UWI Turns 60

Nobel Peace Prestige for UWI Lecturers
Alumni Week 2007 Highlights
Support UWI Alumni Telecall Initiative
The Tower

graduated Recruitment Fair in Barbados at the Sherbourne Conference Centre on November 7, 2007. Titled, “Your Next Level: Making the Decision for Graduate Education at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus”, the Fair showcased the entire suite of taught and research-based masters available at Cave Hill and gave potential students the opportunity to meet directly with lecturers and coordinators of the programmes, to gather detailed information about admission requirements and assess their own readiness for graduate school. Various lending agencies were also present to discuss funding for those programmes for which students are required to pay.”

in the new Strategic Plan 2007 – 2012, the principal emphasis is on postgraduate studies and research. We need to have at least 20% of our students enrolled in higher degrees, so we are focusing on a new policy with respect to graduate studies,” said Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Sir Hilary Beckles, on visiting the Fair. “We have settled the matter of secondary education for the majority of our citizens. This is now the age of the tertiary revolution.” The Campus has been working to improve its administration of Graduate Studies and Research and Sir Hilary has promised that in the near future all the current graduate degrees will be encompassed under the umbrella of the Cave Hill Graduate School. The Office of Alumni Relations and the Barbados Chapter of the UWI Alumni Association (UWIAA) capitalised on the event and set up a booth to meet with alumni visiting the Fair.

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Cover Photo:
Sheila Sealy (née Payne)
(BA History, 1958)

President of UWIAA Maxine McClean Chats with alumnus Chris Sinckler, while Roseanne Maxwell and Sonia Johnson, of the Business Development and Alumni Relations Office look on. (UWI Graduate Fair, 2007.)

Graduate Recruitment Drive

The UWI, Cave Hill Campus held its first ever Graduate Recruitment Fair in Barbados at the Sherbourne Conference Centre on November 7, 2007. Titled, “Your Next Level: Making the Decision for Graduate Education at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus”, the Fair showcased the entire suite of taught and research-based masters available at Cave Hill and gave potential students the opportunity to meet directly with lecturers and coordinators of the programmes, to gather detailed information about admission requirements and assess their own readiness for graduate school. Various lending agencies were also present to discuss funding for those programmes for which students are required to pay.

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Support UWI Alumni Telecall Initiative

Between the hours of 5:30 and 6:30 pm on weekdays and 11:00 am and 3:00 pm on Saturdays during the month of November 2007, the Office of Alumni Relations and Business Development at Cave Hill was transformed into an after hours call centre geared towards reaching out to alumni and reestablishing contact. The call centre, funded by FirstCaribbean International Bank and managed by Mrs. Rosanne Maxwell of the Office of Alumni Relations, was staffed by a lively mix of alumni volunteers and student staff from Barbados, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Antigua and Belize.

At the start of the project, the callers were taken through an intense one day workshop, in which they were prepared for their role. Ross Gardiner, son of Honorary Graduate Dr. Charmaine Gardner (LLD 2006), who has extensive experience as a student caller at the University of Waterloo, flew in from St. Lucia for the workshop to share his experience and provide valuable coaching and tips on a volunteer basis.

The November project was used as a pilot for the wider outreach programme, deemed the Support UWI Telecall Initiative which aims to: update contact records for the institution’s graduates; inform the alumni of ongoing programmes; create an understanding amongst graduates of the benefits and value of officially joining the Alumni Association; gather feedback from alumni about ways in which to create a more vibrant, active and beneficial Association; sensitise alumni to the existence of the UWI VISA card and its benefits; and build the UWI Alumni Circle. The pilot targeted graduates of the Faculty of Law for the Faculty refurbishment project, one of the Alumni Circle projects.

“We are delighted by the level of dedication and enthusiasm of our team of student and alumni callers, who contacted more than 2,000 alumni in the pilot,” said Rose-Anne Maxwell, of the Campus Alumni Office. “We have been able to reach our target to have at least 400 persons pledge for either the UWI Visa Card or the Alumni Circle, although our focus was largely on the promotion of the card. Most importantly, we have gathered a lot of new information on where our graduates work and their email addresses. We plan to repeat the programme periodically in 2008.”

St. Lucian 2nd year Economics and Management student Huanna French said of her experience, “The Telecall programme was truly enjoyable. I was fortunate, as all my respondents were pleasant people who were always willing to provide the information I was requesting.”

“It was an honour to be a part of the Telecall programme. Most of my calls went very well. Most callers were very pleasant and more or less eager to assist in updating their information and even getting information about the UWI VISA card and the Alumni Circle,” said 3rd year Accounting student Jonel Williams from Antigua. “This work experience has enhanced my appreciation for UWI and I hope it continues next semester.”

Katrina Kirton (BSc. Hospitality and Tourism Management, 2004) said that she was happy to volunteer her services for the project, “The orientation session was very captivating and as an alumna I was very pleased with the lengths the Alumni Office was going to reach out to past students and improve upon what they were currently offering. In fact, the session was so well planned and delivered that I volunteered my time instead since it was only a sacrifice of four hours a week. Speaking to some of the alumni over the telephone, I realised that many of them were pleased that the Office had contacted them even though it wasn’t to invite them to anything just yet. I look forward to the programmes and activities being planned by the Alumni Office.”
Two members of faculty of the Cave Hill Campus were among the five recipients of 2007 Vice-Chancellor’s Award for Excellence. Professor Alvin O. Thompson of the Department of History and Philosophy received the award in the category Research Accomplishments for his prolific research and publication record. Over the past five years, he has produced six books and authored a number of scholarly papers and served with distinction as editor of the Journal of Caribbean History.

Professor Pranay Chaudhuri, Head of the Department of Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics was awarded for Excellence in Leadership and Research. Since joining UWI in 2000, he is credited with having completely restructured the Computer Science programme at Cave Hill, implementing income generating Information Technology certificate and diploma courses and job attachment internship for students, increasing postgraduate enrolment and launching the new taught masters in Electronic Commerce. He has produced 23 research publications over the past 5 years.

Three UWI lecturers who have contributed to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), will share the prestige of the Nobel Peace Prize with former United States Vice President Al Gore Jr. Following the release of its Fourth Assessment Report, the IPCC was awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for its efforts to build up and disseminate greater knowledge about manmade climate change, and to lay the foundations for the measures that are needed to counteract such change. The IPCC was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) to assess scientific, technical and socioeconomic information relevant for the understanding of climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation.

The UWI Lecturers who have been recognised for their contributions to Working Groups of IPCC’s fourth Assessment Report are: Dr Anthony Chen, a retired Jamaican Professor in Physics at UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica; Dr Leonard Nurse, a Barbadian Senior Lecturer in Coastal Management at UWI Cave Hill Campus, Barbados; and Dr John Agard, a Trinidadian and Senior Lecturer in Life Sciences at UWI St Augustine Campus, Trinidad, and Chairman of the Environmental Management Authority (EMA).

