



UWI

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION FLORIDA CHAPTER

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## ***UWI Alumni Association, Florida Chapter Attends Church Service***

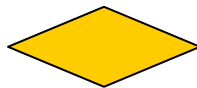


On January 25, 2009 members of the Florida Chapter of the University of the West Indies Alumni Association fellowshipped at the Pioneer Community Church, 601 SW172<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Pembroke Pines, FL. 33029. Seventeen UWI graduates, including the Donat Grant and Michael Carter, pastors at Pioneer Community Church were present.





The president of UWIAA, Florida Chapter, Margaret Barrett, speaking to the congregation on behalf of the UWI graduates who attended the service at Pioneer Community Church on January 25, 2009



## Things You May Not Have Known!!!

- **Did you know that there is an “alumni pledge”? Here it is!!!!**

### **The Alumni Pledge**

*As a graduate of The University of the West Indies, I commit myself to uphold the ideals and goals of my alma mater. My conduct and voice shall reflect the commitment to excellence of the "Light Rising From the West", as I fulfill my social and professional responsibilities and serve my community and region.*

*I will strive to ensure the UWI's place as a Caribbean icon: the catalyst for Caribbean development and leadership. It is a legacy that I will proudly help build for future generations.  
The UWI - First in our hearts and first in our region*

- **Did you know that there are different slogans for each UWI Campus? Here they are!!!**

**Cave Hill** – “Our Graduates are the Caribbean’s Leaders: Join the tradition of excellence”

**Mona** – “UWI, Your Place to Shine”

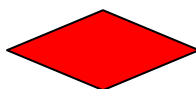
**St. Augustine** – “The University of Choice”

- **Did you know that the Caribbean Heads of Government listed below are UWI Graduates?**

- Percival J. Patterson, Former Prime Minister of Jamaica
- Dr. Kennedy A. Simmonds, Former Prime Minister of St. Kitts & Nevis
- Sir Lloyd Erskine Sandiford , Former Prime Minister of Barbados

- Dr. D. Orlando Smith, Chief Minister of The British Virgin Islands
  - Bruce Golding, Prime Minister of Jamaica
  - Dr. The Hon. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent & The Grenadines
  - Patrick Manning, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago
  - Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados
  - Dr. Keith C. Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada
  - Dr. Kenny Anthony, Prime Minister of St Lucia.
  - Dr. Denzil Douglas, Prime Minister of St. Kitts and Nevis
  - David Thompson, Prime Minister of Barbados
  - Dean Barrow, Prime Minister of Belize
- **Did you know that the University of the West Indies is one of only two truly regional universities in the world covering 15 countries, and that the Sickle Cell Trust at the University of the West Indies is an important international center for the study of Sickle Cell Disease?**

*We are proud of our alma mater, the University of the West Indies and we intend to stay connected to our alma mater, as we show our PELICAN PRIDE!"*



## **UWI Graduates Appointment in Jamaica's Diplomatic Corps**

*Mrs. Sandra Grant-Griffiths, Consul General to the Southern United States*



assumed her position on September 2, 2008 at the Jamaica Consulate office in downtown Miami and is responsible for consular affairs in thirteen southern states. Before coming to Florida, she was the Chief of Protocol for Jamaica, and Director of Protocol in the Foreign Ministry, a post she held from November 2004. Prior to that, she served as Director of the Jamaicans Overseas and Consular Affairs Department in the Foreign Ministry.

Mrs. Grant-Griffiths brings a wealth of knowledge to the overseas mission having joined the Foreign Service since 1977. From 1989 to 1992 Mrs. Grant-Griffiths served as a Project Coordinator on the CARICOM appointed West Indian Commission, headquartered in Barbados; she also worked at the Jamaican High Commission in Port of Spain, Trinidad, from 1977 to 1986. Among her professional achievements was her instrumental role in the establishment and operation of the Returning Residents' Program established by the Government of Jamaica in 1993 and the expansion of that policy into the Jamaicans Overseas Program that was developed in 1998. A past student of *St. Jago High School*, Mrs. Grant-Griffiths holds a Bachelor of Science (Honors) degree in Public Administration and International Relations from the *University of the West Indies*. She is married with one child.

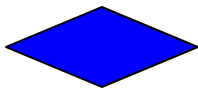
### ***Mrs. Sharon Saunders New Jamaican High Commissioner to Trinidad & Tobago***



Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, Hon. Dr. Kenneth Baugh recently announced the appointment of Mrs. Sharon Saunders, Jamaica's Deputy High Commissioner to the United Kingdom, as High Commissioner to Trinidad and Tobago, as well as Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean states.

A career foreign service officer, Mrs. Saunders succeeds Ambassador Peter Black, who in October last year, was reassigned to the Office of the United Nations Specialized Agencies in Geneva. Prior to her appointment, Mrs. Saunders served as Minister-Counselor to the United Kingdom as well as the European Communities: Belgium, France, Ireland Luxemburg, the Netherlands; and South Africa.

