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On The Cover
2005 Valedictorians
Kersha Edwards and Crista Mohammed.
More Students, Improved Quality, Better Student Support

Much has been achieved at this St. Augustine Campus over the last several years. Let us pick out some of the highlights of achievement under three of the seven strategic objectives which we together identified some four years ago for this campus. The emphasis in this editorial will be on expansion, quality and student support.

In 2002, the demand by both the market (students and parents) and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago was for greater access to UWI and to tertiary education generally. From 2002 up to the present time, we have increased student enrollment at a rate of 14.2 percent each year. Let the numbers speak for themselves. In the academic year 2001/2002 the enrollment at St Augustine was about 7000. In the current academic year (2005/2006) it is 14,100 plus. The rate of growth exceeded all targets and makes the St Augustine campus the educational home of the largest student body in The University of the West Indies system.

What is remarkable about this is that we continue to attract the best students (half of the 200 national scholarship winners (2005) are students at UWI) and the merit system of selection of students in all faculties ensures that we get the best Advance level and CAPE performers in the region each year. The professional schools such as Law, Medicine, Engineering, Dentistry and Veterinary medicine continue to attract the highest scorers and yet we are unable to satisfy the demand. The department of Management also faces this challenge every year.

So we have not compromised quality at all, in terms of the intake of students. The pool of successful students in the Advance Level and CAPE exams has been growing and the number of high performers has been increasing as well and we have benefited from these developments. But what about other aspects of quality? Has the quality of teaching improved? Has the quality of education been enhanced? Are our students performing at a superior level?

It was inevitable that expansion at this rate would result in some stress to Faculty, administrative staff and students. A larger intake of students means more students in the classrooms with some of them overcrowded. It means that all services are stretched to cope with larger numbers. It means less time for individual attention to students. And, from the point of view of lecturers, it means more projects and examinations to mark.

A number of initiatives though, have been taken to support students and faculty better and to ensure that Quality is in no way compromised at the St Augustine Campus. For students these include strengthening of academic advising; extending the hours of the student health facility; strengthening the psychological unit; assigning one counselor to students with disabilities; creating a wireless campus; diversifying the range and upgrading the quality of food service; establishing a 24/7 library service with internet access to a wide range of electronic libraries; extending hours of service by the Bursary, Registry and some Faculties; establishing co-curricular credits as an option for students; increasing student employment on Campus; strengthening relations with the private and public sectors to increase internships; preparing students better for employment through an expanded World of Work programme and establishing a full fledged placement service for graduates who have difficulty finding a job.

On the faculty side, training initiatives have increased dramatically. All new faculties are to be inducted in teaching and learning methodology by the Instructional Development Unit and are expected to take at least three courses with the IDU over their first contract term. Over 100 faculty members have made the effort to expose themselves to Critical Thinking Workshops. Many of our departments are not only exposing themselves to Quality Reviews within our University system but are opting as well for international accreditation. The quality improvement thrust is also evidenced by an increase in the number of students graduating with first class honours and upper second class degrees and by the exceptional performance of our graduates in higher educational institutions abroad. A renewed thrust to strengthen our research based graduate programmes is now at full throttle. Several workshops and seminars on graduate supervision, research methodology and related matters have been held on campus to strengthen faculty and enrich students. With the future in mind, scholarship support in some instances, and time in others, have been provided for young faculty and superior graduate students as part of our succession planning and institutional strengthening efforts.

Other initiatives have been taken to meet current and future challenges. Three buildings are in various stages of preparation based on commitments made by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for funding. These include a structure at Heart Ease that will be dedicated to state-of-the-art Science Labs as well as classroom facilities of varied sizes catering to a range of needs. At the current time the St Augustine Campus has the largest number of students reading for Science and Technology related degrees of the three Campuses (about 47 percent at St Augustine are enrolled in S&T programmes) and we hope to increase this percentage. Another project is an auditorium that will seat 400 and contain other classrooms as well. Yet another is the addition of 150 rooms to Milner Hall which is now close to completion.

Moreover, we are engaging Government in discussions to fund a student housing complex on St John’s Road as well as to expand one of the Engineering blocks which, among other things, will be equipped with auditorium space. In addition, any one taking a casual walk through the Campus cannot but take note of the amount of construction taking place with funding from a variety of sources.

It needs to be borne in mind, as well, that increases in student intake are not scheduled to take place indefinitely. By the 2007/2008 academic year, the undergraduate population will stabilize at 12000 and the graduate student population, with an appropriate mix of research as well as taught Master’s students should also stabilize at about 4000. No expansion beyond this is anticipated for full time day enrollment. However, with continued expansion of physical resources to support teaching and learning, laboratory research, student housing, conference facilities, a student’s union, graduate student lounges and a multi purpose Creative Arts building, the 16000 full time students at UWI should be well supported and served by 2009/2010.
We would like to thank our readers for taking the time to complete the 2005 E-STAN survey. We appreciate your feedback as this helps us to improve the quarterly newsletter and the ways in which we provide relevant information on news, people, programmes, research and special events at the St Augustine Campus. We have and will continue to incorporate your suggestions as we work towards enhancing the publication. We would also like to thank the following companies for supporting the 2005 survey by donating exciting prizes to randomly chosen winners: THE UWI Bookshop, Movie Towne, Radical Designs, Ruby Tuesdays and TGI Fridays. Winners please contact Ms. Christine Brown or Mrs. Anna Walcott-Hardy at ext 2013 or 2014. Log on now to take part in the 2006 survey.

Candice Jaglal
Prizes: UWI Bookshop Gift Certificate, TGI Fridays Lunch or Dinner Certificate (for 2) & MovieTowne Gift Certificates (for 2)

“You can improve the newsletter through adding greater diversity…I would rate the printed version as good.”

Nigel Ojagir
Prizes: Prizes: UWI Bookshop Gift Certificate & Radical Designs Gift Certificate

“I would rate the printed version of the newsletter as excellent. I would rate the electronic version as very good.”

Renee Bianca Maraj
Prizes: Ruby Tuesdays (Lunch/Dinner for 2)

“I would rate the printed version of the newsletter as very good…I would like to see more articles about students, possibly features on outstanding students, top performers, leaders on Campus.”

Kimika Lai Tan
Prizes: Prizes: MovieTowne Gift Certificates (for 4)

“I like that the newsletter keeps students informed about all the news, events and issues happening across campus.”

THE UWI MISSION

The St. Augustine campus of The University of the West Indies is committed to the development of Caribbean countries. At all times, it will seek to contribute to that development by producing graduates and research of high quality, relevance and usefulness in sufficient quantity and at minimum cost.

The St. Augustine campus, by the conduct of its own staff and students as well as by the content of its academic programmes, will strive towards the inculcation of social values of shared communal responsibility, social justice, and respect and tolerance for differences in beliefs, philosophy, ethnicity and culture.

The St. Augustine campus aims at being an intellectual bridge to the wider Caribbean region and the rest of the world, assisting its member countries to benefit from the rapidly growing and constantly changing world stock of ideas, knowledge and expertise, and itself contributing to that stock in ways that enhance the international standing of the Caribbean.
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**Programme for Cooperative Cataloguing - A Training Workshop**

**9-14 January, 2006**

The UWI, St. Augustine Campus Libraries will hold the first training workshop on Name Authority Cooperative Programme (NACO) in the English-speaking Caribbean, from Monday 9th – Saturday 14th January 2006. This training workshop will provide participants with tools to develop and maintain mutually acceptable standards for Name Authority records. NACO training will contribute to the standardization of personal, corporate and geographic names from the Caribbean area. The NACO trainer for the workshop will be Ms. Gracie Gilliam, Cooperative Cataloguing Programme Specialist at the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. The NACO workshop will take place from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm in the User Education Centre, Main Library, UWI, St. Augustine Campus.  

For further information on the NACO Workshop, call 662-2002 ext. 4028, 5005 or 2476

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**UWIDEF 16th Annual Carnival Fete**

**22 January, 2006**

The UWI Development and Endowment Fund (UWIDEF) will host its popular 16th Annual Carnival Fete on Sunday 22nd January, 2006 at the Office of the Principal, UWI, St. Augustine from 12:00 noon – 8:00 pm. Musical entertainment will be provided by Roy Cape All Stars, Dil-E-Nadan, DJ Crosby Sounds, DJ Rene and World Wide Steel Orchestra; Tickets cost $500.00 each and are available at Student Advisory Services. Cheques are to be made payable to The UWI Development & Endowment Fund.  

For further information about the Carnival Fete, call 662-2002 ext. 2326

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**Early Life Origins of Adult Diseases: Is there An Association between Birth Weight and Chronic Disease?**

**2 February, 2006**

If you’re interested in learning more about asthma, type 2 diabetes, hypertension and the relationship between birth-size and the development of these chronic diseases, then don’t miss the lecture by U.W.I. Professor, Zulaika Ali on Thursday 2nd February at 5:30pm, at the Eric Williams Medical Complex Amphitheatre, A, Mount Hope. Professor Ali will examine the ‘Early Life Origins of Adult Diseases: Is there an Association between Birth Weight and Chronic Disease?’ at this free and open Professorial Lecture.  

For more information please call 662-2002 extension 2013 or 2014

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**World of Work 2006**

**19 January – 17 February 2006**

The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, World of Work Programme, will take place from Thursday 19th January – Friday 17th February, 2006. Over the years, the World of Work (WOW) programme has provided hundreds of final year UWI students with the necessary tools for succeeding in today’s professional environment. WOW 2006 will be a four-part programme consisting of: the Resume Writing Workshop on January 19th, the mandatory WOW Seminar on Image Building and Interview Techniques on February 4th, Mock Interviews on February 11th and the Recruitment Fair on the 16th – 17th February.  

