UWI GONE GLOBAL

Energy and Agility FOR CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT

UWI in Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
The University of the West Indies...is similarly...highly international. But unlike many of its peers, the bulk of its global transformation has taken place in just a handful of years, as opposed to several decades or centuries. - *Times Higher Education*
Islands are generally expected to be culturally insular. Groups of islands, however, have always been global in their outlook and actions. Their grouping has tended to produce a culture of the collective that yearns for connectivity beyond coastlines.

The University of the West Indies came into being as an academic world with an identity shaped by ethnic forces and historical circumstances that originate in places far beyond its boundaries. From its roots within the colonial ethos of London University in 1948 it has yearned for fulfilment within a global ecology that challenged the constraints of its imperial birth.

Thinking globally while being connected to regional roots has been the ideological heartbeat of The UWI as it separated from its colonial scaffold in 1963. From that moment the identity of the Caribbean as a crossroad of modernity has shaped the evolution of the University. While being grounded in grassroots sensibility it also looked to the world for a share of its professors, programmes, and pedagogical practice. Its best and finest students, administrators and professors have been women and men who saw global academia as their business and as a benchmark.

To stay on the vine is also to risk withering and dying on it. To spread and plant new roots in distant soils is to sustain life and its vitality. The UWI in its current strategic cycle has done just this. Working with global partners, it has reached out beyond the Caribbean into the wider world with a view to taking Caribbean excellence everywhere while exposing its inner energy of students and staff to global engagement. As the world’s first global village within the imperial age, the Caribbean and its UWI have transformed the terror of colonialism into the collegiality of culture and classroom conversations.

Beginning with the setting up of an Office of Global Affairs in 2016 in order to prioritise programmes within the galloping culture of university globalism, we have called upon old allies and new friends to partner at an unprecedented level of trust and intimacy. No longer is it enough to foster the mobility of a few students and professors within a framework of collaboration. The new agenda we have created and crafted calls for institution building and the establishment of joint centres and institutes for mutual advancement in the areas of teaching, research, global problem-solving and advocacy.

UWI Global, then, rises from the adversities of our history in order to facilitate a 21st century enlightenment that shines grace and humility upon the world of academia that is yet to fulfil its most honoured expectations.
Our university has been a pioneer in this regard. Times Higher Education says what we have done with our partners in just a few years, other universities have taken decades to achieve. With the support of the finest universities in the Americas, Asia, Africa, and Europe, The UWI has created a network of global academic activity that has forever changed its internal functions and the face it shows to the world.

UWI Global is now a brand. It is one of the world’s most globalised universities. It has done so upon the basis of decades of reaching out beyond its beautiful shores. It required confidence, courage and creativity to deliver upon this agenda. Our students and professors are now more globally mobilised than ever before.

Now, we are preparing to leverage our internationalism in order to move the university into its online phase. UWI Online will be the ultimate fulfilment of a dream to have its programmes available to students globally. UWI Online is the beckoning academic agenda that rises upon the platform of our global presence.

In this publication we celebrate our global partners in Suzhou, China; New York, USA; St. Catharines, Canada; Coventry, UK; Lagos, Nigeria; Johannesburg, South Africa and Bogota, Colombia.

As we create a new global university ecosystem it will be recognised even more so that our role is to be both excellent and ethical as an institution dedicated to the betterment of humanity.

UWI Global, then, rises from the adversities of our history in order to facilitate a 21st century enlightenment that shines grace and humility upon the world of academia that is yet to fulfil its most honoured expectations.

We have a role to play at home and beyond our shores. This requires the building of bridges over which our worst troubles can be identified, debated and alleviated. Future generations will hopefully sustain this path to progress.

Professor Sir Hilary Beckles
Vice-Chancellor – The University of the West Indies
GLOBAL PRESENCE

The UWI has established academic and physical centres across five continents.
As part of its strategic efforts to steer the global outreach of The University of the West Indies (The UWI), Ambassador Professor Richard Bernal was appointed Pro Vice-Chancellor (PVC) Global Affairs in 2016. The newest Pro Vice-Chancellor post to be created at The UWI is charged with coordinating all international projects and programmes, driving The UWI’s global initiatives and assisting with promoting and obtaining the global accreditation of the institution.

With a mandate to raise The UWI’s international standing, strengthen and expand its alliances with international universities, research institutions and other organisations, some of the responsibilities of the Office include:

• initiating and supporting The UWI’s leadership in the formulation and coordination of policies and strategies with respect to regional and international outreach to ensure a coherent, focused approach
• collaborating with UWI offices and entities to strengthen existing and forge new links with regional and international tertiary level educational institutions and other organisations, including funding agencies
• building and maintaining a central registry of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and agreements relating to collaboration and partnerships signed by the university and the campuses to support the implementation of policies.

Ambassador Dr Bernal is an economist with over 40 years of experience. He was educated at, the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins University. Among his formal qualifications include a BSc, MA, PhD in Economics and an MIPP in International Public Policy. The Office of Global Affairs (OGA) is located within the Vice-Chancellor/ Regional Headquarters in Jamaica.
Global Presence – Suzhou, China
You may have heard of the Silk Route, the ancient trade route between China and the West that first brought silk to Europe. A Silk Route of an entirely different kind is emerging from China’s technology and software sector, part of that country’s national effort to shift economic development from manufacturing to computer-aided innovation. And The University of the West Indies is making connections with Chinese expertise through its recent partnership with the Global Institute of Software Engineering (GIST) in Suzhou, China.

GIST is a Chinese science and technology college based in Suzhou and a joint venture between GEM Suzhou, Microsoft and Suzhou Science and Technology Town. The city of Suzhou, which has over five million people, is a major economic centre in China’s southern Jiangsu province. It boasts the Suzhou Industrial
Park, often referred to as the Silicon Valley of the East.

The UWI/GIST partnership has birthed the UWI-China Institute of Information Technology (UWICIIT), which in 2016 began offering a new four-year Bachelor of Science degree in Software Engineering with a focus on mobile application technologies. The UWICIIT head office is situated within the historic Mutual Building in Bridgetown, Barbados, which has recently been renovated and outfitted with funding from the Chinese partners.

Caribbean students doing this novel software engineering programme spend the first two years at either The UWI’s Cave Hill or Mona campuses and then continue on to complete their final two years at GIST in China. It’s a collaboration that UWI Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles has called “a benchmark development in the internationalisation of The UWI. China is a key strategic partner for us as we seek to diversify and globalise the UWI experience.”

“We have had relationships with hundreds of universities all over the world over several decades, but this is the first occasion that The UWI is partnering with another university to establish a new university”, said Beckles at a press conference in February 2016 to announce the UWICIIT, adding: “One of the largest nations of the world has now partnered with one of the smallest nations – this is truly significant!”

The first set of 27 UWI students doing the new software engineering degree programme began their studies in September 2016, the same year that China officially began accepting UWI degrees, paving the way for deeper Caribbean-China collaborations. This cohort of students, who are now in China, will earn double credentials—a bachelor’s degree from The UWI and a diploma from GIST. They will soon move on to complete a six-month paid internship in the Suzhou Industrial Park before their return home to the Caribbean.

Providing a pathway for the Caribbean’s tech leaders of tomorrow is the start of an exciting journey to engineer a much needed digital revolution in our region.
China is a key strategic partner for us as we seek to diversify and globalise the UWI experience.
The SUNY-UWI Center

The State University of New York (SUNY) and The University of the West Indies (The UWI) are collaborating in a unique mission to tackle some of the world’s most pressing problems through the SUNY-UWI Center for Leadership and Sustainable Development.

Launched in 2016, the Center is motivated by the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which aim to achieve a better future for all by addressing serious global challenges of poverty, inequality, hunger, health, education, clean affordable energy, climate, environmental degradation, sustainable communities, responsible consumption and other pressing sustainable development issues.

Joint teams of UWI and SUNY experts will take a multidisciplinary approach to focus on five main goals: to create continuous professional education, Bachelor’s programmes and Master’s programmes in leadership and sustainable development; to pursue solutions-oriented research; to engage and partner with other organisations and the community in advocacy centred on the attainment of the SDGs; to establish a network of experts to inform on the Center’s work; and to develop a think tank.

With regard to the Center’s education programmes, the first round of intake for the Master’s Degree is scheduled for Fall 2019. Meanwhile, on the research front, the Center has recently received a US$1.1 million award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Fogarty International Center for a five-year Global Infectious Diseases Research Training Programme. SUNY’s campus at Buffalo, New York, will lead this programme, which will focus on a virology research programme and train 15 scientists including graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

The first four of the 15 scientists involved in this programme are based at The UWI - Dr Inshan Ali, a clinical microbiology resident; Chadwick Mears, a master’s student in medical biology; Dr Michelle Brown, a specialist in epidemiology of viral hepatitis and treatment in Jamaica and Tiffany Butterfield, a PhD student in comorbidities in HIV infection.

An Infectious Diseases Research Center is a high priority for the SUNY-UWI collaboration. Enabling Jamaica to become a regional hub, the research will focus on microbiologic, immunologic and pharmacologic aspects related to detection, epidemiology, diagnostics, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases. It will partner with programmes such as the Global Virus Network, WHO and Global Fund and network with the diabetes, digestive and liver disease and nanomedicine programmes.

At the Global Infectious Diseases Research Training Programme launch on November 2, 2018 at The UWI’s Regional Headquarters in Jamaica, SUNY Chairman, Carl McCall said: “We’re trying to trace infectious diseases—how they start, how they get transmitted and how we cure them. This programme will enable medical researchers to discover new ways to trace and ameliorate the health outcomes of Caribbean populations.”

The SUNY UWI Center for Leadership and Sustainable Development has its Secretariat based in New York at the Empire State College’s building on Hudson Street. The leadership of the Centre is transitioning into a new team which includes new faculty and industry experts along with senior executives of both institutions.
A freshly minted postgraduate Advanced SUNY-UWI Certificate in Leadership for Sustainable Development should be open to students by the Fall semester, 2019. This programme emerges from the international partnership of The University of the West Indies and the State University of New York in the SUNY-UWI Center for Leadership and Sustainable Development, an organisation launched in 2016 with its Secretariat based at Empire State College, New York.

The postgraduate certificate is the first programme designed under a Memorandum of Understanding signed between The UWI and SUNY Empire State College that paves the way for dual award degree and certificate programmes jointly developed by both institutions. With coursework offered by both institutions for the programmes, the result will be separate awards from each university for the same curriculum.

The Advanced SUNY-UWI Certificate in Leadership for Sustainable Development will help build the knowledge and skills base to achieve the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals within the Caribbean and New York State. Students will learn about concepts underlying economic development and issues related to achieving sustainable development at community and national levels. The certificate aims to help recent graduates and working people interested in working in the development field.

The five-course certificate will take one academic year and include online and distance learning methods. The UWI will be offering two of the courses: Concepts for Sustainable Development; and Ethics, Policy Formation and Governance. SUNY Empire State College will teach three courses: Principles of Community and Economic Development; Leadership in Public and Non-Profit Organisations; and Stakeholder-sensitive Business Models.

The recent approval by the Department of Education in New York State of this new joint postgraduate certificate is a major step and lays a foundation for future joint programmes and courses.
The UWI and SUNY recently joined hands and hearts in a charitable initiative to rebuild a pre-school in hurricane ravaged Dominica. The project spearheaded by the SUNY-UWI Center for Leadership and Sustainable Development is the first initiative of this type undertaken by the Centre, reflecting the work which so closely aligns with its goal of facilitating student advocacy toward sustainable development in the region.

Fourteen students; seven from The UWI and seven from SUNY – New Paltz and a faculty member from each institution recently travelled to the island of Dominica to begin work, rebuilding the Morne Prosper Pre-School and restoring the attached Primary School from January 7 through 19.

Commenting on the project Dr Luz Longsworth, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Open Campus and Co-Chair of the SUNY-UWI Centre for Leadership and Sustainable Development said “When we launched the SUNY-UWI Center in 2016, one of our stated goals was to encourage and facilitate student advocacy. We were so pleased to see the buy-in from our students; they paid their own way to and from Dominica in an economic climate that is very challenging. At The UWI this says to us ‘service to the region’ is not just rhetoric but is a living, breathing aspect of our culture that is permeating one of our largest stakeholder groups – our students.”

Other project leaders, Ms Sally Crimmins Villela - Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Affairs, SUNY and Dr Robert Balkin - Director of Latin America and Caribbean Collaboration, SUNY also expressed satisfaction with the level of participation from the students.

The SUNY UWI Center for Leadership and Development was formally established in September 2016 with the aim of contributing to the pool of innovative solutions to specific problems that constrain the achievement of the SDGs. One year later in September 2017, the island of Dominica was devastated by Hurricane Maria which damaged 90% of its structures. This presented an opportunity for The SUNY-UWI Center to deliver the kind of support it was set up to provide.