Source: UWI E-News 18.10.07 produced by the St. Augustine Campus
CERMES Fellowships Opportunity

The Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies (CERMES) is offering two MPhil degree fellowships for full time interdisciplinary research on marine resource governance in the Eastern Caribbean available for 2007/08 and 2008/09 academic years. Each fellowship provides BBD$35,000 (US$17,500) per year for two years. The fellowships are associated with the CERMES research project on ‘Marine Resource Governance in the Eastern Caribbean’, which seeks to examine coastal and marine resource governance at national and local levels in OECS countries and Barbados primarily using concepts from complex adaptive systems and network analysis. The minimum admission requirement for an MPhil programme is an Upper Second Class Honours first degree or its equivalent. CERMES will consider persons with natural science, social science or interdisciplinary first degrees. Preference will be for degrees that included marine resource studies and for candidates familiar with Caribbean countries. This degree is awarded primarily on the basis of a research thesis. Strong research and fieldwork skills are essential. Persons who are both interested and eligible may contact the project with an expression of interest, a recent CV and a copy of their academic transcript by email: margov.project@cavehill.uwi.edu ; phone: (246) 417 4725; or fax: (246) 424 4204. Interested persons should first visit www.cavehill.uwi.edu/ cermes/margov_profile.html for information on the project and determine if they satisfy the UWI requirements for admission to an MPhil degree.

40 Years of Medicine at Cave Hill

Medical teaching began at the Cave Hill Campus in 1967. The “guinea pig” group comprised 6 final year students (Class of 68) followed in 1968 by a full “quota” of 25 students or one quarter of the final year class of 1969. Full time lecturers were appointed in Medicine, Surgery, Obstetrics and Paediatrics, with the late Dr. Harold Forde as Vice-Dean, followed by Dr. Frank Ramsay, and in 1976, Professor E.R. “Mickey” Walrond, who was Vice-Dean and later Dean, until 2001, except for a four year term served by Professor George Nicholson, during which the Faculty was redefined as the School of Clinical Medicine and Research. The contribution of the School and its research arm, the Chronic Disease Research Centre to health care development, planning and research has been considerable, in primary care, public health and tertiary care, but particularly at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. A professorial lecture series has been organised as part of the celebration: Prof. Patsy Prussia will deliver a lecture on 26 February and Prof. Jose Ortega on 19 March in the Errol Barrow Centre for Creative Imagination (EBCCI) beginning at 7pm.

Source: SCMR Newsletter June 2007

Soak Up The Arts With EBCCI

The Errol Barrow Centre for Creative Imagination (EBCCI) is exploring the option of offering a number of exciting classes in 2008 for UWI staff, students, alumni and friends who want to learn something new, expand current skills, show-off their talent and creativity, but most importantly, have some FUN!!!

Already 87 persons are bouncing, strengthening and lengthening with classes in Pilates and Salsa. Evening courses in screenwriting and interior design are also on the horizon and this year’s Business of the Arts certificate programme designed with artist-entrepreneurs in mind is scheduled to start in March.

These community outreach, arts development and continuing education courses and activities are becoming an increasingly important part of the vision of the EBCCI and they are enriching the experience at the Centre too. Participants are encouraged to soak up the arts. So if you come for a dance class, you can expect to drop in on an art exhibition, view a film or become absorbed in a performance or rehearsal by students of the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Creative Arts programme. Master classes with professional performing artists, writers and film makers will also feature as a part of this effort. In fact a ten-week fiction writing workshop with celebrated author George Lamming starts this February for persons who are already in the process of writing a novel.

With all of these happenings, the EBCCI is keen to recruit a team of volunteers who can play major and minor roles in organising, spreading the word and generally supporting the arts and its development.

If you or anyone you know wants to get involved in any of the activities mentioned here contact Dianne Squires, Programme Officer Campus and Community Arts at dsquires@uwichill.edu.bb or telephone 417-4780.
Dame Bernice V. Lake D.G.C.N, Q. C

“It cannot be doubted that in the advancement of learning for the young of the region, and in the cultivation of leadership in all spheres of endeavour in our emerging Unit Nations, UWI has scored most laudable successes.

Our graduates have proven to be highly competitive and competent in their respective career pursuits; they have been able to take their place in the global market of work and ideas with distinction...UWI has been the instrument of upward economic and social mobility of all of its graduates...As graduates, we have benefited beyond measure.”

Extracted remarks made by Dame Bernice in her Reply on behalf of the Honourary Graduands at the Principal’s Dinner in honour of the Honourary Graduands, October 25, 2007

“University College of the West Indies graduate, Dame Bernice Lake Q. C., was one of four persons who received the degree of Doctor of Laws Honoris Causa at the 2007 graduation ceremony in October. Other recipients were: Sir Courtney Blackman, economist and international business consultant; Geoffrey Cave, Barbadian entrepreneur extraordinaire; and His Excellency Dr. Nicholas Liverpool, President of the Commonwealth of Dominica and former Dean of the Faculty of Law at Cave Hill. The following are extracts of the Citation in honour of Dame Bernice read by Professor Henry Fraser, Public Orator at the Graduation Ceremony.

Chancellor, among the most memorable songs of the sixties is one from South Pacific. Oscar Hammerstein’s immortal song “There is nothing like a dame”. And it is my proposition, in today’s Court of Appeal, that not only is there nothing like a dame, but that there is no dame like Dame Bernice Lake, QC. For however we define dame, and my Oxford Dictionary has 9 definitions, Dame Bernice is the epitome of a lady, of a ruler, a knight and a person of great honour.

Bernice Lake was born in Anguilla on the 28th of December, in a year which it would be irresponsible and ignoble of me to reveal. She was educated in Anguilla and St. Kitts. She proceeded to the then very new University College of the West Indies in Jamaica, graduating with a History Honours Degree, and was recruited to the Diplomatic Service of the Federation of the West Indies. I can conceive no better diplomat, for she would have scaled the greatest heights. But on the collapse of the Federation, Miss Lake, like a number of other distinguished Federal civil servants, pursued a law degree at University College London... I was privileged to meet her there in 1964, as a humble freshman, while she was a Queen of the Students Union and as I remember her, she brought real class to that ferment of student agitation, in days of anti-apartheid and other student protests.

She earned an Honours Degree in Law, was called to the Bar exactly 40 years ago, and became the first woman in the Eastern Caribbean and the first UWI graduate to be elevated to the rank of Queen’s Counsel, or as the lawyers say in their unique language - “Law-speak” - the first woman to “take silk.” Chancellor, Dame Bernice is described by her colleagues as a brilliant combination of beauty and brains with a sharp mind and indomitable spirit. Her career is distinguished by two major themes: commitment to securing a climate of constitutionalism in her region, and to the protection of human rights and women’s rights. She was chief architect of the Anguilla Constitution in 1975 and a member of the team which framed the Constitution of her sister country, Antigua and Barbuda, in 1981. And she spawned a group called Justice Corps a free legal service in the Leewards as a protection of the rights of the people, because she has so often defended those rights of the ordinary and often disenfranchised citizens of these islands...