For further information on the World of Work 2006 programme, call 662-2002 ext. 3726 or 2013

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**Crime and Justice in the Caribbean**

**8 – 11 February 2006**

The 4th International Conference on Crime and Justice in the Caribbean will be held from Wednesday 8th – Saturday 11th February 2006, at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. The conference will examine ‘New Challenges in Crime and Justice – From Research to Policy’. The conference, which is being hosted by the Centre for Criminology will focus on a number of broad issues in both regional and international contexts, among them, Community Crime Prevention, Juvenile Delinquency and School Violence.  

For further information, please call 662-2002 ext. 3352 or 3355

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**Is there An Association between Birth Weight and Chronic Disease?**

For further information on the NACO Workshop, call 662-2002 ext. 4028, 5005 or 2476
SCL 2006 Conference: A Call For Papers
15 February 2006

The Society of Caribbean Linguistics (SCL) is inviting papers for its upcoming conference which will be held from Wednesday 2nd – Sunday 6th August 2006. The conference, which is dedicated to the memory of Douglas McRae Taylor, will look at ‘Caribbean Language Studies and Educational Development’. Paper abstracts are invited on pertinent areas of Caribbean language and linguistics, including: Phonology, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics, Lexicon, Sociology of language and sociolinguistics, Dialectology, Language Development or History and Language in Education. Abstracts should be submitted in electronic format to the SCL Secretary-Treasurer at secretary (a) scl-online.net. The deadline for abstracts for the conference is Wednesday 15th February, 2006.

For further information, visit the SCL conference website at www.scl-online.net/callforpapers2006.html

Distinguished Open Lecture: Professor Aisha Khan
9 March 2006

Aisha Khan, Associate Professor of Anthropology at New York University, will launch the first UWI Distinguished Open Lecture for 2006. Professor Khan’s post graduate research focussed on the Caribbean and Latin America, race and ethnicity, social stratification, theory and method in diaspora studies, and religion. She has conducted field research in Honduras, Central America among the Garifuna (Black Carib), analysing the informal labour sector and women’s participation in the movement. Her subsequent research has been among East Indians in Trinidad, West Indies, analysing ideologies of race and religion among Hindus and Muslims. At the lecture scheduled for Thursday 9th March, Professor Khan will present the topic, ‘Harmonious Multiculturalism: Tossed salad versus melting pot models’.

For further information on the lecture, call 645-3615

25th Annual West Indian Literature Conference
2 – 4 March, 2006

The 25th Anniversary West Indian Literature Conference will take place from Thursday 2nd – Saturday 4th March 2006 at the Learning Resource Centre (LRC), UWI, St. Augustine Campus. The Conference will feature several renowned scholars and writers who will meet at UWI to discuss the region’s literary and cultural expressions. The 25th West Indian Literature Conference will examine ‘Where is Here: Remapping the Caribbean’. Papers presented will focus on several topics including: Caribbean Gateways to Future Worlds, Post Nationalism and National Literatures, Bridges of Memory, Diasporan Escapes, The Visual and Virtual Caribbean, Limbo, Liminality and the Migrating Subject, Caribbean Performativity and Travelling Sounds, Spirit Journeys and Psychic Territories, Translating the Folk, Sexual Citizenship and Re-charting the Canon. The cost of registration: US $75 for Participants and US $50 for UWI Graduates.

For further information please email Professor Barbara Lalla at blalla@fhe.uwi.tt or Dr. Jennifer Rahim at jrahim@fhe.uwi.tt

2nd Conference on Caribbean Philanthropy
2 – 6 May

The University of the West Indies Development and Endowment Fund (UWIDEF), will host the second Conference on Caribbean Philanthropy from Tuesday 2nd – Saturday 6th May 2006 at the Wyndham Rose Hall Resort, Montego Bay, Jamaica. The primary aim of the conference is to establish a Philanthropic Movement through the Caribbean Region. The conference is intended to stimulate participants to become change agents and mobilize an action network whose mission will be to generate philanthropic contributions to strategically impact development throughout the region.

For further information on the Caribbean Philanthropy Conference, please contact Don Dobson at 1-876-977-6757 or email don.dobson@uwimona.edu.jm.

3rd Sonny Ramadhin Distinguished Cricket Lecture
26 May, 2006

The 3rd Sonny Ramadhin Distinguished Cricket Lecture, hosted jointly by the Faculty of Social Sciences at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and Guardian Life Of The Caribbean, will take place on Friday 26th May 2006 at 7:00 pm in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC), St. Augustine Campus. Every year the lecture is presented by a professional within the cricket field - former presenters include the legendary sports journalist Tony Cozier. The lecture is held in honour of the great achievements of legendary West Indian Cricketer, Sonny Ramadhin during the cricket season in Trinidad and Tobago.

For further information please contact Mrs. Sandra Roopchand-Khan at 662-2002 ext. 3755
A Standing Ovation for Binode Bajnath, Management Auditor with the UWI Management Audit Unit, for being elected to serve as the Administrative, Technical and Service Staff representative on Campus Council for 2005/06. He was elected by his peers at the St. Augustine Campus after gaining 79 votes from a total of 144 ballots. <

Evolution & the Cosmos

The UWI St. Augustine Physics Department in collaboration with the Caribbean Institute of Astronomy (CARINA), hosted an Open Lecture in Astronomy featuring Professor John Hearnshaw, Director of Mt. John University Observatory, New Zealand. Professor Hearnshaw’s lecture entitled, ‘Time and Evolution in the Cosmos’, focussed on measuring the ages of different types of objects in the universe with various tools. Members of the audience took advantage of the opportunity to meet and discuss related matters with the Professor and UWI lecturer Dr. Shirin Haque at the event, which was held on Thursday 8th December at the LRC from 6:00 pm. <

Staff Who Can Cook

The culinary skills of UWI staff were put to the test at the Staff Who Can Cook fundraiser for the members of Inter-Campus Games. Kudos to the members of staff who volunteered to prepare delectable dishes for the event. <

UWIDE/COL

Thanks to the collaboration between the Commonwealth of Learning and the UWI Distance Education Centre an integral workshop to enhance the skills of staff and other participants on E-Learning was held recently at the UWI School of Education Auditorium at St. Augustine, Trinidad. Dr. Olabesi Kuboni of UWIDE/COL, explained that the workshop was “a significant culminating point for various initiatives and experiments that many members of staff across this campus have been engaged in whether individually or in groups, all with the same goal of interrogating our practice, examining it in relation to the needs of the students who are at the centre of the practice, and working on strategies we use, not only to improve but also to redefine and even refashion that practice.” Dr Kuboni also stated that the three day event was the realization of discussions between Campus Principal Dr. Bhoendradatt Tewarie and President of COL, Sir John Daniel. She went on to thank the Principal who was out of the country at the time. Guest facilitators included Mr. Chris Ellick and Dr. Waweru Mwangi. <
Stars for Townsend

Congratulations to Pamela Townsend on winning the Caribbean Pharmacy Star Award for Consistent Attendance and Participation as well as the ACME Award for Outstanding Professional Pharmacy Practice 2005. The trophies were presented to the UWI employee at the Caribbean Association of Pharmacists (CAP) and Commonwealth Pharmaceutical Association, Americas Region Silver Jubilee Convention at the Meridian Pegasus Hotel in Guyana in 2005. <

Aerobics Burn Out

Congratulations to those Champions of stamina: student Michelle John (Overall Winner), Roger Watts (First Place Staff Winner) and Dianne Thurab-Nkosi (First Place Female Staff Winner) at the recent Aerobics burn-out hosted by the UWI Student Services Department. The competition was fierce, but not without lots of fun, including unique categories like Best Energizer Bunny –over 35yrs won by Pamela De Silva. Committed to ensuring that students and staff are healthy in “mind and body” congratulations should also be given to Student Services Director Deirdre Charles and the staff of the Department. Also many thanks to the sponsors for their donations: National Flour Mills, Media Sales, AS Bryden and Sons, Ansa Mc Al, Republic Bank Ltd., Sasha Cosmetics, Nestle Trinidad and Tobago, Caribbean Bottlers Ltd., Industrial Communication Services, J&D Supermarket, C Yip Choy Balilie Ltd., Edinburgh Bottle Supplies Ltd., National Canners Ltd., VEMCO Ltd., S.M. Jaleel and Co. Ltd., The Management Action Group, Splendid Foods and D&N Cosmopolitan Caterers. <

Columbus and the Tyranny of History

Professor William Francis Keegan, Professor of Anthropology of the University of Florida, examined the controversial topic of ‘Columbus & the Tyranny of History: An Archaeological Perspective’ at a Distinguished Open Lecture, on Thursday 10th November, 2005. Some of the myths debunked by the Professor include that “the history presented about the great man [Columbus], most of it is fabricated or manipulated” and that the Nina, Pinta and Santa Maria were not the real names of Columbus’ ships as well as that there “is no evidence of Cannibalism in the Caribbean”. Professor Keegan’s lecture can be accessed at the Marketing and Communications Office on request. <

Racialised Identities

Dr. Nicole Roberts of the Department of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Humanities and Education, examined ‘Racialised Identities, Caribbean Realities: Analysing Black Female Identity in Hispanic Caribbean Poetry’ at a recent seminar hosted by the Centre for Gender and Development Studies (CGDS). During her presentation, Dr. Roberts gave critical readings of several poems written by three Hispanic Caribbean women poets – Excilia Saldana (Cuba), Aída Cartagena Portalatin (Dominican Republic) and Mayra Santos Febres (Puerto Rico), with the aim of constructing possible critical positions for Blacks in popular culture and to suggest ways in which these can be viewed as forms of resistance. <

Hospitality and Tourism Career Expo

UWI Management Studies Students held a Hospitality & Tourism Career Expo, ‘Beyond Your Imagination’, in November, 2005 at the UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC), from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. The expo highlighted careers in tourism and featured exhibits from the Trinidad and Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI), BWIA, Centre of Excellence, The Marriott Hotel, Tourism Development Company (TDC), Banwari Tours, Nature Seekers, TRIBE (the Carnival Band) and T&T Transport Services Association. Feature speakers at the event were Ms. Alisha Ali, THTI Lecturer and Mr. Edward Lee Tang, TDC Marketing Officer. <
Employee of the Year Winner Glen Byer speaks about work, life and being enterprising

Chemistry is a funny word: on one hand, it refers to the branch of science concerned with the properties of substances in the physical world; while at the same time, and perhaps on a deeper level, the word refers to the emotional or psychological interaction between two people. Either way, it’s pretty safe to say that Glen Byer, the senior maintenance assistant in the Department of Chemistry, has “good chemistry.”

