



UWI TODAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES · ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

SUNDAY 24TH APRIL, 2011



Our Fragile Waters

Twenty MSc students in coastal engineering recently went to Grenada on a field trip that yielded much in terms of work, study and relaxation. At the end of the week, there was a visit to the Underwater Sculpture Park, Grenada, and one of the students, Christopher Clarke, found himself in bubbles of euphoria. (See story on Page 8) PHOTO: JENNALEE RAMNARINE

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Man or Machine?

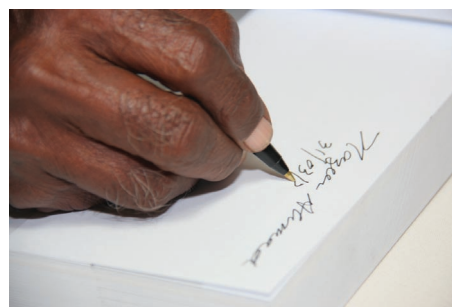
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CAMPUS NEWS



AWARD FOR DAAGA AUDITORIUM

Building of the Year

It's an arresting building; a façade that commands attention and a space that is so functional that it seems not a day passes without some event taking place on its premises. So it is no surprise that it has gained recognition. On March 21st, 2011, the Daaga Auditorium was granted the awards for Building of the Year and Large Building (less than 10,000 square feet) by Abel Building Solutions (ABS), a subsidiary of the ANSA McAL Group of Companies, at their Caribbean Construction Awards (CCAs), held at the Hyatt Regency Trinidad.

Launched in 2006, the CCAs look at construction projects throughout the region, judging them on innovation, beauty, functionality of design, and quality of construction. Specific categories include architecture, engineering and construction in large building, small building and innovation.

Daaga Hall's redesign began in 2004 when it was renamed Daaga Auditorium, with a 450-seat lecture theatre and an 80-100 seat classroom equipped with the latest audio visual, multi-media and teleconferencing equipment.

Daaga Hall – originally a recreation centre for students of The University, the old Guild Hall – was named in honour of a 6ft 6in African ex-slave soldier, one of Trinidad's earliest revolutionaries, credited with leading the mutiny of some newly imported Africans who were enlisted in the First West Indian Regiment in June 1837. He was later arrested and executed along with his fellow mutineers.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

We Found 50 Ways Celebrating Our Distinguished Alumni



It has always been a source of personal pride to reflect on the range and caliber of the graduates of the St. Augustine Campus of The UWI. Where ever I venture, whether it be into the various communities and establishments locally, regionally or internationally, I am impressed by the many accomplishments of our graduates and what good work they are doing. I have often publicly said that this region is really in the hands of UWI graduates, because in significant numbers, they are the ones charting its course, whether it is as prime ministers, politicians, first-rate professionals in so many fields, academics, entrepreneurs or artistes. I recently saw some of our accomplished graduates in

Toronto as well, where many were celebrated at our fund-raising Gala.

Naturally, I was in full support of the initiative taken by the St. Augustine Campus and the UWI Alumni Association to hold a Distinguished Alumni Awards event on April 2. Although everyone knows that our distinguished alumni run into the thousands, as part of the 50th anniversary celebration of the Campus' own half-century, the honours were manifestly conferred on 50. (On Page 5, we feature the full list of those 50 awardees.)

These fifty are each outstanding ambassadors for our University, because in their own disparate ways, they fit the mold of the ideal UWI graduate: a critical, creative, innovative, informed and knowledgeable thinker and problem solver who communicates effectively, is a leader and team player, is socially and culturally responsive, operates ethically with a regional frame of reference and is motivated to be a life-long learner.

It is always a difficult task to pluck a few flowers from a garden that is teeming with beautiful blossoms. One has to content oneself with imagining that the bouquet so gathered is at least representative of those still left in the soil.

And so, as I said at the ceremony, by celebrating a few, I hope our Campus and our University are honouring and inspiring the whole, just as they have honoured and inspired us.

I congratulate all who were recognized and what great company to have been in.

CLEMENT K. SANKAT

Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal

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CAMPUS NEWS



More than a 50-50 Experience

Alumni Awards reveal the Essence of UWI

BY OMEGA FRANCIS

Chief Justice Ivor Archie, Dr. Lise Winer, Dr. Hollis Liverpool, Mr. Selby Wilson – the names speak for themselves – these are the cream of the crop, the top-rung players in their profession of choice and they are all graduates of The UWI, St. Augustine Campus.

These accomplished people once walked the halls of St. Augustine; spent all-nighters in the Main Library, had raucous conversations in the cafeteria and took part in the most top-secret hall activities. These are also the names of only a few of the 50 who were recognised for their contributions during the inaugural UWI Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Awards held on Saturday 2nd April 2011 at the Faculty of Engineering's Lecture Theatre.

The gala was a special 50th Anniversary celebration honouring 50 Alumni, chosen from the multitudes of St. Augustine graduates throughout the past 50 years, who have set themselves apart in their various fields, locally, regionally and internationally. The ceremony was well attended by friends, family and well-wishers who wanted to have front-row seats for this notable occasion that honoured alumni 'while they were alive' as Ms. Catherine Kumar, CEO of the Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce so wittily asserted in her awardee response.

The night did not only include speeches and awards; the honorees were asked to reminisce about their time at UWI, and to recall that one event that still stood out in memory. Many seemed wistful as they remembered, and all agreed

that their time was well spent and included three of the best years of their lives. They acknowledged that without their UWI experience they would not have been the persons they were today. Catherine Kumar declared that her time on Milner Hall helped 'toughen her up' and made her evolve from the timid first-year student to the leader she is today.

Ewart Williams, Governor of the Central Bank said he was named student of the year in 1967 and he wasn't sure what to do, so when he learnt that he had won a trip to Jamaica, he simply turned up at the Airport without the necessary documents (like a passport), thinking the process was as simple as hopping a bus from San Juan to Port of Spain. This experience opened his eyes to the effect of socialisation and world-views. Coming from a small village, he said, had limited his experiences and this affected some of his decision making. This small-village socialisation did not hinder him though, as he took every experience to be a learning one.

"UWI was the best experience that I could ever have gone through. In fact, UWI made me into what I am today. I did both my first degree and Master's at UWI and then went off to Washington where my colleagues were amazed at the level of confidence I had coming from a small university that was, at that time, not yet known to the world," he said.

Chief Justice Ivor Archie's story was a bit more typical. He spoke about being a 'former inmate' on Milner Hall and after returning from classes one day to find his dorm room emptied and perfectly reassembled outside on the lawn and

his hall mates standing aside waiting for his reaction.

"I suppose it was because I was considered to be the most lively and miserable of the 'grubs' on Hall that year, but it was all very good humour and everyone helped me put my things back. This was a typical example of the camaraderie that existed on Hall and these were the same people who helped me through some of my most difficult and despairing times before exams," he said.

He said his UWI experience helped him forge a sense of a true Caribbean identity and the relationships that were cultivated at UWI have endured over the last 30 years and are those that now make him feel at home wherever he goes in the region because these are the people with whom he has formed very deep bonds and endured hardships and fun times.

Not all the memories were filled with camaraderie and 'toughening up' experiences though. Sandra Marchack, former Permanent Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, told of a passionate French lecturer who became so upset with the class not doing an assignment that he began to bang his head against the wall, saying, 'that is for being so stupid as to have a class like yours.'