Chancellor, the name Lake is linked so closely with Anguilla, St. Kitts and Antigua, that the entire archipelago of the northern Antilles might well be called Lakeland...and so it is no surprise that her legacy in Antigua has just been established in stone, with the opening of her new chambers a splendid building, replacing a historic building destroyed by fire. At the dedication ceremony she wished “her people” to know that these Chambers are their Chambers, not hers, and she emphasized the need to address the plight of the weak against the powerful. In her words: “36 Long Street symbolizes a permanent aspect of our need for attorneys to be independent, fair-minded, vigilant and wise.” And so Chancellor, I end where I began: there is no Dame like Dame Bernice Lake, QC - diplomat, jurist, constitutional lawyer and tenacious advocate for justice - and it gives me the greatest pleasure to invite you, on behalf of the Council and Senate of this university, to confer on her the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa.”
As a society we have always been cognisant of the fact that the Atlantic Hurricane Season ‘begins’ on June 1st and ‘ends’ on November 30th. And for most, that period was the only time in which we paid any attention to the notion of disasters – generally considered to be storms and hurricanes only. However, as we have witnessed events over the past year in Barbados, disasters do happen outside of the ‘Hurricane’ season, and they are not only caused by tropical weather systems. It is for this reason that we need to get involved and be informed.

During the ‘Hurricane’ season we are able to identify when a system has formed off the African coast; track its movement or path across the Atlantic Ocean; and speculate where it will make landfall. These tasks allow us to make preparations for the impending system. However, those events that give no warning time, for example, those that are man-induced (vehicle accidents, fires, hazardous materials spills, etc.) and tectonic in nature (earthquakes, land slippage, etc.) will always catch us by surprise and for the most part, unprepared. Being cognisant of these types of hazards and recognizing their inevitability will certainly reduce the gap of uncertainty and provide planning guidance through the disaster continuum of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery; both at the community and individual level.

The vulnerability to hazards and disasters which exist in our island nations means that we must take early steps to modify the hazards, prepare for their effects, and/or respond effectively; thereby being able to save lives and reduce or eliminate property loss.

It is an individual’s responsibility to be aware of the hazards which may affect a community, and the procedures to be employed to reduce their effects. Once we have identified those hazards that we are most vulnerable to, we play the “what if” game. For example, what will happen if ‘x’ or ‘y’ happens: what will we do, where will we go, who will we contact, etc? The answers to these basic questions will help determine initial response actions and should be contained in your Family Disaster Contingency Plan.

The creation of a Family Disaster Contingency Plan is the most important step in preparing for an emergency or disaster. The elements are as follows:

- Know the natural or man-made hazards that could affect you or your community and seek advice on how to best prepare for or mitigate them. This information may be had from your local disaster management office.
- Talk to your household about potential hazards or emergencies and how they should respond to them…what they would need to do if they were required to evacuate.
- Plan how your household would stay in touch with each other if separated. Identify meeting places. One may be close to home in case of fire and another may be at away from home – at a family member or friend, in case you cannot return home.
- Chose a friend or family member outside your area for family members to call and say they are okay.
- Draw a floor plan of your home and mark-out escape routes from each room.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by the telephone and teach children how and when to use them.
- Make sure everyone in the household knows how to shut off gas, water and electricity at their mains. Consult your local utility company if you have any questions.
- Join a local community emergency group (if available) through your emergency management department or Red Cross. This would give you the necessary training in mitigating, preparing and responding to emergencies and disasters.
- To protect the economic impact of disasters on your household or property:-
- Review property insurance policies regularly. Make sure they are current and meet your needs (type of coverage, amount of coverage, and hazards covered, e.g. flood, fire, hurricane, earthquake, etc.)
- To protect your household’s financial well being you may consider reviewing life insurance policies and/or setting up an ‘emergency’ savings account that could be used in times of crisis. Also, always keep small amounts of cash available as ATM and bank services may not be available directly after a disaster.
- Ensure that health insurance policies are current and meet your requirements.
- Include neighbours with special needs (the elderly or disabled) into your plan.

Photograph compliments Arthur Williams (BSc, Computer Science and Mathematics 1995)

A family of five lost their lives when their apartment building fell into this cave at Arch Cot, Britton’s Hill, St. Michael, Barbados on August 26th 2007.

Sign up for Connected, a new e-newsletter coming to your inbox monthly from the Alumni Office. Send your e-mail address to alumnioffice@uwicommu.edu.bb and we will be sure to include you in the mailing list for this new e-publication. If you wish to get the jump on UWI happenings – conferences, new programmes, cultural events etc. around the region.
UWI Turns 60

The University of the West Indies celebrates the 60th anniversary of its founding in 2008. Various commemorative events and activities on each campus and in the UWI-12 countries are scheduled throughout the anniversary year, from January 1 to December 31, 2008. The climax of these celebrations will be a Special Convocation Week from July 12 – 20, 2008 at the oldest campus – the Mona Campus – where it is hoped that hundreds of our graduates will assemble for a grand Gathering of Graduates. Visit www.uwi.edu for details of the 60th anniversary celebrations. We take a look at the life and times of UWI’s first graduates and the institution’s early years, through the words of Jeremy Taylor, from an article which originally appeared in Caribbean Beat, the in flight magazine of BWIA, on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of UWI in 1993.

A Place of Our Own

By Jeremy Taylor
Caribbean Beat Issue No 10 – July – August 1993
Extracts reproduced with the kind permission of Judy Raymond, Editor

They’re so widely scattered, these Caribbean islands. More than 2,000 miles of ocean separate Belize in the west from Guyana in the east; it’s the distance from San Diego to Tallahassee, or London to Timbuktu. People say that only two things really bind even the English-speaking countries together: the West Indies cricket team, which has thrashed all comers in recent years, and the University of the West Indies. That’s not completely true: despite all the differences, the islands do share a culture, a history and a language. But there’s enough truth in it to make the joke work.

The University of the West Indies (UWI) was to be the intellectual centre of the islands, helping to weld them into a nation. Today it serves 14 separate countries, through three campuses — in Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados, accommodating more than 15,000 students — and a string of University Centres serviced by resident tutors, visiting lecturers and a radio outreach system (UWIDITE). Of the eight faculties, two — engineering and agriculture — are based in Trinidad; the others — medicine, natural sciences, social sciences, law, education and arts/general studies — operate on all three campuses.

It’s a huge operation, under-funded and sometimes neglected, much criticised for its shortcomings, many of which are inevitable. For UWI was created with the noble aim of “unlocking the potential of the West Indian people”, giving access to tertiary education to as many West Indians as possible. It was to be the intellectual and vocational centre of a huge, fragmented region. And that was never going to be easy.

