting on the Update of the Voluntary Common Reporting Guidelines for the Sustainable Development Goals for Voluntary National Reviews to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development – Incheon, Korea. (November 2017)

#### **D. Seerattan**

- Member, Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty Curriculum Committee.
- Member, Central Bank of Barbados Research Review Panel
- Member, Central Bank of The Bahamas assessment committee for the T. B. Donaldson Research Competition
- Member, Board of the Regulated Industries Commission (2021-)
- Member, Board of the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Commission (March 2022-)

#### **PICTURES FROM KEY EVENTS (ELECTRONIC FILE ATTACHED)**

[Pictures to Key Events 2022 2023](#)

# Appendix I: Publications, Conference Attendance and Presentations

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- Adams, Michael, and **Michal Pawinski**. 2022. "When Caliphate Cubs Become Carnival Combatants: The Threat Posed by Returning Foreign Fighters in Trinidad and Tobago and the Need for Mitigation and Preparedness." *Small States & Territories Journal* 5 (2): 269–292.
- Biermann, Frank, Jeroen Oomen, Aarti Gupta, Saleem H. Ali, Ken Conca, Maarten A. Hajer, Prakash Kashwan, Louis J. Kotzé, Melissa Leach, Dirk Messner, Chukwumerije Okereke, Åsa Persson, Janez Potočnik, David Schlosberg, **Michelle Scobie**, and Stacy D. VanDeveer. 2022. "Solar Geoengineering: The Case for an International Non-use Agreement." *WIREs Climate Change* 13 (3) <https://doi.org/10.1002/wcc.754>
- Borja, Angel, Johannes Karstensen, **Michelle Scobie**, and Michele Barbier. 2022. "Editorial: Ocean Sciences and Ethics." *Frontiers in Marine Science* 9 (March). <https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.871856>
- Karlsson-Vinkhuyzen, Sylvia, Katharina Rietig, and **Michelle Scobie**. 2022. "Agency dynamics of International Environmental Agreements: actors, contexts, and drivers." *International Environmental Agreements: Politics, Law and Economics*. 22 (2): 353-372. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10784-022-09571-w>
- Matthews, Luke J., Aaron Clark-Ginsberg, **Michelle Scobie**, Laura E. Peters, Unni Gopinathan, Anuska Mosurska, Katy Davis, Sonja Myhre, Saskia Hirsch, Eija Meriläinen and Ilan Kelmanet. 2023. "Collective Action by Community Groups:

Solutions for Climate Change or Different Players in the Same Game?" *Climate and Development* 15 (8): 679–691. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17565529.2022.2149254>.

**Scobie, Michelle.** 2022. "Sustainable Development Goals and Sustainability Governance: Norms, Implementation Pathways and Caribbean Small Island Developing States." *Global Policy* 13 (2):219-234. doi: 10.1111/1758-5899.13050.

### Peer-reviewed books, edited collections and book chapters

#### Edited Books

**Chami, Georgina,** Jerome Teelucksingh, and Marlon Anatol, ed. 2022. *Managing new security threats in the Caribbean*. Basingstoke, United Kingdom: Palgrave Macmillan.

#### Book Chapters

**Laguardia-Martinez, Jacqueline,** Mark Kirton, and Marlon Anatol. 2022. "A Decade of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States: Assessing CELAC's Contribution to Regional Integration." In *The Changing Political and Socio-Economic Environment in the Caribbean and Latin America: Prospects and Challenges*, edited by Mark Kirton, Paulo Correa and Marlon Anatol, 29–53. Rio Branco, Portugal: Nepan Editora.

Llanos, Andrea Ordóñez, Rob Raven, Magdalena Bexell, Brianna Botchwey, Basil Bornemann, Jecel Censoro, Marius Christen, Liliana Díaz, Thomas Hickmann, Kristina Jönsson, Imme Scholz, **Michelle Scobie**, Yixian Sun, John Thompson, John Thwaites and Abbie Yunita. 2022. "Implementation at Multiple Levels." In *The Political Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals: Transforming Governance Through Global Goals*, edited by Frank

Biermann, Thomas Hickmann and Carole-Anne Senit, 59-91. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009082945>

**Montoute, Annita**, Jessica Byron. 2023. “The Role of Churches in Regional Cooperation and Governance in the Caribbean.” In *Handbook of Civil Society and Social Movements in Small States*, edited by Sheila S. Bunwaree, Claire Slatter, Michael Briguglio, and Lino Briguglio, 189–203. London, United Kingdom: Routledge.

