



TEACHING AND LEARNING

Supporting World Class Teaching and Learning

All our undergraduate academic programmes have been or are in the process of being reviewed to ensure that they satisfy the University's goal to create the ideal graduate: critical and creative thinkers, problem-solvers, team players and lifelong, self-motivated learners.



Our curriculum review this year led to 29 new UGC funded undergraduate and graduate programmes, 98 new courses, as well as changes in the methods of delivery of some courses. Of the new programmes six were in Humanities and Education, five in the Social Sciences, one in the Medical Sciences and 18 in the Pure and Applied Sciences. More importantly they reflect our response to new and growing demand in subject areas such as Alternative Energy, Botany and Zoology, Environmental Biology, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Physics, Food Processing, Aquatic Science, Disaster Management, and Oceanography.

TEACHING & LEARNING

Mona is proud of the superior quality of its curriculum, infused as it is with the research that we conduct. Teacher education was therefore a priority area as we continue to train faculty in the process of integrating their research and scholarly efforts in teaching their disciplines. The IDU recorded a significant increase in faculty attendance at its workshops and seminars as the Campus implements the University policy mandating that all teachers be certified in teacher-training. In addition, members of staff from the Faculty of Humanities and Education attended the UWI/FCIB Case Writing Workshop mounted by the Ivey Publishing, Richard Ivey School of Business.

There was emphasis too on the greater use of new technologies in teaching. Importantly, we continued to work towards establishing benchmarks and standards for assessing the performance of faculty so as to ensure that their interface with students has the desired impact on the development of students' skills and competences.



The Faculty of Medical Sciences after reviewing stage one of its flagship programme, the MB BS, reduced by 15% the number of didactic lectures and increased the use of seminars and problem-based methods in the learning experience. A uniform grading system was established and all courses in the MB BS programme are standard set to ensure the validity and reliability of the assessment tools. As a quality assurance strategy, the Faculty focused on small group teaching and placing larger numbers of students in government clinics across the country. The Faculty also revised and upgraded several courses in the Bachelor of Science, Nursing degree.

We offered the Bachelor's Degree in Cultural Enterprise and Entertainment Management for the first time to students' enthusiastic response. Given the degree's interdisciplinary nature we intend to strengthen cross-faculty collaboration between the Faculty of Humanities and Education and the Department of Management Studies. The Mona School of Business offered a new Masters of Science degree programme in Telecommunications Policy and ICT Management to meet the demand for advanced training for telecommunications executives and technical specialists in the growing ICT and telecoms sector. The programme was delivered using both online and face to face methods with local, regional and global content.

The Department of Management Studies will be seeking approval to implement the BSc in Management Studies (Ethics and Corporate Governance) and a Masters in Business and Management Research. We started to reform the undergraduate programme in the Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication (CARIMAC). When completed, CARIMAC graduates will be more competitive regionally and globally, and The UWI will be well ahead of the increasing competition in media and communication training across the region.

Our Board of Undergraduate Studies is to conduct a review of English Language courses to ensure that they are in line with the Strategic Plan's profile of the ideal UWI graduate as one with developed writing and analytical skills. The Faculty of Humanities and Education is currently developing new Bachelor of Arts degrees that combine disciplines such as History, Literature, French, Spanish, as well as Math and IT in order to provide quality trained teachers who are grounded in the content of their respective disciplines. This will provide graduates who will be ready to enter the world of work as trained teachers.

Internships and Student Exchanges

The Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences worked hard and with some success at increasing the number of undergraduates placed in internships in industries and research labs. This, along with a greater emphasis on field trips, is intended to increase hands-on experience of our students

and their ability to deal with real-world situations. Social Sciences established new internships in the Business Economics and Social Statistics (BESS) and the International Relations programmes for undergraduates, as well as in the Parliamentary Internship Programme and the MSc in Economics programme for graduates. The Faculty is now in the process of organising additional undergraduate internships for the sub-disciplines of Public Sector Management and Political Science.

There is strong collaboration with international universities as we seek to broaden programme content and the learning experience of our students in order to better prepare them for the global economy. Staff and students participated this year in exchanges with Universities in countries such as Sweden, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, Columbia, Martinique, Guadeloupe, France and Spain.