The first students, 33 of them, arrived in Jamaica in October 1948 to study medicine. They came from all corners of the region: Antigua, Barbados, British Guiana (now Guyana), Grenada, Jamaica, St Kitts, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, the Turks Islands. It was a three-day voyage for some on the Alcoa Clipper; others flew in on the young BWIA and its converted wartime bombers.

In their trunks and suitcases were suits “of sober cut and colour”, prescribed quantities of underwear, socks and pyjamas, white bow-ties and extra blankets in case of chilly Jamaican nights. On campus, they rode around on bicycles, recited grave Latin and Greek graces...
before meals, sang carols at Christmas, and wore bright red gowns.

Their new home had been a wartime camp. The Mona estate, a few miles outside Kingston and framed by mountains, had once been a sugar plantation – some 18th-century buildings remained on the 653 acres occupied by the new college. During the war it had housed 5,000 refugees from Malta and Gibraltar and some German and Italian detainees. There were long low wooden huts, but little more. Until 1947 the open fields were occupied by goats, cows and a mentally deranged woman living in the ruins of a small stone building.

This was the University College of the West Indies, the first and only university-level institution in the English-speaking Caribbean, unless you wanted to study theology in Barbados or agriculture in Trinidad. As Philip Sherlock and Rex Nettleford put it in their 1990 history of UWI: “Mona, once a place of suffering and misery for earlier generations of Jamaicans, became a symbol of West Indian unity and nationhood.”

In the 1940s, all the English-speaking Caribbean states were still British colonies. For twenty years there had been talk of a university, but nothing had happened. The Spanish had established the first Caribbean universities within 60 years of their arrival at the end of the 15th century; the British, landing at Plymouth in 1620, had founded Harvard within sixteen years. But in the British Caribbean colonies, three and a quarter centuries after the British settled St Kitts and Barbados, a university was still a dream.

Higher education meant going abroad, which was ruinously expensive and increasingly difficult -- after the war, British universities were crammed with war veterans catching up. In 1943, there were only 109 West Indians at British universities, with another 250 in the United States. Only two-thirds of West Indian children were in school, many leaving at 12 or 14 anyway. Education was elitist, class-divisive. There was frantic competition for the few scholarships available. Money, not brains, was the key to mobility.

But a wave of nationalism had been taking shape in the Caribbean since the 1920s; independence was on the horizon, and the demand for political representation, for a role in leadership and thus for top-level indigenous education, was growing. As Jamaica’s Norman Manley put it, “We suddenly discovered that there was a place to which we belonged, and when the dead hand of colonialism was lifted a spirit of freedom was released and the desert flowered.” The Caribbean had to have “a centre of learning and training and a place where its people can do research into its own problems and relate them to the general knowledge of the world,” Manley warned.
The changing mood was recognised even in wartime London, and moves began to create new universities in Africa and the Caribbean. There was a Commission of Enquiry; a sub-committee (which included Philip Sherlock, later to be a UWI Vice-Chancellor, and Hugh Springer, later to be Barbados’ Governor-General) made sensible recommendations, the Mona site in Jamaica was chosen, and in 1946 a biochemist, Dr Thomas Taylor, was appointed to run the new university college.

Taylor – “Dr T” – was a slight, scholarly but incisive figure from Oxford’s Brasenose College. By early 1947 he had an office working on Lady Musgrove Road in Kingston, and by 1948 the first students were installed. Philip Sherlock was put in charge of extra-mural studies, quickly setting up resident tutors in the islands, and Hugh Springer became registrar. By 1954 the college was a functioning university with a teaching hospital and fully operating faculties of medicine, science, education and arts, plus an outreach programme and research institute.

One of the early undergraduates was a young St. Lucian who would drop into the office at lunchtime and use the typewriter to type poems for his girlfriend, who was a secretary; she sometimes found this irritating enough to screw them up and throw them into the waste paper basket, to her later regret, since her suitor’s name was Derek Walcott, winner of the 1992 Nobel Prize for Literature.

For its first ten years, UWI was very much the colonial university. It had to be. “Taylor measured the merit of all proposed activities by whether or not they were done at Oxford,” noted one of his colleagues. Britain’s Princess Alice was the first Chancellor, students sat for University of London examinations; and while much of the teaching staff was of high calibre, it was largely expatriate. Sir Winston Churchill and Queen Elizabeth both visited in 1953. It was the university’s apprenticeship, when its standards were being set, its procedures recognised.

But that could not last long, and before the end of its first decade the university college was deep in the process of adaptation. There was the heady excitement of the West Indies Federation, born in 1958 and buried in 1962, the experiment that would have turned the scattered islands into a single nation. Its failure plunged the region into some profound soul-searching; Sir Arthur Lewis, who as Vice-Chancellor had steered the college through this turbulent period with great distinction, left for Princeton (and went on to win the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1979). Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago proceeded to independence in 1962; UWI students were now foreigners in each other’s islands.

If the fifties established the new university, the sixties Caribbeanised it. In 1960 a second campus was established in Trinidad, as the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at St Augustine was incorporated into the structure; this was followed in 1963 by a Barbados campus, first located near the Bridgetown port and later at Cave Hill just outside town.

15 Other Firsts in 1948

1. The first Supermarket in the United Kingdom opened.
2. The first tape recorder was sold.
4. Jimmy Cliff, Jamaican musician and Grace Jones, Jamaican singer and actress, were born.
7. South Africa elected a nationalist government with an apartheid policy.
8. International Court of Justice opened at Hague Netherlands.
9. ABC-TV network began.
10. Organization of American States charter signed at Bogota, Colombia.
11. Large-scale Caribbean migration to England began. The Empire Windrush carried almost 500 passengers from Jamaica, including Lord Kitchener, a calypso singer from Trinidad. By chance, a local newsreel company filmed him singing “London Is The Place For Me” as he got off the ship.
12. The long play (33 1/3 RPM LP) record invented.
13. U.N. General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
15. The game of Scrabble was introduced by James Brunot.

Photo from: http://www.understandingslavery.com/citizen/explore/routes/gallery/?id=1308
In April 1962 the university college became the independent University of the West Indies, setting its own standards and criteria. Some of the early West Indian teachers, like historian Elsa Goveia, made a powerful nationalist impact; it was a time of rising black consciousness and search for identity, spilling over into upheavals in both academic life and on the broader political stage. Access to the University widened -- enrolment quadrupled between 1962 and 1969 -- and new faculties and programmes were added.

By 1971, when Princess Alice was replaced by the first West Indian Chancellor, Sir Hugh Wooding, debate about the future direction of the university centred around two issues. Caribbeanisation involved the idea that the university must confront the real Caribbean environment, engage with it and develop solutions and directions for the wider society. It must consciously produce Caribbean leaders and nationals. At the start, Professor Gordon Lewis had warned that UWI should not be a “West Indian Victorian Oxford” but a “pioneer institution” marrying the best of the British intellectual tradition with the American concept of general education.