At first glance, Glen Byer seems to be a “normal guy”, who, from his “office” in the Chemistry Workshop in the Chemistry 3 Building, oversees the maintenance of the buildings and infrastructure of the entire Department. Byer has been working at the Department since 1987, the year that he left his previous job at the Ministry of Agriculture… and the year that many of the current crop of first year students were born. But the thing about Glen Byer is not just how long he’s been around - there’s something else.

Perhaps the closest you can come to putting your finger on that extra thing that he has is to acknowledge that he is the 2005 winner of the Most Enterpris-
“The driving force is the students... Once students are happy and comfortable, I’m very happy.”

The driving force is the students,” he continued. “Once students are happy and comfortable, I’m very happy.”

Seems like an enviable position, doesn’t it? - to find happiness in the unsung, essential things; helping undergraduate students to complete final year projects; giving technical advice to postgraduate students; and, with the increase in the student population, meeting the growing demand for routine maintenance within the Department.

An initiative “to recognize and reward outstanding performance by employees” and “to boost staff morale” -we could be on to something. >

Gerard Best

“The driving force is the students,” he continued. “Once students are happy and comfortable, I’m very happy.”

MEEAP aims to foster entrepreneurship among University staff by rewarding qualities such as vision, creativity, willingness to engage in lifelong learning, sensitivity, integrity, leadership and communication skills. The programme, which is open exclusively to members of Administrative, Technical and Service Staff (ATSS) who have been continuously employed for at least one year, uses evaluation criteria that do not only evaluate employees’ job performance in terms of time management (efficiency and productivity) but that also consider employees’ interpersonal skills, responsibility for self-development and loyalty to The University.

Winning the MEEAP award is no small feat. The selection process is fairly rigorous, involving three levels of screening, namely a Department Selection Committee, a Faculty Review Committee and, ultimately, the Campus Selection Committee, which is chaired by the Deputy Principal, and which comprises the Pro Vice Chancellor Research, two workers’ representatives, the Campus Registrar, and the Senior Assistant Registrar, Human Resources Section.

“I don’t look at my job specs. That’s not relevant to me,” Byer explained, perhaps articulating the very philosophy that had given him the “edge” and ensured that he is placed in the spotlight along with 2005 awardees—Gloria Baptiste (Main Library), Melissa Gonzales (Instructional Development Unit) and Alicia Broomes Julien (formerly at the Office of the Campus Registrar, currently at the Faculty of Humanities and Education Office).

“Byer with Gloria Baptiste (Main Library), Melissa Gonzales (Instructional Development Unit) and Alicia Broomes Julien (formerly at the Office of the Campus Registrar, currently at Faculty of Humanities and Education Office).
The St. Augustine Campus of The University of the West Indies has been focused on providing enhanced facilities to the rapidly growing student population over the years. However, with a more than 40% increase in the past three years in the student population, meeting the needs of the community has been an on-going challenge. As a result, several renovation and construction projects have been fast-tracked and completed, Principal Tewarie explained recently: “Physical infrastructure and comfort have not kept pace with student growth but we are doing all that we can to ensure that staff, faculty and students will enjoy a top quality work environment.”

Walk through the Campus and you will notice an extension to the Humanities and Education Building, a three-storey facility with offices, computer/writing rooms and classrooms; as well as the construction of a modern School of Education Building, which houses a new library, 12 classrooms, auditorium and science and computer laboratories.

Located near to the Mount Hope Medical Sciences Complex, an expansive Campus for the UWI Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business also opened its doors in 2005. Students have also seen the enhancement of the food court in the JFK Quadrangle on Campus with the opening of the popular Rituals Coffee House, Subway and Marios/Blimpie outlets, stationed alongside other choices such as the Veg-Out café.

Another element of the construction of these buildings is the focus on ensuring that interiors are ergonomic in design to ensure comfort and efficiency for the Campus Community.

Others projects which have moved from the drawing table to the construction phase include the UWI Centre for Language Learning expansion, with a renovated second floor to house the Critical Thinking Centre, as well as the building of additional classrooms, offices and an auditorium with seating for 150. The new Student Administration Building, a three storey facility which will have a basement level to house archives and records among others, is also carded for completion in 2006.

The New Year also promises to see the construction of the innovative Teaching Learning Complex. This six storey building will contain several auditoria, specialized laboratories as well as teaching and tutorial rooms. At the UWI state-of-the-art Sport and Physical Education Centre the upgraded Sir Frank Worrell Field, the fencing of the property and the construction of an access road were completed in time to house the thousands of patrons who came to see the UWI Vice Chancellor’s XI take on the touring South African team.

“Our vision is to make the St. Augustine Campus a place that West Indians can be proud of and a venue that students and scholars from abroad will line up to visit. This campus must be on the leading edge of education and research and we need the infrastructure and space to make that possible. So we need not just more buildings, but more land and that is why in everything that we do we must also keep up with the technology. However, it is important to remember always that people must be at the Centre of any successful enterprise,” Dr Tewarie concluded.
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LOW!! LOW!! INTEREST RATE
UWI students learn the subtleties of this Afro-Brazilian martial art

Sekhetneb Amunwah is a Capoeira instructor who loves Zen parables. You’ve probably seen the instructor and his Capoeira group, Grupo axe Capoeira, on Sheldon Blackman’s new music video, ‘Two is Better than One.’

In a previous interview, the Capoeira instructor had told me another classic story—the one where he quit his stable job in a high-society restaurant to become a full-time Capoeirista. That was in 1998. Today, eight years later, Amunwah is the manager of the Trinidad arm of Grupo axe Capoeira, running classes in Arima, San Fernando and at the Student Activity Centre, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus.

In a sense, UWI is the home of this Capoeira school. The UWI cell, which started in 2001 with only five people, has grown to some 20 students today, making up about half of the Trinidad group. Then again, it’s really not that surprising that Amunwah feels so at home giving classes at The UWI, given his proclivity for all things philosophical.

Zen stories contain deep principles, Amunwah says. Here’s one he shared with me: One day, in ancient times, the master and the student were walking through the forest and were talking like old friends. As they walked they came upon a swollen pond.

“Cross the pond,” said the master to his student.

“No, Master, you cross,” replied the student, deferring to his master out of respect. But the master insisted, “You cross.”

The student, respecting his master’s request, crossed the pond with ease as if walking on dry leaves. Then the master followed.

“If I knew you were going to perform a miracle, I would have broken both your legs,” said the master to the student.

“Those who seek peace prepare for war,” he volunteers. “Ten percent of the martial art is what you learn in the academy. That’s the physical aspect—how to defend yourself against your opponent, how to be effective in situations of crime prevention, safety precautions, self-defense and so on. But the 90 percent is in the dialogue, the conversations with the students. That is where the martial art is actually being taught.”

In a martial arts world dominated by Oriental culture, the Afro-Brazilian art of Capoeira (pronounced ka-pway-ra) stands out for being the only popular self-defense technique to incorporate Afrocentric music, dance and song into its rhythmic cartwheels, handstands, spinning kicks and spontaneous acrobatics. And on the local Capoeira scene, Amunwah (known as Azulao) stands out as a strict disciplinarian who strongly promotes the philosophical “subtleties”, not just the physical performance, of this rigorous martial artform.

In fact, the martial art is just one part of Capoeira. Samba de roda and Condonble are two other fundamental aspects of the Brazilian tradition. Samba de roda is the dance between male and female Capoeiristas after a Jogo de Capoeira (game of Capoeira); while Condonble (more commonly known as Orisha in Trinidad) was the religion practised by the Africans in Palmeires, the historic site of the runaway slave fortress where the ancient progenitors of modern Capoeiristas once converged to perfect the art which they would later use to free other slaves.

“Martial arts [are] ten percent physical and 90 percent mental...If mastery of life is what you’re truly trying to attain, you can’t neglect the subtleties of the martial art. Then your students will become good fighters but not good teachers.”

“Martial arts [are] ten percent physical and 90 percent mental,” he explains. “If mastery of life is what you’re truly trying to attain, you can’t neglect the subtleties of the martial art. Then your students will become good fighters but not good teachers.”

