WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

Professor David Barker assumed duties on August 1, 2005 as the new Head of the Department.

Professor Wilma Bailey retired after many years of service to the University.

Dr Ben Arimah resigned as Senior Lecturer in Geography and left Jamaica at the beginning of Semester 2. Dr Susan Mains remained on Fellowship Leave, and Dr David Dodman continued as Temporary Assistant Lecturer in Geography in her place.

The Department and the university community were shocked at the untimely and tragic death in a motor vehicle accident in June of Steve Bailey, who was about to complete his PhD in Geography.

The Department, in conjunction with the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers hosted the Fifth British-Caribbean Geography Seminar on the theme “Global Change and Caribbean Vulnerability: Environment, Economy and Society at Risk?” This seminar was held at the Mona campus from July 24 to 28, 2006. A total of 31 papers were presented, and participants were drawn from not just Jamaica and the UK but also Antigua, Barbados, Canada, Guyana, the Netherlands, and the USA. Two field trips were organized as part of the seminar.

Geology staff and postgraduate students participated in the Conference Celebrating 50 Years of the Geological Society of Jamaica which was held at the Mona campus from December 1 to 4, 2005. A total of 41 papers were presented by participants from Jamaica, the USA, Canada and the UK. Two field trips were organized as part of the conference.
The Department continued to administer the Earthquake Unit, the Unit for Disaster Studies, the Environmental Management Unit, and the Marine Geology Unit.

The Unit for Disaster Studies, headed by Mr Rafi Ahmad, in collaboration with the Caribbean Disaster Information Network and the UWI Library, launched the Virtual Disaster Library in January 2006. Through the Unit, too, in recognition of its work in mapping and research in natural hazards, the Department received IKONOS imagery of Jamaica from the Ministry of Land and the Environment, for use by staff and postgraduate students.

Professor Emeritus Edward Robinson received The Gleaner Honour Award for Science and Technology, 2005, as well as The National Medal for Science and Technology, 2005.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Presentations made at Conference Celebrating 50 Years of the Geological Society of Jamaica, Kingston, Jamaica, December 1-4, 2005.

- R. Ahmad. “The shaping of Kingston by its urban geology.”


• T. Stemmann. “Hopegate Formation reefs and uplift in northern Jamaica.”

Other Presentations


• R. Ahmad. “Impact of natural hazards on water supply systems in small island states: Jamaican example.” Fifth Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management, Montego Bay, Jamaica, October 9-14, 2005.


• D. Barker & C. Beckford. “Yam farming and the yam stick problem in Jamaica: the role of farmers’ indigenous knowledge in the search for sustainable solutions.” 60th Annual Meeting, Southeastern Division, Association of American Geographers,
West Palm Beach, Florida, USA, November 20-22, 2005.


- D. Dodman. “‘We be nyammin?’ Food supply, authenticity and the tourist experience in Negril, Jamaica.” Annual Conference, Society for Caribbean Studies, Kew, UK, July 2006.


• **S. Mitchell.** “Geological evidence for land over time in Jamaica.” NESCent Meeting on Evolutionary Diversity of the West Indies, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, July 5-9, 2006.


• **D. Rowe, S. Khan & E. Robinson.** “Hurricanes or tsunami? Comparative analysis of extensive boulder arrays along the southwest and north coasts of Jamaica: implications for coastal management.” International Seminar on Global Change and Caribbean Vulnerability, UWI, Mona, July 24-28, 2006


• **E. Thomas-Hope.** “Sustainable development activities in Jamaica.” UN Conference on Towards the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, St Augustine, Trinidad, May 16-17, 2006.


**PUBLICATIONS**

**Books and Monographs**


**Refereed Book Chapters and Journal Articles**


* **S. Mitchell.** “Biostratigraphy of Late Maastrichtian larger foraminifers in Jamaica and the importance of *Chubbina* as a Late Maastrichtian index fossil.” *Journal of Micropalaeontology*, 24, 2005, 123-130.


Non-Refereed Articles

* **R. Ahmad.** “Structural styles in Trinidad. Chapter 4: Guide to selected geological localities in Trinidad & Tobago.” *Transactions of the 2nd Geological Society of Trinidad and Tobago Conference*, Port of Spain, Trinidad, 2006, 244-265.


Technical Reports

* **R. Ahmad & P. Lyew-Ayee (Jr).** “Landslides in northeastern St Andrew, Jamaica: rapid assessment.” Prepared for the MP for St Andrew North East, August 2005.


