



# UWI TODAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES • ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

SUNDAY 8TH MAY, 2016



Dead men do tell tales! Rayshawn Pierre plays the medium who tells the deceased samurai's version of events that fateful day in the forest.

## The Search for Truth

The search for truth is one of the abiding quests for humankind. Every day, in one form or another, mundane or momentous, the mind seeks to get beneath the surface to understand events and actions. With experience, we learn that life is full of nuance and circumstance, and it is the perspectives we bring that provide us with truths – our own truths. After all, every story is told through the eyes of the storyteller.

**Rashōmon**, the famous play set in Japan, which was made into the classic 1950 film directed by **Akira Kurosawa**, was recently put on by UWI's **Department of Creative and Festival Arts**, and directed by **Dr. Danielle Lyndersay**. The play recounts the tale of a samurai's death, through contradictory accounts that serve the interests of the tellers, and illustrates the elusive nature of truth.

The DCFA's production has been hailed as a success for the acting, set design and directing. It was indeed a creative enterprise from all accounts, using the open air space to maximum effect and even bringing in a horse to join the cast.

We carry some images from it, taken by **Aaron Mohammed** of **TCDMedia** on **Page 15**.



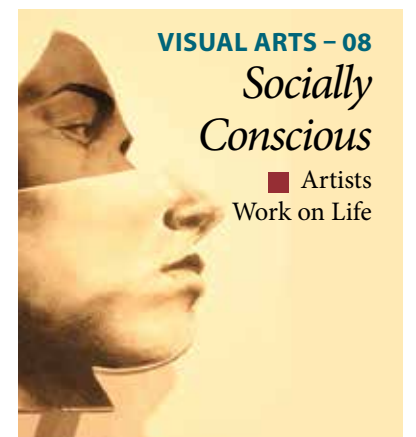
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■ OUR CAMPUS

# Six students get HUAWEI TRIP TO CHINA

Six UWI students will be selected for a training programme financed by Huawei Technologies (T&T) Ltd., and carried out in China. The focus of the selection panel will be students working in the field of telecommunications and technological research and innovation. That panel will comprise representatives from The UWI, Huawei and the Ministry of Education.

On April 25, The UWI and Huawei signed the MoU for the agreement, which enables the students to attend training sessions at the Huawei Campus and Research and Development Centres in Shenzhen and Beijing. The MoU indicates that they will be “studying innovation topics related to the development of the next generation networks” and, “will experience the ‘cloud-room’, where researchers are connected through cloud and collaborate and share resources for planning the future of ICT.”

The students will also have the opportunity to experience China’s culture.

Signing on behalf of Huawei was Mr Jason Deng, while St. Augustine Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat signed for The UWI. Minister in the Ministry of Education, Dr. Lowell Francis was also present.



PHOTO: ATIBA CUDJOE

*The MoU indicates that they will be “studying innovation topics related to the development of the next generation networks” and, “will experience the ‘cloud-room’, where researchers are connected through cloud and collaborate and share resources for planning the future of ICT.”*

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

## Change and Transition



On April 29, 2016, members of The UWI Council – the highest governing body of the regional institution – met at the St. Augustine Campus for the Council’s annual business meeting. At this meeting, several important decisions were taken as it relates to the leadership of our University as The UWI continues to demonstrate its immense value

as a contributor and repository of human development and intellectual capacity of our West Indian community.

Indeed, The UWI is witnessing a ‘wind of change and transition’ which I firmly believe is not only inevitable, but a process that readily lends itself as a natural catalyst to foster further growth, relevance and impact as we continue to evolve into an entity that meets the daily expectations of the people of our region.

It is within this context and with pride that I would like to extend heartfelt congratulations to **Professor Brian Copeland** who has been appointed Campus Principal Designate of The UWI St. Augustine Campus. As a Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering and former Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the St. Augustine Campus, he has been my well-respected colleague for over two decades. For many years, I have known of his commitment to The UWI as a colleague in the Faculty of Engineering when he was Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering and I was the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. His drive and passion for excellence and strong focus on developmental research has resulted in outputs such as the first Electronic Scoreboard at the Queen’s Park Oval and the development and patenting of the G-Pan, a re-engineered form of the traditional steelpan, as well as the Percussive Harmonic instrument (P.H.I.), an electronic form of the traditional steelpan.

I extend my very best wishes to Professor Copeland, and I have every confidence that he will continue to build this Campus on the solid platform that has been laid by all past Principals of the St. Augustine Campus over the last 55 years.

I also wish to thank and congratulate the Deputy Principal of The UWI St. Augustine Campus, **Professor Rhoda Reddock**, for her sterling service throughout the years. Professor Reddock has been given a one-year extension as Deputy Principal which will be instrumental in the transition period of leadership at The UWI St. Augustine Campus.

In addition, **Professor Indar Ramnarine** was reappointed as the Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology. Professor Ramnarine has brought considerable creativity and innovation to this Faculty, especially as it relates to the development of new postgraduate programmes. I also extend a warm welcome to the new Dean of the Faculty of Food and Agriculture, **Dr. Wayne Ganpat**, someone who brings considerable experience in the agricultural sector of Trinidad and Tobago and the region. I wish to thank the outgoing Dean, **Dr. Isaac Bekele** for his stewardship of the Faculty of Food and Agriculture and the establishment of the Agricultural Innovation Park (AIP) at our East Campus in Orange Grove.

At the regional level, I congratulate and extend best wishes to **Professor Archibald McDonald** the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal of The UWI Mona Campus, who was granted a one-year post-retirement extension which will enable him to complete several major developmental projects including The UWI Mona, Western Jamaica Campus in Montego Bay, and **Dr. Luz Longworth** who was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal of The UWI Open Campus, and as such, will lead and forge the transformation and new direction of the Open Campus based upon the recommendations of the Open Campus Task Force established by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles.

The University leadership also welcomes a new Pro Vice-Chancellor for Planning and Development in **Professor Densil Williams** (former Executive Director of the Mona School of Business and Management) who will oversee the development of The UWI’s new Strategic Plan 2017-2022, to align industry with academia to create wealth; to expand access to tertiary education; and to seek global opportunities. I take this opportunity to commend Professor Williams on his new assignment and express thanks to the former PVC of Planning and Development, **Professor Andrew Downes** for his prominent role in conceptualizing and operationalizing The UWI’s current Strategic Plan 2012-2017 and his stewardship of SALISES. I wish him the very best in his retirement.

As I personally also prepare to demit the Office of the Campus Principal, and more broadly, retire from The UWI on September 30, 2016, to encounter what lies ahead in my journey of life, I must say that it has been a truly incredible journey for me that started way back in 1969 (as a student), and I recount with a great sense of joy and pride some of the extraordinary accomplishments we have been able to achieve as a team. And while I believe that there is still so much to achieve, after a 47-year association with The UWI, I remind myself of the belief that ‘there is a time for everything, and a season for every activity...a time to plant and a time to uproot...’ (*Ecclesiastes 3*).

Indeed, our beloved regional university has an ageless mandate of serving the Caribbean region and beyond, and I remain confident that our new leaders will espouse a philosophy of leadership based on servant-hood, a style of leadership that I have embraced. I close with a quote from Rabindranath Tagore, words I underscored at my final presentation to Campus Council: *‘I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and beheld, service was joy...’*

CLEMENT K. SANKAT  
Pro Vice-Chancellor & Principal

EDITORIAL TEAM

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL  
Professor Clement Sankat

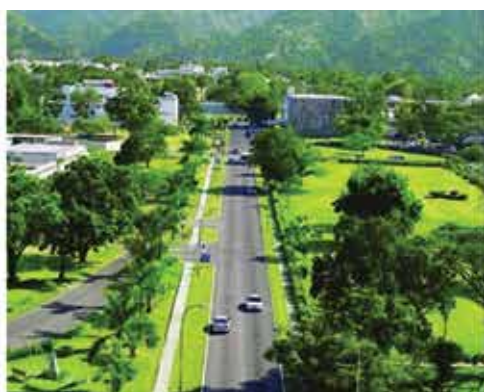
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS  
Dr Dawn-Marie De Four-Gill

EDITOR  
Vaneisa Baksh • email: vaneisa.baksh@sta.uwi.edu

CONTACT US  
The UWI Marketing and Communications Office  
Tel: (868) 662-2002, exts. 82013 / 83997 or email: uwitoday@sta.uwi.edu



# SENIOR APPOINTMENTS AT UWI



Members of the Council of The UWI, along with invited guests met at The UWI St. Augustine Campus for what is considered the annual business meeting, which was chaired by UWI Chancellor, **Sir George Alleyne**. At this forum, major advancements across The UWI's four campuses during the last academic year, and projections for the future were discussed.