If you’re interested in learning more about Capoeira, you can contact Instructor Azulao at (868) 792 0655 or e-mail him at trinicapoeira@gmail.com. For more information about Grupo axe Capoeira, visit the Group’s international website at www.axecapoeira.com. > GB
Every year an increasing number of marine mammals, predominantly dolphins, whales and manatees, are found stranded on Caribbean coasts. In most cases, the cause of stranding is unknown, but some identified causes have included disease, parasite infestation, harmful algal blooms, injuries from ship strikes or fishery entanglements, pollution exposure, trauma, and starvation. In addition, strandings often occur after unusual weather or oceanographic events.

Recently, efforts including the examination of carcasses and live stranded animals have increased the knowledge of mortality rates and causes; allowing for better understanding of population threats and pressures. The unfortunate fact is that the majority of strandings in the Caribbean are often fatal. A contributing factor is the need for more trained responders. To build capacity in this area, several parties have developed a Draft Marine Mammal Action Plan (MMAP), subject to the United Nations Environmental Programme’s Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region. The MMAP outlines specific regional and national management plans for endangered, threatened or vulnerable species and the need to develop a strong capability for the co-ordination of information exchange, training and technical assistance in support of national biodiversity conservation efforts.

In this vein, The University of the West Indies School of Veterinary Medicine along with the Eastern Caribbean Cetacean Network (ECCN), MARVET (Grenada), the Smithsonian Marine Mammal Laboratory (Washington, D.C.), the (United Nations Environment Programme) UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme, and U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service, hosted a ‘Marine Mammal Stranding Response Training Workshop’ in November 2005.

The four day workshop, held at the School of Veterinary Medicine, Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Trinidad, was a training forum for ten invitees representing Governmental and Non-Governmental Organizations from Grenada, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Barbados, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. The objectives of the workshop included reviewing techniques and protocols for responding to stranding incidents for marine mammals and facilitating possibilities for collaboration of countries in the region, as marine mammals are trans-boundary.

The workshop included two days of indoor training by local and international marine experts covering topics such as: The Conservation Value of Marine Mammal Strandings, Marine Mammals as Bio-Indicators of Health and External and Internal Necropsy, a day of on-site training at Manzanilla Beach and another day of laboratories where marine mammal carcasses were studied. The workshop highlighted the collaborative research that the University’s School of Veterinary Medicine continues to produce working with regional and international organizations to develop efficient responses to marine mammal strandings in the Caribbean. > Carlene London
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INVEST IN U
SMALL AXE

Guest Editors: Dr. Martin Munro & Dr. Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw

This special issue of the literary journal, Small Axe, (number 18, vol. 9, no. 2) features several of the presentations from the successful UWI Faculty of Humanities and Education’s Haitian Bicentenanny Conference of 2004. “Pro- fondes et Nombreuses: Haiti, History, Culture, 1804-2004” is the focus of this issue, edited by David Scott along with guest editors Dr Martin Munro and Dr Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw, UWI lecturers and coordinators of the Conference. This issue features several articles from prominent writers including the examination of The Founding Myths of the Haitian Nation by Maximilien Laroche, The Theatre of the Haitian Revolution/the Haitian Revolution as Theatre by J. Michael Dash and The Sign of the Loa by UWI Professor Patricia Mohammed. There is also a Writer’s Roundtable with Dany Laferrière, Louis-Philippe Dalem- bert, Edwidge Danticat and Evelyne Trouillot which is moderated by J. Michael Dash.

For subscriptions, and information on Small Axe, see: <http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/small_axe/toc/smx9_2.html> and <http://www.smallaxe.net>

CARIBBEAN INDIAN FOLKTALES

Dr. Kumar Mahabir
Illustrations by Angali Dabideen & Freddie Partap

A collection of 25 stories which have been passed down from generation to generation through the oral tradition – ‘tales shared among migrant East Indian labourers and their Caribbean descendants for over a century and a half’. The tales were tape-recorded from tradition-bearers in Trinidad, Guyana, Jamaica, St Lucia and Grenada since 1980. For more information e-mail: mahabir@tttt.net.tt, dmahabir@gmail.com <

A READER ON THE CARIBBEAN ECONOMY

Dennis Pantin

On Wednesday 14th December, the Department of Economics in collaboration with Ian Randle Publishers launched A Reader on The Caribbean Economy edited by UWI Lecturer Dennis Pantin. During his address Pantin explained that the book “forms the material for a more generalised definition of the Caribbean Economy to come in the near future”. Feature speaker Minister Conrad Ennill (Ministry of Finance), underscored the importance of the publication in his Feature Address, describing the book as ambitious, timely and urgent. The publication features essays by several prominent economists including Lloyd Best, W. Arthur Lewis and Eric St. Cyr. <

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PRIDE & PREJUDICE

Although no film can truly capture the lyrical prose of Jane Austen, the latest instalment of Pride & Prejudice by Director Joe Wright with screenplay by Deborah Moggach, comes pretty close. Here, the cinematographer captures the wild sweeping landscape of the English countryside and seamlessly juxtaposes this against the more restrained, manicured lawns of the aristocracy. Wright is a talented director who brings a decidedly realistic, gritty feel to the Bennet household, all the while underscoring the inheritance theme and the need for a “good marriage” for the five Bennet daughters. The costume designer effectively highlights the differences between the classes: muslin versus silk dresses; feathers versus cotton bonnets. Several performances also resonate, starting with Keira Knightley (Bend It Like Beckham) who gives an engaging, thoughtful portrayal of Elizabeth Bennet, while Donald Sutherland gives a strikingly empathetic depiction of her inconsiderate, adoring father. Dame Judy Dench never disappoints, once again she captures the inherent prejudice and insecurity of Lady Catherine. However, seeing MacFadyen on screen, one still longs for the silent, consuming looks and pointed delivery of Colin Firth as Darcy in the BBC TV production. Still it’s a must see for Austen fans. For more movies visit MovieTowne. <AWH

HARNESSING SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY:

An upcoming regional Conference will examine Harnessing Science & Technology (S&T) for Caribbean Development from May 9-13, 2006, in Trinidad and Tobago. This meeting will bring together stakeholders from the region to discuss inter alia processes and mechanisms by which S&T can be utilized to address some of the major problems facing the region and develop strategies for innovation and improved competitiveness. The major focus of the Conference will be on socio-economic development.

The meeting is organized jointly by CARICOM, UWI and CARISCIENCE. The members of the Organizing Committee are: Prof. H. Ramkissoon – Executive Secretary, CARISCIENCE, Trinidad (Chair), Dr. A. Ventura – Science Advisor to the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Mrs. M. Bernard – CARICOM Secretariat, Guyana, Prof. W. Hunte – Pro Vice Chancellor Research, UWI, Barbados and Prof. I. Kahwa – UWI, Mona, Jamaica. Among the invited speakers are: His Excellency, Dr. S. Carrington, Secretary General of CARICOM, Prime Minister to the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Mrs. M. Bernard – CARICOM Secretariat, Guyana, Prof. W. Hunte – Pro Vice Chancellor Research, UWI, Barbados and Prof. I. Kahwa – UWI, Mona, Jamaica. Among the invited speakers are: His Excellency, Dr. S. Carrington, Secretary General of CARICOM, Prime Minister, the Honorable K. Mitchell, Prime Minister responsible for S&T, CARICOM, The Honorable P. Manning, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Prof. A. Zewail, Nobel Laureate, Prof. E. N. Harris, Vice Chancellor, UWI, Prof. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman, Chairman [Federal Minister], Higher Education Commission, Pakistan, Prof. C. Bourne President, Caribbean Development Bank and Economist, Barbados, Dr. R. Wright, President, Petrojam, Jamaica.

THE A-WORD

‘The A-Word’ is an hour-long independent video documentary that examines the proposal of abortion law reform in Trinidad and Tobago. The documentary, which was jointly produced, directed and edited by Brianne LaBauve and Lisle Waldron, includes interviews with activists, lawyers, religious leaders and other key persons from over a ten-month period. <
Dr. Anil K. Deisingh
Tribute to a colleague & friend

Dr. Anil K. Deisingh was killed in a vehicular accident on the morning of 21st October 2005 along the Solomon Hochoy Highway, as he travelled to his workplace at the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI). He worked as an analytical chemist at CARIRI and this academic year joined the staff of The University of the West Indies as a part-time lecturer in Analytical Chemistry at the Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science and Agriculture.

Dr. Deisingh held an impressive academic record of a B.Sc. Chemistry (UWI), Diploma Food Technology (UWI), M.Sc. Medical Chemistry (Loughborough University, UK), M.Sc. Analytical Chemistry (University of Massachusetts, USA), Ph.D Bioanalytical Chemistry (University of Toronto, Canada) and a Postdoctoral Fellow Bioanalytical Chemistry (Mc. Master University, Canada).

He had published over 20 refereed articles in international medical, chemistry and food science and technology journals. His research areas were on the applications of electronic noses and tongues in food analysis, challenges posed by counterfeit drugs and their danger to public health, the development of biosensors and other analytical methods for the rapid detection of bacteria in food, water and clinical samples using methods of molecular microbiology and DNA synthesis, detection methods for genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and bioterrorism.

We have lost truly a humble human being of incredible character, courage and honesty, who had so much more to offer to our society. Anil was my very dear friend. He is survived by his father Kenneth and siblings Mala and Vijay.

Dr. Neela Badrie, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Science and Agriculture,
The University of the West Indies

Mr. Kenneth Cazabon
The Passing of Another University Icon

Mr. Kenneth Cazabon, former Manager of the Computer Center (now CITS) quietly passed away on Sunday 8th January 2006 and was buried at the University’s cemetery on Friday 13th January 2006.

