



### UTech, Ja./Joan Duncan Memorial Lecture Examines Monetizing Brand Jamaica's Music Success



Lloyd Stanbury (right), entertainment attorney & music business consultant presents a copy of his book, *Reggae Roadblocks – A Music Business Development Perspective* to Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, UTech, Jamaica following his address at the 3rd annual UTech, Jamaica/Joan Duncan Memorial Lecture held June 1, 2016 at UTech, Jamaica's Papine campus on the theme, "Mining Gold! How do we Monetize Jamaica's Music Success?" Sharing in the presentation are the Most. Hon. Edward Seaga, ON, PC (left) Chancellor and Josef Bogdanovich, CEO of Downsound Records who was the other guest speaker at the lecture.

A large gathering of music business experts, influencers, music aficionados, academics and students, gathered for the 3rd Annual Joan Duncan Memorial Lecture hosted by the Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Leadership, (JDSEEL) University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) and the Joan Duncan Foundation on Wednesday, June 1, 2016. The third in the lecture series held at the site of the JDSEEL, UTech, Ja. Papine campus, examined perspectives on the theme, "Mining Gold! How do we Monetize Jamaica's Music Success?"

In his welcome, Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, UTech, Jamaica said that the University was pleased to be "playing our part in facilitating national awareness and discussion on matters of national, regional and international importance. He noted that the Joan Duncan Memorial Lecture in this regard, represents part of an "ongoing set of strategies being pursued by UTech, Jamaica to provide leadership in advancing public knowledge and understanding of relevant aspects of national life in the interest of economic opportunity and prosperity for our country."

Mrs. Donna Duncan-Scott, Group Executive Director, Culture & Human Development, JMMB Group who brought partnership remarks on behalf of the Joan Duncan Foundation, said that the Joan Duncan Memorial Lecture

which honours the memory of her mother and co-founder, JMMB, is "designed to unearth topical and relevant issues, and start conversations that identify solutions in our society that can cause positive and tangible impact." She noted that as part of the Foundation's mission to develop, support and steward transformational initiatives in education and entrepreneurship, a partnership was forged with UTech, Jamaica in 2011 through an endowment for the establishment of the JDSEEL, valued at over US\$1 million.

Chairman of the lecture series and Head of the JDSEEL, Mr. Michael Steele, who served as compere for the evening's proceedings, in his remarks, emphasized that the music business is intrinsically no different from any other business. "One has to identify a need, develop a product, package it, price it, determine your channel of distribution and promote all of those features to a target market," he noted, adding that many artists and musicians believe that all they need to do is "buss a chune."

These dimensions and the many layers involved in establishing and monetizing Jamaica's brand in music were analyzed in turn by the two main speakers, Jamaican entertainment attorney and music business consultant, Lloyd Stanbury and Josef Bogdanovich, CEO of Downsound Records who were followed by panelists Paul Barclay, Chairman, Jamaica Association of Composers and Publishers, (JACAP) K. Michael 'Ibo'

Cooper, musician and senior lecturer, Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts and Mr. Robert Scott, Vice President, Export and Marketing, JAMPRO. The panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Dennis Howard, musicologist.

Perspectives on the topic were also shared by Hon. Olivia 'Babsy' Grange, CD, MP Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport and Most Hon. Edward Seaga, ON, PC, Former Prime Minister and UTech, Jamaica Chancellor who is himself an accomplished researcher, author and producer of Jamaican music covering the period from the mid 1950s to the early 1970s. His anthology, *Reggae Golden Jubilee Origins of Jamaican Music* was released in 2012 in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Jamaica's independence.

Mr. Seaga in a frank and well-received address preceding the lecture, quipped that "I am young enough to know when the music industry started and how it started," and went on to give a veritable history lesson of the evolution of Jamaican music from its roots in ska which he said is credited for helping to break the ice between uptown and downtown with such acts as Paloma, and Millie Small with *My Boy Lollipop* and later with such talents as Jimmy Cliff, Desmond Dekker and Bob Marley. Mr. Seaga told the gathering that he longed to hear such composed Jamaican music talent of yesteryear that he can whistle and dance to, compared "to the present thing (dancehall) that is called music," which he described as the sound of "blowing your nose and hitting something." Declaring that this is among the reasons why the music is now fading, the music historian suggested a return to listening and learning from "ska heroes" of the past – advice which was met with nodding approvals and applause from the audience.

