



# VOICES

Bi-Monthly Magazine of the University of Technology, Jamaica

August – September 2017

## UTech Ja Hosts UNDP's Social Good Summit 2017



Mr Bruno Pouezat, UNDP Resident Representative delivers the opening address at the UNDP's Social Good Summit hosted in partnership with UTech, Jamaica on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, Papine campus.

The University of Technology, Jamaica was proud host of The UNDP's Social Good Summit 2017 held at the Alfred Sangster auditorium on September 28. The Social Good Summit is an annual conference organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to examine the impact of technology and new media on social good initiatives around the world. Focusing on the theme, "We can unlock technology's potential to make Jamaica a better place," participants from government, public and private sectors, civil society, academia including university students and other youths through speeches, exhibitions and discussions sought to explore and initiate ways to increase awareness on the Social Development Goals among Jamaicans and on the impact of technology in development.

UNDP Resident Representative, Mr Bruno Pouezat in his opening address said, "UNDP urges governments to encourage innovation by allocating more financial resources and establishing enabling environments through policy, legislation and programmes."

Professor Stephen Vasciannie, UTech Ja President in his address outlined a number of social outreach initiatives undertaken by the University and indicated that he welcomed the opportunities beyond the Summit, to further partner with the UNDP "to enhance our shared interest in advancing a social good culture in Jamaica."



Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, delivering his keynote address.

# VOICES

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Senator the Hon. Pearnel Charles, Jr, State Minister, Ministry of National Security delivering his keynote address at the Social Good 2017 Summit. Minister Charles noted that technology presents both tremendous challenges and opportunities for development. He urged UTech, Jamaica to continue to emphasize technology literacy and usage as a means of advancing the attainment of sustainable goals.

A panel discussion on the theme **#2030 Now: Global Goals and the Technology that will Help Achieve Them** followed the opening ceremony. Panellists were Mrs Lisa Face-Shaw, Senior Lecturer, School of Computing and Information Technology, UTech, Ja., Mr Craig Perue, Research Fellow, University of the West Indies, Mona/PitchIT Training Manager, Mr Patrick Lafayette, Member, Board of Directors, Combined Disabilities Association, Miss Dainalyn Swaby, Miss Jamaica Festival Queen 2017, Mr Raymond Price, student – MSc., Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, Faculty of the Built Environment, UTech, Jamaica and Mr David Allen, President, Fletcher's Land Management Benevolent Society.



Mr. Romaine Gordon, Faculty of Engineering and Computing (FENC) student and one of the lead robotic system developers in the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE) UTech Jamaica Student Branch showcases his Obstacle Avoidance Robot to Ms. Kristina Otiz, Acting Public Affairs Officer, US Embassy. The robot is able to navigate its way in a room and avoid collisions with objects. It's a flexible platform which can then be modified for several applications. Lecturer, FENC, Dr Dave Muir, a roboticist, IEEE senior member and lifelong advisor to the branch looks on. The robotics display formed part of the booth set up at the Social Good Summit by UTech, Jamaica showcasing technology and innovation.

# UTech, Ja Brings Light to Majesty Gardens Community

## ...with Ready Boards designed by Engineering Students



School of Engineering students working diligently with materials to construct 400 electrical power supply Ready Boards. From left are Wardlan Borah, Sheveena Haye and Jeremy Mcray.

Communities in Jamaica that are still without electricity and are unable to accommodate traditional electrical wiring have had their hopes illuminated thanks to the work of twenty students from the School of Engineering, Faculty of Engineering and Computing, University of Technology, Jamaica.

Second to fourth year engineering students under the supervision of faculty members have designed and built a power supply source dubbed Ready Board - 326 of which were installed on the Jamaica Public Service Company's (JPS) power grid in May 2017 to provide legal electrical connections for about 400 residents of the Majesty Gardens community, St. Andrew.

The Ready Boards comprise a breaker, bulb, a switch, and a socket will allow for legal connections. The materials used to construct the Ready Boards were supplied by JPS.

### JPS/JSIF Agreement

The School of Engineering entered into an agreement in July 2015 with the JPS and the Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF) for the creation of 400 Ready Boards. The proposal was introduced to a few academic institutions and in 2015, UTech, Jamaica accepted this proposal, which was presented through Dr. Noel Brown, Head, School of Engineering.

The student-centred Ready Boards project was spearheaded by Lecturer, Electrical Programmes, Dr. Andrew Isaacs. Dr. Isaacs recruited the group of talented students who worked on building the devices between October and December 2016.



Students from the School of Engineering who worked on building the Ready Boards take a break from work for a photograph.



Completed Ready Boards, ready for delivery.

# UTech, Jamaica Adjunct Professor Receives Patent for Anti-Cancer Drug



Dr. Lawrence Williams, Adjunct Professor, College of Health Sciences displays two of his Guinea Hen Weed pharmaceutical products retailed under the Timeless Herbal Care brand – the Guinea Hen Weed Tonic and Restorative and the Guinea Hen Weed Magic Relief pain ointment. The occasion was a special briefing session at UTech, Jamaica's Papine campus on Thursday, January 12, 2017 to announce a Memorandum of Agreement signed between UTech, Jamaica and Timeless Herbal Care Limited to support the development of the medicinal cannabis industry in Jamaica.

Twenty eight years of dedicated research on one of the endogenous plants of Jamaica *Petiveria alliacea* (guinea hen weed) has landed Adjunct Professor in the College of Health Sciences, Dr Lawrence Williams and co researcher Dr George Levy (USA) a patent with the United States for the discovery of anti-cancer activity of the plant.

The invention involves the isolation of the active ingredient dibenzyl trisulphide (DTS). DTS is classified as a polysulphide mitogen with a wide spectrum of activity including anti-proliferation and or anti-cytotoxic effect on human cancer cell lines. DTS also acts to stimulate the production of stem cells from bone marrow and thymus with very little toxic effects.

Dr Williams joined the College of Health Sciences in 2016 and has been involved in plant-based research at both the graduate and undergraduates levels.

Dr. Williams obtained his PhD from the University of the West Indies followed by post-doctoral studies at the University of Hohenheim, Institute for Chemistry, Stuttgart, Germany. He is an accomplished researcher with over 70 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters on plant-based medicine.

His extensive research profile had made him the recipient of numerous awards and fellowships including the 2013 Honored Member for Research, Continental Who's Who, USA; 2011 Silver Musgrave Medal for Outstanding Merit in the Field of Science (Scientific Research) from the Institute of Jamaica; Induction into the International Biographical Centre (IBC), Hall of Fame, Cambridge, UK (2004), among many other awards.

# Academic Staff Promotions

Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, is pleased to congratulate the following members of academic staff on their recent promotions.



## Appointment to the Rank of Professor

**Professor Paul Golding**  
Professor, Management Information Systems  
College of Business and Management

## Appointment to the Rank of Associate Professor



**Dr. Adella Campbell**  
Head, Caribbean School of Nursing



**Dr. Janet Campbell-Shelly**  
Dean, College of Health Sciences



**Mrs. Charmaine DeLisser**  
Head, Office of Technology & Data  
Applications Dev.



**Dr. Christine Fray-Aiken**  
Lecturer, College of Health Sciences



**Dr. Andrew Lamm**  
Head, Centre for Science Based  
Research, Entrepreneurship and  
Continuing Studies



**Dr. Martin Schade**  
Lecturer, Faculty of Education and  
Liberal Studies



**Dr. Sean Thorpe**  
Head, School of Computing and  
Information Technology

## Appointment to the Rank of Senior Lecturer

**Dr. Sherrene Bogle**, Faculty of Engineering and Computing  
**Dr. Aneisha Collins-Fairclough**, College of Health Sciences  
**Dr. Andrea Daley**, College of Health Sciences  
**Dr. Debbie Devonish**, Faculty of Science and Sport  
**Mrs. Lisa Facey-Shaw**, Faculty of Engineering and Computing  
**Mr Stanford Graham**, Faculty of Engineering and Computing

**Mr. Olusegun Ismail**, Faculty of Science and Sport  
**Dr. Andrea Pusey-Murray**, College of Health Sciences  
**Dr. Valoris Smith**, College of Business and Management  
**Mr. Dwight Thomas**, Faculty of Engineering and Computing  
**Mr. Christopher Udeagha**, Faculty of Computing and Engineering  
**Dr. Marcia Williams**, College of Health Sciences

# UTech, Jamaica Presents Report on “Research on Regulatory Treatment of Small Cable Operators” to Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica



President, Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD (left) presents a copy of the final report on a consultancy project completed by UTech, Ja. researchers on The Regulatory Treatment of Small Cable Operators commissioned by the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, to Chairman of the Commission, Prof. Anthony Clayton. The findings and recommendations from the research project were presented at a special meeting held at UTech, Jamaica’s Papine campus on Wednesday, July 19, 2017.