UWI and SUNY students volunteer to rebuild Dominican Pre-school Undergraduate students from the four UWI campuses pose for a photo during their volunteer trip in Dominica. Back row: Khaleid Holder (Staff Liaison, Cave Hill), Audley Bakker (Cave Hill), Chloe Estava (Open), Giovanni Charles (Open), Front Row: Tanice Brown (Mona), Prashant Birbal (St. Augustine), Abigail Herrera (St. Augustine) Malikah Pino (Cave Hill).
A new collaborative programme that provides qualified students from The UWI Mona, Jamaica an accelerated path to obtain a Master’s of Electrical and Computer Engineering (MECE) degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton (SUNY-Binghamton), New York, USA is being developed.

This follows a recent five-year Memorandum of Agreement between the two institutions. The SUNY-Binghamton side of the partnership will benefit the Thomas J. Watson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, while The UWI Mona side of the partnership will benefit the Mona School of Engineering (now Faculty of Engineering).

The Master’s degree will involve a programme combining selected online courses and courses taken in residency on the Binghamton University campus. There will be two enrolment options, both leading to a BS degree from The UWI and an MS degree from Binghamton University. This is a four-year programme, with the first two years of the Bachelor’s study at The UWI Mona.

Thereafter, undergraduate students in Electronics Engineering and Computer Systems Engineering at the Mona Campus, who have completed two years with good standing, may in their third year enrol in a 60% online option at Binghamton University, taking one graduate-level course online per semester, while participating in a year-long, joint UWI Mona-SUNY Binghamton senior capstone project. In their final year, students will spend the Fall semester at SUNY-Binghamton and return to Jamaica for their final semester.

Another option allows for more time at SUNY-Binghamton, with a 10% online option at Binghamton University, and provisional enrolment at Binghamton in their third year Spring semester, followed by full-time enrolment at Binghamton in their final fourth year Fall and Spring semesters.

The collaboration aims to foster advancement and exchanges in teaching, research, workshops, academic collaboration and cultural understanding and to create avenues for enhancing learner experience at both universities.

Dr Paul Aiken, Dean, The UWI Mona Faculty of Engineering (second from right) with delegation from SUNY-Binghamton University
The University of the West Indies (UWI) and the State University of New York (SUNY) Buffalo Center for Integrated Global Biomedical Sciences has partnered to launch several research centres and networks to advance the study of infectious and non-infectious diseases in the Caribbean.

Through the partnership, a Health Research Task Force has established a Clinical Research Center Network, which includes a Health Research Informatics Network, Diabetes Management and Research Center, Oncology Center of Excellence, and a Cannabinoid Sciences Research Center.

The Clinical Research Center Network is also an integral component of the recently formed UWI Global Health Institute, which will work to advance ongoing collaborations with the SUNY Global Health Institute, UB Drug Development Core and Roswell Park Comprehensive Care Center.

The initiatives were announced on February 28 at the SUNY-UWI Center for Leadership and Sustainable Development Symposium held at the SUNY Global Center in New York.

Under the programmes, faculty and students across UWI, UB and other SUNY institutions will engage in team science and collaborative research to achieve sustainable health in Jamaica and the Caribbean region.
Responding to the economic growth needs of the Caribbean, The University of the West Indies (The UWI) and Coventry University are working toward the creation of an Institute for Industry-Academic Partnership.

On November 26, 2018, a team from Coventry University visited The UWI Mona Campus in Jamaica to meet with Professor Sir Hilary Beckles, Vice-Chancellor, and his team of Pro Vice-Chancellors, to flesh out the details and to design the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will guide the creation and operations of the Institute.

On April 9, 2019, a team from The UWI led by Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the St. Augustine Campus, Professor Brian Copeland and including Professor of Practice, Gerry Brooks visited Coventry University to sign the MOU.

Recognising Coventry University's elite status in the area of Industry-Academic alliances, Vice-Chancellor Beckles noted that “Coventry has much to share with The UWI in this regard, and will make an excellent strategic partner in the effort to facilitate how The UWI can better contribute to Caribbean entrepreneurship, industry innovation, and professional training for the 21st century global economy.”

The UWI has been driving the process to migrate university research into the private sector for commercialisation. The Institute will provide research training at the postgraduate levels, and will launch a suite of Master's degrees in the Caribbean that will facilitate bridge building with industry.

Noting the pressure upon the university sector in the Caribbean to do more in this area Vice-Chancellor Beckles stated, “The Caribbean is at the innovate stage in its economic development where value added in the economy must come from applied research that is relevant to economic diversification and competitiveness. The University is well positioned to lead in this area. It's an opportunity to rise and shine. This partnership will go a long way in assisting this process.”

**PROJECT LEAD:**
Professor Densil Williams
Pro Vice-Chancellor, Planning
The UWI is shrinking the space between Africa and the African diaspora in the Caribbean through collaborations in two African countries, Nigeria and South Africa.

In Nigeria, West Africa, The UWI is working with the University of Lagos (UNILAG) to develop the UNILAG-UWI Institute of African and Diaspora Studies. The initiative that began in 2017, features an institute that is based at both the University of Lagos in southwestern Nigeria and at The UWI Mona campus in Kingston, Jamaica. It aims to advance the exchange of research, cultural and social ideas to help develop Africa and the African Diaspora. Already, the Institute is offering a Master's degree in African and Global Studies.

“The UNILAG-UWI Institute will shrink the Atlantic Ocean into a very small river as we bridge the gap between Africa and the African Diaspora” said The UWI Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles at the signing of the MOU to establish the Institute.

“We have been working in silos,” Vice-Chancellor Beckles said. “The UNILAG-UWI Institute will bring scholars from the African diaspora to teach and research in collaboration with their African counterparts. We are shrinking the space between the two continents and providing an opportunity for a greater understanding of global Africa and the diaspora.”
Meanwhile, in South Africa, The UWI is collaborating with the University of Johannesburg in another new initiative. The Institute for Global African Affairs, launched in November 2018 at The UWI Cave Hill Campus in Barbados, and in Johannesburg will offer a joint or double degree Master’s programme in Global African Studies.

Joint delivery of the programme will take place in a mix of face-to-face and online formats. Plans are also in the works for an annual summer school module to be offered alternately between Barbados and South Africa.

According to The UWI Vice-Chancellor Beckles, “The Caribbean has played a critical role in the defeat of apartheid and colonialism in South Africa, and other parts of Africa. In many respects, the diplomacy of CARICOM and the deploying of Cuban soldiers into Southern Africa were critical forces that secured the final liberation of the continent. It was an enormous Caribbean investment in intellectual labour, morality, and life. Nelson Mandela made his first overseas visit to the region in celebration of this recognition. The 21st century will require the consolidation of these 20th century relationships and the forging of even closer development bonds between the Caribbean and Africa.”

Ceremony at The UWI Cave Hill Campus to commemorate the launch of The UWI-Johannesburg Institute for Global African Affairs. From L-R: Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the UJ, Professor Angina Parekh; Vice-Chancellor of The UWI Professor Sir Hilary Beckles; Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal of The UWI Cave Hill Campus, Professor V Eudine Barriteau, Vice-Chancellor of the UJ, Professor Tshilidzi Marwala; Senior Executives from the UJ, Dr Bongani Ngqulunga and Dr Nolitha Vukuza and Pro Vice-Chancellor and Chair, Board for Undergraduate Studies of The UWI, Professor Alan Cobley.
Brock University of Ontario, Canada and The UWI are now in discussions to create an Institute for Canada-Caribbean Studies to facilitate multidisciplinary research and teaching between the two institutions.

University representatives met on Brock’s main campus in Niagara on Friday, April 5 to sign a new MOU to launch talks related to the proposed institute, and to renew two existing memoranda of understanding which promote international and cultural understanding, academic linkages and continued opportunities for faculty, staff and students to visit each other’s facilities and collaborate on joint research.

The UWI’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles said the new Canada-Caribbean Studies Institute would “provide a focal point for multi-disciplinary research and teaching to deepen and improve the multi-faceted relationships between Canada and the Caribbean and examine issues affecting the Caribbean diaspora communities in Canada.”

The UWI’s Pro Vice-Chancellor of Global Affairs, Ambassador Dr Richard Bernal will serve as the principal officer to help facilitate the establishment of the institute working alongside Brock’s Vice-Provost, Enrolment Management and International, Dr James Mandigo.

Ambassador Bernal noted, “Canada has been a very supportive partner for the Caribbean over a very long time and there are important investment, trade and tourism linkages. This valuable relationship needs to be reviewed and refreshed by policy based on multi-disciplinary research which is the purpose of the Institute for Canada-Caribbean Studies.”
This most recent collaboration builds upon a rich history between The UWI and Brock University.

Brock is also the first university in Canada to be led by a Caribbean descendant, President Gervan Fearon, who is a Canadian of Jamaican ancestry.

Emphasising the significance, The UWI Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles stated, “This was an initiative which I placed before Brock’s President Fearon when he visited our Regional Headquarters last year. He was very keen to think outside the box and bring his expertise to bear on creating a new trajectory.” An economic historian, Vice-Chancellor Beckles also noted that “Canada has been a most reliable supporter of Caribbean nation building” and elaborated further that “the economic history of the region shows the centring of Canada in Caribbean development.”

In an effort to provide academic and research leadership to this relationship, Vice-Chancellor Beckles proposed that an “institution be created in order to establish the academic integrity of the relationship, and sustain the intimacy of the bond between the two regions.” According to Vice-Chancellor Beckles, “Creative, courageous, and confident people build bridges and not walls, and the Canada-Caribbean bridge has been one of the most productive and mutually beneficial relation constructed in the last hundred years. Working with President Fearon and his team at Brock University, where I received an Honorary Doctorate a decade ago, will be rewarding and exhilarating. He is a brilliant economist with progressive pedagogical roots and a passion for development with justice; values I deeply admire in academic leaders. The purpose of the Institute will be to provide joint academic degrees and conduct policy relevant research in specific Canada/Caribbean issues. It will serve as a consortium as other Canadian universities are invited to participate in these activities. It will be one of the most relevant academic enterprises of the 21st century.”
A new regional collaboration embracing continental Latin America and the Caribbean is under way. Called the Strategic Alliance for Hemispheric Development, the signing ceremony to launch this body was held on April 11, 2019 at the Universidad de los Andes (UNIANDES) in Bogota, Colombia.

According to Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Open Campus, Dr Luz Longsworth, who represented The UWI at the signing “Through research-driven innovative solutions to regional challenges, this Strategic Alliance between UNIANDES and The UWI will impact governance policies for economic growth, social stability and sustainable development in the Caribbean and Latin America.”

There are already joint projects in medical sciences and comparative global cultural studies between The UWI and UNIANDES. The Strategic Alliance for Hemispheric Development builds on a history of regional efforts in the tertiary sector, including a 1968 conference of Caribbean university heads hosted by the University of Puerto Rico and in part financed by the Ford Foundation. That meeting led to the creation of the Association of Caribbean Universities and Research Institutes (ACURI), which elected its first Secretary General to be Sir Philip Sherlock, Vice-Chancellor of The UWI. Cooperative projects in health, agriculture, science and technology resulted from the ACURI body.

The April 2019 UWI delegation to the Universidad de los Andes comprised Dr. Luz Longsworth, Dr Tomlin Paul, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Mona representing The UWI’s three Faculties of Medicine; Dr. Winston De La Haye, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences; Dr. Sonjah Stanley-Niaah, Director of the Institute for Cultural Studies at Mona; and Ambassador Gillian Bristol, Director of the Latin American-Caribbean Centre.
The Latin American-Caribbean Centre (LACC) is a university-wide initiative founded in 1993 with the endorsement of the Rio Group, and borne out of the vision of a more integrated region, its mission is to build bridges of understanding and cooperation between Latin America and Caribbean countries.

The Centre’s activities include language training programmes, exchange programmes, seminars on intra-regional migration and other topics, cultural events, and publications. The UWI Colombia Student Exchange Programme has been an annual event since it began 2000. Hundreds of Caribbean and Colombian students and academic staff have participated in summer programmes.

LACC has been an active participant in the movement towards regional integration, with the support of countries from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Spain. LACC has facilitated agreements between The UWI and many other institutions, including The Colombian Institute for Credit for Education and Technical Studies Overseas (ICETEX); the University of Panama; El Instituto Colombiano para la Promoción de la Educación Superior (ICFES); Unión de Universidades de América Latina y el Caribe (UDUAL); Corporación Universitaria del Caribe (CECAR), Instituto de Formacion Tecnica Profesional; Universidad Nacional, Colombia; and the Ministry of National Education and Professional Training, Haiti.
GLOBAL FRIEND AND FUNDRAISING

The UWI is leveraging relationships, to support its development.
Friends of The University of the West Indies thrive in many places and pour efforts into raising international funds and support for The UWI to help its mission in diverse ways. Among this global network of friends are organisations such as the American Foundation for The UWI based in New York, USA; the British Foundation for The UWI based in London, UK; and the UWI Toronto Benefit Gala in Canada.
THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE UWI

The American Foundation for The UWI, a registered US charity raises funds for student scholarships to attend The UWI, and for developing research and public service programmes. AFUWI’s mission is to source and administer private donations, maximise philanthropic efforts and develop strategic alliances with American corporations, foundations, alumni and other organisations to develop programmes scholarships. Equally impressive is the Foundation’s commitment to facilitating and implementing research-driven policy and activities; presenting public service programmes and endeavours to promote the well-being of citizens and ensuring The UWI is recognised for its unwavering commitment to furthering education around the globe and creating a legacy for future generations.