#### Jamaica's Most Powerful Export

Hon. Olivia Grange in her address affirmed that "Jamaican music is still Jamaica's most powerful export and is still a globally recognized entertainment brand of quality and distinctiveness." Noting that the Jamaican

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## Monetizing Brand Jamaica's Music



“Return to listening and learning from ska heroes.”  
- Seaga

*Most Hon. Edward Seaga, ON, PC, Chancellor, UTech, Jamaica makes a point during his address at the lecture. Looking on is Mr Michael Steele, Head, JDSEEL, UTech, Ja.*

music industry has brought wealth to a host of persons over the years and today provides indirect or direct employment for up to 15,000 persons in areas such as content creation and development, performance, distribution, royalty payments, etc., the Minister lamented that there is still “a general agreement that Jamaica is not making as much as it should from this global music prowess and success...with proportional revenues to the sector.”

Supporting the points raised by Mr. Seaga, the Minister proffered some of the factors which she cited have contributed to this deficit. Among them she stated are high levels of piracy seen globally at a value of 40% of gains; informality of the sector and lack of cohesiveness despite the various umbrella music industry associations; lack of institutional support for the development of the sector and continued reluctance by practitioners to use intellectual property mechanisms to protect and to benefit financially from their work.

Minister Grange assured the gathering that steps are being taken by her Ministry “to create an environment for the enhanced capitalization of brand Jamaica’s music success. These she disclosed will include special collaborative projects with various agencies and organizations; application of standards for the music product offered in the tourism industry; investment opportunities; and the elevation of music from an extra-curricular activity to the main curriculum in schools.

### Overcoming Reggae Roadblocks

With an established consensus that Jamaican music already has the gold which needs to be mined for economic prosperity, each speaker provided key perspectives and prescriptives for the realization of the shared objective.

Lloyd Stanbury who is hailed as a Caribbean pioneer in Entertainment Law in his address, shared perspectives from his recently published book, *Reggae Roadblocks, A Music Business Development Perspective* which he explained are based on his experiences working in various capacities in the music industry, locally, regionally and internationally. He posited a number of “roadblocks” which he said have caused the business of Jamaican music to continue to struggle for a commensurate place in the mainstream international music business space, despite the accomplishments of Bob Marley, Jimmy Cliff and others.

Arguing that a “lack of consensus and commitment to develop and implement a working partnership between practitioners in the music industry, members of the academic community and the state working in tandem with all those who have the means to invest in business ventures,” have resulted in some of these roadblocks, he called for greater efficiency and sustainability of industry umbrella trade and rights management organisations such as JACAP, JIREA, JAMS, and for more formal and informal business management training; expanding structures such as the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (JCDC) and initiatives such as Reggae Month to make them more commercially relevant, and a greater understanding of global industry trends and the

application of new technologies in the music industry.

### “Save Your Own Music”

Music veteran, Mr. Josef Bogdanovich originally from California USA and now resident in Jamaica, expressed a deep personal appreciation and love for Jamaican music that he said is perhaps not as appreciated locally as it should be. “What I know is reggae is powerful and international and influential,” he said, arguing that the industry is “in a crisis”. He lamented that Jamaica’s culture in reggae music is slipping away and is more vibrant in cities around the world such as Germany, Holland, Spain and France. “Fifty years ago, we had 10 or so annual live concerts. Today we have, perhaps two or three,” he lamented. He said it was out of this concern that he recently invested in the acquisition of the Reggae Sumfest brand. He implored the gathering to “save your own music” by first recognizing that what we have is special and of great value, desired by people around the world. Emphasizing that Jamaica’s citizens hold the key to monetizing the music industry, Bogdanovich ended with a call for support of Jamaica’s music festivals, concerts, artists, writers, selectors, etc.

### Template for Success

“Ibo” Cooper who is also Chairman of the Jamaica Reggae Industry Association (JaRIA) in his presentation lamented what he described as a general undervaluing of music education and training by those creating the music. “Understanding harmony, being able to communicate the composer’s or artist’s intentions and being able to understand this communication quickly, are all facilitated by the said education,” he argued, adding that though inspiration is the “raw material”, education will not necessarily lead to inspiration but will certainly enhance the product created by the already inspired. “This enhancement will sustain the indefinable appeal that Jamaican music has created,” he affirmed.

The affirmation was reiterated by Michael “Mikey” Bennett who drawing on the parallel of Jamaica’s success in track and field,



noted that success leaves clues and the clue to the success of the fastest man and woman in the world – Jamaica’s Usain Bolt and Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce is their training and the guidance of their “coach.” He argued that the approach can be replicated across disciplines to enhance success in the

music industry. He noted that challenges affecting earnings include, waning promoter confidence, inability to win new fans, shortage of new headliners and stars, substandard material, inability to travel and work in the USA market and lack of coaching being experienced by young artists whose performances lack creativity and entertainment value.

