The year was 1985. Queen Elizabeth II, formally known as the Visitor to The UWI according to Article Six of the 1972 Royal Charter, was paying a visit to the Campus, and the red carpet was laid out for her to exercise her Royal right to “inspect the University, its buildings, laboratories and general work, equipment and also the examination, teaching and other activities of the University.” It was the year when the transition was made for Acting Principal Maxwell Richards to become Principal of the St. Augustine Campus. A rather slender looking Principal Richards is at her side, while immediately behind them from left was the first President of the Republic, Sir Ellis Clarke, and the Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Aston Zachariah Preston, who held the position from 1974, until his death in 1986. For more on the late Professor Max Richards, please see our centerspread.
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#BeUWI
A Year of Change, Re-invention and Innovation

2018 will be a good year. As with any new beginning, we have the chance to re-invent ourselves and to seize those opportunities that will present themselves in this New Year. 2018 also marks the 70th Anniversary of The University of the West Indies and its service and leadership in the Caribbean Region. We, the Staff, Faculty, Students, and our network of more than 120,000 Alumni, can be justly proud of our accomplishments to date. UWI graduates are represented at the highest levels of the public and private sectors, and among all the professions. From one century to the next, The UWI has remained committed to advancing learning, creating knowledge, and fostering innovation for a sustainable Caribbean.

Some six months ago, The UWI launched a Faculty of Sport which would oversee the development of a Sport Academy on each of our four Campuses – Cave Hill, Mona, Open, and St. Augustine. The St. Augustine Campus is actively engaged in the process of establishing its Academy, called the Academy of Sport and Physical Education (ASPE). The rationale for ASPE continues on our philosophy for national and regional sport programmes as evidenced by our very well-known Sport and Physical Education Centre (SPEC) over the years. SPEC, a multifaceted academic sport and physical education tertiary level unit, was designed to be at the forefront of tertiary level sport development, sport academics and physical education in the Caribbean. Commissioned in 2003, it was then a different concept and a first in Trinidad and Tobago where people were more familiar with competitive stadia rather than a sport facility functioning like any other teaching and learning unit within a University.

After 14 years, it is time to reset the framework for the continued development of Sport and Physical Education in a scenario where sport, sport academics, and physical education have even more relevance in our region. The Academies of the Faculty of Sport are mandated to offer all types of programmes that will build physical literacy, primarily through physical education, for all citizens. Physical literacy, for those who are not aware, is defined as ‘the motivation, confidence, physical competence, knowledge and understanding to value and take responsibility for engagement in physical activities for life’ (http://physicalliteracy.ca/physical-literacy/). ASPE's focus and mission will be on providing all-inclusive programmes that emphasize and promote physical literacy and on preparing exceptional Sport and Physical Education professionals for successful sport careers. It will aim at inculcating a culture of personal responsibility for physical literacy so that individuals freely choose to be active on a regular basis. This involves prioritizing and sustaining involvement in a range of meaningful and personally challenging activities, as an integral part of one's lifestyle. The Academy’s place should always be at the forefront of tertiary level Caribbean development in sport and physical education.

The community engagement plan of the St. Augustine Campus makes it an imperative that it hears, reaches out and personally challenging activities, as an integral part of

2018 has to be a year of change, of re-invention, and of innovation. Even as the economic uncertainty continues, it is already shaping up to be an exciting year for the St. Augustine Campus of The UWI. In treating with these uncertainties, Campus Management continues to systematically engage with stakeholders, including the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago which has always been very supportive of The UWI.
“Good chocolate is like a good piece of music,” says Dr. Darin Sukha: as you sample it, you’ll experience different flavour notes which combine to make a memorable harmony. It’s like an aria of taste, or meditating with your mouth: a quiet adventure in sensory pleasure.

Fruity or floral, roasted or subtly spicy, the possibilities of chocolate flavours are endless. Some chocolates may have hints of jasmine or salty caramel, while others may seem into your tastebuds like dark velvet rum at midnight. But it takes skill, knowledge, imagination, and excellent cocoa beans to achieve true deliciousness.

Flavour, like smell, is deeply linked to our emotions and memories. In cocoa beans, almost everything helps shape the flavour, starting from the genetic makeup of the cocoa plant, to the soil from which the plant draws nutrients, to the quality of the sunshine and the rainfall, “terroir” as the French call it. After you collect the beans, how you choose to ferment, dry, and process them to best bring out their body and richness is especially important for developing flavours.

With a passion for cocoa and fine chocolate, Dr. Sukha leads the Food Technology Team at the Cocoa Research Centre (CRC) at UWI St. Augustine. He is very excited about the new chocolate factory in Mt Hope which is soon to be built. It has been his dream.

At the time of this interview, he was in Brazil, testing new machinery for the chocolate factory. The factory will be part of the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre (IFCIC), a project being partly funded by a €2 million grant from the European Union/African, Caribbean and Pacific Science and Technology Fund.

The IFCIC is the brainchild of plant genetics expert, Professor Pathmanathan Umaharan, who leads the Cocoa Research Centre tucked away in a wing of the Frank Stockdale building at The UWI. The IFCIC aims to rejuvenate our cocoa sector by helping to develop and spread better technologies, skills and quality products, as well as seed a lively, delicious, indigenous cocoa culture. IFCIC partners include the European Union, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the ACP Science & Technology Programme, The UWI, and the Caribbean Fine Cocoa Forum.

The IFCIC will comprise a chocolate factory, a business incubator facility, a living museum of cocoa plants, a cocoa tourism centre, a restaurant, kitchen and labs, and a Chocolate Academy for courses in chocolate making.

In Brazil, chocolate tempering for moulding: The chocolate factory will produce cocoa nibs, cocoa liquor (the unsweetened liquid base for chocolate), and couverture or finished chocolate (both dark and milk).

