



Our cover image is from the Camps-Campins collection: *Arrival at the Lighthouse Jetty, Queen's Wharf, Port of Spain - 1900*.

Postcards from the PAST

Always conscious of the need to preserve our heritage, the University does what it can to support those of like mind. That is why it was not at all difficult to select artist and historian **Adrian Camps-Campins** to be one of the eight people to be conferred with honorary degrees during the graduation ceremonies for the St Augustine campus in October this year.

Mr Camps-Campins has devoted a significant part of his life to researching the history of Trinidad and Tobago and has paid special attention to its architecture, which he has reproduced beautifully in his still growing collection of postcards that are simply marvelous collector's items. As we begin preparations for those special ceremonies that send our family members out into the world, we share some of the ideas of our honorary graduands from **Page 12**.

OUR CAMPUS - 03

Another Term

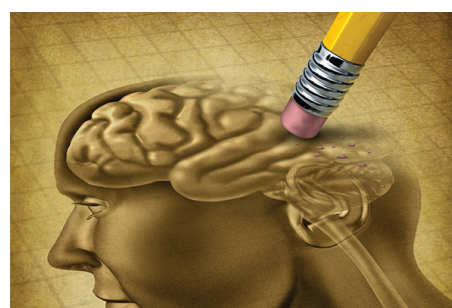
■ Professor
Reddock
continues



RESEARCH - 08

Out of the Memory Clinic

■ Tracking Dementia



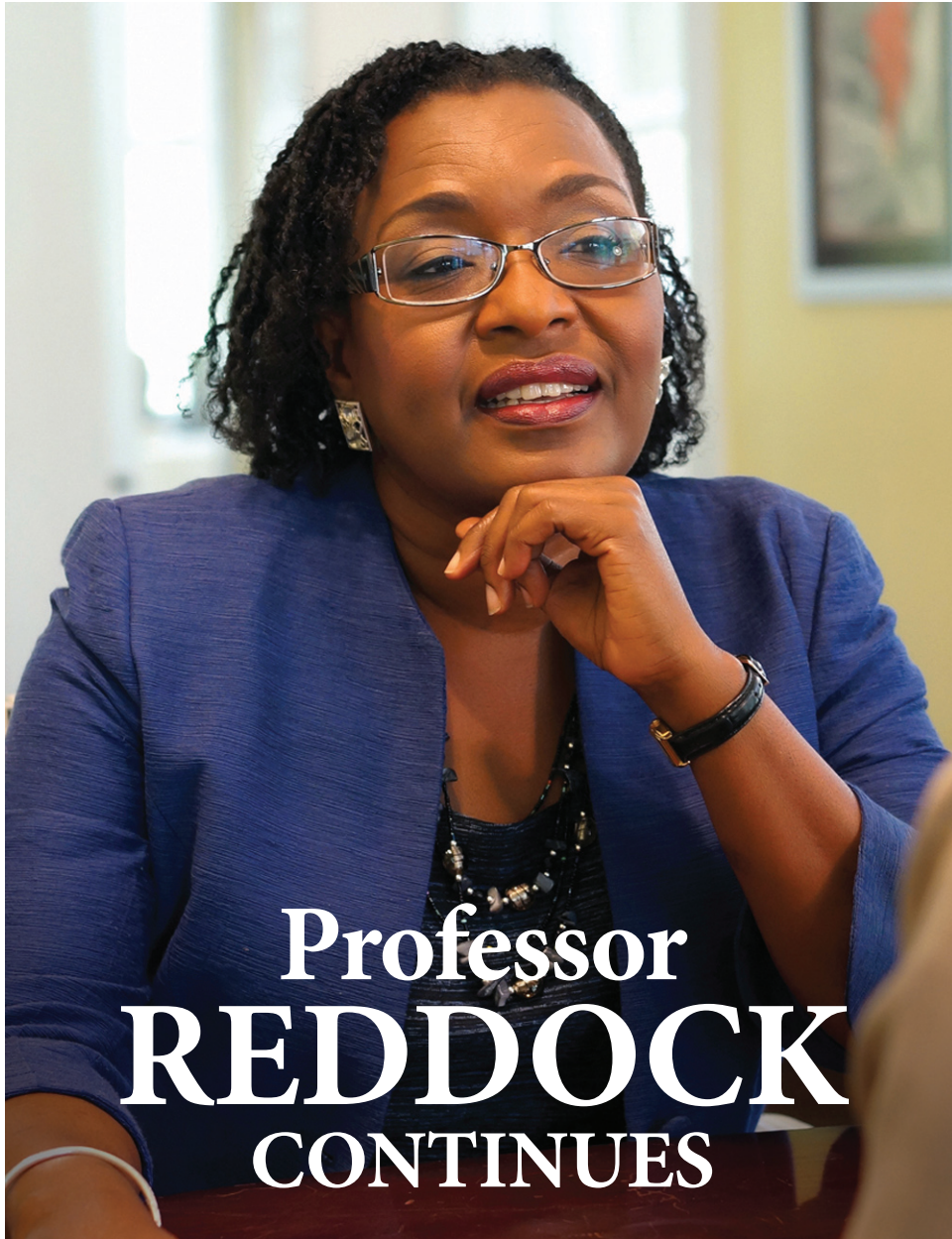
ENGINEERING - 10

Working in 3D

■ Building
for ourselves



■ OUR CAMPUS



Professor REDDOCK CONTINUES

The Council of The University of the West Indies (UWI), at its annual business session held in Nassau, the Bahamas, on Friday April 25, approved the recommendation for reappointment of Professor Rhoda Reddock as Deputy Principal of The UWI, St. Augustine Campus, for an additional two years, up to September 31, 2016.

Professor Reddock is a Professor of Gender and Development, and has been Deputy Principal at the St. Augustine Campus since August 2008. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Social Administration from The UWI, a Master of Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, and a Doctorate in Social Sciences (Applied Sociology) from the University of Amsterdam. She began her academic career as a Lecturer at Cipriani Labour College from 1976 to 1978, and moved on to the post of Associate Lecturer at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague from 1979 to 1982. Professor Reddock's career at The UWI began in 1985, when she became a research fellow at the Institute for Social and Economic Research, UWI St. Augustine Campus, and then a lecturer in the Department of Sociology in 1990.

Actively involved in the process leading up to the institutionalisation of gender studies at The UWI, she was the Head of the Centre for Gender and Development

Studies (now the Institute for Gender and Development Studies) at the St. Augustine Campus from 1994 to 2008. Her publications include seven books (two award-winning), three monographs, four special journal issues and over fifty peer-reviewed articles and book chapters.

Professor Reddock's research has been interdisciplinary, and reflects her commitment to multi-disciplinary collaboration with colleagues. A concern with social justice has been a core theme in her work. Her first, academic publication, "Prison Education in Jamaica", published in 1976, was the result of a year-long, undergraduate, research exercise in two Jamaican prisons. Her focus then shifted to work, labour and women's social and political history, as reflected in her master's and doctoral research. Since then, her research output has revolved around the themes of gender, ethnicity and nationalism, masculinities, sexualities, women and social movements, and environmental studies.

She is the recipient of various awards, including the UWI Vice Chancellor's Award for All-Round Excellence in Teaching and Administration, Research and Public Service in 2001, the Seventh CARICOM Triennial Award for Women in 2002 and the US Department of State International Woman of Courage Award 2008.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Keeping Our Quality High



An important aspect of managing an institution is ensuring that standards are maintained, even as you expand, meet stakeholder expectations and try to improve the current standings with each passing day. For The UWI, self-study, internal and external quality reviews and national, regional and international accreditation are drivers for our continuing quest for quality improvements. In this regard, accreditation bodies (and the reviews we steadily undertake), should not be perceived as an intrusion into internal operations. Rather, they are paragons of excellence, equipped with the measuring and evaluating tools to help organizations locate themselves along their development paths and ensure that they are keeping abreast of the targets set for them, both internally and by market standards.

Earlier this year, the St. Augustine Campus hosted a mid-term review site visit by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT). Just over 100 members of staff were interviewed as the evaluation team sought independent perspectives about what they see as progress being made in the focused areas and how the institution might be addressing quality improvements. The focused areas included staff and space allocations; inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary teaching and research; the tension of teaching versus research; student learning, assessment and evaluation; the continuum of learning modes (blended learning developments); non-academic operational quality; and new sites and developments.

The ACTT concluded that the UWI St. Augustine Campus had shown enough evidence of development work in the areas that had been recommended when the Campus was the subject of a very comprehensive accreditation exercise in 2011 and that the Campus was on the path towards reaccreditation in 2017.

