



# broadening and strengthening the curriculum



- A. Curriculum for a Global Economy**
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# broadering and strengthening the curriculum

Cognizant of the need to strengthen and broaden the curriculum to ensure that our students are equipped to meet the challenges of a global environment, the Campus involved itself in and initiated a number of programmes.

### A. Curriculum for a Global Economy

The Campus participated in the **Global Knowledge Network Conference** held in Japan in June 2002 which led to an International Co-operative Partnership Agreement that was signed by participants representing a global community of business schools. The Partnership Agreement will facilitate co-operation in the following areas:

- \* Sharing information and resources for developing educational and research programmes of the highest level;
- \* Hosting visiting scholars from partner institutions and facilitating their research and other activities;
- \* Encouraging and facilitating student exchange;
- \* Exploring the potential inherent in the concept of a global classroom and development of programmes based on this concept; and
- \* Using and sharing new technologies for enhancing scholarship, education and global learning.

The participating universities are Carnegie Mellon University, City University of Hong Kong, College of William and Mary, Fudan University, International Communication Institute, Korea University, North-eastern University, Singapore Management University, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Texas at Austin, the University of the West Indies and Aoyama Gakuin University.

### B. Joint Academic Programmes

The first batch of students who registered in the Joint Degree (**UWI/UTech**) graduated in November 2002. Fifty-six students of the batch who began the programme in 1999 have completed the requirements for the award of the Bachelor of Social Science Degree.

The UWI in association with the **School of Physical Therapy of the Ministry of Health** began offering a BSc in Physical Therapy in September 2001. The programme is currently being offered through the Faculty of Medical Sciences.

The Department of Advanced Nursing Education in collaboration with colleagues from the **University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey** hosted a workshop on May 17, 2002 on perinatal mother-child HIV transmission and intervention.

The Department of Community Health and Psychiatry in collaboration with the **University of Alabama at Birmingham** conducted a successful graduate level course on Infectious Disease Control and Surveillance for students from the UWI and a few North American universities. Further collaboration is expected to result from this successful joint activity.

The **Latin American Caribbean Centre (LACC)** in collaboration with the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat and the Latin American Economic System (SELA), hosted a series of meetings and workshops to review inter alia:

- \* regional co-operation in the teaching of Spanish as a foreign language in



*The Hon. Burchell Whiteman, Minister of Education, Youth and Culture presenting certificate to participant during the closing ceremony of the 9th Annual Spanish Teachers Workshop*



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- CARICOM countries and to identify best practices and develop modalities for future co-operation;
- \* draft CARICOM policy framework for foreign language acquisition in the Caribbean; and
  - \* a proposal for the establishment of a regional centre for the training of teachers of Spanish as a second language and materials production.

### C. Summer School Programmes

Over the period 30th June to 14th July 2002, seven students from The Bahamas, Barbados, Colombia, Finland, Hungary, Israel and the United Kingdom joined ten UWI counterparts at the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory to participate in the first UWI undergraduate summer school course offered by the Centre for Marine Sciences - **Tropical Marine Invertebrate Biology Field Course (CM20A)**. Professor Peter Newell, former Head of Biology at the University of the South Pacific and Dr. Barbara L. Kojis, Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, US Virgin Islands assisted in teaching the course. Students attended lectures and gained first hand knowledge through snorkelling, diving and carrying out projects in the field and in the lab.

### D. Student Exchange Programmes & Conferences

Involvement in international student exchange and study abroad programmes and maximising the potential for widening the experience of the UWI and visiting students, have been a part of the UWI and the Campus' strategic direction for a number of years. In order to ensure that the benefits envisaged do accrue, it is important that standards, guidelines and procedures are developed and implemented. In September 2001, an **International Students' Unit** was established on the Mona Campus and has become an important reference point for international students and for UWI students who wish to take advantage of a study abroad programme.