Attracting Male Students

With the global under-representation of men in the tertiary education system large on our minds, Mona examined our programmes in Science and Technology and Sports, areas that traditionally appeal to men, with a view to reviewing and augmenting these programmes. We stepped up, therefore, the work towards expanding our sports academic offerings even as we fast-tracked our Sports Enhancement Project, upgrading the facilities at the Mona Bowl where all University sporting activities take place. A large, colourful umbrella-like structure was erected at our Olympic sized swimming pool, facilitating gathering and seating. Also, the tennis courts were refurbished and painted, a beach volleyball court constructed as well as a new long jump pit to replace the one destroyed by Hurricane Dean. A cricket pitch, weights room and gymnasium were also built and equipped. These initiatives, along with our collaboration with external partners will position the Campus as a more male-welcoming environment.



New UGC Funded Programmes 2007-08

Undergraduate Programmes:

- BA Entertainment and Cultural Enterprise Management
- BA Gender and Development Studies
- BSc Alternative Energy
- BSc Botany and Zoology
- BSc Environmental Biology (option)
- BSc Environmental Biology (double)
- BSc Environmental Chemistry
- BSc Environmental Physics
- BSc Experimental Biology (double)
- BSc Food Processing
- BSc Industrial Chemistry
- BSc Anthropology
- BSc Political Studies and International Cooperation
- MBBS Medicine and Surgery (Self-financed)
- Licentiate Theology
- Certificate Learning Support
- Diploma Psychology

Postgraduate Programmes:

- MA Philosophy
- MEd Teaching
- MSc Aquatic Science
- MSc NRM Disaster Management
- MSc NRM Sustainable Urbanisation
- MSc Telecommunication Policy and Technology Management
- MPhil Molecular Biology
- PhD Molecular Biology
- PhD Geography
- PhD Oceanography
- PhD Landscape History
- DBA Business Administration

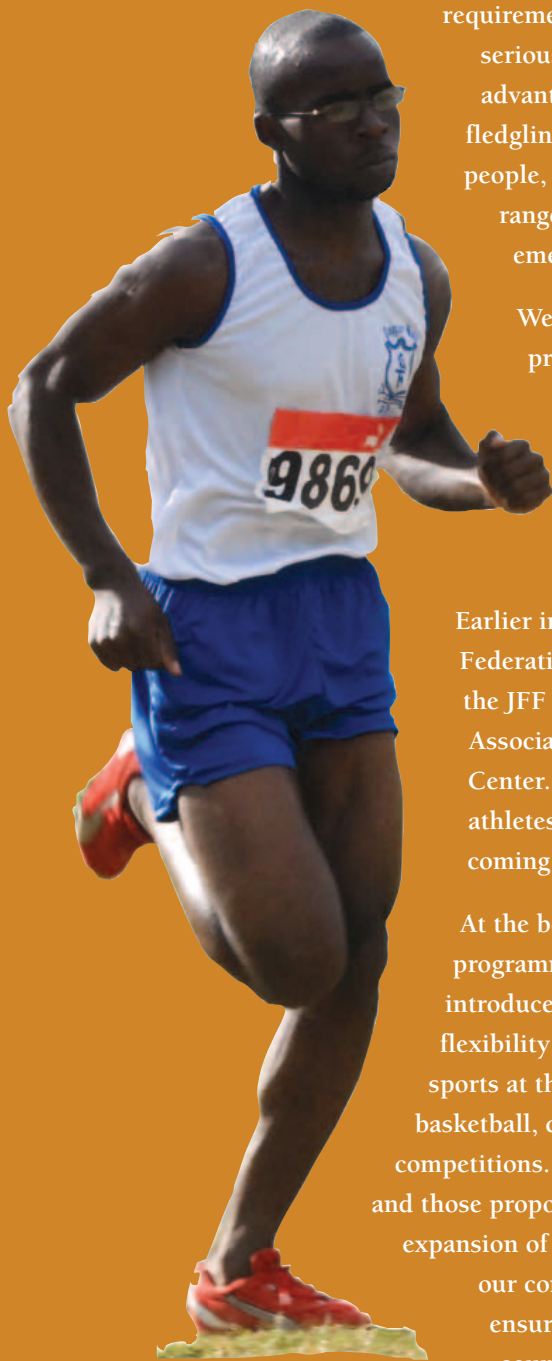
Sports Development

Jamaica's unprecedented success at the Beijing Olympics brought to the fore the requirement to take advantage of the opportunities that have arisen to develop in a serious way the country's Sports industry. Mona organized itself to take full advantage of these opportunities to harness the economic potential of this fledgling sports industry. The Campus built on its existing assets – its facilities, people, research and its traditional courses of study – augmenting them with a range of new elements to create programmes that respond directly to the emerging challenges and opportunities.

