



## *University of the West Indies Alumni Association Florida Chapter*

*Margaret Barrett  
Leon Roberts  
Donat Grant  
Reicland Anderson  
Junior Farquharson  
Rupert Rhodd*

*President  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Secretary  
Treasurer  
Public Relations*

*P.O. Box 290595  
Davie, Florida 33029*

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### ***Letter from the President***

Dear UWI Graduates and Friends:

At the recent annual general meeting I accepted the nomination to be the president of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association (UWIAA), Florida Chapter. I am thankful for the opportunity to lead you, a very distinguished group of individuals and assure you that as your president, the Florida Chapter of UWIAA will earnestly seek to contribute to the growth of the University of the West Indies, and also make a positive impact on the communities in Florida. As William McKinley, the twenty-fifth president of the United States stated in his acceptance speech when he accepted the nomination of the Republican Party to run for president for the second time in 1900, *“to receive unanimous re-nomination by the same party is an expression and a pledge of continued confidence for which it is difficult to make adequate acknowledgment”*. Having served as vice president under Anthony Williams and as president after he migrated, I do realize that I have been entrusted with an important task and that you have expressed utmost confidence in my ability to be your leader in Florida. I accept the challenge and I know that with your help, UWIAA will be a catalyst for change in Florida and Jamaica.

I must commend Anthony Williams, the outgoing president whose tenure was cut short due to job and family obligations in Canada. I am certain that all of will look back with great pride on last year as UWIAA had a very successful anniversary banquet and was able to contribute to the financial undertakings of our alma mater. Of course, Anthony had an exceptional team of dedicated UWI graduates on his executive committee that must also be commended.

For the coming year, let us double our effort and our contribution in time to our organization. There is so much more that we can accomplish in Jamaica and the communities in which we live when we pool our collective energies. By next month, the new executive will publish a slate of activities for the year. These activities are intended to increase our membership and to increase our voice in the community. I look forward to the many interactions that I will have with you during my tenure and wish you all the best in your endeavors.

*Margaret Barrett  
President*

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE UWIAA FLORIDA CHAPTER

The annual general meeting of the Florida Chapter of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association was held at Florida Atlantic University in Davie on August 23, 2008. The meeting was called to order by Margaret Barrett who explained that she had assumed the leadership role of the association because the president Anthony Williams and his family relocated to Canada in the middle of 2007.

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting that was held on April 26, 2007 was accepted by Ronald White and seconded by Leon Roberts. Matters arising from the minutes included a verbal report on the success of the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary banquet in February 2007 and Margaret's praise for the effort of the former president Anthony Williams in leading the banquet committee and mobilizing UWI graduates during his tenure.

Before the August 23, 2008 annual general meeting, the constitution was circulated among the members and some changes were recommended. These included changing the current mailing address and the contact person for the association. At this meeting the proposed changes to the constitution of UWIAA, Florida Chapter were ratified and accepted. At the August 23, 2008 annual general meeting, the following amendments to the constitution were further proposed.

- Article V, Section 1: Removal of the position of Assistant Secretary.
- Article V, Section 2: Extension of the term of officers of the association to 2 years.
  - *The Officers of the association shall be elected at the Annual General meeting of the Association and shall hold office for 2 years thereafter.*
- Article VI, Section 5 (*The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in carrying out the secretarial functions of the Association and perform the full duties of the position in the absence of the Secretary*) was removed for the constitution and other sections were re-numbered accordingly.
- Article V11: The term *Annual General Meeting* (AGM) was replaced by *General Assembly* and also in other sections of the constitution.
  - The Executive Committee shall convene an AGM by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year or not later than March 31<sup>st</sup>. Its main functions are:
    - Election of the Committee
    - "*Election of 2 Auditors*" was deleted from the constitution while allowing the other functions to remain the same
- Article X: Financial Reporting
  - *Two (2) auditors shall be elected each year by the General Assembly. They must be active members not belonging to the Committee and may be re-elected twice. They will audit the books once per year was changed to the External Auditor shall be selected each year by The Executive Committee. The Auditor will audit the books once per year in compliance with Florida Statutes.*

- Article X was renumbered X111

The changes were accepted on a motion by Margaret Barrett and seconded by Leon Roberts. The re-amended constitution will be circulated among the members for final approval.

Other matters discussed at the August 23, 2008 annual general meeting includes keeping the annual fees at \$25.00. This was agreed on by those present. Regarding the UWIAA website, Leon reported that it was not operational at that time but was expected to be functional by the following week. A contribution of US\$1500 was made to the UWI Regional Endowment Fund and a letter of thanks from Celia Davidson of UWI was read.

### **UWIA Florida Chapter: *The way forward***

- Kirk Barrow suggested that the name of UWIAA be changed to include the children and friends of members of the association. It was pointed out that there are different tiers of membership and presently it is open to friends and honorary members. Clarification from Celia Davidson of UWI on this issue will be obtained at a later date.
- There was a general discussion of how this chapter could assist the Medical College of UWI if it is needed and also to identify where funds should be sent to.
- To increase visibility of the association in Florida it was suggested that specialized license plate be commissioned with the profit from its sale going directly to UWI rebuilding fund.
- It was also suggested that through symposiums and speaker series, the Association should get more involved in the community

### **Election of Officers: 2008 - 2010**

The following persons were nominated and unanimously accepted to fill the executive positions.

- President: Margaret Barrett
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Leon Roberts
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Donat Grant
- Secretary: Reicland Anderson
- Treasurer: Junior Farquharson
- Public Relations: Rupert Rhodd

Along with those above, Kirk Barrow indicated his willingness to serve on the Marketing Committee, Sandra Schrouder and Leon Roberts will assist with membership, and Junior Farquharson will help with fund raising.

