



## UWIAA Florida Newsletter



**President**  
Rupert Rhodd, PhD



**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**  
Ella Gooden



**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Geli Eldemire, JD



**Treasurer**  
Andre Gray



**Public Relations**  
Sandra Schrouder, PhD



**Secretary**  
Justin Peart, PhD



**Immediate Past President**  
Margaret Barrett

### **Mona School of Business (MSB) Tops US-Based Business Plan**

Students of the Mona School of Business (MSB) of the University of the West Indies (UWI), who participated in a recently concluded Opportunity Funding Corporation Innovation & Entrepreneurship (OFCIE) - a Business Plan competition for historically Black Colleges and Universities, in Atlanta, USA, placed first in the international competition, taking the cup for the first time as well as receiving the best presentation award. The MSB team was one of twenty-one schools which participated and was the only non-US based team.

Last year's MSB team also won the inaugural trophy for "Best Presentation", making this year, two consecutive wins in Presentation Skills for the Jamaican team. The 2011 team includes: **Christene Gittens, Taja Simpson, Danielle Barnett and Rohan Hylton**; who are students of the MSB MBA part-time program.

MSB entries in the Atlanta, US entrepreneurship competition, are drawn from participants in the UWI's internal competition on Business Plan Development and presentation in its UWI Venture Competition (UWIVC). The UWIVC provides entrepreneurial opportunities and experiences to students and helps them to look at the big picture and apply all their conceptual and theoretical knowledge to a chosen project. The winner of the UWIVC, then goes to Atlanta for the US's competition at the OFCIE. The winner of the OFCIE will go on to the international competition Moot Corp, sponsored by the University of Texas, Austin.

MSB first entered the OFCIE in the 2002/2003 competition, when it placed third; - an accomplishment which they repeated in the following year. In the 2004/5 Venture Competition, they placed second, with a project on Ornamental Fish Farms. They again placed third in the 2005/6 competition. Last year, 2009/10, they returned to their winning ways, by taking the first place in Presentation Skills, and the third position for the Business Plan.

The OFCIE is a not-for-profit Corporation which was created in 1970, to facilitate the ownership of for-profit businesses by minorities and other disadvantaged persons through the provision of investment capital. The team placing first wins a prize of US\$15,000, and the objective is to win potential investors, who will help to make the project a reality.

The investment proposal for this year's winning team was, "The Jamaican Ginger Factory", a project to revitalize the growing of Jamaican Ginger, which holds the reputation of being the "World's Finest Ginger." The UWI Venture Challenge Competition is a product of the Vincent HoSang Entrepreneurship Program, funded by a Jamaican resident overseas, Mr. Vincent HoSang. Director of the Vincent HoSang Entrepreneurship program is MSB's Mrs. Patricia Lothian and is coordinated by Ms. Chantelle Fuskin.

The winning local team had a number of MSB staffers who provided them with personal coaching and advice in preparation for the competition in Atlanta. MSB's partnership with the Private Sector enabled significant input, from business persons who are Adjunct Lecturers at the MSB, including Mr. Douglas Lindo, MSB Lecturer in Entrepreneurship and CEO of Bellindo Ltd., who was advisor for the team, Mr. Harry Smith MSB's Executive in Residence, and Mrs. Sandra Shirley, Business Consultant, who advised on the Business Plan. Additionally, Mr. Garfield Gordon, Territory Systems Engineer at Cisco Systems Inc. advised on creating a high impact PowerPoint presentation. Mrs. Elaine Commissiong Executive Director of CARA Ltd, and MSB lecturer in Marketing and Communication coached on Presentation Skills, assisted by Mr. Mark Chisholm, Vice President of Sagicor, and a graduate of MSB.



## Another feat for Norman Manley Law School

THE Norman Manley Law School recently placed among the top four schools in the Frankfurt International Investment Law Competition, again raising the flag of the Caribbean high. In its latest achievement the law school placed fourth in the world in the Phillip C Jessup International Law Mooting Competition in Washington DC last month. The Phillip C Jessup International Law Mooting Competition is widely regarded as the most prestigious international moot court competition worldwide. The

Norman Manley Law School team of Kamille Adair, Malene Alleyne, Marc Ramsay, Stephanie Forte and Cherrisse Whitehall Small challenged more than 120 other law schools in Washington DC, and reached the semi-finals, winning head to head contests with seven international law schools along the way.



In addition to reaching the semi-finals of the competition, the Norman Manley team also

won the award for best new team in the Jessup competition for 2011. Three Norman Manley students placed among the top 50 oralists in the competition, with Kamille Adair placing 10th overall, Malene Alleyne 41st and Marc Ramsay 43rd, out of more than 2,000 speakers.

