DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

Professor Everard Nathaniel Barton, BSc (Hons) UWI, MBBS Ibadan, DM (Internal Medicine) UWI, FACP, FRCP (Ed) – Head of Department

WORK OF DEPARTMENT

The period August 1, 2008 to July 31, 2009 saw the Department achieving most of the goals it had set itself. The staff continues to be supportive with dedication to duty despite some challenges.

The Department initiated a Distinguished Lecture Series as part of the University’s Sixtieth Anniversary celebrations in honour of previous Heads who had given stalwart service to the Department. The Department also hosted an awards banquet for all previous Heads. The Distinguished Lecture Series (three per year) will continue annually.

In order to enrich the learning experience from the Department of Medicine, the Department has encouraged staff to host various conferences and in the period under review there was the Caribbean Institute of Nephrology 1st International Conference of Nephrology and Hypertension, the Cardiology Conference, the 1st Caribbean Endocrinology Society Conference and the 1st Conference on Vasculitis. The Caribbean Institute of Nephrology and the Caribbean Endocrine Society were founded by members of the Department of Medicine and are part of the Department’s academic thrust. Two members of the Department were instrumental in the organization of the Advances in Medicine Conference out of the Dean’s Office with support from that office.

The Department has been active in outreach to government hospitals to strengthen their Departments of Medicine. This allows specialist clinics to be conducted nearer to patients’ abode and also creates a
learning environment for rotating undergraduates and postgraduates in Medicine from the Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona.

The Head of the Department was part of a team which included persons from the Ministry of Health, the Diaspora Group and the Jamaican Ambassador to Washington to several academic institutions in Minnesota. There were collaborative discussions re training of specialists, exchange of undergraduate and postgraduate students, research and enhancing the Global Health Initiative of the Mayo Clinic. There have been further discussions at Faculty and Department levels. The Department of Medicine had one of its young lecturers benefit from placement at the Mayo Clinic for further subspecialty training.

The Department has sought to build capacity to enhance training and in so doing, patient care at the University Hospital and in that vein invested in and trained a DM (Internal Medicine) graduate in medical oncology. She has returned to Jamaica and is offering training and service in two departments in the Faculty. There have been other career development initiatives. The Department was instrumental in organizing an overseas fellowship for a young member of staff to pursue subspecialty training in the neurological science. One of its staff will pursue a Masters in Epidemiology programme online at the University of London. The postgraduate DM (Internal Medicine) residents have been encouraged to attend international conferences/courses and pursue electives overseas. As such, funding was obtained for six to attend international courses, conferences and electives. Two residents spent a month each in Japan at workshops on chronic diseases and HIV/AIDS.

The Department hosted a very successful first summer course running over six days and is grateful to the Department of Community Health and Psychiatry which provided the lecturers for the Epidemiology and Statistics section. The first research day of the Department was very successful and encouraging. Staff of the Department continue to play active roles in the University and Society: as Editor of the West Indian Medical Journal, the President of the Medical Association of Jamaica, President of the Association of Consultant Physicians and as members of various committees.

The Head of Department became a member of the Caribbean Cardiac Society and the European Cardiac Society. There were several grants received for research purposes: the Research and Publications Fund,
UWI, Mona J$220,000.00, Caribbean Health Research Council US$4,903.00 and Special New Initiative Programme $1.9M. From Sigma Trust/Pan Caribbean J$4M was received but this was specified for hospital machines and supplies for nephrological teaching and patient care.

The undergraduate programme has challenges but the strong sense of duty of members of the Department to their students and apprentices and the facilitatory strategies from the Faculty have ensured that the programme continue to deliver in a meaningful way to its charges.

The examination results at undergraduate level continue to be good with 90 – 98% passes with several receiving honours. The postgraduate results have shown 100% passes at Mona.

The Department in accordance with its philosophy to have scientists interact with students and clinicians, has registered an MPhil/PhD student to pursue research for her degree. The Department has also co-supervised an MPhil/PhD student who has successfully received his PhD.

The Department has submitted its subspecialty training curricula in several disciplines of Medicine and continues to train persons in Nephrology and Gastroenterology. Other areas will come on stream in the upcoming year.

The Department had professorial visitors who delivered key lectures: Professor G. Schulman Vanderbilt University, USA, Professor A. Villa Forte from the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, USA, Professor Dixon from Harvard University, Boston, USA, Professor H. Harvey, University of Michigan, USA, Emeritus Professor of Medicine Courtenay Bartholomew, University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago and Professor Sainfort, University of Minnesota, USA.