For her, this was both a memorable and shocking moment that showed the level of dedication, passion and expectations of perfection that her lecturer had for his students. Many former UWI students have memories of the actions of their lecturers; whether they are as shocking as Ms. Marchack's or not, they were influential.

"The gala was a special 50th Anniversary celebration honouring 50 Alumni, chosen from the multitudes of St. Augustine graduates throughout the past 50 years, who have set themselves apart in their various fields, locally, regionally and internationally."

Cheryl Greaves, who was the key person behind the establishment of Bishop Anstey High School East/Trinity College East, spoke of such an experience when her confidence was boosted by Lloyd Best, who quoted her constantly after a quiz in Economics.

“I had never done Economics before, so all my answers were common-sense answers and he quoted me profusely. What it did for me made me realise that you didn’t have to learn Economics out of a book and that was a major foundation for me because after that my career has been one of creativity.”

There were many choice anecdotes, but that is no surprise, given the calibre of the recipients. Choosing the 50 was anything but easy, each candidate had to fill certain primary criteria; most notable of them was ‘service to the university, including alumni involvement.’ Nominations were sought through advertisements posted throughout the region as well as the international UWI Alumni Association (UWIAA) chapters located in Florida, London, New York, Toronto and Washington. After nominations, a bipartisan committee had the pleasure of choosing the final 50. A hard task for the committee, as UWI, at 50, has already produced prime ministers, presidents and CEOs at a rate comparable with any Ivy League university.

ProVice Chancellor and Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat opened the ceremony and mentioned that he looked forward to this being an ongoing venture of the UWI Alumni Association. Feature speaker, His Excellency, President George Maxwell Richards, and former ProVice Chancellor and Campus Principal of the St Augustine Campus, pressed the importance of well-trained students who are innovative and become a part of the wealth of intellectual capital that the world can rely on and use to move forward in an increasingly technologically savvy world.

“The concept of a liberal education must not be allowed to die. Rather, an updated version is needed, one which envisages competent professionals with sufficient insight, adaptability, and vision to cope with social and technological change,” he said.

At the end of the night, Bevil Wooding, Chief Knowledge Officer of Congress WBN was able to sum up the complete UWI experience.

“It really struck me when I arrived at the St Augustine Campus of how rich and diverse a Caribbean people we truly are. The ability to go through the undergraduate programme and share not just the educational experience, but the social and also the community experience with so many of my now colleagues and friends from across the region was really and truly special for me.”

UWI DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS THE 50 AWARDEES

1. Mr. Sasha Addo
2. Mr. Justice Ivor Archie
3. Mr. John E. Arnold
4. Dr. Rollin Bertrand
5. Prof. Jacqueline Braveboy-Wagner
6. Brig. Edmund Dillon
7. Mr. David Dulal-Whiteway
8. Ms. Stephanie Elder-Alexander
9. Mr. Hayden Ferreira
10. Mr. Sterling Frost
11. Mr. Colin Granderson
12. Ms. Cheryl Greaves
13. Ms. Hyacinth Guy
14. Prof. Tisha Harper
15. Mr. Carlos Hee Houng
16. Mr. Ronald Hinds
17. Mr. Larry Howai
18. Mr. Rodney Jagai
19. Dr. Carol James
20. Mr. Malcolm Jones
21. Dr. Esau Joseph
22. Mr. Prior Joseph
23. Mr. Jason Julien
24. Mr. Khafra Kambron
25. Ms. Catherine Kumar
26. Dr. Hollis Liverpool
27. Mr. Mark Loquan
28. Dr. Kumar Mahabir
29. Ms. Sandra Marchack
30. Mr. Lutalo Masimba
31. Mr. Jerome Maxwell
32. Dr. Safeeya Mohammed-Bhagan
33. Dr. Karen Nelson
34. Dr. Compton Laurence Paul
35. Mrs. Angella Persad
36. Dr. Nicole Laurine Phillip
37. Dr. Krishna Pulchan
38. Dr. Dyanand Raj Kumar
39. Mr. Jwala Rambarran
40. Sen. Subhas Ramkhelawan
41. Mr. Simeon Sandiford
42. Mr. Keith Smith
43. Mr. Suresh B. Sookoo
44. Mr. Sookoo Sonnylal
45. Mr. Eugene Tiah
46. Mr. Ewart Williams
47. Dr. Lise Winer
48. Mr. Selby Wilson
49. Mr. Peter W.B. Williams
50. Mr. Bevil Wooding

Work Perks

WOW Recruitment Fair brings best of both worlds

BY O M E G A F R A N C I S

Have you ever imagined where you would be after you graduated from The University of the West Indies? Did you ever fancy working at one of those large oil and gas firms like bpTT, Atlantic LNG or even PCS Nitrogen? Did you imagine that elusive corner office and your every whim being catered to by an overzealous assistant? Or, maybe you are one of those ‘new thinkers’ who believe that it no longer matters where you work, or how much money you work for, or even that shiny new corner office; but how much you love what you do.

Future UWI graduate employers and former lecturers may be happy to know that the latter seems to be the thinking of the future graduates who took part in the recent World of Work’s Recruitment Fair, held at the Sport and Physical Education Centre on March 17 and 18.

Yes, companies like bpTT and Atlantic LNG had the expected long lines; in fact, it took a patient student to stand in line just for a chance to speak to a representative from the big oil companies but the ‘new-thinking’ students knew what they wanted and tended to hone in on some of the lesser-known or even smaller companies such as the National Training Agency and Kaizen and impressed them with their enthusiasm and knowledge.

Spread over the course of two days, the first day of the Recruitment Fair was for those first and second year students interested in vacation employment, and the second day was opened for those final year students who were interested in long-term employment or internships. The enthusiastic student who dressed impeccably, who articulated what they wanted, and what they expected of a company, impressed many company representatives.

Many students revealed that the World of Work programme helped them to feel more prepared to enter the world of work and handle interviews as well as feel confident enough to face recruitment officers at the Fair. The students appreciated the opportunity that the Recruitment Fair afforded them. To be able to connect with employers on a face to face basis, all concentrated in one place, was a big deal.

“One thing I liked in particular is the fact that I didn’t have to go job hunting all over Trinidad and Tobago but I had everything all concentrated here in one place... I could not have done this without the Recruitment Fair, so I am really happy for this,” said Elton Richardson, a final year Bachelor of Science student.

Even the recruitment officers at the various booths could not contain themselves at how impressed they were by the students visiting their booths; their enthusiasm, dress and thirst for knowledge stood out to the majority of the future employers.

Christopher Persad, Engineer 1 of Fujitsu was almost floored by his experience this year after two years coming to the Recruitment Fair.



How about a career in the military?

“My experience here at the WOW [Recruitment Fair] this year has been a good one, there are so many people here and they are so enthusiastic and it’s a great place to find new and young minds that are able to come into a company and grow from there.”

So no matter where you see yourself in the next five or ten years – whether it’s sitting behind a desk coming up with the next best communication strategy for your company, or travelling the world meeting with the movers and shakers of the international business world – no matter where you see yourself, as a UWI graduate the World of Work programme will give you that secret weapon to propel you above and beyond the average job seeker.