The University of Technology, Jamaica on Wednesday, July 19, 2017, formally presented the final report of a consultancy research project undertaken for the Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, examining the regulatory treatment of small cable operators in Jamaica.

The project, Research on the Regulatory Treatment of Small Cable Operators, was conducted by a multi-disciplinary team led by Dr. Valoris Smith, Lecturer, College of Business and Management (COBAM), Mr. Sydney Lowrie, Lecturer, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies, and external attorney-at-law, Mr. Okeeto DaSilva. UTech, Jamaica was selected by the Broadcasting Commission in 2016 to participate in a competitive bid to undertake the research work.

Dr. Smith explained that the research was undertaken to provide findings and to make recommendations to the Broadcasting Commission on how the Subscriber Television (STV) operators within Jamaica should be regulated in relation to a tiered regulatory system. The main focus of the research was on regulatory treatment of small STV cable operators. The research included analysing large, medium and small STV operators with a view to considering a broader regulatory strategy to help to mature the STV industry. Currently, Jamaica does not have a tiered regulatory STV system.



Members of the UTech, Jamaica and Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica teams (from left) - Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD President, UTech, Ja., Prof. Anthony Clayton, Chairman, Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, Mr. Cordell Green, Executive Director, Broadcasting Commission, Miss Jodi-Ann Jackson, Project Manager, Broadcasting Commission, Dr. Valoris Smith, Lecturer, COBAM and project lead researcher, Mr. Sydney Lowrie, Lecturer, FELS and communication specialist on the research team, and Mr. Okeeto DaSilva, Attorney-at-law and legal consultant on the research project team.

# Profile on UTech, Jamaica Researchers

Members of academic staff at UTech, Jamaica continue to make strides in research projects and initiatives that are adding value to new knowledge in a variety of disciplines, while contributing to solving societal issues of national concern. In this issue the recent work of four researchers is featured.



**Dr. Andrew S. Lamm**

**D**r. Andrew S. Lamm is the Director of the Centre for Science-based Research, Entrepreneurship and Continuing Studies (CSRECS) and an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Science and Sport. He is also the creator and Principal Investigator of the Natural Products Research Laboratory (NPRL) at UTech, Jamaica. His research interests include: Natural Products Isolation; Bioassay Guided Fractionation; Drug Discovery; Biocatalysis & Biotransformation; Genetic & Metabolic Engineering; and Bacterial Taxonomy. His publications include peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, reports, as well as both commercial and academic presentations which are complimented by grant funding from local and international organisations.

Prior to joining UTech, Dr. Lamm held the position of VA Professor in Chemistry at the University of Iowa. While there he was also a Research Scholar at the Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing; and the Division of Medicinal and Natural Products Chemistry. Additionally, Dr. Lamm has worked as a Postdoctoral Investigator in the Biomedical Research Division at Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute in Florida.

Dr. Lamm is a member of the American Society of Pharmacognosy, among other professional organisations. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry and Biochemistry (Hons.) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD.) in Chemistry from the University of the West Indies.

**D**r. Su Yin Htun is Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Doctor of Medical Dentistry (DMD) Programme DMD at the University of Technology, Jamaica. She also currently holds a Fellowship in Craniomaxillofacial Surgery and Cleft Lip and Palate Surgery with the International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (FL,IAOMS) and is Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Faciomaxillary Surgery Department, Kingston Public Hospital (KPH) and Bustamante Children Hospital, Jamaica.

Dr. Htun is the award winner of the 2012 IAOMS Cleft Lip and Palate and Craniofacial Surgery Training Fellowship and has completed her training Fellowship (2012-2013) at the Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital in Orlando, Florida, USA, University of Pretoria in South Africa and Dr. Hasan Sadikin Hospital in Bandung, Indonesia. She is an invited speaker to International Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon (IAOMS) Conferences.

Dr. Htun earned her BDS and MDS degrees from the University of Dental Medicine, Yangon, Myanmar and was a member of faculty at the Teaching Hospital of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Dental Medicine, Yangon where she was trained for maxillofacial surgery until 2008 when she came as a recruited doctor to Jamaica.

Dr. Htun is also an invited speaker to The African regional Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons (AFAOMS). Her primary clinical interests include craniofacial surgery of birth defects, reconstruction and surgical management of craniofacial trauma. She has published several peer-reviewed items on facial cleft deformity treatment.



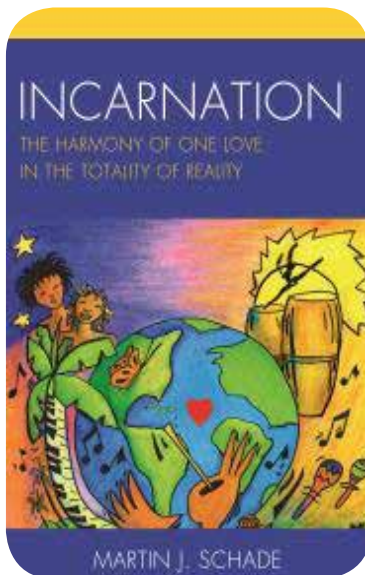
**Dr. Su Yin Htun**

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**Dr. Martin Schade**



**D**r. Martin Schade is Associate Professor, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies. He has been a member of faculty since the year 2000. Since 2015 he has also served as Faculty Graduate Studies Coordinator and has served as University Coordinator of the Community Service Programme (CSP) from 2008 – 2013, among other service roles in the Faculty, the University and the wider society.

His teaching experience and areas of specialization are in Philosophy, Metaphysics, Ethics, Philosophy, Psychology, Caribbean Cultural Expression, Comparative Religions, Human Sexuality, Ethics in Architecture and Sociology. Dr. Schade previously taught at the St. Michael's Theological College, University of the West Indies, Instituto de Estudios Religiosos (Maria Reina) in Cuba and the Harvard University Divinity School, Cambridge Massachusetts, USA.

Dr. Schade holds a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of the West Indies; the MA in Philosophy from Boston College, USA; a BA in Psychology/Philosophy and certificate in Education, both from Marquette University, Milwaukee, USA. Dr. Schade has given numerous public lectures in his areas of research and expertise. He is the author of the book, *Incarnation: The Harmony of One Love in the Totality of Reality* published by the University Press of America, May 2016. "Incarnation offers an understanding of the Self with ethical and cultural applications which are presented in the material-supernatural existential of music and dance found in the Riddim of Creation."

Dr. Schade received the University of Technology, Jamaica President's Award for Community Service in 2012 and 2015.



**Dr. Marcia Williams poses with equipment and supplies received from Seeding Labs, USA.**

**D**r. Marcia Williams is the Programme Director for the B.Sc. Pharmaceutical Technology course of study and a Senior Lecturer in the College of Health Sciences. Her research interests include dosage form design and her focus is in the formulation of naturally derived pharmaceuticals, to get them into the market in an acceptable form. Her research interest is focused on improving the bioavailability of lipid-soluble drugs, mainly through the process of Hot-Melt extrusion and physicochemical characterization of raw materials and finished products. Her publication includes articles in peer reviewed journals. She has done oral and poster presentations at various local and international conferences.