Ken Cazabon first started the computer lab in a small room in Engineering in the early 60’s. Small though it was, this lab facilitated not only the engineering staff and students, but also the entire campus, particularly Mathematics and Computer Science. Staff and students throughout the University benefited from his initiative with regards to the analyses of research data. Many external users also benefited from the service he provided at the Centre.

Mr. Cazabon was also responsible for introducing the computer as a tool to assist the Bursary in their many functions, particularly with payroll, inventory and student accounts. He also worked closely with the Registry’s Admissions and Examination sections, which he assisted with student records.

What most people may not know or remember about Ken Cazabon was that he was a qualified Mechanical Engineer and he taught in the Faculty up until his retirement.

Though he was Manager of the Computer Centre and liaised with the campus community at that level, there was hardly anything that he did not do. Nothing was too big or too small for him to do. If the messenger was not there, no problem, he would carry the message – whatever it took to complete the task. Time was also of not much significance to him, when it came to getting the job done; holidays, weekends, day or night was insignificant. You could always find him on the campus, working.

Ken Cazabon was truly an honest, dedicated and committed member of staff, who served the campus community well. Many of us will surely miss him.

The Staff of CITS

Mr. Byron William (June 11, 2005)
Former Campus Bursar and UWIDEC Course Coordinator until his passing.

Professor Junior Barnes (September 9, 2005)
Former Head of Biochemistry Unit, Faculty of Medical Sciences.

Mrs. Ritz de Gazon (September 14, 2005)
Cleaner with the Campus Security Office since 1991.

Mr. Esmond Ramesar (December 5, 2006)
Former Resident Tutor of School of Continuing Studies, UWI, St. Augustine.

Mr. Ken Cazabon (January 8, 2006)
Stalwart and Former Manager of Computer Centre (Campus IT)

Our condolences to the family and friends of these treasured members of the UWI community.
“It was not a beauty contest,” insisted Kersha Cindy Edwards, one of UWI’s two valedictorians for 2005. Kersha is one of my oldest acquaintances—we first met as undergraduate students at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus—but I’m quickly finding out that the girl I once knew is now quite grown up. And how!

“It was a Miss Emancipation competition,” she said, describing with clinical precision how contestants were not only asked to model traditional and authentic wear of the country they were representing but also to deliver a brief presentation about that country.

“I was Miss Kenya and I represented the Samburu tribe,” she continued.

Truth is, when Kersha started telling me that she’d decided to take part in this pageant, I just assumed it was, you know, a modeling show, a beauty contest. It was so easy to imagine a carefree Kersha of younger days knocking the socks off the judges. But 23-year-old Kersha was having none of that.

“It had nothing to do with what you look like,” she said, pausing to make sure I’d gotten the facts straight before adding, “It’s about how accurately you represent the African culture. And, yes, I won two tickets to Barbados.”
I nodded compliantly, silently took notes and racked my brain for a safer line of questioning.

“I’ve never taken part in a beauty contest. I’ve been the MC at a beauty contest but I would never take part in a beauty contest. There’s no way that I [would] walk in a bikini on a stage, or a bathing suit, or any kind of revealing attire… I’m much too conservative for that.”

Conservative? What about belle-of-the-ball Kersha? Life-of-the-party Kersha? Clearly, I’d been out of touch. The brief interview would be a steep learning curve. In her seven years at Naparima Girls’ High School, San Fernando, Kersha was one of three girls who were the first to gain ten CXC O’ Level subjects at Naparima Girls’. She would obtain ten distinctions and the award for Most Outstanding student at Ordinary Level Examinations. Later on, whether she was representing her school and her country at regional debating contests or international mathematics competitions, Kersha would continue to excel. In the end, she earned three distinctions and a ‘B’ at GCE Advanced Level Examinations, winning a scholarship for Mathematics and a prize for Further Mathematics.

At UWI, she continued to shine, graduating in 2005 with First Class Honours and a skills-set that included programming and debugging microprocessor-based applications, and GUI development using C++ and Matlab.

“Is it unusual for a female to emerge at the top of the Engineering Faculty in this way?” I asked.

“It is something that I hope that the male community takes notice of—that no longer are women the tail or the lesser half,” replied Kersha, who captured the 2005 Raytheon Canada Prize, emerging as the top Level Three student doing the computer option in the Electrical and Computer department of the Engineering faculty.

“If you look at the statistics over the past years, it was predictable that women, once they were allowed into male-dominated fields, would excel. And I think we are proving that,” said Kersha, the “we” meant to include her female colleague, Crista Mohammed, with whom she shared valedictory honours this year.

Other women to whom Kersha feels indebted are the girls of Trinity Hall, the all-female residence hall where she’d spent her undergraduate years.

“The thing about being a Gremlin [a code-name meaning “a resident of T-Hall”] is that they form your main source of support and your friends,” she explained. So how do you thank a group of girls who have supported you through the most difficult times of your undergraduate career? You dance.

“I was always in charge of dance on Trinity Hall. So for all our concerts I choreographed and danced. If we needed a dancer for Val Dinner or any other special event, I would do that as well. It was such a privilege to be able to give back to my hall in a creative way. I was involved in UWI Dance Theatre off and on but somehow dancing with Trinity Hall was more fulfilling because I was contributing to the thing that fuelled me.”

“I was also involved in debating, which I think every student should be involved in, not just because every student should learn to speak or formulate their ideas but also, I think, it teaches the student to be aware of what is going on in the University, events within the country that affect us, regionally and internationally as well,” continued Kersha, who has not only competitively represented T-Hall, but has also represented the University in Barbados, Jamaica and Toronto, Canada.

“By simulating debates, you find out what other students think,” she explained. “It’s extremely critical that you know what your peers are thinking because these are the people who are going to be leading society in years to come. So it’s also important that you take the time to shape their views by contributing your opinion as well.” You’re telling me, I thought (re)shaped for one day.

“I was also involved in the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship on campus. That was, like, a spiritual bedrock for me because UWI can get crazy and it’s always good to know who your source is and to come back to that source every time things get crazy.” She paused.

“Not just when things get crazy but to also to stay there to maintain your sanity so that when times get crazy you don’t fall away and become somebody you no longer recognise.” > GB
When I was doing my degree, I was completely consumed by it, not because I was keeping my eye on some fantastic goal like being the Valedictorian, but because I was really, really enjoying it.

They don’t come much humbler than Crista Mohammed. In Crista’s resume, “Awards” almost seems to be an afterthought. The one-word heading, somewhere between “Cabinet Appointments” and “Community Service” has only two entries: “Holder of the Prestigious Commonwealth Youth Award for 1999” and “Recognised by the Centre of Gender and Development Studies (CGDS), UWI, St. Augustine for having attained all grade As in the Gender Minor programme for 2005.”

Browsing through the two-page resume, I’m even tempted to ascribe humility to the absence of another entry—“Valedictorian, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus for 2005,” the bullet point somehow more notable in its absence than if the 2005 Valedictorian had included it. But this was back in October, 2005, when, having only just completed her B.A. degree—a major in Literatures of English with minors in Communication Studies and Gender Studies—the multi-tasking achiever was likely as not simply too busy with other things to update her CV. Other things like, say, preparing her valedictory address, or catching-up on some reading.

“When I was doing my degree, I was completely consumed by it, not because I was keeping my eye on some fantastic goal like being the Valedictorian, but because I was really, really enjoying it.”

“Right now I’m reading Interrogating Caribbean Masculinities, an anthropology of essays edited by (CGDS Director, Professor) Rhoda Reddock,” volunteered Crista, somewhere in the middle of the interview, after she’d more or less caught me up on the previous 30 years of her life.

“One of the most critical problems with the concept of masculinity in the Caribbean is not male underachievement but one of the critical causative agents behind that underachievement, which is how we construct masculinity in the Caribbean. It is no longer hip for a male to be bright or to achieve in the classroom. I’ve seen that in my work at school as a teacher, and I’ve seen it as a tutor at the University.”

Crista, who has been a teacher for the past eight years, currently teaches Geography at Point Fortin Senior Secondary School, her alma mater, and tutors (part-time) in Communication for the Liberal Arts Department, Faculty of Humanities and Education. In fact, for the duration of her degree, she worked all day then commuted from Point to UWI and back…a four hour return trip.

“Young men […] now actually celebrate their ignorance,” she continued. “They no longer yearn for knowledge or excellence the way they would have when I was at
school. […] That’s particularly true of the Humanities; we don’t seem to have much male representation there.”

The Humanities were not the first path that Crista chose; she actually studied sciences all the way up to A’Levels.

“I really found that doing a degree in the Humanities was not because I had some career option in mind but because it was an opportunity to explore the better parts of me and to explore my own potential. It was about self-discovery and so I enjoyed that process of journeying toward self,” she said, noting that, although she chose Sciences rather than Modern Studies at A’Levels (much to the chagrin of her English teacher), she still read all the Literature books…unlike many of her contemporaries who had chosen to study Literature!

“When I was doing my degree, I was completely consumed by it, not because I was keeping my eye on some fantastic goal like being the Valedictorian, but because I was really, really enjoying it,” she said, adding that there was a whole list of people she wished to thank

“Dr. [Paula] Morgan, Dr. [Godfrey] Steele, Professor [Patricia] Mohammed, Professor [Gordon] Rohlehr, Professor [Rhoda] Reddock and the Dean, Dr. [Ian] Robertson.” She also thanked many other people, including her parents, who provided invaluable support. It wasn’t always that way, she explained that early in her adulthood, it was “very difficult” for key people around Crista to understand why she was “neglecting” her formal education in favour of her community work.