The High Commissioner-designate joined the Jamaican Foreign Service in 1981. She brings rounded knowledge to the appointment having worked in a variety of capacities, including Assistant Director of the then Protocol and Consular Division and Deputy Director of the Multilateral Organizations Department now the International Organizations Department. Mrs. Saunders holds an Honors Degree in International Relations from the *University of the West Indies*. She is a past student of *St. Hugh's High School*. She is also an accomplished artist.



## **Members of UWI Community in the News**

### ***UWI Professor Elected First Caribbean Distinguished Fellow of American Psychiatric Association***



Dr. Frederick W. Hickling, Professor of Psychiatry, UWI, Mona has been elected to the status of Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association (APA). This election makes him the first Caribbean psychiatrist from among 38, 000 psychiatrists in the APA to be afforded this honor. Professor Hickling will be presented with the medallion of Distinguished Fellow on May 19, 2009 at the Convocation of Distinguished Fellows at the Moscone Convention Centre, during the Annual Meeting of the Association in San Francisco, upon the invitation of David Fassler, the Secretary-Treasurer of the American Psychiatric Association.

The American Psychiatric Association's website identifies the Distinguished Fellowship as the highest membership honor the American Psychiatric Association bestows upon members. Distinguished Fellow is awarded to outstanding psychiatrists who have made significant contributions to the psychiatric profession in at least five of the following areas: administration, teaching, scientific and scholarly publications, volunteering in mental health and medical

activities of social significance, community involvement, as well as for clinical excellence. "Excellence, not mere competence, is the hallmark of an APA Distinguished Fellow." ([www.psych.org](http://www.psych.org)). The honor will allow Professor Hickling to add the designated DFAPA on his professional documentation.

Professor Hickling was instrumental in the establishment of a unique community psychiatric service and in pioneering cultural therapy in Jamaica in the 1970's. In the 1980's he established a private psychiatric research and clinical service in Kingston, and in the 1990's he played a key role in helping to shape policy for African Caribbean Mental Health in the United Kingdom. With wide international experience in the Caribbean, North America, the UK and New Zealand, he was Head, Section of Psychiatry, UWI, Mona, from 2000 to 2006, and is presently Executive Director of the UWI Caribbean Institute of Mental health and Substance Abuse (CARIMENSA). His research interests are in African Caribbean mental health, schizophrenia, personality disorder, community psychiatry, psychotherapy, political psychology and cultural therapy.

Professor Hickling is a graduate of the University of the West Indies, Mona where he was educated in medicine and psychiatry and later received specialist training in anatomy at St. Thomas' Hospital Medical School, University of London, and postgraduate training in psychiatry at the Royal Edinburgh Hospital, University of Edinburgh.

## *UWI Professor breaks new ground with PHI*

The University of the West Indies St. Augustine Campus, hosted the professorial inaugural lecture of Professor Brian Copeland on Thursday 29th January, 2009, Engineering Room 101 at 5:30 p.m. Professor Copeland, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, delivered a presentation on "The Steelpan Initiatives Project - A Strategic Model for the creation of a Culture of Innovation in Trinidad and Tobago. This lecture re-introduced the Percussive Harmonic Instrument (PHI) to the audience which included, Pro Vice Chancellor and Campus Principal Clement K Sankat, famed performer Machel Montano, and former Miss Universe Wendy Fitzwilliam.

This professorial lecture began with remarks from Professors Edwin Ekwue, Clement Sankat and St. Clair King. In his presentation, Professor Copeland tackled the issue of electric and electro-acoustic approached to engineering the PHI. He explained that the PHI is a completely electronic instrument that combines the physical form of a tenor with MIDI technology, essentially making it the pan version of an electronic keyboard. As such, pannists can use the familiar interface of this ingenious device to 'play' any musical instrument.

At the close of this lecture, guests were treated to an impromptu performance by Machel Montano. Alongside Jessel Murray and members of the Steel Orchestra on the PHI, Machel performed his 2008 composition entitled 'Oil and Music', much to the delight of all present.

## *Hopeton Dunn to Act as Secretary General of International Research Organization*



UWI Telecommunications and Media academic, Dr Hopeton Dunn has been named to act as Secretary General of the prestigious global academic organization - the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR). He will carry out the additional responsibilities of this office from his academic base at the Mona School of Business, UWI. Dr Dunn will act in that capacity following the passing of the former Secretary General Professor Ole Prehn of the Aalborg University of Denmark. He is the first scholar from the Caribbean or Global South to serve in this role in the Association's 50-year history. The IAMCR is the leading worldwide academic organization in the field of Media, Communication and ICT research, encompassing some 1,800 individual researchers and over 100 institutional members and universities globally.