Maybe it will even change your way of thinking and we can all be like Aaron, a bright and eager student, who said that his idea of a dream job is: “Being productive, yet being happy with what you do. It doesn’t really matter, once you feel happy with what you do and you see the benefits manifesting in your life.”



Almost as if they were sealing the deal right there...

“Many students revealed that the World of Work programme helped them to feel more prepared to enter the world of work and handle interviews as well as feel confident enough to face recruitment officers at the Fair.”

ENVIRONMENT

Grenada Spices Up Coastal Engineering

BY DONNELL NURSE



Weeks of planning and preparation by Mrs. Charmaine O'Brien-Delpesh of the Centre for Coastal Engineering and Management at The UWI resulted in a very educational and fulfilling expedition to the island of Grenada from March 22-26, 2011.

It was an eager bunch of 20 Coastal Zone Metrics students, comprising 19 Trinidadians and one Barbadian, who landed in Grenada on Tuesday afternoon, along with the academic staff of Professor Andrew Chadwick, Mrs. O'Brien-Delpesh, and Ms. Nadia Mathura. The drive to the accommodation was short, however it was evident that we were tourists as we looked at the surroundings, took photos and asked our drivers and conductors numerous questions. For many of us it was our first time in Grenada, and it was the beginning of an unforgettable experience.

The class of 20 was organised into four groups, with each group having students of various backgrounds such as engineering, surveying, geology and environmental and physical sciences. This allowed the groups to be better equipped at handling the various tasks required for the course, as well as it helped the students to develop mutual respect for each other's skill set and foster teamwork.

After getting settled in our accommodations, the entire team met for dinner and a briefing, which was followed by the respective groups beginning preparatory work for the busy times ahead. Inter-group consultation and constructive conversation was also part of the preparation that helped to determine the agenda for the upcoming days.



Professor Andrew Chadwick, who is Head of the Centre for Coastal Engineering and Management, Engineering Institute, took some time from his supervisor's role to take a shot of the author, Donnell Nurse and his fellow student Jennalee Ramnarine as they did beach profiling at Grand Anse Beach.



A long but productive Wednesday followed. It began with a ten-minute drive to the capital St. George's, which took us past hotels, businesses and houses as well as other office buildings and the harbour, until we arrived at the Ministry of Finance. Officials from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of the Environment, and the Coastal Zone Unit housed our expedition team in a conference room, and made presentations on the various sites for investigation and facilitated our bombardment of questions.

That afternoon we took a long, scenic drive along the east coast of Grenada to take in some of the sites of interest. Apart from making observations and collecting data from the study sites, the expedition team was shown various attractions and historical sites, as well as the one and only nutmeg tree that we actually saw along the route. Listening to Trini soca music, eating Grenadian roast corn and chatting on the long drive helped to pass the time before we all got back "home" to continue work.

A focused approach on a particular aspect of coastal zone metrics was beach profiling, and a field exercise was conducted on the beautiful Grand Anse beach in Grenada on Thursday. This exercise was done in the blistering sun, but it was a good team building exercise as the staff and students interacted and worked together to get the job done. Some of us were fortunate to enjoy a bit of relaxation on the beach after the exercise, but this was short-lived because there was always more work to be done. The thoughts of the presentation that the groups had to make to the Government officials the following afternoon loomed. Meetings with staff

and students assisted in preparing us for the task at hand.

The Friday involved visits to more Government departments, where additional information concerning the study sites and various policies in Grenada was given to us. The afternoon session involved the final presentations which were done by the various groups, and these were very informative and were much appreciated according to the Government officials.

This marked the end of a period of very hard work and it was now time to enjoy the remainder of the trip! To celebrate our diligence, the entire team of staff and students went out together to have dinner, which was followed by the group of Trinis and the Bajan going out to sample the Friday nightlife in Grenada.

The last day of the trip was our free day, so some people went into St. George's to do some sightseeing and shopping and others went to Grand Anse beach and on a boat tour to see the famous underwater sculpture park.

Coastal issues affect all the islands of the Caribbean and the expedition was a mutually beneficial endeavour for both



As her teammates got ready for the work ahead, Jenalee Ramnarine took a shot of Monique Johnson, Donnell Nurse, Akena Solomon and Amb Persad, at Grand Anse Beach.

ering Class

Who could not have enjoyed working in such a setting? Jenalee Ramnarine got this shot of Ambika Persad, Monique Johnson and Donnell Nurse setting up on Grand Anse Beach.

the students of the coastal zone metrics class, as well as for the Government of Grenada.

The group was involved in a preliminary assessment of beach loss which was occurring in three Bays along the East coast of Grenada - these three bays being, Petit Bacaye, Telescope Bay and Bathway. Problems caused by sand mining and beach erosion were also part of the focus.

It was such that it allows for further interaction and collaboration between The UWI and the Government of Grenada on a variety of issues. Also, because of the close interactions amongst the staff as well as the students that were present for the expedition, bonds were formed, and the entire team is now like a small family. All in all, it was successful trip with good food, great colleagues, and with experiences that will be indelibly etched in our memories.

Donnell Nurse is a second year Postgraduate student pursuing his MSc. in Geoinformatics, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, UWI



■ ENVIRONMENT

The unclear cost of BOTTLED WATER

BY CHRISTOPHER STARR



I am often appalled to see what people will pay for bottled water. After all, it's just plain old H₂O, one of the commonest of all substances, which you get for free from a drinking fountain or your home faucet.

There is a reason why it is so outrageously expensive, as its production is a heavy industry.

Even in areas where it comes from public reservoirs with minimal filtering and "mineralization," the bottles must still be manufactured and filled. Then there is the cost of transporting them, often from one continent to another. And on top of that is the company's very substantial layer of profit, to say nothing of advertising costs. Every time you pay several of your dollars for a bottle of plain old water – did I mention that it is very abundant, and you can get it for free? – you are pouring them into a very lucrative scam.

San Francisco was, I believe, the first major city to stop providing bottled water at all official functions. This made good economic sense, and many others have since followed suit.

However, the real cost of bottled water goes far beyond its price. The real cost is not paid in the store but in our environment. Plastic is made from petroleum, and the worldwide manufacture of an estimated 200 billion plastic water bottles per year wastes a huge amount of fossil fuel, while releasing CO₂ and toxic gases into the

atmosphere. Petroleum is turned into plastic; it is used in running the plant to make the bottles; to run the bottling plant, and in transporting those bottles of water from the factory to the sales outlets. The manufacture and transport of one litre of bottled water consumes an estimated 6.7 litres of water, 0.8 litre of fuel, and emits 0.6 kg of greenhouse gases.

The environmental damage does not stop there. Most plastic bottles, once empty, are simply discarded. Some are refilled for free from water fountains or faucets – smart move – and some are recycled, but not many. You see discarded bottles on our roadsides and beaches, and most eventually make it into the dump, where they will take centuries to break down.

The key to the bottled-water scam is the widespread belief that it is cleaner and safer. In some countries it undoubtedly is. In some others, exactly the opposite is true, as municipal water supplies are held to a higher standard than commercial bottled water. What about Trinidad & Tobago? Is there any good reason either to mistrust WASA-supplied water or trust what comes in bottles? We have the capability, but I am not aware that the necessary tests have been done.