Norman Manley took part in four matches in the preliminary round. They beat the teams from Georgia (Tbilisi State University), Indonesia (Universitas Indonesia) and India (West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences) each by a 6-3 margin. Norman Manley then beat a team from Iraq 9-0, and won a place in the advanced round of 32 teams. In the advanced round, Norman Manley beat Durham University, United Kingdom (8-1), and prevailed by the same score against the American University in the Octo-finals.

In the quarter-finals, the Norman Manley team had the better of the national team from Israel (Hebrew University of Jerusalem) by 7-2. For the semi-finals, Norman Manley was up against the University of Sydney (Australia), and in a closely fought contest, lost 4-5. The University of Sydney emerged as the eventual winners of the competition.

Principal of the Norman Manley Law School, Professor Stephen Vasciannie, was ecstatic about the school's performance. "This was a brilliant performance by any measure, and the Norman Manley Law School offers special gratitude to the team for raising the standing of the school in this special way," Vasciannie said. "Not only does this performance show that we can take on top schools, it demonstrates that our students are among the best in the world. In intellectual terms, this is akin to taking a medal at the Olympic Games," Vasciannie said.

Team members heaped praise upon staff and fellow students for their achievement, among them Prof Vasciannie, George Belnavis, who accompanied the team to Washington DC, senior tutor emerita Dorcas White, Hazel Edwards of the attorney general's chambers, Prince Neto Waite, Merrick Watson, Gabrielle Elliot Williams, among others.

Read more: [http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Another-feat-for-Norman-Manley-Law-School\\_8662342#ixzz1KGSEvzpW](http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/news/Another-feat-for-Norman-Manley-Law-School_8662342#ixzz1KGSEvzpW)

*Show your*

*Pelican*

*Pride!!*

*Support*

*your*

*Alumni*

*Association*

*in Florida*

*and your*

*Alma*

*Mater!!*



## [UWI Announces New Chairman of AFUWI](#)



Jamaican-born United States (US) restaurant chain owner, Lowell Hawthorne, O.D., has been appointed the new Chairman of the American Foundation for the University of the West Indies (AFUWI) Partnership Board. This was announced this week by University of the West Indies (UWI) Vice Chancellor, Professor E. Nigel Harris, at the headquarters of the AFUWI, in New York. Mr. Hawthorne is President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bronx-based Golden Krust

Caribbean Bakery and Grill Inc., which operates a chain of 120-franchised quick serve restaurants specialising in Jamaican cuisine.

Professor Harris hailed Mr. Hawthorne as, "a Caribbean luminary of Jamaican heritage, who has accumulated a number of remarkable achievements in the USA and has demonstrated a long-standing commitment to supporting education," including the sponsorship of scholarships to several Jamaican institutions, such as the UWI and his *alma mater*, Oberlin High School, as well as to United States institutions, such as Bronx Community College, which he also attended.

Mr. Hawthorne, who was conferred with the Order of Distinction by the Government of Jamaica in 2005, was named 'Entrepreneur of the Year for the Tri State Area' by accounting firm, Ernst and Young in 2001.

The success of the Golden Krust chain has been chronicled widely in US media, including the New York Times, the New York Daily News, Black Enterprise Magazine, CNN and FOX 5 News, and it has been continuously acknowledged as "the largest manufacturer, distributor and franchisor of Caribbean baked products in the USA."

Responding to his appointment, Mr. Hawthorne reiterated his personal commitment to contributing to the development of young people in the Caribbean and the Diaspora. He cited the opportunity to serve on the Foundation's Board "as providing another vehicle for making positive changes in our community," and affirmed his belief that, "investment in education is one of the best ways to impact society."

The AFUWI is a charitable organisation, with a mission to raise funds in the United States to enhance higher education at the UWI.

*By Derrick A. Scott, JIS Reporter*

*Help  
Maintain  
the  
Tradition!!*

### *Annual Dues*

Please remember to mail your annual dues of \$30. Make checks payable to *UWIAA, Florida Chapter*. The address is

UWIAA, Florida Chapter  
P.O. Box 970313, Coconut Creek, Florida 33097

The dues that you pay help the association to meet its recurring expenses and annual contribution to our alma mater for scholarships and financial assistance to students.