“While bulk cocoa beans, which are 95% of the market, might sell for about US $2,000/ton, fine flavour beans (5% of the cocoa market) sell for US$5,000-US$10,000/ton,” says a senior CRC staffer.

There’s much money to be made from cocoa’s most popular product, chocolate. Chocolate is one of the best-loved foods on the planet, with global retail sales of US$101 billion in 2015. But so far, the lion’s share of cocoa profits is being made by a few big multinational chocolate manufacturers and retailers in the global north, such as Mars Inc (USA), Mondelez International (USA), Nestle SA (Switzerland), and Ferrero Group (Luxembourg/Italy).

As T&T cannot compete with big bulk chocolate firms, it makes sense to focus on high-end, high-quality niche cocoa products. The IFCIC chocolate factory is one step towards this. It aims to boost local expertise in making excellent, unique home-made chocolate and other cocoa products.

To accomplish this requires several things, including access to good and plentiful local cocoa stocks, training in manufacturing processes, access to a factory, and developing the craft and taste sensibility to discern, enjoy and make good chocolate flavours. Genetic research into the cocoa plant itself can help develop better tasting, resilient varieties.

The Cocoa Research Centre has had a head start on such genetic research. It is home to the International Cocoa Genebank, the largest collection of cocoa varieties in the world, with 2,200 varieties. The CRC also has more than 80 years of research under its belt through its previous incarnations as the Cocoa Research Unit, and the Cocoa Research Scheme (formed in 1930 under the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture). In addition to its scientific research, the CRC also provides certification, post-harvest support, chocolate-making support, DNA fingerprinting, breeding support and disease screening, paid services for clients throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, earning some useful foreign exchange. And it has been running its own tiny in-house chocolate factory in UWI since 2012, making a 70% dark chocolate bar from local cocoa.

Prof Umaharan has long had a vision for the huge potential development of not only the T&T cocoa industry, but also the local anthurium and hot pepper sectors. But visions remain dreams until they are funded. So Prof Umaharan, six years ago, on behalf of the CRC, applied to the UWI’s RDI Fund to do a special project on the genetic control and identifying markers for some specific cocoa traits. The project, approved in 2012, looked at cocoa yield, pod characteristics, disease resistance, cadmium bioaccumulation, rooting characteristics and flavour.

The project has since become a rising star among UWI’s RDI-funded projects because its findings attracted significant additional external funding to support more...
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

CRC work. For instance, it helped attract the EU/ACP €2.6 million funding to help build the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre, of which the chocolate factory is just one component. It also helped secure €500,000 in funding from ECA/CAOBISCO/FCC for a five-year project on mitigation of cadmium in cocoa, which is a growing health concern. And the MARS chocolate company is funding a joint cocoa genome sequencing project, where the CRC/UWI has partnered with Stanford University in the USA.

Although funding has enabled the Centre to move ahead with its projects, those funds are fairly depleted, and there’s still a long way to go: Trinidad’s yields of dried cocoa beans, for example, are terrible: “In all T&T cocoa farms, the trees are aging. You get maybe 150 kg/hectare; compare that to 4,000 kg/hectare in some other countries,” comments Prof Umaharan. “Farmers here are still planting cocoa how they used to in the 1800s.” On many levels, the cocoa industry needs help.

The chocolate factory is just the beginning.

Cocoa in Trinidad: Quick Facts
(1 metric tonne = 2,204.62 lbs)

- Trinidad is famous for its fine flavour Trinitario cocoa beans used in premium and single origin cocoa products.
- Cocoa was once our number one crop. In 1921, T&T produced 33,590 metric tonnes of cocoa. Compare that to 2015, with only 350 metric tonnes. (Source: https://www.cocoa-republic.com)
- Reasons for the huge decline included overproduction and glut which reduced the prices; the Great Depression of the 1920s which reduced the markets; the 1928 Witches’ Broom disease which drastically cut plant yields; and the rise of the local oil industry, which sucked up available labour, as folks fled agriculture to get jobs in industry.
- Today in T&T, there are about 1,300 small farmers (30 acres or less); 10 medium sized farmers (250-500 acres); and five large farmers (1,000 acres) who still plant cocoa.
- Lucrative niche markets and the need to develop more diverse, sustainable sources of national income are both prompting interest in revitalizing the cocoa sector.

MORE INFO
Cocoa Research Centre
https://sta.uwi.edu/cru/index.asp • Tel: 662-8788
International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre (IFCIC)
http://ifcic.center/
http://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/archive/april_2009/article10.asp

Dr Darin Sukha tests the Batch Knife Mill during his visit to Brazil.

For the Caribvision Channel listing or to view online, go to www.uwitv.org
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**Breakout year for research**

**BY JOEL HENRY**

In January 2018, the Government of Barbados launched a national food planting programme. At its launch, Chief Agriculture Officer, Lennox Chandler, said Barbadians needed “to be in control of what they eat, in terms of how it is grown, what it is used to produce and they should be able to feed themselves from within the four corners of the island in case some catastrophe occurs...”

His statements could be a manifesto for the entire region.

There is a growing consensus on the need for a new Caribbean agriculture. The region needs an agriculture sector that can address its massive food import bills (estimated at over $4 billion in Trinidad and Tobago in 2014 alone). It needs to revitalise agriculture-driven economies and increase diversity in others. It needs greater resiliency in the face of disasters such as the devastating hurricanes of 2017. It needs to compete and win.

Mindful of this, researchers at UWI St. Augustine’s Faculty of Food and Agriculture (FFA) have dedicated their efforts to finding solutions for a Caribbean renaissance in agriculture. Their work is pregnant with potential: microorganism-based pest and disease controls, using earthworms in the development of organic fertilisers, systems for supporting farmers after natural disasters, and much more.

Researchers from the FFA are currently working on most of the most pressing issues affecting food, farming and the business of agriculture.

“We are the premier agricultural research organisation in the region,” says Dr. Wayne Ganpat, Dean of the FFA. “The faculty does a lot of work.”