The University Council is the governing body of the regional university, and exercises powers such as making appointments authorised by The UWI's *Charter and Statutes*, managing the finances, and all business affairs of the University. The University Council Meeting, according to the University's Statute 22, is scheduled to review the work of the University together with the audited statement of accounts, and make required appointments of new and returning Deans and Senior Managers. These appointments included:

## DEANS OF FACULTIES

- Reappointment of the Dean, Faculty of Law, Cave Hill Campus: **Dr David Berry**
- Reappointment of the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Cave Hill Campus: **Dr Justin Robinson**
- Reappointment of the Dean, Faculty of Law, Mona Campus: **Leighton Jackson**,
- Appointment of the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Mona Campus: **Professor Ian Boxhill**
- Reappointment of the Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, St Augustine Campus: **Professor Indar Ramnarine**
- Appointment of the Dean, Faculty of Food and Agriculture, St Augustine Campus: **Dr Wayne Ganpat**

The **Vice-Chancellor's Report** to the Council was streamed live to the public and is available online at [www.uwi.edu/vcreport](http://www.uwi.edu/vcreport)

## SENIOR MANAGERS

- Reappointment of the Principal, Mona Campus: **Professor Archibald Mc Donald**
- Appointment of the Principal, Open Campus: **Dr Luz Longworth**
- Appointment of the Principal, St Augustine Campus: **Professor Brian Copeland**
- Reappointment of the Deputy Principal, Mona Campus: **Ishenkumba Kahwa**
- Reappointment of the Deputy Principal, St Augustine Campus: **Professor Rhoda Reddock**
- Reappointment of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Board of Undergraduate Studies: **Professor Alan Cobley**
- Appointment of the Pro Vice-Chancellor Planning: **Dr Densil Williams**
- Reappointment of the University Management Auditor: **Judith Nelson**
- Reappointment of the University Counsel: **Laleta Davis-Mattis**
- Pro Vice-Chancellor Global Affairs: **Dr Richard Bernal** (*previously announced*)



## New Campus Principal Designate is **PROFESSOR BRIAN COPELAND**

**Former Dean of the Faculty of Engineering**, Professor Brian Copeland, has been appointed Campus Principal Designate of The UWI, St. Augustine. The appointment was one of several announced at the annual business meeting of the University Council.

Professor Copeland succeeds Professor Clement Sankat, who has served two terms as Campus Principal: beginning his first term in January 2008 and the second in January 2013.

Professor Copeland graduated from The UWI St. Augustine with a BSc in Electrical Engineering in 1978, with an MSc in Electrical Engineering (Control Systems) from the University of Toronto in 1981 and with a PhD in Electrical Engineering (Control Systems) from the University of Southern California in 1990. He has been a Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at The UWI from 2007 to 2015. He was Head of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at The UWI from 1997 to 2007. He has lectured in Digital Electronics and Microprocessor Systems Design and Control Systems.

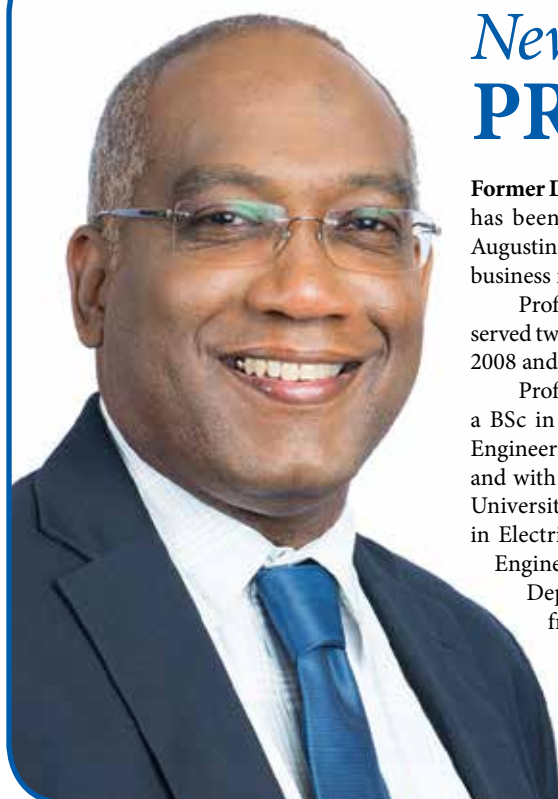
He was Coordinator of the Real Time Systems Group, a UWI unit for developing university/industry liaison through impactful R&D Projects. At the RTSG, Professor Copeland

was Project Leader for design and construction of the Electronic Scoreboard at the Queen's Park Oval. He currently co-ordinates the Steelpan Initiatives Project (SIP) which saw the development and patenting of the G-Pan, a re-engineered form of the traditional steelpan, as well as the Percussive Harmonic instrument (P.H.I.), an electronic form of the traditional steelpan. Professor Copeland is Convener of the Steelpan Research Centre, UWI and is a former Member of the Board of Directors, CARIRI.

In 2008, he was the first recipient of the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and in 2007 he was joint recipient of the Chaconia Medal Gold as a member of the G-Pan development team. He received the Guardian Life Premium Teaching Award in 2002, the BP/AMOCO Fellowship Award for Senior Academic Staff at The UWI, 2001 and a LASPAU/Fulbright scholarship for the Doctoral program at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles, 1987.

Extending his congratulations, the current Principal, Professor Sankat, said he was confident that Professor Copeland's long experience at the St. Augustine Campus would serve him well and assured him of his "full support during the transition."

*Professor Copeland's appointment will be for a period of five years.*





# The World of WORK, WORK, WORK

**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT:** This WOW participant captivates an interviewer during the WOW Interview Sessions on March 5 and 12, 2016, at The UWI Sports and Physical Education Centre. The Mock Interviews are a critical component of the World of Work Programme as it gives students the chance to practice interviewing skills learnt during the WOW Interview Preparation Workshops. Additionally, students who participated in the WOW programme were exposed to the importance of dressing for success, financial planning and entrepreneurship during the WOW Seminar. During the Mock Interviews, students interacted with HR managers and recruiters from local and international companies. PHOTO: ATIBA CUDJOE.



**The WOW programme is geared towards equipping final year UWI Students with the necessary tools for succeeding in today's work environment.**



**GET READY FOR WORK:** A final year student speaks with a corporate representative during this year's World of Work (WOW) Recruitment Fair. The Fair which took place on April 7-8 at The UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre provided the opportunity for final year students to meet recruiters from a variety of organizations. This event is of utmost importance for final-year students seeking vacation and graduate employment. PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM.



**The Mock Interviews are a critical component of the World of Work Programme as it gives students the chance to practice interviewing skills learnt during the WOW Interview Preparation Workshops.**

**PREPARING THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUNG PROFESSIONALS:** The WOW programme is geared towards equipping final year UWI Students with the necessary tools for succeeding in today's work environment. About 1500 students benefit from the programme every year. Republic Bank Limited has been the main partner in this initiative for the past 14 years. The programme not only helps students but gives corporate entities, organizations and government agencies the chance to groom the next generation of young professionals. PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM.

