



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

OFFICE OF GLOBAL AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRO VICE-CHANCELLOR (GLOBAL AFFAIRS)

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Pro Vice-Chancellor Ms. Sandra Maynard

LLB (Hons.), LL.M., SFHEA, Barrister-at-Law

MEMORANDUM

To: All UWI Lecturers

From: Pro Vice-Chancellor Global Affairs, Sandra Maynard 

Re: Invitation to The UWI Responsible Futures Programme Teach-In 2024

Date: February 20, 2024

Dear Colleague,

We have exciting news, as our institution has joined Responsible Futures (RF), an important programme designed to embed and mainstream sustainability and resilience across the entire institution (operations, infrastructure and procurement, curricular and non-curricular activities). RF is led by the International Association of Universities (IAU), in partnership with Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK). As a member of the 600 institution strong IAU, The UWI was specially invited to participate based on its expertise and focus on Caribbean sustainable development and its leadership in the Global University Consortium on the UN Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action). We are the first Caribbean university invited to participate. The UWI's Office for Global Affairs works closely with the IAU and I, as Pro Vice-Chancellor, wish you to know that RF deepens our regional university's collaboration with the IAU and further affirms The UWI's efforts as an SDG-engaged University.

A major first step for The UWI towards embedding and mainstreaming holistic sustainability and climate justice in learning, is to take part in the 7th annual international Teach In across the month of March 2024! This campaign is delivered by [SOS-UK](#) and calls on educators to pledge to include the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs), in their teaching, training, and learning throughout the month – and you will be given case studies and ideas to show you how!

We are encouraging all lecturers, no matter your subject (from Architecture to Zoology) to get involved. Please see the helpful resources attached below which show every lecturer how to include a sustainability and resilience SDG focus in their lectures during March 2024. You may elect to only participate in one or two weeks or may elect to do three or all four weeks. Please also note that RF is student-driven and that students will be expecting the Teach In 2024 and will also be given an introduction and resources to participate.

All UWI lecturers and educators are asked to [pledge now](#) using our online form to embed the SDGs whether through case studies, debate, discussion, group work, team tasks, or simulations relating to topics included within the SDGs. (Note: Pledging is simply registering and giving an idea of the number of students that you teach weekly and may therefore impact).

In the future, our aim is to establish a comprehensive university-wide Sustainability policy, which will contribute to enhancing the university's standing in THE rankings.

We invite each lecturer to meaningfully engage with your students in this Teach In as it aims to:

1. Raise awareness of the importance of sustainability & resilience and education for sustainable development (ESD);
2. Raise awareness of the importance of ESD as a crucial aspect of quality equitable education and a prerequisite for environmental justice and a just transition;
3. Catalyse curriculum reform and encourage holistic workplace learning and training that places sustainability & resilience at the forefront;
4. Embed sustainability and social responsibility across all spheres of learning and disciplines and throughout lifelong learning and training opportunities;
5. Link all forms of teaching, learning, training, and assessment to local and global social, political, environmental and economic issues;
6. Prepare and equip young people and all learners with the knowledge, skills, capabilities and attributes to innovatively tackle the world's greatest challenges.

The level of participation of UWI lecturers will also be recorded as part of the RF monitoring and evaluation process. We look forward to your impactful and enthusiastic participation.

To give you a full understanding and to make it easy for full participation, we have arranged a short online session “ The Lecturers Teach In Overview, on February 29, 2024 at 2p.m. Jamaica time/3 p.m. Eastern Caribbean time/ 7 p.m. London time – please see below for the zoom details:

Topic: UWI Responsible Futures Lecturers Session Teach In
Time: Feb 29, 2024 7:00 pm London/2pm Jamaica/3pm EC

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88077520362?pwd=M01VNDU4bEQvYVR3U0dLT25GSHdZUT09>

Meeting ID: 880 7752 0362

Passcode: 622058

Please remember to also view the attached useful information.

For queries /details, please contact: Regional Director, UWI Responsible Futures: Celia Davidson Francis at: celia.davidson-francis@alumni.uwi.edu