



UWI TODAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES · ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS

SUNDAY 31ST MARCH, 2013



A Start from the Past

This UWI St Augustine Campus is deep in the process of implementing its new **Strategic Plan** for the period 2012-2017. At our Campus Council meeting on March 26, the Annual and Faculty Reports were presented for review.

With the Roman god Janus on their covers (*as we feature on our cover here*), the concept was meant to highlight the vision for the way forward which is built upon the lessons of the past.

While it is a time of beginnings, we are ever mindful of the values and traditions that have built our foundations, and it is with this knowledge of the depth of our heritage, we move forward with confidence.

EDUCATION - 05
Postgraduate Open Day

■ Open Minds



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Deputy Principal Reaches Out

■ Love Thy Neighbour



HEALTH - 11
Making Donors of Us

■ Blood Works



FILM - 14
100 Years of Cinema

■ Not Bollywood



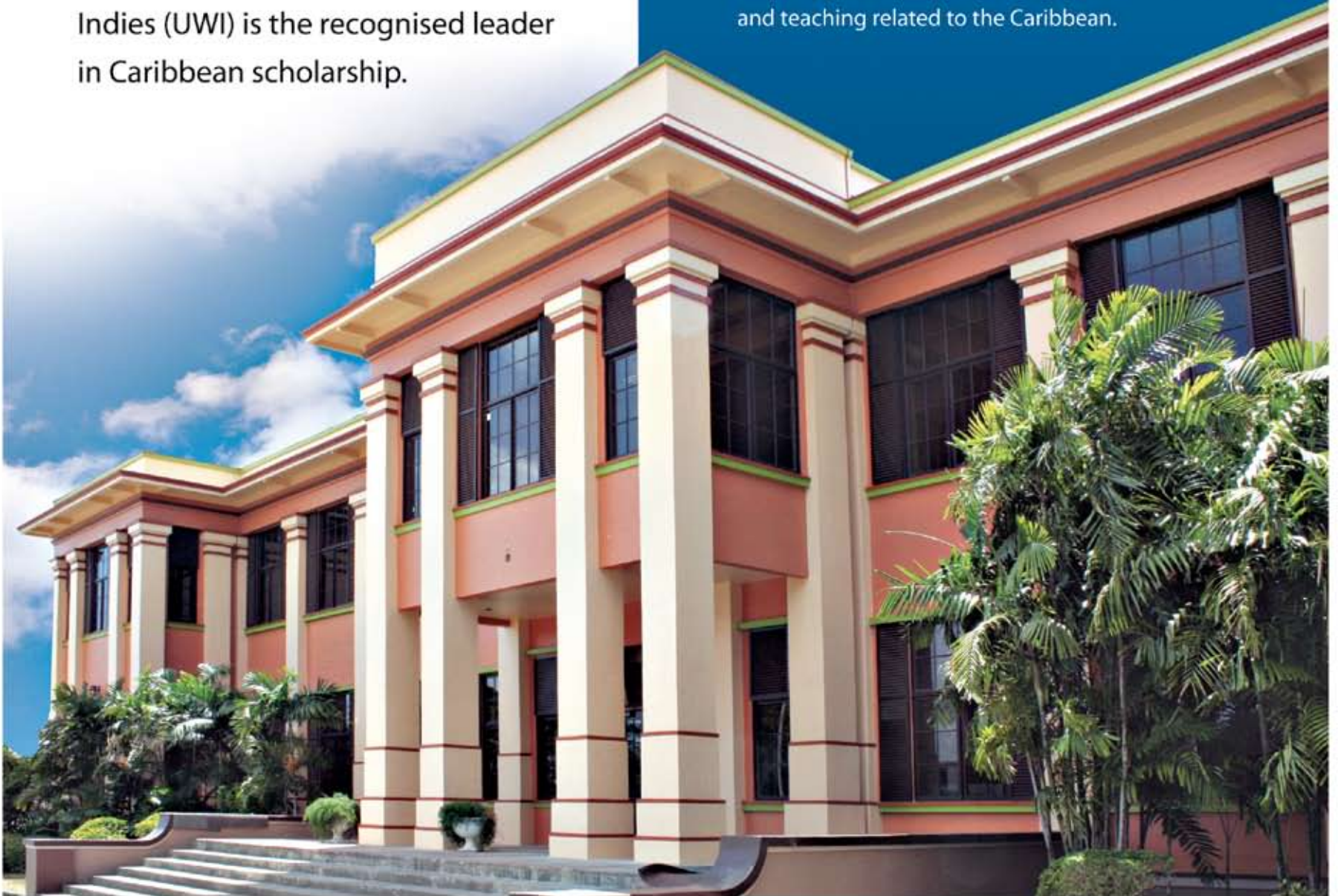
Unlocking Caribbean Potential

As the Commonwealth Caribbean's largest and longest standing university, The University of the West Indies (UWI) is the recognised leader in Caribbean scholarship.

Backed by a 60-year old tradition of excellence, UWI is a sought-after partner in the delivery of quality undergraduate and graduate programmes, and cutting-edge research focusing largely on the Caribbean and Caribbean issues.

Its linkages extend beyond the Caribbean to over 100 international universities and colleges, and numerous regional and global research partners and institutions.

UWI offers certificate, diploma, undergraduate and graduate programmes in Agriculture, Education, Engineering, Humanities, Law, Medical Sciences, Pure and Applied Sciences, and Social Sciences and is a primary source for research and expert advice in dealing with complex issues and challenges facing the Caribbean region. It is internationally recognised as a centre of excellence on research and teaching related to the Caribbean.



FORESIGHT ON HINDSIGHT

“Following the approval of The UWI Strategic Plan 2012-2017 by the University Council in April 2012, each UWI Campus developed an Operational Plan to support the achievement of the regional university’s strategic vision to be *a globally recognized, regionally integrated, innovative and internationally competitive university deeply rooted in all aspects of Caribbean development.*”

These are among the opening words of the Principal’s Review which sets out the framework for the Annual Report for the St Augustine Campus of The UWI, which was presented at the Campus Council meeting on March 26 for review. The Report offers a comprehensive look at the activities for the period from 2011 to 2012 and points to the path that has since been taken.

“This last strategic planning period (2007-2012) has seen an ongoing transformation of The UWI St Augustine Campus. The Campus has grown from some 15,000 students and 1,700 staff members in 2007 to one that today supports more than 19,000 students and 3,000 staff members daily.

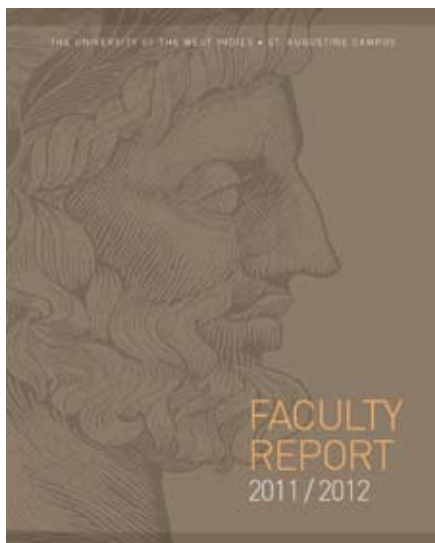
“It is, however, in the area of postgraduate studies that there has



been the most dramatic change. Postgraduate students increased by 57% over the period (2007-2012) helping to solidify our position as the leading tertiary institution in the country, particularly for taught Masters and research programmes. The fact that two out of every three students, enrolled in our postgraduate programmes, are graduates of undergraduate programmes from UWI St. Augustine is testament to the confidence students continue to place in the quality of our education,” wrote Principal Clement Sankat.

Chair of the Campus Council, Mr Ewart Williams noted that the period “also saw an impressive expansion in both graduate and undergraduate programmes. Moreover, several of the new programmes were devised in conjunction with industry partners – demonstrating our intention to ensure relevance to market needs.”

Also presented at the Council meeting was the Faculty Report, which provides more detailed accounting for the activities, accomplishments and plans for each: Engineering, Food and Agriculture, Humanities and Education, Medical Sciences, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences, as well as the Centres and Institutes over that period.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

To our Presidents: Welcome and Farewell



The University of the West Indies St Augustine Campus takes great pleasure in joining the national community in welcoming one of our precious alumni, a two-time graduate of UWI, as the new President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. Throughout his impeccable career, President Anthony Carmona has earned universal respect and esteem, as seen by the tremendous outpouring of public goodwill, and we hold him up as the epitome of our ideal graduate.