During the 2001-2002 academic year, fourteen UWI students participated in

exchange programmes. Two students each participated in programmes at the University of South Pacific and the University of Toronto, three went to Pennsylvania State University and seven to York University. Six of the students spent two semesters abroad, one attended a summer session while the remaining seven spent one semester at another university.

As part of a co-operation agreement with the **French Embassy in Jamaica**, two students of French attended an intensive four-week French Language course at the University of Bordeaux, France. Under the agreement, a graduating student of French was also selected to serve as Foreign Assistant at the University of Bordeaux for 2002-2003. A graduate student of French also held a similar post at the Université des Antilles et de la Guyane (UAG) in Martinique and the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Mona hosted a UAG graduate student in a similar capacity. Collaboration with the French Embassy also led to the selection of ten students of French taking up posts as English Language Foreign Assistants in high schools in France, Martinique and Guadeloupe for the period 2002 - 2003.

Sixteen students of Spanish participated in a six-week exchange programme at the **Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla**, Colombia during the period June 21 to July 31, 2002. Their exposure to Colombian culture and their intensive interaction with native speakers served to strengthen their classroom knowledge of the language. As part of the reciprocal arrangement, the Department of Modern Languages hosted a group of sixteen Colombian students over the period June 17 to July 29, 2002. The Colombian students participated in an intensive English Language course. During this academic year, a component on Jamaican and Caribbean culture was added to the programme to broaden and enrich the Colombian students' learning experience. In addition to the academic programme, the students were also able to visit important sites in Kingston and the rest of the island.





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The Department of Educational Studies arranged participation of seven students in the M.Ed. (Educational Administration) in the **Annual Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Conference** in Texas.

### E. Student Development and Placement

Recognising that an increasing number of our graduates are assuming key leadership positions in government, trade, industry and the wider society, the campus is committed to providing its students with the necessary **training in leadership and communication skills**. The campus has done much in this regard, particularly through the ongoing flagship programmes, the Quality Leadership and Mentorship Programmes. Implemented by the Office of Student Services, these programmes continue to attract large numbers of students, particularly the non-residential students, who are introduced to the concept of community service. Similar

personal development programmes are carried out in all the Halls of Residence.

There was also an intensive training programme for the incoming members of the Executive Committee of the Guild of Students to prepare them for the demands of student leadership. Committee members were exposed to strategies and techniques on diverse topics such as how to conduct meetings, how to deal with the media, effective communication methods and time management.

This was but a part of a suite of programmes developed and delivered by the **Office of Student Services** to develop the well-rounded university student. In addition to the Interpersonal Skills Programme, other interesting programmes included Computer Literacy classes for mature students at the Mary Seacole Hall, as well as the Living Programme at the A.Z. Preston Hall, a specially designed tutoring scheme for



*Persons in attendance at the Closing Ceremony of the UWI Quality Leadership Programme held at the Terra Nova Hotel*



*Group Leaders in the UWI Quality Leadership Programme presenting their end of project report during the Closing Ceremony held at the Terra Nova Hotel*



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preliminary and introductory students of the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences.

The programme of **academic advising** continued into another year. Students benefited from the contact with academic staff members who functioned as reference points for assistance with academic matters. They also were directed to other sources of help for non-academic problems.

With increasing incidents of trauma and violence affecting the entire society, the **University Counselling Series** at the Health Centre organised a Grief Support

Group for UWI students and staff. This programme was designed to provide support to persons who had experienced the loss of a family member or friend. In a similar vein, the Counselling Unit in association with CARIMAC presents a programme on Radio Mona, entitled "the Radio Counsellor" which complements the work of the successful Peer Counselling programme.

As part of its mandate to inform, educate and entertain, **Radio Mona** itself introduced many programmes that contributed to the deepening of the learning culture at the campus. These included the programmes, The "A Team", "Campus Connections" and foreign language programmes. Produced and presented by UWI students, the "A" Team serves as a radio study group for students pursuing CAPE and GCE 'A' level examinations. Also produced by UWI students, "Campus Connections", examines issues and news stories affecting tertiary level students, locally and globally. Foreign language programmes consist of instructional programmes in French, Spanish, German and Japanese.