Nilsson, Måns, Marjanneke J. Vijge, Ivonne Lobos Alva, Basil Bornemann, Karin Fernando, Thomas Hickmann, **Michelle Scobie** and Sabine Weiland. 2022. In *The Political Impact of the Sustainable Development Goals: Transforming Governance Through Global Goals*, edited by Frank Biermann, Thomas Hickmann and Carole-Anne Senit, 92-115. Cambridge, United Kingdom: Cambridge University Press.

**Scobie, Michelle**, and Ricardo Reboredo. 2023. “Climate Change, Norm Dynamics and the Agency of SIDS.” In *Norm Diffusion beyond the West: Agents and Sources of Leverage*, edited by Sárka Kolmasová, 125–41. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

**Seerattan, Dave**. 2023. “Hurricane Clauses in Debt Contracts in the Context of Unsustainable Debt in Barbados and Grenada.” In *Innovative Financing Instruments in Latin America and the Caribbean*, edited by Esteban Pérez Caldentey and Francisco G. Villarreal, 119-136. Santiago, Chile: United Nations.

**Seerattan, Dave**. 2023. “Optimal Foreign Exchange Reserves in Small Open Economies: The Case of the Caribbean.” In *Foreign Exchange Constraint and Developing Economies*,

edited by Aleksandr V. Gevorkyan, 149-166. Northampton, Massachusetts: Edward Elgar Publishing.

## Non-Referred Publications

### Essays and Commentaries

**Bardouille Nand.** 2023. “CARICOM’s Evolving Foreign Policy Thinking on the Ukraine War”, *Geopolitical Monitor*, January 19. <https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/caricom-evolving-foreign-policy-thinking-on-the-ukraine-war/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2023. “CARICOM's Foreign Policy Standpoint on the Ukraine War, One Year into the Conflict”, *European University Institute*, blog, March 8. <https://blogs.eui.eu/latin-american-working-group/caricom-foreign-policy-standpoint-on-the-ukraine-war-one-year-into-the-conflict/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2022. “CARICOM States Contend with a New Era of Great-power Rivalry”, *LSE Latin America and the Caribbean*, blog, September 8. <https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/latamcaribbean/2022/09/08/caricom-states-contend-with-a-new-era-of-great-power-rivalry/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2022. “A compendium of four articles on what the Russia-Ukraine war means for the CARICOM bloc” *KITLV*, blog, November 8. <https://www.kitlv.nl/blog-a-compendium-of-four-articles-on-what-the-russia-ukraine-war-means-for-the-caricom-bloc/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2022. “The Russia-Ukraine War and Two Interrelated Ways to Think about CARICOM States’ Associated Diplomacy” *The Global Americans*, October 26.

<https://theglobalamericans.org/2022/10/the-russia-ukraine-war-and-two-interrelated-ways-to-think-about-caricom-states-associated-diplomacy/>

**Bardouille, Nand.** 2022. “Saint Vincent and the Grenadines’ Diplomatic Efforts During the Latest Taiwan Strait Flare-Up.” *The Diplomat*, September 22.

<https://thediplomat.com/2022/09/saint-vincent-and-the-grenadines-diplomatic-efforts-during-the-latest-taiwan-strait-flare-up/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2023. “UK-Caribbean Partnership Takes on Safe Bets, Confronts New Realities”, *Geopolitical Monitor*, May 3. <https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/uk-caribbean-partnership-takes-on-safe-bets-confronts-new-realities/>

**Bardouille Nand.** 2022. “Whither CARICOM States’ Interests in a New Age of Great-Power Geopolitics?” *United Nations University Institute on Comparative Regional Integration Studies (UNU-CRIS)*, November 3. <https://cris.unu.edu/whither-caricom-states%E2%80%99-interests-new-age-great-power-geopolitics>

**Laguardia, Jacqueline.** 2023. “El Caribe ante la III Cumbre UE-CELAC.” Opinion piece in CLACSO en la III Cumbre UE-CELAC 2023, July 5. <https://www.clacso.org/clacso-en-la-iii-cumbre-ue-celac-2023/>.