I am sure that our former President, Professor George Maxwell Richards, a past Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of this very campus, shares my view that the character and spirit of his successor augurs well for the journey ahead for this country, and he must feel a sense of satisfaction that he has been elected for this position.

I would also like to take the opportunity to offer our deep appreciation for the service rendered to the country by Professor Emeritus Richards, as we here at St Augustine wish him and Dr Jean Ramjohn-Richards all the best in the future.

In both the outgoing and the incoming, I see many positive characteristics which reflect the tenets of good leadership that I support wholeheartedly. The demands of good governance and leadership are indeed many and varied as I myself have been learning through my own tenure here as campus principal.

This University has come of age in a period that tests its mettle on all fronts, with straitened economic circumstances and a sharply changing, highly competitive landscape for tertiary education institutions posing challenges that affect everything, even in unexpected ways. Our current situation with wage negotiations, I hope, should be practically resolved by the time this appears, but it has been a delicate matter, requiring both sensitivity and the capacity to work within our legal framework, and the processes that define the relations between regional governments and the university.

It has not been easy, and as President Carmona astutely noted, the positions do not come with magic wands, but neither are they impotent. The fine balance stands in the wisdom to know the difference.

CLEMENT K. SANKAT
Pro Vice-Chancellor & Principal

EDITORIAL TEAM

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL
Professor Clement Sankat

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
Mrs. Dawn-Marie De Four-Gill

DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS (Ag.)
Mrs. Wynell Gregorio

EDITOR
Ms. Vaneisa Baksh

CONTACT US

The UWI Marketing and Communications Office
Tel: (868) 662-2002, exts. 82013 / 82014 Or email: uwitoday@sta.uwi.edu

■ CAMPUS NEWS



Last June, a group from The UWI departed for a three-week academic immersion in India. It was the first of a series at the St. Augustine Campus titled 'UWI Discovers,' where students, staff and alumni will be led to Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS countries), over the next four years. This year, UWI Discovers kicks off with a tour of Brazil, from May 17 to June 9.

The 23-day tour to four major Brazilian cities, including Rio De Janeiro, will provide a unique experience of contemporary Brazil: spending an average of five days in each city touring the major attractions and interacting with representatives from key academic institutions. The cost includes return airfare to Brazil; domestic airfare from city to city; hotel accommodation; an expert UWI tour guide and an English-speaking guide; an orientation session inclusive of basic language introduction; entrance fees to sites and monuments; transportation within Brazil; all airport transfers and travel insurance.

Organized by The UWI St. Augustine Office of Institutional Advancement & Internationalization, UWI Discovers is open to students, staff and alumni of Caribbean tertiary level institutions. The UWI Discovers series returns to India this year, from July 12 to August 4. (Details on Page 16)

UWI PENAL/DEBE SOUTH CAMPUS



Work at the site of the Debe campus of The UWI is going on under the supervision of the site's chief engineer **Zhu Bing**. St. Augustine Campus Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor Clement Sankat visited the site on February 22 to get a firsthand look. It is expected that the first batch of law students will be enrolled by September 2014. PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM



In this welcoming photo from left, T&T's High Commissioner to India, Chandradath Singh; High Commissioner Mishra and St Augustine Campus Principal Professor Clement Sankat and the new arrivals: Professor Atlury Murali (Chair in History/Contemporary Indian Studies), Professor Ravi Prakash Gupta (Chair in Hindi) and Professor Hemant Toshikhane (Chair in Ayurveda). PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM.

THREE CHEERS!

Indian High Commissioner Malay Mishra hosted a reception to welcome the three new professors to The UWI St Augustine Campus who are here as a result of an MoU between the Government of India and The UWI.

"This is an occasion worth celebrating as we have never had three Chairs funded by the Government and people of India at our University and this is testament to the foresight and drive of His Excellency in particular, as it is to my colleagues at The UWI who have endorsed and supported this," said Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat.

OPEN DAY. OPEN MIND.



Two prospective postgraduate students explore possibilities at the UWI Postgraduate Open Day on February 21 at the JFK Quadrangle, St Augustine Campus. From 1pm to 8pm the Quad was humming, as Faculties showed off their offerings and gave guidance on choices. PHOTO: ANEEL KARIM

The Women and the Mouse

UWI St Augustine has partnered with CANTO, Soroptimist International of Port of Spain and Microsoft Trinidad & Tobago to provide an adult computer literacy programme, targeting women.

The programme, which was launched on International Women's Day on March 8, currently accommodates 20 women who have had little or no computer exposure from the eastern zone in Trinidad.

The eight-week programme is being facilitated at UWI's Microsoft IT Academy in St. Augustine. Upon completion the students will be able to understand the different components of a computer; use a keyboard and mouse effectively; browse web sites; use search engines; exchange e-mail; perform basic tasks using word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation

software; understand computer security and privacy; and use emerging technology trends such as social media.

Soroptimist International of Port of Spain and CANTO have partnered to deliver this much needed training to mature individuals to encourage the use of ICT in their daily lives. The instructor, who is a student of the UWI, is being sponsored by CANTO, the use of the facilities is provided by UWI and participants were selected by Soroptimist International of Port of Spain who also provided the transportation for the beneficiaries. The training is being administered by University of the West Indies (UWI) Microsoft IT Academy, and students will be awarded a certificate at the end. (see page 8)

Soroptimist International of Port of Spain and CANTO have partnered to deliver this much needed training to mature individuals to encourage the use of ICT in their daily lives.

ANOTHER FIRST

For the second time, the Department of Clinical Surgical Sciences, has conducted a basic surgical skills course with the Royal College of Surgeons. One of the course's two coordinators, Michael Ramdass, a lecturer in surgery, reported that this time, 32 "young surgeons in training" were taught how to handle instruments, tie knots, vascular techniques, tendon repair and so on. Faculty members were also trained and given instructor certificates. The Faculty of Medical Sciences is the only centre in the Caribbean where this training is conducted, and at the end of this one, local staff can now teach this over-subscribed course.

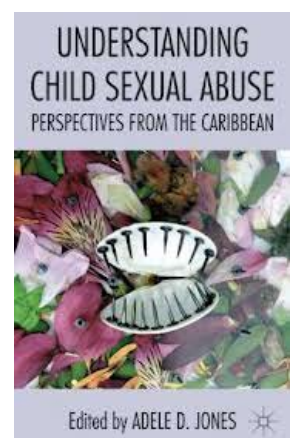
Celebrating Grace

Dr. Grace Sirju-Charran, pioneer in course development at The UWI in the field of Science and Agriculture is featured on the cover of "Women in Science in the Americas." The booklet, compiled by the Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS), a member of the Inter American Network of Academies of Sciences (IANAS), features biographies of 16 prominent female scientists in the Americas. It was released on International Women's Day on March 8.



Caribbean Book on Child Sexual Abuse

On the final day of February, UWI's Department of Behavioural Sciences hosted a workshop titled, Understanding Child Sexual Abuse: Perspectives from the Caribbean, the same name as the book, edited by Professor Adele Jones which was then launched.



The workshop was for early years, primary and secondary school teachers, school social workers and guidance officers, and was one of a series of activities this workshop is one a series of activities funded by the British High Commission.

The book is said to be the first Caribbean book on child sexual abuse and draws on UNICEF-commissioned research to bring culturally relevant information and good practice models for use by professionals in the field.



UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS 2013-2014

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CERTIFICATE PROGRAMMES

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- Certificate in Early Childhood Care & Development
- Certificate in Geographic & Land Information Systems Management
- Certificate in Public Administration
(Main Campus & South Campus)
- Certificate Programmes in Creative Arts :
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 - Dance
 - Drama
 - Technical Theatre
 - Visual Arts

DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES

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- Diploma in Public Sector Management

DEGREE PROGRAMMES

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- BSc Insurance & Risk Management (Special)
- BSc Information Technology
- BSc Leadership & Management
- BSc Pharmacy (Mixed-Mode)
- BSc Sports Management

For details on these and the over 100 undergraduate programmes offered at The UWI, visit

<http://sta.uwi.edu/admissions>

click on **Booklets** and **Resources** and download our Undergraduate Prospectus with career guide.