In 2018, Dr. Ganpat and the FFA’s focus will also include greater outreach: “We have a lot to contribute to solving the food security issues in the region. We want people to know they can come to us. On the other hand we have to go out there and make a more coordinated effort to find the research needs. At present we discern them. We look at government policies throughout the region and we try to understand them and respond. But we can do better.”

Appointed Dean in August 2016, Dr. Ganpat is well-suited to the task of bringing the Faculty’s research out of the laboratory and into the farming fields and policy offices. Both his academic and professional careers are based in agricultural extension, the transfer of research through education and outreach to farming communities. He is essentially a Dean and communications expert rolled into one.

“We have a great deal of research but not enough outreach,” he says. “Outreach is a major need. We have close to half a million farmers throughout the region. Then think about all the people who depend on farming for their livelihood. It could be a couple million. Who is going to get this research out to them?”

In November 2017, the FFA held a Research Day on the St. Augustine Campus to highlight the work of the Faculty. They also published the “Faculty of Food and Agriculture Research Digest,” which includes abstracts and summaries of 100 projects being undertaken by staff and students. FFA research also forms part of the techAGRI Expo. First held in March 2017, this three-day event highlights the innovation and entrepreneurship potential of the sector.

“TechAGRI will happen again this year on an even bigger scale,” Dr. Ganpat promises.

He sees a major part of the FFA’s role as advocacy for agriculture, which has been stigmatised as hard, low-tech labour. Through research, not only can new labour and cost-saving technologies and processes be implemented, a new type of food production professional can develop.

“Farmers in the region can produce very well. What we need is to get agriculture to the next stage; to add value,” he says. “We need to market our industry properly. We need to make new products from our produce. That’s what our students should be focusing on. Our students should be getting involved in the stages beyond production.”

And beyond outreach and public awareness, Dr. Ganpat recognises the need to get the FFA’s research into the hands of the decision-makers: “We have to start producing policy briefs. We must get our work into the hands of the ministers of agriculture and permanent secretaries in readable form. That’s the next step. We can take published research and make it presentable to the policymakers.”

He adds: “I liken it to when you see vendors selling those bottles of huge grain nuts on the highway. You buy it and when you go home and shake it nothing comes out. We have all this research and not enough of it is getting past that bottleneck. We have to explode the bottleneck.”

FAA research is part of the techAGRI Expo, which ran for three days in 2017, to show off innovation and the entrepreneurship potential of the sector. It will be bigger this year.

**Research to Watch**

**UWI is brimming with research**

How do we produce robust, bountiful and disease-free crops without the use of pesticides? This is the question that informs the work of the Agriculturally Important Microorganisms (AIMs) project. AIMs has done incredible work in developing biofertilisers and pest and disease controllers. Look for major announcements on the team’s results this year and the development of commercial opportunities for their use.

**Worm fertilizer**

“Vermicomposting” is the term for using worm manure, among other materials, to create powerful fertilisers in organic farming. An FFA team is working to assess the suitability of Trinidad earthworms for vermicomposting and their findings show that local species are actually better for local soil. This is a promising breakthrough for the development of local organic farming.

**Bringing citrus back**

Once upon a time Trinidad was a major producer of citrus fruits. The UWI intends to make that time come again. The FFA has established an eight-acre citrus orchard at the South Campus, using advanced design, technology and processes. The goal is to revive this once great industry and make a dent in the over $50 million import market for frozen citrus concentrate.

**Apps for agriculture**

AGRINETT is an award-winning research project that consists of a full suite of smartphone applications for farmers and other players in the agriculture sector. RDI-funded, the project was developed by the Department of Computing and Information Technology in collaboration with the FFA. Not only has AGRINETT developed powerful technology tools for the sector, the team is actively in the field introducing the apps and training communities in their use.
In 1989, during the tenure of Professor George Maxwell Richards as Campus Principal, he translated his love of Trinidad and Tobago and its culture into what is now a major annual fund-raiser of The UWI Development and Endowment Fund (UWIDEF). The ‘UWI Fete’, which took place on January 14, has been credited as one of his initiatives. At that time, the Caribbean and Latin America were in the midst of what was called the ‘Debt Crisis’ – incomes and imports dropped; economic growth stagnated; unemployment rose; and inflation reduced the buying power of the middle classes.

Today, the economic downturn is compounded by the devastation wrought by climate change, resulting in increasingly severe storms in the Caribbean. Now, like then, the impact of the economic scenario has been tremendous on students.

The St. Augustine Campus records show that for more than two decades, thousands of students have benefitted from this signature event. In 1992, UWIDEF offered 19 bursaries; in 2017, that figure was 210. Among the many reasons for which the University and this region are grateful for the service of Professor George Maxwell Richards, this is surely a major one.
On Tuesday morning, the St. Augustine Campus Community of The University of the West Indies paid respect to their former Principal when staff, faculty, and students lined the way as the public cortège drove through the St. Augustine Campus, along a route that included the Max Richards Building – Faculty of Engineering, the JFK Undercroft, the Campus Principal’s Office, and the Main Administration Building.

While Professor George Maxwell Richards, former President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, belonged to the people of Trinidad and Tobago for the 10 years he served as its fourth President, we at the St. Augustine Campus consider that he belonged to us first and always will. He is ‘our’ Max. He was, quite coincidentally, the fourth Principal of the UWI St. Augustine Campus. He also served as Dean of Engineering from 1974 to 1979. Indeed, he was Dean when I graduated from that Faculty in 1978.

This year marks the 70-year milestone of The University of the West Indies. As one of only two regional universities globally, this institution has been completely committed to enhancing every aspect of Caribbean development and improving the well-being of the people of this region. And, as we mourn the passing of Professor George Maxwell Richards, we are mindful that he was also a scholar, a colleague, a leader and, most of all, an avowed patriot and lover of all things Trinidad and Tobago and Caribbean. He exemplified our 70 years of leadership and of service.