* **D. Dodman.** “Socio-economic and environmental surveys for the reduction of non-point source pollutants in the Montego


INCOME GENERATION

The Marine Geology Unit, under the direction of Professor Emeritus Edward Robinson, continued its work on the BEACHES (Beach Erosion and Coastal Hazards: Ensuring Safety) Project, which began in 2004. The Environmental Foundation of Jamaica approved a one-year extension (to April 2007) of the project, with funding amounting to J$3.8 million. Other consultancies undertaken by the Unit included one for CDERA, for US$8,000, to review the progress of and reports on beach erosion hazard mapping in Grenada and Belize (completed in May 2006), and one (in May-June 2006, for J$240,000) providing geological support activities for Estech Ltd. involving the possible granting of quarrying leases in the coastal area of southern Manchester.

Professor Elizabeth Thomas-Hope prepared an Environmental Manual for the Jamaica Baptist Union which brought in J$1,086,876. A further US$10,450 was earned for producing an environment and sustainable development programme for the United Nations University (Tokyo), to develop and test a pilot regional training programme on agrobiodiversity, livelihoods and rural development in the Caribbean.
The Department offered one Level 1 Geography course and two level 2 Geography courses in the summer of 2006. The gross income earned was just over J$1.5 million.

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**R. Ahmad**
- Fellow, Geological Society of London.

**W. Bailey**
- Chief examiner, CAPE Geography.
- UWI representative, Board of the Environmental Foundation of Jamaica.

**D. Barker**
- Editor, *Caribbean Geography*.
- President, Jamaican Geographical Society.

**I. Brown**
- Member, ICOM International Committee for University Museums and Collections.

**D. Dodman**
- Member, Public Education Committee of the United Church in Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.
- Board member, Local Initiative Facility for the Environment.
- Member, Expert Committee for the Jamaica Social Policy Evaluation, Environment and Secure and Sustainable Livelihood Goals.

**T. Jackson**
- Honorary member, Geological Society of Jamaica.
- Fellow, Caribbean Academy of Sciences.
S. Mitchell

– Permanent member, Standing Committee for the Caribbean Geological Conferences.
– Member, Scientific Committee, International Rudist Congress.
– Editor, Contributions to Geology, UWI Mona.
– Council member, Geological Society of Jamaica.
– Chairman, Commission on Jamaican Lithostratigraphy.
– External examiner (Geology), Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica.

E. Robinson

– Member, Jamaican National Council on Oceans and Coastal Zone Management.
– Member, Board of Directors, Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica.
– Board member, Nature Preservation Foundation.
– Member, Editorial Board, Journal of the Institute of Marine Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago.
– Member, Earth Sciences Prize Committee, Third World Academy of Sciences.

T. Stemann

– Vice-President, Geological Society of Jamaica, 2005.

E. Thomas-Hope

– Chair, Board of the Jamaica Sustainable Development Network.
– Member, Tribunal for the NRCA Act of the Ministry of Land and Environment.
– Director, Jamaica Board of Engineers Foundation.
– Director, Luis Fred Kennedy Environmental Foundation.
– Member, National Watershed Council, Jamaica.
– Member, Advisory Board, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London.

– Member, International Scientific Advisory Group for the People, Land Management and Ecosystem Conservation, United Nations University, Tokyo.

– Member, Caribbean Study Group, Royal Institute for International Affairs, London.


– Representative for the Americas, Commonwealth Geographical Bureau.

– Member, editorial advisory boards of The Caribbean Journal of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Progress in Development Studies.

– Journal referee for Social and Economic Studies; Progress in Development Studies; Population Geography; World Health Organization Bulletin; Gender, Place and Culture; Population, Space and Place; and Journal of Eastern Caribbean Studies.

CATEGORIES OF STUDENTS

Undergraduates: Geography

Year I: 128
Year II: 93
Year III: 54

Undergraduates: Geology

Year I: 65
Year II: 48
Year III: 31

Postgraduates
MPhil Geography: 7 (Number completed: 1)
MPhil Geology: 5 (Number completed: 2)
PhD Geography: 2
PhD Geology: 4 (Number completed: 1)
MPhil Environmental Management: 1
PhD Environmental Management: 7

Prizes Awarded

The Barry Floyd Prize for Best Performance in Level I Geography: **Joyelle Clark**
The Barry Floyd Prize for Best Performance in Level II Geography: **Seema Kadir**
The Geological Society of Jamaica Scholarship: **Jason Fisher**