**Laguardia, Jacqueline.** 2023. “Impactos Económicos de la COVID-19 en los PEID Caribeños: Desafíos al Desarrollo y Estrategias para la Recuperación.” In *Proyecto El Caribe y los Desafíos ante los Efectos del COVID-19*, edited by Wilson Enrique Genao and Antonino Vidal Ortega, 11-32. Santo Domingo: Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra.

**Laguardia, Jacqueline.** 2023. “Jamaica en el Siglo XXI: Retos y Posibilidades.” In *Historia Contemporánea de América Latina y el Caribe*, edited by Álvaro García Linera, Emir Sader, René Ramírez, and Marcio Pochmann, 375–388. Madrid: Akal.

**Laguardia Martinez, Jacqueline.** 2022. “La IX Cumbre de las Américas y su impacto en el Caribe”, *Cuadernos de Nuestra América* 6: 294 – 303.  
<http://www.cna.cipi.cu/cna/article/view/134>

**Laguardia Martinez, Jacqueline and Annita Montoute.** 2022. “Lula is back, and Latin America with him.” *UWI Today*, December 11.

**Montoute, Annita.** 2023. “China in Latin America and the Caribbean.” *UWI Today*, February 19.

## Conferences/Workshops/Seminars/Public Lectures

### Papers and Presentations

#### Chami Georgina

"ICT in Higher Education: Opportunities and Challenges." Presented at the 20th *Annual Conference of the Association of Caribbean Higher Education Administrators (ACHEA), Higher Education Administration*, Negril, Jamaica, July 6-8, 2023.

Co author Presentation "Child Abuse and Protection in Trinidad and Tobago." Panel Presentation at the 2022 *Annual Caribbean Child Research Conference, Child Rights and Well-Being in Selected Caribbean Societal Settings - Findings from the Rights for Children and Youth Partnership (RCYP) Project.*, Virtual Presentation, 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> November 2022.

Co author Presentation "Facing the Reality of Child Abuse and Protection in Trinidad and Tobago." Presentation at *the UWI-Toronto Metropolitan University RCYP*

*Conference, The Wellbeing of Children and Young People in Central America and the Caribbean, Virtual Presentation, 19 – 21, October 2022.*

**Laguardia Martinez Jacqueline**

“Commemorating 50 years of CARICOM.” Panelist on El Caribe en la Asociación Estratégica UE–CELAC at the Workshop organized by the Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe ‘Norman Girvan’, University of Havana, July 4, 2023.

“Territorial Management for Adaptation, Climate Change Mitigation and Disaster Risk Management with a Gender and Intersectional Approach in Island Territories.” Keynote speaker at the International Seminar on the topic Los PEID del Caribe ante el cambio climático: Proyección internacional y rol de las mujeres, June 27-29, 2023, Varadero, Cuba.

“Asimetrías y Conflictos en las Relaciones Comerciales: Desafíos para América Latina y el Caribe.” Discussant of the panel at Una Mirada Hacia la Igualdad de Género desde las Políticas Públicas en el Caribe Anglófono, 2023 LASA Virtual Congress, May 24-27, 2023.

“Impactos de la COVID-19 en las Mujeres Caribeñas.” Paper presented at Una Mirada Hacia la Igualdad de Género desde las Políticas Públicas en el Caribe Anglófono, 2023 LASA Virtual Congress, May 24-27, 2023.

Presented in panel, “Igualdad de género en las políticas públicas en el Caribe Anglófono”, LASA Congress, Vancouver, May 24 -27, 2023.

“Organismos Internacionales Gubernamentales en el Mundo Hispanoamericano.” Guest Lecturer for postgraduate students at the Postgraduate Certificate of Competence: Advanced

Spanish for Diplomacy and International Relations, Centre for Professional Development and Lifelong Learning at Cave Hill campus, May 15, 2023.

“The Role of CARICOM in a Globalizing World” Guest Lecturer for postgraduate students at the Department of International Affairs/Diplomacy, International College, Ming Chuan University, Taiwan, May 10, 2023.

“Impactos del Cambio Climático en el Caribe Insular y Propuestas para su Enfrentamiento.” Panelist at the Seminario Internacional Cambio Climático en los PEID del Caribe: impactos y resiliencia comunitaria organized by the Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe ‘Norman Girvan’, the CLACSO Working Group Crisis, Respuestas y Alternativas en el Gran Caribe and FLACSO–Dominican Republic, Santo Domingo, May 2-5, 2023.