Between 2009 and 2018, AFUWI has contributed cash grants amounting to US $570,000, scholarships worth US$900,000, benefiting 300 students, who have received tuition scholarships ranging from US$2,500-$5,000. It has also secured in-kind donations of approximately US$3.1 M for dental equipment, books, computers, CDs, furniture, medical and hospital supplies.

Its flagship fundraising event is a black tie gala held annually in New York where the Foundation is based. The 21st Annual Legacy Awards Gala on February 27, 2019 at the Pierre Hotel, New York honoured American film director, writer and producer Malcolm D. Lee; Prime Minister of the Bahamas Dr. the Hon. Hubert Alexander Minnis; the first female Premier of the Turks & Caicos Islands Hon. Sharlene Cartwright Robinson; Jamaican hotelier Kevin Hendrickson; banker Anya Schnoor, and Penelope Beckles, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations.

TORONTO BENEFIT GALA

In Canada, The UWI has also initiated a successful Annual Benefit Gala which has become a much-anticipated event in Toronto for the past nine years. Funds raised from the Gala have paid for more than 350 scholarships to outstanding achievers across the Caribbean enrolled at The UWI. The Gala has raised over CAN$1.5 million over the past decade, with its main sponsor being Scotiabank. This year’s 10th Annual UWI Toronto Benefit Gala was held on April 6 at the Ritz Carlton, under the patrons Donette Chin-Loy Chang, Andrew Chang and Brigette Chang-Addorisio, and honorary co-patron Wesley Hall. The Gala this year gave Luminary Awards to reggae artist Damian Marley and Canadian singer/actress Deborah Cox. Also receiving awards were Dr Mohamad Fakih, Sandals Resorts, Dr Joy Smith who is a Master Blender at Appleton Estate Rum, Dr Juliet Daniel who is an Associate Professor of Biology at McMaster University, and Justice Gregory Regis, former senior judge at the Ontario Court of Justice.
THE BRITISH FOUNDATION FOR THE UWI

The British Foundation for The UWI also does sterling work fundraising for the university to finance student scholarships, developmental projects, institutional strengthening and infrastructural support. Based at the Barbados High Commission in London, it appointed Baroness Floella Benjamin as its new patron in 2018. Among its recent projects is the launch of a Windrush Fund, to be used to offer scholarships to young people in the UK, who wish to study at The UWI and take the opportunity to explore their Caribbean heritage.

Last November, the University of London celebrated The UWI’s 70th anniversary with a special gala reception at the University of London’s William Goodenough College. Hosted by Professor Peter Kopelman, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London, in association with The Rt. Hon. Baroness Patricia Scotland, Secretary General of the Commonwealth, the historic gathering brought together the leadership of the two institutions after 70 years to celebrate their common legacy. Vice-Chancellor Kopelman spoke proudly of The UWI’s achievements in public health and community medicine, while Baroness Scotland said she looked forward to the continued support of The UWI, especially in the area of climate smart studies and policies where the University has already demonstrated its expertise.

75th ANNIVERSARY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

While The UWI just marked its 70th anniversary last year, it is already looking ahead to its 75th anniversary in 2023, with ambitious plans for a Capital Campaign project focused on sport and youth development in the Caribbean. The UWI has retained the services of Ms Barbara Stowe, an experienced fundraising consultant, with 40 years of fundraising operations and management experience in major research universities, and a strong track record in capital campaigns, institutional strategy and international programme development to lead this ambitious campaign. As Vice President for Resource Development at MIT, she directed a comprehensive programme of private financial support including oversight of a successful $2 billion capital campaign.

The UWI campaign aims to raise US$75 million for the Faculty of Sport as a platform for education, training, scientific research and business development in sport and sport-related disciplines, supporting new businesses in areas such as sports medicine and rehabilitation, sports management and sports tourism.

The campaign will promote future sporting excellence through its programmes, research and world-class sports facilities at all four UWI campuses. And the campaign will harness the Faculty of Sport as a vehicle to promote the United Nations 2030 development agenda, recognising the contributions of sport to the empowerment of women and young people, individuals and communities, as well as to health, education and social inclusion.

This 75th Anniversary Capital Campaign will bring together people across the Caribbean region and globally to mobilise ideas, talents, projects and funding, and to celebrate the Caribbean’s vibrant history and culture of sporting excellence with the rest of the world.
Sir Hilary Beckles

Please accept my sincerest congratulations on the 70th anniversary of The University of the West Indies. For seven decades, your prestigious institution has truly been A Light Rising From The West. And today, UWI is proudly the largest, most longstanding higher education provider in the Commonwealth Caribbean. America has benefitted from a long history of contributions by individuals of Caribbean descent, especially in government service. From the indomitable Shirley Chisholm, to Generals and appointees in the highest ranks of the Obama-Biden administration. Some of the brightest minds that I’ve ever had the privilege of working with in my career have come from Caribbean backgrounds: Former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder’s father was born in Barbados; Former U.S. Ambassador to South Africa Patrick Gaspard is of Haitian parentage; And both Former National Security Advisor Susan Rice and Former Secretary of State Colin Powell were born into families of Jamaican origins - the list goes on.

I am a firm believer in education. UWI understands, as I do, the importance of investing in the success of our young people. They will be the next great leaders of our world and have the power to improve the future for generations to come. Providing them with the best academics and resources possible enables them to achieve any dream that they set out for themselves. As you celebrate this wonderful and historic milestone, I hope that you can take a moment to appreciate how many young lives have been touched and how many improbable dreams have been realized in the past 70 years because of The University of the West Indies. For that, I cannot applaud UWI enough.

Joe Biden
47th Vice President
of the United States

Baroness Floella Benjamin, Patron, British Foundation for The UWI
GLOBAL EDUCATION

The UWI's classroom is not limited by geographical boundaries
The UWI Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles welcomes then UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon to The UWI Cave Hill Campus.
Not everyone who would like to expand their minds, stimulate their imaginations, earn useful credentials or improve their career prospects is able to attend a physical university. There may be family obligations, an existing job, limited funds, physical disability or other constraints which may make a conventional university education prohibitive, challenging or unlikely. But the liberating world of online learning can change that situation, opening doors to educational opportunities previously thought inaccessible.

The University of the West Indies has been making significant advances to expand educational access. With an aim to fulfil the University’s goal of at least one University graduate in every Caribbean household, the new Office of Online Learning (OOL) under Regional Director, Professor Stafford Griffith, is leading the development of online learning programmes across all four UWI campuses. Professor Griffith, who was appointed in October 2017, holds a Professorial Chair in Research, Measurement and Evaluation and is experienced in developing and delivering online courses, with an impressive track record of public service and educational innovations.

Meanwhile, The UWI Open Campus, under the leadership of Dr Luz Longsworth continues to open doors to life-changing opportunities. A recent partnership between The UWI Open Campus and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) is also set to bring more online learning to Caribbean and global citizens. It promises to vastly expand the volume and nature of educational opportunities.
of educational content online through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

The MOU, which was signed in August 2018, will enable better collaboration between the two entities in the delivery of online education. Currently, the IDB offers many highly rated online and face-to-face courses as well as open and free educational resources. Now, the way is open for the IDB and UWI to not only develop their own joint MOOCs. Existing IDB courses may be translated from Spanish to English and adapted for Caribbean users. There are also opportunities for academic credit and certification of IDB’s MOOC programmes by The UWI.

According to the data, there's a demand for these courses in the Caribbean. The IDB’s delivery platform, EdX, recorded an enrolment of more than 11,000 students in its MOOCs during 2014-2018, with online students from Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Jamaica, Belize, Barbados and the Bahamas topping the participation.

Edgar Gonzalez, IDB’s Learning and Knowledge Management Lead Specialist, says, “MOOCs are positively impacting the academic, professional and social life of learners in Latin America and the Caribbean. In fact, MOOCs are generating benefits in the region, especially in less developed countries where access to formal education and information and communication technology are more limited.”

While the Caribbean can benefit from the IDB’s bank of courses, the IDB can also help disseminate UWI courses to the world. Ms. Therese Turner-Jones, General Manager, IDB Caribbean Group is certain that this collaboration would not only serve to increase and leverage the knowledge created and disseminated by the institutions but “also allow students worldwide to access these courses, learn more about the Caribbean and receive academic credit for it.”
Ghana Medical students coming to UWI

In October 2018, The UWI hosted a visit by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Professor Ebenezer Owusu, to its Cave Hill Campus in Barbados, during which the two universities renewed an MOU as a framework for collaboration in medicine and other areas. Emerging from this Cave Hill will soon be offering a three-year BSc Pre-Clinical Sciences degree in collaboration with the University of Ghana.

The final three clinical years of the medical degree programme will be at the University of Ghana. According to Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Cave Hill Campus, Professor V. Eudine Barritteau, this means “Ghanaian and other West African students can complete their pre-clinical medical training at Cave Hill Campus, gain a UWI degree and satisfy the requirements for fully accredited pre-clinical medical training in Ghana. On their return to Ghana, they can seamlessly integrate into the clinical programmes of the University of Ghana:

A UWI degree will provide Ghanaian students with direct entry to a degree programme at the University of Ghana once their Council approves the agreement.” Principal Barritteau went on to call it a “momentous development.”

L-R: Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ebenezer Owusu and Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles singing an MOU between the University of Ghana and The University of the West Indies, while Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor V. Eudine Barriteau looks on.

Visit to the Cave Hill Campus by University of Ghana Officials – July 2018 L-R: Dr. Kenneth Alleyne; Dr. Madhuvanti Murphy; Dr. Paula Mechele Lashley; Dr. Damian Cohall; Professor Margaret Larkey, Dean, School of Medicine and Dentistry, University of Ghana; Professor Clive Landis; Professor Samuel Kwame Offei, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic and Student Affairs, University of Ghana; Dr. Don Marshall; Professor V. Eudine Barritteau; Dr. Colin Depradine; Dr. Peter Adams; Ms. Lisa Alleyne; Dr. Korah Belgrave; Dr. Wendy Grenade.
At the Cave Hill Campus, The UWI has teamed up with the University of New Brunswick in Atlantic Canada to offer a double degree: a Postgraduate Diploma and MSc Sport Sciences programme. This exposes students to an interdisciplinary appreciation of sports, combining sports science with recreational management, physiology, nutrition and biomechanics. Students learn research and analytical skills to help them design and administer sports programmes.

UWI-University of Leicester International Summer School

In the UK, The UWI is collaborating with the University of Leicester to offer an International Summer School to enhance professional development. It is a week-long intensive programme for postgraduate students and early career researchers from the Caribbean and the UK with an interest in global studies and a background in any discipline across the social sciences, humanities and arts. It will be delivered by academic staff from both The UWI and Leicester University. This year’s venue is at Leicester, with the theme of “Global Health and Environments”, to take place June 24-28. Participants will be able to gain insights into current high-profile collaborative research projects and enhance their awareness of interdisciplinary research.
Embracing China

The Confucius Institute (CI), named after Chinese philosopher K’ung Futsu, is a non-profit public educational organisation affiliated with the Ministry of Education of the People’s Republic of China. It promotes Chinese language and culture, supports local Chinese teaching internationally, and facilitates cultural exchanges. Its programmes began in 2004 and it now has more than 500 offices worldwide. The Confucius Institute has been operating directly on campuses of The University of the West Indies in Jamaica’s Mona Campus since February 2009; in Trinidad and Tobago’s St. Augustine Campus since October 2013; and in Barbados’ Cave Hill Campus since April 2015. It is an example of The UWI’s embrace of strategic partnerships to encourage a globally oriented institution.

The CI-Mona teaches Mandarin and runs a Chinese resource library of books, films, cultural and business information. Mona Campus will soon get an exciting new Confucius Institute, which is currently under construction. The new CI building at the Mona Campus will include eight classrooms, a library, a lecture theatre and a cultural exhibition area. The CI-St. Augustine teaches Mandarin and offers HSK Language Proficiency Examinations. HSK or Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi, is an official examination assessing Chinese language proficiency of non-native speakers from beginners to advanced level (levels 1-6). In 2018, the CI-St. Augustine attracted 661 students learning Mandarin in 77 classes.

The CI-St. Augustine also arranges study tours to China for educators and students, and runs popular community outreach activities through workshops, lectures, demonstrations and exhibitions in Tai Chi, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese ink blow painting, Beijing opera mask-making, Chinese knot-making, Chinese wine culture and Chinese cooking classes. Every year, it hosts a popular Spring Festival Gala featuring dance, song, poetry recitals and martial arts demonstrations.