**About 1500 students benefit from the programme every year. Republic Bank Limited has been the main partner in this initiative for the past 14 years.**



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**APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 31, 2016**





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# Faculty of **Science and Technology**

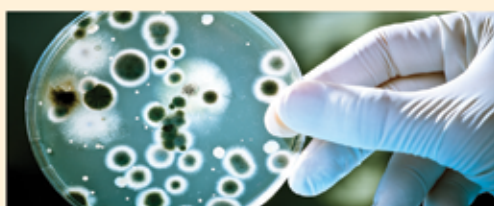
## Postgraduate Admissions 2016/2017



### **MSc Biodiversity Conservation & Sustainable Development in the Caribbean**

#### **Support our diversity**

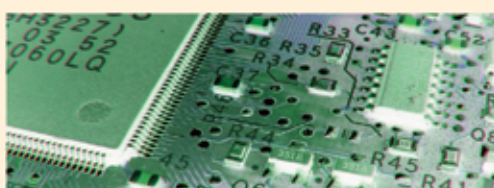
The Caribbean is one of the most biodiverse and threatened regions in the world. Learn how you can measure, conserve and manage the rich biodiversity of the world and contribute to our sustainable future.



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\*Awaiting GATE approval



### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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APPLICATION DEADLINE  
**May 31, 2016**



## RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

“Incubation lasted three days because this is how long the undergrad forgot the experiment in the fridge. #overlyhonestmethods”. Tweeted by a scientist with the trending hashtag started by a neuroscience postdoctoral researcher in January 2013.

It was meant to pull back the veil on some of hiccups behind scientific study.

There are some fields of work that we tend to imbue with an air of gravitas. Sciences are how we figure out the world around us; they use rigorous research to decipher the cogs that make the system work. It's serious stuff. And sometimes nigh incomprehensible to the layman.

With #overlyhonestmethods, scientists spanning all fields detailed the simplistic and sometimes hilarious limitations to maintaining the scientific rigour we associate with research papers. One said of an experiment he had been working on that “the beam shutter was held stable by an in-house built support made from BluTak and the top of an old Biro.”

Whatever movies might have us think, scientists are not always functioning with limitless technology, funds, time or manpower. Especially when those scientists are students.

Sometimes a little ingenuity is necessary.

The presenters at the sixth annual research symposium, a collaboration between the Department of Life Sciences and the Departments of Physics and Computing and Information Technology at The UWI, put forward a myriad of thought-provoking studies. The two-day theme was ‘Sustainable Development’, and most of the presentations looked at ways we can make improvements to the country and the region.

“Science is a very creative process. Not only do students have to come up with a question about a topic, they then have to figure out how to collect their data, how to analyse it and then compare it with what is already known,” says Mike Rutherford, Zoology Curator in the Department of Life Sciences. “Often the creativity comes when things don't go according to plan... for example if you are in the field with a piece of equipment designed to do X and you discover that that is not working for your particular project, then you have to improvise and get the equipment to do Y instead. The other creative side is when you get results that might not have been a part of your original plan, and then find a way to use those results to answer different questions.”

Some of the conclusions were straightforward enough, like Marianna Rampaul's assessment of Macqueripe Bay, where even a non-scientist could grasp the data showing high levels of E. Coli and Enterobacter in the water draining into the Bay (do not wash your feet in the drain water, I repeat, DO NOT wash your feet in that water). Some of the detailed charts and graphs, however, may have sailed over the heads of those not majoring in the field.

But most, if not all the presenters gave the audience a peek behind the glamour associated with scientific study. Keshan Mahabir, recounting his trips up to the Asa Wright Nature Centre to study the Oilbird population, showed pictures of how he got his data on population size: by standing on a precarious ladder in a giant blue raincoat, counting the birds in the cave with a flashlight.

Shaazia Salina Mohammed, when asked by one of the judges why she had chosen one type of perimeter in her study of Lionfish in Tobago rather than another, admitted rather bashfully that it was cheaper, and she was limited to the equipment available from the university.

And nothing wrong with that; she found ways to get the results she needed from the resources at hand.

There is no doubt that the students were rigorous in their research; and hopefully some of their work may soon be changing the way we live. Who wouldn't rejoice at the introduction of year-round fresh pigeon peas, which might be on the market in the near future? Albertha Joseph-Alexander enthusiastically detailed the breeding of pigeon pea varieties that might be available for our collective currying soon.

# The Man in the Giant Blue Raincoat

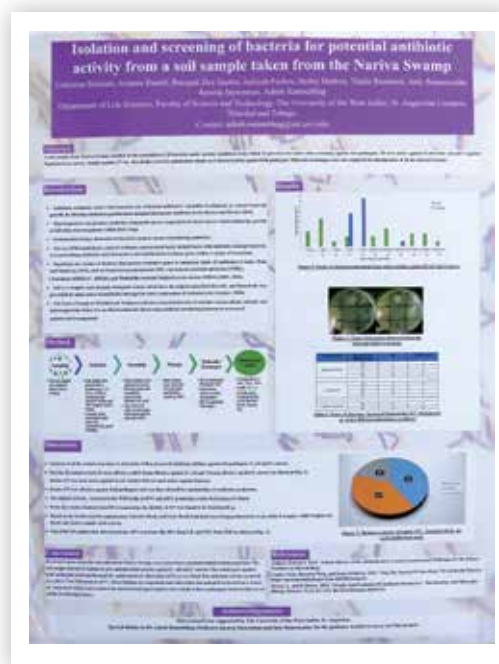
## ...and other scientific adventurers

BY AMY BAKSH



“Often the creativity comes when things don't go according to plan.”

Mike Rutherford,  
Zoology Curator in the  
Department of Life Sciences.



One of the posters on display at the symposium looking for potential antibiotic activity at Nariva Swamp.

Five years ago, she had written about her research on the link or genetic relationship between seed size, pod quality and yield in UWI TODAY ([https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/june\\_2011/article6.asp](https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/june_2011/article6.asp)).

But some of the most fascinating parts of the presentations were inevitably the parts of research that we don't always consider. How do researchers make do with their limitations? Mike Rutherford's look at mammals in the Arima Valley was professed to be just an investigation he found interesting, and he undertook it without quite knowing what he was looking for or what new information he might come upon. After detailing the animals he had spotted using cameras set up for the Arima Valley Bioblitz in 2013, Professor Christopher Starr helpfully suggested that he could have urinated on some of the sites to attract more animals. After all, that's what the Prof. himself, a retired entomologist, had done in his own groundwork.

Well, whatever works.

Keshan Mahabir's giant blue raincoat helped him get information that could garner attention to the dwindling Oilbirds up at Asa Wright, the only easily accessible colony of this strange, nocturnal species that doesn't get as much good press as the flamboyant Scarlet Ibis.

Shaazia Salina Mohammed's Lionfish study sheds light on the sea creature that has been creating panic since it was first spotted in Tobago's waters, with many concerned that it could wreak havoc in Tobago's coral reefs.

As the symposium grows, (having started off as solely Life Sciences to including Physics and Computing and IT) so does the span of research. Now even undergraduate students are given the stage to present alongside their postgrad colleagues and professional scientists. And even where data was limited by time, space or money, preliminary studies could pave the way for more transformative work.

However they get there.



## ■ DCFA VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION

“**T**o the UWI graduates in the audience tonight, don’t rest on your laurels. This is just the beginning. The concepts that you have presented here today will plague you for the rest of your lives.”

National Museum Curator Lorraine Johnson’s opening remarks cast a precarious overtone on the densely packed crowd. This was the Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) Visual Arts Degree Programme Final Year Exhibition opening ceremony. Friends, family and enthused arts patrons gathered in the Main Gallery of the National Museum and Art Gallery on April 13 to observe the works of 22 Fine Art and 17 Design students who presented the final progression of their Visual Arts degree portfolio after receiving peer review, critiques and measured guidance from their fellow students and lecturers at DCFA.

Organized by Keomi Serrette, Curatorial Assistant at the National Museum and Art Gallery, the exhibit was a collaborative effort between the National Museum and DCFA with Exhibition Curator, Steve Ouditt at the helm and Lauren Jennings-Stoute being an instrumental figure in the Exhibition Committee.

Fitting the range of issues addressed by the students neatly under one umbrella would be impossible as students explored everything, from the cultural preservation of Amerindian art to child sexual abuse and other difficult topics. Lecturer Steve Ouditt sees this as the contemporary way forward for artists: confronting social concerns and solutions.

“What we’re doing is giving students a chance to experiment with all of these ideas in their social space. Even going back in history, we would always see interventions and social projects have always been mediated by artists and the ways in which people come to understand a social space and system.”