Panellist in Round Table, “Impactos del cambio climático en el Caribe insular y propuestas para su enfrentamiento” at the International Seminar Cambio climático en los PEID del Caribe: impactos y resiliencia comunitaria, organized by FLACSO-RD, Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe ‘Norman Girvan’ and the CLACSO Working Group Crisis, Respuestas y Alternativas en el Gran Caribe, Santo Domingo, May 2-5, 2023.

“El Caribe en el Siglo XXI: Cuba, Haití y Barbados.” Panelist on Ciclo de Conferencias Caribeñas 32 at the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, April 27, 2023.

Panellist in Round Table ‘El Caribe en el Siglo Veintiuno / The Caribbean in the Twenty-First Century: Cuba, Haití, Barbados’, Ciclo de Conferencias Caribeñas 32 at the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, April 27, 2023.

"Climate justice and environmental challenges for the Caribbean." Panelist at the SCS Annual Postgraduate Conference organized by the Society for Caribbean Studies UK, April 22, 2023.

“Perspectivas y Propuestas para Renovar la Asociación Estratégica entre la Unión Europea y América Latina y el Caribe.” Participant in the Dialogue between European, Latin American and Caribbean Research Centres and Decision Makers organized by the Fundación Carolina and Fundación EU-LAC, Madrid, April 3-4, 2023.

Comments to the book “Latin American Foreign Policies in the New World Order: The Active Non-Alignment Option”, edited by Jorge Heine, Carlos Fortin and Carlos Ominami, IIR, March 28, 2023.

“Actualidad y Perspectivas en las Relaciones Cuba-CARICOM”, Paper presented at the Scientific Session organized by the Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe ‘Norman Girvan’, University of Havana, La Habana, January 27, 2023.

“Participación del Caribe insular en la IX Cumbre de las Américas”, Paper presented at the XVI International Conference of Caribbean Studies *Cuba y el Caribe: 50 años de relaciones*, organized by the Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe ‘Norman Girvan’, Havana, December 14-16, 2022.

Panellist at the One-Day Colloquium to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of Diplomatic Relations between CARICOM and Cuba, Cave Hill campus, The UWI, December 7, 2022.

“La IX Cumbre de las Américas y su impacto en el Caribe insular”, Paper presented at the VII Conferencia de Estudios Estratégicos, organised by Centro de Investigaciones de Política Internacional (CIPi), Havana, October 26-28, 2022.

**Montoute Annita**

“Social Movements Interpretations of the COVID-19 Pandemic”, Paper presented at the Sixteenth Global Studies Conference, at Oxford Brookes University, UK, July 19 - 20, 2023.

Co-authored report “Gender Impact of China's Global Engagement in the Global South”, Report presented at DAWN project, Bangkok, Thailand, June 9 – 10 2023.

“Social and Cultural Dynamics”, Paper presented at webinar, Dynamics of Africa – Caribbean Engagements, Institute of International Relations in collaboration with the Caribbean Policy Consortium, September 8, 2022.

**Niles Keron**

Niles, Keron. 2023. “Climate Change and Transatlantic Slavery: Uncomfortable Parallels and Uncertain Futures”. Paper presented at the PAERC 5th International Conference, Transition and Trajectories in Pan African Development, Trinidad and Tobago, July 28, 2023.

Niles, Keron. 2023. “Building Music Catalogues for Library Placement: Unlocking Opportunities for Music Licensing.” Moderator at the RVRB X, MusicTT, Trinidad & Tobago, July 19, 2023.

Speaker at “Advancing Sustainability Science and Innovation in Latin America”. Hosted by the National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation of the Republic of Panama and

the Executive Committee of the Sustainability Research and Innovation 2023 Congress (SRI2023). June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

“Caribbean Sustainable Energy Conference”. Participant at the Energy Chamber Conference, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, June 5, 2023 to June 7, 2023.

Panellist at Webinar entitled “Lost and Damaged? Commitments to climate justice on the road to COP28.” Hosted by the Interdisciplinary Global Development Centre, University of York. 4 May 2023.

Guest Speaker at ESG Conference 2023. Hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago “Environmental, Social and Governance Issues in the Creative Sector”, ESG Conference 2023. Hosted by the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago, 2 May 2023.