I have spoken to several colleagues and friends of Professor Richards, from former Campus Principals, administrative staff and lab technicians, and this tribute is truly a compendium and a representation of the feelings of our Campus Community.

Professor Max Richards was a thoughtful, fair-minded and approachable servant leader throughout his many years at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. He came to academia from industry, and understood the vital connection between academic study and practical exposure and experience.

Professor Richards was one of a small group of engineers, including Professors Emeriti Ken Julien, Desmond Imbert, and Harry Phelps, who established the Faculty of Engineering, saving it from collapse soon after its birth when the UN-funded academics left en masse. They went on to grow the St. Augustine Campus’ Faculty of Engineering to national, regional, and international recognition as a top-class Faculty for educating engineers from the Caribbean and the wider world and a main driver of this region’s industrial development. It was during Professor Richards’ stint as Dean that the Faculty began its major infrastructural expansion.

Engineers are trained to be rational, yet innovative thinkers and to take managed risks. This training would come in handy when he became Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the St. Augustine Campus from 1985 to 1996.

It was a financially challenging time. Yet he was the right man at the right time to steer our Campus in that period of financial hardship and general uncertainty of the late 1980s and early 1990s, with unfailing calm, affability, and good humour. Through remarkable efforts, ingenuity and risk-taking, Professor Richards not only ensured the relatively smooth continued operations of the Campus but, indeed, achieved growth.

His ability to engage the corporate sector through The UWI Development and Endowment Fund and to forge a unique brand for The UWI Fête has guaranteed its continued success for more than two decades. Even after retirement and as President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, he continued to lend his esteem and support to us at The UWI.

During his stint as Principal, Professor Richards played a major role in establishing the UWI Institute of Business which later became the Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business and is now the Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business. He served as its first board chairman from 1989 to 1996. In keeping with his vision for the University he strove to establish the framework required to bridge the academia and practice in the word of business. The Max Richards Drive that leads to the main entrance at ALJGSB was so named for his invaluable contribution.

In 2003, the qualities I have enumerated above, his experience, and expertise, would give him the confidence to take up the mantle as this Republic’s first President without a law degree – serving two terms. His words at that second inauguration on March 17, 2008 were as indicative of the man as they were of his love for the country and, in particular, young people.

In committing to serve with ‘impartiality, independence, even-handedness, and objectivity’, Professor Max Richards also pointed out that the ‘underpinnings of strong statehood’ in Trinidad and Tobago were not as ‘sound’ as they should be especially in relation to the younger generations. A state, he said, ‘that has not been divided by war and famine and which fails to achieve its full potential is also a failed state’.

His charge to us then, as it surely must be now, is that this country must maximise all its opportunities and good fortune to survive and to grow.

On behalf of The University of the West Indies, particularly the St. Augustine Campus, I extend sincere condolences to his wife, Dr. Jean Ramjohn-Richards, and to his children, Mark and Maxine.

May his soul rest in peace.
The granting of a new Royal Charter converting us from a University College, teaching for degrees, marks the completion of our period of apprenticeship. It recognizes that excellent foundations have been laid over the past fourteen years. The College has achieved a reputation for high academic standards, and can now go forward in confidence on its own.

We must forever be grateful to the University of London for the part it has played in helping to make this reputation. The University of London did more than just set examination papers and mark the results. It helped us to recruit staff and every year sent some of its own Professors to visit us. It also advised over a wider range of problems. The apprentice system is valuable, and we profited greatly by it.

The University of London accommodated us by modifying its syllabuses to suit local requirements. This is more successful in some departments than in others. For example, Physics is the same wherever you study it, so are the Classics, Mathematics or French. Other subjects are difficult to adapt, whether because the subject matter is different or because the purpose of the training is different. Britain is an industrial, urbanized, racially homogenous community, with small closely knit families while the West Indies is agricultural, rural and racially mixed, with a unique family system. No amount of modification could produce a social science syllabus which fitted both Britain and the West Indies. Or if you take Medicine, the London medical degree includes neither Public Health nor Psychiatry, since in Britain both these fields are left to specialists. But in the West Indies we train a doctor who goes out into the country for his first job, and may find himself doing both Public Health work and Psychiatry, so we need these subjects in our medical training. Having the right to devise our own syllabuses will make only marginal difference to some subjects such as Engineering, or Chemistry, but it will be quite significant in the biological and the social sciences.

It will also make quite a difference in the Final Honours year. Honours students are supposed to come up to the frontier of knowledge in some part of their subject; to be familiar with the latest researches, and to see how the subject is advanced. Here the research which the teachers are doing spills over into their teaching. Since different teachers are doing different researches, you cannot regulate this be having a standard syllabus. Each Final Honours teacher must decide what he is going to teach and frame his examinations accordingly. To the students this is the most exciting part of their work, because here they see their subject actually being made. Our new freedom will therefore virtually add a new dimension to the teaching of our Final Honours classes.

The quality of the University will also be upgraded in another way, namely, that we shall now be able to have a large body of postgraduate students. As an external College of London, the University College could register a student for a Master's or a Doctor's degree only if he already had a Bachelor's degree of the University of London. If a graduate of Oxford or Manchester or Harvard presented himself, we couldn't take him. Now, most universities build up their graduate schools by taking students from other universities. You send your own students to another university for postgraduate work, and take in postgraduate students from elsewhere. Today there are more than 4,000 West Indians taking Bachelor's degrees in universities overseas. The sensible place for them to do their postgraduate work is here, where researches of special West Indian relevance are going on. We plan to have two to three hundred graduate students immediately – that is out next big step forward. It will make a big difference to us academically, since the academic core of a good university is its postgraduate teaching and research. And it will also make a big difference to the general life of our students to have a large body of mature postgraduates around. This is much the most important effect of getting a new charter, and much the most important reason we needed to get a new charter as soon as possible.