We are indeed pleased to know that our efforts at maintaining high standards are meeting the approval of our national accreditation body. At the same time, we are also mindful that as we continue to grow and respond to the demands of our students and stakeholders, our university must continue to raise the bar and ensure that high quality is always synonymous with our UWI brand.

CLEMENT K. SANKAT
Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal

EDITORIAL TEAM

CAMPUS PRINCIPAL
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■ OUR CAMPUS

On Tuesday July 15, 2014, a formal ceremony saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the UWI School of Business and Applied Studies Limited (trading as ROYTEC), and the International American University (IAU). The signing took place at the Office of the Campus Principal, at The UWI, St. Augustine.

This MOU will allow the institutions to collaborate to offer a range of programmes including the Associate and Bachelor's Degree in Pharmacy; the Pharmacy Technician Certificate, the Emergency Medical Technician Diploma; the Hospitality Certificate; the Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and the 4-Year MD, among others.

It also relates to several general areas for collaboration between these two bodies, including relevant research programmes; collaborative research in mutually agreed areas; as well as undergraduate and graduate internships in various disciplines.

Campus Registrar and Secretary to the Board of Directors of UWI School of Business and Applied Studies Limited, Mr. Richard Saunders, gave opening remarks, followed by welcome remarks by Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal and Chairman of the Board of Directors of UWI School of Business and Applied Studies Limited, Professor Clement Sankat. President of the IAU, Mr. K. G. Manmadhan Nair then delivered his remarks, after which the Memorandum of Understanding was signed. Campus Registrar and Secretary to the Board of Directors of UWI School of Business and Applied Studies Limited, Mr. Stephen Sheppard, gave the vote of thanks.

JOINING FORCES



(L-R) Campus Principal and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Professor Clement Sankat, and President of the International American University, Mr. K. G. Manmadhan Nair

Professor Samuel Ramsewak, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mr. Errol Simms, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, as well as members of Campus Executive Management, were also present.

World Karate Championships Champ

UWI student Isiah Pollard received high commendation at the 2014 World Karate Union Hall of Fame Championships and the Legends Hall of Fame Championships held during June 21-22 and 28-29 respectively in Pennsylvania, USA. Pollard is a student at The UWI Sport and Physical Education Centre's Diploma in the Art and Science of Coaching programme at UWI and was Team Captain for the National Team, under the Trinidad and Tobago Unified Martial Arts Federation.

Pollard won three first place belts in weapons katas, self-defence and sparring respectively; a third place medal in katas, and two grand championship crowns in weapons katas and sparring at the 2014 World Karate Union Hall of Fame Championships. At the Legends Hall of Fame Championships, he was awarded two first place trophies in katas and weapons katas respectively, two third place trophies in traditional katas and team demonstration respectively; and a 6ft grand championship trophy for weapons katas.

The 25-year-old student was also nominated in the 2014 Extraordinary Contributions to the Martial Arts category at the Legends Hall of Fame Championship event and was recognized as an International Competitor and Ambassador under the World Karate Union Organization.

The World Karate Union (WKU) Hall Of Fame was established in 1996 to honour martial artists for their contributions to the martial arts. Nominees are selected through ballots which are sent throughout the United States, Europe, Russia, South America, Canada, the West Indies and Australia. The WKU Hall of Fame event is considered "prestigious" and is attended by many notable martial arts VIPs.

Pollard is a member of the Black Hawks Martial Arts Management Network.



A Matter of Survival

The UWI St. Augustine's Department of Geography, in collaboration with the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS), the School of Education and the Women's Institute for Alternative Development (WINAD), is conducting a national study to investigate the livelihoods and futures of adults who have dropped out of school.

The study, titled *A Matter of Survival: A life-course approach to understanding the decision-making and economic livelihoods of school dropouts in Trinidad and Tobago* will investigate the life-course trajectories and complex decision-making of early school leavers in Trinidad & Tobago in order to analyse their challenges and successes since leaving school, returns to education or training, and economic stability and livelihoods.

The project has engaged in community-based training of about 50 researchers across the country, including Tobago, who are currently conducting surveys and interviews with adults between the ages of 18 and 45 who had left school before completing either the primary or secondary school completing exams. The study, which started in September 2013 and ends in March, 2015, hopes to de-stigmatize the discourse of school dropouts, and provide data required to affect the agendas of NGOs and the Government (including the Ministries of Education, National Security, Gender and Youth, and People and Social Development) towards poverty reduction, building human capital, strengthening families and communities, and planning tools and resources to decrease truancy, delinquency, and criminality.

The project team is composed of Principal Investigator, Dr Priya Kissoon (Department of Geography); Co-Investigator, Dr Jennifer Collymore (Department of Geography); and Data Analysis Collaborators: Prof Patricia Mohammed (IGDS), Dr Jeniffer Mohammed (School of Education), Dr Matthew Wilson (Department of Geography), Dr Joseph Springer (Ryerson University, Toronto), and Folade Mutota (WINAD).

If your organisation provides any programmes or services that support early school leavers and you would like to tell the researchers about the work that you do, please call the Research Project Office at 662-2002 ext. 84130 or email projects.geography@gmail.com. If you are an early school leaver (or know of an early school leaver) and would like to share your story with the researchers, please call WINAD at 621-2495 or email winad_tt@mail.com.

■ OUR CAMPUS

UWI St. Augustine recognised as a “HIGH QUALITY INSTITUTION” by the ACTT

Every institution wants to be accredited. And for a student-centric institution, committed to continuous growth and development, it goes without saying that when the Accreditation Council of T&T (ACTT) visited The UWI in 2012 to examine institutional effectiveness, anticipation was high. The ACTT granted UWI 5 years to make improvements in specific areas. On July 27, the Institutional Effectiveness Programme of the Office of the Campus Principal, headed by Dr. Eduardo Ali, hosted the handover ceremony of the report on a focused site visit that was conducted at the Campus on April 10 this year. The report was part of ACTT's mid-term review, conducted to ensure that we are forging ahead, continuing to perform at high standards and do the work that we set out to do. The Evaluation Team referred to us as a “high quality institution,” noting that we continue to secure significant capital investment despite the impact of the global economic crisis; that despite difficulties in recruitment, we possess a high calibre of teaching and research staff at all



(L-R) Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal Professor Clement Sankat receives the report of the mid-term review from ACTT Executive Director, Michael Bradshaw.

levels; and the team was particularly encouraged by the general acceptance of the positive role played by quality assurance on the Campus: they observed steady growth in the acceptance of a culture of active engagement with quality assurance activities.

The Evaluation Team referred to us as a “high quality institution,” noting that we continue to secure significant capital investment despite the impact of the global economic crisis

PROFESSOR SHARMA gets award

UWI Professor Chandrabhan Sharma, Deputy Dean in the Faculty of Engineering has been hailed for his contributions to the improvement of education by the Educational Activities Board of the The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). In recognition of his “leadership in the establishment of the Caribbean Accreditation Council for Engineering and Technology (CACET) in 15 countries in Region 9,” he has been awarded the 2014 IEEE Educational Activities Meritorious Achievement Award in Accreditation Activities.

The award ceremony will take place in New Jersey, USA in November 2014.



■ OUR CAMPUS

SMALL ECONOMIES: *better on their toes than on their knees*

BY ROXANNE BRIZAN

The UWI St. Augustine's Department of Economics Annual **Conference on the Economy (COTE) 2014** is scheduled for October 9-10, 2014, at the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) Auditorium, UWI St. Augustine Campus. This year the Conference honours the work of the late **Dennis Pantin**.

As **developing countries** we face issues of high population densities: poverty, high levels of unemployment, negative impacts from climate change and limited resources for which sustainable development has been identified as a possible solution by many governments. Whilst it may be easy to assume that it is inherently natural for social units to incorporate sustainability and planning for generations to come, sustainable development, as the late Professor Dennis Pantin highlighted, is in real danger of becoming a cliché which everyone acknowledges and respects but remains ill-defined and elusive.

At The UWI we have been privileged to benefit from the knowledge and academic foresight of Professor Pantin for whom the study of ways to facilitate the achievement of sustainable development in island states was an academic and professional preoccupation. Professor Pantin stands out as a pioneer in our region who saw sustainable development as requiring a multi-disciplinary approach to address our many challenges and achieve its objectives, that is, development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This objective is of particular importance since it involves the marrying of environmental, social and economic objectives whilst seeking to ensure efficient management of limited resources.