If it turns out that water from our faucets, stand pipes and drinking fountains is, in fact, below standard, the solution is not to buy it in the store. Rather, we need to improve our public water supplies. Then there will be no reason to even think of paying good money for a completely unnecessary product that exacts a terrible cost from Mother Earth.

Dr Christopher Starr is a Senior Lecturer in Entomology at the Department of Life Sciences and a member of the Environmental Committee at the St. Augustine Campus.



Saved by the Vet

BY NIA MODESTE



If you saw pet-less people lining up to see a vet, it would seem kind of absurd, wouldn't it? I mean, the pet, the vet, they go together; but no matter how much an animal we might think some people, we don't really expect them to go to the vet for health care.

The truth is, although veterinarians do not deal directly with humans, they play a major role in protecting them from zoonotic diseases – the kind that can be transmitted from animals to humans, like Bird Flu, Mad Cow Disease, Leptospirosis and Rabies. By extension, they also have a significant role to play in the area of food safety.

Most people don't make that connection; in fact, when you mention a vet, it is almost automatic to think: dog doctor. It's one of several myths The UWI School of Veterinary Medicine (SVM) is trying to eradicate with a campaign to educate the public not only on what vets do, and to whom, but also about the comprehensive range of services offered at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex in Mt Hope.

Dr. Omar Khan, who is Manager of the SVM's Hospital Services and Business Development, is heading the thrust to raise this awareness. This year, the World Veterinary Association marks 250 years since the creation of the veterinary profession, so it is a rather landmark one, and worldwide, veterinary clinics and practitioners are marking it in different ways. World Vet Day, usually celebrated on the last Saturday in April, will be marked on April 30, and its theme is Rabies.

It may seem like a remote and outdated disease – and it might be locally – Dr Khan says, “We do not really see rabies in small animals much. I have not seen a case here since I started in July 2010. It is more common in cows and small ruminants.” But even as you read this article, someone just died from rabies. Believe it, because in the next ten minutes the disease will take another life. According to the World Veterinary Association “one person dies from rabies every

ten minutes. Each year, rabies claims nearly 55,000 victims throughout the world and most of them are children.”

Although it is nowhere as prevalent locally as it is in Asia and Africa, the SVM still takes preventative measures when dealing with its animals. One of these measures is the compulsory vaccination of all SVM staff and caregivers in order to eliminate the transmission of any zoonotic disease.

As the only regionally accredited veterinary school in the Caribbean, it is not only dedicated to providing optimal education for veterinary professionals, but is also determined to provide the best in health care for its animal patients.

The SVM's Large Veterinary Hospital, combined with the small-animal, farm-animal and equine clinics, can handle just about anything. During our visit, I saw what seemed to be a miracle when a really small dog, obviously one of those toy dogs, was brought in after he had been run over by a car. His both hind legs had been broken and he had been stitched all along his little torso.

He was in the recovery room, perky and in seemingly good spirits along with a rather obese three-legged cat, and other recovering residents. Meanwhile, a guinea pig was being prepped for surgery with anesthesia.

Dr Khan outlined some of the services. Apart from being able to treat victims of car accidents and other mishaps, many of whom are brought in with broken bones and the like, the SVM offers cataract surgery, dentistry, digital radiography and a host of other health care services (see Services and Equipment at the SVM-VTH).

In addition to their emergency services, they also offer appointments and are now opening on Mondays and Wednesdays until 7pm, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays until 3pm, and Saturdays until 1pm. From Monday to Friday, they begin at 8am and on Saturdays at 9am.



SERVICES AND EQUIPMENT AT THE SCHOOL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE-VETERINARY TEACHING HOSPITAL

SERVICES

- Consultations by appointment (companion animals, avian/exotics, food-producing animals, equine)
- Walk-in/emergencies (no appointment necessary)
- Routine and elective surgeries (spays, neuters, lacerations, etc)
- Non-routine surgeries (perianal hernias, fracture repair, intestinal surgery, urinary tract surgery, tumour removal, ocular surgery, etc)
- Emergency surgery (trauma, hit by car, etc)
- Gas anesthesia with full complement of monitoring
- Full service Diagnostic Laboratories available through the SVM (hematology, biochemistry, necropsy, cytology, histopathology, microbiology, parasitology, toxicology, immunology)
- In-clinic hematologic analyzer (iSTAT)
- Digital radiography
- Ultrasonography, with biopsy capabilities
- Endoscopy (gastrointestinal, otic, etc), with biopsy capabilities
- Cataract surgery
- Veterinary dentistry

EQUIPMENT

- Radiology
- Two digital x-ray machines, one that can be used intra-operatively
- Digital printer (so that the digital films can be printed if necessary)
- Endoscopy
- Flexible and rigid scopes
- Ultrasound
- Portable, state-of-art machine with colour Doppler and seven different probes
- Dentistry
- Dental-Aire unit with ultrasonic scaler, high speed handpiece with fibre-optic light and low speed handpiece, dental burrs, polishing tips
- Numerous hand tools including a variety of elevators, scalars, extraction forceps, dental probes
- Anesthesia
- 5 inhalant anesthetic machines (isoflurane and sevoflurane)
- Ventilators (for assisted breathing if required)
- Advanced monitoring devices including ECG, blood pressure, end-tidal CO₂,
- Ophthalmology
- Slit lamp (allows more detailed inspection of eyes)
- Tonometry (allows rapid ocular pressure measurement)
- Operating microscope (for cataract surgery)

The Patient Machine

Nurses get a different kind of man to treat

BY VANEISA BAKSH

He was a male when I got to the hospital, and during the course of my visit he remained one, although for a fleeting moment I was shown a rather revealing video of him as a her with a catheter attached to her nether regions.

It could have been an altogether discombobulating experience, but I was prepared. I'd come to get a first-hand look at Sim Man, the latest, sophisticated addition to the School of Advanced Nursing Education (SANE) at The UWI.

"We can call him Johnny today," suggested Debrah Rigg, one of the three BSc Nursing (Oncology) students talking about their interactions with the high-tech teaching tool.

As I chatted with them, Starsha Gellineau, Charmaine McDonald and Nursing Administration student, Surendra Ramkissoon, referring to the mannequin-like figure as a teaching tool seemed a little ...insensitive, given their obvious affection for the figure lying in the bed clad in a hospital gown, his chest rising and falling with the gentle regularity of a body at rest.

In truth, the monitor displaying constant readouts of blood pressure, heart rate, and other vital signs, combined with the assortment of tubes connecting to IV, blood, oxygen, and other whatnots, made him look more like a Johnny than a piece of technology designed to help medical students.

Sim Man is an anatomically correct mannequin who (which?) can be programmed to respond to various medical conditions and treatments. For students, it means they have a "working" model to practice and hone their medical skills on.

His realism – he speaks, has a pulse, reactive pupils – imposes a sense of responsibility on the students.

"Your perception of it is he is no longer a robot, he is now an individual who needs care," said Charmaine. "His voice even carries human intonations." (It's true, later, he had a terrible coughing fit and complained about how bad he was feeling.)

Charmaine, who had worked at the Port of Spain General Hospital for seven years, wanted to study oncology because she was so deeply affected by the plight of two cancer patients whom they could not help sufficiently because they did not have the training.

