



## Professor Anthony Harriott

DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND SECURITY

The Institute of Criminal Justice and Security (ICJS) continues to build a global network of crime and criminal justice researchers. In June 2017 scholars from Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the UK converged at The UWI's Regional Headquarters to participate in a multi-disciplinary three-day workshop on crime in English-speaking Caribbean societies. The workshop fostered international collaboration among established scholars, early career researchers and

postgraduate students. Non-academic participants such as public and voluntary sector representatives also participated. That effort was the result of an ongoing partnership between the ICJS and the University of Leicester and is opportune in that both partner institutions are embarking on a programme of global expansion. The workshop was grant-funded under an International Partnership and Mobility Scheme at a cost of more than J\$1 million.

In the year under review, discussions continued with colleagues in Latin America who also study gangs and community responses to crime. In 2016 collaborative dialogue began with researchers and practitioners working across Central America and Mexico to understand state responses to violence in communities and the creation of safe spaces in those countries and in Jamaica. Of particular interest to ICJS is residents' perception of safe spaces and to what extent those descriptions are sensitive to knowledge about gang presence and the role criminal gangs play in creating a perceived safe space.



Scholars, researchers and postgraduate students gather at The UWI Regional Headquarters for a multi-disciplinary three-day workshop on crime in English-speaking Caribbean societies.



Artistic representation of crime in one Caribbean community displayed at the multi-disciplinary three-day workshop on crime in English-speaking Caribbean societies.

The Institute's research agenda closely aligns with security needs of countries in the region. In Jamaica, for example, much has been expended by both the government and The UWI to tackle specifically the issue of lottery scamming. ICJS has been monitoring the situation in the parish of St. James because of the high number of murders recorded since 2014. The monitoring involves the collection of data and interrogation of murder-contexts towards a distinction between those attributed to lottery scamming versus gang related murders.

# Institute of Criminal Justice and Security

## FUNDING AND PARTNERSHIPS

**Open Society Foundation, Colombia:** Professor Anthony Harriott, ICJS Director, presented a paper on *Citizen Security and Police Reform in the Caribbean: Advances and setbacks 1997-2016* at a conference, "Citizen Security and Criminal Justice Reform in Latin America and the Caribbean", held in Bogota, Colombia in August 2016. Organised by the Open Society Foundation, an international grant-making network, a post-conference meeting focused on distilling the ideas from the conference presentations into research programmes to be given Foundation support for the next 10 years. It provided good networking opportunities and involved some of the leading scholars in the field.

**ICJS at UN Council Forum:** The Social Sciences Research Council - Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum of the United Nations periodically organises regional fora which bring together academic researchers to probe various global trends and their regional expressions. At the 2017 forum held in Georgetown, Guyana, the Director presented on *Transnational Crime and the Changing patterns of Violence in the Caribbean*.

**One University partnerships:** In February 2017, the ICJS contributed to a forum on organised crime, terrorism and threats to national security organised by the Institute of International Relations, located at The UWI St. Augustine Campus, in association with the National Security Council of Trinidad and Tobago.

**Partnering with IDB:** During the period under

review, IDB undertook a second major multi-country study of crime. ICJS was called on to partner and to provide support in various ways. In May 2017, after the publication of a number of country specific reports and a synthesising regional report, a conference was held in Jamaica at which selected findings were presented.

**Private Sector Partnerships:** In November 2016 the Institute launched its public lecture series on *"Public Safety and Justice in Jamaica: Policies, Problem-Solving*

*and Performance."* The series raised awareness in the Jamaican populace about critical issues concerning public safety. In November and December 2016 and again in February 2017, local and international academics subject matter experts presented on issues of crime reduction, performance, and community policing. The series was sponsored by JN Bank in the sum of J\$1,000,000.



(L-R) ICJS Director, Professor Anthony Harriott, Business Development and Research Executive at JN Bank (sponsor of the lecture series), Dr. Dana Morris-Dixon, Board Chairman of the Firearm Licensing Authority (FLA), Major General Antony Anderson and UWI Pro Vice-Chancellor for Graduate Studies and Research, Professor Dale Webber share a light moment following the ICJS public lecture: "The Dudus Effect"- The Decline in Violent Crime 2010-2014.



