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## **Announcement**

**GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday - June 20, 2009, 11:30 AM**

**Florida Atlantic University, Davie Campus**  
**Liberal Arts Building – Room 332**  
**(Broward College)**

For more information call  
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### ***Sixteen to Receive UWI Honorary Degree***

In its ongoing campaign to shine light on those who tirelessly contribute to the growth of the region, The University of the West Indies (UWI) will confer honorary degrees on sixteen worthy individuals during graduation ceremonies on all the UWI campuses later this year.

On the **Mona Campus**, the following person will receive honorary degrees.

- ***The Honorable John Issa***, an entrepreneur, former senator in the Jamaican Parliament, former executive chairman to Superclubs International Limited, and one of the most influential figures in the Jamaican tourism industry will receive the *Doctor of Laws* degree.
- ***John Maxwell***, veteran journalist and environmental activist, and an icon in public education, especially in areas such as decolonisation, democratic governance and related topics will receive the degree *D.Litt. honoris causa*.
- ***The Honorable Oliver F. Clarke***, Chairman and Managing Director of the Gleaner Company who has often been credited with turning one of the oldest newspaper publishers in the region into a very successful media enterprise, and also the co-founder of the Caribbean Media Corporation, now the region's leading multimedia communication service will receive the *Doctor of Laws* degree.



- **Dr. Anne Walmsley** will receive the *Honorary D.Litt.* degree for her achievements as a publisher and cultural historian. Born in Derby, England, she fell in love with Caribbean culture and is the first Caribbean publisher for Longmans Publishing Company.
- **Professor Colin A Palmer**, a prolific scholar and historian with over 60 publications, and who is currently the Dodge Professor of History at Princeton University, will also receive the *Honorary D.Litt.* at the Mona Campus. Professor Palmer's range of scholarly interests is exceptionally wide and aside from his academic endeavors he has served the region in several community initiatives through the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

On the **Cave Hill Campus**, the following person will receive honorary degrees.

- **Sir Frederick Ballantyne**, GCMG (Knight Grand Cross), Governor General of St Vincent and the Grenadines, will receive an *Honorary Doctor of Sciences* degree. Sir Frederick has had a long and distinguished career as a Medical Doctor, Educator and Administrator.
- **Paul Bernard Altman**, a leader in tourism development and heritage conservation in the Caribbean for over 30 years will receive the *Honorary Doctor of Law* degree. An avid support of the UWI, he has devoted his time and resources in the role of Chairman of the Barbados Board of Trustees for the Endowment Fund and has served as a member of the Campus Council.
- **Sir Lloyd Erskine Sandiford**, a scholar, statesman, author, educator, diplomat and politician will also receive the *Honorary Doctor of Law* degree. Sir Lloyd who served as the fourth Prime Minister of Barbados, has over 32 years of unbroken and devoted service to Parliament, and holds the record of the longest serving Minister of Education in Barbados. An advocate of tertiary education, he helped to establish the Barbados Community College and the Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic Institute.
- **Professor Zelma Edgell**, a native of Belize, and an accomplished novelist who began her career as a reporter for the Jamaica Gleaner will receive the *Honorary D.Litt.* degree at the Cave Hill Campus. She has championed the cause of women in society, serving as the Director of both the Women's Bureau in the Government of Belize, and the Department of Women's Affairs. Professor Edgell is currently an Associate Professor at Kent State University, Ohio, USA.

On the **St. Augustine Campus**, the following person will receive honorary degrees.

- **Yesu Persaud** will receive the *Honorary Doctor of Law* degree for his entrepreneurial and philanthropic endeavors. In Guyana, Yesu transformed Demerara Distillers Limited into one of the most modern, technologically advanced distilleries in the Caribbean. He is also the founder and chairman of Demerara Bank Limited, one of the first West Indian banks wholly owned and managed by Guyanese. In the cultural arena, Yesu has served as the chairman of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO), Guyana.



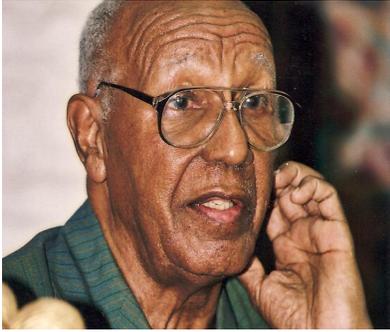
- **Robert B. Riley**, petroleum industry pioneer, and the chairman and CEO of BP Trinidad and Tobago (a company which contributes 25% of the Trinidad and Tobago Government's tax revenue), will receive the *Honorary Doctor of Law* degree. He has also been credited with pioneering offshore petroleum platforms in Trinidad and Tobago and doubling the output of BP Trinidad and Tobago from 200 to 400 million barrels of oil equivalent daily.
- **Christopher Laird**, theatre artist and poet and one who has devoted his life to developing the media, communication and film industries in Trinidad and Tobago will receive the *Honorary D.Litt.* degree. Mr. Laird was heavily responsible for the establishment of Banyan, which became the first independent television program production house in the southern Caribbean.
- **Angela Cropper**, environmental activist will receive an *Honorary D.Litt.* degree. Ms. Cropper will receive the award for her outstanding service to Trinidad and Tobago, the region and the world in relation to issues of the Environment and Sustainable Development. She was recently appointed Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program, a post which will allow her an even larger platform to disseminate her message of environmental conservation.
- **Professor Arnold Rampersad**, the noted biographer, English professor, and the Sara Hart Kimball Professor in the Humanities at Stanford University will receive the *Honorary D.Litt.* degree. Among his many works of biography and criticism is the two-volume "Life of Langston Hughes" for which the first volume was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. His work on W. E. B. Du Bois is also highly acclaimed. He is an elected member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Philosophical Society. His work has been credited with restoring the art of biography as a form of literary criticism.