Given considerations of our social space and environment, achieving sustainability involves finding solutions for our development issues which balance all three of these objectives. Since meeting development objectives requires use of resources, the primary focus of sustainable development is therefore responsible resource use. That is, each generation must identify and pursue development objectives keeping in mind not only their current needs and constraints but that of future generations. However, whilst it may be natural for all objectives to be considered when planning it is often the case where one or more of these objectives are ignored.



Pantin's work provided a dialogue for sustainable development from the perspective of Small Island Developing States in which he highlighted that the economic fortunes of small island economies are largely dependent on the ability to anticipate opportunities and threats resultant from trends in the world economy. He identified approaches for forecasting the likely impact of the global trends; both positive and negative and presented a framework for sustainable Caribbean development in the twenty-first century in which the role of public policy in informing a strategy for achieving sustainability was highlighted.

Pantin had presented criticisms of sustainable development which included the general failure to identify measurements for development and had suggested the examination of three indicators surrounding employment which are pertinent to country's development. In the case of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) particularly SIDS of the Caribbean, sustainable development objectives have failed to pay attention to their peculiarities, challenges and constraints. This concern continues to be reflected in the ongoing sustainable development discourse.

Whilst many Caribbean countries have incorporated the sustainable development objectives in their development agendas, its implementation has remained elusive. There is much difficulty in translating the theory into practice and clearly articulating the role of all actors. For island states that are heavily dependent on the environment, the reality is that sustainable development is not easily achieved and takes considerable time, political will and national commitment particularly as it relates to resource use.

Roxanne Brizan has an MSc in Economics (Distinction) and a BSc Economics with minor in International Relations. She is a Teaching Assistant with the Department of Economics, UWI, St. Augustine.

The UWI and University of Havana discuss Caribbean challenges

In June, representatives of The UWI and the University of Havana, Cuba, met at the Institute of International Relations at the St Augustine campus to discuss "Development challenges and possibilities for a deeper integration."

This first workshop on Contemporary Caribbean was coordinated by Professor Milagros Martínez, Chair of Caribbean Studies (Cátedra de Estudios del Caribe) at the University of Havana together with Dr Mark Kirton of the Institute of International Relations. Participants debated major problems of the contemporary Caribbean, especially the challenges associated with Small Island Developing States and the regional integration recent dynamics. The cases of Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and Cuba were specifically examined.



(L-R) Mark Kirton, Hugh Todd, Milagros Martínez, Antonio Romero, Jacqueline Laguardia, Ruben Martoredjo and Carmen Castillo.

Attending from the University of Havana were Professors Antonio Romero Gómez, Milagros Martínez Reinoso and Carmen Castillo Herrera. The Institute of International Relations was represented by Drs Mark Kirton, Anthony Gonzales and Jacqueline Laguardia Martínez. Ruben Martoredjo, IIR doctoral student, and IIR alumnus Hugh Todd from the Guyana-based LIRDS Think Tank Group, which focuses on law, international relations, research, defence and security, presented papers. Cuban Ambassador to Trinidad and Tobago H.E. Guillermo Vázquez Moreno, IIR's Director Professor Andy Knight and Rear Admiral Gary Best from LIRDS Think Tank Group also participated in the two-day discussion.

HEALTH

Imagine that an elderly loved one, perhaps an aunt, started to forget the names of everyday objects or recent events. She remembers the family luncheon she attended ten years ago, but not what she had for breakfast, or the name of your recently born baby. The changes are small; you chalk them up to old age. But, as time progresses, she is no longer able to find the right words to express herself, and is in an increasingly confused state of mind. She develops mood swings and personality changes, loses interest in what she once loved, and forgets how to conduct daily tasks. You take her for a checkup and the doctor hits you with a staggering blow: she is showing symptoms of dementia.*

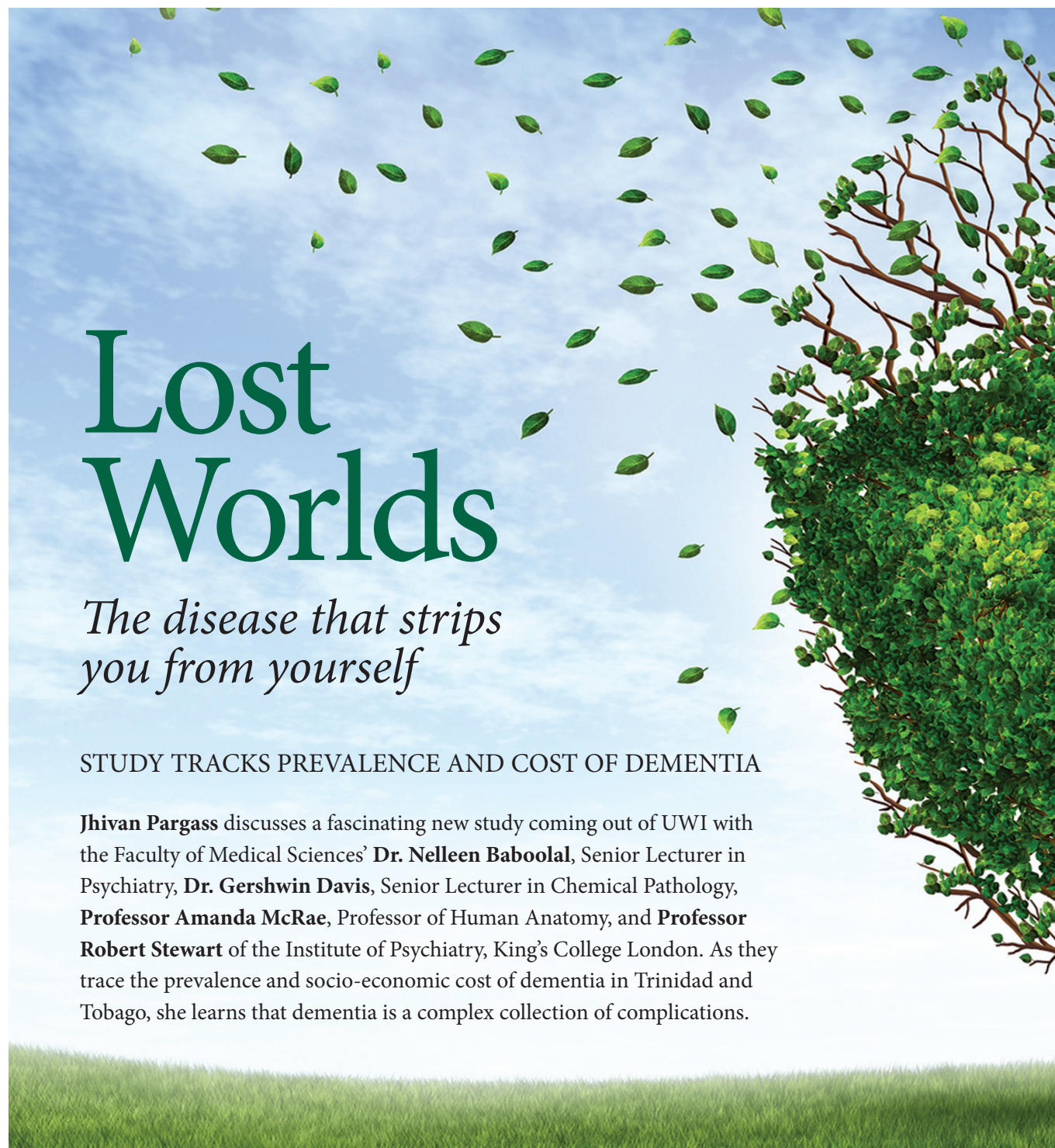
What makes dementia confusing is that it is not actually a disease, but rather a collection of symptoms that can be caused by various diseases. The leading cause is Alzheimer's disease, but dementia can also develop due to brain damage from an injury or stroke, and from other diseases such as Parkinson's and Huntington's.

What might be even more confusing is trying to find out how many people here in our little twin islands suffer from this debilitating and incurable condition, and the costs incurred by having the disorder, or having to take care of someone who does. However, that is soon to change, thanks to a project being done in collaboration with the HEU Centre for Health Economics, and spearheaded by a team of remarkable people from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Dr. Nelleen Baboolal, Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry, Dr. Gershwin Davis, Senior Lecturer in Chemical Pathology, and Professor Amanda McRae, Professor of Human Anatomy. They are assisted by Professor Robert Stewart (Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London), who is a founding member of the 10/66 dementia research group*.