Bennett who is currently engaged in developing The FiWi Jamaica Master in Residence programme through the FiWi Jamaica Project at UTech, Jamaica disclosed that the programme set to come on stream soon, will provide coaching for new and established artistes, combining lectures and workshops to introduce artists to professionals and mentors, on the art of performance.

Paul Barclay in his contribution lamented that despite Jamaica developing six recognizable forms of world renowned music over the last 50 years in the form of mento, ska, rocksteady, reggae, dub and dancehall, millions of dollars have gone to foreign publishers who have licensed or covered our music, adding that over 60 per cent of royalties collected locally go to rights holders overseas. The JACAP Chairman said that this has resulted primarily from allowing marketing and distribution of our music being placed exclusively in the hands of foreigners.

Looking at the value of the global music market which is estimated to be in the region of US\$15 billion with an annual growth rate of 3.2% with such features as physical and digital formats, streaming services and performing rights, Mr. Robert Scott recommend six key critical areas in achieving monetization of Jamaica’s music. He shared that these should include focus on digital business models; properly constructed distribution contracts, engagement of professional management; proper merchandising and licensing, intellectual property protection and the holistic growth of the artiste.

A robust question and answer session with issues raised by the audience, followed the panel discussion.

*Dr. Dennis Howard (at podium), Musicologist, moderates the panel discussion with panellists with guest lecturers and panellists from left, Lloyd Stanbury, Josef Bogdanovich, “Ibo” Cooper, Michael Bennett, Robert Scott and Paul Barclay.*

## Research Publication on Oral Health



Dr. Su Yin Htun

**D**r. Su Yin Htun, Consultant Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon and Associate Professor and Head, Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in the College of Oral Health Sciences, University of Technology, Jamaica research article titled, **Interlink of Two Syndromes - Demarquay-van der Woude and Popliteal Pterygium in One Family Group** was published in the Journal of Interdisciplinary Medicine and Dental Science Vol 4:1.

The research was done along with an international team from South Africa and Australia. Dr. Su Yun Htun's primary clinical interests include craniofacial surgery of birth defects, reconstruction

and surgical management of craniofacial trauma.

The College of Oral Health Sciences continues to support our faculty in exceptional research.

The full article can be read at: [dx.doi.org/10.4172/2376-032x.1000188](http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2376-032x.1000188).



JBR Journal of Interdisciplinary  
Medicine and Dental Science

Htun et al., J Interdiscip Med Dent Sci 2016, 4:1  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2376-032x.1000188>

Research Article

Open Access

## Interlink of Two Syndromes - Demarquay-van der Woude and Popliteal Pterygium in One Family Group

Su Yin Htun<sup>1</sup>, Kurt-W Bütow<sup>2</sup>, Hanlie Engelbrecht<sup>3</sup> and Engela Honey<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Cranio Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Technology, Jamaica

<sup>2</sup>Department of Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Kwazulu-Natal, South Africa

<sup>3</sup>Department of Cranio Maxillofacial Surgery, University of Melbourne, Australia

<sup>4</sup>Department of Genetics, University of Pretoria, South Africa

### Abstract

**Background and Objective:** Demarquay-van der Woude (DVWS) and Popliteal Pterygium (PPS) syndromes are distinct autosomal dominant conditions generally presenting with a cleft lip and/or cleft palate. Both syndromes are genetically associated with mutations of the gene coding for Interferon Regulatory Factor 6 (IRF6) and grouped together as the IRF6-Related Disorder. In addition to a cleft, DVWS characteristically includes generally two labial pits on the lower lip. The pits may be symmetrical or asymmetrical, with saliva draining from them, or may also be abnormally flabby or conical-shaped mucosal elevations without distinct pitting. In PPS, the cleft patient commonly presents with an extensive single lower lip pit with salivary drainage, as well as popliteal webs/pterygia of the lower limb/limbs. Additional defects may include intraoral synechial web, syndactyly and genito-urinary malformations.

**Methods:** One case (infant) with two family members presented with overlapping deformities associated with DVWS, as well as PPS. Sequencing of the IRF6-gene was performed on one of the members.

**Results:** The surgical records of a major cleft lip and palate clinic recorded 71 (1.70%) patients diagnosed with DVWS, 12 (0.29%) with PPS and one infant (0.02%) as an interlinked DVWS-PPS. In the family of the baby presented in this paper, all three affected individuals are females and each the third child in the family, who have lip pits typically associated with DVWS that are both bilateral and symmetrical. The grandmother and grandchild, but not the mother, has underdeveloped or minor unilateral popliteal webs. All three have syndactyly of their feet with hypoplastic toenails (involving one to three phalanges) and pyramidal-shaped (or redundant) skin above the hallux nail of the main phalanges.