“But when they began to see the rewards
of it, they came around,” she said, revealing that during her studies at UWI, her parents would prepare meals for her and bring them to her apartment. She would go months at a time without having to cook a meal.

“That’s the kind of silent yet significant support I’ve had from [my parents].” Our conversation is anything but linear, weaving in and out of a variety of Crista’s interests: community-based youth development programmes, the writing of V.S. and Shiva Naipaul, the possibility of postgraduate study on Mona Campus and, of course, the Caribbean construct of masculinity. Did I mention that she was a multi-tasker?

“It’s what keeps me going. I can’t imagine life sitting still,” she says laughing.

“So we have a crisis with our young men,” she resumed, “not because they are victims of female achievement but because we are buying into values that […] we are not interrogating and we don’t understand the intent behind those values and the assumptions that feed those values. These are the key agents that are forcing us to reconstruct our masculinity in different destructive ways. It’s very troubling to me as a young woman.”

What, I asked, are some ways in which this ideological regimentation is rearing its ugly head?

“Every time you turn on the TV; every time you think it is hip to be a thug, to be abusive to a woman; to use obscenities as if they were verbs and nouns; every time you think that violence is cool; every time you think road rage is acceptable because it’s hip on TV; every time we celebrate infidelity on the TV and in our music; all those things, I think, are imported values, although some of them are probably located in our own indigenous art forms, like the celebration of the village ram. But the village ram used to be a very suave kind of character. Now the village sweet-man has to be abusive and violent. Those things are coming from outside.” > GB
In recent years an exchange programme between UWI and Emory University has proven to be highly successful to both staff and students involved in Gender Studies. Students have been given the opportunity to spend a semester at the visiting institution, attending lectures, continuing research into related areas and sharing experiences; While sponsoring faculty members from their home institution visit the students and present public lectures. The initiative incorporates the three main Campuses of UWI - Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

UWI graduate student Nicole Hunte was one of the students who travelled to Emory in 2004 and left a memorable impression on faculty and students.

“The women’s studies department could do nothing but rave about her,” explained a colleague.

“I felt that this was a good opportunity for me to get field work, hands-on experience in...
“Collegial sharing is an important part of the transmission of knowledge, and now students and faculty members will be a part of that with UWI. Despite today’s technology, personal communication is still very important.”

terms of other Caribbean [countries] outside of Jamaica,” explained an enthusiastic Claudette Anderson, an Emory graduate student who is researching the rituals and language in Jamaican folk medicine.

For Shani Settles who is pursuing a PhD in Women’s Studies, the exchange presented several opportunities including the ability to “enrich” her knowledge base as the students also present their findings in lunch-time and graduate seminars.

UWI Professor Pat Mohammed (Centre for Gender Development Studies) has stated that the programme has enhanced the quality of education provided to the students as it presents “the ability to stand outside of it... a moving away which enriches [the experience].” She has been working with Edna Bay of Emory’s Graduate Institute of Liberal Arts for over five years to create and maintain the database of gender related images. Made possible through a grant provided by the Fulbright Alumni Initiatives Awards Programmes, Edna Bay explained that the database and awards programmes are designed to enhance the training, teaching and research initiatives of both Universities.

The database of gender related photographs, engravings, drawings and paintings from the Caribbean can be used for teaching and research purposes and it contains images from Central and West Africa, which form a majority of Caribbean ancestry stems. The two part project has two sets of images one gender based with thousands of images and the other which can be used as a teaching aid/tool. The combination according to Mohammed “works very nicely”.

The database will serve as a major archival resource for both teachers and students but it will also stimulate a new way of teaching and learning.

“Once you stimulate a student using images like this, it takes him or her in new directions, as it did [with us] when we first began this project”, explained Mohammed.

The strengths of the two institutions have made the programme a success - with UWI’s focus being more in the areas of empirical research, archival resources and field studies, while Emory’s gender studies programme is more theoretical in nature.

“Collegial sharing is an important part of the transmission of knowledge, and now students and faculty members will be a part of that with UWI. Despite today’s technology, personal communication is still very important.” Edna Bay explained.

Bay and Mohammed have combined their efforts with Carla Freeman of the Institute for Women’s Studies, as well as Barbara Bailey, Rhoda Reddock, Eudine Barritteau and June Costello of UWI to develop and coordinate the programme.

Reporting AWH
Source- article by Elizabeth Cloud
Please contact ebay@emory.edu for more information
used to be, a picture went for a thousand words. But how much are pictures worth these days? Well, if the start-up cost of the proposed Bachelor of Arts Film programme at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus (approximately two and a half million TT dollars in its first year) is any indication, a picture’s worth could be on the up and up. Just ask Dr. Jean Antoine-Dunne, co-designer (with Dr. Bruce Paddington) of the newly proposed programme. Dr. Antoine-Dunne is convinced that pictures—moving pictures, that is—have an important role to play in the future of the Caribbean. >>
Dr. Antoine-Dunne’s programme proposal, currently circulating at decision-making levels of the University, puts it this way: “[The] programme acknowledges the unique nature of Caribbean perception and the extraordinary creativity of the region, which properly channeled can and should provide a basis for a challenge to the hegemonies of established international film industries. It is therefore one of the principles of this programme that the teaching of film in The University of the West Indies should be grounded in a Caribbean ethos.”

The programme, which will be offered by the Faculty of Humanities and Education (FHE), Department of Liberal Arts from September of this year, includes two video courses already offered by the Centre for Creative and Festival Arts (CCFA), which currently has some fifty-plus students registered in its video-making courses. The new Bachelor of Arts programme will offer four options: a Major (36 credits) or a Special (45 credits) in either Film Studies or Film Production. Courses offered fall into two columns, whose headings, ‘Theory, Aesthetics and History’ and ‘Production’, are self-explanatory.

“We have been pioneering the production aspect of it,” said Ken Crichlow, Visual Arts programme co-ordinator at the CCFA, explaining that since the inception of the existing programme in 1998, students have produced over 50 creative and documentary pieces. Crichlow added that any programme that embraced “students who are not necessarily interested in the production aspect, but perhaps more in the theoretical and historical aspects,” would be a welcome addition.

Of interest, in so far as the content of the newly proposed programme, are its compulsory courses. There are five of these under Theory, Aesthetics and History: Introduction to Cinema; Film, Literature and Drama; Early and Silent Cinema and the Rise of Nation; Caribbean and Latin American Film; and Sound and Visual Dynamics. Students will, in the very first of these compulsory courses, be introduced to such key concepts as the Star system and spectator identification, the political imperatives of cinema, the ideological implications of framing, the representations of race and gender in cinema and the problem of film as a document of reality.

“[The] programme acknowledges the unique nature of Caribbean perception and the extraordinary creativity of the region, which properly channeled can and should provide a basis for a challenge to the hegemonies of established international film industries.”
There are also a couple of compulsory courses under Production, which aim to walk students through every aspect of production you can shake a stick at-screenwriting, producing, scheduling, budgeting, directing (and assistant directing), lighting, sound recording, scripting, location scouting, videotaping techniques, interviewing, editing and, of course, post production. The programme is not all theory, but entails compulsory screenings, a series of presentations by international film scholars and international film makers, as well as an in-built fieldwork component. If only because she describes the programme as “shaped by my own interests”, it may be worth taking a closer look at Dr. Antoine-Dunne.

A professional painter, Dr. Antoine-Dunne completed her undergraduate studies (B.A. English) at the St. Augustine Campus, submitting an undergraduate thesis on The History of Art in Trinidad. Scene Two. Dr. Antoine-Dunne moves to Ireland, where she reads for an M.A. at St. Patrick’s College, Maynooth, submitting a comparative study of the language of the plays of John Millington Synge and the poetry of Kamau Brathwaite. Scene Three, Dr. Antoine-Dunne receives her doctorate from University College, Dublin, submitting a doctoral thesis on Beckett, Walcott and Eisenstein. The plot thick-ens when Dr. Antoine-Dunne, whose film studies background is in Soviet cinema, becomes an International Beckett Scholar and a Newman Scholar.

Dr. Antoine-Dunne’s bookshelf, in her small office on the FHE Building Third Floor, seems to speak for itself (as bookshelves on that floor sometimes do), disclosing the spread of her disparate interests: Beckett, Anthony Cronin; Eisenstein, Ronald Bergan; Film and Theory, Stam and Miller (Eds.); James Joyce, Ellmann. What’s the grand finale? How do the lecturer’s various interests come together in this new programme?

“I have in fact constructed courses within the Film Programme that reflect that interdisciplinary thrust,” said Dr. Antoine-Dunne, adding the courses were “quite unique.” Something to look forward to, perhaps. As a general rule, students entering the programme must satisfy UWI matriculation requirements, although the proposal states that exemption may be offered to those who have a proven track record in the film, video or television industry.