She played the lead role in the development of the B.Sc. Pharmaceutical Technology course of study and was recently successful in a grant application for needed equipment for the College. The value of equipment and consumables under the grant from Seeding Labs, an organization which supports research institutions in developing countries, is approximately US\$175, 350.

Dr. Williams is a member of the American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists, the UK and Ireland Release Society and other professional organizations. A pharmacist by profession, she serves on the executive body of the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica, where she is the Chair of the Research Committee. She holds a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree (1st Class), an M.S. degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences from University of Toledo, Ohio, USA, a PhD degree from Queen's University, Belfast and a Post Graduate Diploma in Education from UTech, Jamaica.

# UTech, Jamaica and Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture & Fisheries sign \$11M Contract to Assist Residents in Sugar Belts to Establish Businesses



Sharing a light moment following the signing of a contract agreement between the University of Technology, Jamaica and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA), from left, are Mr Donovan Stanberry, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, the Honourable Karl Samuda, CD, MP, Minister, MICAFA, Her Excellency Malgorzata Wasilewska, Ambassador and Head of Delegation to the European Union in Jamaica and Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, UTech, Jamaica. Witnessing the signing is Mrs. Keleen Young-Grandison (standing), Project Manager, Sugar Transformation Unit, MICAFA. The contract between the two entities was signed at a special ceremony held at the Ministry's offices in New Kingston on Wednesday, June 28, 2017.

**T**he University of Technology, Jamaica and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries (MICAFA) on Wednesday, June 28, 2017 formally signed a contract agreement under which the University through its Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship Ethics and Leadership (JDSEEL) is participating in a partnership project to facilitate residents of Sugar Dependent Areas of Jamaica to establish at least 80 feasible business ventures. The ceremony for the official signing of the contract was held at the Ministry's New Kingston Offices.

The project is part of the final set of activities (year 2) of the Accompanying Measures for Sugar Protocol 2013 Financing Agreement signed between the European Commission and the Government of Jamaica and is being implemented through the Sugar Transformation Unit (STU) of the Ministry.

€15,000 has been allocated by the European Commission for the successful implementation of these activities.

The 7-month contract with UTech, Jamaica is valued at \$11M and commenced on April 10, 2017. The project will end on October 10, 2017.

# FOSS Opens “Phoenix Park” for Students



Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, cuts the ribbon officially marking the opening of Phoenix Park, opened by the Faculty of Science and Sport for its students on Friday, July 14, 2017. Participating in the happy occasion are Dr. Kamilah Hylton (right), Dean, Faculty of Science and Sport, Prof. Colin Gyles, (left) Deputy President and Miss Racquel Watson, Brand Manager, Reggae Jammin and Hamilton’s Smokehouse Ltd.

Students of the Faculty of Science and Sport (FOSS) now have a resplendent space on the grounds of the 235 Old Hope Road location to call their own. The beautiful, purposefully designed “Phoenix Park” was officially opened by FOSS at a special ceremony held on Friday, July 14, 2017.

Dean, Dr. Kamilah Hylton expressed thanks to the team in the Faculty led by Vice-Dean, Mr Patrick Williams, for spearheading the project to realise comfortable outdoor seating area for its students who were often seen sitting and studying in the hallways. The Dean lauded sponsors of the Park, Jamaica Broilers through its Reggae Jammin brand and Nunez Concrete and Construction Company Ltd.

## No ordinary Gazebo

Visitors to the new students’ park will notice immediately that the lovely space is no ordinary gazebo. Phoenix Park boasts concrete benches, tables, large, red umbrella’s subtly branded by sponsors Reggae Jammin, golden angelic figures interspersed throughout and a water fountain.

In declaring the park officially opened, President, Prof. Stephen Vasciannie congratulated FOSS on “the development of the lovely seating area,” adding that the park represents an important attempt to take into account the interests of our students, as we all strive to create a student-friendly environment.” He thanked Dean Hylton, Vice-Dean Williams and other members of staff for their commitment to the realization of the project.

The President noted further that the FOSS Phoenix Park for students also represents valuable collaboration between academia and the private sector. “I join the Faculty of Science and Sport in expressing gratitude to Jamaica Broilers, through their Reggae Jammin brand for contributing the concrete benches, tables, umbrellas, angelic figures and signage to the Park. I also offer gratitude to Nunez Concrete and Construction Company for the water fountain and to our own Facilities Management Division (FMD) for providing the concrete base for each of the seating areas.”



FOSS Students, Kimberlee Robinson , Acting FOSS Student Representative and Rhoshmaine Chambers, Advisor to Students’ Union President pose with Miss Racquel Watson, Brand Manager, Reggae Jammin and Hamilton’s Smokehouse Ltd and Mr. Patrick Williams, Vice-Dean, FOSS following their participation in the unveiling of the sign marking the opening of the Phoenix Park for students located on the lawns of the Faculty.



Guests enjoy refreshments at the lovely Phoenix Park, following the opening ceremony.

# UTech, Jamaica Signs MoU with RADA for Development of MSc in Rural Development



Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, University of Technology, Jamaica (centre) and Mr. Peter Thompson, CEO, RADA sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of a Master of Science degree in Integrated Rural Development, during a special ceremony held on Tuesday, July 1, 2017 at the University's Papine campus. Looking on is Dr. Garfield Young, Dean, Faculty of The Built Environment.

UTech, Jamaica through its Faculty of The Built Environment has forged a partnership with the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) for the development of a Master of Science (MSc) degree in Integrated Rural Development slated to come on stream in 2018. The two entities on Tuesday, July 11, 2017 signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Papine campus, formally paving the way for the development of the programme.

Welcoming the partnership, President, Prof. Stephen Vasciannie said that "as Jamaica's National University, UTech, Jamaica shares unequivocally in the Government of Jamaica's thrust to focus on strategies to significantly develop the country's rural communities." Prof. Vasciannie in pointing to a number of longstanding issues that have faced rural communities in Jamaica remarked that "we need to move to a situation in which we accept

that rural communities constitute economic drivers for development in the country."

RADA's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Peter Thompson said that the graduate study programme will foster practical solutions to challenges impacting rural communities. He pointed to a number of global examples of partnerships between industry and academia that have resulted in solutions to problems faced by communities. He noted that UTech, Jamaica's "practical and hands-on approach" to the course of study augurs well for advancing RADA's strategic objectives.

Dr. Amani Ishemo, Associate Professor, FOBE who has been leading the development of the MSc in Integrated Rural Development, with RADA since June 2016, provided an overview of the graduate programme.

UTech,Ja/RADA partners from left, front row: Dr. Amani Ishemo, Associate Professor, Faculty of the Built Environment (FOBE), Ms. Marina Young, Principal Director (Acting), Technical Services, RADA, Mr. Peter Thompson, CEO, RADA, Mrs. Winsome Phillips, Principal Director, Corporate Services, RADA, Mrs. Anthea Ramsay-Waisome, Acting Senior Director, HRM & Administration, RADA, Mr Winston Simpson, Principal Director, Field Services RADA.

Second row from left are Dr. Garfield Young, Dean, FOBE and Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, UTech, Jamaica.



# UTech, Jamaica Signs Agreement with Habitat for Humanity to Build Community Resilience in Naggo Head, Portmore



Dr. Paulette Griffiths (3rd left), Project Manager, Habitat for Humanity, Jamaica and Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD (right), President, UTech, Jamaica shake hands following the signing of the Agreement between the two institutions. Participating in the signing from left, are Dr. Garfield Young, Dean, Faculty of The Built Environment, Mrs. Michelle Beckford, Corporate Communications Manager, UTech, Jamaica who witnessed the signing and Dr. Carol Archer, Associate Professor, Faculty of the Built Environment.