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UWI EXPERIENCE
WITH A CAMPUS TOUR!**

To book a tour of the Campus, or to find out more about our special tours to the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex and the University Field Station, please call **662-2002 ext 84324**, or email campus.tours@sta.uwi.edu.



True Son of the Soil

It is a measure of the man that many of the public tributes for the quality of his life have come from people who admit to never having met him. In these parts, that kind of distant admiration is commonly reserved for celebrities from the sport and entertainment realms.

The late John Spence was no entertainer, and there is no record of sporting prowess; indeed, nothing suggests that he was given to publicity, though his was a very public life in the sense of his contributions.

What made this man remarkable was his unfailing commitment to bringing his considerable and expansive knowledge into the public domain in order to help shape and inform on matters of concern.

Former head of the Public Service, Reginald Dumas, a true peer of Professor Spence's, was moved to write of their shared despair that their solitary voices were drowned out by the cacophony of disorder and ignored by the masses for whom they were meant. It would have been easier to retreat into silence in these twilight years, but both persevered – Spence had written his last Express column hours before his passing – and it must be something consolatory, at least to Mr Dumas, to see the outpouring of respect that has come from all quarters.

Letters to editors lauded his honesty of purpose, commitment, dedication, scholarship, determination, his unassuming nature, and his care; he was hailed as a legend, an icon and dubbed the enlightened one. In one way or another, most suggested that his writings should be published.

Good that they soldiered on despite misgivings; you really never know who you are touching!

Those who knew him have paid tributes as well. The



National Foodcrop Farmers Association claimed him as friend and adviser for 30 years, saying he was one of the foremost thinkers in agriculture and an everlasting advocate for its development.

His role in agriculture had been enormous. He was Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture for six of the 26 years he spent at St Augustine as a lecturer and professor of botany – he was one of the first lecturers when this campus was born.

Campus Principal Professor Clement Sankat said he had worked with him “at the beginning of my career in 1978,” and he had been a “strong advocate for Agricultural Engineering at St Augustine.”

“I have always held him in high regard because he was a fine gentleman, a thoughtful individual on many national issues of the day, a passionate advocate for agriculture and someone who served us very well at The UWI.”

His research was diverse, including work on cocoa and root crops and he was an avid anthurium cultivator, but he was also tireless in his campaigns to put agriculture where it belongs on the national agenda. As an Independent Senator serving in the third, fourth and fifth republican Parliaments (1987 to 2000) he was most vocal on issues relating agricultural policy and land acquisition, though he was equally capable of informed contributions on any subject, especially education, governance and constitutional matters.

While he served as a Senator, he was also Head of

the Cocoa Research Unit at St Augustine, where he has been credited for revitalising the Unit and restoring its international acclaim as a site of valuable cocoa research.

All the while, this remarkably private man's public life was unfolding with service at every level – recognised by a Chaconia medal (Gold) as far back as 1980 when he was just around 50.

He served many important institutions such as NIHERST, the Caribbean Industrial Research Institute, Association of Professional Agricultural Scientists of Trinidad and Tobago, the International Board for Plant Genetic Resources (Rome) and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (Colombia), the USA Academy of Sciences Committee on Managing Global Genetic Resources, and CARDI. He sat on advisory committees to the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture and the Commonwealth Science Council; the list is longer.

His reach was formidable.

And so, the boy who came from St Vincent when he was 11 was laid to rest on March 12 when he was 83, after a funeral at the Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC) on the Campus where he had spent a lifetime.

Hundreds came to pay their respects to John Arnott Spence, and to offer their support to his widow, Yolande, their three sons, Malcolm, Louis and Richard, and his eight grandchildren. The President(s) outgoing and incoming – George Maxwell Richards and Anthony Carmona – were there and so were academics, clergy, politicians, agriculturalists, students, and perhaps many who had never met him in life.

The mark of a true icon.

(Vaneisa Baksh)



CAMPUS PROFILE



PROFESSOR RHODA REDDOCK
Deputy Principal of the St Augustine Campus

For the Office of the Deputy Principal it is about students as good citizens

“I must show you this,” she says, bobbing right up as she sat down. She opens a box lying on the tabletop. It contains a glass plaque; an award from the Cyril Ross Nursery and the Society of St Vincent de Paul to Richard Acosta for outstanding and dedicated service over the years.

“When Richard got this, he immediately handed it over to UWI,” she says. The community volunteer told her that he had approached Student Advisory Services to help with tutoring and since then UWI students have been visiting and helping. He passed on the plaque as a token of his appreciation.

That gesture filled the Deputy Principal of the St Augustine Campus, Professor Rhoda Reddock with obvious warmth and pride. It is one of the ways she knows her Office is doing the right things.

Apart from senior managerial functions and deputizing for the Principal when the occasion arises, the Deputy Principal has complete responsibility for a broad range of matters pertaining to the Campus. Primary among them is student matters. Anything to do with students – development, housing, counselling, health, sport, community services, special needs, grievances, everything – falls under her portfolio.

Richard’s plaque invokes a feeling that her students are doing the right things too; giving time and energy to communities in ways that bring all-round benefits.

Community service-learning and engagement are concepts high on universities’ agendas now. It can earn students course credits and provide practical experience, but it also increases the sense of civic responsibility and awareness among young people.

Two years ago, the Deputy Principal’s Office made a presentation encouraging the wider adoption of community engagement practices in mainstream coursework for credit, which could be the basis as well for community based research in conjunction with or on behalf of NGOs and other organisations.

She is very passionate about these matters which she links to developing students to become well-rounded citizens. It’s one thing to be competent in a subject but you

need a broad range of skills to make it in the world, she says, rattling off a host of them: interpersonal skills, self-confidence, critical thinking, knowledge of one’s history ... It requires a more regional curriculum.

“I think we try to keep up to date with the global developments in our field and that’s important, but I think we also have to make sure our students are aware of regional thinkers, regional scholarship and our contribution to knowledge in the world, so that we are not just people who absorb knowledge from elsewhere, but know that we can create knowledge and influence global discourses, global innovations, etc.”

She believes it is a question of building what she terms “cultural confidence.”

“I think we have such a poor opinion of ourselves and lack of self confidence that we constantly question what we have rather than seek to develop it. That is why I am very pleased with some of the research that has taken place in the area of steelband innovation and I am glad that UWI has been involved despite some of the controversies, which I hope can eventually be resolved.”

It comes back to rethinking the nature of the education system.

“I really believe sometimes our formal structures remove a lot of the creativity in young people or pushes it to the margin so it comes out in criminal activity, dishonesty, the tricks that we develop... so we have to find a way to involve all the young people we are losing now, who kind of attend school but basically continue to be on the margin of the entire educational activity.”

She talks about criminal activity in and around the St Augustine campus, and feels that apart from the University doing everything it can to beef up security systems, it needs more community engagement.

“It was recently brought home to us with the case from the Faculty of Medical Sciences; that was a horrible experience for the students to be held up and robbed in a classroom,” she said, noting that it was the first time something like that had happened and it suggested a “major transition to another level” that required more than higher level security.

RESPONSIBLE FOR:

The Office of the Deputy Principal, with its direct responsibility for the wellbeing and development of students, has direct responsibility for the following departments and units at the St Augustine Campus:

1. **Student Advisory Services (SAS)**
2. **Student Activity Centre (SAC)**
3. **Halls of Residence (5)**
4. **Health Services and Counselling Unit (HSU)**
5. **Academic Support/Disabilities Liaison Unit (ASDLU)**
6. **Sports and Physical Education Centre (SPEC)**

The ODP also deals with student issues emanating from the International Office and the campus security, and has oversight for the Guild of Students and the campus concessionaires.



Students at the digital literacy programme and other initiatives of the Office of the Deputy Principal.

“I think we also have to engage with the communities around the campus so that they see us as partners and not as a sitting duck to be preyed upon. I think the campus has to be much more visible. We look forward to partnering with the communities surrounding the campus in programmes that would be beneficial both to the community and to the university,” she says, tying it back into the community engagement initiative.

