



# INTRODUCTION



Professor Kenneth O. Hall  
Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal,  
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In academic year 2002/2003 the Mona Campus continued the process of transformation that has been pursued in recent years under the broad thematic areas of *relevance and responsiveness, resourcefulness and innovativeness, excellence and student centredness*. Acknowledging the changes taking place in the Higher Education environment in the country, occasioned by the elevation of local tertiary level institutions to university status and the globalisation of education services, we sought to reposition the Campus, capitalizing on our core strengths and taking advantage of the environmental opportunities to ensure our long-term sustainability. Consequently, the Mona Campus refocused its energies on strengthening its position as a research-driven university, operating with such flexibility, systems and structures as to allow attainment of global standards of excellence and productivity in undergraduate and graduate teaching, public service and research.

Further, the Campus embarked on a number of initiatives aimed at diversifying its funding sources; focussed more closely on the social context within which it operates, with a view to producing scholarship that is relevant to the needs of the country and the region; and embraced the opportunity to continue as the leader in the tertiary education system in Jamaica and the Caribbean.



The first major conference of the 2002/2003 academic year - Mona Academic Conference, "The Governance Challenge 2002: National Regional and Global Dimensions" – was held Friday August 30 to Sunday September 1, 2002. The keynote speaker was the Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The Conference was organised by the Offices of the Principal and the Michael Manley Professor of Public Affairs and Public Policy.



1. Section of the audience during the Opening Ceremony of the Conference
2. The Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves delivering the keynote Address
3. Professor Kenneth Hall (centre), Pro Vice Chancellor & Principal, Mona Campus, in conversation with The Hon. Dr. Ralph Gonsalves (left), Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Professor Denis Benn (right), the Michael Manley Professor of Public Affairs and Public Policy, prior to the start of the Conference.