



**Annual General Meeting of UWI  
Alumni Association, Florida**  
June 11, 2016

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Public Relations Officer

## **Report from the Annual General Meeting of UWI Alumni Association, Florida**

June 11, 2016

Florida Atlantic University

Davie Campus

Opening remarks were given by Rupert Rhodd who reported on the “State of the Association” as it relates to the following:

- a. IRS Filing: Current
- b. Website: Domain and housing fees paid
- c. Current balance and outstanding debt:
  - i. PNC Bank balance: \$1048.70 (General Revenue)
  - ii. Outstanding debt: \$1900 from an original amount of \$4000
- d. Scholarship Fund: \$365 (Amount included in the general revenue)

Election of the New Board: **Nominations**

- a. Dr. Carmen Nicholas – President
- b. Donat Grant – Vice President
- c. Leslie-Ann Guy – Public Relations
- d. Rupert Rhodd – Treasurer
- e. Margaret Barrett – Secretary

There is still time to nominate others for the positions above as **nominations will close on June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016**

### **Annual Giving**

Using the slogan “*Emancipate, Educate, Donate*”, The UWI Alumni Office has established the ***UWI Global Giving Fundraising Program*** with the primary goal of:

- a. Appealing to alumni to increase their engagement and contributions, in cash and kind, to the university
- b. Soliciting increased donations in cash or kind from other individuals, and donor entities
- c. Expanding and establishing the fundraising efforts globally

Branded as ***UWI Global Giving Week***, this will take place from August 1 – 7, 2016

- a. Members are expected to reach out to UWI graduates in Florida and elsewhere in the Southeast USA to get pledges for projects identified by the chapter and the University of the West Indies.
- b. One suggestion that came out of our meeting was the creation of a short video by the UWI Alumni Office in which the Chancellor could talk about the importance of giving back to UWI. We believe this would certainly help our drive in August.
- c. Another suggestion was to give UWI memorabilia to donors (Ex. Shirt, bumper sticker, tie.....).

The Florida Chapter will be an active participant in this program as some members have already volunteered to “man the phones” during this week.

**End of Year Social & Fund-Raising Dance:** It was suggested that the association partner with other associations to host this event. One possible theme for this partnership was the “Tertiary Alumni Associations .....”. MICO College Alumni Association, Church Teachers College, and UTECH/CAST were suggested as potential partners.

**UWI Florida Chapter Scholarship:** The UWI Florida Chapter Scholarship Fund was officially launched as the **Ron and Miriam White Scholarship Fund**. This fund will be used to provide the annual Ron and Miriam White Annual Scholarship to a current student at the University of the West Indies. The American Foundation of the University of the West Indies (AFUWI) will be the administrator of the fund and along with the chapter will determine the criteria for the scholarship. \$600 will be sent to AFUWI to start this fund.

**Membership:** The Florida chapter is concerned with the low turnout at meetings, the small support from members at UWI Alumni events, and the non-payment of annual dues. This is in spite of the fact that there are 168 registered alumni members on the chapter’s roll. It was agreed that during the annual giving week, calls to members would also be used to determine the interest of individuals in the association with the possibility of determining the “core” and “latent” members.

### **Attendees at the Meeting**

Carmen Nicholas  
Margaret Barrett  
Leon Roberts  
Sandra Schrouder  
Georgia Robinson  
Rupert Rhodd  
Ben Watson  
Grace Watson  
Lesley-Ann Guy