“We can do this by research, we can do this by having programmes using some of the skills that the departments have, community service programmes, service learning programmes; there is quite a lot of scope... for example the School of Dentistry’s oral health programme. Also, there is the free eye testing from the ophthalmology programme. These are part of the service learning aspects and I think we need to strengthen that and also our community service and general engagement with communities surrounding campus and we are working towards that.” (Vaneisa Baksh)



PROGRAMMES:

Co-curricular Programme

As Chair of the Academic Board Sub-Committee on Co-curricular Credits, the Deputy Principal established a Working Group to review the existing co-curricular programme.

The Group submitted its report and many of its recommendations were implemented. A Programme Coordinator was appointed. The co-curricular booklet was modified to reflect the new structure. A number of new courses have been developed for this programme, and a COCR website is up and running.

Service Learning and Community Engagement

Another initiative of the Deputy Principal’s Office was the establishment of Service Learning and Community Engagement on the St. Augustine Campus. In 2009, a report titled “Service Learning and Community Engagement: A New Agenda for Higher Education and Learning”, was commissioned by the Deputy Principal. This report recommended that Service Learning and Community Engagement should be an important pillar in the development of students, beyond the narrow disciplinary focus of their undergraduate degrees. Student Advisory Services (SAS) has been a key collaborator in this, and faculties are being encouraged to get more involved. As part of this engagement, links were formed with several organisations, such as:

Angels on Earth
Audrey Jeffers School for the Deaf
Caribbean Forest Conservation
Cyril Ross Nursery
Cerebral Palsy Association
Habitat for Humanity T&T Ltd
Lifeline
Princess Elizabeth Home
SUMMONS
Wild Life Orphanage Rehab Centre
Goodstart Mentorship
Amica House
Friends of the Botanic Garden
Adult Literacy Tutors Association

Academic Advising

Academic advising endeavours to guide students about choices they make and how best to achieve them. Academic Advising workshops conducted by the Instructional Development Unit in 2011-2012 led to a survey for feedback on the usefulness of the workshops in academic advising activities the following semester. A total of 1,367 undergraduate students provided feedback via electronic survey on their academic advising experiences.

Establishment of Student Matrix

This student matrix was designed to document information related to student matters and complaints that come to the attention of the Office of the Deputy Principal. This electronic system includes a function that allows regular reports to be produced. A system is also being developed by CITS to input and store data that has been collected by the Office of the Deputy Principal over the past three to five years in a manner that will also allow comparative analysis.

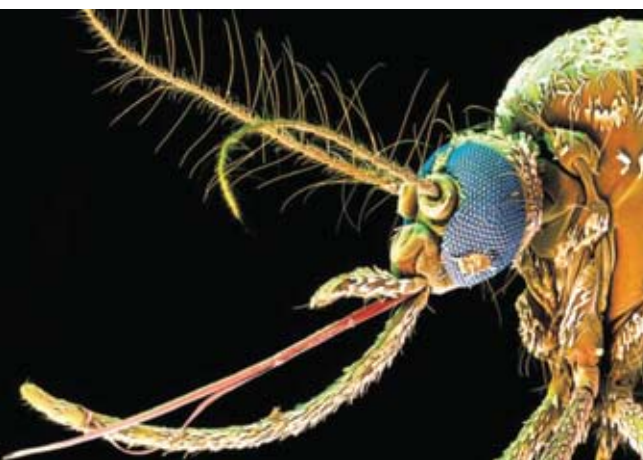
From Student Orientation to First Year Experience (FYE)

The Office of the Deputy Principal spearheaded an initiative in collaboration with the Student Advisory Services and the Instructional Development Unit to implement a new approach to Student Orientation. The first meeting was held in March 2011. This initiative resulted in the development and implementation of an integrated approach to student orientation, in which the Guild of Students, Halls of Residence and all relevant departments and units of the University responsible for organizing orientation activities came together to discuss implementation plans for achieving this objective. One of the planned outputs of that initiative was the development of a framework, for the inclusion of additional activities geared towards helping students to take charge of their own learning, as well as plans for orientation activities that would be implemented throughout the academic year.

In May 2012, the proposal to revamp the UWI Student Orientation Programme was approved. This Programme is now known as the First Year Experience (FYE).

RESEARCH

THE DENGUE STATUS

Is it under control in the region?

BY PROFESSOR DAVE CHADEE

Within the Caribbean and Latin American region, *Aedes aegypti* (L.) is the primary vector of urban Yellow Fever and Dengue Fever (DF), including Dengue Haemorrhagic Fever (DHF) and Dengue Shock Syndrome (DSS). Over the last 36 years, *Ae. aegypti* eradication and control programmes have been conducted throughout the Caribbean region but in spite of these efforts, DHF has emerged as a serious public health problem.

Dengue infection is caused by any of four different serotypes of the arbovirus (DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3 and DEN-4). After an incubation period of 2-8 days following an infective bite by the *Ae. aegypti* mosquito, the disease usually occurs with sudden onset of fever and headache, typically accompanied by any of the following: chills, retro-orbicular pain, photophobia, backache, severe muscle ache and joint ache. High fever may be experienced over 5-6 days. Other significant signs and symptoms include a generalized maculopapular rash, lymph node enlargement, a positive tourniquet test, petechiae and haemorrhagic manifestations, such as epistaxis and gastrointestinal bleeding.

In 2012, over three billion people lived in areas where dengue was endemic, which included most counties between latitude 45° N and 35°S. Each year an estimated 100 million cases of DF and several thousand cases of DHF occur, depending on epidemic activity in different geographic regions. Currently, DF causes more illness and death than any other arbovirus disease in humans and DHF is the leading cause of hospitalization and death among children in many Southeast Asian countries.

The recent emergence and re-emergence of DF and its haemorrhagic manifestations within the Caribbean can be attributed to numerous climatic and anthropological factors including demographic (urbanization) and societal changes, post World War II increases in the air and sea transportation and failure of *Ae. aegypti* programmes due to poor management and little or no political will.

In addition, dengue pandemics within the Caribbean have been attributed to numerous biological factors: the introduction of different dengue strains or serotypes within the Caribbean region; the vector *Ae. aegypti* developed resistance to conventional insecticides; the vector, especially dengue infected mosquitoes, require long feeding times; changes in the physical size and geographical origin of mosquito strains enhance their vector potential; and higher temperatures can shorten the duration of the life cycle. Behavioural studies have confirmed that *Ae. aegypti* biting times showed varying patterns, with feeding occurring during the day and early evening in both Africa and the Americas. However, Chadee and Martinez reported the

collection of biting *Ae. aegypti* during both day and night in urban areas. Their results suggested this new behaviour pattern increased transmission of DF and explained the origin of clusters of DHF cases.

In the Caribbean region, water drums are the primary breeding sites of *Ae. aegypti*. These containers are used to store water for drinking, washing, bathing and other household needs. Therefore in theory, control of this vector in water drums should be attained by the provision of an adequate water supply, eliminating two-thirds of the disease vector population and possibly reducing the incidence of DF. However, in the Caribbean region especially in Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad large sections of the human population live in rapidly expanding urban areas with inadequate water supplies due to rapid population growth and poor urban planning.

Although DF was first identified in the Caribbean in the 1950s, it was not until 1979 that the first review of dengue outbreaks in the Caribbean region was reported. The review of the 1977-1978 epidemic outbreak demonstrated the wide geographical distribution of DF cases and outlined the implications for future outbreaks. However, no identifiable or meaningful programme changes were implemented to prevent future episodes of DF and its haemorrhagic manifestations. In 1981, the first major DHF epidemic occurred in Cuba due to an outbreak of DEN-2 following an outbreak of DEN-1 and resulted in 400,000 cases of DF, over 10,000 cases of DHF and 158 reported deaths, after which some action was taken to re-introduce systematic vector control programmes. In 1995, a similar epidemic of DHF occurred in Venezuela with almost 30,000 DF cases and 5,000 DHF cases, and in Brazil where over 120,570 DF cases, 647 DHF cases with 48 deaths were reported in 2008. These outbreaks suggest that vector control strategies previously adopted in the hemisphere did not effectively reduce vector populations to below transmission levels.