Similarly, Starsha, who has been a registered nurse for 11 years and an ICU nurse for three, where she dealt with cancer patients, says she is doing the BSc because, "I really believe there is a need to have more nurses trained in oncology, partly because of rising cancer rates and recognizing that these patients need more than basic nursing care."

Debrah, one of two Jamaicans in the programme, has worked for six years with their Ministry of Health and is now being formally trained so that she can help set up similar oncology programmes in Jamaica.

They agree that the capacity to simulate medical situations, such as a spinal cord compression or even an infrequent case of septic shock, allows them to deal with life threatening situations without themselves threatening lives.

So has Sim Man ever died under student care?

The question brings a momentary hush and sheepish expressions.

He's died a few times, they concede, admitting that they all feel it like a human loss. One student even cried.

Surendra, who has the energy of a Mr Fixit (he wanted to do Administration because, "I want to be in charge. I want to be a manager in the hospital."), lifts them out of their memories of lost battles.

"The debriefing sessions are very useful for seeing where we went wrong," he says, explaining that the sessions are taped and reviewed so that they can see for themselves how they responded under sometimes emergency situations. Most times, they say, they didn't even remember doing some of the things they did under pressure.

"Having Sim Man would not be useful without properly trained people to operate him," says Debrah, identifying Michelle Maxine King as the key operator in this regard.

Michelle, an Oncology Lecturer at SANE, is programmer/scenario creator and operator of Sim Man. It is a fairly complex role, requiring not only a high degree of detailed knowledge of different medical conditions, but reflexes to match emergency situations.

To prepare for a class, for instance, she explains that she has to create a patient chart, just as for a real person, with a name, background, medical history and presenting symptoms, plus whatever diagnosis and treatments are relevant. (Real doctors are often part of these scenarios,

helping students with assessments.)

Located in a small, computerized booth next to the patient's bed and viewing proceedings through a one-way mirror, she has to be on the button, ensuring that Sim Man responds to questions appropriately (even if it is a groan), and to treatments. She's the one who will slow his heart beat to a stop when they've killed him off, and she's the one who will bring him back to good health when they've got it right.

It's challenging, she says, but it is clear that she loves doing it. In fact, it is obvious that this tool has done a significant amount to help the teaching process at SANE, which is exactly what Director, Dr Meryl Price, had in mind when she procured it for use at the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS).

In January, she had facilitated a three-day workshop called "Bringing Sim Man to Life," and there, to participants involving staff and students of FMS, and the College of Applied Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT) and other nursing managers, the value of this innovative addition to teaching was unveiled in all his glory.

It was a pioneering move, and given the challenges facing the nursing and the overall medical community, a welcome improvement to health care.



Students Starsha Gellineau and Surendra Ramkissoon check Sim Man's vitals.

New Guild President sets Agenda

BY VANEISA BAKSH

It had seemed that Hillan Morean was president for life, given how many cohorts of students have entered and graduated during his tenure at the helm of the Guild of Students. So, many might have thought it an April Fool's joke when the new President, Amilcar Peter Sanatan, was sworn in on April 1, 2011. But for Amilcar, this is no joke. Rather, it was high time that the Guild too, walked the road that the rest of the world has been taking with regard to changing regimes.

He intends to pursue constitutional reform to limit terms of office to no more than two consecutively, as he believes that no matter how good one is, too long is simply too long.

Born in 1989, Amilcar is a final-year student in the Faculty of Social Sciences, where he is in his final semester of his Psychology major (with a Sociology minor) and he has proposed a thesis – Sex and Sexuality in Rastafari – for the M.Phil he plans to pursue next.

Chatting about his areas of study, he said he had never wanted to rush into a career path from too early, and avoided being “streamed” into conventional groupings. So he did French, History and Management of Business at CAPE, and then while at UWI, has sat in on Literature and Gender studies classes. His mother is the Deputy Campus Librarian, Linda De Four, and his father, Roderick Sanatan, just retired from the Mona Campus, where he lectured in Communications and Development. Together, he says, they instilled a sense of the broadness and value of education that had little to do with the process of “certification” that many of his contemporaries are accused of being too focused upon.

His time at The UWI has seen him involved in U.We Speak, the advocacy group that is involved with the Creative Arts (they host Open Mic), and he was a co-founder of U.We TV. Since Year One, he says, he has always been in a space where the issues and concerns of students have been voiced. Given his obvious penchant for the limelight, it seemed natural for him to run for President.

He thinks the Guild can be an ideal place to generate a new kind of student life; one that is more collaborative with the administration; that sees student-staff relations broaden into “one where we can fully appreciate each other as fellow human beings,” and that can adapt to the “different leadership style which will form the identity of the Guild.”

He also believes that the Guild's presence is too low-keyed and intends to lift its profile with a Know Your Guild campaign soon.

Two days after being sworn in, he delivered a cyber address thanking students for their support and outlining what he termed the key elements on the new council's agenda.

Security, unsurprisingly, was the first item, and this was followed by “mainstreaming gender,” a project he identified as being a major part of his campaign platform. He views the students as a microcosm of the society and felt that the same patterns of behavior and the same attitudes to women apply. Wherever there are groupings, he says, “men are more inclined to power and women more inclined to the work.” He feels that leadership positions continue to be gender biased in that regard.

Third on his agenda was promoting “more green ways,” that is, more environmentally sound practices, including cutting down on paper use, though he said he was a little wary of advocating an entirely digitized lifestyle. He also promised a student press for the new academic year.

“We will bridge communication gaps and archive our events using high quality production technologies, then share the information freely through our new media



Amilcar Peter Sanatan

“As we work with the relevant Guild committees, we will guarantee the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and by extension, the Caribbean region, an intellectual presence that facilitates a forum for ideas beyond the parameters of our campus. Our voice will facilitate more civil and intelligent discourse for all sectors of society on myriad social, cultural, political and economic issues.”

– Facebook, Blackberry messages, Blogs, etc.” he wrote, suggesting that all wariness aside, he understands the mechanisms for modern communications.

The final and perhaps grandest of his goals is what he gathered under the heading, The Voice of the Students: “As we work with the relevant Guild committees, we will guarantee the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and by extension, the Caribbean region, an intellectual presence that facilitates a forum for ideas beyond the parameters of our campus. Our voice will facilitate more civil and intelligent discourse for all sectors of society on myriad social, cultural, political and economic issues.”

It is a rather elusive goal, as many leaders in many societies have found, but for young Sanatan, it is one worth keeping high on his agenda in these times when guns speak louder than ideas.

GUILD COUNCIL 2011-2012

■ **Amilcar Sanatan**
President

■ **Kevin Ramsewak**
Vice President

■ **Patrice Millien**
Secretary

■ **Darren Mitchell**
Treasurer;

■ **Runako Thornhill**
Publications Committee Chair

■ **Kasi Smith**
Student Activities Chair

■ **Kizzy-Anne Boatswain**
National Affairs Committee Chair

■ **Kelsey Turpin-Carrington**
International Affairs Committee Chair

■ **Akel Baig**
Games Committee Chair

■ **Leslie Sylvester**
Post Grad Rep

■ **Cereem Nichols**
Science and Agriculture Rep

■ **Travis Laugier**
Social Sciences and Law Rep

■ **Marvin Carbon**
Engineering Representative

■ **Shaka Alexander**
Humanities and Education Rep

■ **Deepak Ramsingh**
Medical Sciences Rep

■ **Alvin Motley**
Canada Hall Chair

■ **Cindy-Ann Beckles**
Joyce Gibson-Inniss Hall Chair

■ **Dwayne Murray**
Milner Hall Chair

■ **Tanya Boucher**
Trinity Hall Chair

■ **Jadia Jn Pierre** (temporary)
Sir Arthur Lewis Hall Chair.