“The failure of the Federation of West Indian nations in 1962 had led to a determination that the University for West Indians would not suffer a similar fate... And so, with the hopes and promises of the Federation dashed, it was to the young university that the region looked... It was the hope of many “that from this source will come a new generation of political leaders, more responsive than their predecessors to the demands of restraint and compassion and better able to nourish that seed and redress the past... Undoubtedly, UWI has done much to redress the past, creating, as it has, a generation of regionalists. For while one generation – Burnham, the Manleys, Errol and Nita Barrow – became committed regionlists as a result of their sojourn in England, those of my generation became committed regionalists, as a result of our sojourn at Mona...”

Vice-Chancellor Emeritus Professor the Hon. Rex Nettleford, from ‘UWI at 50’ Caribbean Beat magazine July-August 1998

Female undergraduates in a student’s room in Irvine Hall. These five students are from St. Kitts, Trinidad, Jamaica and Barbados. Two are studying medicine, one science and two are taking Arts courses. March 1955.

An informal meeting of the Guild of undergraduates. At the head of the table is the President, Mr. V. Browne of Montserrat, who is taking an Arts course. March 1955.

Photographs compliments of Federal Archives, Cave Hill Campus
But for some of the older and expatriate staff, pure knowledge and high academic standards must not be compromised for anything. So the debate raged: what was a university really for, who should it cater for, who should go to it, who should teach in it? Should people be talking of manpower needs and mass access?

That led on to the second big issue, which had bugged UWI from the start and continues to do so today. Who should pay? Even in the early days, staff salaries were lower than in Britain or at the new African universities; funding from regional governments was never enough and often in arrears. Princess Alice had run a useful appeal fund (and gave support in many ways: the university chapel, an 18th-century rum-store removed brick by brick from Trelawney and rebuilt at Mona, was largely her project). But if access was to be continually expanded, who was to fund the new facilities, the development needs? How much of the actual economic cost should students carry themselves?

Despite a 1984 restructuring, the problems of ideology, access and funding bedevil the University to this day.

Did You Know?

The Arms of the University were granted in 1949. At the “crest” or top is a brown Pelican. The brown Pelican fishes along the coasts of all the Caribbean lands and was chosen, as it can represent all countries that are a part of UWI. It is a symbol of “care for the young”; ideal for UWI which nurtures young minds. The main part of the shield shows an open book superimposed on blue and white wavy lines and the background is a heraldic representation of the sea. The upper part of the shield is red and carries on it a yellow lion, which is the symbol of the Monarch, but, as it cannot be to the Royal Lion, it contains black marks on the lion’s skin, technically described as “erminois”. It so appears in the coat of arms of Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, and is used to mark the fact that she was the first Chancellor of the University College. The UWI Motto – “Oriens Ex Occidente Lux” which means “Light rising from the West” – appears at the bottom of the shield. Some information from: West Indies and Caribbean Year Book 1965, compliments Federal Archives.

The 1948 Society of UWIMAA Inc – Make The Pelican Fly This 1948 Society was founded in 2003 by the UWI Medical Alumni Association. It serves as an avenue for graduates of the Faculty of Medical Sciences and the wider public to make financial contributions towards the further improvement of facilities and activities within the Faculty and has been granted exemption from federal income tax under section 501(a) of the USA Internal Revenue Code as an organisation described in section 501(c)(3). Contributions over a 10 year period determine membership as follows: Foundation Club Member US$ 1000 – 2499; Dean’s Club Member US$ 2500 – 4999; Vice Chancellor’s Club Member US$ 5000 – 7499; Chancellor’s Club Member US$ 7500 – 9999; Fellow of the 1948 Society US$ 10,000 and above. For further details or to contribute email medalum@uwimona.edu.jm.

Help Build a School Library

As part of the UWI 60th anniversary celebrations, the Cave Hill Campus will be embarking on a number of community initiatives aimed at giving back to the local community. One of these initiatives is the School Library Project, themed “Give a Gift of Literacy… Let’s Build a School Library”. Patrica Atherley (née Corbin) (B. A., Class of 1983), Chair of the committee planning the initiative explained that the aim of the project is to help build a library at a rural primary school. “We are asking each member of the UWI community, including alumni, to donate at least one new book. Contributions will be used to start the collection at the Selah Primary School located in St. Lucy. Books can be delivered to the Office of Public Information, Educational Media Services or the Office of Alumni Relations, by March 31st 2008.”

Miss Woo Ming of Georgetown, British Guiana, Assistant Librarian with UCWI from 1949. With her is 23 year old Vernon Leslie of Belize, British Honduras. March 1955. Photograph compliments of Federal Archives, Cave Hill Campus.
MEMORIES OF YESTERYEAR –
ALUMNA RECOUNTS HER UCWI YEARS

Our “cover girl” in this edition of The Tower, Barbadian Sheila Sealy (née Payne), is a tiny powerhouse. Her diminutive appearance belies her stature as a former stalwart in education in Barbados. In a recent chat with The Tower, Mrs. Sealy recounted her years at the University College of the West Indies (UCWI) which spanned the period 1954-1958. Mrs. Sealy attended the UCWI at the age of 22 having taught for three years at St. Ursula’s School, to pursue the degree in History; following in the footsteps of her aunt Miss Nella Taitt, who became the first black head mistress of the then St. Michael’s Girls School. It was quite an adventure.

Not having a guidance counselor in those days, she did not know that Latin was needed as a pre-requisite for entry into University and therefore had to do a preliminary year when she took Latin and French. The hard work paid off. “I was ecstatic when the results came back and realized that I had come at the top of the class in Latin, tied with our own Professor Woodville Marshall, who was a Latin scholar at Harrison College and renowned as a top achiever in History,” she observed with her trademark effervescence. She noted that Professor Marshall and Shirley Field-Ridley, a Guyanese, were the two brightest in the class and were well liked for their oratory skills.

Mrs. Sealy recalls that there were about 200 students at UCWI in those years, so that everyone in the small community knew each other, and this lent itself to a greater camaraderie and brotherhood. “There were only ten to twelve persons in the History programme, with tutorials of four or five persons. This meant that everyone had to participate,” she said. “During those years, persons who were not students sat in the classes just to hear Elsa Goveia and Roy Augier. These were celebrities among the Campus student body and they made classes interesting,” she reminisced fondly. She noted also that some of the older students gave them sound advice. One of them was Mrs. Austin Alleyne, former Campus Registrar at Cave Hill.

When asked to compare her programme at UCWI with that at Dalhousie University which she also attended, Mrs. Sealy was clear. “The UWI programmes were more intense. Even the Certificate in Educational Management and Administration was more intense than my Bachelor’s of Education programme at Dalhousie,” she said.

But UCWI was not all work. In terms of extra-curricular activities, Mrs. Sealy and her peers also did quite a bit of “liming”. She said they spent their leisure time in the Common Room listening to jazz, drinking, eating ice-cream and playing dominoes.