Fine art student, Oswald Jr Dupigny’s Untitled piece provides a clear depiction of the way in which the education system shapes our social consciousness based on the privileging of academia over vocational abilities. The two collide in a flaming red classroom filled with school desks and sewing machines. Dupigny credits the secure foundation DCFA provided to help him get to this point, “The programme has helped me mature and I take my craft seriously now and I’ve come to know what I’m about in terms of my art making, process, studio etc.”

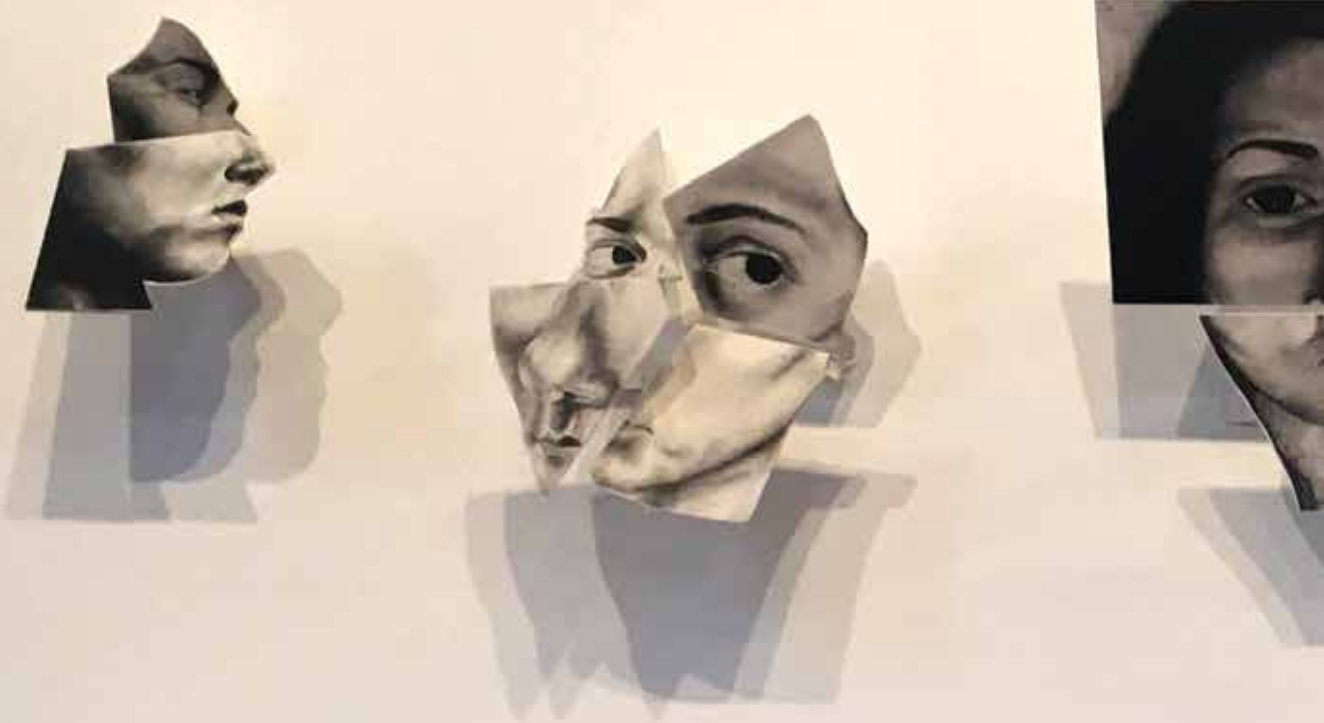
Helping students find their niche was a recurring theme among the students interviewed, including Design student Melissa Miller, whose Herban – an urban herb garden system encourages sustainability in a practical solution for busy city professionals who don’t have the time to maintain an entire garden.

“With design and art, you really have to have a passion for whatever you’re doing and it’s okay to have a specific niche... it can be overwhelming at first since we’re exposed to so much in the beginning, but once you keep working on your own skill, you can decide what niche works best for you.”

Sometimes your niche ends up miles away from where you started according to Shanice Smith, conceptual fine arts student.

“I came into the programme with the intention of learning to paint and draw and I disliked contemporary art sooo much,” she said. “Only in my second year, I started reflecting and trying to open up about things and find a middle ground or safe space. I’ve learnt more about contemporary art since then and I realized that it is relevant to the times we live in and the objectification of women IS very much relevant.”

Smith’s piece, Nice ting does be in glass case is part of a body of work investigating gender-based issues faced by females, specifically the objectification and the role of the media. When confronted with the plethora of uncovered breasts in the piece, museum onlookers’ reactions



# The End is THE

## Student art challenges a

BY JEANNETTE AWAI

vacillated from thoughtfully glancing back and forth between the description and the piece to understand it to raised eyebrows and spontaneous trini bemusement, “Weeyyyyysssss.”

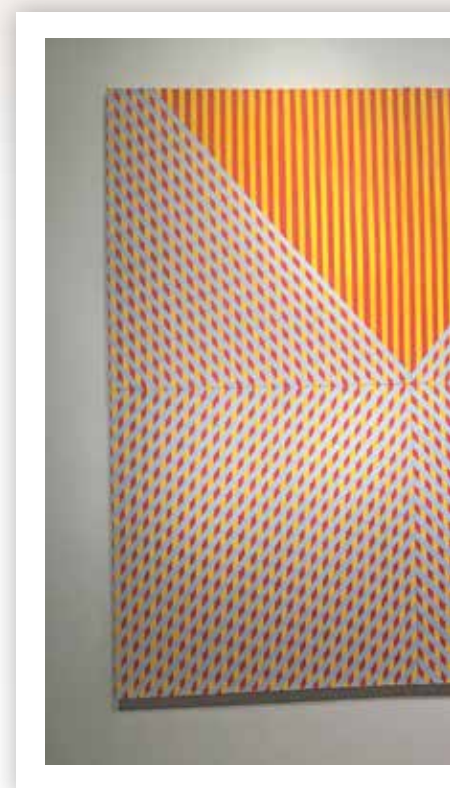
Undoubtedly, the piece sparked conversation and intrigue by all in attendance.

The chasm between the artists’ intentions and the audience’s interpretation remains a space that both challenges and excites both parties. Does good art always transmit a clear meaning or is it meant to simply provoke the viewer? Also, how do we cultivate artists of this calibre? According to Lauren Jennings-Stoute, the students at this exhibit pulled off such a feat because they were self-motivated and had the drive to present and promote a unique show that was of the highest standard. This is in spite of budgetary constraints and other setbacks.

Director of the DCFA, Jessel Murray, makes no secret of the need for DCFA to have its own space and spoke about the University’s plans to house a new expanded space at Cheeseman Avenue, St. Augustine in 2017. In the interim, students like Lauren Jennings-Stoute were happy to showcase their work in a prominent venue like the National Museum, but also saw the need for DCFA to develop more strategically in keeping with national policy for a competitive advantage in the creative arts. Similarly Steve Ouditt saw the example of Havana Cuba, as a prototype for how Trinidad could continue creating cutting-edge art, design and music despite economic challenges.

Overall, any initial connotations of amateur, apprentice-like work proved to be a misnomer as students punched way above their weight, whether through combining principles of design and horticulture for therapy methodology in the case of Ryan Huggins, Holographic Entrypoint (Bromeliads) or investigating the theory that all things will eventually become different versions of themselves in Wasia Ward’s Red Yellow Blue. In Ward’s words, “The graduating class challenged the stereotype of what art could be and got audience to see their installations as ‘real art.’”