Identity and Migration

Writers seek their centre

BY DR GISELLE RAMP AUL

Over 20 readers took part in this year's Campus Literature Week, sharing their work at the noontime readings in the Audio-Visual Room of the Alma Jordan Library. The Writer in Residence for 2011 was Shani Mootoo who read from her latest novel, *Valmiki's Daughter*, at the Gala Reading that ended the week. Literature Week is an important event on the calendar of The UWI as it intersects the cultural life of the St. Augustine Campus with its academic life and invites the public to participate.

Among the reading writers from March 14-18, were Andre Badoo, Jennifer Rahim, Jessy Mitchell, John Hagley, Merle Hodge, Laura Ortiz-Garrett, Danielle Boodoo-Fortune, Leshanta Roop, Kirk Budhooram, Barbara Jenkins, Ishmael Ho, Barbara Lalla, Vladimir Lucien, Lyndon Baptiste, Sharon Syriac, Alake Pilgrim, Dionyse McTair, Willi Chen, Chadd Cumberbatch, Sharon Millar, Amilcar Sanatan, Innette Cambridge, Anthony Milne, and Michael Anthony.

Writer in Residence, Shani Mootoo was born in Dublin, Ireland to Trinidadian parents. She is an internationally acclaimed writer, artist, and experimental filmmaker. Her written works include a collection of short stories (*Out on Main Street*), a book of poetry (*The Predicament of Or*), and the novels *Cereus Blooms at Night*, which was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller prize and the Chapter's First Novel award, and longlisted for the Man Booker prize; *He Drown She in the Sea*, longlisted for the Dublin IMPAC award; and *Valmiki's Daughter*, longlisted for the Scotiabank Giller prize. The highlights of her filmmaking and visual arts career include a solo screening at New York City's Museum of Modern Art and exhibition in the Transculture show at the Venice Biennial. Mootoo has held the position of Writer in Residence at the University of Guelph and at the University of Alberta. Her novels have been translated into fourteen languages and regularly appear on course syllabi at universities around the world.

This year's event was especially successful, drawing audiences from all over Trinidad especially to the Gala Reading where she read from *Valmiki's Daughter*. She first read an excerpt close to the end of the novel, pointing out to aspiring writers that those were the first pages that she submitted to her publisher – the pages that secured her the contract to complete the novel. She then read from the beginning of the novel, including a passage that immerses the reader into what she describes as the cacophony of sounds and smells of San Fernando. The selection of this passage would have been especially relevant for those who were at the lunchtime reading where Mootoo declared her gratitude and admiration for Michael Anthony whose short novel, *The Year in San Fernando*, signaled to her younger self that the place in which she grew up could be written about. There was also a film screening of three of her short experimental pieces: *The English Lesson* that explores the specific language situation of Trinidad along with questions about what it means to be Trinidadian; *A Paddle and a Compass* in which Mootoo explores issues of identity and



Barbara Jenkins, MFA student and winner of the Commonwealth Short Story Prize, 2010.

migration; and *Her Sweetness Lingers*, a piece about same-sex desire that was sensitively and artistically shot. This film trio exposed the audience to the sort of issues that Mootoo also explores in her writing.

Although Mootoo meant to use her time in Trinidad as Writer in Residence to complete her new novel, she admitted that her visit has been too busy to get more than three pages of writing done.

Literature Week began 12 years ago in 1999 through Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, Prof Funso Aiyejina, who introduced it as an excellent opportunity to students, staff and other local writers to showcase their talents, take part in public readings, and to get feedback on their literary craft at noontime readings.

This week of events then culminated in a Gala Reading at which the Guest Writer was featured. Because of the success and enthusiasm with which Campus Literature Week was met, Prof Aiyejina was inspired to introduce the Master of Fine Arts (Creative Writing – Fiction) programme in 2002. The Guest Writer made way for a Writer in Residence who would visit the campus, work with the students, make public appearances, sensitizing the public to the value of Literature, and would read on the final night at the Gala Reading. In the past, Campus Literature Week has hosted the following writers: Earl Lovelace (1999, 2005, 2008); Olive Senior (2000, 2003); Jan Carew (2001); Austin Clarke (2002); Lawrence Scott (2004); Erna Brodber (2006); John Stewart (2007); Rachel Manley (2009); and M. NourbeSe Philip (2010).

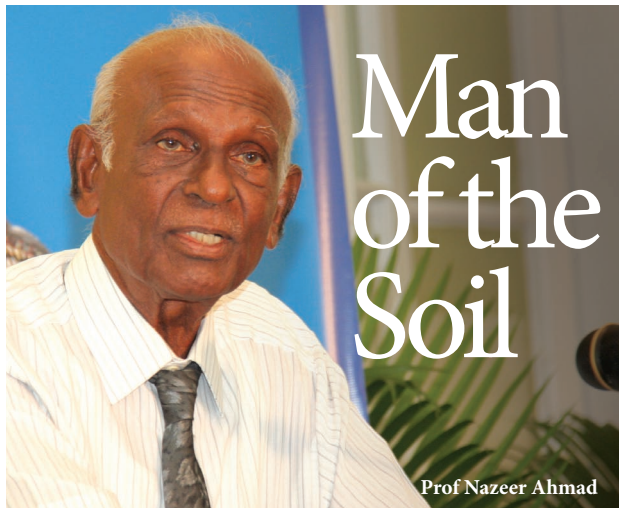


From left, Anthony Milne, Geraldine Skeete, Michael Anthony, Giselle Rampaul and Sharon Millar. Dr Skeete and Dr Rampaul were coordinators of the Campus Literature Week, while the others were lunchtime readers.

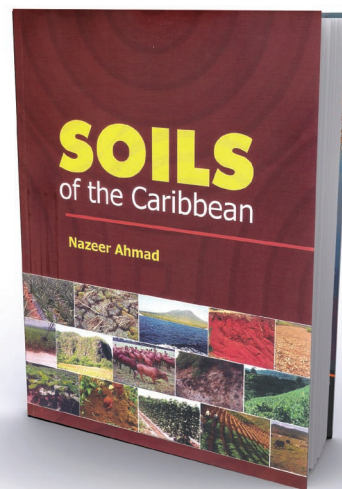
To read Professor Funso Aiyejina's account of the first decade of Literature Week, please visit http://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/ferbruary_2010/article8.asp and http://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/march_2010/article11.asp

Dr Giselle Rampaul lectures on Literatures in English in the Department of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Humanities and Education, UWI, and is one of the organisers of Campus Literature Week.

BOOKS



Prof Nazeer Ahmad



Each territory within the Caribbean should set up a land use and land capability authority and should develop “realistic land capability classification on the basis of which decisions on rational land use must be based,” writes the eminent soil scientist, Prof Nazeer Ahmad in his new book.