“Climate Change. The crisis of our time?” Moderator at The Bocas Literature Festival, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, April 29, 2023.

### **Pawinski, Michal**

Co presented “The Caribbean ISIS Migrants: Challenges to the Repatriation, Reintegration, and Prevention of Future Recidivism.”, at 10<sup>th</sup> European Workshops in International Studies, European International Studies Association, July 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### **Seerattan Dave**

Presented at the Department of Economics Post Budget Forum, September 29, 2022. Presented a paper on Optimal foreign-exchange reserves in small open economies: the case of the Caribbean at the 49th Annual Conference of the Eastern Economic Association held at the

Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers, New York City, USA over the period February 23 – 27, 2023.

Presented on the theme *Global Economic Shocks: Challenges for the Trinidad and Tobago Economy* at a conference hosted by the Ministry of Finance, Trinidad and Tobago at the Hyatt Hotel, Port of Spain on September 2, 2022.

### **Chaired/Moderated**

#### **Chami, Georgina**

"Soft Power or Hard Power Is the European Union a Positive Player in Global Security?" Chaired and Moderated the Guest lecture by His Excellency Didier Chabert French Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Trinidad and Tobago, The Institute of International Relations, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, June 9, 2023.

"Emergent Insights Impacting Contemporary Migration Trajectories in the Caribbean." Chaired and Moderated at the 24th Annual SALISES Conference, Seventy-Five Years of Ideas, Innovation, and Development Justice: The UWI, the Caribbean and the Global Agenda, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, May 3rd – 5th, 2023.

#### **Niles, Keron**

Moderator, "Climate Change. The crisis of our time?" The Bocas Literature Festival, 29 April 2023.

Moderator, “Climate Change and Music.” The Worldwide Music Expo (WOMEX). Lisbon, Portugal, 20 October 2022.

**Pawinski, Michal**

“Taking the Profit out of Illicit Trafficking of Firearms in Latin-America and the Caribbean.”,

Paper presented at the Institute of International Relations, Caribbean Policy Consortium, and ABA Criminal Justice Webinar, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Moderator, “Global Migration Film Festival”, International Organization for Migration Trinidad and Tobago, December 3rd, 2022.

**Seerattan, Dave.**

Chair, “Webinar: Cryptocurrencies and their Potential Impact in the Caribbean.” Speakers: Mr.

Karim Hamasni, Head, Crypto Asset Management, RBCx and Mr. Terrence Clarke, Senior Manager- Macroeconomics and Finance, Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, April 6, 2023

**Attended**

**Chami, Georgina**

The Fourth Regional Mixed Methods Research Conference, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago, July 10 – 12, 2023.

The International Online School in Forced Migration, Refugee Studies Centre (RSC), Oxford University, July 10 - 14, 2023 (virtual).

**Montoute, Annita**

Erasmus Mobility: 8th International Staff Week at the University of Valladolid, Spain, May 29 – June 2, 2023.

**Seerattan, Dave**

Attended the IADB's 57th Meeting of the Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries of Latin America and the Caribbean held over the period April 12-13, 2023.

Attended the launch of the IADB's 2023 Latin American and Caribbean Macroeconomic Report on the theme Preparing the Macroeconomic Terrain for Renewed Growth on March 21, 2023.

The 59th Meeting of CARICOM Central Bank Governors, November 3-4, 2022. Presentation and Update on the draft Caribbean Regional Financial Stability Report 2021.

A roundtable meeting to discuss the development challenges facing Trinidad and Tobago at the IADB headquarters in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago on October 26, 2022.

The IADB's 56<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Network of Central Banks and Finance Ministries of Latin America and the Caribbean held over the period October 12-13, 2022.

**Community Service**

**Pawinski, Michal.** Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Committee Member 2022-ongoing Caribbean Male Action Network (CariMan) "A Gender Transformative Approach to Security and Justice: Men, Masculinities, Crime and Violence Prevention in the Caribbean."