In Trinidad, Dengue serotypes DEN-1, DEN-2 and DEN-4 are endemic but the importation of Dengue 3 (DEN-3) from Southeast Asia to the Caribbean region in 1999 significantly increased the risk and DHF outbreaks were reported from many Caribbean islands.

At present much information is available on the vector *Ae. aegypti*, DF epidemiology and control from Trinidad but little is known from the rest of the Caribbean region. This study provides some information on the epidemiology of DF in the Caribbean region supplemented by data from Trinidad providing an update on the epidemiology and control of DF in the English speaking Caribbean region.

Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence Laureates 2013

UWI Professors share science and technology prize

Two UWI academics were among the four **Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards** for Excellence Laureates for 2013. **Professor Dave Chadee**, parasitologist and entomologist of UWI, St Augustine's Life Sciences Department, and **Professor Anselm Hennis**,



Professor Dave Chadee

professor of medicine, and head of UWI Cave Hill's Chronic Disease Research Centre and the Tropical Medicine Research Institute, shared the Science & Technology prize.

Chadee and Hennis are joined by Trinidadian missionary and founder of charitable and care institutions, **Rhonda Maingot**, who won the Public & Civic Contributions prize, and St Kitts and Nevis-born novelist, essayist and critic, Professor Caryl Phillips.

The Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards is the only programme in the Caribbean which seeks out and rewards outstanding nominees in Arts & Letters, Public & Civic Contributions, and Science & Technology. It has existed since 2005, and was, till 2010, a biennial award, at which time it became an annual award. The prizes are worth TT \$500,000 each (joint laureates share the prize). Each laureate will receive a medal and citation at a ceremony on April 20 at Theatre 1 of the National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA).

Many UWI academics have been named laureates, including **Professor Terrence Forrester** (Jamaica), **Professor Kathleen Coard** (Grenada),



Professor Anselm Hennis

Professor Surujpal Teelucksingh, Trinidad & Tobago, and **Professor Leonard O'Garro** (St Vincent). The Caribbean Awards also hosts a yearly public lecture in conjunction with The UWI at St Augustine, featuring one of the laureates.

Special Blood Group

UWI donor foundation is transforming a culture

BY DR KENNETH CHARLES



UWI medical students donating blood in collaboration with the Friends of the Blood Bank Association (FBBA).

We are all familiar with the chilling appeals for blood donors from patients or their relatives in dire need. Is this how it is supposed to be? Why does this not happen in developed countries? The answer lies in voluntary, regular, blood donations by healthy members of the community. Voluntary blood donation (VBD) means that healthy members of the society donate blood selflessly, under no pressure from health care personnel or patients, without receiving payment in cash or kind, for use by anyone in need. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that if three out of every 100 citizens donate blood once or twice per year for use by any patient in need, a country's transfusion requirements would be met. Here is a UWI initiative to inspire such selflessness for the long-term benefit of the region.

Where did the concept of VBD arise? In the early 1900s, patients needing blood transfusions in England had to find their own blood donors. This practice was deemed inefficient and VBD was initiated in 1921 by Percy Lane Oliver, a Red Cross worker. By 1946, the totally voluntary British National Blood Transfusion Service was established. Nonetheless, replacement blood donation (RBD), whereby patients find their own blood donors to cover an anticipated need or to replace blood used in an emergency, has remained standard practice in many developing countries, notably the English Caribbean. This includes the UWI campus territories of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. RBD is often accompanied by paid or remunerated blood donation (PBD) as persons in need may use this method to get others to donate in order to secure medical services.

In 1975, WHO advocated blood services based on VBD rather than PBD. PBD were more likely to have infections such as HIV, hepatitis B and syphilis, which could be transmitted by transfusion. This is also the case with RBD. The reason is that persons receiving payment in cash or kind

are more likely to conceal aspects of their social life that would ordinarily disqualify them from donating blood. As a result, further resolutions recommending totally VBD and the discontinuation of RBD and PBD have been accepted by WHO member states in the past few decades. PAHO has recommended establishing a network of volunteers to educate the community, promote voluntary blood donation and service blood donors, with special attention to youth programmes. Training health professionals in the clinical

use of donated blood is equally important. Member states who have developed services based on 100 % VBD have been shown to collect more blood more safely.

Raising public awareness could increase voluntary blood donation and impact health care delivery in Trinidad and Tobago. A safe and reliable blood supply which is donated unconditionally and anonymously and used on a basis of clinical need would address the country's needs – emergencies, planned surgeries, pregnancy complications, dialysis, oncology and haematology. It would improve the lives of patients who require repeated blood transfusions to stay alive and those, including foreign visitors, who have no relatives to donate blood on their behalf. It was out of this knowledge that the University of the West Indies Blood Donor Foundation (UWIBDF) was born.

The UWIBDF was founded in 2011 to raise awareness about voluntary blood donation in the community and the efficient use of blood by doctors. It is based at the Department of Paraclinical Sciences (DPS) of the Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS). Its current members are predominantly voluntary youth organisations, including the Trinidad and Tobago Medical Students Association (TTMSA), the Hindu Students Council (HSC), Share Goodness (SG), the Intervarsity Christian Students' Fellowship (IVCSF) and the Mount Hope Islamic Society. It has been organising blood drives in collaboration with the Friends of the Blood Bank Association (FBBA), and several research projects on blood donation and use are ongoing at the FMS. The UWIBDF intends to improve blood safety and adequacy using the media of research and education. We believe that this initiative has the potential to contribute to national and regional development in keeping with the University's strategic plan 2012-2017.

Dr Kenneth Charles is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, St. Augustine. This is adapted from a presentation he made at the Conference hosted by FMS: "Improvement in Health Care Quality and Delivery: Making a Difference" in January 2013.

Improvement in Health Care Quality and Delivery: Making a Difference



Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Professor Samuel Ramsewak shares a moment with Professor Marlene Hamilton and Mrs. Lorna Parkins of CAAM-HP at the Conference, "Improvement in Health Care Quality and Delivery: making a Difference" at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

PHOTO: DEXTER SUPERVILLE

Making a difference is something most aspire to do. The Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS) at UWI, St Augustine wanted to do this in the specific area of health care delivery because it sees itself largely responsible for the quality of the region's health care professionals.

This was one of the rationales for the conference held over two days (Jan 18-19) at the Hyatt Regency Hotel and the Learning Resource Centre on the subject, "Improvement in Health Care Quality and Delivery: Making a Difference."

Bringing together participants from the public and private sector, the inclusive approach was meant to broaden perspectives on the current state of the region's health care. A comprehensive range of subjects was discussed and all were assessed for the level of quality associated with them. Various models were studied, looking at areas such as access, insurance, risk management, tourism, information technology, professional development, communication, education. The question that tied every area together was how could the quality of care be improved?

Entrepreneurship and Creative Capitalism

BY PROFESSOR SURENDRA ARJOON

At the 2008 World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Bill Gates proposed the idea of *creative capitalism*, a challenge to business to meet the needs of the poor in creating new opportunities to generate profits. The concept is to design systems where market incentives (including profits) and partnership with various stakeholders (governments, NGOs, universities) explore profit opportunities that would benefit society. In the Harvard Business Review (January 2011), Porter and Kramer noted that the notion of capitalism today has certain real problems including personnel reduction, restricting, relocation, commoditization, little true innovation, exhausted conventional strategy models, and slow organic growth. Creative capitalism posits that firms ought to maximize shared value, including social and other human values of concern that would benefit society and enhance community.

Entrepreneurship and innovation do not always go together. In many cases, one can find the *speculative entrepreneur* whose goal is to exploit profit opportunities using any means (destruction of the environment, production or sale of harmful products). Such persons do not create wealth but transfer wealth (capital flight), usually underpay their employees, treat them as objects of production (more interested in the work rather than the worker), and are only interested in ventures if it benefits them without regard to or concern for future generations. Such entrepreneurs can be described more as opportunists. On the other hand, *innovative entrepreneurs* or *social entrepreneurs* give first thought to service by producing and providing useful goods and services; they are intrinsically motivated and give second thought to profits. They are in the business of creating wealth, and promoting the common good. Sustainability and excellence are their guiding philosophy.