Meanwhile, in Barbados, the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Amor Mottley, has said by 2030, the government intends that every Barbadian under 18 should be proficient in Mandarin. The CI-Cave Hill offers YCT or the Young Chinese Test, for primary and secondary school level
Chinese, as well as general courses in Chinese for business and travel. Since 2016, the CI-Cave Hill has also been offering HSK-certified Mandarin proficiency courses at all six levels.

In another initiative, the CI-Cave Hill is helping the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) to develop curricula for certificates, namely the CCSLC, CSEC and CAPE certifications in Mandarin. This will provide access to courses leading to certification in Chinese for students aged 11-18 in 18 Caribbean territories.

In a language initiative at tertiary level, the CI-Cave Hill has partnered with The UWI Cave Hill Faculty of Humanities and Education to develop a Minor in Chinese Studies, introduced in the 2018-2019 academic year. Cave Hill Campus is also working on ways to train regional teachers to teach Mandarin. And The UWI Cave Hill School of Education is currently collaborating with the Beijing Language and Culture University of Chengdu, China to develop a wide range of new training programmes, including certificates in translation, creating official translators who can work at conferences and regional and international meetings.

Less than three years after it was established, The CI-Cave Hill in December 2017 won the prestigious Confucius Institute of the Year Award, a global honour given by the China-based Hanban/Confucius Institute Headquarters which oversees 500+ other Confucius Institutes worldwide. In receiving the award, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Cave Hill, Professor V. Eudine Barriteau said: “It represents both recognition of the work the University and the Institute have been doing together and an encouragement to achieve more. The relationship between the Caribbean and China is of growing importance and the Confucius Institute gives The UWI Cave Hill the tools to equip our students with the language as well as the cultural means to shape this relationship.”
UNESCO has embarked on the preparation and drafting of three new volumes of the Global History of Africa (Volumes IX, X and XI). It has commissioned distinguished historian and academic, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles to be Editor of Volume XI, entitled Global Africa Today. Professor Beckles was also an editorial team leader for Volumes IX and X.

The beginnings of GHA date back to 1964, when UNESCO launched the elaboration of the General History of Africa with a view to remedy the general ignorance on Africa's history. The challenge consisted of reconstructing Africa's history, freeing it from racial prejudices ensuing from slave trade and colonisation, and promoting an African perspective. UNESCO therefore called upon the utmost African and non-African experts. These experts’ work represented 35 years of cooperation between more than 230 historians and other specialists, and was overseen by an International Scientific Committee which comprised two-thirds of Africans.

Described as a pioneering corpus, the GHA is unparalleled in its ambition to cover the history of the entire African continent, since the appearance human beings to contemporary challenges faced by Africans and their Diasporas in the world. It is a history that no longer leaves the pre-colonial period in the shadows and that deeply integrates the destiny of Africa into that of humanity by highlighting its relations with the other continents and the contribution of African cultures to the general progress of humanity.

The earlier collection consists of eight volumes, all richly illustrated with maps, charts, figures and diagrams and a selection of black and white photographs.
The UWI Vice-Chancellor Professor, Sir Hilary Beckles and the King (OBA) of Benin
Some of The UWI’s Global Icons & Leaders

Long before a formal UWI Global Strategy was developed, The UWI has steadfastly built up a reputation for promoting its international intent and interests. For the last 70 years, globalisation has been in its institutional DNA, with pioneering women and men making their mark in the global landscape. A few of these leaders and icons are celebrated here.

Professor The Honourable Ralston “Rex” Nettleford, OM

Professor “Rex” Nettleford was a Political Scientist and the first alumnum of The UWI to become Vice-Chancellor. He is credited with founding the Trade Union Education Institute which he also headed, in 1964 and it became a model institute for the Caribbean and wider world. Throughout his career he served as a consultant for virtually every Caribbean government as well as numerous international organisations, including CARICOM, the Organisation of American States, UNESCO, the International Labour Organization, the World Bank, and the international Development Research Council, of which he was a founding director.

Professor Elsa Goveia

Female pioneer, Elsa Goveia was the first Professor of West Indian history and the first woman (and perhaps the youngest) to hold a Chair in the University College of the West Indies (UCWI) when she was promoted in 1961. However, she made her mark internationally almost a decade earlier in 1952, when she was asked to contribute to a series on the historiographies of the Americas being produced by the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History. The result was her renowned publication of A Study on the Historiography of the British West Indies to the End of the Nineteenth Century.

Ambassador Dr Lucille Mathurin Mair

Dr Lucille Mathurin Mair’s legacy is her work as a distinguished Ambassador and a pioneer in the fields of history and women and gender studies. When she embarked on a PhD in history at The UWI, she made history by being the first person to do a dissertation based on women: “A Historical Study of Women in Jamaica 1655-1844”, which she completed in 1974. She was also renowned as an international diplomatic figure serving as Assistant Secretary-General in the office of the United Nations Secretariat in 1979. Following several other diplomatic roles, she also became the first woman to hold the title of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations in 1982.
Sir Arthur Lewis

Renowned Economist Sir W. Arthur Lewis was a Nobel Prize Laureate (1979) and former Vice-Chancellor of The UWI. He served as adviser on economic development to many international commissions as well as African, Asian, and Caribbean governments. He is credited with helping to establish the Caribbean Development Bank, and headed the institution from 1970-1973. In 1963 he was knighted for his contributions to Economics.

Sir Alister McIntyre

Former academic and Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Sir Alister McIntyre’s regional and international public service assignments are too many to record. In 1974 he was appointed Secretary-General of CARICOM. He also held the positions of Director of the Commodities Division of UNCTAD and Deputy Secretary General, both in Geneva, Switzerland and was later transferred to New York to become Assistant Secretary-General in the Office of the Director General for International Economic Cooperation at the UN’s Headquarters.

Sir Shridath ‘Sonny’ Ramphal

In addition to his many esteemed roles in the Caribbean region, Sir Shridath ‘Sonny’ Ramphal, a distinguished jurist and former Chancellor of The UWI, (1989-2003) earned his reputation as an international public servant. Among his many accomplishments, Sir Shridath was conferred The Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George by Her Majesty the Queen of England in 1970 and in 1975 he was elected Secretary-General of the Commonwealth where he served for 15 years.
Some of The UWI’s Global Icons & Leaders

Sir Frank Worrell

Sir Frank, who died at age 42 in 1967, is remembered as more than a world-class cricketer. When he retired from test cricket in 1963, he joined the UWI staff as Warden of Irvine Hall. He later moved on to be appointed Dean of Students and Director of Sport at the St. Augustine Campus. He was an esteemed administrator and champion of the development of the University’s sport programmes. His memory lives on at all of the UWI campuses with the Frank Worrell Oval at Mona, the Frank Worrell Cricket Field at St. Augustine; and both the Frank Worrell Hall of Residence and 3Ws Oval at Cave Hill.

Sir George Alleyne

Sir George is an alumnus and former Chancellor of The UWI. He was also a Professor of Medicine at UHWI and taught a whole generation of Caribbean medical graduates. From 1995 to 2003, he was Director of PAHO/WHO, then elected as Director Emeritus. From 2003 to 2010 he was the UN Secretary General’s Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean. In 1990, he was made Knight Bachelor by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II for his services to Medicine and in 2001, he was awarded the Order of the Caribbean Community, the highest honour that can be conferred on a Caribbean national.

Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce

Honorary graduate and current Master’s student at The UWI Mona Campus, Mrs Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce became the first Jamaican woman to win the 100-metre Olympic gold medal in 2008. She won her second straight 100-metre Olympic gold at the 2012 Summer Olympics and successfully defended her title as the fastest female sprinter at the IAAF Championships in 2009, 2013, and 2015. Known as the ‘pocket rocket’, Mrs Fraser-Pryce is just 5 feet tall but the fourth fastest 100-metre female sprinter of all time.
Sir Derek Walcott

West Indian poet and playwright Sir Derek Walcott was an alumnus of The UWI Mona Campus, and was also awarded an honorary DLitt in 1973. His literary works are known and lauded internationally and earned him the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1992. That year he was also among the first recipients of the Community’s highest award, the Order of the Caribbean Community. He was also highly decorated with national and international honours, most notably Officer of the Order of the British Empire in 1972; and Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Lucia in 2016.

Marlon James

Marlon James is an internationally celebrated alumnus of The UWI and recipient of the 2015 Man Booker Prize for Fiction for his book *A Brief History of Seven Killings*. He has the distinction of being the first Jamaican and the second overall Caribbean national to be awarded the coveted prize. His publication explores through several characters, the events surrounding the attempted assassination of Bob Marley and the ensuing aftermath.

Lorna Goodison

Honorary Graduate, Lorna Goodison is lauded as one of the Caribbean’s finest poets, focusing much of her poems on women and their struggles. Her 1986 published volume of works, *I Am Becoming My Mother*, was widely recognised both regionally and internationally, earning her the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize the following year.
Just like the Caribbean itself, The University of the West Indies has evolved into different collectives, units and sub-units, each with its own ways of doing things. To foster better unity, flexibility and efficiency, there have long been plans to modernise, reconceive and expand, change or adjust the university’s digital systems.

Earlier conceptions of creating a Single Virtual University Space (SVUS) in 2008 have today morphed into the idea of a digital platform system that enables good communication and flexible outreach and collaboration. Today, “Digital Transformation” at The UWI is about enabling and transforming university relations and communications for better experiences and outcomes. It is about making business and education easier to do across many units, campuses, and different types and scales of activities, both internally (within the university) and externally (in joint offerings, programmes and services).

A better, more flexible, standardised digital platform across all campuses and access points can help The UWI reach out to more people who are geographically scattered across different islands and countries. A better digital platform can be a medium for more creative, varied multimedia learning tools and online learning experiences. It can help reduce education costs through online programmes, becoming a powerful tool in mass education and self-directed learning. It can increase the local relevance of education and training to better meet the needs of specific communities of learners. A better digital platform can also help build a more connected, vibrant community of scholars in the Caribbean by creating shared virtual working spaces and spaces for knowledge exchange.
The UWI’s Digital Transformation mission envisages all these things. It is essentially an approach to using digital technology systems to enable better cross-campus relationships, collaborations and communications, so that all of the goals of UWI’s Triple A Strategic Plan (2017-2022) may be realised. This plan has a “One UWI” vision and sees The UWI as a unified Caribbean activist university with both local and global relevance, to serve everyone in the region.

What will a new and improved digital technology system actually involve? A “One UWI digital transformation platform” focuses on three tracks for the digital technology project:

- **ACADEMIC**
  (involving programming, courseware digitisation and library resource distribution);

- **TECHNOLOGY**
  (involving data architecture, software & content management, and hardware and networks connectivity); and

- **BUSINESS**
  (involving management of students, human resources and finances).

According to Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI St. Augustine Campus, Professor Brian Copeland, who anchors this exercise as Chair of the Steering Committee, “implementing a new digital system is a lot of work, involving wide consultation, much research and many stages along the way. But it is a task which The UWI sees as essential to fulfil its mission to be a more responsive, locally relevant and globally engaged institution.”

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### SOME DIGITAL ICONS WITH UWI CONNECTIONS

Denis O’Brien, Digicel and Communincorp was honoured by the American Foundation for The UWI in 2008.

Larry Quinlan, Deloitte Global Chief Information Officer is an alumnus as well as recipient of an honorary degree from The UWI in 2018.

UWI alumnus and Lead Head of Government on Science and Technology in the CARICOM Quasi Cabinet, Prime Minister of Grenada, Dr. Keith Mitchell, is a champion of the CARICOM Single ICT Space initiative.
UWI tv is the public information and education service of The University of the West Indies. It is just over two years old, offering a mix of university news, reports on research projects, interviews, feature stories, recorded speeches from events, and occasional live-streaming coverage of events. Launched in December 2016, the fledgling service aims to be a socially conscious, issue-driven outlet as well as a tool for public outreach, education and quality information.

UWI tv content is broadcast daily in three-hour segments on CaribVision, a Barbados-based division of the Caribbean Media Corporation. Its other partner is the RJR Communications Group in Jamaica. So the channel reflects a successful partnership between academia and the media industry. UWI tv also has a website (www.uwitv.org) with a searchable database, from which viewers can access free university-related video content on demand. Social media channels (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Flickr and Instagram) complement the online and cable channels. Through these many media, content reaches millions of viewers in the Caribbean and beyond.

UWI tv currently produces four regular shows: Region Talk (UWI-led conversations on regional issues), Pelican Pride (community features, alumni stories, and campus events), Research Room (where researchers, innovators and thinkers share their findings) and Generation Nexx (features on student life).