**B. IIR/DAOC Events 2022/2023**

IIR Board Meeting  
Monday May 22, 2023

DAOC Online training module

**Energy Diplomacy: Foreign and Security Policy Contexts in the Caribbean (Inaugural)**  
August 2nd – 5th, 2022

**Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional (Customized/ tailored)**  
September 6th, 8th, 13th, 15th and 20th 2022

**Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional, 17th edition**  
October 31st – November 4th, 2022

**Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional (Customized/ tailored)**  
February 6th – 10th, 2023

**Advances in Consular Affairs in the Modern Diplomatic Mission: A Caribbean Perspective, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition**  
July 10 -13, 2023

World Trade Organisation and the IIR, **Regional Trade Policy Course**  
July 17 – September 8, 2023

### **C. IIR Public Events: 2022/2023**

The IIR hosted and/or organized several diplomatic dialogues, guest lectures and panel discussions during the 2022/2023 academic year. See below, the title, participants and title of presentations where applicable.

#### **Diplomatic Dialogues**

##### **The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chacachacare Expedition that Liberated Eastern Venezuela**

HE Ambassador Álvaro Sánchez Codero  
The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
January 30, 2023

##### **The War Against Ukraine: How Will It End?**

H.E. Sergiy Kyslytsya  
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations and Ambassador  
Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (non-resident)

March 22, 2023

**Soft power or hard power is the European Union a positive player in global security**

H.E. Didier Chabert,

Ambassador of France to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Friday June 9, 2023

**Seminars/Webinars (symposia and panel discussions)**

**Dynamics of Africa-Caribbean Engagement, in** collaboration with the Caribbean Policy Consortium

September 8, 2022

**Fifty Years of Cooperation: Cuba-CARICOM Relations, in** collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat

December 1, 2022

**The Haitian Conundrum: Challenges and Opportunities, in** collaboration with Caribbean Policy Consortium and the H-Empire of the H-Net

December 8, 2022

**The Repatriation and Reintegration of Trinidad and Tobago Nationals in Syria: Challenges and Way Forward, in** collaboration with the International Parliament for Human Rights

February 8, 2023

**Climate Change & COP27: The Need for Unified Caribbean leadership, in** collaboration with the AMCHAM, Trinidad and Tobago and the Arthur Lok Jack School of Business

February 9, 2023

**Cryptocurrency and the Impact on the Caribbean**, in collaboration with RBC Royal Bank and the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago

April 6, 2023

**CARICOM at 50: Symposium**

Symposium to Reflect on 50 Years of CARICOM's History, in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat

April 14, 2023

**CARICOM at 50 Youth Forum**

Rising to the Challenge: Leveraging Youth Talent for National and Regional Development, in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat

April 14, 2023

**Kari Polanyi Levitt: Celebrating a True Caribbean Woman**, in collaboration with the Centro de Estudios del Caribe: Casa de Las Americas

June 12, 2023

**Taking the Profit out of Illicit Trafficking of Firearms in Latin-America and the Caribbean**, in collaboration with Caribbean Policy Consortium and American Bar Association, Criminal Justice Section

July 6, 2023

**Latin American Forum**

**Launch of the Latin American Forum**

Thursday April 27, 2023

**Inaugural Meeting of the Latin American Forum**

April 28, 2023

**Francisco Villa, Life and Fats of a Legend**

Mr. Víctor Hugo Morales Meléndez  
Ambassador of Mexico to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
May 18, 2023

**Jose Maria Arguedal Escritor y Autropologo (Masterful Work of José María Arguedas)**  
H.E. David Málaga, Ambassador of Peru to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
Thursday June 15, 2023

### **Book Launches**

**Managing New Security Threats in the Caribbean**  
Edited by Georgina Chami, Jerome Teelucksingh and Marlon Anatol  
January 17, 2023

**Latin American Foreign Policies in the New World Order: The Active Non-Alignment Option**  
Edited by Carlos Fortin, Jorge Heine and Carlos Ominami,  
March 28, 2023

**International Trade and the Music Industry: Live Music Services from the Caribbean**  
By Dr. Lisa Gordon  
April 28, 2023

**Dr. Niles Course INRL 6102: Climate Change: Policy and Economic Options for SIDS**

### **Guest Lecturers:**

- a. **Professor John Agard, January 25, 2023:** *The Science of Climate Change* (the Anthropocene & its implications) The urgent need to reduce emissions
- b. **Ms. Rueanna Haynes, February 1, 2023:** *International Climate Change Policy: the UNFCCC. The treaty and its mechanisms*
- c. **Mr. Vintura Silva, February 8, 2023:** *The intersection of International & National Climate Change Policies (Common but Differentiated Responsibilities): Nationally*