**Conclusion:** The infant and two family members are identified as interlinked DVWS-PPS.

## “An Improved Measure of Entrepreneurial Intent : A Jamaica – Canada Perspective” - Academic Paper



Michael Steele

**H**ead, Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Leadership (JDSEEL), Mr. Michael Steele has published an academic paper titled, “An Improved Measure of Entrepreneurial Intent : A Jamaica – Canada Perspective”.

The paper was done in collaboration with Dr. Dave Valliere of The Ted Rogers School of Management at Ryerson University, Toronto Canada. It was published in the prestigious Journal of Eastern Caribbean Studies (Volume 40, No.2, August 2015 pp.42-62) and copyright © under the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, UWI, (Cave Hill).

The paper reports on entrepreneurial intent (EI) in Jamaica in comparison to EI in Canada. Using an improved scale design, it measures EI in both countries and compares them using structural equation modeling. It is observed that, contrary to expectations in the literature, there is no entrepreneurial intent deficit in Jamaica relative to Canada. Rather, it appears that there are systemic barriers that prevent aspiring Jamaican entrepreneurs from acting upon their intentions. This highlights the need for future research into prevalence rates and the factors that promote translation of the entrepreneurial intent into action, and thereby into national economic development.

Mr. Steele is not only an academic but is also an entrepreneur within his own right and gained awards from United Way of Canada for being the first Black person to own a franchise from the vaunted French Canadian Group - CORA'S.

## ACU Highlights Research Work at UTech, Ja.

**T**he Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) in the October 2015 Edition of its magazine “*Realising Research*,” showcased the cutting-edge research that was on display at UTech, Jamaica’s 2015 Research Technology and Innovation Day.

“*Realising Research*” is published for members of the ACU Research, Knowledge and Information community - an interest group for university professionals working to support the academic research process in ACU member institutions. The report that resulted in the feature in the ACU magazine was prepared by **Dr. Paul Ivey** and **Mr. Martin Henry**, research managers in the **School of Graduate Studies, Research and Entrepreneurship (SGSRE)**.

This was in keeping with one of the key functions of research managers, which is “dissemination of research results.” The “*Realising Research*” story says “research management offices can play a significant role in highlighting the research being undertaken in their institutions and bringing it to a wider audience.”



Prof. Colin Gyles (1st right), Acting President and Dr. Cliff Riley (2nd right), Executive Director, Scientific Research Council listen keenly to Medical Technology, College of Health Sciences students during a visit to their booth at Research, Technology and Innovation Day 2016.

# Research Highlights

## Research Managers Publish Action Research Paper in Journal "Research Management Review"

Research Managers in the School of Graduate Studies, Research and Entrepreneurship (SGSRE), Associate Professor & AVP of Graduate Studies, Research & Entrepreneurship, **Dr. Paul Ivey**, and Projects and Operations Manager, **Mr. Martin Henry** have published an action research paper in the journal *Research Management Review*, Volume 21, Number 1 (2016).

The paper, "Research Managers at Jamaica's National University are Strategically Deploying a Modest Research Development Fund in Support of Impactful Research" in its conclusion stated that, "despite serious budgetary constraints and the absence of any specific financing dedicated to research at the University of Technology, Jamaica, the university, a relatively young university-level institution, from its inception has carved out of its income a small research development fund. The Fund supports both the research and public service mandates of the university which are anchored in its founding charter. The RDF, for the last few years running at only J\$10 million (approximately US\$85,500)

annually, has been strategically managed by the research managers working out of the SGSRE in support of impactful research and the building of research capacity. The Fund has supported not only straight research projects by competitive application, but has paid for publication fees and for the protection of intellectual property rights, and has supported capacity building of research skills."

The paper presented three recent high-impact examples of projects that have been supported by the RDF of the University of Technology, Jamaica. Example 1: HIV Drug Resistance Surveillance among Jamaican Men who have Sex with Men [Dr. Aneisha Collins-Fairclough, FOSS]; Example 2: "Do Healthy Foods Cost More than Less Healthy Options in Jamaica?" [Prof. Fitzroy Henry, COHS]; and Example 3: Modular LED Lighting System for Street Lighting [Dr. Earle Wilson, FENC]. The societal impact of these exemplary projects has been clearly demonstrated. Highlighting these examples is consistent with one of the key functions of research managers, as noted by Research Africa (2013), which is to highlight the extent and nature of their institution's research work, ensuring the effective dissemination of research findings, and building public support for research.