On Friday, June 30, 2017 the University of Technology, Jamaica signed a contract agreement with Habitat for Humanity to provide oversight for the administration and analysis of data related to the Naggo Head Redevelopment Plan. This plan is being executed under phase two of the Building Resilience and Capacities against Emerging Disasters (BRACED) Project.

The Project provides assistance to communities that are vulnerable to natural hazards and disasters, by improving the resilience of their infrastructure. The geographic area included in the study is the Naggo Head District which is part of the Portmore Municipality, St. Catherine. UTech, Jamaica's efforts in this project are led by Dr. Carol Archer, Associate Professor, Faculty of The Built Environment. Students from the Faculty of The Built Environment have been participating in the project through the administration of surveys, conducting a health audit and preparation of the transportation and economic development plan, and community mapping.

## St Thomas Residents to Benefit from Disaster Risk Project

The University of Technology, Jamaica through its Faculty of The Built Environment is participating in a 3D project being implemented by JAS in collaboration with the Trinityville Area Development Committee Benevolent Society (TADCBS); Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) in St Thomas. The project is expected to benefit residents in St Thomas through the implementation of 3D Model for Disaster Risks to reduce loss of crops, livestock and homes, such as the damage caused by flood rains in March and April of this year.

A total of 6,000 residents in 12 farming communities, including Hillside, Somerset and Fonthill in Trinityville, St Thomas, are expected to benefit, Janet Finnikin, manager of the Jamaica Agricultural Society (JAS) for the parish of St Thomas, said.

The model which is expected to help fill the information and knowledge gaps related to disaster risks in Trinityville was showcased at the Denbigh Agricultural Show held in Clarendon in August 2017.

"This participatory 3D model approach has empowered community members to actively explore and pinpoint the disaster risks on the 3D virtual and physical maps," Finnikin stated. "We initiated the research in July, as community members, guided representatives of JAS, TADCBS, RADA, and UTech students and lecturers through the disaster-prone areas of the



Rudolph Downer participates in the construction of the 3D Model for Disaster Risk Management Project at the Faculty of The Built Environment (FOBE), University of Technology, Jamaica while Madison Powell, student, FOBE provides guidance.

12 districts in Trinityville. The team from UTech facilitated the mapping of geographic coordinates; and, along with the residents, identified mitigation and adaptation solutions which have been included in this 3D model initiative," Finnikin explained.

# UTech, Jamaica to Confer Honorary Degrees On Gary 'Butch' Hendrickson, Rev. Rose Hudson-Wilkin and Hon. Justice Zaila McCalla, OJ

The University of Technology, Jamaica will confer honorary Doctor of Laws (Hon. LL.D) degrees on Mr. Gary 'Butch' Hendrickson, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Continental Baking Company Ltd., The Reverend Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin, Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons and Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen and The Hon. Mrs. Justice Zaila McCalla, OJ. The outstanding Jamaicans will be presented with the Doctor of Laws honoris causa (Hon. LL.D) at the University's Graduation Ceremony to be held on Saturday, November 4, 2017, at the National Arena, in Kingston.

## Business

Mr. Hendrickson is being recognized by UTech, Jamaica for his philanthropic activities which have transformed the lives of many Jamaicans, including several students of the University. The Continental Baking Company, most popularly known for its brands, National, HTB and HO Made, provides employment for over 800 persons in Jamaica.



Gary Hendrickson



The Rev Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin

## Religion

Outstanding Jamaican, the Reverend Prebendary Rose Hudson-Wilkin will receive the honorary doctorate from UTech, Jamaica in recognition of her signal achievement as a woman of colour. In 2007 she was appointed as a Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen and in 2010, she became the first female appointed to the position of Chaplain to the Speaker of the House of Commons. In this role she leads the prayers in the House of Commons daily when the House is sitting and carries the responsibility for the pastoral care of both members and staff of the Palace of Westminster.

## The Law

The Honourable Mrs. Justice Zaila McCalla, OJ, is being recognized for her outstanding service to the justice system of Jamaica and in particular her achievement as being the first woman to rise to the position as Chief Justice of Jamaica where key attributes which had distinguished her in the selection process. Since her admission to the Bar in 1976 she has served as Clerk of Courts, Crown Counsel, Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Resident Magistrate and Senior Resident Magistrate. She has also served as President of the Association of Resident Magistrates and Master-in-Chambers of the Supreme Court. On July 7, 1997, she was appointed Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court, and was in April 2006 appointed Judge of the Court of Appeal.



The Hon. Mrs. Justice Zaila McCalla, OJ

# GEM Report Presents Rich Data of Current Entrepreneurship Ecosystem



The University of Technology, Jamaica on Thursday, September 14, 2017 launched the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Jamaica 2016 - 17 Report undertaken by a team of researchers drawn from its College of Business and Management. Pictured above, the researchers involved in the project discuss something of interest in the publication during the launch ceremony. From left are Dr. Andrea Sutherland, Mr. Michael Steele, Mrs. Vanetta Skeete, Dr. Claudette Williams-Myers, Dr. Girjanauth Boodraj, lead researcher and Dr Gaunette Sinclair-Maragh.

**T**he University of Technology, Jamaica on Thursday, September 14, 2017 hosted a special launch ceremony and symposium to announce the findings of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Jamaica 2016/17 Report, undertaken by a team of researchers drawn from the University's College of Business and Management (COBAM). – Team Lead Researcher, Dr. Girjanauth Boodraj, Associate Professor, COBAM, Mr. Michael Steele, Head, Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Leadership (JDSEEL), Associate Professors, COBAM, Dr. Claudette Williams-Myers, Dr. Andrea Sutherland, Dr. Gaunette Sinclair-Maragh, Head, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM) and Mrs. Vanetta Skeete, Senior Lecturer, COBAM.

GEM is the largest study of entrepreneurship in the world. Through a consortium of universities in 100 countries, GEM data tracks the entrepreneurial attitudes, activities and motivation of entrepreneurs in the participating countries and monitors entrepreneurial framework conditions which promote or hinder the growth of entrepreneurship such as financial support, government policies, commercial and service infrastructure and physical infrastructure. GEM tracks rates of entrepreneurship across multiple phases of activity- potential entrepreneurs, nascent entrepreneurs, new business owners, established business owners and discontinued businesses. UTech, Jamaica has been involved in producing the GEM Jamaica country report since 2005.

Keynote speaker, Hon. Fayval Williams, MP, Minister of State, Ministry of Finance and the Public Service lauded the researchers and the high value of the GEM Report data in informing government policy and practice. Citing recommendations from the GEM 2013 Jamaica report, Minister Williams disclosed that “the recommendations from the report on research into business discontinuation is factored into the emphasis that is now placed on the long-term sustainability of start-ups, business growth and reducing business failure as an important component of enabling a culture of entrepreneurship and innovation.”

The Minister also noted that another recommendation from the GEM 2013 report for more youths to be exposed to entrepreneurship as a long term

career option, particularly at the elementary level was brought to bear in revising the current MSME Policy that now focuses on the introduction of Entrepreneurship in the school curricula at all levels.

Minister Williams told the gathering of entrepreneurs, students, academics and members of the business community, that the government continues to place emphasis on initiatives aimed at capacity building and creating an enabling environment for MSMEs to flourish. She noted that the updated data provided by the GEM 2016-17 report will be useful in “fixing the shortcomings in the way we support the entrepreneurship environment in Jamaica.”

## “Jamaicans Hold Entrepreneurship in High Regard”

Members of the GEM research team presented the key findings of the study derived from an Adult Population Survey (APS) using a random sample of at least 2,020 adults between the ages of 18 and 64 and a National Experts Survey (NES) in which 36 business experts were interviewed. GEM collects data from participating countries using these two common data collection instruments. It harmonizes the data and compares results among countries categorized as factor-driven, efficiency-driven and innovation-driven. Jamaica is categorized as an efficiency-driven economy. In the measure of societal values of entrepreneurship, according to the Report, Jamaicans hold entrepreneurs in high regard, with 85% stating that starting a business is a desirable career choice. This compares to only 64% for residents of Latin America and the Caribbean.