*determined contributions (NDCs) and what their implementation means within the context of COP28.*

- d. **Dr. Caroline Allen and Dr. James Hospedales, February 22, 2023:** *The Social Dimensions of Climate Change Adaptation in SIDS: Climate Change and Health*
- e. **Mr. Martin Huges, March 8, 2023:** *Food Security and Climate Change*
- f. **Mr. Kishan Kumarsingh, March 22, 2023:** *Outcomes of COP27: Negotiating Climate Finance and Climate Financing & Investment Options (with an emphasis on Loss and Damage).*

## Appendix II: The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean

### **Report on the DAOC August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023**

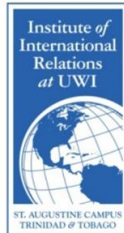
1. The Board of the IIR approved (at its 2022 meeting) the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean (DAOC) Business Plan for July 2022 to June 2023 which, *inter alia*, makes provision for the delivery of six (6) training modules (in virtual format), as enumerated in the DAOC's [Academic Curriculum AY 2022/2023](#).
2. The DAOC delivered five (5) online training modules spanning the period August 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023, as outlined in Table 1 (below). For details on the respective modules, click on relevant hyperlinks.
3. The scheduled delivery of AY 2022/2023 training modules, up to and including April 2023, experienced some delay. The DAOC Manager took up his allotted study leave from January 9, 2023 to April 13, 2023. In addition, the DAOC has experienced staffing-related capacity constraints. A full-time clerical/administrative assistant is no longer assigned to the Academy's secretariat, which previously has drawn on IIR administrative staff on an *ad hoc* basis.
4. Furthermore, given the considerable cost savings relative to in-person/face-to-face offerings and the fact that the virtual format lends itself especially well to attracting participants from outside Trinidad and Tobago, during AY 2023/2024, it is also recommended that DAOC module offerings—in their entirety—ought to continue online (via Zoom).
5. While the 'COVID moment' hastened and compelled the DAOC's transition from a fully face-to-face to an online professional development diplomatic training centre, this pivot ought not to limit the scope for hybrid pedagogic approaches going forward. In this regard, in the context of the delivery of one (1) anticipated, participant-paid workshop an innovative face-to-face and online blended pedagogy could be leveraged.
6. On the matter of further driving stakeholder engagement and shaping an impactful institutional profile and enterprise narrative, the Manager gave effect to various strategies including maintaining an active publication schedule. This was in recognition of the significance of the pressing international affairs issues of the moment. The circumstances presented an opportunity for the DAOC to take the initiative and exercise thought leadership through the production and wide circulation of relevant research and analysis.
7. This series of analyses, spanning the period September 2022 to May 2023, as outlined [here](#) (additional works in that regard are available by clicking [here](#)), showcase associated CARICOM foreign and security policy approaches—all for the benefit of practitioners,

academics and the wider public. In enhancing public debate and engagement accordingly, such advocacy-related work enabled the DAOC to amplify its impact across an array of partnerships, reinforcing marketing efforts around its core professional development-oriented teaching function.

*January 2024*

**Table 1**

<b>Title of Online Training Module</b>	<b>Iteration or Type</b>	<b>Dates Held</b>	<b>Facilitator(s)</b>	<b>Number of Participants</b>	<b>Number of Days Training</b>
<a href="#">Energy Diplomacy: Foreign and Security Policy Contexts in the Caribbean</a>	Inaugural	August 2nd – 5th, 2022	Professor Anthony Bryan	18	4
<a href="#">Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional</a>	Customized / tailored	September 6th, 8th, 13th, 15th and 20th 2022	Ms. Gail P. Guy	16	5
<a href="#">Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional</a>	17th edition	October 31st – November 4th, 2022	Ms. Gail P. Guy Ms. Marise Warner	32	5
<a href="#">Protocol and Diplomacy: A Guide for the Modern Professional</a>	Customized / tailored	February 6th – 10th, 2023	Ms. Gail P. Guy Ms. Marise Warner	18	5
<a href="#">Advances in Consular Affairs in the Modern Diplomatic Mission: A Caribbean Perspective</a>	3rd edition	July 10th – 13th, 2023	Ms. Gail P. Guy Dr. Natalie Dietrich Jones	16	4



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**02 February 2024**