**Work in Amsterdam:** On an invitation from the University of Amsterdam, from September to November 2016, Professor Anthony Harriott gave an open lecture; participated in seminars with PhD candidates; served as a supporting resource personnel; and participated in a post-doctoral working group on policing in Brazil and Kenya. He also wrote a yet to be published essay on policing in Jamaica. He has a return invitation for 2018.

**UWI advocates for accountability:** Following publication of the report of the West Kingston Commission, ICJS hosted a roundtable discussion in February 2017 on accountability with specific attention to policing and Commissions of Inquiry. Representatives from several civil society organisations and the private sector attended. The dialogue served to introduce and facilitate an open sharing of ideas about the subject



A section of the audience pay keen attention at the ICJS public lecture: "The Dudas Effect"- The Decline in Violent Crime 2010-2014 in February 2017.

while respecting anonymity. The Institute anticipates that this will result in the development of a cadre of advocates on accountability.

## OUTREACH

### Report of the West Kingston Commission of Inquiry:

The Institute's Director served as a member of the panel of commissioners who inquired into the (2010) events in Western Kingston related to the extradition of Christopher 'Dudus' Coke. The Jamaican Parliament has approved the Panel's report and it is publicly available.

### Director appointed Chair of Police Monitoring

**Group:** Professor Anthony Harriott is currently chairman for the *Police (Civilian) Oversight Authority* (PCOA). The Authority, an independent group appointed by the Governor General, falls under the Ministry of National

Security. It operates as a mechanism to ensure accountability, adherence to policy guidelines and observance of proper policing standards by the police force.

### Industry/Academic Partnership to Reduce Crime and Increase Economic Growth:

At the invitation of the Government of Jamaica, ICJS Director made several presentations to the Economic Growth Council of Jamaica. The presentations and subsequent discussions focussed on the relationship between crime and economic growth. Of particular interest to the Council was the crime control proposal. ICJS provided a written submission which included advice on how to proceed and a number of crime reduction priorities and measures.



Commissioners head to Tivoli Gardens inquiry at the Jamaica Conference Centre. Forefront: Professor Anthony Harriott, Sir David Simmons (right), retired chief justice of Barbados, and Justice Hazel Harris, retired, among other personnel. PHOTO COURTESY: THE JAMAICA GLEANER.



(L-R) Dr. the Hon. Marshall Hall, Mrs. Jacqueline Hinkson, Professor Harriott, Mr. Gladstone Lewars and Mr. Errol Strong at the first meeting of the newly constituted Police (Civilian) Oversight Authority (PCOA) in December 2016.

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**The UWI Assists Local Police Force:** In April 2017 ICJS hosted an ethics and accountability training workshop for junior level police officers. The workshop was offered to 30 officers in the Jamaica Constabulary Force and served as a pilot for the further offering of the workshop. The officers were engaged by the Institute at a time when distrust for the local police force was extremely high.

Twenty-two senior officers from Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago participated in a two-day leadership workshop in June 2017 as part of the Command Course at the National Police College of Jamaica. Courses of this nature may have significant impact on improving the quality of police leadership in the Caribbean.

**Work with Planning Institute of Jamaica:** The ICJS Research Fellow has been a recurring member of a small technical working group created by the Community Renewal Programme Secretariat in the Planning Institute of Jamaica to review data and literature on transforming volatile and vulnerable communities in Jamaica. The Research Fellow has supported the committee's understanding of criminal gangs and challenges with the current classification used by the JCF. One of the main outputs from this committee has been a dataset with a listing of 100 volatile and vulnerable communities across all parishes in Jamaica. The dataset is constantly being updated by the CRP and is already being used to coordinate interventions and harmonisation of resources spread across different agencies.



Participants and Workshop Facilitator, Retired ACP Dormah Harrison (standing) listens to Professor Harriott's point at the police ethics and accountability training workshop for senior and junior sub-officers.



PCOA Members meet with JCF Commissioner George Quallo.