The principal indicator of GEM is the Total Early Stage Entrepreneurial Activity (TEA) rate which measures the percentage of the adult population who are in the process of starting or have started a business. The researchers found that Jamaica's TEA rate is 9.9% which is approximately 50% of that of Latin America and the Caribbean.

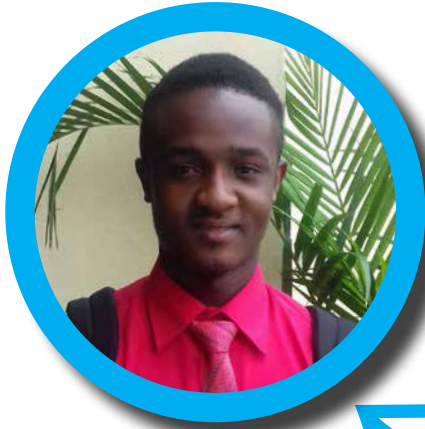
Among the other key findings are that Jamaicans positively perceive the possibility of operating a business (85%); slightly more females (50.6%) than males (49.4%) are involved in entrepreneurship; Jamaicans are driven to engage in entrepreneurship by opportunities that exist and do not fear failure; and small, easy to start-up businesses dominate the entrepreneurial landscape in Jamaica. The researchers also reported that 84% of Jamaicans believe that they have the required skill to start a business, while 38% expressed the intention to start a business over the next three years. It was noted however, that “the will, courage and confidence of most Jamaicans to undertake entrepreneurial activities above the micro-enterprise level are lacking.” The researchers recommended that factors that motivate entrepreneurial activity such as training, accessibility to financing, guidance and mentorship need to be maintained or strengthened.

The presentation of the report was followed by an entrepreneurship symposium. The presenters were Dr. Ellen Campbell-Grizzle, Associate Professor, College of Health Sciences, UTech, Jamaica who provided a comprehensive overview of opportunities in “The Business of Cannabis.” Entrepreneur, Ms Valrie Grant, Managing Director of GeoTech Vision Limited shared her own experiences in a presentation on “Women in Entrepreneurship” and President of the College of Agriculture, Science and Education (CASE) shared with the audience on “Opportunities in Agripreneurship.”

# STUDENT VOICES

During Orientation Week in August 2017, new students were asked “Why did you choose UTech, Jamaica to pursue tertiary studies and what are your expectations?”

Read their responses below.



“UTech is one of the top institutions in the island for practical experience in any course and it is a very welcoming, calm atmosphere with friendly people.

My expectation is to become a more informed individual, well rounded and involved in what I can become involved in. I expect to evolve.”

**Name:** Andre Taylor

**High School Attended:** St. Jago High School

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management

**College/Faculty:** College of Business and Management



“I like the hands-on experience at UTech. My sister studied here. I have always loved the idea of attending UTech - no other university.

I expect the best learning experience. I expect that when I graduate at the end of my four years, I should be ready for the work world.”

**Name:** Jadetta Duncan

**High School Attended:** Immaculate Conception High and St. Jago High School

**Course of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Computing

**College/Faculty:** Faculty of Engineering and Computing



“UTech has been offering my programme for a number of years and UWI just started. So I would have been the second batch at UWI and I would be a part of the umpteenth batch at UTech. That means that you guys know what you’re doing, in terms of pharmacy and you’re cheaper.

My expectations. I think that I will be able to share my talents here, I think it is a place that is open to new ideas and I also think that I will be able to learn and grow and experience new things and I hope that I will be able to become a more rounded person here.”

**Name:** Antwan Nelson Martin Marshall

**High School Attended:** Cornwall College

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Pharmacy

**College/Faculty:** College of Health Sciences





# STUDENT VOICES

"I believe in tradition and UTech is actually amazing with Medical Technology. Not only that but I love the spirit, the whole getting together as a group. It just makes me feel welcome.

My expectation of my school is that I am supposed to leave here with my Bachelor's Degree and I am supposed to make a name for myself in this institution as well as being able to have enough networking with others to amplify myself in the work world."

**Name:** Sakilia Holton

**High School Attended:** Mount Alvernia High School

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology

**College/Faculty:** College of Health Sciences



"This university offers the programme that I am interested in.

I expect a lot of work and I am ready for it. I am anxious for it and I want to get it done as quickly as possible and to the best of my abilities. I also expect to interact with persons across the country and across the region. I am looking out for new experiences."

**Name:** Bryce Grant

**High School Attended:** Cornwall College

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Environmental Health- Major in Public Health Inspection

**College/Faculty:** Joint Colleges of Medicine, Oral Health and Veterinary Sciences



"At first, I was a bit sceptical about coming to UTech, because technology was not one of my strong suits in high school. However, I choose UTech because I would like to have a broader degree, than what I would be able to get at other places. I am ready to study here and to get a programme and a degree that's work ready, that I can get into the work world and have a job immediately and make as much money as I can."

**Name:** Kristal Williams

**High School Attended:** St. Andrew High School (for Girls)

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Arts in Communication Arts and Technology

**College/Faculty:** Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies



"I chose UTech because my role model who is my cousin came here and she did law. She did very well and I wanted to follow in her footsteps, so I did the same thing.

I expect to pass all my courses in the three years and not pay to repeat. I would like a straight A profile with a 4.0 GPA hopefully. I plan to socialize more, make new friends, and participate in clubs and extracurricular activities. I hope to excel in everything I do."

**Name:** Renee Reid

**High School Attended:** Alpha Academy and Immaculate Conception High School

**Programme of Study:** Bachelor of Law

**College/Faculty:** Faculty of Law



## STUDENT VOICES CONT'D

"I kind of figured that this is the institution for me. From I was small I always heard about UTech and UWI, and UTech is always in my head, so I have decided to become a student here at UTech.

I am not going to say all my dreams. I want them to be realized here, but I want this school to bring out the inner Kadri. The Kadri on the inside - the one that will make a difference."

**Name:** Kadri Smith  
**High School Attended:** William Knibb Memorial High School  
**Course of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Actuarial Science  
**College/Faculty:** Faculty of Science and Sport



"I chose UTech, Jamaica because I heard many good things about the school and I really wanted to attend.

My expectations are to have a lot of fun and to grow personally and academically."

**Name:** Ashleigh Burton  
**High School Attended:** Morant Bay High and Seaforth High  
**Course of Study:** Bachelor of Science in Land Surveying  
**College/Faculty:** Faculty of The Built Environment

## UTech, Ja. Welcomes New and Transfer Students



Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, greets first year students at the Academic Induction Ceremony held on Friday, August 25, 2017 at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, Papine campus.

The University formally welcomed new and transfer undergraduate students enrolled for the 2017/2018 academic year during the University's annual Week of Welcome Orientation programme organized by the Division of Student Services to introduce students to the wide array of academic, intellectual, leadership, cultural, and social experiences available at UTech, Jamaica. The week-long programme included in-faculty and campus tours, a Community Service Conference and Expo, sports and social activities, Halls of Residence orientation and an academic induction ceremony at the Papine and Western campuses. Orientation activities at the Papine campus were held from Sunday, August 20, 2017 to Saturday, August 26, 2017 and from Wednesday, August 23, 2017 to Friday, August 25, 2017 at the Montego Bay campus.