After graduating from UCWI, Mrs. Sealy took up a temporary teaching position at Queens’ College in December 1960 before proceeding to the then St. Michael’s Girls School, from January 1961 where she taught History until her retirement in 1989 as Headteacher. Retirement came early at the age of fifty-seven because of the extensive travelling she did with her husband and her children who were either studying or living abroad. She is the mother of internationally acclaimed actress Alison Sealy-Smith, Dr. Hugh Sealy, Environmental Engineer and Jacqueline Sealy-Burke, Lawyer (LLB 1987).

Mrs. Sealy told The Tower that she has not for a moment regretted retiring early, since she is always so busy, “doing nothing all the time – a lot.” Her time is spent between church, the beach, playing scrabble with her scrabble partner, or running errands for friends. She is known among her group of friends for her plentiful supply of golden apple drink. She winds the day down, sometimes, with a good newspaper read, and the crossword puzzle.
Plea for Compassion in Battling HIV/AIDS Stigma

“You only truly appreciate the quality of the UWI degree when you leave UWI and for that I thank you very much. Apart from the academic qualification, I received an education in terms of my appreciation, understanding and celebration of all that is Caribbean and the relationships with friends around the region built at UWI that last a lifetime... that is one of the very positive things that comes out of the UWI experience and makes it exceptionally healthy and valuable.”

Wendy Fitzwilliam, former Miss Universe and law alumna of 1995, delivered the second lecture in the Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series on October 10th in the Errol Barrow Centre for Creative Imagination (EBCCI) on the topic “Battling the HIV Taboo in the Caribbean”. As hoped, Wendy drew a distinctly young audience, which included student representatives of the Guild of Students, peer counselors of the UWI HIV/AIDS Response Programme (UWIHARP) and members of the UWISTAT group, as well as alumni and members of various organisations that work with HIV/AIDS, who all braved the heavy downpours of a tropical depression to attend. UWIHARP supported the event by mounting a display in the EBCCI lobby and Chairperson of UWIHARP, Professor Christine Barrow gave welcome remarks.

Ms. Fitzwilliam told the audience that while the statistics on the impact of HIV/AIDS on the Caribbean were important, she would not focus on them in her presentation. Instead, she said that what she hoped to do was to personalise the HIV/AIDS disease in order to evoke emotion sufficient to motivate each individual to feel personal responsibility, not only for preventing the spread of the disease, but for eliminating the stigma surrounding those who are living with the disease. She indicated that while she had seen strides made in addressing HIV/AIDS regionally, she felt that progress was far too slow.

Examining what she described as the taboo associated with the disease, Ms. Fitzwilliam observed that sex and sexuality were a strong part of Caribbean culture, particularly Caribbean youth culture and that Caribbean people, including young people, were very sexually active. This fact notwithstanding, she felt that there was still a fear of speaking about sex and sexuality. “We must steadfastly commit to changing views on sex, sexuality and HIV/AIDS and dogmatically and personally live what we read and what we preach in order to be able to understand, appreciate and educate our young...
people and our decision makers and effectively deal with the disease,” she urged. She noted that the church and other religious groups had a very important role to play in helping to address HIV/AIDS related issues in the Caribbean.

Ms. Fitzwilliam observed that because of modern information and communication technologies, there was now a world youth culture, dominated by the United States, in which young people were being aggressively and constantly bombarded with “salacious, in-your-face, highly sexually charged” messages and images which were readily available everywhere today in magazines, on television, and mobile phones. “The most effective way of communicating messages of responsible behaviour and educating the 15 – 44 “MTV generation” to make intelligent choices is, not to take the moral high ground, but to aggressively compete with the messages they are receiving through the music, cosmetic, clothing, film and television industries in a manner that is powerful, attractive, very clear and appetising to the target audience,” she stated.

Ms. Fitzwilliam told the audience that she was sometimes referred to as “the AIDS lady” in her native Trinidad and Tobago and recounted several incidents that had occurred there, which had stimulated intense public debate and controversy about sex and sexuality. These included the distribution by a youth group of condoms in high schools and an article in a newspaper, which asked persons if they would be comfortable with an openly gay male in public office, such as Prime Minister. She felt that such debate was good and had resulted in a commitment by the media to produce a monthly column dealing with HIV/AIDS and issues of sexuality. She commended the media in the region for “stepping up to the plate”, but challenged them to be very proactive and to do even more since “the disease thrives in a slow response environment”.

She shared personal experiences with individuals who were HIV positive, including helping a young single mother of two tell her mother and her employer that she had the disease, so that she could take the necessary time off work to get her medical treatments. She urged the audience not to shy away from such interactions, but to be open to them; to educate themselves about the realities of living with HIV/AIDS; and to personally examine how they think of and treat those who are HIV positive. “We must be compassionate about addressing the disease. When we hear someone ridiculing someone living with the disease we must pull them up and pull up our own selves. We must use these interactions and opportunities to start changing the taboos,” she said. “Let us treat HIV/AIDS as something real and not just something ‘out there’. It is absolutely impossible to escape HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean today. We all know someone or several persons who are living with HIV/AIDS, whether we know it or not,” she added.

Ms Fitzwilliam stated that as a former student of UWI, she knew how powerful the “UWI machinery” could be and urged students and faculty to support the University’s efforts to address the disease in a real and personal way. “We will see change, as we each do our bit and make our mark in our own little circle and the effect will expand way beyond the University,” she concluded.

After the lecture, Wendy readily posed for pictures and signed autographs. During her short visit, she gave interviews to the print media and television, including an interview for the Government Information Service youth programme “Live Up” on HIV/AIDS.
Alumni Week 2007 Highlights

The annual UWI Alumni Month of activities organised by the Office of Alumni Relations and the UWI Alumni Association (Barbados) Chapter was condensed into a Week of activities this year and celebrated from October 7 – 13.

On October 7, alumni, students, friends, family and retirees got together for the annual fellowship service on the Campus under the theme “Celebrating Love in Action.” The sermon was preached by Reverend Martin Warrington, Campus’ Manager of Property and Facilities and the officiating Minister was Reverend Marcus Lashley (class of 1988). Retired Campus Librarian Michael Gill accompanied participants on the piano and members of the Chapter, the UWI Seniors retiree group and UWI Students Today Alumni Tomorrow (UWISTAT) read lessons and offered prayers for UWI. A solo by UWISTAT Ambassador Anya Lorde and a liturgical dance by member of staff of the Alumni and Business Development Office, Cherene Cobham and friends from the Faith Wesleyan Holiness Church Dance Group were highlights of the service, which was followed by a sumptuous luncheon in the Staff Common Room.