Changing the Mindset: Guiding Principles

Business operates in a dynamic and complex environment characterized by globalization, technological advancements, and the shift in the capitalist economy from production to finance. What is required for sustainable creation of wealth and societal well-being is a change in mindset, in particular, a revaluation of our mental models of learning experience to initiate creative thinking. This process ought to be guided by practical principles that are centred on human dignity in pursuit of the common good. At a conference on the *Meaning of Business* held in 2011, Peter Turkson, in collaboration with the John Ryan Institute (University of St Thomas), advanced six practical ethical principles to inform and guide the mindset of business and business leaders that fall under three broad business objectives:



Professor Surendra Arjoon

Meeting the needs of the World through the Creation and Development of Goods and Services

- 1) Produce goods which are truly goods and services that contribute to the common good.
- 2) Maintain solidarity with the poor by being alert for opportunities to serve otherwise deprived and underserved populations.

Organizing Good and Productive Work

- 3) Make a contribution to the community by fostering the dignity of work.
- 4) Provide, through subsidiarity (self-help), opportunities for employees to exercise appropriate authority as they contribute to the mission of the organisation.

Creating Sustainable Wealth and distributing it justly

- 5) Model stewardship of the resources (capital, human, environmental).

- 6) Promote just allocation of resources to all stakeholders (fair wages, etc.).

Social Entrepreneurial Businesses: The Case of ExxonMobil

In her address entitled *Globalization and its Challenges for Business Ethics in the 21st Century*, at the Center for Business Ethics (Bentley University), Professor Patricia Werhane gave the following example of a business which engages in creative capitalism of social entrepreneurship that are guided by ethical principles. Partnering with the World Bank and two other oil companies, ExxonMobil began drilling for oil in Chad in 2000. This required building a pipeline through Cameroon to the west coast of Africa, which necessitated creating alliances with a number of NGOs and social workers to protect the rights of the indigenous people. By 2010, ExxonMobil had employed 6500 Chad and Cameroon nationals, about 85% of the total workforce. Nearly half of them held skilled or supervisory positions. The project purchased goods and services from local suppliers that totalled more than \$231 million in 2011. Healthcare clinics were provided for all employees, extensive malaria prevention programmes have helped to maintain the project's low infection rate, the StopAIDS programme (begun by the ExxonMobil Foundation) provided preventative education for all employees, The Initiative for Economic Empowerment for Woman Entrepreneurs (a micro-lending initiative funded by a grant of \$1.7 million from the ExxonMobil Foundation) has so far helped 83 cooperatives representing more than 1,600 women members. At the beginning of the project, Chad signed an agreement with the World Bank that its revenues from this project would go to improving its infrastructure, education and health care. To date, Chad's total revenue from royalties from the project has reached \$6.3 billion.

It is clear that ExxonMobil made efforts, in the spirit of creative capitalism that shed light in the application of the guiding ethical principles of human dignity, solidarity, subsidiarity, and the common good. However, one should note that there are moral risks involved in such ventures. According to Professor Werhane, moral risk can be defined as the likelihood of doing moral injury to oneself or to others where there is also the possibility of eliminating some moral evil or creating some positive outcomes. In this example, the benefits of upside risks are numerous and commendable; the downside risk, in this case, was that the country's ruler took most of the royalties and invested in a stronger army to protect the country's borders and promoted aggressive behaviour toward neighbouring countries. Although the World Bank has pulled out, ExxonMobil remains. Such business models guided by ethical principles ought to be supported and encouraged.

CAMPUS LITERATURE WEEK

THE WRITER'S APPRENTICE

Rabindranath Maharaj offers words of wisdom

BY SERAH ACHAM

Twentieth century Trinidad wasn't friendly to aspiring local writers. It was not an ambition to be proclaimed without risking ridicule. However, if you found the right ear and listened well, you could be led to untold possibility. That is how Rabindranath Maharaj has returned – more than 25 years after his departure to Canada – as a renowned author, acclaimed for his novels and short stories, to lend his experience to budding writers.

Robin, as he is called, is this year's Writer-in-Residence at the UWI's Faculty of Humanities and Education (FHE), where he works with students of the MFA in Creative Writing programme.

It seems the seeds of a writer's stuff were planted in a very young Robin, long before he knew they were there. His first 10 years were spent in Tableland, South Trinidad, before he went to live with relatives in Naparima. This may have been the life-giving drop of water.

"I didn't realise it then," he says, but, "that was an important thing for me as a writer, because it started this kind of dislocation, this period when I started to miss the village and I started to think – not that I knew that I wanted to write then – what [was it] about the village was I missing? And I started thinking about the characters and bits of the scenery and stuff like that."

It was years later, as a sixth-form student at Naparima College, that Robin knew he was destined to be a writer. "I was fascinated by the way some of the writers we were studying," like Lawrence Durrell, "would create a sort of magic for me, through their description and their stories ... I wanted to create this ... magic."

Following the path of conventional education, after high school, he came to The UWI, St Augustine Campus, where he earned his BA in English and History, MA in English and Diploma of Education.

"I wasn't too interested in academic stuff," because he knew what he wanted to do with his life. "I started writing, surreptitiously, quietly, because at that point ... writing was not a profession that people announced publicly."

Without a writing programme, such as the MFA, or even writing classes, Robin learned techniques on his own.

"I started to read books a little bit differently. I started to look at the narrative choices that writers make ... for instance, why is this writer stopping at this chapter? Why is he using this description? I started to read [flawed] books too ... and I learnt just as much from these books, because I would then start to think, how would I write this? How would I improve this? So my process of learning to write was from reading really."

He eventually created a series of short stories, "but it was a private fantasy then." That is, until he had an early glimpse



into what his life could turn into if he didn't live his dream. In his mid-20s, while teaching at a high school in Rio Claro, he "met a lot of older folks," who would repeatedly boast of unfulfilled ambitions, "and I started thinking about myself 20, 30 years down the line, telling younger folks, I could have been a writer."

Encouragement from a few of his university lecturers solidified the idea. In his mid-30s, he decided to "leave Trinidad to write" since, "there weren't any opportunities here."

The University of New Brunswick in Canada accepted him into their MA Writing programme. Within a year he was done, and "thankfully, my creative writing dissertation became my first book." His dean had spoken to a publisher about his dissertation, a collection of short stories, and one week before he was to leave Canada to return home, a publisher called to ask if they could publish it.

Six months later, *The Interlopers* was about to be published and he was asked to return to Canada for the occasion. The book "did very well," he says; it was shortlisted for the Commonwealth Writer's Prize in 1996. His second book, also his first novel, *Homer in Flight*, was published soon after and this was also shortlisted for a literary prize: the Chapters/Books in Canada First Novel Award in 1998.

Random House picked up on him after that and today,

Robin has eight novels and books of short stories, some of which have been nominated for and won various literary prizes (most recent is *The Amazing Absorbing Boy*, winner of the Toronto Book Award and the Trillium Book Award in 2011).

As Writer-in-Residence at UWI, he is at the helm of a tightly-knit group of new writers hoping to enter the literary world. When he was in Trinidad for last year's Bocas Lit Fest, many young writers had sought his advice.

"I began to feel that there was a new recognition of writing and of writers."

He met up with Professor Funso Aiyejina, Dean of the FHE and a founding director of the Bocas Lit Fest, "and I felt that this would be a great way for me to come back to Trinidad to share ... a bit of my experience, a bit of my process ... I think that this whole idea of a Writer-in-Residence couldn't have come any earlier and the fact that it's here, it's a great thing."

He cautions would-be writers, however, "this is not a glamorous profession, so don't get in because you believe that you're going to make a lot of money." You also "have to be curious about the world. You have to constantly write. Writing, like almost every other skill ... only gets better through practice, so you have to write as much as possible."

100 Years of Indian Cinema

BY DAINIA WRIGHT

A place for Indian film on the St Augustine Campus. This is what has emerged from the partnership between the Indian High Commission in Trinidad and Tobago and the UWI Film Programme.

It started in 2010 with the launch of the Indian Cine-Club, a series of regular film screenings, and later, the Indian Film Festival. The Tagore Film Festival in 2012 celebrated the life and work of Rabindranath Tagore, one of India's national icons.