Professor Stephen Vasciannie, President in his charge to the students at the Academic Induction ceremonies, gave the assurance that they have entered a world-class centre of learning where "students are the raison d'être of the institution." He invited them to diligently strive to meet all their obligations, remain steadfast to their goals; avoid all shortcuts to dishonesty, treat others with respect and fairness and to be good ambassadors of the UTech, Jamaica Brand. The President also underscored the importance of practising the UTech, Jamaica Core Values of **Respect, Accountability, Service, Excellence, Innovation and Team Spirit.**



Mr. Granville McKnight (at podium), President, UTech, Ja. Students' Union leads the students in reciting the New Students' Pledge at the Academic Induction ceremony at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, Papine campus.

Members of the Platform Party at the Western Campus Academic Induction ceremony held on Thursday, August 24, 2017 at St. John's Methodist Church Hall, Montego Bay, St. James. From left are Dr. Andrea Atterbury, Programme Director, Caribbean School of Nursing, College of Health Sciences, Mr. Kerwin Hamil, Programme Director, School of Business Administration, College of Business and Management, Professor Colin Gyles, Deputy President, Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, Mrs. Mercedes Dean, Acting University Registrar and Miss Sophia McIntosh, Campus Coordinator, UTech, Jamaica Western Campus.



Violinist Michael Wilson, Faculty of Science and Sport student entertains at the Academic Induction ceremony held at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, Papine campus.

# Annual Community Service Conference

The annual Community Service Conference hosted by the Division of Community Service and Development formed an integral component in the Week of Welcome orientation programme. It is intended to introduce first year students to the University's mandatory Community Service Programme (CSP 1001) to promote community service volunteerism and an heightened awareness among students of social and developmental issues in their immediate communities and beyond. The 2017 conference was held on Thursday, August 24, 2017 at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, Papine campus under the theme, "RAISE IT – Creating a Positive Change Through Volunteerism."



Professor Rosalea Hamilton, Vice President, Division of Community Service and Development, keynote speaker at the annual Community Service Conference and Fair addresses students on the topic "Volunteerism – A Civic Responsibility."



Mr. Courtney Palmer (left), Lecturer, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies and University Community Service Coordinator presents Miss Imani Palmer, College of Oral Health Sciences (COOHS) student with her Certificate of Recognition for her "remarkable performance in the Community Service Programme 1001" in the last Academic Year.

# College/Faculty Orientation

## SHTM Orientation



Dr. Gaunette Sinclair- Maragh (left), Head, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management presents a happy first year student with a token at the School's orientation session held on Wednesday, August 23, 2017.

## College/Faculty Booths at Orientation



College of Health Sciences



Faculty of The Built Environment

## Lucky Winner!

Mr. Craig McNally, University Counsellor presents a lucky first year student with a gift basket at the Give-Aways, Prizes and Surprises session following the Academic Induction Ceremony at the Papine campus.



# COHS Hosts Successful 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Nursing and Midwifery Conference



In discussion at the Opening Ceremony for the College of Health Sciences' 3<sup>rd</sup> International Biennial Nursing and Midwifery Conference. Prof. Carol Baxter CBE (right), Principal Research Fellow, Department of Public Health, Imperial College, London and keynote speaker engages Prof. Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, UTech, Ja. and Dr. Adella Campbell, Head, Caribbean School of Nursing. The two-day conference was held from August 10 – 11, 2017 at the Knutsford Court Hotel in Kingston.

A wide cross-section of the nursing and midwifery community attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial Nursing and Midwifery conference hosted by the Caribbean School of Nursing, College of Health Sciences from Thursday, August 10 to Friday, August 11, 2017 at the Knutsford Hotel in Kingston. The conference was held under the theme, "Conquering new frontiers in health care delivery through Nursing and Midwifery Research" and highlighted the importance of research in influencing practice and policy in the nursing and midwifery professions.

The Conference comprised five scientific sessions which highlighted current research and examined a breadth of issues in nursing care, nursing education and their potential impact on the health sector.

At the opening session of the Conference, Professor Carol Baxter CBE, Principal Research Fellow, Department of Primary Care and Public Health, Imperial College, London, delivered the keynote address. Other speakers at the opening session included:-

- Professor Stephen Vasciannie, CD, President, UTech, Jamaica
- Dr. Janet Campbell-Shelly, Dean, College of Health Sciences,
- Mrs. Janet Coore-Farr, President of the Nurses Association,
- Dr. Andrea Pusey-Murray, Senior Lecturer, Caribbean School of Nursing and Conference Chair
- Mrs. Shirley Newby-Hibbert, Deputy Chief Nursing Officer

# Caribbean Case Researchers Association (CCRA) to boost Case Writing in the Region



Members of the Caribbean Case Researchers Association Executive pose for a group photograph following the launch ceremony. From left, (front row) Dr. Valoris Smith, Lecturer, School of Business Administration (SOBA), Dr. Locksley Henry, Lecturer, School of Business Administration (SOBA)/Vice President, Research, CCRA and Mrs. Lisa Facey-Shaw, Lecturer, School of Computing and Information Technology (SCIT)/Chair, Standards Committee. Back row, from left, Ms. Sandra Shirley, Finance and Business Consultant, Prof. Colin Gyles, Deputy President, UTech, Ja., Mrs. Rosalee Sawyers, Lecturer, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM)/Vice President, Membership and Communication, Mr. John Suranyi, Group CEO, Digicel Play Caribbean and Central America, Dr. Jeffrey P. Shay, President-Elect, North American Case Research Association (NACRA), Prof. Paul Golding, Dean, College of Business and Management and President of CCRA, Miss Atherine Lee, Lecturer, Lecturer, SOBA/Vice President Programmes and Case Marketing and Dr. Andrea Sutherland Associate Dean, Graduate Programmes, SOBA. Missing from the photograph is Miss Danille Stewart, UWI.

The College of Business and Management (COBAM), on Thursday, July 6, 2017 launched the Caribbean Case Researchers Association, (CCRA) formally marking the commencement of creating a repository of high quality case writing in the region. The launch was held at the Shared Facilities Complex, Papine campus.

Prof. Paul Golding, Dean, COBAM who conceptualized and spearheaded the launch of the CCRA, in his overview said that with the establishment of the Association is intended to improve business practice in Jamaica and the region by the documentation of business theory case scenarios that represent the reality of the business landscape of Jamaica and the Caribbean.

President Elect of the North American Case Researchers Association, (NACRA) Dr. Jeffrey Shay endorsed the CCRA and expressed hope that it will positively impact the future of business education in the Caribbean.

Mr. Garfield Higgins, Senior Advisor to the Minister, Ministry of Education Youth and Information, in welcoming the CCRA said that, “universities cannot afford to rely on reputation alone as a conduit of current relevance,” but need to ensure that their research output and other services are readily applicable to the long-standing social and economic challenges which have affected us for decades. The guest Speaker, was Mr. John Suranyi, Group CEO, Digicel Play Caribbean and Central America.

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Dr. Jeffrey P. Shay (right), President-Elect of the North American Case Research Association (NACRA) proudly displays an appreciation plaque presented by Prof. Paul Golding (left), Dean, College of Business and Management, UTech, Ja. and President, Caribbean Case Researchers Association (CCRA) during the launch ceremony.

# UTech, Jamaica/CDB Host Exit Workshop for UTech, Ja. Enhancement Project



Major Patrick Cameron (left), Chief Operations and Projects Officer and Mrs. Genefa Hibbert, Project Coordinator, UTech, Ja. Enhancement Project, Project Management Unit (PMU) field questions from workshop participants during the Caribbean Development Bank/ University of Technology, Jamaica Enhancement Project Exit Workshop held on Thursday, June 28, 2017 at the Shared Facilities complex, UTech, Ja. Papine campus.

The University of Technology, Jamaica has reached a milestone achievement with the near completion of the UTech, Jamaica Enhancement Project. In 2008 the Government of Jamaica signed a loan agreement with the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) for a loan of US\$25.87 million to fund the development project at the University.