The life and work of Sir W. Arthur Lewis was celebrated by The UWI on January 23, 2018. Sir Arthur Lewis Day was celebrated with a Symposium and a lecture by the Vice-Chancellor of Durham University, Professor Stuart Corbridge, on “Sir W. Arthur Lewis and the Possibility of Development.” Sir William Lewis (1915–1991), was known for his work as an economist and as a Nobel Prize winner (1979). He also served as the Principal of the University College of the West Indies (UCWI) and was the first Vice-Chancellor of The UWI (1959–1963).
“We enjoyed our years,” says Mrs. Sandra Yates-Corbie with a smile.

The years she is referring to are those of her undergraduate degree at UWI St. Augustine, where she and several young women were some of the pioneering students to attend the fledgling university. Among those early students was Mrs. Lyris Hodge-Christian, her classmate and lifelong friend. I sat down with both ladies to hear their story, that of young people at a young university in the young republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

“I think UWI really made a lot of things possible for us,” says Mrs. Yates-Corbie. The year was 1964, one year after the creation of the College of Arts and Science at St. Augustine. As described in an article in the November 2017 issue of UWI Today (https://sta.uwi.edu/uwitoday/article1.asp) the College was established in 1963, joining the Faculties of Agriculture and Engineering.

Even though the College was untested and had very limited resources, it offered students who could not study abroad a chance at a quality tertiary education. And many jumped at it.

“We knew for a long time that we wanted to go to university but we didn’t have the opportunity at that time,” says Mrs. Yates-Corbie. “Fortunately for us, UWI opened just as we were graduating from secondary school.”

The UWI was growing fast. In his message in the UWI publication “Pelican Annual 1965,” Pro Vice-Chancellor Sir Dudley Huggins wrote: “The student population was 67 in 1960-61, 96 in 1961-62, 583 in 1963-64, and 800 in 1964-65.”

Pointing out the “strains” that the influx caused on the campus resources, he went on to say that “the driving force has been our conviction of the need for an increase in the number of our people with skills.”

Speaking to UWI students throughout the region, Vice-Chancellor Philip Sherlock said at the time that “there should be more of you here.” He pointed to university research that showed the West Indies had only 10,000 university-trained personnel according to a 1960 census, a figure that was less that 1% of the population. He compared this to Canada (8%) and the US (13%).

“Outside our gates therefore stand many young West Indians who would not be here. ” He pointed to university research that showed the students on campus today. They recalled the student march against the apartheid government of Rhodesia and the annual campus calypso competition.

Veteran composer Alvin Danieli, at the time a young engineering student, was a regular fixture. To varying degrees, the ladies were involved as well.

“I was the Mighty Sandy,” Mrs. Yates-Corbie says.

Mrs. Hodge-Christian shrugs, “the most I would have done was a little back-ups for people.”

But even though there was great fun on campus, the students had come to get their degrees and find a career afterwards. They were very focused in pursuit of their goal.

“Many of us came from large families so we had an innate sense of responsibility that we had to get this thing done and not ask our parents for one cent,” says Mrs. Corbie.

Friends and classmates in the languages programme, they also were co-workers at the UWI library and the old Central Library in Port of Spain.

“There was closeness,” says Mrs. Hodge-Christian. 

“We looked out for each other. The friends we made there are friends you keep for life.”

You can hear it in their conversation as they share stories and recall memories. Names go flying by – Shirley, Ozzie, Alva. They speak of the old Guild Hall where they ate lunch. They laugh at a crazy adventure that would not be out of place among the students on campus today. They recalled the student march against the apartheid government of Rhodesia.

By its second year, the College of Arts and Sciences was holding some of the classes at a prefabricated structure (the Arcon building) on Agostini Street. The late Robert Wallace Thompson, Chairman of the Division of Humanities, said “our college will soon have completed its second year. Its first year was one of struggle but in spite of a shortage of accommodation, staff and texts our entire centre had the highest number of successful candidates in the qualifying examinations in 1964.”

Language students made up the largest group at the College but it was still a very small and close-knit university community. It included not only young people just out of school but also professionals who had already been working as teachers in the educational system at the primary level.

As intended, one of the major effects of the opening of university education to more Trinidadians was the creation of a new generation of educators who went on to fill posts as teachers, vice principals and principals at the secondary level. Mrs. Hodge-Christian has had a long and successful career as a teacher, trainer and human resource professional. Mrs. Yates-Corbie has been a teacher at several schools, completing her career as Vice Principal at Holy Faith Convent.

They are hard-pressed to find even one bad memory from their UWI days. “Time tends to temper bad memories,” says Mrs. Hodge-Christian. “I can’t really think of anything that was bad.”

Mrs. Corbie agreed, “in those days when you got to campus you just felt happy.”

Their sentiments bring to mind the words of Vice-Chancellor Sir Philip Sherlock, a renowned historian and writer:

“Cherish and love this university, because despite its many imperfections, it represents those values that we hold most dear, fellowship between our peoples, freedom of inquiry, excellence in the endeavours of the mind, unselfish devotion to knowledge, and insight into the human heart.”

Mrs. Hodge-Christian says, “in order to not bother my parents for money for things like transportation I worked. During the vacation we always worked.”

By its second year, the College of Arts and Sciences was holding some of the classes at a prefabricated structure (the Arcon building) on Agostini Street. The late Robert Wallace Thompson, Chairman of the Division of Humanities, said “our college will soon have completed its second year. Its first year was one of struggle but in spite of a shortage of accommodation, staff and texts our entire centre has the highest number of successful candidates in the qualifying examinations in 1964.”

Language students made up the largest group at the College but it was still a very small and close-knit university community. It included not only young people just out of school but also professionals who had already been working as teachers in the educational system at the primary level.

As intended, one of the major effects of the opening of university education to more Trinidadians was the creation of a new generation of educators who went on to fill posts as teachers, vice principals and principals at the secondary level. Mrs. Hodge-Christian has had a long and successful career as a teacher, trainer and human resource professional. Mrs. Yates-Corbie has been a teacher at several schools, completing her career as Vice Principal at Holy Faith Convent.

