Jamaican reggae artist Jimmy Cliff and American actress and social activist Ruby Dee Davis, will join the prestigious ranks of “honorees” as proclaimed by the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies (AFUWI) at the 10th annual awards dinner at the Waldorf Astoria, New York, on January 22, 2007. The gala, under the patrimony of Dr. the Hon. Harry Belafonte, O.J., is a stellar event on the programme of AFUWI which was established in 1956 to develop an endowment fund in support of the University of the West Indies (UWI), has provided many scholarships and grants and funded special projects to foster the development of the UWI, has since 1996, recognized individuals and organizations linked to the Caribbean who have made exceptional contributions to the world around them.

Jimmy Cliff, of “Wonderful World, Beautiful People”, “The harder They Come” and “I Can See Clearly Now” fame, will be presented with The University of the West Indies Bob Marley award” at the event.

Embodied by Bob’s widow, Mrs. Rita Marley, O.D., and the Marley Foundation, the award is made to an individual for outstanding achievements in the areas of art and culture. A special award will be presented to Mrs. Davis, star of Broadway, television, radio and film, and a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in recognition of her work, which especially benefits minorities.

“Caribbean Luminary Awards” will also be presented at the awards dinner to Joan Aagustine, living Bardge; Samuel J. Daniel, M.D.; Geoffrey Frankum, M.D.; Malcolm Gladwell and Her Excellency Dame Portia Dr. (O.D.), for “championing” the cause, and making significant contributions to, or brought to public prominence, issues that affect the Caribbean. These includes: Dr. Augustine for her work, which signify the progress made during the 20th century in particular some of the significant contributions made by the Caribbean diaspora. Receiving the Vice Chancellor Achievement Awards will be Lloyd W. Brown II; Paul Campbell; Eric Eve; Michael Granger; Elliott Matlery, Danica Perin and Wayne A. Newton, all individuals of Caribbean heritage who are “rising stars” in their respective fields, or who have made significant contributions to, or brought to prominence, issues that affect the Caribbean.

“The University of the West Indies and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) are collaborating on the establishment of a Caribbean Institute of Public Safety & Justice (CIPSJ)”, said Dr. Juan Carlos Espinola, Resident Representative of the UNDP presented a cheque today (14-12-06) to UWI Vice Chancellor, Professor E. Nigel Harris, to fund a pre feasibility study to establish the Institute. The work towards the establishment of the CIPSJ comes against the backdrop of the mounting incidence of crime across the region and the emergence of new forms of crime such as extortion racket and kidnapping, money laundering, drugs and firearms trafficking, trans- national crime and terrorism and white-collar crime.

The Caribbean Institute of Public Safety & Justice, proposed by Vice Chancellor Harris, will bring under a University-wide umbrella, a number of initiatives already taking place at UWI’s main campuses – Mona, Cave Hill and St. Augustine – focused on examining and developing responses to the crime and security threats facing the region, and will bring together a network of academics, scholars and policy makers concerned with issues of crime and criminal justice in the Caribbean.

The Institute will have as its main objectives:

- Research in crime, security and the justice system
- The delivery of education and training to regional law enforcement personnel
- The provision of consultation services and policy advice to regional governments
- The Institute will also deliver training programmes, workshops, seminars and conferences to bring together regional stakeholders in the areas of crime and security.

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AFUWI Top Honours for
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The main objectives are to contribute to youth leadership development and
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The University of the West Indies (UWI) and
the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Relief Agency
(CDERA) have deepened cooperation and
collaboration in the area of Disaster
Reduction & Management.

Speaking in Barbados on December 12, 2006,
at the CDERA “Caribbean Inaugural Conference
on Comprehensive Disaster Management”, UWI
Vice Chancellor, Professor E. Nigel Harris, Mr.
Jimmy Callymore, Coordinator of CDEER and
Professor Wayne Hunte, Pro Vice Chancellor of
Research at UWI, for “championing” the
establishment of a Centre for Disaster Risk
Reduction & Management.

The product of a task force set up by Professor
Harris when he assumed office in October 2004,
the Centre is designed “to mobilize capacity
across the University community to assist in the
rebuilding efforts of countries affected by natural
disasters. It is funded by the United Nations
Development Programme (UNDP).

Professor Harris said at UWI “there are over
100 academics with expertise in five sectors and
more than 50 areas including housing, health
(emergency care, disease control, and psychol-
ogical care), agriculture (crop and livestock),
fisheries, forestry, roads and drainage, marine
and coastal environmental matters, fiscal and
economic planning, etc.

The Centre said, “will provide greater viability
to the heritage of talent our university possesses
as well as enable better connections to relevant
government and intergovernmental organiza-
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