THE UWI SCHOOL OF NURSING, MONA

Hermi H. Hewitt, OD, PhD, RN, RM – Head of Department

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WORK IN THE SCHOOL

The School had an exciting and challenging year. The expanded building of the School was handed over December 18, 2008, allowing students and staff to commence occupation January 28, 2009. The improved facilities enabled a general assembly of undergraduate and graduate students at the start of Semester 2. The improved facilities have been furnished with state-of-the-art teaching-learning simulators that enable self-learning and the opportunity to participate in and experience virtual laboratory procedures. Although the teaching-learning environment has been greatly enhanced, there is still outstanding work pending and challenges related to security of the building against theft and natural disaster. Planned curricular activities were accomplished such as the development of a new clinical nursing specialty and new graduate courses.

The Head was the recipient of the Vice Chancellor’s Award for Excellence and was also named as the first Nurse in the Caribbean to be selected to be a member of the internationally acclaimed Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (FAAN). The large population of students, yearlong teaching and finding the right synergies between teaching and research, remains challenging. The search for competent and effective senior administrative assistance for the School continues.

Despite the challenges, eight (8) academic staff members were provided scholarships or funding to attend research capacity building activities through projects currently being conducted at the UWISON. Recipients were: Mrs. Cerese Hepburn-Brown, Miss Deon Simpson and Dr. Norman Waldron attended research intervention training at New York University and University of Pennsylvania under the auspices of
the RCT study “Jamaica Mother-Daughter HIV Risk Reduction” in collaboration with the New York University, University of Pennsylvania and UWISON, funded by the National Institutes of Health. Mesdames Joyette Aiken, Uki Atkinson and Pauline Dawkins participated in the research internship programme in Nairobi, Kenya, through the programme of research on “Strengthening Nurses’ Capacity for HIV policy development in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean 2007-2011”, funded by the International Development Research Center (IDRC) through the Teasdale-Corti Global Health Research Partnership Program, collaboratively with the University of Ottawa, the Great Lakes University of Kísumu, Kenya and the University of the West Indies). Mrs. Dawn Dover-Roberts and Mrs. Tania Rae participated in the Research Internship at the University of Ottawa and Mrs. Tania Rae received a scholarship to participate in evaluation research training at Carlton University, Ottawa, Canada.

Members of the Administrative Staff have been supported to meet the changing needs of the School. Miss Bettene Ross was IRB certified enabling her to be a Research Assistant in a NIH funded project. Mrs. Winsome Thomas who completed an undergraduate degree is completing qualifying courses to pursue graduate studies. She was assigned overall responsibilities for administrative matters related to undergraduate students, assisted by Mrs. Betty-Ann Foreman and Miss Celecia Lennon. Mrs. Carren Blake commenced courses towards an undergraduate degree, while Misses Ross and Lennon are pursuing undergraduate degrees. All administrative staff express intention and will be supported to be further qualified in the next academic year.

The School hosted its annual International Nursing/Midwifery Research Conference attracting scholars from the University of Pittsburgh, Yale University, University of Guyana, University of Cork, International University of Nursing, University of Pennsylvania and St. Augustine, UWI. Dr Jean Yan, Chief Scientist Nursing and Midwifery, World Health Organization, officially launched the School as a PAHO/WHO Collaborating Centre for Nursing and Midwifery Development in the Caribbean. Dr Sylvinia Malvarez, PAHO Regional Director, Washington and Country Representative Dr. Ernest Pate also participated.

The UWISON shared with the G. Raymond Chang School of Continuing Education and the Daphne Cockwell School of Nursing at Ryerson University the Canadian Network for Innovation in Education
Award of Excellence and Innovation in Partnership/ Collaboration, May 12, 2009. This event was publicized in both the Canadian and the local news media. The School was represented at the: Pan American Network of Nursing and Midwifery Collaborating Centres (PANMCC) Washington DC, September 29-30 2008; 20th Quadrennial Congress of the International Council of Nurses, Durban, South Africa, June 29 – July 3, 2009; External Quality Review of the School of Advanced Nursing Education at the St. Augustine Campus, UWI, October 2008; CARICOM/Regional Nursing Body (RNB) Executive, Education and Practice Committees January 28-30, 2009 and the RNB Annual General Meeting June 13-17, 2009 hosted by the Governments of Jamaica and St. Lucia respectively. A reception was hosted at the School for Dr. Dame Karlene Davis a noted midwife who received an honorary degree from the UWI, Mona Campus, November 9, 2008.