They are hard-pressed to find even one bad memory from their UWI days. “Time tends to temper bad memories,” says Mrs. Hodge-Christian. “I can’t really think of anything that was bad.”

Mrs. Corbie agreed, “in those days when you got to campus you just felt happy.”

Their sentiments bring to mind the words of Vice-Chancellor Sir Philip Sherlock, a renowned historian and writer:

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Perhaps you have a document that you need to translate from a foreign language into English (or from English to another language), but you don’t know where to get this done. The Caribbean Interpreting and Translation Bureau can do it. Located on the UWI St. Augustine Campus for the past ten years, the CITB offers translation and interpreting services to members of the university community, as well as to the public.

This office has handled translations of every type, in numerous subject areas. Documents can be short and simple – for instance birth certificates, academic certificates, letters or police reports; or they can be lengthier reports or papers. Recently, Spanish subtitling was provided for the local film “Green Days by the River.” All translations are certified, and CITB is one of only two institutions in the country officially recognized by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago as a provider of this service.

Proof-reading of translations is another of our services.

If a client is seeking to do business in another country or to deal with a legal matter abroad, CITB has the capability to provide official translations into a number of foreign languages, including Arabic, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Japanese, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. Interpreting is a key component in the package of services. Currently, most requests for interpreting are handled locally, but if there are no local interpreters to work in a specific language pair, professionals are sourced from a larger network outside the country. Interpreting services have been provided to a wide variety of clients such as government ministries, regional and international bodies such as CARICOM and the United Nations, as well as private sector organizations, at events ranging from one day to weeks in duration, and can cover any number of subjects. Even private individuals have access to interpreting services to conduct their personal business, which can include marriages and court appearances.

In 2005, the University acquired professional interpreting booths and a state-of-the-art wireless interpreting system, which was later supplemented by additional booths and a new digital interpreting system. This means that more than one conference can be handled at the same time, or in the case of very large events, there can be up to 24 interpreters working in three separate rooms at the same time in multiple languages.

CITB is closely associated with the Postgraduate Diploma in Interpreting that is offered every two years. Its first intake was in 2006, and graduates of the programme have played a key role in the interpreting services offered by CITB. There are 11 UWI-trained interpreters and six translators currently working. CITB was meant to be an incubator for language students seeking to make a career in the field of foreign languages.

As UWI celebrates its 70th anniversary, and the Centre for Language Learning marks its 20th anniversary, CITB can be proud that after just 10 years it has become a leader in translation and interpreting regionally.

For The Good Times

Time is running out for you to catch the exhibition currently mounted by the Campus Museum Committee on the Ground Floor of the Alma Jordan Library. It’s called Time at St. Augustine and it will be open until February 9. The display includes a selection of mainly analogue time-measuring devices used at the Campus in administration, scientific experiments and musical applications. Two vintage clocks stand guard over the exhibition as guardians of time.

Dr. Glenroy Taitt, of the Committee, credits the display to the work of the “Campus Museum Committee, Amy Baksh, our former OJT who conducted the fieldwork, Students of HIST 1901 Introduction to Heritage Studies (Semester I, 2017-2018), and staff of the West Indiana and Special Collections Division of the Alma Jordan Library.”

“Our initial collaboration with the new Heritage Studies programme is consistent with one of our goals: the integration of the Museum into the teaching programmes on the campus,” he said.
In March 2017, a Facebook meme “Name a Word Trinidadian People always mispronounce” on Slam 100.5fm and Boomchampionstt. com elicited over 500 reactions, over 1,500 shares, and over 1,000 comments and contributions. Many of the comments were based on popular misconceptions about language in general, and about Trinidadian speech in particular. While some comments were good-natured and humorous, the general tone ranged from condescension to mockery to horror, signalling both a lack of awareness of the huge variation in the English language across the Caribbean and across the globe, and an often disparaging attitude towards both Trinidadian English and of Trinidadian English Creole. There are obvious implications for language and education, language and social equity and justice, language and nationhood, and language and psychological well-being.

Linguistics helps us understand the nature of language change over time and language variation. Here we take a look at some of these pronunciation issues raised by that popular meme. Accents are the subject of another article.

Errors? Not Just a Trinidadian Thing

Speakers of English around the world confuse pacific for specific, prostate for prostate and much more. There has also been a great deal written about past errors that are the source of present pronunciations in English. David Shariatmadari’s article “8 pronunciation errors that made the English language what it is” published by The Guardian in March 2014, is particularly accessible and helpful. Change, though constant, never comes easy. What is accepted today may once have faced outrage, just as what is rejected today may one day be the face of tomorrow.

Both modern Caribbean English and Caribbean English Creoles share close connections with aspects of Early Modern English (EMoDE) varieties which are the ones that settled here, not prescribed and standardised Present Day English (PDE) which came later. We would do well to study those EMoDE varieties, with all their echoes here, instead of only PDE, which we must also use in our writing and other media.

Shakespeare might have said ‘the cat was hiding in the yard’. He might also have said buses, dus, fuss, mess, wuss, for burst, curse, first, mare, worse, and more. He definitely would have heard hoss for horse.

**Historical Phonology:**
Different Emphases on Different Syllables

*Character - CHARacter or chaRActer*
The pronunciation with the second syllable stressed is the earlier pronunciation that sailed the Atlantic around Shakespearean times and stayed here in the Caribbean (and some parts of the USA). Other words that used to have the stress on the second syllable include contEMplate, balCOny, deCAdent, soNOrous, and many more. That chaRActer was right for one period of English language history but not now is an issue of fashion.