A sampling of online videos from this year reveals an eclectic variety of content. For example, there’s a “Fire in Babylon” panel discussion on cricket as popular culture; a literary lecture by Kelly Baker Joseph on “Brathwaitian Models of Engagement: Inna De Digital Yard”; recordings of live-streamed University Council business meetings; and the book launch of “My Political Journey” written by former Jamaican prime minister PJ Patterson. You can also find video footage from the “Break the Silence: Educators and Child Sexual Abuse Symposium” held at the St. Augustine Campus; a full documentary called “Sun, Sea and Science” about Trinidad’s addiction to oil and the need for diversification; and many other offerings.

Whether the topic is the impending impacts of climate change, historical reflections on the postwar Windrush generation, or findings from the latest UWI medical research, UWI tv helps share a cross-section of academic interests and ideas.
UWItv also runs occasional features on student life, such as profile interviews with students sharing their experiences, or video footage of larger student events such as last year’s Postgraduate Intercampus Debating competition at Cave Hill Campus in Barbados.

As UWItv continues to evolve, it remains a media resource for UWI-driven advocacy, research, information, education, and civic debate on issues affecting campus and Caribbean life. UWItv is expanding the UWI’s reach beyond Caribbean borders to promote and teach about Caribbean thought and engage with the wider world.
The UWI is leading Global Conversations as an Activist University
Attendees of the Climate-Smart Accelerator Launch event included (from left) President of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Luis Alberto Moreno, Jamaica’s Prime Minister, The Most Honourable Andrew Holness, Virgin Group Founder, Sir Richard Branson, Jamaica’s Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, The Honourable Kamina Johnson-Smith, Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles and Olympic Gold Medal Winner and Ambassador of the Accelerator, Usain Bolt.
The world’s first climate smart study institute, offering degrees and certificates at all levels in climate-related studies could be born out of The UWI. This, according to Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles.

It comes on the heels of the International Association of Universities’ (IAU’s) notable selection of The UWI, in February 2019, to lead the world in mobilising climate-smart research and advocacy. The IAU, an affiliate body and higher education think tank for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), selected The UWI for this task because of the University’s decades-long track record of excellent research on climate change and sustainable development, including climate modelling, environmental protection, marine ecosystems, disaster risk reduction and resilience, through diverse faculties and specialized research centres such as the Institute for Sustainable Development, Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction, Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) and Seismic Research Centre. It is one example of UWI research driving scientific knowledge, policy and advocacy on the global stage.

The United Nations’ (UN’s) Sustainable Development Goal #13 (SDG 13) calls for urgent action to combat the serious impacts of a changing climate, which include changing weather patterns, rising sea levels, destruction of marine ecosystems due to warmer, more acidic oceans, and extreme weather events such as hurricanes, floods, prolonged droughts and wildfires. All of these disrupt human food supplies, wreak havoc with agriculture, housing settlements and economies, and threaten life.

As the leader of the SDG 13 (Climate Action) Global Cluster on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD), The UWI will work with universities across the globe on projects that harness research, innovation and their application to promote social and economic growth with a balanced focus on people, planet and prosperity. Other members of the SDG 13 cluster are currently being finalised; the University of the South Pacific, University of Witwatersrand, University of Bristol, University of Bergen, University of Ghana, University of Waterloo and SUNY, among others.

The Caribbean is one of the world’s most vulnerable regions to climate change. Climate change threatens our lifestyle, our livelihoods, and our very lives.

L-R: Dr Hilligje van’t Land, Secretary General of the IAU, Professor Pam Fredmam, President of the IAU and Vice-Chancellor of The UWI, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles at UNESCO’s Headquarters on January 30, 2019.
In a report released on October 8, 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which includes more than 1,300 international scientists, forecasted a likely temperature rise of 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if things continue to heat up at the current rate. Such a rise would have severe impacts on all small island states such as the Caribbean islands.

Professor Michael Taylor, Dean of the Faculty of Science and Technology at The UWI Mona Campus, was one of the coordinating, lead authors of that IPCC 1.5 Report, and commented after its release: “Caribbean scientists have long held the position that (global temperature rise of) 1.5°C may be the limit of global warming that vulnerable regions such as ours can tolerate.”

There is now a global campaign calling on world leaders to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees in order to prevent the catastrophic effects of climate change.

Speaking on The UWI’s contributions to the IPCC 1.5 report in October 2018, Vice-Chancellor Beckles said: “This kind of work reaffirms the relevance of The UWI to the region as an activist university. The climate change discourse will reveal the need for this region to address the fundamental issues: economic growth, technological advancements, inequality, democracy and social justice. All of those big issues come into the fore of the climate change issue.”

Later, in an address to the IAU in January 2019 at UNESCO’s headquarters in Paris, France, he emphasised further: “The UWI’s scientists recognised decades ago that climate change, rising sea levels and ocean temperatures were an existential threat to the Caribbean, small island states, and the world, and to this end provided a body of scientific knowledge to prove and promote the case.”

The UWI’s Climate Change Research Cluster is currently led by Professors John Agard, Michael Taylor and David Smith. Many UWI scientists have served as contributing authors to IPCC reports on climate change over the years. In 2007, UWI Professors Anthony Chen, Leonard Nurse and John Agard shared in the glory of the Nobel Peace Prize which was given jointly to the IPCC and Al Gore Jr for work done to create and spread better knowledge about man-made climate change and lay the foundations for mitigating measures to counteract such change.
On August 9, 2018 The UWI was the venue host for the launch of the Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator, a ground-breaking initiative to support the Caribbean becoming the world’s first ‘climate-smart zone’.

Through an unprecedented coalition including 27 countries and over 40 private and public partnerships, the Caribbean Climate-Smart Accelerator seeks to build more resilient countries, cities and industries, and stronger infrastructure that can withstand the effects of climate disaster. Climate solutions for renewable energy, development of sustainable cities, oceans and transportation are all part of the plan. The Accelerator initiative will work to fast-track sound public and private investment opportunities which support climate action and economic growth through sustainable development.

The Accelerator’s specific areas of focus are threefold: Disaster preparedness, recovery and resilience; investing in low carbon development; and breaking down barriers to climate-smart growth.

President of the IDB Luis Alberto Moreno and Founder of the Virgin Group Sir Richard Branson led the launch, while the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness, gave the feature address. Speakers also included world record sprinter Usain Bolt, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade in Jamaica Kamina Johnson Smith, and President of the World Bank Jorge Calderon. Bolt, Jamaica’s eight-time Olympic Gold Medal winner, and internationally acclaimed dancehall artiste, Sean Paul, were both appointed Accelerator Ambassadors, to promote the work of the Accelerator to support climate-smart action in the region. Bolt also launched the Accelerator’s $50,000 “Speed Award” that recognizes leading countries, businesses and individuals working towards a climate-smart zone.

The UWI’s Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles in his remarks, reminded attendees of The UWI’s longstanding commitment to A RACE AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

The Caribbean’s first Net Zero Energy Building (NZEB) is constructed at The UWI Mona Campus.
research and investigation of natural phenomena and environmental-related studies. “As early as 1957, we established the Centre for Seismic Research in Trinidad. In 1986, we established the Centre for Marine and Environmental Studies at our Cave Hill Campus in Barbados. In 2006, we established the Institute for Sustainable Development here on the Mona Campus, constituting collectively a rich praxis of research, teaching and activism that has laid the pathway and the policy framework for the arrival of the Accelerator.”

President Moreno committed the $1 billion in funds that IDB pledged at President Macron’s December 2017 Paris One Planet summit and added a further $3 million as start-up funds to the Accelerator to help get this important initiative successfully up and running.
The leaders of eight island colleges and universities made several collective commitments toward sustainability on April 9, 2019 during a presidential summit prior to the start of the 10th University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability at the Hyatt Regency Guam. The University of the West Indies was among the group, which also included the presidents from the University of Guam, Guam Community College, Northern Marianas College, the College of the Marshall Islands, the University of Hawaii, Western Philippines University in Palawan, and Jeju National University in South Korea.

“Universities were not built for themselves — they were built for their communities. We are islands apart, but we are all in this together.”

Professor Dale Webber, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Mona Campus
“All of our universities are uniquely well-suited to help society figure out how to meet the challenges that we’re facing in terms of sustainability,” said Thomas W. Krise, president of UOG.

The university heads shared with one another the specific initiatives underway on their campuses to address sustainability issues — including renewable energy, rainwater catchment, and transportation projects — as well as the challenges in island sustainability that they continue to face, including waste reduction and food security. They then agreed upon the list of commitments in terms of educational programming and university activity, i.e.:

- Seek indigenous/island solutions to island problems
- Connect heads of research with one another
- Connect heads of workforce development with one another
- Create an inventory or website to connect best practices or solutions
- Exchange visits among institutions to foster future exchanges of faculty, staff, and students

In his remarks, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI Mona Campus, Professor Dale Webber reminded that “Universities were not built for themselves — they were built for their communities.” He continued, “We are islands apart, but we are all in this together.”
Two separate tourism-related initiatives – one about the business of tourism and the other about managing the risks affecting tourism – are in progress, involving links with The University of the West Indies Mona Campus in Jamaica.

The UWI should have its first Graduate School of Tourism open for business by early 2020. It will be located at the new UWI Western Jamaica Campus at Barnett Oval in Montego Bay, the heart of the tourism belt in Jamaica. UWI Mona Campus Principal Professor Dale Webber said the school will serve to complement the other tourism training institutions in western Jamaica that currently provide undergraduate studies and will serve as feeders to The UWI’s postgraduate programmes.

Meanwhile, a Global Tourism Resilience and Crisis Management Centre was launched by the Government of Jamaica in a ceremony at the Montego Bay Convention Centre in Rose Hall, St James on January 20 of this year. The centre, to be located on the UWI Mona Campus in Kingston, will work to assess, forecast, mitigate and manage a range of risks affecting the tourism sector. These risks may include natural disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and tsunamis; cybercrime; pandemics; terrorism; war and changing funding models. The centre is expected to be operating from September 2019.
First announced during the United Nations World Tourism Organisation Global Conference on Sustainable Tourism in Montego Bay, Jamaica in November 2017, the centre will be tasked with creating, producing and generating toolkits, guidelines and policies to handle the recovery process following a disaster. The centre will also assist with preparedness, management and recovery from disruptions or crises that impact tourism and threaten economies and livelihoods.

Jamaica’s Minister of Tourism, Edmund Bartlett, has said that several universities have expressed an interest in the centre, with plans of forging partnerships. They include The University of the West Indies; Queensland University, Australia; Hong Kong Polytechnic; Bournemouth University, United Kingdom; and George Washington University, United States of America.

He added that partnerships are also being explored with Harvard University; University of Waikato, New Zealand; University of Southampton; Boston University, the United States of America and the International University of Japan, to look at global projects relating to tourism resilience and climate change.

Major partners in the centre include the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO); the World Travel and Tourism Council; the Caribbean Hotel and Tourism Association; the Caribbean Tourism Organisation; and the Jamaica Hotel and Tourist Association (JHTA), according to JIS.

Assistant Secretary General of the Organisation of American States (OAS), Nestor Mendez, has said establishment of the Centre is not only vital but also “very timely.”

“It is of particular significance that the Centre is being established here in the Caribbean, as the Caribbean tourism sector is often the victim of Atlantic hurricanes, which invariably leads to temporary and permanent closure of hotels and ancillary businesses,” Mendez said at the launch event in January.

He said the OAS has long recognised, with grave concern, that the Latin American and Caribbean region represents one of the most vulnerable regions in the world due to the adverse impact of climate change.

“For the OAS, the issue of resilience remains a critical one. The organisation has played an integral role in supporting efforts to enhance resilience in the tourism sector in the Caribbean for many years,” Mendez noted.
In 2017, the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) based at The UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica, was contracted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), on behalf of the Government of Jamaica, to prepare the country’s first Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Country Report.

The Sustainable Development Goals provide a pathway towards achieving a more sustainable future, and targets for the world we would like to have by 2030. The Global Goals aim to ensure that the most vulnerable are considered, and no one is left behind.

To undertake this assignment, SALISES formed a multi-disciplinary team led by Prof. Aldrie Henry-Lee and Dr. Arlene Bailey - Principal and Co-Principal Investigators. The team produced four research reports or outcomes:

- The Sustainable Development Goals Report, which focused on key Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 6, Clean Water and Sanitation; SDG 7, Affordable and Clean Energy; SDG 11, Sustainable Cities and Communities; SDG 12, Sustainable Consumption and Production; SDG 15, Life on Land; and SDG 17, Partnerships for the Goals.
- Statistical Annex
- Report on country efforts towards “Leaving No One Behind” and including Jamaica’s most vulnerable in the development processes
- Communications and Advocacy Plan for the SDGs.

The report assessed some key indicators for those people considered vulnerable and at risk, assessing indicators of the national poverty rate, the national child poverty rate, the youth unemployment rate and the poverty rate in rural areas. The team met with many stakeholders and held community consultations to do the study.