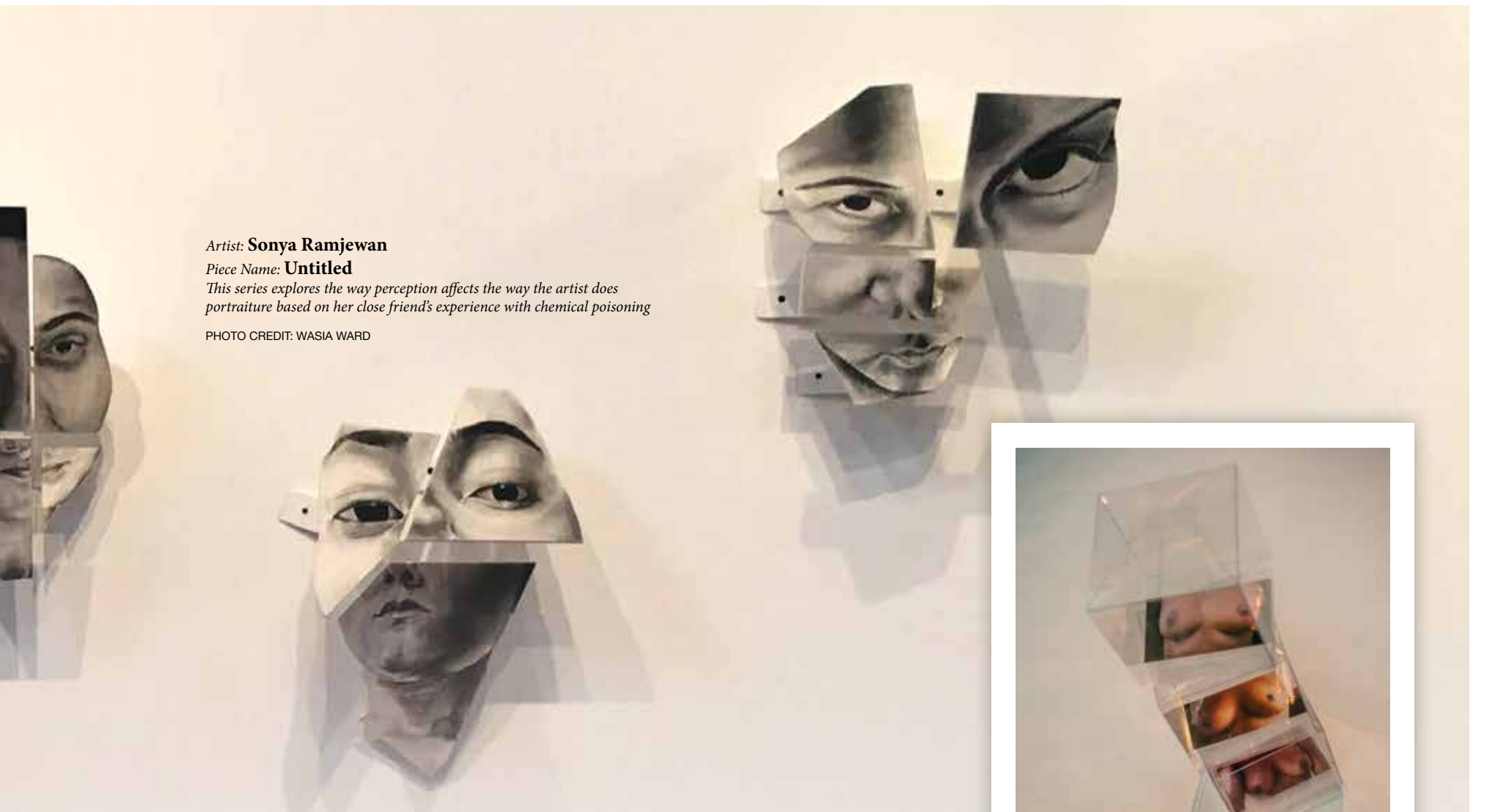
The opening indeed was a night of triumph, spectacle and celebration. But the work of the artist remains to be continued...



Jeanette G. Awai is a freelance writer and a Marketing and Communication.

The UWI DCFA Visual Arts Degree Programme Exhibition runs until May 14 at the National Museum and Art Gallery, Port of Spain.





Artist: **Sonya Ramjewan**

Piece Name: **Untitled**

*This series explores the way perception affects the way the artist does portraiture based on her close friend's experience with chemical poisoning*

PHOTO CREDIT: WASIA WARD

# BEGINNING

*audiences*



Artist: **Shanice Smith**

Piece name: **Nice ting does be in glass case**

*Shanice transforms the silence of language into action by confronting the role of media in turning women into objects*

PHOTO CREDIT: METAGREY



Artist: **Wasia Ward**

Piece Name: **Red Yellow Blue**

*Wasia's geometrical painting and interactive piece with headphones both lead observers to question the confines within their present physical form*

PHOTO CREDIT: WASIA WARD



Artist: **Oswald Jr Dupigny**

Piece Name: **Untitled**

*Dupigny explores the oppressive nature of the education system. Does the system really work for everyone or just a privileged few?*

PHOTO CREDIT: WASIA WARD



## ■ CAMPUS NEWS

## THE *Trinbago-Japanese* CONNECTION



From left: Mr. Tsuyoshi Osone of the Japan Foundation; Ms. Shiho Arakawa, a Japanese Tutor at the Centre for Language Learning; Ms. Fumie Yanashima, a Senior Lecturer, Japan Foundation, Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa; Ms. Tsubura Kawasaki-Tull, Japanese Coordinator, CLL.

On September 15 and 16, 2015, the Centre for Language Learning opened its doors to representatives of the Japan Foundation, founded in 1972 with the sole mandate of promoting and realising intercultural exchanges between Japan and the rest of the world. The Japan Foundation is also keenly interested in Japanese-language education overseas.

Subsequent to its visit at the CLL, during which the representatives were particularly impressed by the high-calibre of the CLL's Japanese programme and the number of students participating in the JET programme, the representatives invited the Centre to join its JF Nihongo or "Sakura" Network. This network, inaugurated in 2008, consists of 127 core organisations who work collaboratively to ensure the quality of Japanese-language education worldwide.

The CLL's invitation to join the "Sakura" network is a milestone worthy of praise since it establishes itself as the only Caribbean institution to have ever done so. Its membership status is also significant due to the increased opportunities for professional and/or academic development for teachers and students of Japanese both locally and in Japan.

Japanese is one of the 10 foreign languages taught at the CLL and one of the 4 credit-bearing courses offered. Registration for Semester I classes 2016/2017 will begin on August 22, 2016. Find out more about Japanese at the CLL [http://sta.uwi.edu/fhe/cll/courses\\_japanese.asp](http://sta.uwi.edu/fhe/cll/courses_japanese.asp)

## CONGRATULATIONS!



CLL Director, Dr. Beverly-Anne Carter presents Bephyer Paryer with a pen as a personal gift for her support as a research assistant during their Language and Competitiveness event in January. Bephyer is completing her PhD in the Social Sciences.

## Supporting Economic Diversification along the Cocoa Value Chain

**Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, Clarence Rambharat**, says his Ministry pledges to implement good governance and structure as the driving forces for the growth of the cocoa industry. The Minister spoke at The UWI's Cocoa Research Centre's (CRC) second symposium, organized by the CRC's International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre (IFCIC) on April 6, and he said the goal is strengthening Trinidad and Tobago as a *Cocoa Centre of Excellence* dedicated to technology and innovative development.

The symposium presented the CRC's work by its scientists, associates and graduate students in research and development. It included subjects like cashing in on the International Cocoa Gene Bank's location in Trinidad, building resistance to disease, climate change mitigation, quality management and certification in the industry and along the value chain, understanding genetic origin, diversity and food and beverage product development.

Among the presenters at the symposium, "*Supporting Economic Diversification along the Cocoa Value Chain*



Clarence Rambharat, Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

*through Research Innovation,*" were Dr. Rikhi Permanand, CEO, Economic Development Advisory Board, who shared the work of the Ministry's Central Experimental Station towards organising and supporting 12 cocoa clusters throughout Trinidad. Ms. Karen Lee Lum, Project Manager of the IFCIC presented a Labour Resolution Model coming out of consultation with small, medium and large estates. Ms. Jude Lee Sam of the Montserrat Cocoa Growers' Cooperative shared their model. Ms. Ashley Parasram, of the Trinidad & Tobago Fine Cocoa Company Ltd, shared lessons from a private sector perspective. Mr Shyamal Chandradathsingh of InvesTT shared his agency's focus on being a transformative force in the cocoa sector by bringing both local and foreign investment to the sector and strengthening our presence in the export market. Dr Darin Sukha of the CRC shared the Centre's many programmes targeted at building the quality and developmental capacity of micro and small entrepreneurs in value addition, not the least of which is building value chain connectivity.

