WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

During the 2012/13 academic year staff in the Department continued their commitment to the realization of the strategic perspectives of the 2012–2017 UWI Strategic Plan. In particular, members focused on Research & Innovation; Outreach; and Teaching, Learning and Student Development.

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Diploma in Social Protection 2013/2014

The Department, with funding by the Organisation of American States (OAS), spearheaded the development of a graduate Diploma in Social
Protection. This Diploma, conducted primarily online, will be offered for the first time and will commence in Semester 2013/2014. The programme will target public sector officials from Caribbean member states of the OAS, who are in a position to influence social protection policy.

Dr Heather Ricketts, Ms Mary Jennifer Jones, Dr Aldrie Henry-Lee (SALISES) and Dr Sandra Chadwick-Parkes led the planning and curriculum development of the Diploma, assisted by Mrs Allison Bailey-Wedderburn in the Principal’s Office. Drs Ricketts and Chadwick-Parkes created the course The Formulation of Social Policy and the Administration of Social Protection Systems.

**Annual Psychology Conference**

The Psychology Unit re-instituted its Annual Psychology Conference with the 10th conference under the theme of “The 2013 Caribbean Youth: Unique Strengths and Challenges”. The keynote speaker was Dr. Abigail Harrison. The conference boasted Oral Presentations, poster presentations and panel discussions. Topics included sex and sexuality, challenges faced by youth, child abuse and bullying, and social media’s influence on youth. Most attendees were high school students and young people involved in youth programmes.

**Psychology Journal**

The *Caribbean Journal of Psychology* re-opened for submission of articles. It is a peer-reviewed journal published twice a year focusing on the work of local researchers.

**Outreach**

The Psychology Unit adopted Charlie Smith and Kingston High Schools. Dr Stacey Brodie-Walker, Ms Doneisha Burke & clinical psychology graduate students held workshops on peer pressure and anger management at Charlie Smith High School. School officials and the Unit have
discussed the possibility of establishing a psychological health centre on school grounds.

Other outreach efforts by members of staff:

- Restorative Justice Programme – Mr Michael Gordon
- Change From Within – Ms Sophia Morgan
- Mustard Seed Community – Dr Dennis Edwards & graduate students
- Ministry of Education Safety and Security School Programme – Dr Dennis Edwards
- Ministry of Education, Independence School – Dr Dennis Edwards
- Ministry of Education, Alternative Student Transition Education Programme – Dr Dennis Edwards & Graduate Students
- Centre for Disability – Dr Dennis Edwards
- Programme Evaluation Capacity Building for NGOs – Dr Garth Lipps
- Red Cross – Dr Dennis Edwards
- HEART NTA Trust Annual Retreat – Career Assessment & Development – Dr Garth Lipps
- UWI Admissions (regional and local) – Mr Orville Beckford

**Exhibition: “Remembering Jamaica’s Deep History”**

The Human Resource Development Unit hosted a small exhibition of Taino and slave-era artefacts from Jamaica and Cuba in its exhibition titled “Remembering Jamaica’s Deep History” in observance of Jamaica’s 50th anniversary celebrations.

**Commemoration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Intra-mural Social Work Education at UWI**

In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the intra-mural social work education at UWI (1961–2011), Dr Peta-Anne Baker, Senior Lecturer & Coordinator of the Master of Social Work Programme,

**Collaboration**

In the wake of the visit of the University of Connecticut delegation reported in last year’s Department Report, the Memorandum of Understanding between the UWI/Social Work Unit and the University of Connecticut was revised and is currently being considered by the latter institution. The twenty-year partnership has yielded staff and student exchanges, programme development and research and publications.

**Annual Derek Gordon Research Seminar**

The Department hosted the 17th Annual Derek Gordon Seminar on April 25, 2013 under the theme of *Crime and Violence: The Way Forward*. The seminar showcased the work of graduate students who presented their research on the re-integration of deportees, maladaptive behaviours of sexual abuse survivors, and the impact of love on recidivism. There were also two panel discussions and an audio/video tape presentation on crime and violence. The keynote speaker was Mr. Ian Wilkinson, President of the Jamaican Bar Association, who proposed mechanisms for improving the efficiency of the justice system. Approximately 70 people attended the Seminar.

**Major Research Activity**

Three major reports were completed. Professor Patricia Anderson (retired), Drs. Julian Devonish, Sharon Priestley, Arlene Bailey, and Ms Camille Daley produced an analysis of UWI enrollment patterns for the Principal’s Office. A second report, on the transition to adulthood, was completed by Drs. Devonish and Priestley for the UNFPA and USAID. Mr Michael Gordon completed a report on restorative justice.
National Heritage Month and Black History Month Event

On behalf of the UWI National Heritage Month Committee, Dr Michael Barnett organized the Peter Tosh Symposium under the theme, “Reggae Revolutionary and Equal Rights Advocate”. In celebration of Black History Month, Dr Barnett also coordinated a panel discussion under the theme, “Hair Stories: Exploring Pervasive Attitudes Towards Hair and Beauty in Black Communities.”

Theory and Practice of Restorative Justice II (SOCI3047)

The Ministry of Justice has adopted the Theory and Practice of Restorative Justice II (SOCI3047) practicum into its Restorative Justice Community sensitization project. Students were taken into various communities to introduce the program to members of the community and were so successful that the Ministry invited them to become Restorative Justice Facilitators.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

To assist staff to meet the University mandate of two publications per year, the Psychology Unit implemented a research forum in which staff present current research. Presentations included a ten-year review of medical and psychological presentations of eating disorder patients in Jamaica; obesity among Jamaican youth; and parenting and depressive symptoms among adolescents in four Caribbean societies.