The government undertook this investment as a grant to UTech, Jamaica to which the University provided counterpart funding of US\$16.78 million to cover the life of the project – originally slated for completion in December 2011. The physical completion is scheduled for September 2017, with terminal disbursement date also targeted for September 2017, resulting from extension of the CDB loan.

The Project Management Unit (PMU), UTech, Jamaica which administers the Enhancement Project on Thursday, June 28, 2017 hosted an Exit Workshop with participants from the CDB, an the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information, the Planning Institute of Jamaica and other stakeholders at the Shared Facilities, Papine campus – one of the major infrastructural outcomes of the Project.

The Exit Workshop examined the issues and challenges as well as successes and lessons learnt from the implementation of the Project.



The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management boutique hotel completed under the UTech, Jamaica Enhancement Project in March 2015.



The Shared Facilities classroom and lecture theatre blocks completed under the UTech, Jamaica Enhancement Project in December 2016.



# Ten UTech, Jamaica Students and Faculty Awarded Scholarships to Canadian Universities



Damian Kotzev (3rd Row, first left) Second Secretary (Management) and Vice-Consul, High Commission of Canada in Jamaica poses for a group photograph with students and faculty from the University of Technology, Jamaica and the University of the West Indies, Mona who have been selected for study and developmental opportunities in Canada for the 2017/2018 Academic Year under the International Opportunities Programs of the Government of Canada – Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP), Canada/CARICOM Leadership Program and the Canada/CARICOM Faculty Leadership Program (CCFLP). The occasion was an orientation and information session hosted by the High Commission at its Kingston offices on Thursday, July 6, 2017.

## COHS Lecturer awarded Commonwealth Scholarship for Doctoral Studies

**M**s. Patrice Reid, Programme Director of the Child and Adolescent Development Course of Study, College of Health Sciences, has been awarded a Commonwealth Scholarship from the Government of the United Kingdom to pursue the doctorate in Psychological Medicine at the University of Glasgow, United Kingdom commencing in October 2017.

The University congratulates Ms. Reid on her award of the prestigious Commonwealth Scholarship.

**T**en students and Faculty from the University of Technology, Jamaica have been selected for study and developmental opportunities in Canada for the 2017/2018 Academic Year under the International Opportunities Programs of the Government of Canada – Emerging Leaders in the Americas Program (ELAP), Canada/CARICOM Leadership Program and the Canada/CARICOM Faculty Leadership Program (CCFLP). All programs are funded by the Government of Canada.

The ten awards are tenable at five Canadian post-secondary institutions: Brandon University, Ryerson University, Humber College Institute of Advanced Technology and Learning, University of Prince Edward Island and the University of Waterloo.

Eight students were selected from the College of Business and Management. They are Romaine Fagan, Nicola Atkinson, Jenelle Taylor, Gedeisha Gordon and Davion Williams who will attend Brandon University for four months. Adera Williams will attend University of Prince Edward Island for four months and Tena-Kay Gilling and David Pringle will take up their scholarships at Humber College Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning for four months.

Faculty member Dr. Andrea Pusey-Murray, Programme Director, College of Nursing will be International Liaison Officer at Ryerson University for two to three weeks. Dr. Aneisha Collins-Fairclough, Lecturer, and Head of Division for Research and Graduate Studies, Faculty of Science and Sport (FOSS) will be a member of Faculty at the University of Waterloo for five to six months. The Exit Workshop examined the issues and challenges as well as successes and lessons learnt from the implementation of the Project.



Ms. Patricia Reid, Lecturer, COHS

# FOSS Researcher Exploring Microbial Treasures and Threats in Jamaica's Riverton City Dump



Dr. Aneisha Collins-Fairclough, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Science and Sport

**D**r. Aneisha Collins-Fairclough, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Science and Sport has been researching the scientific potential of microbial treasures in Jamaica's Riverton City Dump.

Since receiving an Instrumental Access shipment of equipment from Seeding Labs in 2014, Dr. Collins-Fairclough has been harvesting the microbiological riches of the Riverton City Dump, Jamaica's largest solid waste disposal site. She collected water samples with her students from the dump's leachate ponds as well as the adjacent Duhaney River, which runs

through residential communities before draining to and potentially polluting the Kingston Harbour.

By extracting and analyzing DNA from the water samples using metagenomic analysis, the researcher can identify all of the microorganisms in the samples, including those present in such small numbers that they would have gone undetected by conventional methods. Hiding within the samples will almost certainly be evidence of organisms that are new to science, having evolved to survive the dump's extreme environment. Their unique metabolic capabilities may prove useful for bioremediation, drug development, or formulation of agricultural chemicals.

Analysis may also reveal dangerous pathogens posing a public health threat. By understanding the extent to which the landfill is a source of these disease-causing organisms, Dr. Collins-Fairclough hopes to minimize health risks to the neighboring community.

The initial phase of Dr. Collins-Fairclough's project was supported by a grant from UTech, Jamaica's Research Development Fund. Dr. Collins-Fairclough is collaborating with a researcher from the University of Waterloo in Canada whose work focuses on understanding the diversity and function of microbial communities in contaminated sites, like municipal landfills.

The collaboration will be enhanced through a Canada-CARICOM Faculty Leadership Program scholarship awarded to Dr. Collins-Fairclough this spring. Through a research exchange, Dr. Collins-Fairclough will travel to the University of Waterloo in January 2018 to perform advanced bioinformatics analyses of the metagenomics data set from the landfill.

Read full story published by Seeding Labs: <https://seedinglabs.org/2017/08/university-of-technology-jamaica-faculty-of-science-sport/>

## Research provides hope for "Technotherapy" Induced Gains for post-acute stroke patients



Dr. Felix Akinladejo, Associate Dean, FENC

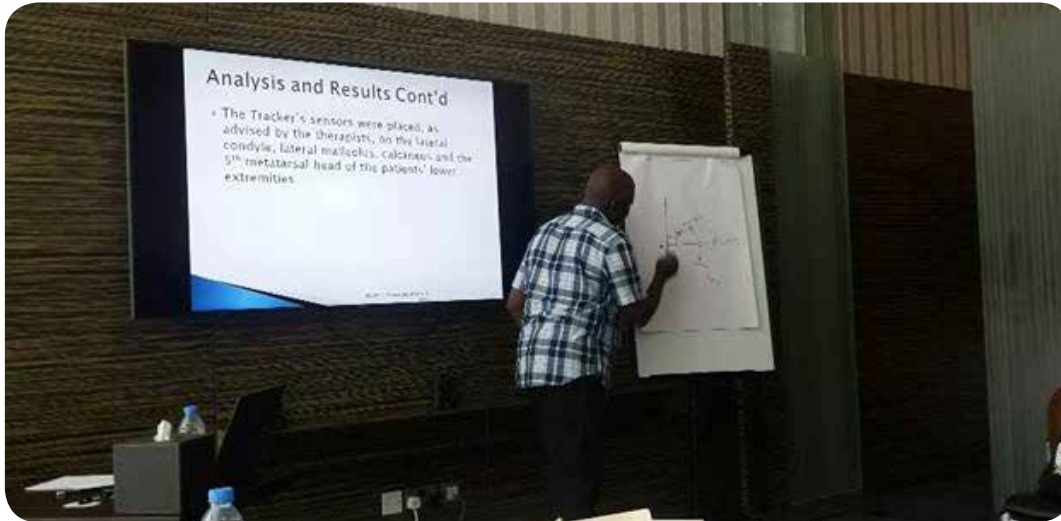
**D**r. Felix Akinladejo, Associate Dean, Graduate Studies, Faculty of Engineering and Computing recently presented his research work on "Technotherapy Induced Gains after a Stroke: A Case Study of Post-Acute Stroke Patients". The presentation was made on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at the Atana Hotel in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, during a University of Ibadan, College of Medicine (UICoM) Graduating Class of 1992 conference and reunion involving medical consultants from across the world.