**Modern International Synchronic Variation**
There is an increasing familiarity with and respect for General American norms, what with increasing physical and virtual access to the USA. This increasing contact also seems to parallel increasing distance from the older Trinidadian self almost to the point of mockery, scorn and derision, even a strained relationship increasing distance from the older Trinidadian self almost to the point of mockery, scorn and derision, even a strained relationship with traditional local and national norms. This is to the point that some of the comments did not know that forehead does rhyme with horrid. Maths and Math are both “acceptable” and that schedule developed two current pronunciations (but lost its original pronunciation of sedule from Old French sedule).

**Phonology: Vowel/Syllable Deletion (Apostrophe)**
The deletion of an unstressed vowel (leading therefore to a reduction in the number of syllables) is common and normal, as in chocolate which has two syllables these days (in English). This is the reason for the way we pronounce library and secretary and more with two syllables (like other speakers of English):

**Phonology: Insertion (Epenthesis)**
Icing, fishing and flowering sometimes get an extra consonant, and athlete and translation sometimes get an extra vowel. The process is called epenthesis. Insertion and deletion processes fix syllable structure to match existing syllable norms or templates, sometimes by analogy with similar sounding words.

**Phonology: Switching Sounds (Metathesis)**
If film and crispy are wrong, then all English speakers should revert to ways for wasp, hros for horse, brid ibr bird, tromado for tornado, brust for burst, bright for bright and other such examples!

*“Aks and Ask* they came from the verbs ascian and asian, respectively. People have been saying both for 1,200 years.

*“Filim and Flim* Why do speakers say filim? Take the [lm] challenge and name 10 words that end with [lm], where the [l] is actually pronounced. (These can’t include those words with a silent but once pronounced [l] as in calm, palm, etc.; a word like balm never had the added [l] pronounced as it came to English via French, and is related to Modern French baume.) Other varieties handle this [lm] problem by breaking up the sequence with a vowel, like some varieties of Irish English. Now name 10 words that start with [lm] - much easier. So, deletion, insertion and metathesis are all skilful coping strategies to deal with any pronunciation problem.

**Phonology: Assimilation**
For most speakers of English, the “s” in news by itself is different from the “s” in newspaper. In the second instance, it sounds like an [s], but in the first, like a [z]. Assimilation also happens when pigtail sounds like picktail and Princes Town sounds like Princess Town. It is due to assimilation for ease of articulation. Assimilation explains punkin for pumpkin, and sangwich for sandwich. Assimilation also explains choon for tune, and Chuesday for Tuesday (and historically explains why sure and sugar have a <sh> sound at the beginning).

(Mis)pronunciations are just the tip of the iceberg. Lexico-semantics is another area of great interest to language users. See more on our languageblog.com. So language exploration is as deep as it is wide, and the Linguistics Sections on all UWI campuses, along with the Society for Caribbean Linguistics, stand ready to discuss and research all manner of language and language-related issues.

Bob said it: “If you know your history, then you would know where you coming from” (Buffalo Soldier).
KYNASTON McSHINE

Kynaston McShine, described as one of the most influential curators of the 20th century, died on January 8, 2018, at the age of 82. Born in Port of Spain in 1935, he attended Dartmouth College, where he studied philosophy and worked at the school’s Hood Museum. He did graduate work at the University of Michigan (1958-59) and the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University (1960-62). He taught at Hunter College from 1965 to 1968.

Mr McShine was conferred with the Doctor of Letters (DLit) honoris causa by The UWI in 2008.

An obituary on the website, ArtNet.com had this to say.

‘After a stint in the department of circulating exhibitions at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, McShine secured a gig as curator of painting and sculpture at the Jewish Museum from 1965 to 1967. He served as acting director from 1967 to 1968. There, in addition to “Primary Structures,” he organized solo exhibitions of works by Gene Davis, Robert Irwin, and Yves Klein. A statement released by the Jewish Museum described McShine as a “visionary curator.”

“McShine returned to MoMA in 1968 as associate curator and later served as acting chief curator of the department of painting and sculpture. In the 1970s, he initiated MoMA’s Projects series, which offered younger artists—including, early on, Sam Gilliam and Nancy Graves—an opportunity to present experimental new work. He also organized solo exhibitions surveying the achievements of Andy Warhol (1989), Robert Rauschenberg (1977), and Marcel Duchamp (1973). He retired from MoMA in 2008 as chief curator at large.’

DR. ANNE MARION OSBORNE

Dr. Anne Marion Osborne, former Department of Festival and Creative Arts (DCFA) Lecturer passed away on January 20, 2018.

Dr. Osborne’s musical education spanned the gamut from the Royal Academy of Music, London (Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music, Graduate of the Royal Schools of Music, Associate of the Royal College of Music, Associate of the Royal College of Organist, B. Mus.), University of Western Ontario M. Mus. In Piano Performance and Literature, Kodaly Pedagogical Institute of Music, Keckesem, Hungary, Diploma, Kodaly Concept of Music Education, Indiana University, Bloomington, USA, Ph. D. major in Music Education, minors in music theory and piano.

She came to The UWI in October 1992 as Lecturer and founder Coordinator, of Academic Music Programmes, in the then, Creative Arts Centre, Department of Literatures in English. She introduced music as a subject for academic credit at our campus and developed and taught music in both the BA in Musical Arts and the Certificate in Music programmes.

She had a special interest in the teaching of music using Pan as the medium of instruction and in 1995 in collaboration with three colleagues, she was instrumental in the conceptualisation, development and implementation of Graded Examinations in Solo Steelpan Performance. The syllabus is now in its seventh edition.

As the major consultant in the formulation and introduction of the CXC Music Syllabus and the Chief Examiner for the CXC Music Syllabus she has influenced the development of music education in the Caribbean in a profound way. She designed the Republic Bank sponsored Pan Minors Programme for school children, a much respected and influential programme for young pan players.

In addition to her work in educating musicians, she has served as adjudicator at many Steelband Music Festivals at home and abroad.