In closing the new president stated that this was a challenging position and we should now set the pace above all the other alumni associations and let our voice be heard in the Community. A

presentation was made to Margaret Barrett by Rupert Rhodd on behalf of Wolmer's Alumni Association. The next meeting will be in six weeks, with the date to be announced.

### **UN APPOINTS UWI ALUMNA AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR HUMAN MANAGEMENT**

In August 2008, United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon announced the appointment of UWI Alumna, Catherine Pollard, a Guyanese as Assistant Secretary – General for Human Resources Management. Ms. Pollard replaces Jan Beagle, who has been appointed Deputy Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva.

Ms. Pollard is an experienced leader with management expertise and commitment to change from within the ranks of the international civil service. In her position as Chief of Staff in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations she has distinguished herself in financial, human resources and general administrative management. Her career in the United Nations included assignments on financial and human resource management of the United Nations Volunteers Programme, the United Nations Protection Force in Croatia and the United Nations Development Programme.

Catherine Pollard's expertise in financial management is in part attributed to knowledge gained through a Master of Science degree in Accounting from the University of the West Indies, Mona.



### **THREE AT UWI, MONA NAMED RECIPIENTS OF THE 2008 VICE-CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

Since its establishment in 1993 the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence has sought to recognize high achievement by academic and senior administrative staff, as an initiative of former Vice-Chancellor, Sir Alister McIntyre. As many as five awards may be given in any one year in one of the following areas: teaching, administration and research accomplishments, service to the University Community, contributions to public service, and all-round excellence in a combination of two or more of the five core areas.

The 2008 Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellence has named three academics from UWI, Mona namely: Professor Celia Christie, from the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Child Health for excellence in Research Accomplishments; Professor Archibald McDonald, Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Mona, for Service to the University Community and Dr. Hermi Hewitt, Head of the UWI School of Nursing, Mona, for all-round excellent performance in teaching and service to the University community.

Professor Christie is a world authority on childhood infectious diseases. Since her appointment in 1999 as Professor and Chair of Pediatrics, Professor Christie's research output has increased, producing over 32 publications in prestigious regional and international journals. Her extensive research efforts have attracted externally funded grants to the UWI, totaling over US\$3 million.

Professor McDonald’s research in trauma has helped to guide national policies on injury prevention and management in Jamaica. His considerable administrative skills became evident, even before his appointment in 2005 as Dean of the Faculty of Medical Sciences. As Head of the Department of Surgery and the Faculty’s Representative on the Mona Campus Budget Monitoring Committee, Professor McDonald conceptualized and saw to the implementation of the Full Fee Paying program, resulting in the first significant increase in Faculty enrolment in forty years, with significant financial inflows to the Mona Campus.

Dr Hermi Hewitt is not only a very competent teacher but an outstanding administrator as well. Her impact on nursing education at the UWI and throughout the Caribbean is far-reaching. She led the phasing out of certificate programs in nursing, replacing them in 2004 with a generic, BScN UWI degree and introduced several new graduate courses leading to a Masters Degree in five different nursing specialties. Under Dr Hewitt’s leadership student enrolment increased from a mere sixty in 2002 to almost a thousand at present.

Other winners announced by the current Vice-Chancellor, Professor Nigel Harris for the 2007/8 academic year are: Dr. Colin Depradine, Lecturer in Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics, Cave Hill Campus for excellence in Teaching; Professor Anselm Hennis, Director of the Chronic Disease Research Centre (CDRC) at Cave Hill, for Research Accomplishments. The Award for all-round performance in a combination of two or more areas is also awarded to Professor Kit Fai Pun, Professor of Industrial Engineering in the Department of Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering, St Augustine, for all-round excellent performance in teaching and research. The Awards will be presented by the Vice-Chancellor on Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 5 pm in the Learning Resource Centre, St Augustine Campus.



**ALUMNI RELATIONS INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT DIVISION ANNOUNCES  
UWI E-MAIL FOR LIFE!**

UWI E-mail for life is a permanent e-mail address for all alumni of the University - and it is FREE. It provides you with an easy and secure way of receiving e-mail from friends, colleagues and classmates. Your friends will always be able to contact you, no matter how many times you change jobs or houses! Use your @alumni.uwi.edu address and stay in touch! Show your Pelican Pride - **firstname.lastname@alumni.uwi.edu**. For details contact: **iad@uwimona.edu.jm**



## UWI 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY - COMMEMORATIVE POSTCARDS

As part of the University of the West Indies 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, the Campus Libraries have developed a set of limited edition commemorative postcards which will be launched to the local and regional community in August 2008. The Cards feature the following images:

1. Collage on the History of the UWI
2. An ICTA Experimental Banana Plantation
3. The Principal's House
4. A Samaan Tree
5. The Administration Building
6. A Carlisle Chang Painting of the Campus



**Sets can be purchased at a cost of US \$20.00 from:**

The Main Library  
University of the West Indies (St. Augustine)  
Trinidad and Tobago, W. I.  
Contact: Ruillannii Mahon  
Phone: + 868 662 2002, Ext. 2134, Fax: + 868 662 9238  
Email: [mainlib@sta.uwi.edu](mailto:mainlib@sta.uwi.edu)

*Although graduation marks your entry into the "world of alumni", it doesn't mean the end of the sense of community or the benefits that go along with being associated with the UWI Alumni Association (UWIAA) ... so make the UWIAA your professional and personal enrichment partner for life! Stay connected to your alma mater, show your PELICAN PRIDE!"*

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To find out more about UWIAA, you can contact any of the individuals listed below.

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Leon Roberts (954)237-8083, [lroberts@realxposure.com](mailto:lroberts@realxposure.com)

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