The two-part project, titled the *Prevalence and Economic Cost of Dementia Project in Trinidad and Tobago*, has a fairly detailed history. It was officially launched in April 2012, but the impetus for this particular study was there long before. In 2003, the three project leads were working on a project that focused on identifying biomarkers for dementia. Most of the study cohort was comprised of patients from Dr. Baboolal's Memory Clinic, founded in the same year. As the study progressed, one question was repeatedly asked: "How prevalent is dementia in T&T?"

So whose idea was it to add another branch to the tree? Prof. McRae says with a chuckle that it was probably all three of them at the same time. They agree that their individual, yet greatly similar interests in the disease brought them all together for what Prof. McRae calls "the greatest collaboration on the face of the earth" and what Dr. Davis describes as "a fantastic merger, a perfect fit". Both insist that Dr. Baboolal was at the core of it all, given that the cause is one "dear to her heart", and the initial project began with her Memory Clinic patients. Drs Baboolal, Davis and Professor McRae have been working together for ten years and together they form the Dementia Awareness and Research Group of Trinidad and Tobago (DARTT).**

The prevalence study explores the multidisciplinary nature and extent of dementia, as well as the cost of the illness. In essence, the study seeks to establish the prevalence of dementia and the associated risk factors amongst the elderly population as well as evaluate the economic burden of the illness on households. It only really took off in 2014, as, with any good undertaking, there were a few "teething problems". However, these setbacks were taken in stride and a pilot study in Mayaro/Rio Claro was conducted by a team of five field workers in 2012. 13 persons in the age ranges 60-69, 70-79, 80-89 and 90 and above were interviewed using the 10/66 instrument and the socio-economic questionnaire. This investigation allowed for the testing of the instruments to be used in the actual study. The feedback was very



STUDY TRACKS PREVALENCE AND COST OF DEMENTIA

Jhivan Pargass discusses a fascinating new study coming out of UWI with the Faculty of Medical Sciences' **Dr. Nelleen Baboolal**, Senior Lecturer in Psychiatry, **Dr. Gershwin Davis**, Senior Lecturer in Chemical Pathology, **Professor Amanda McRae**, Professor of Human Anatomy, and **Professor Robert Stewart** of the Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London. As they trace the prevalence and socio-economic cost of dementia in Trinidad and Tobago, she learns that dementia is a complex collection of complications.

positive, which delighted the project leaders, as participants were cooperative and expressed interest.

To adequately explain why this study is so extraordinarily important, we must first understand that the population of Trinidad and Tobago is aging. Dr. Davis explains that one of the main problems with aging is a change in the disease pattern from one of viruses and communicable diseases, to chronic non-communicable diseases, e.g. Alzheimer's. With the increase in the numbers of the elderly, a predicament arises. But what is the extent of the problem? That's the question they're trying to answer, and this is really the driving force behind the study.

The results of many prevalence studies are readily available, but these originate mainly from the developed world, with few in the Caribbean. Three Hispanic-Caribbean countries, Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic, have done such studies, but the DARTT study is the first of its kind in Trinidad and in the English-speaking Caribbean, which gives it even more weight. Prof. Stewart explains that determining a central figure such as the prevalence of dementia in Trinidad and Tobago is critical because for the first time, it will provide the Government, and anyone



Dr Nelleen Baboolal



Dr Gershwin Davis

* The Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO) defines dementia as a syndrome that affects memory and other functions. It estimates that the number of people living with dementia worldwide is currently estimated at 24 million.

** The 10/66 Dementia Research Group is a collective of researchers carrying out population-based research on dementia in low and middle income countries.

*** DARTT is a voluntary non-profit which aims to educate the population, promote brain health and research on Alzheimer's disease. Much more information on the study and the group's other focus areas can be found on the DARTT website.



Professor Amanda McRae

else who wants to know, with a picture of how common dementia is and the socio-economic cost that comes with it. He explains that the results will also have enormous transformative implications for policy, as they will highlight the economic reasons for investing in dementia. He paraphrased Alzheimer's Disease International, according to whom if dementia care were a country, it would be the world's 18th largest economy, given that in 2010, the worldwide costs of dementia exceeded 1% of global GDP at US\$604 billion.

As mentioned, this is a two-phase project. The goal of the completed first phase was to determine where individuals in the various age bands reside, which speeds up the process for enumerators conducting the survey in the field. 2,000 persons from 120 electoral districts were selected at random in phase one, all of whom will be revisited in the second phase, which is currently in progress. All selected persons will have their cognitive function assessed using the survey instruments developed by the FMS team, the HEU and Prof. Stewart. If everything goes smoothly, data collection and results analysis should be completed around October 2014.

Of course, none of this would have been possible without funding. Very early on, the team received a grant from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, which enabled them to do the groundwork, but it was a TT\$550,000 grant from the UWI-Trinidad and Tobago Research, Development and Impact (RDI) Fund that allowed the study to launch. However, as with all funding, the need for more persists. The size of the grant required the team to "prune" other aspects of the research to ensure that the focus would be on the core aspects: prevalence and socio-economic cost. It also means that the study is currently focused solely in Trinidad.

The project is a timely one, as dementia becomes more and more relevant worldwide, especially due to increasingly aging populations. Its relevance is often driven by the Alzheimer's Association, an organization which is able to articulate to governments the need for increased attention to the disease, and is enormously influential in pushing for more research to be done in the field. The local branch of the Alzheimer's Association is very concerned with "upping the agenda" to guarantee that research into Alzheimer's, the main cause of dementia, is a high priority. The tireless work of such organisations coupled with studies such as this, is what keeps the argument going for more treatments and better patient care.

The data that the study will provide is fundamental to our local context, as the first thing someone usually asks when discussing the importance of any disease is "how common is it?" If that basic question can't be answered, you're stuck. There's always guesswork from international studies, but no external data can supplement results obtained from a local study, and this is just what the DARTT prevalence study will supply to Trinidad, and soon, to Tobago. The team also plans to take the project even further, by following the cohort of persons with dementia to look for associated risk factors by doing blood testing and neuroradioimaging, by studying persons aged 90 and above, and by informing policy makers regarding aging. They also plan to conduct similar studies in other Caribbean islands, and, once funding becomes available, there will be follow-up studies focusing specifically on various kinds of dementia.

For now, the goal is to complete phase two and have the results analysed and published. Once this is done, it will provide a more accurate picture for everyone—not just the government, but society in general, because as Prof. Stewart so rightly put it, "Dementia belongs to everyone; it is everyone's business."

■ THE GREATEST COLLABORATION ON EARTH

The two-part project, titled the **Prevalence and Economic Cost of Dementia Project in Trinidad and Tobago**, has an approach unique to Trinidad and Tobago as it is the first survey of a national population, rather than a geographic catchment. The project itself has a fairly detailed history. It was officially launched in April 2012, but the impetus for this particular study was there long before. In 2003, the three leads were working on a project that focused on identifying biomarkers for dementia. Most of the study cohort was comprised of patients from Dr. Baboolal's Memory Clinic, founded in the same year. As the study progressed, one question was repeatedly asked: "How prevalent is dementia in T&T?"

■ THE ENORMOUS ECONOMIC COST OF CARE

Dementia is a chronic disease that can take up to around ten years to reach the end-stage, and accompanying it is a massive economic burden. For this reason, the HEU Centre for Health Economics is a partner of the study, Director Professor Karl Theodore lending his expertise to the project. The HEU describes briefly the socio-economic component of the study:



"While persons living with dementia can still have a good quality of life provided that they receive adequate care, they have unique needs which start early in the disease and evolve constantly over time, which are associated with higher costs of care compared with other long-term care users. In this context, the socio-economic component of the study explores the direct cost of medical care as well as the direct cost of formal care (paid home or care in homes) and the indirect cost of informal care (care provided by the unpaid family caregivers). It is expected that this information will provide decision makers with the information necessary to formulate policies to effectively address the needs of those living with or affected by dementia in Trinidad and Tobago."

Both Prof. McRae and Dr. Davis emphasise that dementia not only affects the patient, but family members as well, as they may have to relinquish their jobs, and therefore their income. People who provide this informal care often also end up damaging their own health because caring for a dementia patient can be extremely emotionally and physically demanding, especially in the later stages, and not all families can afford formal care. In thinking about caring for dementia patients, it is not always considered that a significant amount of money also goes towards the healthcare of the caregivers. The International Alzheimer's Association reports that in 2013, due to the physical and emotional burden of caregiving, Alzheimer's and dementia caregivers had \$9.3 billion in additional healthcare costs of their own.

ffects memory, thinking, behaviour and ability to perform everyday activities. The organization ated at 35.6 million.

on-based research into dementia, non-communicable diseases and ageing in low and middle

health, diagnose afflicted persons, support patients, families, caregivers and conduct research atinating and pioneering work is available on the website: www.dartt.org.tt

RESEARCH

A NEW DIMENSION TO LOCAL MANUFACTURING

Department of MME acquires 3D printer

BY JOEL HENRY

Additive manufacturing (AM), commonly known as “3D printing,” is one of the most exciting and potentially transformative technologies in use today. This process, which allows users to fabricate three dimensional objects from computer generated 3D models, is becoming rapidly adopted by organisations and individuals worldwide. It is estimated by 2016 that the AM market will be worth US\$3.1 billion and US\$5.2 billion by 2020.