The Association, based in London, enjoys consultative status with the United Nations and other multilateral organizations. It aims to promote critical academic discourse, joint publications as well as research interchanges among global scholars in the field. The IAMCR also serves as a think tank to address global development and technology challenges such as the Digital Divide. It seeks to encourage and strengthen the participation of new scholars, women and researchers from economically disadvantaged regions around the world.

Dr Dunn has been an active member of IAMCR for several years and recently served as the Co-Chair of the Association's Policy and Technology Section and as joint Chairman of its Special Task Force on Global Media Policy.

The University of the West Indies is a long-standing institutional member of the IAMCR, with Association members based at both CARIMAC and the Mona School of Business (MSB). The IAMCR's next major international conference will be held in Mexico City in July this year, under the theme Communication and Human Rights.

## *Renowned UWI Professor of Medicine, Dr. Charles Denbow, dies in Jamaica*

Guyanese Dr Charles Denbow, a member of the renowned local family of medical experts, died yesterday morning in his adopted homeland of Jamaica. He was 63. Professor Denbow, who was a consultant cardiologist, had been a senior lecturer in medicine at the University of the West Indies since 1986. He was appointed to the post of Professor in the Faculty of Medical Sciences at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus on October 11, 2000.

Professor Denbow was a distinguished clinical cardiologist of international renown who focused on cardiovascular diseases that are important in the Caribbean. He made significant and important contributions to knowledge in his field, his publications appearing in regional and

highly regarded peer-reviewed international medical journals. Professor Denbow had a good record of original work, with much of his research work centered on patient-focused clinical cardiology, emphasizing therapeutic and diagnostic advances that affect the care of patients with cardiovascular diseases. A naturalized Jamaican, Charles Denbow received his early education at Queen's College in his native Guyana and went on to obtain the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery with Honors from the University of the West Indies, Mona in 1971.

### *Dr Lucille Mathurin-Mair, The First Warden of Mary Seacole Hall, Dies.*



Dr. Lucille Mathurin-Mair, died at the age of 85 on January 28, 2009. Dr. Mathurin-Mair began her tenure at the University of the West Indies as the first Warden of Mary Seacole Hall between 1957 and 1974, and in the years following, had a significant influence on the lives of many West Indian women. She was the first woman to hold the title of Under-Secretary General of the United Nations after serving as the Secretary-General of the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women and as Jamaica's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Her contribution to the emergence of Gender and Development as a discrete discipline in the region was highlighted when she agreed to share her wealth of experience with this university as Consultant Regional Coordinator for Women and Development Studies between 1985 and 1989, thereby laying the groundwork for subsequent progress in this area. The gender and development movement that she helped to build and nurture, lives on in the work of scholars such as Elsa Leo-Rhynie, Barbara Bailey, Rhoda Reddock, Eudine Barriteau, Barry Chevannes, Hilary Beckles and many others.

She was the epitome of human decency, kindness and charm. The quality and style of her wardenship at Mary Seacole Hall could be seen in every aspect of life in the hall from the fine paintings which graced the walls to the cultural and literary events which took place there. She also shared her artistic ability with the UWI and her artwork continues to live on the walls of Mary Seacole Hall.

The UWI has benefited from her historical scholarship, as has Jamaica through her work on national heroine Nanny, and the region and the rest of the world through her work in gender and development. This dedicated service to the UWI, Jamaica and the Caribbean both at home and at the international level, has distinguished her in no small measure as her national and regional honors will attest. Condolence from UWIAA Florida Chapter

## *Bermuda's Premier receives Luminary Award from the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies*

Premier Dr. Ewart Brown of Bermuda received a Luminary Award Thursday night from the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies (AFUWI) at a black tie gala in New York City, on Thursday February 12, 2009. AFUWI acknowledged the Premier's career in medicine, politics and his commitment to young people. In an acceptance speech Premier Brown said in part: "This fine institution of higher learning represents so many positive symbols and figures in the Afro-Caribbean experience. I am flattered you would see fit to count me among the illustrious UWI family. "I thank my wife and my family for their compassionate understanding of my lofty ambitions and unending work. Of course I would like to also thank the people of Bermuda for their consistent support and my Government colleagues for the work they put in to make Bermuda a prosperous place in which to live."



AFUWI is a charitable organization with a mission to raise funds in the United States to enhance higher education at the University of the West Indies (UWI). As has been previously announced, the Bermuda Government has embarked on an effort to become a "financial contributor" to UWI which would give Bermudians the opportunity to attend the school at deeply discounted tuition rates. The Premier has called the move an investment in Bermuda's human capital. Actor Danny Glover and founding Governor of the Central Bank of Barbados Sir Courtney Blackman were also among the award recipients at the foundation's gala Thursday night. Harry Belafonte served as Honorary Patron.

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***"Building a stronger and more influential Caribbean Community"***



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