The School hosted the following meetings: School Advisory Meeting, November 26, 2008; Clinical Field Agency Breakfast meeting for Preceptors and Associate Lecturers September 18, 2008; three student-staff liaison socials; two Student-Staff liaison meetings; and monthly research colloquium. The partnership developed between Duke University School of Nursing (DUSON) and the UWISON spearheaded the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Duke University and the UWI January 22, 2009 at the International Global Conference. Consequently, by invitation, the Head was in attendance at the signing of the MOU by the UWI Vice Chancellor during the International Global Health Conference at which the UWI Chancellor gave the feature address. Two students from DUSON gained their teaching residency experience at UWISON during the month of February 2009. Dr Loretta Jemmott, University of Pennsylvania and Dr. Katherine Hutchinson, New York University presented research seminars for academic staff on “Theory testing in research” and “Sourcing international funds for projects” respectively.

PAPERS PRESENTED

• Aiken, J. “Post-RN Education for Operating Room Nurses at the University Hospital of the West Indies”, 56th Congress of the Association of peri-Operative Registered Nurses (AORN), in Chicago, Illinois March 14-19, 2009.

• Atkinson, U. “Strengthening nurses’ capacity for HIV policy development in Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean:


- **Bennett, J.** on “Delivering Race Equality in Mental Health: Progress and Challenges” National Health Services Annual Mental Health Conference, Derby, United Kingdom, November 12, 2008.


- “Many Roles, one profession” Sigma College of Nursing & Applied Sciences Graduation, November 28, 2008.

- “Curriculum Development Workshop to transition Associate Nursing degree to BSN” Health Science Division, Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College, St Christopher/Nevis, March 9-13, 2009.

- **Kahwa, E.** “The prevalence of asthma and allergies among adults in Jamaica” at the Annual Faculty of Medical Sciences Research Conference, the University Hospital, November 13, 2009.


- “Supporting African and Caribbean nurses to lead health systems strengthening and policy change in HIV and AIDS


- **Waldron, N.** “The prevalence of asthma and allergies among children in Jamaica”, Faculty of Medical Sciences Annual Research Conference, November 13, 2008.


**PUBLICATIONS**

**Refereed Journals**


Abstracts

* Aiken, J. Post RN-Education for OR Nurses at the University Hospital of the West Indies. AORN Journal 89 (6). (June 2009), 1062.


* Wilson, M., Bennett, J & Green, R. Sexual dysfunction in a diabetic woman: The lived experience: *Caribbean Journal of Nursing and Midwifery*, 4, 36.

**PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Dover-Roberts, D.**
- Chairman, Advisory Committee at a home for the aged in the Richmond Park district.

**Hewitt, H.**
- Member, University Hospital Board;
- Member, University Hospital Nursing Advisory Committee;
- Executive Board Member, Nursing Council Biennial Committee;
- Member, International Academic Nursing Alliance;
- Member, Faydene Methodist Home for the Elderly Management Committee.

**Lopez, S.**
- Board Member, Heart Foundation of Jamaica.

**Lindo, J.**
- Member, Kiwanis Club of New Kingston;
- Consultant, Ministry of Health on “Adherence to Anti-retroviral Therapy (ART) among Persons Living with HIV/AIDS in Jamaica”.

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Rae, T.
– Member, Rotary Club

Weaver, S.
– Member, Lions Club.

