

# Chairman's Statement

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Jamaica and, indeed, the Caribbean are increasingly focusing on the role of the University in the national development process. I was encouraged by Prime Minister Bruce Golding's address to the Campus at the recent opening of Mona's Research Day 2009 when he agreed that the University's research work was fundamental to any agenda that the country must pursue towards growing our economy. In acknowledging that Government's financial support of the country's research activity is critical if we are to achieve the levels of output required to inform key policy options, the Prime Minister has set the stage for all our stakeholders to engage this large issue of the importance of research in the development process.

I am keenly aware, too, that the University needs to do much more to mobilise private sector and alumni support so that it may serve the country in a more dynamic way. What is needed is a strengthened funding base to continue, increase, and improve on the programmes that the University offers. I have committed to lead the charge in mobilising the support of Mona's alumni through championing an alumni giving programme on the Campus in the coming year.

The past year has seen vigorous activity in terms of new directions for the Campus as it rolled out the 2007–12 Strategic Plan. Much has been accomplished over the year, not least of which was the heightened visibility of the Campus to the country as a whole. I congratulate Professor Shirley who, during his first year as Principal, has set the stage for the transformation of UWI, Mona into a 21st Century academy that can compete in our global economy.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marshall Hall'.

Marshall Hall, CD, PhD