The study highlighted some of the good practices for which Jamaica has been recognised; lessons learned in mainstreaming and localising the SDGs and accelerating implementation; challenges which may be faced during the implementation process; areas for capacity building in monitoring and reporting on the SDGs; and related areas where additional support may be useful.

Elements of the four reports prepared were used to inform the preparation of Jamaica’s first Voluntary National Review on the Sustainable Development Goals, presented at the United Nations High-Level Political Forum 2018 (UN HLPF 2018) which took place July 9-18, 2018 at UN Headquarters in New York. The SALISES team formed part of the Jamaican delegation to the HLPF, presenting the report on “Leaving No One Behind” on behalf of Jamaica.

The project should contribute to planning and policy processes of the Government of Jamaica and play a role in advancing the strategic vision of Jamaica by 2030.
Prof. Aldrie Henry-Lee is seated left, as Senator the Hon. Pernel Charles Jr. Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica presents Jamaica's Voluntary National Review at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development at the United Nations Headquarters.

Jamaica's Delegation to the UN HLPF 2018 - L - R: His Excellency Ambassador Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations; Dr. Arlene Bailey, Senior Research Fellow and Associate Dean, SALISES, UWI, Mona; Prof. Aldrie Henry-Lee, Professor and University Director for SALISES, UWI, Mona; Diedre Mills, Jamaica's Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN; Senator the Hon. Pernel Charles Jr, Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; Leesha Delatie-Budair, Deputy Director, STATIN; Nicola Barker-Murphy, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the UN; Sam Davis, Director, Government and Regulatory Affairs, Jamaica Public Service; Toni-Shae Freckleton, Director, Population and Health Unit, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ); and Dr Wayne Henry, Director General, PIOJ.

L-R Mrs. Nicola Barker Murphy, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the United Nations, New York; Mrs Diedre Mills, Deputy Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, New York; Dr. Arlene Bailey Senior Research Fellow & Associate Dean, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies; Mrs. Toni-Shae Freckleton, Manager, Population and Health Unit, Social Policy, Planning and Research Division of the Planning Institute of Jamaica; Mr. Bruno Pouezat, UNDP Resident Representative and Regional Coordinator, Jamaica; Professor Aldrie Henry-Lee, Professor and University Director, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies at Jamaica's VNR Presentation at the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development at the United Nations.
A very moving dance from The Crossing, originally choreographed by the late Professor The Honourable Rex Nettleford, opened the formal launch of the Centre for Reparations Research (CRR) on October 10, 2017. Performed by the National Dance Theatre Company of Jamaica, the dance conveyed through music and motion a poignant sense of suffering and loss, as well as qualities of endurance and the spiritual resolve of African peoples brought to the Caribbean and enslaved. With this symbolic dance, the Centre for Reparations Research was launched in Kingston, Jamaica at The UWI Mona Campus.

The Centre is an activist collective which aims to build awareness and do necessary research to advance the claim for reparation for some of the brutalities of our violent history: European-imposed genocide of Indigenous Peoples, African enslavement, deceptive indenture, and the negative and continuing legacies of a pernicious colonialism which deliberately underdeveloped and divided the Caribbean in ways that have ripple effects to this day.

UWI Vice-Chancellor Professor Hilary Beckles says the Slavery Abolition Act of 1833, which required the payment of £20 million to slave owners in compensation for loss of “property”, left formerly enslaved people landless, homeless and uncompensated, setting future generations and emerging societies such as the Caribbean at a significant economic and social loss. Therefore the Centre for Reparations Research is leading the advocacy efforts for CARICOM’s Reparatory Justice programme. Professor Beckles is Chair of the CARICOM Reparation Commission.

In addition to its advocacy, the Centre for Reparations Research is leading an educational
The idea of reparations is not ancient history. A loan that was taken by the British Government to pay slave owners for the abolition of slavery in 1834 was not fully repaid until 2015.

work agenda to teach new generations of young people in schools and at the University about the legacies of genocide, enslavement, indenture and colonialism, and the need for justice and repair.

Professor Verene Shepherd is the Director of the CRR. Its creation is a direct response to CARICOM’s mandate to The UWI at the 34th Meeting of Heads of Government in July 2013 to collaborate with other Caribbean universities to establish the research institute as a vehicle for research and public advocacy.

The CARICOM Reparation Commission, established in 2013, has put forward a Ten-Point Action Plan to European countries formerly involved in slavery and exploitation of the Caribbean. Features of the plan are: a full formal apology from European governments; repatriation for those who desire it; an indigenous peoples’ development programme; the building of cultural institutions; tackling chronic diseases such as hypertension and type two diabetes; the eradication of illiteracy; an African knowledge programme; psychological rehabilitation; technological transfer and science sharing; and the cancellation of debt.

Today, there are national reparations committees in many Caribbean islands as the cause gains momentum.

The idea of reparations is not ancient history. A loan that was taken by the British Government to pay slave owners for the abolition of slavery in 1834 was not fully repaid until 2015. Professor Beckles shared this information at a press conference in February 2018 at the CRR, noting it meant that for 180 years, British citizens had been repaying the slavery abolition loan, which made it a present-day issue.

Keynote speaker, Ms. Samia Nkrumah, daughter of the late President of Ghana, Kwame Nkrumah with Professor Verene Shepherd during the launch of the Centre for Reparations Research at The UWI.
HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM at The UWI

The University of the West Indies St. Augustine Campus is championing human rights advocacy through a range of initiatives. Among them, a series of highly International Human Rights Clinic sessions run by The UWI St. Augustine’s Faculty of Law, led by Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, Dean of the Law Faculty; and a research project on child rights involving many partners from Canada and Central America, led by Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard, Senior Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES).

HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

The Faculty of Law’s International Human Rights Clinic (IHRC) is an innovative education tool which engages human rights in accessible and activist ways, aligning with non-governmental organisations, legal practitioners, the state sector, international organisations and other strategic partners. It accompanies the LLB International Human Rights Clinic Course and is funded by the Ministry of Education through the European Development Fund.

This year students worked on Persons Deprived of Liberty (including Remand and Refugees). Currently there are few legal professionals that have sufficient knowledge of international human rights and refugee law to provide competent representation. Here the IHRC can help, in partnership with others, to support the new responsibility of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to advance its priorities in migration management while addressing refugee and migrant rights.

The Clinic has been accepted as an institution for the purposes of presenting before international hearings on human rights violations at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Washington, DC and is currently preparing submissions for a hearing on Refugees in the Caribbean.

RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH PARTNERSHIP

In another human rights project, this time under the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) at The UWI St. Augustine, children and youth are receiving central focus. The project, entitled Rights of Children and Youth Partnership – Strengthening Collaboration in the Americas (RCYP) has received CDN $4.2 million from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada for the period 2015-2021.

The project, based in Canada, Central America and the Caribbean, aims to understand the social, political, economic and social protection factors that contribute to violence against children and youth in the three regions. It will also advise policy-makers and service providers on effective strategies for youth safety, and contribute to evidence-based policies and practices that respond to violence against children and youth.

Sites for the studies are Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Honduras, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica.

PROJECT LEADS:

Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, Dean, Faculty of Law, The UWI St. Augustine Campus
Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard, Senior Fellow, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The UWI St. Augustine Campus

Global Conversations – Human Rights
Lead researcher Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard is working with the lead academic partner Ryerson University and others on this project, namely: Dalhousie University, McMaster University, Pontifica Universidad Catolica, Madre y Maestra, The Governing Council of the University of Toronto, Universidad Lutherana Salvadorena, Universidad Nacional, Autonoma de Honduras, University of Ontario Institute of Technology, University of Prince Edward Island, University of San Carlos de Guatemala, University of Technology, Wilfred Laurier University, and York University.

Non-academic partners are: Catholic Children’s Aid Society, Toronto Centre for Development and Constructive Interaction (Dominican Republic), Commonsense Childbirth (Florida, United States), El Consejo Nacional de la Ninez y la Adolescencia (Dominican Republic), Federacion Dominicana de Municipios (Dominican Republic), Institute for Research Development on Inclusion and Society (Ontario, Canada), Office of the Provincial Advocate for Children and Youth (Ontario, Canada), Save the Children Dominicana (Dominican Republic), UNICEF El Salvador, and UNICEF Nicaragua.

**LAW FACULTY WORKSHOPS & CONFERENCES**

The Faculty of Law at The UWI St. Augustine has, on an ongoing basis, organised and hosted a wide range of specialist international workshops and conferences with diverse global partners and stakeholders on a range of issues and themes. These efforts, most recently, have included:

**OIL, GAS AND ENERGY LAW CONFERENCE: MARCH 27-29, 2019**

The Third Biennial Oil & Gas Law Conference (on petroleum/fossil fuel issues) and The Just Transition Initiative Conference (on transitions to renewable energy) was themed: “The Relevance of Renewable Energy in the Caribbean.” World-leading experts in global energy law and sustainability discussed how different economies and industries can make a “just transition” to a low-carbon energy future.

Topics included oil and gas law contract re-negotiation, taxation, environmental justice and energy issues in transitioning to a greener economy. Several major oil companies, universities and the Trinidad and Tobago Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries collaborated with The UWI to host this conference.

Keynote speakers included Vonda Brunsting, Programme Manager of The Just Transition Project at Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University, US; Professor Raphael Heffron, Centre for Energy, Petroleum, Mineral Law & Policy, University of Dundee, UK and Visiting Professor at Oxford University; and Kevin Rammarine, Strategic Energy Adviser, Former Minister of Energy, Trinidad and Tobago.

**EU-CARICOM LAW CONFERENCE: SEPTEMBER 27-28, 2018**

Co-hosted with Brunswick European Law School (BELS) of Ostfalia University, Germany and Coventry University, this conference presented on a wide array of significant topics, including: Marijuana and the Law: The New CARICOM Frontier & Lessons From The EU (Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, Professor of Labour Law, Dean of The UWI St. Augustine Faculty of Law); Cybercrime (Dr. Roger Ward, cybersecurity lecturer & Senior VP of Operations at University of Maryland, Baltimore, USA); Citizenship By Investment (Kai-Ann Skeete, Research Fellow at The UWI Cave Hill in Barbados); Trouble in Paradise: Case Study on Venezuelan Asylum-seekers - Experiences in Trinidad and Tobago (Aschille Clarke-Mendes, lawyer); and Caribbean Tax Havens in Danger Under BEPS (Dr. Till Zech, Professor of Tax Law at the Brunswick European Law School, Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences, Germany).

**SPORTS LAW WORKSHOP: APRIL 12, 2018**

This workshop featured distinguished international and local speakers and raised issues of the (mis)management of Caribbean sports, notably cricket; corruption in sports; the need for accountability in the big business of sports which earns much revenue with little local oversight; and the work of the Court of Arbitration for Sport which is based in Lausanne, Switzerland. Among the presenters were eminent international British sports lawyer, author and lecturer Professor Ian Blackshaw; former West Indies wicketkeeper/batsman Deryck Murray; Dr. Jason Haynes who is senior Legal Officer of the British High Commission in Barbados; Dr. Justin Koo, a lecturer in The UWI Faculty of Law; Tyrone Marcus, Senior Legal Officer in the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs; Regan Asgarali, an attorney attached to the Intellectual Property Office of Trinidad and Tobago; and Stefan Fabien, an experienced corporate lawyer who is a member of the Trinidad and Tobago Anti-Doping Committee.
The University of the West Indies’ Solutions for Developing Countries (UWI SODECO), the international research entity established in May 2013, is making progress finding solutions to medical and socioeconomic problems affecting Jamaica and other developing countries. UWI SODECO works through its two divisions, Solutions for Medicine (SFM) focusing on medical research, and Solutions for Society (SFS), focused on solving socioeconomic problems.

Based in Kingston, Jamaica at The UWI Mona Campus, Chief Scientist at SODECO is Professor Terrence Forrester. He says that SODECO’s Solutions for Medicine team has implemented a research strategy to throw light on the molecular mechanisms underlying the increased risk for obesity and cardiovascular disease experienced by populations with a history of malnutrition over generations, against a background of the global epidemic of obesity and associated diseases, hypertension, diabetes and their vascular consequences, stroke and heart attack.

Often ignored, notes Professor Forrester, are the negative impacts of malnutrition in early life on brain function, impairing cognition, school performance, behaviour and the economic and social outcomes in adult life. So Solutions for Medicine launched its research project, “Saving Brains from Malnutrition” in Navrongo, Northern Ghana in April 2019 with collaborators at the Navrongo Health Research Centre. This project is funded by Nutriset, the leading manufacturer of foods and supplements distributed by UNICEF for the treatment of severe malnutrition in both public health settings and during nutritional emergencies, e.g. in times of famine, disasters and conflict. The research will determine whether supplying missing nutrients using supplements to pregnant and lactating women (thence their babies out to two years old) will support better brain development as a basis for improved cognition and behaviour.