For more information, please contact Dr. Jean Antoine-Dunne at 1(868) 662-2002 Ext. 3021. Okay, that’s a wrap. Cut and print! > Gerard Best

AMERICAN FOUNDATION GALA
UWI luminaries to be honoured

At the American Foundation for The University of the West Indies (UWI) Gala, luminaries Sir Shridath Ramphal, Sir Alister McIntyre and Professor Rex Nettleford will be celebrated for their contribution to the development of the University. These three retired heads of The University of the West Indies will be honoured by the Foundation at a gala in New York City in February. This is the ninth annual gala hosted by the Foundation, whose patron is the legendary entertainer Harry Belafonte. At the event several international icons will also be honoured: Al Roker, co-host of the NBC Today Show; Bill Rhodes, Chief Executive and President of Citibank; and Brazilian Minister of Culture Gilberto Gil who will be presented with the inaugural Bob Marley Award. The 2006 Luminary Award Recipients are: The Honourable Maurice Facey, OJ, JP, Chairman of Pan Jamaican Investment Trust Limited; Ambassador Peter King, Special Envoy of Jamaica; George Gobin, Microsoft West Indies General Manager; Arthur Bethel, Chairman of Sagicor; Dancia Penn, Deputy Governor of the British Virgin Islands; and Robert Riley, Chairman of bptt. Over the years this benefit has raised a net profit of over US $1,000,000 for the UWI.
Kenrick Burgess
Managing Director
Global Competitive Strategies Ltd.

Why did you choose UWI to do a first degree in Civil Engineering?
I was one of the first secondary school students to attempt Civil Engineering. Few students had the opportunity to go to University…I didn’t do A-Levels. I did O-Levels and went to N-1 (A-Level equivalent in Natural Sciences)...You have to understand that we were one of the first sets of graduates...we were the students they were looking to for developing the country. Engineers were very scarce. There were about 20 people in my class from the West Indies...We just wanted to be engineers, we had that passion...I happened to be a child when our flag went up during independence, and somehow independence impacted on me...

My mother was a maid at the University. She worked earlier on in the Principal’s Office and then [in the residence halls] with students...It was a high point for her to have a son study engineering at UWI. She wanted her children to be there...It was the fulfillment of a dream. She is 92 years old now.

Tell me about your first job after graduation.
We were hired from 2nd year. Everybody in those days went into the Ministry of Works...to get the experience. In engineering you needed about 5 years training before you could be registered...I had to construct, design, build, supervise...They asked us to go to Tobago which was a tremendous experience. You were doing many projects, so you learned a lot quickly.

UWI prepared me for this and gave me the ability to think. Two particular lecturers who made a difference were Dr. Dean. He advised my career. In terms of excellence in academics, I think I would give credit to Professor Imbert. Somehow or the other from the first time I entered the campus he stuck at me.
How did you make the transition from Civil Engineering to Project Management?

It is related to how my career was built…My strategy was that I would be a good engineering practitioner, then have continuous improvement linked to further academic study…In Tobago I was handling about 60 small projects…so my management skills were developed. Also through involvement in church and Inter-School/Inter-Varsity Fellowship I also had leadership training in my Christian life…I appreciate my time at UWI which I think provided me with confidence to grow as a manager.

…Joining NIPDEC as a Project Manager…was the turning point for me…We had training…They brought in a project management company from England to set up all of the systems and they chose me to be the person on the committee from Tobago…So I grew with the development of the company. I was managing TT$250 million dollars worth of projects. At that time I was 10 years younger than anyone else in the company, but I learned from UWI that you humble yourself and you learn…I went on to spend 22 years in the public service…

What other degrees did you do at UWI and what propelled you to design a postgraduate programme in Project Management at the University?

I did Diplomas in Construction Engineering & Management, Public Administration, and Management at UWI. Then I did a Henley MBA by distance…I would say to people you’ve got to keep studying, you’ve got to improve your skills…

[In terms of the MSc] there was a worldwide problem of poor project management, project failures…I had started my own company and been in private practice for about 5 years. I had worked with a lot of the international agencies and realised that as a body of knowledge grows, developed countries begin saying that you must have people with certain kinds of qualifications to get the jobs. So your people are left out…and you start bringing in people from abroad…

I was developing a training programme in project management for the construction industry and it was suggested that we bring it into the University…At the time when I did the research, there were only about four universities offering degrees in Project Management…Because of the demand in the industry, I put together the programme and the courses…booklist etc. Raymond Charles and Professor Suite were the key players [in introducing the programme to UWI] - in six months time it was accepted…and students are coming from all fields and backgrounds. It is a very practical programme; we keep on the cutting edge…

It was good to give back to my alma mater…I think there needs to be more of this practical element in UWI programmes and dynamic connection with industry…UWI must change in order to attract the best students. <Alake Pilgrim

“**My mother was a maid in the University...[To] have a son study engineering [there]...was the fulfillment of a dream.”**

TOYOTA and our support for youth, sport and culture in Trinidad and Tobago

At Toyota we are dreamers, we dream of the continued progression of Trinidad and Tobago moving forward…driven by Toyota. History will show Toyota as a longstanding supporter of youth, sport and culture in Trinidad and Tobago.

Not only are we a driving force for youth and youth events, our contribution to sport includes our recent sponsorship of the Toyota Classic, a series of Proleague football games, the winner of which was ‘W’ Connection. Another major investment in sport by Toyota, is hockey, this sport and its association has been driving itself forward into schools and communities alike, which has given this company great pleasure to support, for there is nothing more important than developing the muscles and minds of our nation’s youth.

We also sponsor the cross country triathlon, which was very successful in 2005. And we continue to break new ground in the sporting arena, being the first motor car company to sponsor so many other sporting events like cricket, golf, basketball, horse racing, rally racing, martial arts and more, because at Toyota we know that sport promotes holistic development.

With our very fabric coming from Japan (The Toyota Tsusho Corporation and Toyota Motor Corporation) and then in joining the melting pot here in Trinidad and Tobago, Toyota supports the international appeal of Trinidad and Tobago’s culture; through sponsoring events, such as the Rikki Jai 15th anniversary concert, the annual Trinidad and Tobago Steel pan & Jazz festival, the NCBA Tobago Festival and the many other heritage shows, local music concerts, carnival and award shows and numerous charity events. Toyota…loyal, supportive, dependable…… moving forward.
It’s been a year since Professor E. Nigel Harris’ installation ceremony at the JFK Auditorium, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. Still, for many, Professor E. Nigel Harris remains the “new” UWI Vice Chancellor, the “recent” successor to the Honourary Rex Nettleford. And that’s understandable for institutions like a University which is often steeped in tradition. >

Indeed the very ceremony, in October 2004, which established Professor Harris as Vice Chancellor contained elements—such as mace bearers, oaths, processions and gowns—elements of centuries-old customs of the medieval University. All the same, Professor Harris’ succession to office came just as the whirlwinds of the 2004 hurricane season were writing a new chapter in the history of the Caribbean, and indeed of the world. Change was, so to speak, in the air.

“In the week that I started in 2004,” recalled Professor Harris, when STAN caught up to him at the St. Augustine Campus Principal’s Office, “some of our Caribbean countries were devastated by Hurricane Ivan, and it was evident to me from reading the newspaper that a number of the people commenting about dealing with the disaster were University people. So the first thing I felt I had to do was to mobilise all of the expertise that we had across the University to respond in terms of providing assistance to the countries that had suffered from Hurricane Ivan.”

The result was the “UWI Vice Chancellor’s Hurricane Recovery Task Force”, conceived by Professor Harris as “the way to show that the University cared about the region and could contribute to regional development.” The Task Force was essentially a database compiling much of the relevant expertise available at The University from among the academic and senior administrative staff, who could provide advisory and technical service in a broad range of sectors, including housing, education, psychological counselling,

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the environment, agriculture including livestock and fisheries, as well as economic and policy planning. The sectors on the database were sub-divided into assistance for immediate recovery, short-term and long-term phases and eventual reduction of vulnerability to hurricane damage.

“I believe that if we are to be a great University we’ve got to do even more than just be an institution providing education,” he said. “We have got to, through our research and through our outreach, demonstrate that we are bringing products to the region that will support sustained regional development.”

One of the most popular demonstrations of the University’s position would come following Professor Harris’ visit to Grenada with UWI Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Lawrence Carrington. After the two met with Grenadian Prime Minister, Keith Mitchell, the decision was announced to waive the tuition fees of all Grenadian students enrolled at the UWI. The concession, valued at over EC$1 million, was met with the unanimous support of all constituents of the University.

“I believe that if we are to be a great University we’ve got to do even more than just be an institution providing education.”

“It was quite a lesson for me,” said Professor Harris, reflecting on that memorable trip to the Spice Isle, “because I had never seen a country that had suffered as much damage from any force of nature as I did there. I think that it was then that I understood how any of our Caribbean countries, no matter how far along we’d come, how in one night all those gains could be wiped out.”

It was at that point that Professor Harris discerned the need not only to provide immediate assistance in the island’s recovery and reconstruction effort, but also to catalyse the regional movement toward disaster preparedness.

“It is then,” he revealed, “that I realised that the disaster is not the hurricane, not the forces of nature. The disaster is the damage caused by those forces of nature. The disaster happens as a consequence of your susceptibility to those forces.”

As an example, the UWI Vice Chancellor contrasted Cuba, a country which withstood the ravages of the 2004 hurricane season, suffering minimal loss of life, with Haiti: “In Cuba, you had a force of nature but you didn’t get a disaster. A lesser force hit Haiti but 1000 people died. And that was because people were living on the hillside, where there’s susceptibility to mudslides and landslides.”

Professor Harris’ realisation that natural disasters came primarily as a consequence of societal susceptibility to forces of nature, provided the philosophical thrust for the subsequent decision to establish the Centre for Disaster Management and Risk Relations.