The Mona Campus was again successful in winning the Caribbean Intercollegiate **Debating** Tournament. Mona's well developed programme in debating is entrenched from the intra-block level which helps to provide trained orators to represent the campus in regional and international debating competitions.

The **Sports programme** was another example of a well developed campus programme with roots in the block/cluster/hall level. From this strong base, the Mona campus won 6 competitions at the inter-collegiate level in areas such as female volleyball, male badminton, female and male table tennis and male hockey and placed second in 5 other such competitions. A special highlight for the year was that Mona fielded the first team in four years since the start of the intercollegiate women's football to defeat the G.C. Foster College to win the title.



*Participants in the Teachers of English as a Foreign Language summer immersion course (2002) at their farewell ceremony hosted by the Latin American-Caribbean Centre*



*Participants in the Teachers of English as a Foreign Language course and other exchange students pursuing a summer intensive course through the Department of Modern Languages*



*Students being coached in proper dining etiquette during the Fine Dining Workshop hosted by the UWI Mentorship Programme*



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The sports programme also spawned the development of 6 sporting clubs that competed at the national level in swimming, rugby, cricket, and netball. At the international level, there were two sport exchange programmes between the campus and foreign universities. One was with the University of Costa Rica in female volleyball and the other with the Howard University in Badminton.

The existence of 73 **student organisations** on the campus in 2001/02 provided ample evidence of the positive effect of the campus' learning environment in creating a rich student life. The diverse mix of organizations consisted of island/country associations, PSCCA based clubs and societies, faculty-based associations, religious organizations, OSS programmes, hall-based associations, sports groupings and others. The various

groups such as the Irvine Drama Society, Taylor Hall Chorale and the Preston Dance Group, are indicative of the rich cultural life, particularly in the performing arts, that supported the out-of-classroom learning. Creative energies were channelled through the many hall-based and class-based cultural shows such as the Medical Sciences students' Smokers concerts and Irvine Hall's Culturama shows.

In terms of the preparation of students for life beyond the walls of Mona, the **Office of Placement and Career Services** officially launched the **UWI Job Link** programme. Job Link is essentially a computerised job placement which enables contact between job seekers (that is, UWI students and Alumni) and prospective employers. It represents the first of its kind to be developed for



'On Air' at Radio Mona

*Mona Campus B Team,  
winners of the Inter-  
Campus Debating  
Competition - (l-r) Mr.  
Dellarue Howard, Miss  
Tameca Brown and Mr.  
Andre Stewart*







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students' use within the setting of an educational institution.

The hallmark activities of the Office of Placement and Career Services took place in its **Annual Career Week** and included a **Job Fair, Resume Clinic** and a **Dress for Success Seminar** as well as the regular Career Exposition. Forty-seven organisations participated in the Career Exposition, twenty-one public and private sector organisations (including two regional organisations) and three schools participated in the Job Fair.

The employment of fifty-one students in permanent jobs was confirmed. The office was also instrumental in placing 576 students in summer jobs and 271 students in part-time jobs over the course of the 2001/02 academic year. This represented a 61% increase in part-time placements as compared with 168 in the previous academic year.



*Senator the Hon. Floyd Morris, Minister of State in the Ministry of Labour and National Security cuts the ribbon at the launch of the UWI JobLink programme*



*Students at the Official Launch of the UWI JobLink programme in May 2002*



*Students viewing exhibitions and interacting with exhibitors at the 2002 Career Expo*



*Students don gears of the Jamaica Constabulary Force during displays at the 2002 Career Expo*



*Student examining Helicopter Console under the watchful eyes of a Pilot from the Jamaica Defence Force during the 2002 Career Expo*