We also embarked during the year on an exciting new phase of our sports project that will see the development of world class sports facilities for training, competition and recreation. Most significantly, we developed plans to add to our existing sports facilities a 6,000 seat mini stadium with an international sized soccer field encircled by a Mondo track and including multiple courts for indoor events. It is expected that construction of these facilities will begin in 2009.

Earlier in 2008 the Campus entered into partnerships with the Jamaica Football Federation (JFF). Under the terms of this partnership, the Campus will be host to the JFF Football Academy. And more recently we joined with the International Association of Athletic Federation (IAAF) to host the IAAF High Performance Center. The Mona Bowl, where Usain Bolt and others of our high performing athletes have trained over the year, will resonate with new meaning in the coming months.

At the beginning of the academic year the Campus initiated a scholarship programme for athletes in football and track and field and the University introduced a policy of academic support that includes tutorial assistance, flexibility in course assessment and exams for all our students who participate in sports at the competition level. Six Mona students currently represent Jamaica in basketball, cricket, netball, table tennis, track and field and volleyball at international competitions. Through the developments carried out at the Mona Bowl over the year and those proposed for the immediate future, along with our current strengthening and expansion of our Sports teaching and research programmes, we signal to the nation our commitment to investing in Jamaica's natural athletic talent even as we ensure that our student athletes, at the end of their athletic careers, have sound academic credentials to guarantee their continued success.



Enrichment Programmes

There has been considerable progress in improving the support services that are critical to students' engagement of, and success in pursuing their course of study. Starting with the admissions process, we made significantly more early offers than we did in the previous academic year. Our aim in the current year is to move early offers from April to February not only to better compete with our competitors, but also to allow our prospective students the opportunity to put their financial arrangements in place, well in advance of the start of their academic programme in the September following.

The students' first impression of university life is formed at the registration desk and during the first week of orientation. The Campus stepped up its efforts to make orientation more informative, pleasant and entertaining. In this regard, the Faculty of Social Sciences' initiative to expand the involvement of undergraduate and postgraduate students in orientation and registration activities again proved successful and is a model for replication throughout the University.

Non-academic enrichment initiatives seek to address the broadened social stratification of our 15,000 strong student population. This year we renewed our efforts to provide more students with opportunities to improve their "softer" skills and hands-on experience. We institutiona-



EC Trip -Fun Time at Maracas Bay, Trinidad



EC Trip - Boat Cruise, Barbados

Stuents on field trip



Student Achievements



For the second consecutive year The Faculty of Social Sciences team won the UWI/First Caribbean International Bank Intercampus Business Case Analysis Competition which was held at the St Augustine Campus on May 27, 2008. The 2007–08 team comprised Cherita Thomas, Rohan Christie, Tashna Silburn, Kimberly Stephens and alternate members Marlon Phillips and Kereen Johnson. In preparation for the competition, the team was coached/trained by 2006–07 team members Vanessa Hemans and Claudia Hensing who at the time of the competition, were full time MSB students, and Dr Hilary Robertson Hickling who is the academic advisor.

lised the much touted First Year Experience in the halls of residence and through the Office of Student Services and Development (OSSD), with a view to ensuring that more of our new students benefit from the socialisation processes that this successful programme promotes. The OSSD also continued its work towards honing the human resource development and leadership skills through a suite of programmes, enabling students to broaden their experiences on the local and international arena.

The Social Sciences Faculty's Staff-Student Liaison Committee introduced Accountability Statements with the specific intention of heightening students' awareness of criminal academic behavior, in particular plagiarism. The Faculty also posted guidelines to students for placing notices on Notice Boards so as to enable monitoring of their content, and erected signs that identified study areas as quiet zones. The Faculty also developed a General Code of Conduct to help guide students' behaviour and overall attitude.