The research work has involved an assessment of the use of computer technology to correct walking abnormalities in post-acute stroke patients from the Mona Rehabilitation Centre, St. Andrew. Dr. Akinladejo explained that the study involved "three male patients that had been discharged from Mona Rehab, having been adjudged to have attained their highest level of functional recovery (i.e., plateau) participated in the clinical trial of the system.

Cont'd on page 27

They were not receiving treatment from other rehab centers or clinicians at the time of participating in the computer-based therapy programme; hence, any changes observed in their gait characteristics were attributed to this type of intervention technique.”

This result buttressed the literature that supported the usefulness of technology in therapeutic rehabilitation. The study contributes to the current effort to provide wider access to therapeutic intervention techniques, especially in developing countries, like Jamaica, with limited resources to handle the intensity needed for physical rehabilitation.



Dr. Felix Akinladejo making his presentation on “Technotherapy Induced Gains after a Stroke: A Case Study of Post-Acute Stroke Patients” on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at the Atana Hotel in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, during a University of Ibadan, College of Medicine (UICoM) Graduating Class of 1992 conference and reunion involving medical consultants from across the world.

## UTech/DBJ Forge \$7 M MoU Agreement for University Incubators Capacity Building Programme

UTech, Jamaica through its Technology Innovation Centre (TIC) in April 2017 forged a \$7 M MoU partnership with the Development Bank of Jamaica (DBJ) under the University Incubators Capacity Building Programme being developed by the bank's Jamaica Venture Capital Programme (JVCP).

The objectives of the partnership include providing support to programmes and relevant infrastructure focused on creating a deal flow of investment ready business and stimulating a culture of entrepreneurship through well designed and funded programmes.

Since its establishment in 2002 the Technology Innovation Centre has nurtured over 260 client businesses in its residential, virtual and shared space programme and graduate businesses of the Centre have gone on to be very impactful on the economy. Some of these companies have gained investment in their businesses and have been recipients of numerous local and international awards.

Under the DBJ Programme, Professor Colin Gyles, Deputy President and Miss Dionne Palmer, Incubator Manager, Technology Innovation Centre visited technology incubators at universities in Canada during the month of June.



Prof. Colin Gyles, Deputy President and Miss Dionne Palmer, Incubator Manager, Technology Innovation Centre pose in front of the Markham Convergence Centre, Ontario, Canada during a visit in June 2017.

# JPS Hands Over 100kW PV Solar System to UTech, Jamaica



**K**elly Tomblin (centre), President and CEO, JPS is delighted to receive an appreciation plaque from Dr. Ruth Potopsingh (5th left) Associate Vice President, Sustainable Energy, University of Technology, Jamaica at a special appreciation luncheon held Monday, July 3, 2017 at the Courtleigh Hotel. The plaque was presented to Ms Tomblin for her contribution to renewable energy development and in recognition of the donation of a 100KW Solar PV System to UTech, Jamaica, commissioned at the University's Papine campus on July 10, 2014. The JPS fully transferred ownership of the project to UTech, Jamaica on April 5, 2017. The Solar plant has significantly supported the University's electricity needs, reduced operating costs and provided practical training for students.

Sharing in the occasion from left, are Dr. Garfield Young, Dean, Faculty of The Built Environment, Hector Wheeler, Associate Vice President, Advancement, UTech, Ian Buchanan, Project Engineer, JPS, David Cooke, Head, Projects Management and Engineering, JPS and Dr. Therese Chambers, Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering and Computing, UTech.

## Maurice Lewin, JP Appointed Chief Human Resource Officer



**M**r. Maurice Lewin was appointed as Chief Human Resource Officer on August 3, 2017. Mr. Lewin reports directly to the President and is responsible for assisting the University in building capabilities, identifying and managing talent, and establishing alignment between the University's corporate strategies and Human Resource practices and competencies.

Mr. Lewin has had extensive experience in human resource management at the executive and managerial level in statutory organizations, some of which fall under the Ministry of Education. His most recent employment is that of Director, Human Resource Management & Development at the Bureau of Standards. He also served as Executive Director of the Bureau for more than six months.

He holds undergraduate and master's degrees in Human Resource Management and recently completed the Bachelor of Law degree at the University of Technology, Jamaica.

# UTech, Jamaica Arts & Culture Summer Programme for Children Closes with Live Production and Launch of Video Game



Students who participated in the UTech, Jamaica Arts and Culture Summer Programme hosted by the Centre for the Arts (CFA), performing the song, 'This is Our Country' arranged by Lorenzo Hall, Lecturer, CFA at the Closing Ceremony for the programme held on Friday, July 28, 2017 at the Shared Facilities, Papine campus.

The curtain came down on the annual University of Technology, Jamaica's arts and culture summer programme for children hosted by the Centre for the Arts under the theme, "Digital Technology Meets Arts and Culture" on Friday July 28, 2017 with a highly entertaining production and closing ceremony showcasing the talent of the participants. The programme ran from July 3 – 28, 2017.

The event showcased a 30 minute scripted play "Anancia & Tiger", written and directed by Drama Instructor, Miss Gracia Thompson. The theatrical showcase underscored the overall objective for this year's staging; highlighting Jamaica's unwritten customs and beliefs such as storytelling, legends and riddles.

The participants ranging in ages 4-13 years hailed from schools across the island and from the United States were immersed in different aspects of Jamaican oral traditions with special focus given to Anancy stories and the

importance they play in teaching life lessons/communicating moral values. Over the four (4) weeks the students explored art forms such as music, drama, dance and visual arts while engaging in technology for photography and game development assignments.

The highpoint of the afternoon was the official launch of the "Anancy Mayhem" video game, conceptualized, designed and named by the students. Game Developer and Business Analyst, Working Enigma, Mr. Stephan Smith provided the necessary coding support and instruction for the students to produce a functional interactive video game at the end of the programme. The game allows the player to individualize their own Anansi character and create their own stories. The Game Development component of the syllabus demonstrated a practical and innovative utilization of digital technology to aid in safeguarding our intangible cultural heritage. The "Anancy Mayhem" game will be made available for download on the Google Play Store free of cost.



# University of Technology, Jamaica

## Home of World Class Athletes



### Knights

# *Congratulates*

## *All athletes and coaches on their performance at the 2017 IAAF World Championships in London, especially our*

# UTech, Ja Student Athletes & Alumni

RICARDO CUNNINGHAM

O'DAYNE RICHARDS

STEPHENIE-ANN MCPHERSON

RONALD LEVY

MICHAEL CAMPBELL

SHERICKA JACKSON

TYQUENDO TRACEY



PAUL FRANCIS COACH



ANNEISHA MCLAUGHLIN-WHILBY

JULIAN FORTE

RUSHEEN MCDONALD

ELAINE THOMPSON

MEGAN SIMMONDS

PETER MATTHEWS

NATASHA MORRISON

CHRISTIANA WILLIAMS

Excellence Through Knowledge

# Chef Karl Thomas Caters to Jamaica's Champions



Photo: Jamaica Observer

**C**hef Karl Thomas, Chef Technologist at Lillian's Restaurant, UTech, Jamaica recently served himself and Jamaica well as the designated Chef for the 16<sup>th</sup> IAAF World Championships pre-training camp at the University of Birmingham, London, for the Jamaican athletes. The pre-camp was held from August 4 – 13, 2017.

Chef Karl Thomas (left) demonstrates how to peel yam to Catherine Darks, Supervisor Chef at the University of Birmingham.

**RUN, WALK FOR EXCELLENCE**

## UTECH ALUMNI 5K

**7:00 AM SUNDAY  
NOV. 05, 2017**  
START AT  
**UTech Jamaica, Papine Campus**

**REGISTER NOW**  
[www.utechalumni.com](http://www.utechalumni.com)

The 5K Secretariat  
Department of Sport  
Alfred Sangster Auditorium  
UTech Ja  
Tel: (876)504-9206  
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