This year, which marks 100 years of film production in India, afforded another way to deepen the relationship, and so, for one week, from January 27, a series of award-winning Indian films were shown at the campus.

Dr Christopher Meir, coordinator of the Film Programme, said he was happy to continue working with the High Commission's cultural division, the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Cultural Cooperation.

"This relationship has once again helped to establish a place for Indian cinema on the St. Augustine Campus and afforded the public the opportunity to see and learn about some of the many masterpieces of Indian cinema," he said.

The film festival's opening ceremony featured speeches from the Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat, High Commissioner of India, Sri Malay Mishra and the Minister for Housing and the Environment Roodal Moonilal. This ceremony, which was also to mark India's Republic Day, was followed by a screening of the classic Hindi film *Mughal-e-Azam*.

The selected films came from all parts of India and from different decades, and were meant to give the Campus community a deeper sense of the complexity and distinct achievement that is Indian cinema. Each of the films had won several National Film Awards in India, with a few capturing an international audience in some of the world's most prestigious film festivals.



Hindi at the National Film Awards in the same year. At the time of its release, *Mughal-e-Azam* broke the record for highest grossing film in India.

The opening film, *Mughal-e-Azam* received numerous nominations at the 1961 staging of the Filmfare Awards, eventually winning awards for Best Feature Film, Best Cinematography and Best Dialogues. It also received the award for Best Feature Film in



High Commissioner of India, Sri Malay Mishra, Minister for Housing and the Environment Roodal Moonilal and Campus Principal, Professor Clement Sankat at the festival's opening ceremony.

Rat Trap (Adoor Gopalakrishnan) is often hailed as the director's best work, winning awards for the Most Original and Imaginative Film from the British Film Institute, the Sutherland Trophy from the London Film Festival as well as the Silver Lotus Award for Audiography and Best Regional Film (Malayam) at the National Film Awards in 1982. The film toured a number of film festivals around the world including Cannes International Film Festival in 1982. Gopalakrishnan, a pioneering figure, is often credited with revolutionizing the Malayalam film industry, as he established the first film society in Kerala, Chitraklekha Film Society, which influenced an entire film movement in Kerala.

Deewar, which stars Amitabh Bachchan, is the epitome of the angry-young-man film, which explores a tumultuous time in India's history. Directed by Yash Chopra, *Deewar* boasts seven Filmfare Awards with an additional two nominations. The film was selected in part to celebrate the life and work of Chopra, one of the towering figures of Hindi cinema who passed away recently at the age of 80.

Mahanagar, by India's most internationally acclaimed director, Satyajit Ray, received the Silver Bear for Best Director at the 14th Berlin International Film Festival. Ray is best known for his trilogy about the character Apu, which began the tradition of 'parallel cinema' within India. Filming in Calcutta, and in the Bengali language, Ray inspired a wave of regional cinemas across India to compete with Bollywood.

A film about cricket, *Iqbal* (Nagesh Kukunoor) won the National Film Award for Best Film on Other Social Issues. *Iqbal* was one of the highest-grossing low budget films when it was released in 2005.

Time Magazine has listed *Nayagan*, which was directed by Mani Ratnam, in 2005 as one of the All-Time 100 Best Films list. It also received the National Film Award for Cinematography, Art Direction and the Best Actor Award for Kamal Hasaan. *Nayagan* is the only Tamil language film on this list and easily one of the most acclaimed made in this South Indian language. The film was India's official entry to the Oscars for Best Film in a Foreign Language in 1987. Ratnam, the film's director is widely credited with altering the profile of Indian cinema, bringing international attention to the Tamil film industry.

The most recent film featured, *Kahani* was made in 2012 and was co-produced and co-written by its director Sujoy Ghosh. So far, at the Filmfare Awards, *Kahani* has captured five awards including best Director and Best Actress for Vidya Balan. Shot in Calcutta, the film tells the tale of a pregnant woman (Balan) who is searching for her missing husband in the middle of the Durga Puja festivities.

The festival was a huge success, said Dr Meir, and there is more to come.

"We look forward to the re-launch of the Indian Cine-Club in 2013 and continuing to team with our friends in the High Commission to enhance cultural and artistic understanding of India within the Caribbean," he said.

Coming of Age

BY VANEISA BAKSH

“The counter top is smooth and shiny from years of use. The shopkeeper deftly shovels flour or sugar into brown paper bags on the curved brass bowl of his scale. Before one is quite certain about the weight, he twirls the bag and secures its contents. Then he slips the pencil stub from behind his ear and adds up the bill. Above his head hangs a shiny curling tape that traps flies...

“Standing on the sidewalk across from the shop, I look up to the family quarters under the gables. The fenestration of jalousies and windows overhangs the sidewalk outside the shop. Bicycles lean on wooden posts.”

It is a Chinese shop, one of many he has visually recorded as part of the “vernacular heritage in architecture,” that abounded in Trinidad. Capturing nesting places – homes, churches, shops, trees – has been one of the passions of Jackie Hinkson. Images of these formative spaces are vividly evoked in “What Things Are True: A memoir of becoming an artist” as he meanders through those early years.

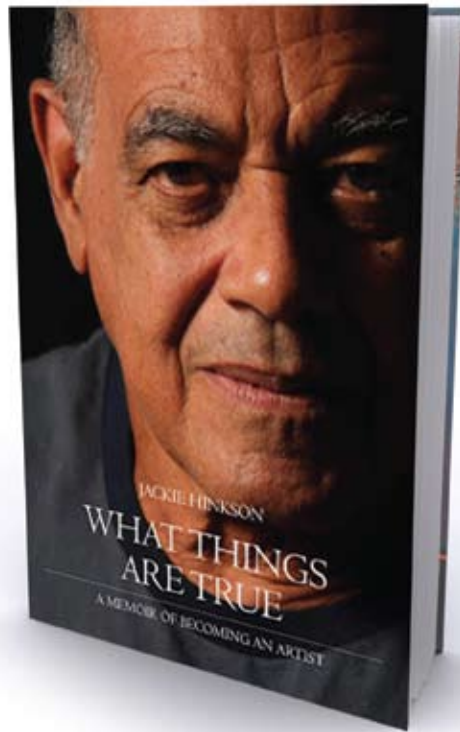
Hinkson is an accomplished artist: he draws, he paints, he sculpts, and his work has received widespread acclaim. From the incandescence of the book’s prose it would not have been surprising to find that he was a remarkable writer as well. But he has been quick to make it clear that the book was “ghost-written” by a lifelong friend, who turns out to be the brilliant biographer, Arnold Rampersad. The two collaborated over a year, and after dozens of interviews had been transcribed, Rampersad shaped and drafted what Hinkson would then edit to his satisfaction.

The book is elegantly bound, printed in the graceful font, Centaur, and it is strewn with sketches from what must be a massive collection – a charming combination for a reader who loves the feel of the turning page.

Normally, I read quickly, but I found myself slowing down, savouring sentences and retrieving others so I could revisit them. At some point, the reason became clear. The book is written the way an artist must see his subjects. The exquisite detail can only have been harboured in a mind trained to record it carefully; for reproduction. The description of the Chinese shop is just one of many that either adds layers to dusty memories or creates sparkling new images.

Rampersad sees biography through all the strands that bind a life together, so one can imagine him coaxing memory out of mind, and expertly giving it texture and hue with just the rightly nuanced questions.

It is something of a coming of age book, for man and country, bringing intimacy to the growing pains borne at 21 Richmond Street in Port of Spain and later, at Académie Julian in Paris. Hinkson’s account of his childhood dreams and miseries, alienating days at QRC, his forays into existentialism and Cobo Town, emerging friendships, and



WHAT THINGS ARE TRUE: A memoir of becoming an artist Jackie Hinkson

Paria Publishing
ISBN 978-976-8054-96-8

his eventual release into the Parisian wild, simultaneously render a portrait of the period while tracing the persistent inner turmoil.

And as the pages turn, the deft lines add up and the portrait of the artist begins to emerge, and in the gently applied strokes one can feel his almost perpetual bewilderment fading as he becomes more comfortable in his skin.