Leading online technology publication TechRepublic, says 3D printing “is destined to transform almost every major industry and change the way we live, work, and play in the future.” In a more succinct summation of its impact, the Harvard Business Review headlined an article on the topic “3D Printing Will Change the World.”

And what of Trinidad and Tobago?

Faced with an increasingly pressing need to diversify the economy and energise sectors outside of oil and gas, manufacturing has for some time now been seen as an industry with great potential. Guided by this drive to support the development of local manufacturing, the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Manufacturing of the Faculty of Engineering (MME) at The UWI St Augustine Campus, has acquired a 3D printer, specifically a fused deposition modeling (FDM) machine.

The goal is to give regional manufacturing a competitive boost by encouraging the adoption of new technologies and to educate a new generation of manufacturing engineers and innovators skilled in their use. And the acquisition of the FDM machine is another stage in an ongoing process designed not so much to transform our existing manufacturing industry as it is to giving it the vital injection needed to vault onto the global marketplace.

THE FUTURE OF MANUFACTURING

“We should be innovative. We should be creative. We should promote entrepreneurship,” says Dr. Boppana V. Chowdary, Programme Coordinator, Manufacturing Engineering, at UWI, in his office in the MME Department.

A native of India, not only is Dr. Chowdary UWI St Augustine’s chief evangelist and strategist for local manufacturing, he may be the expert most singularly focused on the topic in Trinidad and Tobago.

“My philosophy is very simple,” he says. “For any



“For example, a patient with a bone fracture could potentially have the bone scanned, have the scan converted into a 3D image, have that image printed, and provide him with the necessary prosthetic before he leaves the doctor’s office.”

nation, if you have a strong manufacturing base, that is the backbone of your country. That can sustain your forever, despite what is happening in other sectors. Manufacturing is evergreen.”

Since joining the Faculty of Engineering in 2003, Dr. Chowdary has worked to carve out a space for manufacturing engineering on the campus, with the goal of creating a university-centred national and regional resource for the development of the manufacturing industry. The purchase of the new FDM machine by the Faculty was a result of his advocacy.

The 3D printer, a Fortus 400mc manufactured by Stratasys, cost approximately TT\$1.25 million. It is a rapid prototyping (RP) technology, meaning that it can create 3D objects primarily for prototyping purposes (for example, plastic models of machine parts) although in some cases it can produce functional models. There are 3D printers that can produce a wide array of fully functional items but these models can cost up to three and four times the price of UWI’s new FDM machine.

Nevertheless, Dr. Chowdary has identified several potential opportunities for functional models that can be manufactured by the machine, several of which are on display at the department’s Computer Numerical Control (CNC) Laboratory (the lab houses computer controlled manufacturing machines). Many of them are student projects. These include highly complex medical models like human skulls and other bones, smartphone faces and even functional spanners.

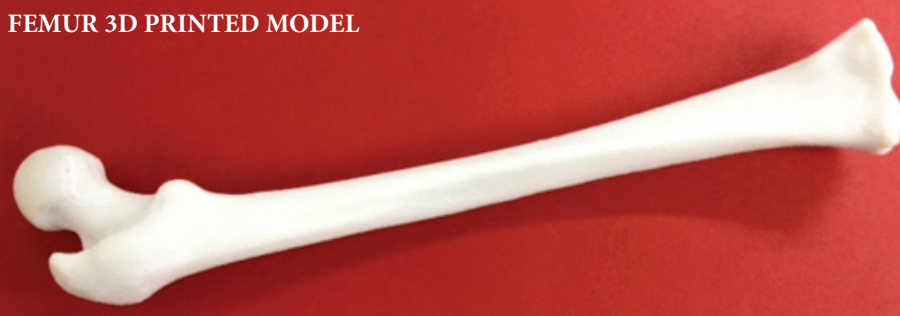
“Although we can only manufacture certain functional items, we can still perform a lot of miracles,” Dr. Chowdary explained. “We are dependent on markets in the US and Europe for so many items. And an item that costs \$10 we are paying almost \$100 per item, as well as the four weeks for delivery. The medical models used in instructing students cost hundreds of thousands of dollars; cadavers are not readily available. Why can’t we make them ourselves?”

But even as a prototyping technology, the FDM machine can generate economy activity and meet some demand for manufactured goods. We live in a world of machines. Indeed, tool use is one of the characteristics that mark us as a species. In our daily lives we either use or come into contact with so many implements and devices that we take their function for granted. But many of them and their

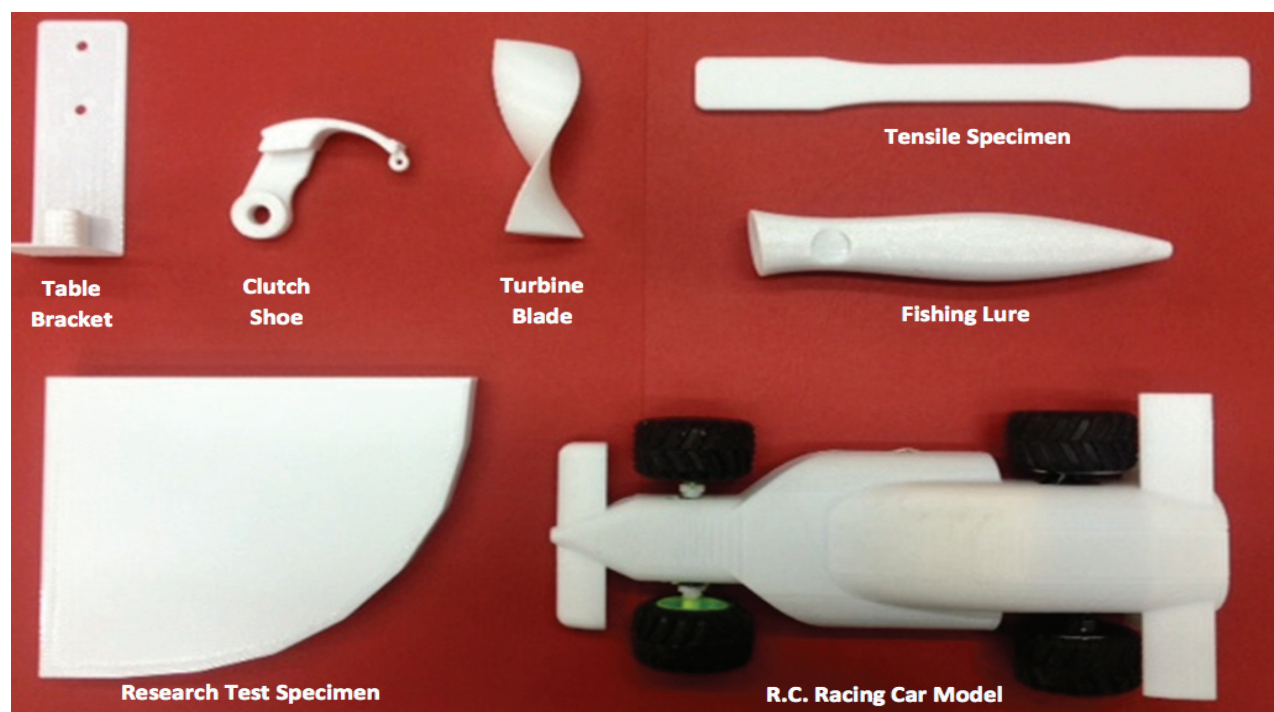
FEMUR CAD MODEL



FEMUR 3D PRINTED MODEL



RESEARCH



components are imported. Without violating intellectual property rights, 3D scanning and printing technology allows us to very easily model and manufacture prototypes for most items. And from these prototypes they can be mass produced.

3D PRINTING AND COMPETITIVENESS

When speaking to members of the Faculty of Engineering concerned with innovation and competitiveness, the importance of “time” is a consistent theme.

“Time is the key,” says Professor Brian Copeland, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering. “You have to get there fast. You do your utmost to get it done to the highest possible standard within the window of opportunity.”