### ***Congratulations to our Family Members***

**Marlon Clarke** – Recently completed his PhD in Computer Science at Nova Southeastern University

**Ella Gooden** – Paper accepted for presentation at the **Caribbean Studies Association** 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Curacao, May 30 – June 3, 2011

**Melisha Morgan** – Teacher in Palm Beach County, will be starting the MA course in Economics at Florida Atlantic University in summer 2011

### **Birthday Wishes**

With the Newsletter being published every two months, I may not be able to send you birthday wishes through this medium in your “birth-month”. However, since February 2011, I have been sending birthday cards to everyone whose birthday is in our files. If your birthday passed and you did not receive a card from the association, please inform me (954-510-6265, sansch33@yahoo.com). In fact, after receiving this newsletter, please send us your birthday (month and day) so that your friends and family at UWIAA can recognize this important milestone at the appropriate time.

#### **Birthday Wishes for May 2011**

<b>Garth Rose</b>	<b>May 6</b>
<b>Diane Roberts</b>	<b>May 7</b>
<b>Grace Watson</b>	<b>May 18</b>
<b>Eric Hammond</b>	<b>May 24</b>

*Best wishes for the birthday that you will celebrate in May 2011*

#### **Birthday Wishes for June 2011**

<b>Lloyd Findlay</b>	<b>June 1</b>
<b>Roxanna Brown</b>	<b>June 19</b>
<b>Carmen Nicholas</b>	<b>June 24</b>
<b>Geli Eldemire</b>	<b>June 28</b>

*Best wishes for the birthday that you will celebrate in June 2011*

*Sandra Schrouder, Public Relations Officer*

*Stay  
Connected  
To Your  
Alma  
Mater!*



**Giving back to your Alma Mater just got easier!**

[www.alumnionline.uwi.edu/donatenow](http://www.alumnionline.uwi.edu/donatenow)





## Upcoming Events for UWIAA, Florida

1. **“Summer Lime”**
  - a. Proposed month – August 2011
  - b. Proposed day and time – Sunday afternoon
  - c. Proposed format – Family gathering with food at a well known spot
  - d. Proposed cost - \$6 - \$10
  
2. **The Annual Coalition of Jamaican Alumni Walkathon**
  - a. Month of Activity – December 2011
  - b. Proposed cost to UWIAA - \$50
  - c. Expected revenue if 10+ alumni member attend: >\$1000

### *Editors*

*Sandra Schrouder PhD  
Rupert Rhodd PhD*

*Please send comments  
and or suggestions to*

*[sansch33@yahoo.com](mailto:sansch33@yahoo.com)*

*Or call*

*Sandra Schrouder  
(954) 510-6265*

*Mailing Address  
P.O. Box 970313  
Coconut Creek  
Florida 33097*

## Cardiac Surgery Invention At UWI

By Lincoln Depradine ([www.Spiceislander.com](http://www.Spiceislander.com)): April 22, 2011

A Jamaica-born lecturer at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI) is one of the co-inventors of a device that could lead to a revolution in the teaching of cardiac surgery worldwide. Dr. Daniel Coore, Dr. Paul Ramphal and Dr. Michael Craven are the inventors of the UWI Cardiac Surgery Simulator. Traditionally, doctors in training to become cardiac surgeons have had to operate on pigs or human cadavers.

The invention by the trio uses computer software to animate a real pig's heart. Cardiac surgery residents apply stitches and perform other operations in a mock human chest cavity under conditions similar to a hospital's surgical theatre. "Student surgeons need practice to become experts. Practising on animals and cadavers is expensive," said Dr. Coore, a lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in the Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences.

A graduate Electrical Engineering and Computer Science program of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Coore said an attempt is being made to commercialize the Cardiac Surgery Simulator. The first unit of the apparatus has been shipped from Jamaica to "major teaching hospitals" in the United States, said Dr. Coore. He said the hospitals, which he did not identify by name, were interested in the Cardiac Simulator. A one-year piloting of the simulator at the hospitals would provide data on its efficacy and on any mechanical kinks, he added. The original version of the simulator was developed in 2001, just two years after Dr. Coore joined the UWI staff. At the time, Dr. Ramphal – a cardiothoracic surgeon – was employed at the University Hospital of the West Indies, and electrical engineer Dr. Craven was in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Technology. The simulator was in use in Jamaica until 2004. Interest in reviving and further developing the device resumed in 2008.

Dr. Coore, nephew of Cat Coore – guitarist with the world-renowned Third World reggae band – is an advocate in the call for Caribbean media workers to illustrate the relevance of science and technology to people's lives. He outlined his position in a presentation to Caribbean journalists who attended a workshop in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, sponsored by the Caribbean Institute of Media and Communication of the UWI and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Dr. Coore believes that not enough science and technology are used in the Caribbean to improve efficiencies and enhance production in agriculture and other sectors. He suggested that regional journalists must be motivated to "find and report on science-related stories," and the "general population must be sensitized to the importance of science in order to sustain public support for investment in science."