“A land zoning policy should be established based on the capacity of the land,” he recommends, adding that land use should be planned on a watershed basis.

“Because of the lack of attention to this detail often the soils with the best agricultural potential suffer from periodic flooding in the lower and flatter areas, which is a problem throughout the Caribbean.”

Prof Ahmad’s comprehensive book, “Soils of the Caribbean,” has just been published and among other things, it examines the soils and related features of Caribbean territories, individually.

Additionally, he describes in general terms management features of the soils and makes recommendations for land use in the Caribbean.

Professor Ahmad was born in 1932 in Guyana and is one of the few surviving Associates of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture (AICTA).

He was an undergraduate student from 1949-1952 (DICTA), and postgraduate (AICTA) from 1952-1953. He went on to do his M.Sc. in Canada (Mc Gill University and the University of British Columbia), and then did his PhD in the UK. Having completed his PhD in 1957, Dr Ahmad returned to what was British Guiana to take up the position of Agricultural Chemist and Head of the Division of Soil Science in the Ministry of Agriculture.

In 1961, he returned to Trinidad to take up a position as lecturer, and he became a professor of Soil Science in 1969. At 79, he is a Professor Emeritus, attached to the Department of Food Production in the Faculty of Science and Agriculture.

Professor Ahmad’s work in Tropical Soil Science is internationally acclaimed and he has travelled the world, acting as a consultant and advisor in soil and land use problems. He was awarded the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture (IICA) Gold Medal for his contribution to research in Soil Science in the Caribbean and Latin American Region.

The book is available at the UWI Bookshop.

HISTORY IN ACTION ONLINE

The second issue of History in Action, the online Journal of the Department of History, is now available, and can be viewed at <http://www.mainlib.uwi.tt/epubs/historyaction/index.htm>

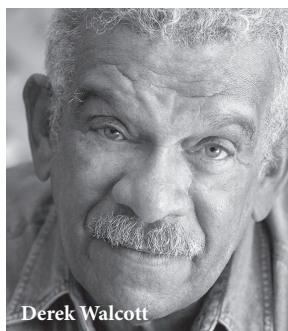


LITERATURE

3 SHORTLISTED FOR BOCAS PRIZE

Thursday 28 April, 2011, will be a high point in Trinidad and Tobago’s literary calendar, as the Bocas Lit Fest gets underway at the National Library in Port of Spain. The first major literary festival in the southern Caribbean, the Bocas Lit Fest is a four-day celebration of books, writers, and writing, bringing together over fifty authors and performers for a jam-packed programme of readings, discussions, workshops, film screenings, music, and more.

The brainchild of Marina Salandy-Brown, former executive director of the Trinidad+Tobago Film Festival, the festival is being organised by a team of experienced players from the national literary scene. And the UWI community is integrally involved. Professor Funso Aiyejina, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Education, is a key member of the Bocas Lit Fest board of directors, and through his intervention the FHE has given the festival tangible support. The festival programme includes a number of writers and scholars based at The UWI, or with connections to the University. They include Barbara Lalla, Elizabeth Walcott-Hackshaw, Rhoda Bharath, Giselle Rampaul, Geraldine Skeete (who organized the recent Campus Literature Week at St. Augustine, and are also organizing the 30th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, themed “*I Dream to Change the World*”: *Literature and Social Transformation*



Derek Walcott

in October) and professor emerita Bridget Brereton of the St. Augustine Campus; Jane Bryce and Mark McWatt from Cave Hill; and professor emeritus Edward Baugh and Tanya Shirley from Mona.

One highlight of the festival will be the announcement of the winner of the first annual

OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature, a major new award recognising the best book of poetry, fiction, or non-fiction by a Caribbean author published each year. Supported by One Caribbean Media, the award comes with a prize of US\$10,000. The three writers shortlisted for the 2011 OCM Bocas Prize are (Nobel laureate and UWI graduate) Derek Walcott, Edwidge Danticat, and debut writer Tiphonie Yanique.

Other events in the festival programme include a celebration of the 25th anniversary of Leeds-based Peepal Tree Press, a leading publisher of Caribbean fiction and poetry; a debate on the always-contentious issue of press



Funso Aiyejina

freedom in Trinidad and Tobago; a discussion of the pitfalls of biography-writing; and tributes to the late writers, Keith Smith of Trinidad and Tobago and Édouard Glissant of Martinique.

Also in the line-up of participating authors are Jamaicans Lorna Goodison and Marlon James, St.

Lucian Jane King, Bahamian Christian Campbell, Canadian David Chariandy, Patrick French (British biographer of V.S. Naipaul), and Trinidadians Arnold Rampersad, Earl Lovelace, Anson Gonzales, and James Aboud. Up-and-coming writers Barbara Jenkins, Vladimir Lucien, and Alake Pilgrim will feature in a special New Talent Showcase, and musician Gillian Moor and poet Muhammad Muwakil will curate a series of lively spoken word and open mic performances.

The festival also includes a full programme of events for children, the Republic Bank/KFC Children’s Bocas Lit Fest.

A Liberated Spirit

Visiting Indian professor seeks region's revolutionaries

BY VANEISA BAKSH

"Books gave me a sense of the quest for the meaning of life," he says, citing the Russians: Dostoyevsky, Tolstoy, Chekhov, Gorki, Turgenev, Gogol, Pushkin, "they put it in your head immediately: what is the meaning of life?"

It underlies everything he does, this existential appetite – his advice to students is that "education is to get to know yourself, your society, your country and also the meaning of life." It's not about passing exams, he says. Soon, "you have to start choosing, you have to take your own decisions."

Professor Chaman Lal holds a MA degree in Hindi and Punjabi from Panjab University, and has an MA in linguistics and a Ph.D in Hindi from Jawaharlal Nehru University New Delhi. He is visiting Professor in Hindi at the Centre for Language Learning (CLL), a position slightly to the right of his literature background, which has a decidedly revolutionary slant.

His family was poor and university was a distant dream. His father thought he should follow him as a shopkeeper and to avoid that fate he took to the public library. There, he discovered the 1936 novel *Godan* by the celebrated writer, Munshi Premchand. He read it in one day, and it "liberated me" he says.

Around 17, struggling to deal with the doors poverty was slamming shut, he began reading of the revolutionary movements in India and came across the story of Bhagat Singh, which would eventually become the centre of his research.

"The concept of freedom gripped my mind," he says. "We must value freedom more than anything else; more than facilities, more than comforts..."

So his literary interests have followed freedom fighters, revolutionaries... forces of liberation, and it was the idea of researching names like CLR James, Che Guevara and Hugo Chavez that enticed him to accept the invitation to come to Trinidad.

He's been here since October 25, on a one-year visit arranged through one of the outreach initiatives of the International Office. Almost half-way through his Trinidad sojourn by now, Professor Lal has formed some impressions of Trinidad and its cultural similarities and differences with India.

Writing in his blog, he records his impressions of Carnival and naively comments that he was impressed that men do not seem to harass women, despite the circumstances, in the way they would, say on a crowded bus in India.