## The Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) marks 20 years

The Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) celebrated its 20th anniversary on April 11, 2016. In that time, the Centre has positioned itself as a leader in the scholarship of teaching and learning for higher education, offering both a Master's and a post-graduate certificate. Courses and workshops have been conducted across the Caribbean (including the British Virgin Islands). The Centre's latest initiative in blended-learning rounds out the various delivery methods offered at UWI St. Augustine.

The Centre began as the Instructional Development

Unit (IDU) under the direction of Ms. Betty Rohlehr. From its tiny physical space and facilities, the IDU was responsible for sparking awareness among the teaching staff of the link between research and teaching. For its Excellence in Service to the University, the IDU received the Vice-Chancellor's Award in 2004. Strengthening its commitment to the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, the Caribbean Scholar was launched in 2011 under Dr. Anna-May Edwards-Henry's leadership. In 2015 the IDU

moved to the Teaching and Learning Complex and assumed its current name: The Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning. Its new Director is Dr. Margo Burns.

To celebrate its 20 years of success, the Centre will be launching 20 new initiatives over the next academic year beginning with the movement of student evaluations to an online format. Follow the Centre's website <https://sta.uwi.edu/cetl/> to see how you can participate.



■ COMMUNICATION STUDIES RESEARCH EXPOSITION

# STUDENTS BUMP UP SOCIAL AWARENESS

BY GENÈVE HYNDMAN

The scene at the Daaga Auditorium on the evening of April 7 starkly resembled a teeming networking event. It was abuzz with eager exchange. Students commanded their spaces as they ushered lecturers, guests and students alike into their themed booths. The magnitude of their efforts was apparent as the Research Exposition marked the culmination of the Communication Studies Programme's year-long thesis project.

The third-year Communication Studies students at The UWI were charged with the task of identifying and proposing impactful solutions to various communication issues within ten local and international non-governmental organizations. The students were given carte blanche to investigate and solve these communicative puzzles by implementing critical thinking skills and the necessary theoretical frameworks – with their findings and progress showcased at the Research Exposition.

Heavily dependent on their command of communication theory and creative discernment, the practicum showed duality in its process. Once assigned to an organization, the students immediately became researchers but simultaneously served as branding consultants, working directly in the field.

The Exposition showcased students' work in organizations such as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, Habitat for Humanity, D Body Architect, Kids in Need of Direction (KIND) and The University of the West Indies Alumni Association. The breadth of the areas of interest was far-reaching but with a common denominator of social outreach. Undergraduate Communication Studies coordinator and lecturer, Dr. Keston Pierre, recounted the genesis of the Exposition from a centralized idea of social marketing. Wanting to foster positive behaviour change in local communities, he found that the best way to fulfill this purpose was through partnerships with non-governmental agencies and small businesses versus traditional media fora. He hoped too for increased media coverage of the event to build awareness and sustainability of the project.

This year marked the second instalment of this collaboration with non-profit organizations, and Dr. Pierre observed that students were keen and their investment in gaining real world experience was pronounced. This interest was remarkably evident in the booth that showcased their work with "The Right Start Early Intervention" programme for young children living with autism. Their booth set-up was a mock pre-school classroom, complete with sensory friendly activity sets, mats and a mini-golf station against the backdrop of branded banners detailing their research process. The group members gave impassioned accounts of their findings with child-friendly painted faces as though they were teachers and specialists working at the early intervention centre.

The students assisted in executing the organization's annual "Light it Up Blue" campaign during the month of April, where various Prestige Holdings buildings across the country are illuminated blue, the colour of autism awareness. Natasha Scott, a resident speech therapist at the programme, lauded the students' work as being intensely diagnostic of the levels of social awareness of the initiative. Scott added that through the use of popular culture and social media, the students were able to penetrate new demographics beyond the remit of those directly affected by autism and effectively increase awareness, particularly among young people.

Humanities and Education Dean, Dr. Heather Cateau,



Members of "The Social Exchange Bank" representing NGO Sustain T&T as they advocated for sustainable living in Trinidad and Tobago. From left: Areanna Ali, Reiana Bharat, Stephanie Ramadhar, Tishanna Mitchell and Ariana Herbert. PHOTO: RYAN DURGASINGH



Thesis group "School Me Blue" representing The Right Start for Autism Early Intervention Program. From left: Shaunna Sankar, Kristal Singh, Vonetta Cumberbatch and Chojnice Taylor. PHOTO: RYAN DURGASINGH

said the Exposition is on a positive growth path. "It gets better every year and what is most striking this year is the theme of social consciousness – something that is needed in Trinidad and Tobago today."

Building upon this motif of social consciousness was the work of the "Comm-sultants" with their work for the organization "Moms For Literacy." They focused primarily on gaining media coverage for the organization and increasing the enrolment of the initiative's reading programme. The team worked with cultural news network, Gayelle, to produce a television advertisement to be run for a six-month period and aired during prime time. The advertisement focuses on sensitizing the public about the importance of mothers reading with their children and highlights the importance of literacy as a viable tool against crime and poverty.

There was also significant emphasis on green development through works with non-profits like "Sustain T&T" where students drafted proposals for environmental NGOs to gain necessary funding from banks. Similarly, students developed a branding strategy for the green non-profit, "Grow-It" to connect with children in rural areas and develop their interests in agriculture via an "Agri-Kit" that contains soil and seeds for their own planting.

Undoubtedly, the Research Exposition showcased the ideal of students taking stock of their unique positions as communicators within salient arenas of our society. Their practical and creative skills were brought to the fore in a dynamic way, as they were able to effect sustainable changes within the partnered organizations and their beneficiaries. Overall, the event demonstrated the formidable potential of young persons as conduits of social change and awareness.

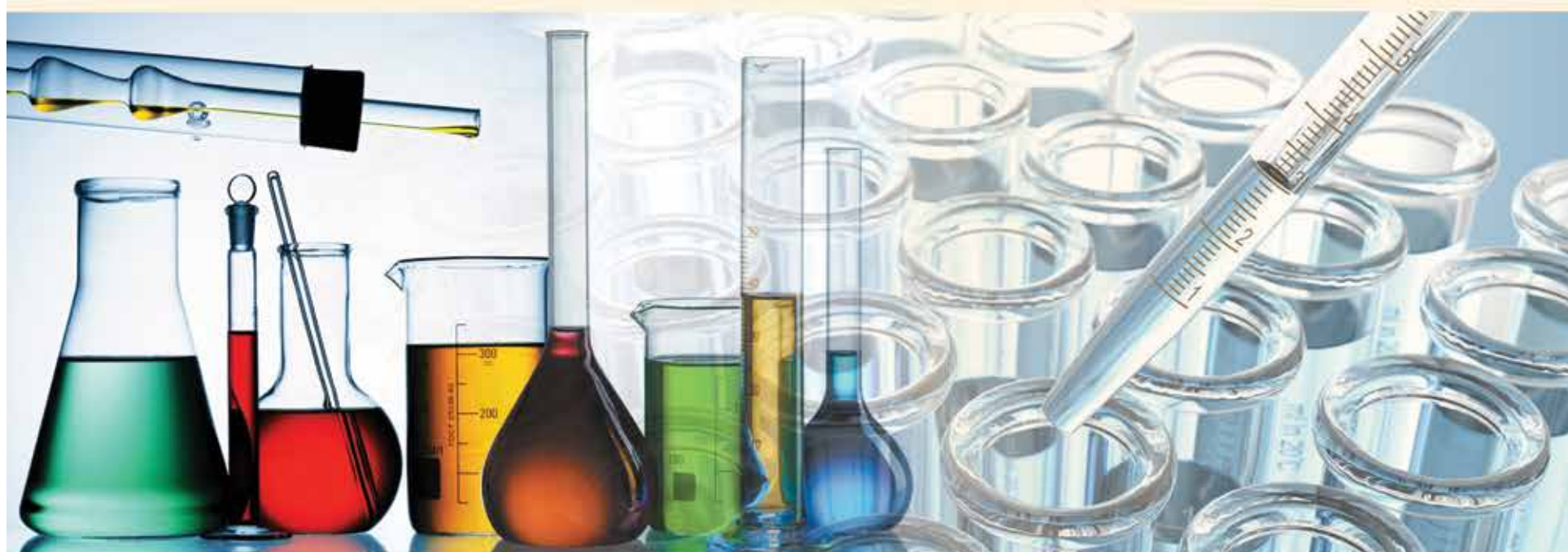




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## Faculty of Science and Technology

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Application forms also available at the Dean's Office, Faculty of Science & Technology, Student Services, C2 Building, UWI St. Augustine Campus



For further information:

**Afiya Jules/Sabrina Ragoo**

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**Aug 19, 2016**



# A Taste of Lusofonia

## *Language students share Portuguese culture*



Team Cape Verde presented a kizomba dance in the Auditorium and gave lessons to the visitors in the Bahia salon, as well as language lessons in the Language Café led by Maria Teresa Costaguta.