“Sometimes I wonder if my devotion to art isn’t akin to my father’s tendency to compulsiveness. I hold up small pieces of the world around me to the light and I see things that most other people apparently don’t notice. I try to put those pieces of the world down on paper or canvas, or occasionally in wood sculpture. I look for forms of truth, of self-revelation and of revelation beyond the self. I look for perfection, if you will. I seek to distill the essence of the world as I know it.”

The memoir provides a social history, revealing the mores of that time; how the artist, the lawyer, the doctor, the athlete was ranked. And the conditions: where but the public library could one find anything to read on art and artists? And what it felt like after finding Cézanne and just knowing that life without art would be meaningless.

“As far I knew, none of my schoolmates valued art. Distinction came at QRC and its rival schools through the efforts of athletes and ‘bright boys.’ Artists simply didn’t count in the scheme of things. Male artists were also likely to be ‘hens’ (so some tough boys called other students in order to disparage their sexuality). So where was I to turn to express my budding love of art, and my desire to become an artist?”

His QRC friendship with Peter Minshall would be significant here (In 1961, with Minshall, Pat Bishop, Alice Greenhall and Arthur Webb, he would be part of the exhibition, “5 Young Painters”.) but overall, he didn’t find it at QRC and it was not on the syllabus at either Progressive Girls or Tranquillity where he taught briefly in the early sixties. It was later, in a much muddled route to take up a scholarship of sorts, that he found himself in Paris and discovered a new way of seeing that he began to feel himself an artist. But homesickness lunged so fiercely at him that, despite misgivings, he made no effort to prolong his yearlong stay.

“Never had I enjoyed so much free, subsidised time in which to draw and paint. Another year might have taken me to new levels of competence and skill. I still suffered from pangs of doubt about my art. My instructors still seemed to see nothing out of the ordinary in my work.”

In Trinidad again, he went back to teach at QRC and reconnected with Minshall, who had returned from London. Soon, he was offered a five-year fellowship to study art in Canada. One day, the influential artist, Sybil Atteck said something to him that could be relevantly said today. She told him that he would learn a lot in those five years, but when he returned he would have to “unlearn” much of it.

The book moves along languidly, lingering on those “becoming” years, but it fairly canters towards the end, leaving one wishing for more. As the front door is being pulled in, we are allowed a glimpse of the married artist, now a parent, at home in Trinidad, still ruminating on the dilemmas of art.

“I was amazed and continue to be amazed that so many in the world of art do not see beyond surface subject matter, believing that full meaning in a work stops at literal surface symbolism. There must be no nuances.

“I knew that as I went forward with my life in Trinidad and Tobago, I would have to deal ceaselessly with this tension and hostility about politics and race, about radical changes in our values and traditions. I would have to confront these changes and interpret them in my work, but in my way and within the notion of art that I had developed during the first twenty-eight years of my life.”

Yes, the book is that too, a guide to the life of the craft.

Let the artist beware.

UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS

APRIL – JUNE 2013

MENTAL ART

Ongoing to April 4
Medulla Art Gallery, 37 Fitt St Woodbrook
Port of Spain

An exhibition called “Proceeds to Mental Health,” because that is just what happens, will feature the art of Steve Ouditt done as a project with psychiatrist Gerard Hutchinson. The works are somewhat disturbing, but will make you reflect says the artist. The show has been running since March 7.

For further information, please contact Medulla Art Gallery at 740-7597, or email them at medullaartgallery@gmail.com

NEW ORLEANS AND THE CARIBBEAN

4-5pm, April 1
Centre for Language Learning Auditorium
UWI St. Augustine

Dr Anna Hartnell, a lecturer in Contemporary Literature at the University of London, will deliver a lecture on “New Orleans and the Caribbean: Empire, Revolution, and Isabel Allende’s Island beneath the Sea (2010).”

For more information, please contact the Department of Literary, Cultural and Communication Studies at 662-2002 ext. 83032.

DISTINGUISHED OPEN LECTURE

DR JAMIL SALMI
5:30pm, April 3, Daaga Auditorium,
UWI St. Augustine

The Open Lectures Committee will be hosting a Distinguished Lecture to be presented by Dr. Jamil Salmi at the St. Augustine Campus. Dr Salmi will speak on “The Challenge of Establishing World-Class Universities.” He is an independent expert for education and the former education sector manager for The World Bank in the Latin American and Caribbean region. He was previously professor of education economics at the National Institute of Education Planning in Rabat, Morocco.

For further information, please contact The UWI, at 662-2002, ext. 82392, or 83726, or marketing.communications@sta.uwi.edu.

SALISES 14TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

April 22–24
Barbados

The Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) hosts the SALISES 14th Annual Conference, from 22nd-24th April, 2013, in Barbados. This conference is themed “Towards a New Development Paradigm for the Caribbean: The Next 50 Years.”

For further information, please contact salises@cavehill.uwi.edu.

DCFA EVENTS

“**MARIA ANTONIA**”
April
4,5,6,7,12,13,14,
7 pm (Thu-Sat);
6pm (Sundays)
Little Carib
Theatre,
Woodbrook



CARI ORFFS’ ‘CARMINA BURANA’ PRESENTED BY THE UWI ARTS CHORALE, UWI PERCUSSION, UWI AFRICAN DRUMMING, UWI STEEL AND THE UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE.
7pm, April 13
NAPA, Port of Spain

JAZZ DAY AT UWI
1pm-4 pm, April 18
DCFA Pan Theatre, Gordon Street

UWI CARIBBEAN CONTEMPORARY WORKSHOP IN CONCERT
7pm, April 20
Daaga Auditorium, UWI, St. Augustine

SOLE TO SOLE DANCE SYMPOSIUM; SOLE TO SOLE PERFORMANCE
7pm (Sat) and 6pm (Sun)
April 26 (Symposium); April 27 & 28 (Performance)
Little Carib Theatre, Woodbrook

TRINIDADIAN AUTOBIOGRAPHY
4-5pm, April 16
Centre for Language Learning Auditorium
UWI, St. Augustine

Professor Bart Moore-Gilbert presents a lecture titled, “New Worlds, New Selves? Some Reflections on Trinidadian Autobiography.”

For further information, please contact the Department of Literary, Cultural and Communication Studies at 662-2002 ext. 83032

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



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

April 23-25
UWI, St. Augustine Campus

The UWI Schools of Education, situated at The University’s three physical Campuses, host their biennial conference themed “Advancing education through a culture of inquiry, innovation, and indigenization.”

For more information, please contact Krishna. Seunariningsingh@sta.uwi.edu

SALUD!

7pm-10pm, April 27
Poolside, Hilton Trinidad and Conference Centre
Port of Spain

Annual wine festival hosted by the UWI Alumni Association of Trinidad and Tobago as a fund-raiser. Tickets cost \$500 and proceeds go towards student bursaries, and other UWI groups.

For further information, please contact James Richardson at 680-5219.

UWI DISCOVERS

BRAZIL TOUR
May 17 to June 9

This year, UWI Discovers kicks off with a tour of Brazil, from May 17 to June 9.

The 23-day tour to four major Brazilian cities, including Rio De Janeiro, will provide a unique experience of contemporary Brazil. Cost includes return airfare to Brazil; domestic airfare from city to city; hotel accommodation; an expert UWI tour guide and an English-speaking guide; an orientation session inclusive of basic language introduction; entrance fees to sites and monuments; transportation within Brazil; all airport transfers and travel insurance.

The deadline for registration is April 2 at 4.30pm and details are available online at <http://sta.uwi.edu/discover>. For further information, please contact Ms. Candice Guppy at 662 2002 ext. 84184, or via e-mail at Candice.Guppy@sta.uwi.edu or discoverbrazil@sta.uwi.edu

GOLFAID 2013

June 9
Millennium Lakes Golf and Country Club
Trinity

The Faculty of Medical Sciences is hosting this fund-raiser, which is meant to support various organisations, such as the UWI Student Support Fund, Autistic Society of T&T and Persons Associated with Visual Impairment (PAVI). The Cost is TT\$500 per team, inclusive of dinner and drinks at the prize-giving ceremony.

For further information, please contact the Secretariat at the Faculty of Medical Sciences: 645-2640 ext. 5025, 5009; Millennium Lakes; 640-8337; or Richard Lara: 681-8337.