Student Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Students</th>
<th>New Year 1</th>
<th>New Year 2</th>
<th>New Year 3</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BSN (generic) Mona Campus</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BScN (generic) franchised at EXED</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>179</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BScN (generic) franchised at Brown’s Town Community College</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>102</td>
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<tr>
<td>BScN (generic) franchised at Knox Community College</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total BScN (generic)</strong></td>
<td>271</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>724</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BScN (post RN)</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BScN (post RN) online delivery</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total Undergraduates</strong></td>
<td>377</td>
<td>342</td>
<td>282</td>
<td>1001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Postgraduate Students

The MScN student population is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Students</th>
<th>Full-time</th>
<th>Part-time</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Grad. Nov. ’09</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MScN (Nursing Admin; Nursing Edu.)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MScN (Family Nurse Practitioner; Mental Health/Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner; Clinical Nurse Specialist)</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Postgrad. Students</strong></td>
<td>53</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Student Achievement

Of the eighty BScN students from The UWISON who were eligible to take the Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENR) in October 2008, 74 were taking it for the first time. Of the 74 students 69 (96%) passed the RENR, a few passing at the second sitting. All are
currently practicing as registered nurses. Of the 28 students sitting the
RENR exam in April, 24 (86%) passed. Mrs. Sandra Roswell, 1st Class
Honour student and a member of the graduating class 2008 was one of
the Valedictorian nominees for the UWI Ceremony. Based on her
continuous clinical and academic excellence throughout the 9
semesters as a student, she was invited to join the staff as a Teaching
Assistant.

The School’s 3rd Awards Ceremony was held March 26, 2009 in the
Nursing Lecture Theatre. Students were awarded stripes for satisfactory
clinical skills, theory application and professional attitudes. Students
displaying outstanding knowledge, skills and attitudes were given
special awards and certificates.

Ms. Anthonette Patterson, MScN student majoring in Nursing
Education, was named the NAJ/Lasco National Nurse of the Year,
2009-2010.

Ms. Marceen May and Jodian Stewart participated in the Eastern
Caribbean First Year experience programme (FYE) May 18-28, 2009.
Kerine Campbell participated in the FYE May 28-June 8, 2009.
Make-up tutorials were facilitated by course teachers for scheduled
courses that they missed during this period. Kayandri Williams, 1st year
student showed leadership potential by her involvement in Irvine Hall
as Sports representative for her Block, Member, External Affairs
Committee, Volunteer, OSS (Office of Students who are disabled),
plays Badminton, Football and Table Tennis for her Hall and for the
UWI. She has been given a holiday job at UWISON. Ms. Shawnette
Kerr and Jodian Stewart participated in the UWI games at St.

Scholarships and Bursaries:

Two new Bursaries were awarded in November 2008 through the
UWISON Endowment Fund established 2006: Miss Alethia Francis
and Miss Shalanda Henry received the UHWI/Canadian Nurses
Association Bursaries and Miss Kameel Abdul Kareem received the
Syringa Marshall Burnett Bursary. Mrs. Peta-Gaye Annike received the
first Dr. Barry Wint Scholarship and Miss Melissa Williams, 2nd year
nursing student received the 2008-2009 IGL Legacy Scholarship. An
article on Miss Williams was featured in the Jamaican Observer
highlighting her continued excellent performance as an inner city
youth. Miss Yanique Thomas was crowned Miss St. Thomas Festival Queen 2008 and Miss Elise Barnett was crowned Miss St. Mary Festival Queen 2008.

Social Events for students

Three social events were held for undergraduate and graduate students. These were: staff-student luncheons for undergraduate and postgraduate students and a special luncheon for undergraduate students participating in the Annual Nursing Midwifery Research Conference.

Faculty of Medical Sciences Dean’s List

Claire Baker, Ava-Loy Bennette, Ruth Edwards, Alethia Francis, Allecia Spence and Melissa Williams were admitted to the Dean’s List.

Faculty of Medical Sciences Honor Society: BScN students Claire Baker, Ava-Loy Bennette, Ruth Edwards and Melissa Walker were admitted to the Faculty of Medical Sciences Honour Society.