**LusoFesta 2016** – the Portuguese Language Experience – was the third in a series of annual exhibitions (formerly known as Braspo Day), focusing on the Portuguese language, official in nine countries and spoken on every continent, and the cultures of three of these countries: Brazil, Cape Verde and Portugal. Hosted by the Portuguese and Brazilian Studies Section of the Department of Modern Languages and Linguistics, the week (April 11-15, 2016) showcased four nightly film screenings and ended in the grand LusoFesta Day.

The first film screening was *Soca in She Samba*, focusing on David Rudder, DLitt, visiting Bahia in Brazil. Director Christopher Laird, DLitt, and Colline McTair, translator and interpreter were present and led an exciting, dynamic and interactive post-screening session, looking at the cultural and other links between Trinidad & Tobago and Brazil, and the importance and relevance of the Portuguese language. Other films came from Portugal, Brazil and Cape Verde, as those were the main countries in focus. Thursday featured Capoeira in the Quad with Chuma Isi (student) of the Acanne Trinidad & Tobago Capoeira group and an Acanne member, and the Cordão de Ouro Capoeira group, present on LusoFesta Day.

LusoFesta Day was the grand event, where every visitor got to experience the three Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) countries in tangible ways.

The programme started with all four national anthems and the attentive audience heard about the strategic importance of Portuguese and Lusophone studies to the region, and the UWI agreements with King's College London's and the KCL Brazil Institute, the University of

Porto and MUNDUS-ACP and CARPIMS projects, and the Grupo Coimbra of Brazil. Fernandes Fine Wines and Spirits kindly sponsored gifts of Portuguese wine and port for the invited speakers.

After the speeches, visitors were invited to the CLL Atrium where classrooms had been transformed into Little Lusofonia, with poster displays, flags, a book exhibit, free Brazilian coffee, and information booths from the Brazilian Embassy and the International Office. Classroom 1 became the Cape Verde Room and Language Café (Portuguese and Cape Verdean Creole); Classroom 2 was converted into



Thursday featured Capoeira in the Quad with Chuma Isi (student) of the Acanne Trinidad & Tobago Capoeira group and an Acanne member, and the Cordão de Ouro Capoeira group, present on LusoFesta Day. PHOTOS: ANEEL KARIM.

the Bahia Room and the Dance Salon (kizomba, samba and capoeira), and Classroom 3 was the Porto Room and Restaurante Paladar, serving Port wine samples, Brazilian salgadinhos (savory finger foods by Valéria Regis), meals from Brazil, Cape Verde and Portugal (by Maxine Franklin), and Brazilian brigadeiros by Sweets of Brazil (Ila Martins-Padmore).

Students from the DMLL and the CLL were divided into three teams, led by their teachers - Team Cape Verde (led by Ila Martins-Padmore), Team Bahia (led by Heather MacIntosh-Simon, coordinating her DMLL and CLL students), and Team Porto (led by Sean Samad), each team identified by their polo and t-shirts, Portuguese (including a peeira, a Portuguese wolf fairy), Cape Verdean wraps and Bahian and candomblé wear. Each team worked on poster projects and much more. Team Cape Verde presented a kizomba dance on stage in the Auditorium, and invited members of the audience to dance with them. They also gave lessons to the visitors in the Bahia salon, as well as language lessons in the Language Café led by Maria Teresa Costaguta. Team Bahia Team Porto assisted in the Restaurante Saudade, and Team Bahia coordinated the dance and capoeira lessons.

The five members of the teaching team passionately pooled energy, time, resources and teamwork to produce this event, students working tirelessly to research Portuguese and Kaboverdianu Creole languages, history, culture, customs, traditions, cuisine, music, geography, literature, people including famous nationals and descendants, and dance, to offer every visitor a Taste of Lusofonia at LusoFesta 2016. LusoFesta 2017 promises to be even more exciting; look out for it!



## ■ UWI'S WORLD FILM FESTIVAL

WORLD FESTIVAL OF  
EMERGING CINEMA

# Something for everyone

## 192 films on show



The UWI Film Programme, as part of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations, turns its eye towards emerging filmmakers from across the globe at its new film festival: World Festival of Emerging Cinema (WOFEC), from May 19-22, 2016 at its Carmody Street, St. Augustine home base.

The response to the call for submissions was overwhelming – almost 700 films from 76 countries were submitted. A total of 192 films made the final selection; these were from 52 countries including features from Peru, Columbia, Netherlands, Mexico, France, Albania, Spain, Guinea-Bissau, India and Italy, along with the specially invited films from Trinidad and Tobago and the region.

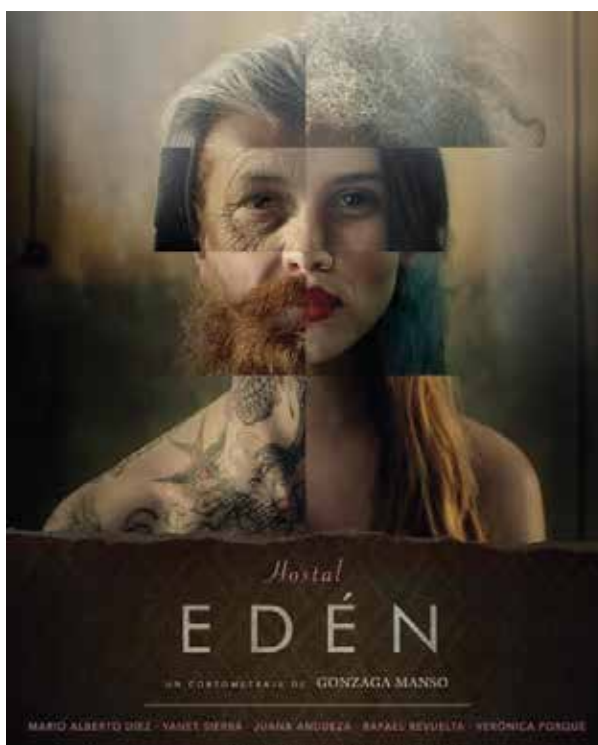
The films focus on a range of issues such as migration, race, women's rights, coming-of-age, as well as religion and spirituality. This diversity of subject matter and theme, creatively and originally addressed, will attract the full spectrum of WOFEC's patrons. Of note, there is a selection of films specifically targeting junior audiences.

Included in the first official selections announced are two feature films, *Climas* from Columbia/Argentina directed by Enrica Perez; *The Head Hunter* from India directed by Nilanjan Datta; documentaries from Ireland *Destination: Gaza* directed by Garry McGovern, and Finland, *Listen* by Rungano Nyoni; as well as an animated movie from Brazil, *Castillo y Armado*, directed by Pedro Harres. Among the selected shorts are the comedies *Rap Brothers* from Poland directed by Adrian Apanel, *Occupy Jamasa* from Finland directed by Jaakko Kajein, *Sans Plomb (Unleaded)* from Canada/France/Netherlands and *Une Simple Formalité* from France directed by Nicoloff Loïc. Rounding off the first selections are dramatic shorts *Wut* from Spain, directed by Sergi Maltas, and *Love*, by Bulgaria's Petar Boya Harizanova.