Dr. Osborne resigned from the University on August 1, 2015.
The practice of surgery has evolved with dramatic transformations in the way procedures are performed. This evolution has been largely patient outcome driven and facilitated by technological advances. In years gone by, surgery required large incisions for maximum exposure and easier removal of affected structures. The downside was high patient morbidity and mortality, as patient stress responses and complications were highly dependent on the incisions. Towards the end of the 20th century minimally invasive surgery came into vogue as it demonstrated that surgery could be performed with smaller incisions and better outcomes for the patient. Indeed, it was because of technological advances that video directed (laparoscopic) surgery became a reality and allowed major operations to be performed with very small incisions. Patients have been the major beneficiaries as these procedures are associated with more rapid recovery, less pain, better cosmetic outcomes and faster return to productive work. Over the last 25 years we have witnessed exponential advancements to a point where surgeries (including weight loss surgery) can now be performed with no visible scars.

Another major boundary crossed is in the treatment of Type 2 diabetes, a lifestyle disorder associated with weight gain and poor eating habits leading to insulin resistance and abnormally high levels of sugar in the blood. It is managed by diet, exercise and medications, including insulin, if not well controlled. When obese diabetics underwent weight loss surgery, it was found that their diabetes resolved within days of surgery, long before any weight loss occurred. Research has shown that this results from significant hormonal and metabolic changes within the gastrointestinal tract. This has led to so-called “Metabolic Surgery” which is surgery aimed at reversing metabolic disorders, especially diabetes.

Conventional surgery removes or fixes a defective organ or structure. With diabetes, surgery is used to treat a lifestyle disorder by altering a normal organ or structure. A true paradigm shift.

Professor Dilip Dan joined the University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus as a Lecturer in General Surgery in 2004. His Professorship was awarded in 2015 at which time he was made Head of the Department of Clinical Surgical Sciences, University if the West Indies. He is a Caribbean pioneer in laparoscopic and Bariatric surgery and his research area reflects this. Professor Dan’s accomplishments as a surgeon and his continued contribution to the surgical field in the region through education and training are the basis for his advancement. His contributions to the field of Surgery in Trinidad and Tobago was nationally recognized in August 2015 when he received a national award – the Hummingbird Medal Gold – for his work in the public sector.

He is the Chairman and President of the Caribbean Obesity Society (COS), President of the T&T Chapter of the American College of Surgeons (ACSTT) and the Vice President of the Caribbean Association of Endoscopic Surgeons (CaSES). He also served as President of the Society of Surgeons of T&T (SOSTT) and is an executive member of the Caribbean College of Surgeons and the John Sabga Pancreatic Cancer Foundation. In addition, he is the Caribbean coordinator for the Curacao Laparoscopic Workshop (CLW). He has recently been appointed University Examiner by The UWI for Surgery.
UWI Calendar of Events
March 2018

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

CHINESE SPRING FESTIVAL AND MORE
The UWI St. Augustine

- Chinese Spring Festival Celebration – March 3 | 6 to 8pm at the Daaga Auditorium. General admission is free, but printed tickets are required. For more information, please visit the Confucius Institute's Facebook Page.

- Chinese Tea Appreciation Workshop – February 8 | 5.30 to 7pm at Confucius Institute, Reading Room. Learn about the history of Chinese tea culture, the benefits of drinking tea and sample various types of Chinese tea. Cost: TT$20 (UWI students); TT$30 (UWI staff and general public). Registration deadline: February 5.

- Chinese New Year Workshop – February 22 | 5.30 to 7pm at Confucius Institute, Reading Room. Learn about the Chinese zodiac system, the Spring Festival and make lanterns to celebrate the Lantern Festival! Cost: TT$20 (UWI students); TT$30 (UWI staff and general public). Registration deadline: February 19.

- Chinese Movie Night: Wolf Warrior 2 – February 23 | 6 to 8pm at Centre for Language Learning (CLL) Auditorium. Check out one of the highest grossing Chinese films ever – an action film that tells a story of a loose cannon Chinese soldier named Leng Feng who takes on special missions around the world. For more information, please visit the Campus Events Calendar at www.sta.uwi.edu/news/calendar

BASIC SURGICAL SKILLS WORKSHOP
March 24 and 25, 2018
Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex

The Faculty of Medical Sciences (FMS), Department of Clinical Surgical Sciences in conjunction with the Royal College of Surgeons present the Basic Surgical Skills Workshop with UK Course Directors: Eric Drabble and Professor Michael Parker. The workshop will also feature local Course Director Michael Ramdass.

The cost is US$1,500 or TT$9,000 with an administrative fee of TT$500. Registration takes place until February 26, 2018.

For more information, please contact Melrose Yearwood: 645-3232 or 662-7028 ext. 2864. Email: melrose.yearwood@sta.uwi.edu

THE OLD YARD IS ALL NEW
February 4
Noon to 6pm
Gordon Street, St. Augustine

Travel back in time in this year’s edition of The UWI Department of Creative and Festival Arts’ (DCFA) The Old Yard. Devils and Dame Lorraines cross paths at the NEW LOCATION – Open Campus Gordon Street, St. Augustine. Sample Local crafts, cuisine and bring your kids to Mas Camp corner. Tickets: Adults: $60; Alumni Association members: $50; Children: $30. For more, call 727-6352.

For more information, please email: dcfa@sta.uwi.edu or louise.deonanan-dover@sta.uwi.edu.

PROTOCOL AND DIPLOMACY: A GUIDE FOR THE MODERN PROFESSIONAL
March 26 to 29
The UWI St. Augustine


Participants will leave with essential skills in: rules and traditions of protocol, international diplomacy, protocol in state and corporate events, business etiquette and avoiding professional faux pas.

The workshop takes place from 9am to 4pm at DAOC, Lecture Room. Cost is US$750; Group discount of 10% for each member of groups of three or more.

For more information, please contact Melrose Yearwood: 645-3232 or 662-7028 ext. 2864. Email: melrose.yearwood@sta.uwi.edu

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