Dr Peta-Anne Baker resumed duties following her sabbatical during which she spent six months with the Department of Social Work & Development, University of Aruba. While there, she produced a working paper, “Social Work and Development: Making the Connection” and a set of curriculum development proposals for strengthening the curriculum of the Social Work and Development Programme at the University of Aruba.
PAPERS PRESENTED


• Doreen Gordon & Elena Calvo-Gonzalez. “From ‘other worldly’ to ‘world spectacle’: an exploration of ideas of the ‘sacred’ amongst choreographers of the dança dos orixás in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil.” Confluences: Religion, Spirituality and Dance, University of Cape


**REFEREED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS**


**PUBLIC LECTURES AND SEMINARS**

  

• **Heather Ricketts.** “Reforming the Labour Market: A Gender Perspective.” WROC Training Course: Economic Literacy and Gender Budget Analysis Training Course for Civil Society. WROC, in collaboration with FES, UN Women, PBC Jamaica. Kingston, Jamaica. February 21, 2013. 34 slides.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Book Chapters


#### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES


TECHNICAL REPORTS


• **Shillingford, A.** (2012). “Recommended A Model for Institutional Support Towards Promoting Sustainable Participatory Community Development in Montserrat and A Template for Community Needs Assessment (CNA)”. Commissioned by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the Basic NeedsTrust Fund (BNTF). 24 pages.


**INCOME GENERATION**

• **Beckford, O.** Coordinated 2013 summer school activities for the department. Estimated revenue: J$2.5m.

• **J. Devonish & S Priestley.** Study of the transition of Jamaican women (15–34 years) to adulthood. Grant from UNFPA and the Health Policy Project (USAID). US$84,000. September 2011–August 2013.

• **M. Ramkissoon.** Co-applicant for funding from the UWI Mona New Initiative Grant for research project on employee engagement in the Faculty of Social Sciences, UWI Mona. $1,250,000 JMD. 2013–2015.

**Human Resource Development Unit**

• MSc. Human Resource Development: JA$1.3 million with JA$12 million in outstanding tuition fees.

• PhD. Programme in Organisational Behaviour: JA$5 million with JA$1.8 million outstanding.

**STUDENTS**

• Grant received by Mrs. Heather Prendergast, MSc Demography, for attendance at the Caribbean Studies Association Conference 2013. She presented on youth unemployment in Jamaica.
Two recent graduates of the Master’s Degree in Social Work presented papers at the 11th Biennial Caribbean & International Social Work Educators’ Conference in Curaçao, July 8–12, 2013. The papers were based on research undertaken in fulfillment of the requirements of the MSW degree. The papers have also been published in the peer-reviewed special issue of the Caribbean Journal of Social Work.

PUBLIC SERVICE

M. Anderson

P. Baker

O. Beckford
– Organized and presented 3 free CAPE Sociology workshops at UWI for high schools students. This is in an effort to improve the quality of students coming into the sociology programme at UWI Mona.
– Volunteer teaching of CAPE subjects; Sociology and Caribbean Studies, at Kingston College for the academic school year 2012/2013.
– Member of the St Catherine Red Cross.
– Eltham Missionary Church’s Sunday School Outreach Programme, Gordon Pen, St Catherine. The outreach programme also involves social interventions such as literacy classes and community development.

A. Bailey
- Conference Organizing Co-Chair, International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) Working Group 9.4 Conference 2013 on Social Implications of Computers in Developing Countries.
- Program Co-Chair, Association for Information Systems Special Interest Group on Global Development 2012 Annual Conference.
- Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS) 2013 Mini-Track Chair – ICTs and Sustainable Development in the Caribbean.
- Advisory Committee Member, ICT4D Jamaica.

M. Barnett
- Fund-Raising Board, Haile Selassie High School.

S. Brodie-Walker
- Board of Visitors, DCS Juvenile Institutions, Ministry of National Security. Assist in monitoring of the operations of the Juvenile Correctional and Remand Centres.

S. Chadwick-Parkes
- Member of and FSS’ representative on the CVSS/UWJ/UWI Research and Planning Committee. Planning and hosting of the biennial Research Day which highlights research conducted on social issues and interventions by social services groups and organisations.

C. Daley
- President, Sickle Cell Support Club.

D. Gordon
- Member, American Anthropological Association, Latin American and Caribbean Association (LASA), South African Association of Anthropologists, South African Association of Sociologists.

G. Lipps
- Programme Evaluation Capacity Building for NGO’s (January 2013 to May 2013). Co-developed and supervised the implementation of a programme evaluation capacity building workshop for Non-
Governmental Organizations. Basic programme evaluation skills taught to senior administrators and programme staff.

– Psychological Testing in Career Development (July 2013). Developed and delivered a workshop on the use of psychological testing and assessment in career guidance to Career Development Officers from HEART/NTA Trust.

G. Mason
– Vice President, Facilities for the NGO Woman Inc.

R. Mitchell
– Member, Caribbean Studies Association, American Sociological Association.
– President, Rotary Club of Portmore.

S. Priestley
– UWI Representative on the Adolescent Reproductive Health Policy Working Group of the Ministry of Health.

H. Ricketts
– Member, Technical Steering Committee, Jamaica Survey of Living Conditions.
– Member, Steering Committee, Development of a Social Protection Strategy for Jamaica.
– Member, Caribbean Studies Association; American Sociological Association.

A. Shillingford
– Designed and conducted training in Participatory Community Development Methods: Enhancing Capacities for Sustainable Development in Montserrat. Commissioned by the Caribbean Development Bank and the Basic Needs Trust Fund.
– Membe, Council for Voluntary Social Services (CVSS) Executive Committee 2013.
– Member, Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators (ACSWE) 2013.