The feature film *Climas* explores the circumstances of three women of vastly differing ages and origins as they cope with life in three distinct regions of Peru. Eva, a young girl from the lush tropics of the Amazonian jungle, experiences a sexual awakening by way of a forbidden relationship with her uncle. Victoria, a wealthy socialite from Lima, suffers a terrible secret that renders her inner life as grey and melancholic as the city surrounding her. Zoraida, an elderly peasant from a destitute village in the Andean Mountains, confronts her worst fears in the wake of the unexpected return of her estranged son. Three disconnected regions, three introverted women, three stories of discovery shaped by three different geographies, societies and climates of the same fragmented country.

Over the years, The UWI Film Programme has played host to myriad film festivals including the Trinidad and Tobago Film Festival, the Green Screen Film Festival, Africa Film Trinidad and Tobago Festival and the Africa World Documentary Film Festival. The Indian High Commission also collaborates with the Programme which hosts its *Indian Cine Club*.

Students of the Programme have won numerous awards for their films, which have screened locally, regionally and internationally to consistent acclaim. The official festival trailer produced in-house at the UWI Film Programme by film students Sekou Charles and Mikhail Gibbings, who edited the trailer and composed the original musical score respectively.



HOSTAL EDÉN – 13-minute narrative – Spain



CLIMAS – 84-minute Narrative – Colombia, Peru  
The feature film *Climas* explores the circumstances of three women of vastly differing ages and origins as they cope with life in three distinct regions of Peru.



ONO – 8-minute Animation – Belarus, Russia

### For more information

T: 662-2002 ext 82727

E: [film.programme@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:film.programme@sta.uwi.edu)

[www.facebook.com/WFEC15](http://www.facebook.com/WFEC15)

**Check out the teaser trailer:**

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjX6XbLDeIM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IjX6XbLDeIM)





THE ARTS



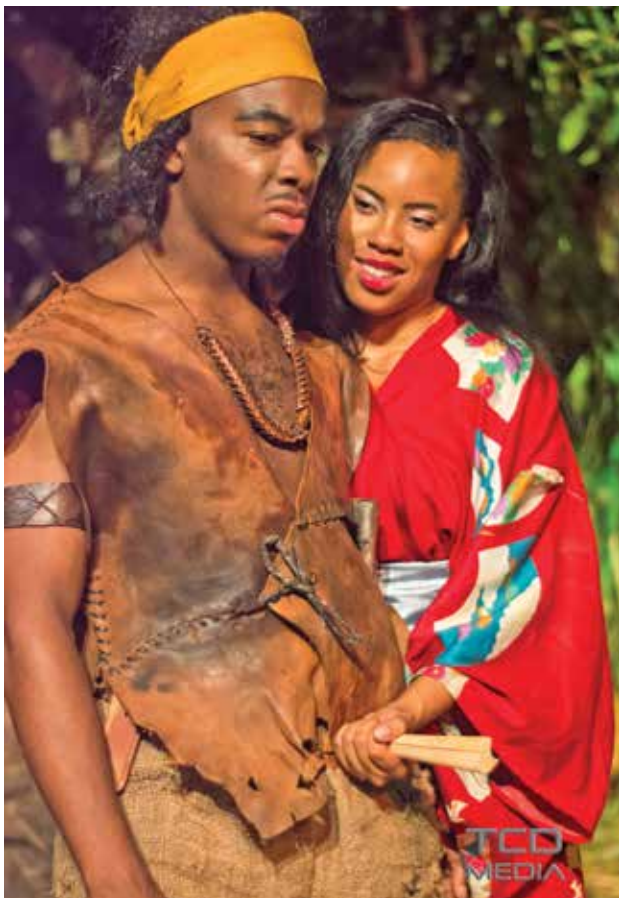
# RASHOMON

## Many Sides to a Story

**Rashōmon, in Kyoto, Japan** was the great southern gate of the city, now derelict where people left unwanted corpses and conducted other such unpleasant business. It had a reputation for harbouring thieves and generally, persons of disrepute. As a locale for storytelling or discourse on various

forms of societal decay in literature or the performance arts, Rashomon is easily a good launching pad. The title was first that of a traditional short story that was subsequently made into a film in 1950 that became a classic and then subsequently into a play.

The preceding paragraph was written by Rebecca Robinson who interviewed the Director, Dr. Danielle Lyndersay of the UWI Department of Creative and Festival Arts before the play ran. It turned out to be quite a success as these photos by Aaron Mohammed of TCDMedia suggest.



The samurai's wife, Kinume played by Rhesa Samuel takes a stab at Tajomaru played by Jeron Hackett.



A wig maker, a priest and a woodcutter become embroiled in the search for truth at Rashomon's rainy gates played by Kyle Hernandez, Nishard Mohamed and Dejean Balfour.

The title was first that of a traditional short story that was subsequently made into a film in 1950 that became a classic and then subsequently into a play.



Cast members are called back on stage including moko jumbie-sque forest spirits for appreciative applause.



Director and former head of DCFA Dani Lyndersay congratulates her cast and crew on a job well done.



Can a boastful bandit strike down a skillful samurai? Tajomaru and the samurai go head to head in a battle to the death, played by Jeron Hackett and Kino Jarvis.



# UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS

## MAY–JULY 2016



### SEASON OF THE ARTS

Visual Arts Exhibition  
Until May 14, 2016  
National Museum  
and Art Gallery  
Port of Spain

The Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) wound up their Season of the Arts with a host of activities in May, but there is still time to check out the Final Year Exhibition from the Visual Arts Degree Programme which runs on Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10am to 6pm

For more information, please call 663-2141 or 645-1955 or email [dcfa@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:dcfa@sta.uwi.edu) or visit the Campus Events Calendar at [www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar).



### SPORT AND HIGHER ED

May 18-20, 2016  
UWI St. Augustine

The 2nd Biennial Conference on Sport Studies and Higher Education: An Interdisciplinary Approach under the theme, Physical Literacy: Gender, Science, and Sport for Development. The conference will feature panels addressing sub-themes including but not limited to topics such as The Role of the State; Sexuality and Gender Identities in Sport, Anti-Doping Policy and more.

For further information, please email [sportstudiesconference@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:sportstudiesconference@sta.uwi.edu) or visit [www.sta.uwi.edu](http://www.sta.uwi.edu).

### MANAGEMENT IN TROPICAL VEGETABLES

June 16 to 17, 2016  
UWI St. Augustine

The Department of Life Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology at The UWI St. Augustine will be hosting the International Conference on Integrated Disease Management in Tropical Vegetables. Themes include: Etiology and Epidemiology of Diseases; Disease Diagnosis and Integrated Disease Management. Register now. Caribbean participants: TT\$300; Caribbean students: TT\$100.

For more information, please visit their website: <http://sta.uwi.edu/conferences/16/idm/index.php>.



### FOREIGN LANGUAGE MEETS THEATRE

May 16-18, 2016  
UWI St. Augustine

The Faculty of Humanities and Education presents the 17th Inter-Campus Foreign Language Theatre Festival. Students of English, French, Patois/Kwéyòl (French Creole), Japanese, Mandarin, Portuguese, Spanish, and T&T Sign Language practise and hone their foreign language skills through the art of theatre – an unforgettable and enjoyable language learning experience.

Updates will be posted on the Campus Events Calendar at [www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar).



### WORLD FESTIVAL OF EMERGING CINEMA

May 19 to 22, 2016  
UWI St. Augustine

The UWI Film Programme commemorates their 10th anniversary with a tour around the world in four days at the World Festival of Emerging Cinema. Over 200 films from 52 different countries will showcase student productions, Caribbean and international filmmakers. Students will get a chance to learn and network with industry insiders and the general public is invited to view premiere films not shown in mainstream theatres.

Updates will be posted on the Campus Events Calendar at [www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar).

### PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIETY CONFERENCE

July 6 to 9, 2016  
UWI St. Augustine

The Department of History, Faculty of Humanities and Education presents a three-day Conference on Public Health and Society in Latin America and the Caribbean. The conference is hosted by The UWI St. Augustine in collaboration with the University of York and Casa de Oswaldo Cruz/Fiocruz, Brazil.

UWI Chancellor and former Director for the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), Sir George Alleyne will be the keynote speaker. The conference will be held at the Teaching and Learning Complex (TLC).

For more information on registration, please visit the [www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar](http://www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar).

**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](mailto:uwitoday@sta.uwi.edu)