Use the link below to read the full paper in *Research Management Review*: [http://www.ncura.edu/Portals/0/Docs/RMR/2016/v21\\_n1\\_Ivey\\_Henry.pdf](http://www.ncura.edu/Portals/0/Docs/RMR/2016/v21_n1_Ivey_Henry.pdf).

## UTech, Jamaica Hosts Capacity-Building Workshop "Capturing Value from Research Results"

UTech, Jamaica is one of several Caribbean partners implementing the European Union co-financed project "Empowering Knowledge Transfer in the Caribbean through effective Intellectual Property Rights & Knowledge Transfer Regimes – IPICA," which is led by the University of Alicante, Spain. As one of the deliverables of this project, a second capacity-building workshop was held on Friday, June 03, 2016, at the Faculty of Engineering and Computing, UTech, Ja. Papine campus. A total of 31 participants from the UTech, Jamaica, local Technology Transfer Managers & Researchers from other public higher education and research institutions, and relevant Government Agencies participated in the workshop. The theme of the workshop was "Capturing Value from Research Results" and it was hosted by the School of Graduate Studies, Research and Entrepreneurship (SGSRE) in association with Caribbean Research and Innovation Management Association (CabRIMA). The workshop was a follow-up to one held on April 29, 2016, under the theme "The Innovation Imperative: Knowledge Transfer as a Key Driver of Innovation."

Presenters were from the UTech, Jamaica, Jamaica Intellectual Property Office, The University of the West Indies, Bio-Tech R&D Institute, and the Planning Institute of Jamaica. The presenters used interactive presentations and case studies to demonstrate to participants the process of capturing value from innovative research results.

Associate Professor & Associate Vice President of Graduate Studies, Research & Entrepreneurship, Dr. Paul Ivey in his welcome commended the efforts made by researchers to add to Jamaica's pool of IP resources, noting that if properly developed and utilized, IP can add great value to any institution. He also gave an overview of the objectives of the IPICA Project. Graduate Studies, Research & Entrepreneurship Officer, Ms. Tashoya Streete, and Projects and Operations Manager, Mr. Martin Henry explored the current state of IP policies and best practice provisions in IP policies in local Higher Education Institutions and Research Organizations from a study carried out under the IPICA project.

Ms. Gail Nelson, Technology Planner at the PIOJ outlined the importance of identifying, inventorying & reporting knowledge assets, and explained how data collected by the PIOJ informed policy development within the context of Vision 2030. Mr. Jason Wongsam, Assistant Patent Manager at JIPO, discussed the strategic use of IP in value creation. The workshop culminated with presentations on case studies of innovations that were successfully commercialized - Dr. Earle Wilson, Senior Lecturer, FENC, UTech, Jamaica shared experiences on the re-engineering of standard street lights with LED circuitry; Prof. Daniel Coore of The UWI shared how the Cardiac Simulator was developed and eventually licensed; and Ms. Kaysha Smith of Bio-Tech R&D discussed how her organization developed and marketed a potent herbal tea.

Feedback from the participants indicated they were very satisfied with the content covered in the workshop.

For more information on IPICA, please use the link below:

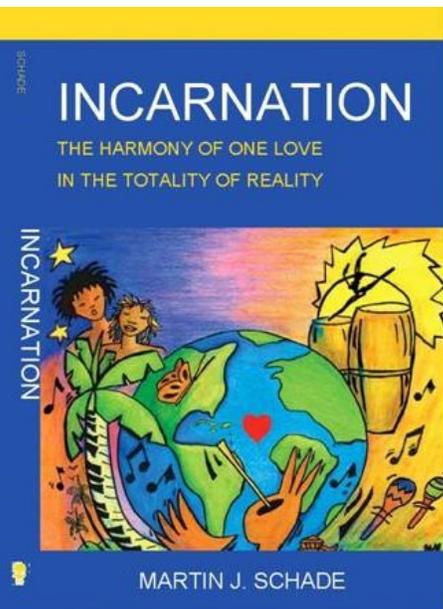
<http://www.ipica-project.eu/content/about-us>

## New Book Provides New Perspective on Incarnation



Dr. Martin Schade

**Dr. Martin J. Schade**, Senior Lecturer in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies has published the book titled, *Incarnation: The Harmony of One Love in the Totality of Reality*.



Dr. Schade is a philosophy, theologian, counsellor, priest for all-religions and Marriage Officer. He teaches Philosophy, Ethics, Psychology, Human Sexuality, Comparative Religions, and Community Service, and is also the Faculty Graduate Studies Coordinator. He has published articles in the *Caribbean Journal of Religious Studies*, *Caribbean Quarterly* and the University of Technology, Jamaica *Journal of Arts Science and Technology*.