The 2nd Lecture in the Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series was held on October 10th and the battle of the sports started on Friday, October 12 with the Deputy Principal's Cricket Match for the Carlisle Best and Ian Bradshaw Trophy and continued on October 13, with netball and football matches. The second Career Development Workshop was held on Saturday, October 13, where approximately 45 students and alumni gathered for tips on how to prepare for the world of work, resume writing, techniques on interviewing and dressing for the workplace. These sessions were conducted by Vice-President of the Alumni Association, Gloria Grant, Human Resources Manager and Assistant Treasurer of the Alumni Association Sandra Cadogan.

Alumni Clean Sweep Sports

The alumni teams pulled off an exciting 3 – 0 victory at the 2007 Alumni Week sports event, teaching the students lessons in cricket, netball and men’s football. The Deputy Principal's Match for the Ian Bradshaw and Carlisle Best Trophy, played under the lights at the 3Ws Oval, saw the alumni team beating the Campus team by one run thanks to a brilliant knock of 55 by Keith Seale (BSc Natural Sciences 1988). For the Jai Jebodsingh Trophies, the alumni ladies netball team beat the Campus team 20-10 and the men won their football match 4-3 on penalty shots.
My Cricket World Cup Experience

Few words could describe my experience during the recently concluded ICC Cricket World Cup 2007. One may call it exhilarating, others may simply call it thrilling but it was simply just a wonderful experience to be a part of an opportunity to give back to the nation. I was attached to the Barbados Local Organising Committee (LOC) for just over one year. It was my first “real job” out of university. One may call it fate but I firmly believe it was the works of the master that took me to the Barbados LOC. I had sent in application to the LOC upon the advice of a close friend. “I heard World Cup Barbados is taking on student interns for the summer. Why don’t you send in one as well and see if they find something suitable for you?” she said. I heeded the advice and sent in my carefully composed cover letter and accompanying CV. I took the opportunity to follow up on the application at the LOC - that spiralled into an interviewing process and later, a job offer.

I was attached to the Transport Team for much of my stay. We sought to develop a transportation plan which would cover what at the time appeared to be a challenge of 27,000 patrons getting to cricket in a district on the fringes of the main capital Bridgetown as well as the rest of Barbados going about their normal routines on match days. The Transport Plan (400 pages on completion) was developed over a period of four years. I would have been a part of the team headed by Cheryl Bennett-Inniss (B,Eng. Civil Engineering, 1982), Deputy Chief Technical Officer, Ministry of Public Works (MPW) and Desmond Sabir, Operations Manager, Transport Board. The general consensus among Bajans, was that it was going to be mass confusion once the matches had started and they were staying away from town during that time and if they could, they would take holiday to avoid having to trespass near the area. I am proud to say that we proved them wrong. In fact, the Transport Plan in Barbados was used as the model throughout the other territories hosting the games as well.

Putting together the transportation plan was the easiest thing to be done I would say. Operationalising the plan was where the bulk of the work was. One had to make sure that everything included was actually carried out. This entailed finding coaches, buses, cars, etc for all persons involved in the tournament, which proved to be a hurdle. The Transport Team had to source vehicles for VIPs, match officials, spectators, staff, volunteers and the media as well. In a nutshell, the transport team was responsible for providing all elements of transport services to anyone who had any business at Kensington Oval and 3W’s Oval during the tournament. Initially we thought it would have been difficult seeing that it was in the middle of the tourism season in Barbados where there is a high demand on such services normally.

Match days working hours were generally from 4 am in the morning until about 10 pm at night. Not everyone involved in the tournament worked these hours but Transport had the responsibility to make sure employees were in the Oval on time and that all persons including spectators were out of the Oval at the end of the match. As a result, Staff Park and Ride opened at 4 am in the morning and closed at 10 pm at night.

The working environment at the LOC was a remarkable one. Team work and team spirit was strong. Persons knew that whatever part of the project they were working on would have affected the rest of the team and it could have a serious impact on the tournament in Barbados.

I felt proud to be a part of the tournament and to have contributed even though it was in a small way. I have now learnt how to work well and function under pressure; become skilled at multitasking and now have a lot more confidence in myself than I had before. To me, nothing is now impossible or never do I ever repeat the words “I can’t” because I know I have done a lot more in a short space in time and conquered things that I would have thought impossible to do.
1980s

GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Last August The Tower learnt of the sudden loss of Estuko (Karen) Anderson (née Burke), age 43, Counsellor and Head of Chancery at the Barbados High Commission in Canada. Mrs. Anderson graduated from the Cave Hill Campus in 1985, and later joined the Barbados Foreign Service in 1987.

According to High Commissioner, Mr. Glyne Murray, she was “devoted, level headed, calm - unbelievably calm in any situation, and a very easy person to get along with, no matter what strata of society, what culture, language you came from, she was an undoubted credit to Barbados’ foreign service.”

Mrs. Anderson was married to Physician Dr. Sanjay Anderson and was the mother of two children, a boy and a girl; and daughter of our own Walter Burke, former Project Manager, UWI/IDB Project.

We recently caught up with alumnus Terry Scantlebury (BSc. Mathematics and Computer Sciences, 1984) who was eager to reminisce about his life at University. He told The Tower “I left secondary school with a “C” average but by the time I got to UWI (a little old and hopefully wiser) I had a totally new attitude and was determined to graduate with a 1st Class degree. Cave Hill confirmed for me that with focus and determination you can achieve anything.”

“I look back now with fond memories of my time on campus. The work was challenging but by and large I had time to hang with my friends (many of them Caribbean nationals) and still completed my assignments. The only time I felt stressed or nervous was late in my final year when my goal was just around the corner.”

Terry is currently IT Manager at Goddards Enterprises Limited, and an online E-Tutor in Management Information Systems for the UWIDEC Distance Learning Programme. He is in the process of completing the Executive Masters in Business Administration programme with the Cave Hill School of Business.

He is married and has three children, two boys and a girl and spends his time reading, jogging, cycling and playing the keyboard.

Maurice Clarke (BSc. Engineering 1988) was promoted to the post of Plant Manager at Purity Bakersies, a company of Goddard Enterprises Limited.

Maurice has been with Purity for over 15 years, having joined the Bakery in 1991 as Maintenance Manager.

Barbados’ Teacher of the Year

“If we do not believe that we can transform the world and make it a better place; if that is not what we are working for or we don’t believe we can achieve that, we have no right being teachers. That is the role of a teacher, it is an awesome responsibility.” Leslie Lett (B. A., 1988), winner of the Biennial CLICO Nation Barbados Teacher of the Year Award held on Saturday, October 20th, 2007.

1990s

Shona Forde (BSc. Accounting 1998), was appointed Chief Compliance Officer at Cidel Bank & Trust Inc. Shona also holds an MBA in International Banking and Finance from the University of Birmingham and is also a certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialist.

Kathy-Ann Scantlebury (LLB 1996) has been appointed Corporate Secretary of Goddard Enterprises Limited.

Kathy-Ann was admitted to the Bar nine years ago, and also holds a Master of Laws, International Business from the University of Hull.