The Department mourned the loss of Professor Charles Denbow who was the previous Head of Department and gave thirty years of service to the University.
PAPERS PRESENTED

Professor E. Barton

• Renin inhibitors – Clinical Challenges in hypertension and cardio-renal disease, March 2009, Kingston, Jamaica
• Long acting erythropoietin stimulators, November 2008, Kingston, Jamaica
• Obesity in the pathogenesis of hypertension and chronic kidney disease. 1st Annual Conference of Nephrology and Hypertension, March 2009, Montego Bay, Jamaica

Professor M. Lee

• Dyspepsia and H. pylori – A management perspective. Symposium of the South Central Medical Association of Jamaica. October 2008, Clarendon, Jamaica

Dr. W. Williams

• Outcome of Lupus Nephritis in Jamaican Patients. First Caribbean Institute of Nephrology Conference, March 2009, Montego Bay, Jamaica
• Renal Histopathological changes in sickle cell patients older than 10 years of age. First Caribbean Institute of Nephrology Conference, March 2009, Montego Bay, Jamaica

Dr. R. Wright-Pascoe

• “Are Sulphonylureas relevant in today’s treatment of Type 2 DM”? Continuing Medical Education Program – Sanofi Aventis, July 2009, Courtleigh Manor Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica
• “Pituitary Disorders during and after Pregnancy”, Grabham Society Annual Meeting July 2009, The Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica
• “Progression and Management of Diabetes”. Continuing Medical Education Program, July 2009, GlaxoSmithKline at Iberostar Rose Hall, Montego Bay, Jamaica
• “Use of Lantus Solo Star in the Management of the Type 2 diabetes patient” and “Use of Amaryl in diabetes to achieve


- “The Role of HbA1c in the diagnosis and screening of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus. Faculty of Medical Sciences Annual Research Conference, November 2008, Kingston, Jamaica.


Dr. A. East-Innis

- Lipodystrophy in HIV infection. Caribbean Dermatology Association Annual Conference – November 2008, University at Sea, Fort Lauderdale, Miami.


Dr. P. Scott


Dr. L. Hurlock


- Beta blockers in Heart Disease – December 2008, Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica.


- The management of myocardial infarction in the Emergency Room – March 2009, Medical Associates Hospital, Kingston, Jamaica.

Dr. A. Soyibo


• Cardiovascular disease in chronic kidney disease. 1st Annual Conference on Nephrology and Hypertension. March 2009, Montego Bay, Jamaica.


• Renal histology in adults in Jamaica. 1st Annual conference on Nephrology and Hypertension. March 2009, Montego Bay, Jamaica.

Papers presented at the Department of Medicine Summer Course, July 2009, UWI, Kingston, Jamaica

Professor E. Barton

• Preservation of Renal Function in Chronic Kidney Disease.

Dr. W. Williams

• Update on Lupus Nephritis

Dr. L. Hurlock

• Optimal management in chronic heart failure.

• Preventing Cardiovascular disease

Dr. D. Whittle

• Viral Hepatitis, liver cancers.

• Liver Disease in HIV.
Dr. A. Soyibo

- Diabetic Nephropathy: What is new?
- A day in the hypertension clinic.
- An approach to the dizzy patient.
- H1N1: An update.
- Renal Histological findings in adults in Jamaica.
- Glomerular filtration predictions.

Papers presented at the Department of Medicine Research Day, June 2009, UWI, Kingston, Jamaica

Professor E. Barton

- The Cocaine Rats.
- HIV Genotypes in Jamaica.
- Glomerular Filtration rated estimated and calculated.
- Audit of Peritoneal Dialysis at UHWI.
- Opportunistic infection in HIV.
- The Caribbean Renal Registry.
- Quality of life in renal patients.
- Renal Biopsies in Jamaica.
- Renal Histology in adults in Jamaica.

Dr. W. Williams

- Renal biopsies at UHWI over a 3-year period.
PUBLICATIONS

WIMJ = West Indian Medical Journal

Peer Reviewed – Papers


* Barton EN.  Sixtieth Anniversary of the University of the West Indies.  WIMJ, 2009; 57 (3): 523-4.


* East-Innis AD, Thompson DS.  Cutaneous Drug Reactions in Patients admitted to the Dermatology Unit at the University Hospital of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica.  WIMJ, 2009; 58: 227-230.


* Soyibo AK, Barton EN. Importance of a Renal Biopsy. WIMJ, 2009; 58: 270-272.


* Whittle DO. Gastric Carcinoma: Early detection and Prognosis. WIMJ, 2008; 57:1.


**Book Chapter**

Abstracts


PUBLIC SERVICE

Professor E. Barton

– Volunteer, Outreach Programme to the parishes of St. Ann and Manchester – Health Education, preventive and Clinical Care

– Resource person, on Lupus Foundation Board

– Resource person, Kidney Support Foundation of Jamaica

Dr. R. Wright-Pascoe

– President, Medical Association of Jamaica