The concept of incarnation, found in his book, began when he came to Jamaica to teach philosophy at St. Michael's Theological College in 1982 and it has been a work in development since that time.

# SHTM Students Top 2016 CTO Student Colloquium



Happy smiles adorn the faces of School of Hospitality and Tourism Management students from left Nichell Morgan, Tamika Beckford, Brianna Johnson and their lecturer Ms. Beienetch Watson as they pose for a group photograph during the 2016 Caribbean Tourism Organisation's (CTO's) competition at the Student Colloquium held recently in New York, USA..

Photo courtesy of The Gleaner.

The School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM), University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) copped first place at this year's Caribbean Tourism Organisation's (CTO's) Student Colloquium, held from June 1 – 4, 2016 in New York City, USA. The annual competition is a significant component of the CTO's Caribbean Tourism Annual Week. The University was represented by **Tamika Beckford, Nichell Morgan, Wayneish Brown** and **Brianna Johnson** led by their coach and Lecturer **Ms. Beienetch Watson**.

The Student Colloquium is among the region's top competitions for showcasing scholarship and innovativeness of the best hospitality and tourism undergraduates from select universities in North America and the Caribbean.

UTech, Jamaica's SHTM was among the top six universities shortlisted for this year's final, following the submission of their business plan titled: **'Transforming Rural St Andrew through the Development of Agrotourism: The case of the Clydesdale Community'** which was judged as the most dynamic presentation, as well as the most feasible business idea.

This year's prize award includes a fully expense paid trip to any Caribbean destination of choice for all awardees, as well as a return trip to any JetBlue destination across the globe.

Five outstanding students from the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, University of Technology, Jamaica who are pursuing the Bachelor of science in Food Service Management, have been named 2016 beneficiaries of the Jamaica Observer newspaper's Table Talk Food Awards Scholarships and bursaries. They are Taneisha Widcombe, Shaniel Sherman, Darnaine Beckford and Kristin Cee-Ann McKenzie who will receive scholarships and Tracy Ann Wray who is the recipient of a \$150,000 bursary.

The students were chosen on the basis of their academic achievement and based on need and were shortlisted from a large pool of qualified applicants. Each awardee has demonstrable scholastic achievement with a GPA of 3.32 for the previous academic year.

Now in its 18th year, the scholarship programme has grown from its initial offering of two scholarships valued at \$250,000 to the current cumulative worth of \$1 m.

In presenting the awards, Jamaica Observer Managing Director, Mr. Danville Walker congratulated the students and charged them to use the financial help to "not only achieve academic excellence and make their families proud, but to pursue their dreams."

## Five SHTM Students Receive Jamaica Observer Food Awards Scholarships and Bursaries



Jamaica Observer Managing Director Danville Walker (centre), Table Talk Food Awards conceptualiser Novia McDonald-Whyte (left) and University of Technology, Jamaica representatives Dr. Gaunette Sinclair-Maragh (3rd left), Head, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Mrs. Garcia Green-McLennon (3rd right) Director, Student Financing and Mrs. Pauline Madourie (4th right) Scholarship Officer share a proud moment with the 2016 scholarship recipients Tracey Ann Wray (second left) Taneisha Wiscombe (third left) Darnaine Beckford, Shaniel Sherman (right) and Kristin McKenzie.

Photo courtesy of the Jamaica Observer.

# UTech, Jamaica Expresses Appreciation to Denise Herbol - Outgoing USAID Mission Director



*A delighted and surprised Ms Denise Herbol (centre), outgoing United States Aid for International Development (USAID) Mission Director to Jamaica, admires a painting by Kesi Mortley, Caribbean School of Architecture and visual arts student at UTech, Ja.'s Centre for the Arts, being presented to her by Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, at an appreciation event hosted by the University in her honour on Monday, June 20, 2016 at the University's Papine campus. Sharing in the presentation is Prof. Rosalea Hamilton, Vice President, Community Service and Development, UTech, Jamaica and Project Director, Fi Wi Jamaica Project. Ms. Herbol shared that the painting is a most welcome addition to her African-inspired art collection.*

**T**he University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.), led by the Division of Community Service and Development on Monday, June 20, 2016 hosted a special function to express appreciation and farewell to outgoing USAID (United States Aid for International Development) Mission Director to Jamaica, **Ms. Denise Herbol** who has been instrumental in her support of the University during her tenure in Jamaica since 2011.