Renée Moore (BSc. Economics & Accounting) was recently appointed Country Treasurer for the Bahamas in the Treasury Sales and Trading Team of First Caribbean International Bank. Renée is a Chartered Certified Accountant (ACCA) and also holds a Diploma and Certification in Business Administration.

Young Alumnus Wins Teaching Award

Dr Paul Walcott is the 2007 recipient of the prestigious UWI/Guardian General Premium Teaching Award.

Walcott holds a BSc. in Computer Science (1992), an MPhil in Physics from UWI, and a PhD in Information Engineering from City University in London, England. He worked several years in the computer industry in London before returning to Cave Hill in 2004 to teach.

Dr. Walcott has several publications in the areas of image processing, computer vision, e-portfolios, faculty development, computers in education and e-commerce. He has a keen interest in software engineering and Web-based tools for e-learning.

Robin Lewis is one of First Caribbean International Bank’s newest Directors. Robin has been appointed to the post of Business Support Director bringing 25 years of banking experience to the job. Among his professional qualifications, Robin has an MBA in Human Resources Management from the University of Lincoln as well as.
Wayne Collymore, (BA. History with Sociology, 1995) is currently displaying his artistic talent on http://www.barbaradosexchange.com/barArt_Waynes_Gallery.asp. The art consists of various pieces ranging from cricket to beautiful sceneries around the island. Highlighted on the website is a depiction of 2007 World Cup featuring Brian Lara and Fidel Edwards with the New Kensington Oval in the background. Wayne can be contacted at (246) 256-0042 or (246) 423-2255, if you are interested in purchasing his art.

Ian Winder (BSc. History and Law 1992 and LLM 2007) was called to the Bahamas Bar on 12th May 1995 after concluding Articles of Clerkship with Bernard S.A. Turner Esq. in the Office of the Attorney General, Nassau. Ian is a former Crown Counsel in the Office of the Attorney General and has acted as The Deputy Registrar General of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. He joined the Chambers of Christie Davis & Co. (now Davis & Co.) in 1998 and was invited to partnership in 2002. Davis & Co is one of the more renowned firms in The Bahamas, having been founded by the Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie and the Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham the former and current Prime Minister of The Bahamas respectively.

Ian practices principally in the areas of corporate law, civil and commercial litigation and has responsibility for the operations of the firm’s Freeport office. Ian practices in all courts of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas and his practice has taken him to several appearances before the Privy Council in London.

Ian is the former Chairman of the Road Traffic Authority Board (2002-2007) of The Bahamas and a former member of the adjunct faculty of the College of the Bahamas (1997-2005) where he lectured in Business Law. Ian has memberships in the Bahamas Bar Association and the International Bar Association. He is married to Marie-Jacqueline Winder (nee Spence) a 1992 graduate of the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill. Ian and Marie-Jacqueline met while they were both students at the Mona campus and are the proud parents of two children Ian and Asha-Marie.

2000s

Life Is A Long Lesson In Humility
I feel a real sense of honour as I write this article as my contribution to The Tower Magazine. I graduated in 2002 with a Bachelors Degree in History. I am employed as a teacher of History, Social Studies and Religious Studies at the Christ Church Foundation School. I am a very active participant in my school and community and this added zest and quest to enjoy life, was fully inculcated into my being during my time at UWI-Cave Hill.

Each quarter when I receive my Tower Magazine I become more empowered to be associated with the growing success of the illustrious institution named University of the West Indies- Cave Hill Campus.

Vice-Chancellor Rex Nettleford wrote in the UWI graduation booklet 2002, “but I would ask you… to reach out and help those who are coming behind you. And rather than seeing the negatives in situations, I urge you to dwell always on the possibilities” These words left a lasting impression on me. How can I reach back (Sankofa) to give back to my Alma Mater? The answer came, contribute an article to The Tower Magazine. I will focus today on Humility:

Rowatt defines “humility as a psychological quality characterised by being more modest, down-to-earth, and respectful, rather than arrogant, immodest, or egotistical.” This conception of humility implies that one acknowledges mistakes, realises limits, avoids bragging, and is respectful of others. When we show humility towards others we do much to assist in building their self-esteem, in essence this should allow us to win their confidence. They will: see the power of humility at work; they will begin to practice introspection which will assist in relieving stress; more love will circulate in the atmosphere; it would help us to win people and this will make life easier.

When we are not humble in our approach to others, we create an atmosphere for fear, arrogance, immodesty, or egotistical behaviour to thrive. In the end the results are always to our detriment. Today examine yourself and gauge whether you fall into the humble or arrogant approach to others as you journey through UWI. If you have not been practising humility, today is the day to commence the process.

HUMILITY WILL EMPOWER US

By Annette Maynard-Watson
(B.A History 2002)

INBOX

This is Danny Martinez. I did a semester abroad during the fall of 1996. I met Janine Dash there and I have lost her contact info. I believe she graduated in 1999 and she is from Trinidad. If you can help me get in contact with her, I would appreciate it.

Thanks Danny
Wishing a Blessed 2008 to all UWI alumni!

The Hon. David Thompson, (LLB, 1984) became Barbados’ sixth Prime Minister following general elections on January 15, 2008. Mr. Thompson is a graduate of the Faculty of Law and a founding member of the Alumni Circle at Cave Hill.

Also included in Mr. Thompson’s cabinet are twelve graduates. These are: President of the UWI Alumni Association (Barbados Chapter) Maxine McLean (BSc. Public Administration, 1979); Freundel Stuart (LLB, 1975); Christopher Sincker (History and Political Science, 1990 and MSc. International Trade Policy, 2006); Michael Lashley, (LLB, 1993); Donville Inniss (BSc. Economics and Mathematics, 1991, EMBA, 2001); Patrick Todd (BSc. Economics and Mathematics, 1992); Ronald Jones, (BA, History and Sociology, 1990); Darcy Boyce (BSc. Economics, 1974); Esther Byer-Suckoo (MBBS, 1987), Richard Sealy (EMBA, 2005), Haynesley Benn, (EMBA, 1995) and John Boyce (B.Eng Mechanical Engineering, 1977). Other members of Parliament on the Government side include graduates Stephen Lashley (BSc. Public Administration and Law, 1986, LLB, 1993); James Paul, (BSc, Public Administration 1980); Michael Carrington, (LLB, 1987); and Adriel Brathwaite, (LLB, 1985).

The following new Government Senators were also appointed: Branford Taitt (LLB 1980) President of the Senate; Patricia Inniss (BSc. Biology, 2003); Irene-Sandiford-Garner (EMBA, 2006); Kerryann Ifill (BSc. Sociology with Psychology, 1999) first blind graduate of UWI Cave Hill Campus; Derek Alleyne (BSc. History and Political Science, 1987) and student Damien Griffith.

The Office of Alumni Relations and the UWIAA Barbados Chapter take this opportunity to express congratulations to Prime Minister Thompson and his team.