This is one of the main reasons that 3D printing is so compelling to Dr. Chowdary and the MME Department. 3D printers are an “on-demand” technology. For example, a patient with a bone fracture could potentially have the bone scanned, have the scan converted into a 3D image, have that image printed, and provide him with the necessary prosthetic before he leaves the doctor’s office. This is impossible with conventional manufacturing since a prosthetic designed specifically for a patient’s shape, weight and structure would require iterations of models and trials.

Dr. Chowdary says, “When we need to compete internationally, time counts. If we are behind, someone else will take our position.”

Having committed himself to the cause of manufacturing engineering in the region, Dr. Chowdary is an almost exact blend of urgency and patience. In his almost 12 years with the faculty he has seen the progress of manufacturing engineering achieve successes and suffer setbacks. With the support of the Faculty of Engineering, the broader university and even the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, he has overseen the restructuring of the CNC Laboratory; the acquisition of equipment like various CNC machines such as mills, lathes and routers; a 3D scanner and now the 3D FORTUS printer.

In September 2014 the faculty will launch its restructured MSc in Manufacturing Engineering and Management, a research degree programme for both full and part-time students that stresses linkages between the university and industry. The programme, Dr. Chowdary explains, was developed in part to meet the needs of the manufacturing sector:

“We are in touch with the industry since 2004 and

continuously survey the local manufacturing industry operations to find out how we could more effectively support them. What we found, especially among small-scale participants, was that they wanted to implement more advanced and effective technology solutions but could not afford to send their personnel abroad for training. Thus there is a need for trained manufacturing engineers and managers and UWI should work to meet that need.”

It’s been challenging. The discipline of engineering is very much tied to oil and gas, by far Trinidad and Tobago’s most dynamic sector. This has led to inertia in building new courses of study in areas like manufacturing engineering and management which are important for diversification.

“Initially, some people were not enthusiastic,” Dr. Chowdary says. “From their perspective they are right. The country has had a successful oil and gas sector for 20 to 30 years. These are the jobs students are looking for when they graduate. ‘Why struggle with manufacturing?’ they ask me.”

He says, “I tell them that approach is not right. Oil and gas are finite resources. What happens when they are exhausted? Don’t expect overnight that God will come and save the economy. We have to come up with ways and means to generate economic activity. We have to take entrepreneurial kinds of approaches.”

Dr. Chowdary is undeterred, and with the MSc programme and the addition of the 3D scanner and FDM machine to the CNC laboratory, manufacturing engineering has made concrete progress within the university. Currently he is developing plans to target niche areas for manufacturing, such as components for the agriculture, automobile and aerospace industry.

“We are taking small steps, he says, “looking for that area where we can manufacture a competitive product. I want to show the strength of this university and this department, as well as the people of T&T.”

And to truly make it happen, manufacturing engineering’s number one advocate cannot do it alone. If, as is often stated, diversification is urgent and manufacturing is viable, the Department of MME within the Faculty of Engineering at UWI St Augustine is developing a powerful tool for future prosperity. And as any tool it has to be used.

“This is my purpose. This is my aim,” says Dr. Chowdary. “If the stakeholders are ready I am more than willing to share my expertise so that we can make it happen.”

THE FDM PROCESS FDM technology forms 3D objects (specifically rapid prototypes) from computer generated models. A temperature controlled head extrudes from a thermoplastic wire spool that builds an item, 2D layer by 2D layer, until it forms a complete 3D object.

In general, the manufacturing process can be broken into five stages.

1. Create a 3D solid part model through a computer aided design (CAD) package.
2. Export the 3D model to the FDM software in stereo lithography (STL) format.
3. Slice the STL model into 2-dimensional (2D) sections or contours.
4. The 3D printer (FDM) builds the prototype using thermoplastic by applying 2D layer upon layer.
5. Post-process the prototype by cleaning, curing and finishing.

Union Matters

On June 24, we signed the agreement with WIGUT. A historic good moment for our Campus as the agreement was signed within the triennium - without any disruption to classes, exams etc. WIGUT understood the state of the economy and the challenges currently facing The UWI.

Negotiations with the OWTU for revised terms and conditions of employment for both the daily rated and monthly paid workers are ongoing. We are hopeful that the Office of the Chief Personnel Officer will give us the necessary guidelines to conclude these negotiations shortly.



■ THE UWI HONORARY GRADUANDS

Our 20 Honorary Graduands

At the **2014 Graduation Ceremonies of The UWI** 20 honorary doctoral degrees will be conferred on various individuals in recognition of their contributions to Caribbean development: eight at the **St. Augustine Campus**, four at the **Cave Hill Campus**, six at the **Mona Campus**, and two at the **Open Campus**. The honorary awardees are:

THE UWI ST. AUGUSTINE, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

H.E. Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona
*5th President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago,
Trinidad & Tobago - LLD*

Mr. Adrian Camps-Campins
*Historian/Artist,
Trinidad & Tobago - DLitt*

Ms. Catherine Rukmini Kumar
*Business Executive,
Trinidad & Tobago - LLD*

Ms. Rhonda Mary Maingot
*Philanthropist,
Trinidad & Tobago - LLD*

Dr. Robert Moore
*Public Servant/Politician/Writer/Journalist,
Guyana - DLitt*

Mr. Subesh Ramjattan
*Entrepreneur/Philanthropist/Author,
Trinidad and Tobago - DLitt*

Sir Ronald Sanders
*International Consultant/Writer/Former Diplomat,
Guyana - DLitt*

Mrs. McCarthy Linda Sandy-Lewis
("Calypso Rose")
*Calypsonian/Cultural Ambassador,
Trinidad and Tobago - DLitt*

THE UWI CAVE HILL, BARBADOS

Dame Maizie Barker-Welch
*Women's Rights Activist,
Barbados - LLD*

Dame Irina Bokova
*Politician/UNESCO Director General,
Bulgaria - LLD*

Dame Cécile Ellen La Grenade
*Food Scientist,
Grenada - LLD*

Dame Billie Miller
*Politician,
Barbados - LLD*

THE UWI OPEN CAMPUS

Sir Brian G.K. Alleyne
*Diplomat/Lawyer,
Dominica - LLD*

Dr Earl Long
*Parasitologist,
St. Lucia - DSc*

THE UWI MONA, JAMAICA

Mr. Nicholas Brathwaite
*Global Technology Industry Executive, Philanthropist,
United States- DLitt*

Mr. Ryland T. Campbell
*Educator, Banker, Entrepreneur, Philanthropist,
Jamaica- LLD*

Dr Marjorie Patricia Downes-Grant
*President, CEO of Sagcor Life,
Barbados - LLD*

The Hon. Michael Fennell
*Sports Administrator/Retired Business Executive,
Jamaica - LLD*

Professor Alan Jackson
*Scientist,
United Kingdom/Jamaica - DSc*

Mr. Robert Jeremy Poynting
*Founder, Director of Peepal Tree Press,
United Kingdom - DLitt*

UWI Chancellor Sir George Alleyne will confer the degrees at UWI graduation exercises during the months of October and November. As is customary, one of the honorary graduands will address the audience at each of the ceremonies. **The Open Campus** will be the first of the four campuses to host its graduation ceremony on **Saturday October 11** in St Lucia. The graduation ceremony at **Cave Hill, Barbados** will follow on **Saturday October 18** with **St Augustine and Mona** ceremonies hosted on **October 23 through 25 and October 31 through November 1** respectively.



■ THE UWI HONORARY GRADUAND: ADRIAN CAMPS-CAMPINS



Postcards of Legacy

Among our eight honorees this year is **Adrian Camps-Campins**, who has creatively documented national history through the medium of his collection of post cards. "Sugar coated history pills," is how they were described by another historian, Olga Mavrogordato, remarkably apt for the range of charming reproductions of scenes from our colourful past. Mr Camps-Campins has paid special attention to architecture, recording aspects of the country's heritage that are fast disappearing from the landscape. For his contribution to history, art and community spirit, Mr Camps-Campins will be conferred with the D.Litt at the St. Augustine campus Graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Humanities and Education in October 2014. He shared some thoughts on the local landscape with editor, **Vaneisa Baksh**.