The MSc in Human Resource Development programme launched its first "Finishing School" in July 2008. This was open to alumni and the current graduating class. Through this initiative, participants are taught business etiquette, how to develop winning resumes and to handle job interviews effectively.

The Enrichment Programme started in the Faculty of Medical Sciences in the previous academic year is now firmly established. It provides support for students in their academic pursuits as well as in their social, cultural and psychological development.

We appointed a Student Services and Development Manager specifically to co-ordinate more adequately welfare matters relating to commuting students who comprise more than 80% of the student population. This appointment marks an acceleration of our initiatives to engage commuting students in the socialisation process.



First Year Experience Group on trip to Eastern Caribbean

A Welcoming Campus

A quality academic experience requires physical infrastructural and IT facilities that will support delivery of the curriculum. One of our priorities this year, therefore, was to address the pressing issues relating to upkeep of facilities, renewal of equipment and creation of capacity to house the activities of the academy. While space constraints necessitate that some academic staff share office space, thereby affecting their ability to undertake the required counselling and student advising functions with utmost confidentiality, we can, nevertheless, report some successes in facility expansion, brought about through income generated from programmes and projects.

We addressed the urgent need to carve out spaces for commuting students to gather, rest and study while on the campus. Interconnected and well-designed open spaces are every bit as important as buildings in creating a strong campus image that is safe and sustainable. Accordingly, three strategically located areas along Ring Road were identified for providing sheltered, but open student spaces. These spaces incorporated seating, lighting and internet access. A covered bus shed was also a part of this project. The Commuting Students Lounge was refurbished to include a new kitchenette and a patio and allows students an alternative space to socialise and dine.





The building housing the UWI School of Nursing was renovated and expanded to double the office spaces and increase classrooms and lecture theatres. The new facility allows the School to offer more programmes and opportunities to the growing nursing student population, who would otherwise have been turned away because of space constraints. Both the staff and the students have made great use of the expanded facility, and its development has contributed positively to the University's image.

About to break ground is the multi-storey Basic Medical Sciences Complex, which will house five sections of the Basic Medical Sciences Department. This project is approximately 330,000 sq. ft. in size and will serve the entire medical student and staff community. The complex will also allow for income-generating opportunities for the Faculty from rental of spaces in any of the five (5) proposed lecture theatres. In the planning stages are proposals for a native village, akin to a slave village that existed on the University grounds, as well as a multi-purpose indoor sporting facility which will serve both sporting and social events. This sporting





facility is approximately 60,000 sq. ft. and will accommodate seating for 4,000 persons at a sporting event and 7,000 persons at a convocation event. There are also projections for a Medical Arts Centre that will serve the hospital as well as the University community.

We substantially completed work on the expansion of the University bookshop to double the square footage of the existing structure. This will allow for a much broader spectrum of educational and recreational items as well as provide the staff of the bookshop with more comfortable working quarters that will no doubt positively impact the service they deliver to the Campus community.





Both students and staff enjoy the more user-friendly atmosphere and efficient service that the completed Administrative Annex now exudes and allows. We hope to replicate these in the Senate Building where renovations started near the end of the academic year. Construction of a graduate students' lounge in the Faculty of Humanities and Education also commenced and is expected to be completed in the current year.

For the 60th anniversary celebrations we undertook a Campus beautification project, repainting the exterior of Faculties and administrative buildings in attractive and vibrant colours, upgrading The Queen's Way, our main entrance, with security lighting, landscaping and interlocking brick work that accentuates new walkways. The overall effect is a campus that appears more collegiate and friendly.

As the Campus prepared to open its satellite site in Montego Bay, the Western Jamaica Campus (WJC), it took care to acquire temporary facilities that project a welcoming, resort-like ambience complete with student housing outfitted with a swimming pool for recreation and relaxation. The permanent home of the WJC – a modern state-of-the-art complex – has been designed. To be financed through loan arrangements, the facility will break ground in 2009.

Western Jamaica Campus students at hall of residence



Information Technology Upgrades

The use of modern technology in instructional delivery is a key factor in stimulating students' learning. Over the years the Campus has been steadily outfitting classrooms with multi-media projectors, re-equipping outmoded computer labs and building new ones. The Social Sciences Faculty completed its programme of equipping all its classrooms with multi-media projectors and identified resources to re-equip an outmoded computer lab.