The UWI SODECO medical research programme has been funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the National...
Institutes of Health in the USA, UK ODA/ DiFID funds, and endowments from the private sector through The UWI Development and Endowment Fund. SODECO research is carried out in the UWI SODECO Clinical and Basic Science Laboratories at Mona as well as in Ghana, Singapore, New Zealand and the United States in the laboratories of its international network of scientific collaborators.

Meanwhile, UWI SODECO’s Solutions for Society arm, since 2017, has been looking at restoring mangroves as a means of adapting to climate change. UWI SODECO has collaborated with the Institute of Marine Affairs, Trinidad (IMA); Coastal Engineering, The UWI St. Augustine; Centre for the Built Environment, Seneca College, Canada; Computer Science and Engineering, University of California, San Diego; and The UWI Centre for Marine Sciences to provide technical solutions for rehabilitating more than 1,000 hectares of significantly degraded mangroves between Rocky Point JAMALCO Port and Farquhar Beach along the south coast of Clarendon.

In research training, UWI SODECO recently attended a Frontiers of Science meeting between UK and UWI scientists funded and hosted by The Royal Society at Chicheley Hall, UK, from March 19-21, 2019. It was the inaugural meeting in a three-year programme to advance use of science to solve big problems affecting the region, such as climate change and environmental challenges to human development that impair health. Topics of low-carbon energy solutions, societal resilience and developmental biology emerged as study areas. A proposal was developed for this programme of work, organised by the Royal Society and SODECO, focused on supporting the United Nations Global Goals for Sustainable Development. As part of its Global Challenges Research Funding, the Royal Society has set aside £550K over three years to establish this programme.
A path-breaking study offers hope to the one in five Caribbean people and the 400 million people worldwide suffering with Type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes is one of the major chronic illnesses in the Caribbean that brings with it a range of other health issues, including possible blindness and loss of limb. Given diabetes’ link to diet and lifestyle, The UWI Chronic Disease Research Centre (CDRC) at the Cave Hill Campus, along with Virgin Unite, the Diabetes Association of Barbados and the Barbados Diabetes Foundation, launched a Barbados Diabetes Reversal Study (BDRS).

As background to reasons for the study, an earlier Health of the Nation 2011 study reported that 50% of the Barbadian population more than 65 years old had a diagnosis of Type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) and that two-thirds of the population were overweight, which is a risk factor for the development of T2DM.

This study evaluated the possibility of reversing diabetes by adopting an eight-week very low-calorie diet, followed by weight maintenance, to restore blood sugar to healthy levels. The study of patients from a wide range of ages (20-70 years old) began in January 2015, and was led by Prof. Nigel Unwin of The UWI CDRC, building on the work done by Prof. Roy Taylor at Newcastle University in the UK.

This research could change the way Type 2 Diabetes is treated in the future, with the potential to save lives throughout the Caribbean and around the world.

With funding from Massy Foundation, a new study (BDRS2) with community 100 participants lay health advocates from faith-based organisations have been trained to support and monitor their congregants who meet our inclusion criteria and are on the low-calorie diet. A community-based intervention could be more easily scaled-up to improve diabetes management by providing an accessible avenue for diagnostics, initial management and behavioural support. In total, between May and July 2018, 27 Health Advocates were trained.

PROJECT LEAD:
Dr. Nigel Unwin
Visiting Professor, Population Health Sciences, Chronic Disease Research Centre.

Professor R. Clive Landis then Director, Chronic Disease Research Centre.
Professor Nigel Unwin of the Chronic Disease Research Centre at Cave Hill (second from right) poses with businessman and philanthropist, Richard Branson and colleagues at the launch of the Barbados Diabetes Reversal Study (BDRS). PHOTO COURTESY: www.virgin.com
The UWI welcomes partnerships and collaborations and continues to contribute to the dialogues and outcomes in higher education.

**International Association of Universities**

The University of the West Indies (The UWI) is selected by the IAU as lead university for SDG 13 (Climate Action), and joins 16 other universities from various geographic regions which will form part of this HESD Global Cluster supporting the advancement of the sustainable development goals (SDGs).

**UDUAL**

The UWI is a member of the Unión de Universidades de América Latina y el Caribe (UDUAL), an organisation founded in 1949 to deepen relationships among Latin American universities and organisations such as the United Nations and Organisation of American States (OAS). UDUAL facilitates the exchange of faculty, students, researchers and alumni among its member universities, and shares research. At its General Assembly in December 2016 in Cordoba, Argentina, UDUAL elected The UWI Vice-Chancellor as Alternate Vice President for the Caribbean region.

**Universities Caribbean**

A new organisation called Universities Caribbean aims to revitalise and integrate the regional university sector and to enhance its quality and regional impact. This emerged from a November 12-13, 2018 meeting of leaders of regional universities and research institutes that took place in the Dominican Republic. Replacing the former Association of Caribbean Universities and Research Institutes (UNICA), Universities Caribbean recognises that no one university can find answers to regional problems such as climate-smart actions, Blue Economy innovation, poverty and security, and pledges the creation of a One Caribbean University System – that is the region’s voice in the areas of quality, globalisation, resilience, and financial sustainability. Vice-Chancellor Professor Sir Hilary Beckles was elected as the first president of the newly launched Universities Caribbean.

**Emerge America: Hemispheric University Consortium**

A Hemispheric University Consortium was created in April 2018 to provide a structure for students, faculty and researchers in the hemisphere to collaborate. The agreement emerged out of a meeting among the presidents of 11 universities across Latin America, the Caribbean, Canada, and the United States. The Consortium, which includes universities from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru and the United States, is coordinated by the University of Miami.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles (3rd from left) is one of leaders of the discussion around Universities and Innovation Ecosystems in the Americas.
The Consortium will promote discovery, learning, understanding and a higher level of integration across nations. Areas of interest include public health and wellbeing; climate change, sustainability and resilience; gender issues; entrepreneurship and inclusive innovation; crime and corruption; cyber security, technology and innovation for education; and sustainable development.

Commonwealth of Learning

The Commonwealth of Learning (COL) is an intergovernmental organisation created by Commonwealth Heads of Government to encourage the development and sharing of open learning and distance education knowledge, resources and technologies. The University of the West Indies and particularly its Open Campus has a long history of collaboration with COL, most recently the development of the BSc in Youth Development Work which will now be offered through COL as an Open Educational Resource to a consortium of universities throughout the Commonwealth.

The COL in November 2016 conferred the title of Honorary Fellow on Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Open Campus of The University of the West Indies, during the 8th Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions

The UWI currently works with the Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions on inter-institutional co-operation in areas such as accreditation, equivalency and joint programme development.

Proposed Colleges of the UWI (CUWI) system

The UWI has invited all Caribbean governments which are committed to establishing a university college to pursue this goal within a proposed Colleges of The UWI (CUWI) system. The UWI is reaching out to all interested and qualified community colleges to make this happen. The idea is to develop a quality, accessible college system that embraces the region. So far, seven colleges in Jamaica have come on board: Bethlehem Moravian College, Sam Sharpe Teachers’ College, GC Foster College of Physical Education, Church Teachers’ College, Shortwood Teachers’ College, St Joseph Teachers’ College, and Moneague College.
The UWI Regional Headquarters hosted its first ever meeting between an American President and the CARICOM Heads of Government in April 2015, when Barack Obama visited Jamaica before travelling onwards to attend the seventh Summit of the Americas in Panama.

Barack Obama was the first President of the United States to visit Jamaica in more than 30 years (the last was Ronald Reagan in 1982), and his easy-going, intelligent diplomacy didn’t go unnoticed when he participated in a Town Hall meeting at Mona Campus attended by 350 young Caribbean leaders.

Obama took the opportunity to launch his Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative (YLAI) to expand opportunities for young (25 to 35-year-old) emerging entrepreneurs and civil society activists. The YLAI is the United States’ premier exchange programme in the hemisphere. It provides 250 fellowships each year to enable people from Latin America and the Caribbean to develop joint business and social entrepreneurship initiatives.

“The Mona Campus is delighted to have been the host for the launch of President Obama’s Initiative,” said Professor Archibald McDonald, who was the Mona Campus Principal at the time.

At the Town Hall meeting, Obama spoke of the neighbourly relationship between the US and the Caribbean: “Tens of millions of Americans are bound to the Caribbean and the Americas through ties of commerce, and also ties of kin.

“Big Up UWI”

PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA
More than one million Americans trace their ancestry to Jamaica. More than one million Americans visit Jamaica each year. So we're committed to you and this region.

He spoke about America’s new chapter in its more open relations with Cuba (now halted under a different President). He noted the youthful age of most Latin American and Caribbean populations – more than 100 million being between the ages of 15 and 24 – and praised young adults’ good work ethic, sense of justice and idealism to make a better world.

“And unlike any other time in our history, the technology at your disposal means that you don’t have to wait for the change that you’re looking for; you have the freedom to create it in your own in powerful and disruptive ways.

Many of you already have, whether by starting your own enterprises or by helping others start theirs,” he said.

Obama singled out two remarkable young leaders, Angeline Jackson who became a global activist, and Jerome Cowans who grew up in a tough part of Kingston and started the LEAD youth group to help others like him stay on the right path. That humble youth group eventually grew to six chapters and Cowans’ work took him to five continents; he became the first Jamaican to receive the Nelson Mandela Innovation Award.

Through these examples, Obama made the point that one person can indeed make a difference and have power to change things for the better.
GLOBAL RECOGNITION

The UWI is globally recognised for excellence
If you have a UWI credential, it’s a good time to smile. In a historic first for the institution, The UWI made it into the 2018 Times Higher Education (THE) Latin America University Rankings released in July 2018, placing 4th in the international outlook category and ranking 37th overall among the top 129 regional universities in this part of the world. And shortly after, in another first, The UWI broke into THE’s 2019 World University Rankings, the only Caribbean institution on the world-wide list. It’s a remarkable achievement for a debut ranking, to be alongside the largest, wealthiest universities, private and public, in some of the biggest countries.

These rankings put The UWI in the elite band of the top 5% of universities worldwide (based on data showing that globally, there are over 25,000 recognised universities) and top 3% in Latin America and the Caribbean.

A highly respected assessment tool, the Times University Rankings are used by many students around the world to guide them in their university choices, and trusted by governments and other entities alike. The rankings assess five categories covering the core missions of all world-class, global universities: Teaching, Research, Citations (research influence), Industry Income and International Outlook.

As THE says on its website, “Universities are no longer compared just with rivals in their own city, or even their own country; world-leading universities are competing globally and attracting students and researchers from across the world. International outlook is therefore a mark of a top institution, relevant both to international and domestic students.”

Commenting on the University’s performance in the ranking schemes, Vice-Chancellor Beckles noted, “The excellence of The UWI has been a well-kept secret for far too long. Now, with these very impressive global ranking results, we can begin to share with the world the story of this academic enterprise in the West Indies that highlights the intellectual achievement and scholastic contributions of the Caribbean community.”

“The University of the West Indies ...is similarly... highly international. But unlike many of its peers, the bulk of its global transformation has taken place in just a handful of years, as opposed to several decades or centuries.”

- Times Higher Education
The University of the West Indies (The UWI) made its debut in the prestigious Times Higher Education (THE) rankings.

1 in the Caribbean

Top 3 in Latin America and Caribbean *

Top 5 in the world **

Regarded as the definitive list of the top universities, the prestigious Times Higher Education (THE)'s World University Rankings is the only global university performance table to judge research-intensive universities across their core missions of teaching (the learning environment); research (volume, income and reputation), international outlook (staff, students and research); citations (research influence); and industry income (knowledge transfer).

* among 1200+ recognised universities in Latin America & Caribbean region.
** among 25,000+ recognised universities globally.

For more on The UWI's performance, see https://www.timeshighereducation.com/world-university-rankings/university-west-indies
UWI PRESS
Wins Global Awards
SPREADING CARIBBEAN IDEAS TO THE WORLD

“A mind needs books as a sword needs a whetstone, if it is to keep its edge.”
George R.R. Martin, A Game of Thrones

The University of the West Indies Press has been helping us hone our minds and imaginations since it began publishing books in 1992. And as its published books educate, challenge or entertain us in the Caribbean, it also helps spread Caribbean ideas far and wide beyond our borders. The UWI Press has strategically selected world-wide distribution partners to enable the Press’ books to reach customers in the Caribbean, United States, Latin America, Jamaica, Canada, the United Kingdom, Europe, Central Asia, Middle East and Africa.

The Hon PJ Patterson in Manhattan, New York, at the launch of his new book
A not-for-profit scholarly publisher of books in 16 academic disciplines, the UWI Press particularly well known for its work in Caribbean history, Caribbean cultural studies, Caribbean literature, gender studies, education and political science. The Press currently has more than 400 books in print, and has 140 of these books available in the Kindle and Kobo stores. Its books are peer-reviewed and approved by an editorial committee composed of local and international scholars.