VB: *Making cards talk, is indeed what you have done for the better part of your life, your paintings are documents of history in their own right, and your research has added even more value to your postcards of legacy. How early in your life did you find your love for history and your skill at painting?*

AC: From an early age I was exposed to the artistic pursuits of my father, a keen watercolourist who indulged his hobby on the family's annual vacation down the islands; and Harry Bryden, the well-known artist who was married to my cousin, both of whom I tried to emulate. My father, Juan Marius Camps-Campins, was a medical doctor practising in Trinidad for nearly 60 years from 1927. His father had arrived on the island at twelve years old from Barcelona, Spain, and became a cocoa planter. The family lived in Columbus (Tamarind) Square in a building on the site now occupied by William H. Scott Ltd, which served the purpose of a dwelling and a cocoa store and warehouse. Situated immediately east of the Roman Catholic Cathedral, in those days the Square was a leafy retreat with tamarind trees along its length on both the northern and southern sides, providing a very pleasant ambience for people who lived nearby.

The early scenes that I produced included the proverbial cocoa house; Manzanilla Beach; the Maracas, St. Joseph River, and so on, and were for the most part mediocre, but nevertheless a good start. In the mid-sixties, I tried my hand at portraiture in oils done from photographs, and was surprised by the favourable results, to such an extent that I began getting commissions.

Towards the end of the decade I became interested in the history of Trinidad. Once, at Pointe Baleine bay on the western tip of Gasparee Island, I remember being fascinated by the fact that in 1498 no less a person than Christopher Columbus passed by with his three galleons on his way out of the Gulf of Paria through the Bocas del Dragon. I could not get this scene out of my head and was not satisfied until I made a design of the event which became the first printed card I produced.

With the Black Power disturbances of 1970 and the destruction by fire of many parts of the city, I was resolved to put on record these buildings, some

miraculously having escaped destruction, and make the designs into cards. A few years later, I quit my job in insurance to devote myself full-time to this worthwhile pursuit.

VB: *What gave you the confidence, at 31, to give up a senior position in the insurance industry to give everything to your art?*

AC: The fact that what I was producing was slowly being recognised by the public, gave me the confidence to think of giving up a senior position in the insurance industry and devote myself full-time to art.

As it has turned out, I was like the proverbial voice in the wilderness crying out "save our heritage" – a plea often repeated these days but which, alas, falls for the most part on deaf ears.

Many beautiful structures are about to collapse or have partially collapsed, for example, Mille Fleurs and President's House. But there is still some hope which is encouraged by the recent renovations of the George Brown and Boissiere houses on Queen's Park West. May these two well-executed jobs be an example that hopefully will be followed for so many other structures all over the country.

VB: *Do you think enough is being done to preserve the architectural treasures that still exist in the country?*

AC: The immediate response to this question is a resounding NO!

In many parts of Trinidad and Tobago historic buildings worthy of preservation have given way to the demolition gang. Should all of this bother us? Surely in every city, the old perpetually makes way for the new; styles and fashions change. Why hold on mindlessly to buildings which have outlived their purpose? The answer is because they are ours. Because these graceful old buildings speak of Trinidad and Tobago and of Port of Spain and of nowhere else in the world. Because they were made with love and care, as can easily be seen from the gingerbread fretwork, the steep roofs, the turrets and dormers, the crestings and finials, the broad eaves, the occasional vision of joyous eccentricity. Because they were made tall and airy to suit the

climate which they do more effectively than the neon and air conditioning of the Miami-style towers of today. Because they have character and style and beauty in a commercial world short of all three.

Nobody wants some new cumbersome law to turn all buildings of a certain age into unusable museum pieces. But the City Council and the Town and Country Planning Division need the power to say: This is a beautiful and historic building and we are not going to have it knocked down or turned into some aesthetic monstrosity; it must be lived in or used for some sensitive civic and preferably income producing purpose – its character respected. And both these bodies must be forced by architects and people who still care about urban beauty to take an interest in the few historic buildings the capital city has left. That way, the next generation might still be able to see that Trinidad and Tobago once had a real architecture of its own.

VB: *Which of your achievements do you value most?*

AC: Over the years there have been a few "achievements" such as exhibitions; a Unicef card which went on sale internationally; two postage stamps with reproductions of my paintings, etc, but the achievement that I value the most is the fact that through my cards, I have made the public aware of the history of our country and its beautiful and unique architecture, with the hope that it should be respected and preserved.

Obviously I am not the only one who has worked with this goal in mind, but I am grateful to have had a fair measure of success in this direction.

VB: *What does this honorary D.Litt mean to you?*

AC: It is first and foremost a validation and recognition by others of the value of the work I have been doing for the last forty years and I consider it a great honour to have had this honorary doctorate conferred upon me.

It has always been a regret of mine not to have attended a university after leaving secondary school, but I did not quite know what I wanted to do. This way part of my wish has been fulfilled.

■ THE UWI HONORARY GRADUAND: SUBESH RAMJATTAN



A Hand of Hope

Among our eight honorees this year is **Subesh Ramjattan**, philanthropist and entrepreneur. Mr Ramjattan has set up charitable organizations such as the Bridge of Hope, the Kernahan Project, the Annapausis Community, the Family Life and Support Centre, and the Oasis Institute, from which he was conferred with a Doctor of Humane Letters award in 2010. Mr Ramjattan will be conferred with the D.Litt at the St. Augustine campus Graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Medical Sciences in October 2014. He shared some thoughts on his good works with editor, **Vaneisa Baksh**.

VB: *What is the greatest challenge you faced in setting up The Bridge of Hope?*

SR: The Bridge of Hope was established with a faith-based vision to be a model for other childcare providers in Trinidad and Tobago. Debbie [his wife] and I wanted to be change agents and raise the standards for childcare socially, culturally, and morally. We learned that there can be no positive change in the social fabric of the community unless those precipitating the change are also changed as part of the process. The struggle during the early years was learning to deal with abandoned and disadvantaged children. One of the early personal lessons gained from the struggle was that God did not comfort us to be comfortable; but to comfort others. It was always my desire to serve the less fortunate in my home turf along the eastern seaboard.

VB: *How can members of the public help with some of the supporting institutions you oversee?*

SR: My life experience taught me that a vision is more caught than taught, so we constantly challenged others to buy into the vision. The effort was to earn the trust of others and to model the lifestyle we desired in others. We engaged partners and stakeholders in assisting us to promote the ongoing

aspects of the Bridge of Hope. We believe that transparency and accountability are important factors in engaging people in the sustainable development of a project.

Corporations and citizens may be involved in support by volunteering their services and ensuring a fair share contribution. They can also support on an ongoing basis or share a one-time gift or grant for special projects. There are many persons with gifts and talents that must be given an opportunity to share in community projects. We encourage people to share their time as surrogate grandparents for Bridge of Hope children, and also bring their families to the home and interact with the less fortunate children sharing birthdays and special events.

VB: *Which of your achievements do you value most?*

SR: When I review my journey of the past forty years, I value most my effort to improve the quality of life of the needy: perhaps this is my most valued contribution. First there was the House of Marketing, then business ventures in USA, next the return to Trinidad to develop the Anapausis Community, then building the Bridge of Hope for childcare, promoting Family Life Education,

initiating O.A.S.I.S. – Institute of Higher Learning for graduate education, and constructing Olive's House for Eldercare. The effort to improve the quality of life continues with writing books and developing programmes dealing with current women's issues known as Global Women's Inter-reliant NETWORK, and the Anapausis Together/Strong NETWORK, a strategy to organize men for moral excellence and transparency in belief and conduct. We have recently established Bridge of Hope (Kutumb Jyothi) India to assist families in the slum areas and children of construction workers.

VB: *What does this honorary D.Litt mean to you?*

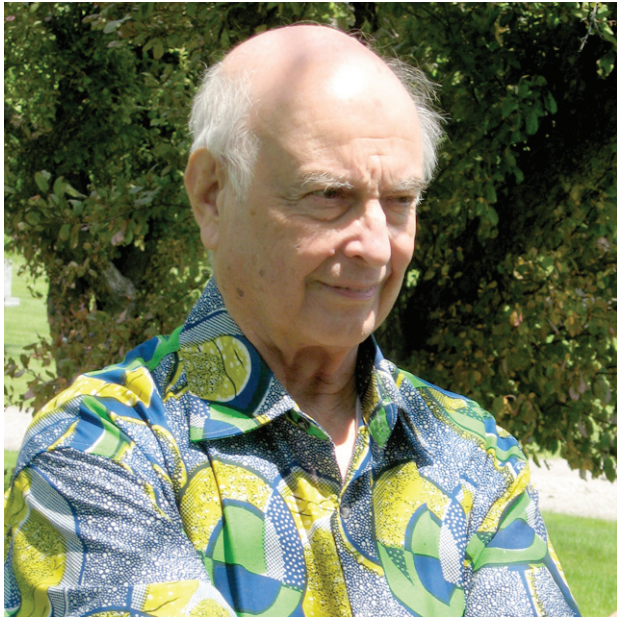
SR: For The University of the West Indies to recognize my faith-based efforts to serve my native country is truly an honour. I firmly believe that charity begins at home and that both my energy and resources are best utilized in developing programmes, projects, organizations, and books that serve the needy and disadvantaged in Trinidad and Tobago. I will humbly accept and wear this recognition as a badge of honour and continue to remind others that hard work can make a difference when you bloom where you were planted. My goal is to convince others that you don't have to make headlines to make a difference.