"Only when I walked through some festivities, I realised the true significance of these events. First activity I saw was launching of festivities in the University itself by the Guild of Students. It was mini costume bands display for few hours on stage and in walk. Initially it was little perplexing for me to see winning – pronounced wine-ing, in which woman rub her buttocks with groins of other women in dancing postures. This was considered indecent by British colonial regime and they had banned it, but that led to making this item as the form of rebellion against colonial repression. Over the period, winning has got little perverted also, as now men and women both do winning with each other or men with men also and side winning also in clumsy manner, sometimes falling on the ground in process. Further they took it to doing it in frontal manner, making it look like sexual gesture of union. Also they do it buttock to buttock now. But this is done in presence of thousands of people and does not cause any ripple here. And this is done in public



PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM

Professor Chaman Lal as he spoke on, "Remembering Bhagat Singh," at The UWI on April 7th.

just in the days of Carnival, as certain liberties are taken by men and women during Holi in India."

He finds this "region" to be heavily influenced by the American system of education, which he thinks is highly reliant on technology: "here it is more professionally competent, so you will have powerpoint presentations that look impressive but are not necessarily substantial."

He's found that there are many differences between students from Jawaharlal Nehru University, where he has spent decades, and UWI students. The students and teachers at JNU have much closer relationships than he has found at UWI (students can drop in at the houses of lecturers freely). He mentions that there is no culture of drinking on the JNU campus, and that education is very heavily subsidized.

One of the things that seemed to have struck him very forcibly was the approach to work and study. "Indians work for 12, 14, 16 hours a day," he says, adding that they also study the same length of time. Here, he says with a rather perplexed look, "they only study for four, five, hours," and they are "very rigid" about their work times (meaning they don't stay late).

He surmises that if people love what they are doing, it never seems too much.

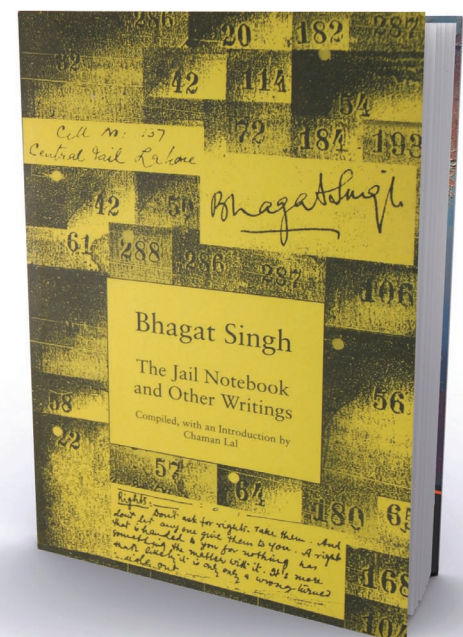
"In any society, particularly capitalist ones, people do not get the work of their choice, they are forced to work, so their productivity is never as high. My thing was to acquire a life which I like mentally and literature gave me that space."

There is a line attributed to Premchand, the writer who wooed him, that seems to capture the life he has led: "Idealism has to be there even though it should not militate against realism and naturalness."

PROFESSOR CHAMAN LAL'S WORK

Professor Chaman Lal has written many books on Bhagat Singh, in several languages. Apart from his writings on Singh, he also delivered 30 lectures in India and abroad during the Bhagat Singh centenary. Some of his publications include:

- Jail Note book and Other Writings
- Bhagat Singh (Compiled and Introduction) 2007
- The Punjabi and Dalit Images in Indian literature (Criticism) 1998
- Gurmukhi Manuscripts in Patiala 1990
- Storms Never Know Defeat-Paash (Edited) 1989
- Dalit and Woman in Indian Literature (edited-bilingual) 2001



UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS

APRIL–OCTOBER 2011

LAND CONFERENCE 2011

28-29 April, 2011
Daaga Auditorium
UWI St. Augustine

The Department of Geomatics Engineering and Land Management will host its Land Conference 2011 on the theme “Land Ownership in Trinidad and Tobago: Issues and Challenges.” The conference hopes to facilitate a forum where stakeholders can discuss the impacts of land tenure on development goals; explore potential actions that will ensure that challenges are addressed, and share best practices when dealing with tenure issues.

For further information, please contact Dr. Charisse Griffith-Charles at 662-2002 ext 2108/2109, or via e-mail at Charisse.Griffith-Charles@sta.uwi.edu.

OESH SEMINAR: ROAD TRAFFIC CRASHES IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

16 June, 2011
8.30am-1pm
Hilton Hotel & Conference Centre,
Lady Young Road, Port of Spain, T&T

The Occupational Environmental Safety and Health (OESH) programme of the Department of Chemistry, hosts an OESH Seminar which aims to contribute to the improvement of the nation’s roads by providing a historical account of road accidents in Trinidad and Tobago and an analysis of this phenomenon.

For further information, please contact Ms. Wendy Lawrence at 662-2002 ext. 3269, or via e-mail at Wendy.Lawrence@sta.uwi.edu.



CTLPA 14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

30 June-2 July, 2011
Learning Resource Centre
UWI St. Augustine

The Caribbean Tertiary Level Personnel Association (CTLPA) hosts its 14th Annual Conference, themed, “CTLPA: Bringing More to Student Learning and Professional Development in Higher Education.”

For further information, please contact the CTLPA Headquarters, UWI Mona Campus, at (876) 824-1683.



**Break the
WALLS OF SILENCE**

IGDS BREAK THE SILENCE MARCH IN BARRACKPORE

30 April, 2011
7-10am
Barrackpore East Secondary School (start)

The Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS) marks Child Abuse Awareness Month in April, with a series of events, including a march through Barrackpore, as a part of its Break the Silence campaign.

The IGDS Conference, Understanding and Preventing Child Sexual Abuse and HIV Risk: Presentation of Research Findings and an Intervention Model, has now been shifted to May 4-6, 2011 at the Karl Theodore Conference Facility, Centre for Health Economics, Department of Social Sciences, The UWI, St. Augustine.

For further information, please contact Shazara Mohammed at 486-1279, or via e-mail at menhendi.fairy@yahoo.com, or check out ‘Break the Walls of Silence April 2011’ on Facebook.

UWI TODAY WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

UWI TODAY welcomes submissions by staff and students for publication in the paper. Please send your suggestions, comments, or articles for consideration to: uwitoday@sta.uwi.edu

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF COASTAL COMMUNITIES

1-3 June, 2011
Port of Spain, T&T

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies (SALISES) joins the Turtle Village Trust of Trinidad & Tobago to host an International Conference, themed “The Sustainable Development of Coastal Communities: Challenges and Solutions.” This conference will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on critical issues related to climate change and coastal communities, biodiversity, turtle conservation, ecotourism, sustainable community development, the environment and related issues. Participation is open to scholars, policy makers, graduate students, professionals, NGOs, civil society and community-based organizations.

For further information, please contact SALISES at 662-2002 ext. 2037, 2391, or via e-mail at salises@sta.uwi.edu.



30TH ANNUAL WEST INDIAN LITERATURE CONFERENCE

13-15 October, 2011

The UWI Department of Liberal Arts hosts the 30th Annual West Indian Literature Conference, themed “I Dream to Change the World”: Literature and Social Transformation.

For further information, please contact Dr. Geraldine Skeete at Geraldine.Skeete@sta.uwi.edu, or Dr. Giselle Rampaul at Giselle.Rampaul@sta.uwi.edu.