At the **UWI Open Campus** Graduation ceremony to be held in Saint Lucia on October 17, 2009, the following persons will receive honorary degrees.

- **Dr. Peggy Antrobus**, a social worker that is well respected for her contributions to society as well as her support of the feminist ideology will receive the *Honorary Doctor of Law* Degree. Among her many other awards is the Distinguished Service Award for the enhancement of women's role in Caribbean societies (1990) and the UNIFEM Anniversary Award for extraordinary commitment to the world's women (1995). Dr. Antrobus was also responsible for initiating the Women and Development Unit (WAND) at the UWI School of Continuing Studies and the Commonwealth Save the Children Fund.
- **The Honorable Dunstan St. Omer**, a cultural hero, the father of the artistic genre known as 'Prismism,' and the artist responsible for designing the National Flag of St. Lucia in 1967 will receive a D.Litt. degree. Because of his work in the Cathedral Basilica of the Immaculate Conception in Castries, the UK Telegraph has described him as the Michelangelo of the Caribbean". St. Omer has also received the national award, the St. Lucia Cross, and a papal medal from the Roman Catholic Church for his outstanding church murals. He also served as editor of the leading newspaper, the Voice of St. Lucia, from 1959 to 1962.



## ***Passing of a Distinguished Scholar and UWI Professor, Dr. Richard Allsopp***



Guyanese linguist Dr Richard Allsopp has died. He passed away on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 at a hospital in Barbados following a long illness. At the time of his death, Dr Allsopp was a retired Reader and Honorary Professor of Caribbean Lexicography at the Cave Hill Campus of the University of the West Indies. He joined the staff there in 1963 as a lecturer in English and then proceeded to distinguish himself as one of the region's premier linguists. While at the University, he designed and taught the 'Use of English' program which was subsequently taught at all three campuses of UWI. He was

also Chairman of the division of survey courses of Social Sciences and was appointed as the first person to the post of Cave Hill Campus Dean in 1964. In 1971, he launched the Caribbean Lexicography Project and became its first Director and Coordinator. The product of this project, his landmark *Dictionary of Caribbean English Usage* (1996) was the culmination of over 20 years of dedicated and singular effort with limited resources. With this "stupendous work" (as described by the *The Economist*) he sealed his reputation not only as a lexicographical scholar, but as a major contributor to Caribbean education and cultural understanding. His Dictionary was followed in 2005 by his well received work, *A Book of Afric Caribbean Proverbs*. His last publications, *The Case for Afrogenesis* and *The Afrogenesis of Caribbean Creole Proverbs* (July 2006) is edited by his former student and current Society for Caribbean Linguistics President, John Rickford.

Dr. Allsopp also had the distinction of being the only West Indian invited to serve on the editorial board of the Oxford English Dictionary and the American Heritage Dictionary. Additionally, Dr Allsopp also served as the English language consultant to the Church of the Province of the West Indies for the Book of Common Prayer.

### ***Bermuda joins the UWI Family***

At the recently concluded Annual Business Meeting of the University of the West Indies' Council, held for the first time at the St Augustine Campus, the petition by Bermuda to be recognized as a full contributing country was unanimously accepted. This means that the Government of Bermuda would henceforth contribute to the revenues of the UWI based on an agreed formula and students from Bermuda would be charged tuition fees at the subsidised rate. Bermuda will be a part of the Open Campus and what is now referred to as the UWI-12 countries – that is, contributing countries which do not host a physical campus – will now be known as the UWI-13. The legislative measures to honour Bermuda's obligations are expected to be completed before the start of the 2009/2010 academic year. Bermuda's Minister of Education noted that "having ready access to three physical campuses as well as the Open Campus will enable Bermudians to have access to education in ways that have never before been available."



## ***Spotlight on Those Who Serve Our Community***



**Justin Peart, PhD** is an Associate Professor in the College of Business at St. Thomas University, where he is also the Founding Director for the Institute for Global Entrepreneurship and the Founding Advisor for St. Thomas University's Phi Beta Lambda business fraternity. Justin completed a Baccalaureate degree in Computer Science and a Diploma in Management at the University of the West Indies, and an MBA and PhD at Florida International University. He is married to Janet Picart.

Dr. Peart has an outstanding record of service to the community of South Florida. He has served as Secretary and Vice President of his high school alumni association, and he also initiated, set up and maintained his high school alumni website for 3 years. In the wider community, Dr. Peart has served with his church (South Florida Moravian Church) in many capacities: as a member of the mission team, the Action Committee, and helped to coordinate the packing of food baskets for the needy in South Florida, as well as for hurricane relief victims in Haiti, Jamaica, and Nicaragua. He is currently a member of the church's development board. As a board member of "Karen Peart Memorial Scholarship Foundation" that is based in Jamaica, Dr. Peart and members of his family has provided more than 35 scholarships to young Jamaicans in high schools, colleges and universities (in memory of his sister who died in 1994).

Dr. Peart's South Florida Community Website ([www.kingston21.info](http://www.kingston21.info)) is providing exposure for the Jamaican community in South Florida. Over 2100 Jamaican associations, professionals, restaurant and other businesses are listed at "no cost". Along with this "free advertising" Dr. Peart provides pro-bono business development and marketing consulting for small businesses.

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### ***Closing Thoughts***

*Learn to disagree without being disagreeable  
Be tactful. Never alienate anyone on purpose  
Hear both sides before judging  
Refrain from envy. It's the source of much unhappiness*

*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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