My life experience taught me that a vision is more caught than taught, so we constantly challenged others to buy into the vision. The effort was to earn the trust of others and to model the lifestyle we desired in others.



■ THE UWI HONORARY GRADUAND: ROBERT MOORE



A Caribbean Contact

Among our eight honorees this year is **Robert Moore**, an educator and broadcaster who has lectured extensively on several issues. Dr Moore, who was named a distinguished graduate of The UWI in 1998, was a Ford Foundation Fellow and was presented with the UWI Vice-Chancellor's Award in 2010. He was a Founding Member of "Caribbean Contact," a regional newspaper which ran for 25 years. Dr Moore will be conferred with the D.Litt at the St. Augustine campus Graduation ceremony for the Faculty of Humanities and Education in October 2014. He shared some thoughts on the regional landscape with editor, **Vaneisa Baksh**.

VB: *What made you choose the field of radio broadcasting?*

RM: I went back to Guyana from the University College of the West Indies in 1955 eager for Guyanese to become aware of the history of the other British colonies in the Caribbean, especially as talk of a federation was in the air. With my new position on the staff of Queen's College, I was brimming over with the desire to teach West Indian history to the students, but was astonished to learn that the curriculum was limited to British and empire history. The Head of the History Department was not interested in changing that focus, and he was supported by the Principal.

That prompted me to contact Rafiq Khan at Radio Demerara with a proposal to find a place somewhere in their monthly broadcasts for a six-minute segment on Guyanese history. He agreed and the public response was overwhelming; such was the hunger among Guyanese for knowledge of their past. Thus the field of radio broadcasting came into my life.

When the Principal realized that the six-minute segment was arousing interest among the public, he summoned me to suggest that we try a weekly lesson in the fourth form on aspects of Guyanese history. And that is how the teaching of West Indian history made its way into the curriculum at Queen's College.

It developed into a full course, with great excitement among the Upper Fourth boys and considerable interest from the parents. That, in turn, stimulated the Radio Demerara audience to ask for more Guyanese and Caribbean history.

Thus began a long and most rewarding relationship between me and Radio Demerara which lasted until I went to Canada as Guyana's High Commissioner.

VB: *How would you say the standards of regional radio broadcasting have fared over time?*

RM: I think radio broadcasting now owes less to the BBC and more to local cultural and regional assumptions than I when I first started. In short, West Indians, right through the Caribbean are being made aware of their past which has been helping them to forge their future.

VB: *What are your thoughts on the current state of CARICOM and regionalism – how relevant are both?*

RM: This is a very difficult question to deal with. West Indian educators have been trying, over the past 40 years, to make students more aware of their environment and their own past. I believe that the seductive power of North American culture and its easy accessibility through the media makes it a very strong rival to the understanding of the West Indians about their history and collective culture. Much has been done in the last four decades, but the North American competition is very strong.

The most positive thing about CARICOM is its capacity for survival, even as the allure of the United States often takes many of our finest thinkers away from the Caribbean. This makes it a constant struggle to assert our own mores in the face of such competition. At its inception,

CARICOM was considered to be an excellent medium for West Indian cultural and economic independence. But current models may have stalled in the wake of American and European influence on regional economy and capacity. The fact is that some Caribbean states seem to prefer dealing with the world at large on their own terms and invoke CARICOM when the complexities of these times make it difficult to achieve their goals unilaterally. UWI decentralization is reaching a growing number of Caribbean students through regional campuses and distinctly more relevant courses. This gives the university a greater capacity to nurture a Caribbean comity and regional identity with skills and commitment to help the region find its place within globalization.

VB: *Which of your achievements do you value most?*

RM: It is the organic mix of my academic and diplomatic achievements with my global experiences that have had a great effect in my life. My formative years gave me both a love of language and a pride in my Guyanese heritage. My UWI years gave me a regional outlook and opened the way for a more global consciousness which is very important at this particularly point of time in history.

VB: *What does this honorary D.Litt mean to you?*

RM: This honour has come to me at age 82, and has inspired me to reflect on my achievements to date and the importance of UWI in defining many of the paths I have taken. It has woven together various experiences I have had and the effect that they may have had on me. If my pedagogue's life has helped others to expand their own horizons to work within a world that is rapidly becoming smaller by communications and larger by responsibility to each other, then I can rest satisfied that my life has not been in vain.

My UWI years gave me a regional outlook and opened the way for a more global consciousness which is very important at this particularly point of time in history.

UWI CALENDAR of EVENTS

AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2014

MEDIATION TRAINING WORKSHOPS

August 12-15, 2014
St. Augustine Campus

The Department of Behavioural Sciences hosts two Mediation Training Workshops from August 12-15, 2014, at the Faculty of Social Sciences lounge:

Industrial Relations and Negotiations in Mediation

August 12-13, 2014

Peer Mediation

August 14-15, 2014

Each workshop is geared towards a different target audience. Both professionals and students are welcome to register.

For more information,
please visit the Campus Events Calendar at
www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar

AMAZONIAN WILDLIFE

August 17-22, 2014
The UWI, UTT

The Department of Food Production hosts XICIMFAUNA the 11th Conference on Management of Amazonian Wildlife: Alternative Sustainable Conservation & Utilization Methods for Neo-tropical Animals at the campuses of The UWI and the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). This is the first year the conference will be held in an English-speaking country.

For more information,
please visit www.xicimfauna.org

RHYTHM AND SOUND

August 16, 2014
UWI Open Campus

The Department of Creative and Festival Arts (DCFA) Musical Arts Unit in conjunction with the Music Therapy Association of Trinidad and Tobago host the Inaugural Music Therapy Conference: Healing through Rhythm and Sound.

For further information,
please contact Mr. Satanand Sharma
at 776-8756, or Ms. Martina Chow at 464-2870.

GUILD ORIENTATION 2014

Aug 27th-September 5th, 2014
St. Augustine Campus

The UWI Guild Fest is the UWI St. Augustine Student Guild's orientation event. It is another component of the First Year Experience (FYE), The UWI's year-long orientation programme. The Guild Fest welcomes students to The UWI, and exposes them to out-of-classroom learning through club membership and other initiatives. It takes place at the Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC).

For more information,
please visit www.sta.uwi.edu/fye

MATRICULATION AND WELCOME CEREMONY

September 18, 2014
St. Augustine Campus

At the beginning of each academic year, The UWI hosts a Matriculation Ceremony for its new students. It is an important annual academic ritual, its significance being that it is the platform on which new students are officially initiated into and recognised as members of the University's academic community. The UWI St. Augustine holds its annual Matriculation and Welcome Ceremony on Thursday September 18, 2014, at 5pm, at the JFK Quadrangle.

For more information,
please visit the Campus Events Calendar at
www.sta.uwi.edu/news/ecalendar



FIRST YEAR EXPERIENCE - UWI LIFE 2014

August 28-30, 2014
UWI SPEC, St. Augustine Campus

As part of the year-long student orientation programme, First-Year Experience, UWI kicks things off in August with a three-day event that welcomes the estimated 5,000 undergraduate students entering the institution in the 2014/2015 academic year. The programme consists of three sessions geared towards family and supporters of the enrollees, part-time and mature students and first-year undergraduate students. Activities during the programme will include lectures, forums, games, giveaways and musical performances.

CAMPUS TOURS

August 18-29, 9am to 2pm
Faculty Tours for all new first year students

CHECK-IN

August 23-24
Weekend orientation activities for regional and international students

KNOW YOUR FACULTY

August 25-27, September 2-5
Orientation events for Faculties

UWI LIFE SUPPORT

August 28, 6pm
For parents, guardians and spouses

UWI LIFE STUDENT AND INFORMATION VILLAGE

August 29, 9am
For first year/first-time undergraduate students

UWI LIFE PRIME

September 4th, 9.30am
For mature, evening and postgraduate students

For more information,
please visit www.sta.uwi.edu/fye

**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