Ms. Herbol's engagement with UTech, Jamaica through the USAID has involved two human rights based projects – the *UTech Cares* initiative in 2013 which later evolved into the *Fi Wi Jamaica Project*, both led by the Division of Community Service and Development. Both of these human rights focused interventions have been profoundly impactful in their objectives to expand the limits of tolerance and respect and to influence behavioural change and transformation of attitudes among students and staff at UTech, Jamaica and beyond.

**Prof. Colin Gyles**, Acting President, in his remarks lauded Ms. Herbol as an exemplary advocate of the advancement of human rights and the reduction of discrimination against various marginalised and vulnerable groups through the USAID's various programmes and initiatives of which the University has been a beneficiary. He noted that UTech, Jamaica is pleased to have been associated with her and the USAID and assured the outgoing Mission Director that the legacy of cooperation that has been established between the two organisations will continue to benefit both UTech, Jamaica and the wider community.

**Prof. Rosalea Hamilton**, Vice President, Community Service and Development and Project Director, Fi Wi Jamaica project provided a comprehensive overview of the achievements under the project for the period May 2015 – 2016 which she reported was conducted in 12 parishes across Jamaica in collaboration with 16 project partners drawn from corporate Jamaica and non-profit organizations, some of which have included the Institute of Law and Economics, Scotiabank Chair – Entrepreneurship and Development,

the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), 51% Coalition, Jamaican Association for Debating and Empowerment (JADE), the Peace Management Initiative (PMI), Flagstaff-Trelawny Maroons, Jamaica Household Workers Association and others. Prof. Hamilton shared that 3, 100 persons participated in 46 programmes which included workshops and sessions on business entrepreneurship and empowerment training for women, web entrepreneurship training, Fi Wi Jamaica empowerment workshops on trafficking in persons (TIP), domestic and intimate partner violence (DIPV), women for empowerment (WFE) network meetings, a panel discussion focusing on civil society and democracy and youth empowerment session offered through the University's 'Saturday University' initiative.

**Dr. Rohan Lewis**, Dean, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies and Project Director, Fi Wi Jamaica who chaired the brief farewell event, noted that Ms. Herbol's support of the *UTech Cares* and *Fi Wi Jamaica* projects have been instrumental, resulting in the significant impact achieved by the University in addressing the issues of discrimination, tolerance, gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and the empowerment of women and girls.

**Dr. Ellen Campbell-Grizzle**, Dean, College of Health Science and Project Expert, Fi Wi Jamaica Project in her appreciation remarks, wished Ms. Herbol continued success in her personal and professional journey, noting that *UTech Cares* and the *Fi Wi Jamaica* projects are part of her professional legacy which binds her to the University.

Ms. Denise Herbol in her response expressed appreciation for the progress the University has made in championing the cause for respect and the protection of human rights in Jamaica. She stated that it has helped to open the space for an ability to have a discourse on the issues, noting that, "this discourse was not available when I first got here in 2011, but it is here today." She commended the project team for their hard work and acknowledged that the road has not been an easy one, and gave assurance that her successor at the USAID has already pledged continued support of the project.

# UTech, Jamaica Student Represents Jamaica at United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs



Paul Harris (centre, second row), poses for a photograph with other youth delegates at the annual Youth Forum of the 59<sup>th</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs held in Vienna, Austria in March 2016. In recognition for his outstanding work in youth advocacy, Mr. Harris was nominated by Jamaica's National Council on Drug Abuse to represent Jamaica at the Forum.

International Youth Leader, Community Service and Human Rights Activist, budding Politician, and University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) student, Paul Harris is only 19 years old, but he has already accomplished a near lifetime of selfless service at the local and international levels.

A second year student in the College of Business and Management, pursuing a Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in Accounting, Paul is as much of an academic as he is an active advocate for youth and community development, particularly for the benefit of vulnerable youths throughout Jamaica.

His interest and passion in service and volunteerism germinated at his *alma mater*, Spanish Town High school where he held various student leadership positions including service on the National Secondary Student Council (NSSC) executive body where he began his advocacy to steer young persons away from the path of illicit drugs and towards making the best use of educational opportunities.

As the best example of his own advocacy, Paul has continued to pursue his academic interests in earnest, while finding the time to serve as a founding director of the Portmore based Mitigation and Adaptation to Climate Change organisation where he has partnered with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and ACIDI/VOCA (Agricultural Cooperative Development International and Volunteers in Overseas Cooperative Assistance) on various projects. He has also served on the St. Catherine Parish Council Executive body and the United Youths Against Drugs (UYAD) based in Spanish Town, St. Catherine.