“In the Caribbean, we are close to hurricanes and earthquakes and volcanoes but if you
look around the world there are other forces—and not necessarily only forces of nature—that other societies must face,” said Professor Harris. “The measure of the resilience of the society is its ability to withstand those risks. So it isn’t that we are a weak link in the world. We have risks, just as other parts of the world have risks. The issue is, if you are going to sustain yourself, then you have to understand what your risks are and prepare for them.”

The former Dean and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, USA, was quick to add that disaster mitigation on this regional level would demand firmer links between regional organisations, such as Caricom’s Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) and Centre for Disaster Management and Risk Relations on the one hand, and national, local and community bodies on the other.

“I believe our (regional) centres must work in absolute linkage with the organisations in the communities,” he said. “We can do the education, the background research and so on, but we have to look to those regional centres and local organisations that will actually implement programmes. We are not the implementers.”

The University’s recently launched M.Sc. programme in Natural Resources and Environmental Management are examples of the practical and advanced training that the regional institution is committed to providing. The postgraduate programme, which is sponsored by United Nations Development Programme Barbados, includes an internship in the Caribbean Risk Management Initiative project. Describing education as “the greatest value that we [the University] provide,” the Vice Chancellor emphasised the need for training in this area to continue.

“If our governments are going to forge policies to better withstand these forces of nature, then they are going to need to have the people who are appropriately trained to do some of the planning and policy formation,” he stated. “And so, part of what we must also do is to have courses and programmes that enable us to build the kind of resources necessary to deal with disaster recovery.”

Already, the UWI counts among its graduates CDERA Director General, Mr. Jeremy Collymore; the Director of Trinidad and Tobago’s Office of Disaster Prevention and Management (ODPM, formerly NEMA), Mr. Paul Saunders; Head of The UWI Seismic Research Unit, Dr. Myron Chin; and Director General of Jamaica’s Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management, Dr. Barbara Carby. Himself a UWI graduate and experienced academic and administrator, Professor Harris called for stronger links between these disaster management organizations and the various governments of the region.

“Our survival depends on our acting in a more cohesive fashion...That’s why we need a regional Centre, because we’ve got to collect a database of the expertise and we’ve got to inform our governments about what expertise exists so that they can come to one point in the University. There’s no point in duplicating the expertise, but we need to be aware of it and no one country has it all, which is why we need that broad structure that we’ve created.” > GB
CONQUEST OF SPACE
UWI Gains an Invaluable Collection of work by Carlisle Chang

“We don’t have anything like this [collection] in terms of Carnival design and stage design…this is the first time we are getting anything like this at The University of the West Indies Main Library,” explained West Indiana Librarian Dr. Glenroy Taitt.

Dr. Taitt was speaking of the latest collection of the work of acclaimed painter, art teacher, Carnival Costume and stage designer Carlisle Chang. The diverse Collection was recently received by The University of the West Indies as a bequest of the Carlisle Chang Collection from the executors of Mr. Chang’s estate.

It includes over 50 sketches of Carnival costumes, several sketch pads filled with deftly drawn designs, as well as numerous photographs, slides, correspondence, newspaper clippings, documents relating to Carifesta V, catalogues of art exhibitions and the medal of the Bienal de Sao Paulo, Brazil, which Chang received. To date, he is the only West Indian artist to have been awarded this prize. This UWI Collection will complement a previous contribution of 15 sketches which also includes intricately drawn pencil as well as pen and watercolour Carnival Costume Band designs including: Versailles (1965), Crete (1966), China (1967), Yucatan (1971) and Conquest of Space (1970). As a costume designer for popular Carnival Band leaders Stephen and Elsie Lee Heung, Chang won the Designers Prize several times.

It is amazing to read through the carefully preserved yellowing pages of typed correspondence and examine the prolific designs for several international, regional and local institutions and events.
The coloured drawings are full of detail and light, the posed figures well drawn (not slightly squashed like those of later years). The influence of traditional mas’ is quite evident in his early designs. It is a joy to trace the development of one design and see the careful metamorphosis as one sketch evolves into another - similar, yet quite autonomous. The acclaimed art critic Ruskin once stated that one can learn more from examining a painting for a half-hour than reading a book on the subject, and these works provide great insight into Chang the man, as well as the artist. Examining the copious notes the artist kept of expenses, material costs and the letters from patrons and various Government officials, provides an absolutely fascinating look into the history of art and governance not just locally, but regionally; and of Chang’s commitment to his craft, even in the face of illness and increasing medical costs.

Born in San Juan, Trinidad in 1921, he would become a well respected artist at home and abroad. His father was a migrant from China and his mother, who was also of Chinese descent, was born in British Guiana. In later years, he would move to Port of Spain where his work would be featured as murals on several buildings in the city and even at Piarco, where an impressive and invaluable mural was installed at the Airport. Unfortunately, years later the work of art would be destroyed.

“He’s one of the best colourists we ever had—I’ll always remember the airport [mural],” artist Greer Jones-Woodham explained recently. “In terms of light, when the Cubists were painting monochromatic boats, he understood how prismatic colour was, he was more open to values. I don’t think he felt he had to work in any particular light.”

Carlisle Chang was also commissioned to design installations for several international events including the Pavilion for Trinidad and Tobago and Grenada at the Expo 1967 which commemorated the 100th
For those of us who are constantly on the go, maintaining a healthy diet becomes a burden. With deadlines to meet, exams to write and parties to go to, meals are often skipped just when we need them the most.

Because our active lifestyle often prevents us from getting the nutrients we need, a meal plan that is nutrition-packed, convenient and suitable to any budget is the ideal solution.

Following a healthy eating plan is just one way of averting the onset of chronic health problems, such as high blood cholesterol, high blood pressure, hypertension and diabetes. It is also important that all meal plans are accompanied by a daily exercise routine. Experts recommend walking for at least 30 minutes a day to satisfy the body’s need for physical activity.

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Anniversary of the Canadian Confederation and coincided conveniently with the Montreal World’s Fair. He collaborated with an international team which included Hugh Stollmeyer. The Fair drew over 50 million visitors.

His versatility was undeniable as he would also produce several graphic designs including the ensignia for the Little Carib Theatre and sketches for the Federal Flag and Coat of Arms. In the UWI Collection there are politely phrased letters from Corporate clients requesting a visit to check-up on Chang’s progress on commissioned pieces. Reading through the correspondence you can almost hear his voice, high in timbre, slightly accented. His friends often recall his conversation on the arts as well-informed, witty and at times, not without a touch of cynicism.

During the Sixties and Seventies, Chang would become a popular artist in the Caribbean. He would produce some of his best work during an historic time, a virtual Renaissance, surrounded by the work of several renowned artists including Sybil Atteck, M.P. Alladin and Noel Vaucrosson.

Throughout a 60-year long career in art, he was also a designer for the theatre and ballet. Some of his designs have also been depicted on national postage stamps. The 1997 CLICO calendar, which became a collector’s item, was one of his last major works. He died on May 6, 2001.

The Carlisle Chang Collection is a valuable addition to the library’s holdings of unique Caribbean materials in support of the University’s teaching, learning and research needs. The collection will be of particular benefit to students at the Centre for Festival and Creative Arts as well as students enrolled in the graduate-level Cultural Studies Programme. > Anna Walcott-Hardy
In just one year the UWI-SPEC International Half Marathon has continued to “live up to its hype”. In 2004, a daily newspaper commended the team of volunteers and professional facilitators for creating an “event that lived up to its buzz and looks poised to become one of the region’s premier” road races. One year later overall participation increased by 100 percent and the efficiency gained by the electronic timing mat and chip enabled organizers to declare all winners and present the more than TT $120,000 in prizes on race day. The event also grew not only in numbers, but in scope as there was also a larger international contingent, with runners from the Caribbean, Canada, Venezuela, Ukraine, USA and Russia.

Across the board, the runners in the second UWI-SPEC International Half Marathon were able to significantly enhance their times;
first and foremost, the Overall Winner John Muriithi Muriuki of Kenya (at left, on previous page with trophy). A graceful athlete who ran the final stretch of the traffic-free, 13.1 mile race at an exceptionally fast pace and with an elegant stride, he went on to win first place in just over an hour (1:07:26.1). The celebrated West Indian runner Pamenos Ballantyne of St. Vincent gained second place, less than a minute behind the winner in 1:08:00.5. For the women, Firaya Sultanova-Zhadanova (at left previous page) retained her title in another record time of 1:16:09.0. Both runners improved their times from the previous year, with Muriuki having won in 1:09:41 and Sultanova-Zhadnova in 1:11:18 in 2004.

A large field of runners, including students from the UWI Cave Hill (Barbados) and Mona (Jamaica) campuses travelled to UWI-SPEC to compete in the November race. An outstanding student who was able to match times with the winners was Katie Ryan, a UWI St. Augustine athlete from the Medical Sciences Faculty; Ryan (at right) emerged as winner in the student female category and fifth in the Overall Top Female category in a time of 1:27:20:8.>
Special congratulations to winning members of staff who were also able to “beat their times” including returning champion Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw (1:45:58) in first, with Antoinette Sankar and Simone Roberts following in second and third place respectively. In the male staff category, congratulations to Darrin Grenade, who won in an impressive time of 1:27:07, followed by Augustus Joseph who was able to secure second place and Ali Shah following closely to take home the third place prize.

So mark your calendars: in 2006 the race is scheduled for November 5th at 6:00am. And remember that any record broken in this AIMS certified and International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) accredited race, will be recognized worldwide. For more information and lots of great photographs, visit the e-STAN (www.sta.edu/stan) and UWI SPEC websites (www.sta.uwi.edu/spec/marathon/) or call 1 (868) 645-9239.<AWH
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