MITS drove the implementation and use of emerging ICT technologies and technology services, enabling continuous improvement in the range of technologies and support it offered to students. It responded to the



increased demand for online courses. Some 641 courses are now online with as many as 10,579 students accessing these courses in 2007–08.

The campus network grew by over 600 nodes, providing high-speed Internet connectivity for in excess of 4,000 computers, with increased deployments in student centric areas, yielding a computer to student ratio of better than 1 in 10.

MITS enabled the growth in E-commerce transactions and reduction in error rate on transcript processing by 30% over the previous year. The



division's online Helpdesk facilitated near 24/7 support services to students and the entire Campus community, responding to 33,154 logged support calls in 2007–08.

Potential graduate students can now apply for entry and be admitted online and soon the same service will be available for undergraduate students who, though they are able to apply online, are not currently allowed online admission.



MITS added 32 wireless access points – “Hot Spots” – to the campus, bringing the total number of wireless points deployed to 75

In partnership with Faculties and the Campus Library, MITS upgraded and implemented computer lab facilities such as the MERIC Campus Library and the Virtual Physics Lab. The Division also added 32 wireless access points – “Hot Spots” – to the campus, bringing the total number of wireless points deployed to 75. MITS also rolled out the UWI TV, enabling the Campus as well as the external community to view live video streams of events such as conferences, symposia and graduation exercises that take place on the Campus.

Students interning with MITS are assured of acquiring state-of-the-art skills that will provide many opportunities for them on entering the work world, or as they continue their formal education.

Expansion of the MITS building that began in late 2007 is scheduled to be completed by the end of April 2009. It will include more offices and meeting areas as well as a much needed Data Centre that will provide both the University and outside communities with some of the newest technology available.

Library Services Responding to Student Needs

The year 2007–08 was a landmark year for the Mona Library. After some 30 years of gradual extension of their opening hours, the Main and Medical libraries opened 22 hours daily and for a total of 24 hours on the weekend. The projections are for 24 hours daily service in January 2009. With the refurbishing of the MERIC facility and creation of a new computer lab came 125 new computers that increased dramatically students' access to computers and the internet.

Further enhancement of ALEPH, the integrated library system, positioned the Library to move ahead with developing a network of the University's four Campus libraries, thereby enabling students' greater access to information resources. The library also acquired some important databases, among them the Sci-Finder Scholar and Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE) and purchased several e-books and e-journals as a response to the requirement to develop e-resources to support all academic disciplines.

More than six thousand students participated in the Library's Information Literacy (IL) programme, representing an overall 7% increase in attendance over the previous year. Figures from the Science Library indicate a 28% increase.



Principal Shirley takes advantage of the extended library opening hours





Financial Support for Students

Through scholarships, bursaries and other financial arrangements, the Campus increased its financial support to students by 81% over the previous academic year. Student employment was also stepped up, not only to assist students in need of financial help, but also to help contain staff costs.

The 2007–08 year dates UWI Mona's first attempt to encourage high school football and track and field athletes to make UWI their first choice for tertiary education. Traditionally, the best of Jamaica's student athletes are lured away to international universities in pursuit of higher education, because these universities offer scholarships and improved training opportunities. In recognition that Mona must compete internationally for these students the Campus has started to recruit students who demonstrate sporting potential.

In the first year of this initiative, the UWI committed three million dollars in tuition, accommodation, grants and scholarships with a view to increasing the visibility of the Campus through its competitive sporting activity.





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Heightened Security

As our country grapples with escalating crime, the Campus has had to increase significantly resources allocated to security. Campus security is now covered by specific legislation, the Mona Security Act of 2007, which give powers to the police and private security providers on campus to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Assistant Commissioner of Police, Keith Gardner, was seconded from the Police Force to take up the job as Director of Security. One of his first tasks was to produce a security survey of the campus to guide the rolling out of improved security measures.

A main focus for the year was installing surveillance cameras and other electronic controls. Cameras were installed at the Bowl, Preston and Nettleford Halls and the gates, in the first phase of campus coverage. A monitoring centre is currently being established. We also introduced a security escort service for students working on campus late at nights.