The Press’ current book subject categories are complemented by journal content, which support our researchers and students and stakeholders’ quest for related subject information. It solicits and accepts journals primarily in social science and humanities covering five subject categories in the period 2017-2022 and another five subject categories in 2022-2027. The subject focus areas for the first five years are: Caribbean History; Psychology; Environmental Studies; Research; Law and Sports. To date the Press has acquired the Journal of Caribbean History, Caribbean Journal of Psychology, Caribbean Journal of Mixed Methods and Journal of Law, Governance and Society.

Further, it recently signed an MOU with the China University of Political Science and Law Press (CUPPL) for the translation of Britain’s Black Debt: Reparations for Caribbean Slavery and Native Genocide by Hilary McD. Beckles. Another recent MOU outlines an English to French translation agreement with Editions La Decouverte for the biography of Marcus Garvey by Rupert Lewis.

Internationally recognised for producing world-class scholarship, the UWI Press has worked assiduously to build its brand and, by this, build the global reputation of The University of the West Indies itself. Over the last 20 years, the Press has received over 80 international, regional and national awards for scholarly, editorial and production excellence.

Among the UWI Press’ bestsellers is Marcus Garvey (2017) by Rupert Lewis, a biography of the man who established the ideological pillars of twentieth-century pan-Africanism in promoting self-determination and self-reliance for Africa’s independence. Another bestseller is World War II and the Caribbean (2017), by Karen Eccles and Debbie McCollin, which won the 2018 Gold Independent Publisher Book Award for World History.

The UWI Press also features many literature books, among them The Haunted Tropics – Caribbean Ghost Stories by Martin Munro (2015), which won the 2017 Next Generation Indie Book Award (Anthology, and the Foreward Review 2015 INDIEFAB Book of the Year Award (Finalists Anthologies). Its most recent publication is My Political Journey (2019) by Percival Patterson, which has enjoyed successful launches in multiple locations including Kingston and Montego Bay in Jamaica, London, New York, Washington DC, and Toronto.

Representative of UWI Press, Donna Muirhead, presents a collection of UWI Press publications to Ms. Therese Turner-Jones, General Manager, IDB Caribbean Group, as Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal of The UWI Open Campus, and Chair of the Board of UWI Press, Dr. Luz Longsworth said, “The UWI Press is delighted that the excellent scholarly work out of The UWI and the Caribbean will now be available in the IDB’s Library. This will be an invaluable resource for cutting edge research that will help in the formulation of policy and support for our region.”
The Cocoa Research Centre (CRC) located at The UWI St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad is custodian of the International Cocoa Genebank, Trinidad (ICG,T), which is one of the largest and most diverse collection of cocoa germplasm in the world. The Genebank, located at a 100-acre site at the University Cocoa Research Station in Centeno, is a world class collection of more than 2,300 accessions representing the major cacao groups, and is recognised globally by Biodiversity International, CACAONET and the FAO Trust.

From the inception of cocoa research in Trinidad and Tobago, the task of assembling the ICG,T has spanned decades of virtually continuous effort since 1982. A large part of this success is owed to the cadre of a succession of reputable scientists associated with this historical centre of excellence in cocoa research. A main source of original material for the ICG,T was Marper Farm, established by agronomist Dr. F. J. Pound following his expeditions to the upper Amazon from 1937 to 1942.

The CRC is today a vibrant institution with strong international ties and plays an important role in contributing to current research in cocoa as well as maintaining its mandate to conserve, characterise, evaluate, utilise and distribute material from its internationally recognised germplasm collection. Caribbean cocoa is internationally known for its fine/flavour cocoa, and Trinidad and Tobago in particular has a global reputation for its quality.

The CRC has more than 80 years of research under its belt through its previous incarnations as the Cocoa Research Scheme, established in 1930 under the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture; the subsequent Regional Research Centre set up in 1955; and the Cocoa Research Unit, formed in 1963, which was later restructured and renamed the Cocoa Research Centre.

In addition to its scientific research, the CRC provides certification, post-harvest support, chocolate-making support, DNA fingerprinting, breeding support and disease screening, which are paid services for clients throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, earning useful foreign exchange.

The CRC has also been running its own small in-house chocolate factory in The UWI since 2012, making a delicious 70% dark chocolate bar from locally grown cocoa. And it has big plans to construct and manage an International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre (IFCIC), a project being partly funded by a €2 million grant from the European Union/African, Caribbean and Pacific Science and Technology Fund.

The IFCIC is the brainchild of plant genetics PROJECT LEAD: Professor Pathmanathan Umaharan, Head, Cocoa Research Centre.
expert, Professor Pathmanathan Umaharan, who leads the Cocoa Research Centre tucked away in a wing of the Frank Stockdale building at The UWI St. Augustine. The IFCIC aims to rejuvenate Trinidad and Tobago’s cocoa sector by helping to develop and spread better technologies, skills and quality products, as well as seed a lively, delicious, indigenous cocoa culture. IFCIC partners include the European Union, the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, the ACP Science & Technology Programme, The UWI, and the Caribbean Fine Cocoa Forum.

The IFCIC will comprise a chocolate factory, a business incubator facility, a living museum of cocoa plants, a cocoa tourism centre, a restaurant, kitchen and labs, and a Chocolate Academy for courses in chocolate making. The chocolate factory will produce cocoa nibs, cocoa liquor (the unsweetened liquid base for chocolate), and couverture or finished chocolate (both dark and milk). The idea is to have a total bean-to-bar model to stimulate the sector and enable applied research to have real community and industry impact.

Professor Umaharan has long had a vision for the huge potential of the Trinidad and Tobago cocoa industry. Seven years ago, on behalf of the CRC, he applied to The UWI’s RDI Fund to do a special project on the genetic control and identifying markers for some specific cocoa traits. The project, approved in 2012, looked at cocoa yield, pod characteristics, disease resistance, cadmium bioaccumulation, rooting characteristics and flavour.

The project soon became a rising star among the RDI-funded projects because its findings attracted significant additional external funding to support more CRC work. For instance, it helped attract the EU/ACP €2.6 million funding to help build the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre. It also helped secure €500,000 in funding from ECA/CAOBISCO/FCC for a five-year project on mitigation of cadmium in cocoa, which is a growing health concern. And the MARS chocolate company is funding a joint cocoa genome sequencing project, where the CRC has partnered with Stanford University in the USA.

The CRC runs its own small in-house chocolate factory in The UWI since 2012, making a delicious 70% dark chocolate bar from locally grown cocoa.
Barbados cricketer and UWI Alumnus Carlos Brathwaite, brought international pride during a career highlight when he hit four consecutive sixes in a partnership with Marlon Samuels to secure an ICC World Twenty20 Championship for the West Indies against England on April 3, 2016. Brathwaite is also the current Captain of the West Indies Twenty20 International team.

Another Barbadian son of the soil, at 23 years old UWI Alumnus Jason Holder is the youngest ever One Day International (ODI) Captain for the West Indies, the second youngest Test captain of the team and 15th youngest for any Test nation. Still at the helm, as of January 27, 2019, he is also ranked the #1 all-rounder in the world according to the official ICC Test rankings.

Both Brathwaite and Holder were groomed in the Sagicor UWI cricket High Performance Centre (HPC) as well as the Combined Campuses and Colleges cricket programme which Braithwaite also captained before being promoted to the West Indies team. In 2016, both were special honourees at the inaugural UWI Vice-Chancellor’s Sportswoman and Sportsman of the Year Awards.
Dr the Honourable Usain Bolt, O.J., was honoured with the inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Alumni Exemplar Sports Award from The University of the West Indies (The UWI). ‘Dr Bolt’ received the alumni award for his outstanding sportsmanship, consistent record-breaking athletic performances, his continuing affiliation as an exceptional honorary alum of The UWI, and as an inspiration and role model for Caribbean youth. The award was presented at an intimate ceremony, held at The University’s Regional Headquarters in Mona, Jamaica on October 29th, 2015. In 2011 Bolt was enlisted as an honorary graduate of The UWI, with a doctorate from the Mona Campus. Following that honour, two of The University’s sporting facilities (at the Mona and Cave Hill campuses) have also been named in his honour.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir Hilary Beckles stated “Dr Bolt is a sports legend, deserving of this special Alumni Exemplar Sports Award which highlights his talent, zeal and determination. Going forward the award will be presented every three years to outstanding alumni in the field of sports.”

In his acceptance remarks Bolt said, “Being recognised in your own county is always one of my proudest moments. I am honoured to receive The UWI Vice-Chancellor’s Alumni Exemplar Sports Award. This makes me want to work harder to make my country, my family, my friends and my fans proud. I live to inspire young and old.”
Professor Sir Hilary Beckles welcomes Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Christine Lagarde, during a courtesy call and visit by the IMF head to The UWI Regional Headquarters, Mona, Jamaica.
The University of the West Indies Office of Development works to strengthen partnerships between the University and multilateral development partners and deepen the University’s engagement with regional and national processes to advance the 2030 development agenda.

Established in 2016, the Office of Development actively engages a wide range of development organisations to pursue opportunities for collaboration that will serve to advance the University’s mission. The office is led by Director of Development, Dr. Stacy Richards-Kennedy.

Under the current UWI Strategic Plan 2017-2022, the Office specifically contributes to the promotion of greater activism and public advocacy, as well as increased and improved academic/industry research partnerships. It has helped to strengthen The UWI’s advocacy on development issues, the SDGs and the 2030 development agenda, mobilise funding from multilateral development agencies in support of key strategic initiatives, promote strategies for multidisciplinary research collaboration, knowledge exchange and stakeholder engagement for greater development impact, broker collaborative initiatives to foster greater translation of knowledge into new policies, practices and products, provide technical guidance to departments on engaging multilateral development agencies, proposal development and reporting, and served as the institutional focal point for university collaborations with multilateral development agencies and strengthen partnerships for development through MOUs and other inter-institutional agreements.

Credited to the Office are recent key initiatives like The UWI’s deepened engagement in the Global 2010 Development Agenda and the University’s nomination as SDG-13 Cluster Lead in the International Association of Universities’ (IAU) Thematic Cluster on Higher Education and Research for Sustainable Development (HESD), The UWI’s partnership with a coalition of public and private sector partners for the launch of the Caribbean Climate Smart Accelerator, Inter-American Bank support for a study tour of MIT Media Lab and The Engine Boston by representatives of The UWI, and the brokering of several MOUs and grant funding by agencies such as CDB and UNDP.
US State Department opens doors to Medical Faculty at UWI

The UWI Mona and Cave Hill campuses are pursuing the recruitment of additional students in the full-fee paying programmes. This major achievement comes as The UWI Mona and Cave Hill are accepted as part of the USA Federal Programme to finance students from the US who are interested in studying at The UWI and represents a strategic success for both campuses. It is expected that this may eventually represent a strategic success for the Campus.

Eligible American students can use Federal financial aid under the Title IV Direct Loan programme (US Department of Education) to fund studies at The UWI. Students are required to complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to determine their eligibility. Priority is given to continuing students that have satisfied SAP requirements. Additionally, keen attention is placed on students with low estimated financial assistance in relation to the cost of attendance for their respective programme.

Mexico Chair established at UWI

A Mexico Chair was established at The UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica from October 2018 for six weeks as part of efforts to increase research collaboration and strengthen relations between higher education institutions in Mexico and the University. Mexico’s Ambassador to Jamaica, His Excellency Juan José González Mijares, made the announcement at a reception to commemorate the 208th Anniversary of the Independence of Mexico, held at his residence in Cherry Gardens, St. Andrew, on September 14, 2018. Lecturer and researcher at the Autonomous University of Baja California Sur, Dr. Rubén Olachea, was selected as the first Mexico Chair. He delivered classes in the Department of History at The UWI, Mona, for a period of six weeks, from October 1, 2018 to November 9, 2018 within the framework of the MOU. Meanwhile, Jamaica is expected to host the IX Meeting of the Mexico-Jamaica Binational Commission scheduled to take place in early 2019.

WTO Chair for UWI research

The WTO supports trade-related academic activities in developing countries and funds several positions under its WTO Chairs programme, which began in 2010. The aim is to enhance knowledge and understanding of the trading system among academics and policy makers in developing countries through curriculum development, research and outreach activities by universities and research institutions. The University is proud to have Dr. Keith Nurse as WTO Chair at The UWI Cave Hill Campus, Barbados. Nurse is Senior Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies. His research projects include topics such as “IP Value Capture: Fostering trade by capturing the value of creative industries in developing countries” and “Climate Impact and Action: The Travel and Tourism Industry in the Caribbean and Small Island Developing States”.

Global Conversations – Student Loans and Professorships

The Faculty of Medical Sciences at The UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica

The UWI Cave Hill Campus, Barbados

WTO Headquarters, Geneva, Switzerland
SPECIAL REPORT
UWI GONE GLOBAL
Going global is a pinnacle aspect of legacy leveraging. The UWI has boldly taken its first global steps and will accelerate this strategy in the coming decade. As it continues to build its brand reputation as a digital, determined, global, 21st century university, its legacy for Caribbean development propels the journey to take The UWI to all corners of the earth.