In 2014, Paul launched the International Youth Foundation, an NGO geared towards the development of youth through partnership with local and international organisations. The Foundation's most recent project was a youth forum held in Spanish Town in January 2016 which included workshops on human rights, drug abuse and youth empowerment.



Paul Harris (left) participates in a session of the annual Youth Forum held in Vienna, Austria

was nominated by Jamaica's National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA) to represent Jamaica at the annual Youth Forum of the 59<sup>th</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs held March 14 – 15, 2016 in Vienna, Austria where he was a participant among a group of young people from 27 different countries.

The forum facilitated networking among the participants hoping to support learning from the experiences of other youth groups from different regions of the world, as well as on the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UNODC) and global policymaking structures, processes and current debates in the field of drug demand reduction.

Paul notes that he was particularly buoyed by his participation in the thematic discussions among his peers which led to the development of a consensus statement by the youth to the policy makers of the world. The statement, highlighting the key concerns of youth globally about addressing the world drug problem, was delivered to the delegates in the plenary session for their presentation at the UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) held in April 2016 in New York, USA. It was noted by the Assembly that "given the importance of the debates taking place in the context of the UNGASS, it was more crucial than ever to bring the voice of youth to the official delegations, who make decisions regarding their lives and future."

## Courtesy Call on Acting President



Prof. Colin Gyles, (2<sup>nd</sup> right), Acting President, University of Technology, Jamaica presents Paul Harris (centre), College of Business and Management student and Jamaican Youth Ambassador with a gift during a courtesy call on him on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at the Papine campus. Sharing in the occasion from left are, Mrs. Michelle Beckford, Corporate Communications Manager, Mr. Ivor Bennett, Director of Marketing and Mrs. Jacqueline Knight-Campbell, Office of the President.

Following his return from his overseas assignment as a Jamaican Youth Ambassador in Austria, Paul was invited to pay a courtesy call on Acting President, UTech, Jamaica, **Prof. Colin Gyles** on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 where he shared his experiences and stated plans for his future continued drive to "inspire and motivate other youths" Prof. Gyles in commending Paul on his admirable work in community service and volunteerism, noted that it was in keeping with the UTech, Jamaica thrust and the University's Core Values and encouraged the young student to continue to inculcate the spirit of hope among his peers while adding value in an area that can be very rewarding.

Also in attendance at the Courtesy Call were UTech, Jamaica Officers **Mr. Ivor Bennett**, Director of Marketing, **Mrs. Michelle Beckford**, Corporate Communications Manager and **Mrs. Jackie Knight-Campbell**, Office of the President who all expressed commendation to Paul and a desire for further engagement with him as a role model for his peers.

Paul expressed sincere gratitude to his lecturers at UTech, Jamaica and teachers at Spanish Town High School whom he has credited with helping him with his personal growth and development.

## International Recognition

In recognition of his outstanding work in youth advocacy and substance abuse, Paul

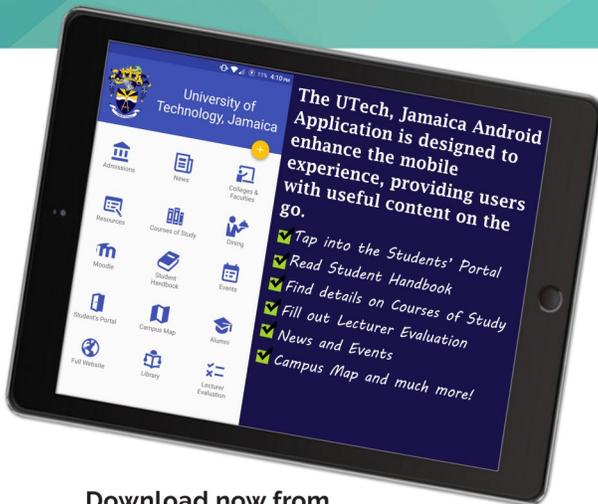
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Corporate Communications Unit  
Advancement Division  
University of Technology, Jamaica  
237 Old Hope Road, Kingston 6, Jamaica  
Email: [corporatecomm@utech.edu.jm](mailto:corporatecomm@utech.edu.jm)



Michelle Beckford – Editor

Corporate Communications Manager  
Tel: 970-5299  
Fax: 977-9146  
E-Mail: [mbeckford@utech.edu.jm](mailto:mbeckford@utech.edu.jm)



Joan Spencer Rowe – Assistant Editor

Communications Officer  
Tel: 970-5288  
Fax: 977-9146  
E-Mail: [jspencer@utech.edu.jm](mailto:jspencer@utech.edu.jm)

## EDITORIAL TEAM