



WAND NOTES

Newsletter of the Women and Development Unit,
The University of the West Indies

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NEW LEADERSHIP FOR UWI OC COMING

WAND understands that the Open Campus Principal Professor Hazel Simmons-McDonald is to demit office in another year's time. It is also understood that Deputy Principal, Professor Vivienne Roberts, is to follow shortly. The new leadership is expected to be in place for the 2014/2015 academic year.

While we acknowledge that both the Principal and her Deputy were involved in the transition to the newest campus of the University of the West Indies which came to life in 2008, it is our hope that our new leaders will embrace any progress made over the five years of the OC's existence. We also hope that the new leadership will give great significance to the furtherance of the core principles and objectives of the UWI and those of the Open Campus in particular.

The UWI Open Campus, over the period of its existence, has faced, and still faces many challenges and so the continuous transition of the organisation to meet the specific needs of the Caribbean region calls for visionary leadership. Such a leadership, we feel, will ensure that the spirit and intentions of the Open Campus are fulfilled. For, meeting the developmental needs of the people in our far-flung region calls for strong vision, specific skills sets, cultural sensitivity, an awareness of national peculiarities, rationalised incentives, strategic resource allocation, and a commitment to integrated action-driven implementations across the institution. Consistent internal communication, based on mutual respect, is also integral to the success of any leadership of the UWI and the Open Campus itself.

In the interest of the viability of the Open Campus and in creating an atmosphere of collegiality, we hope that the new leadership will pay attention to the rules, regulations and processes governing the existence of the institution; give greater significance to issues of employees' rights and other human resources matters which arise from time to time in the course of the academic and institutional life of the UWI; recognise the collective bargaining process, take a more developmental approach to employees' career paths; uphold the positive qualities of objectivity and fair play in academic, professional and Campus affairs; respect the principles of democracy; introduce workable students' support systems and

systems which will support a positive student experience; and give clear ideological, intellectual and professional direction to all of us under such leadership.

Power not used in the interest of the common good is power abused.



TRIBUTE TO MARVA PHILLIPS AS HLSTUEI CELEBRATES 50

As the Hugh Lawson Trade Union Education Institute (HLSTUEI) celebrates 50 years of excellence, WAND pays tribute to Ms. Marva Phillips, the first and only woman, to date, to head the Institute.

Ms. Phillips joined the Institute as Staff/Tutor in 1996 after the late Professor Rex Nettleford was

elevated to the position of Deputy Vice Chancellor. However, she was no stranger to the Institute or to worker education having coordinated in 1982, the five-year The Development of Caribbean Women in Trade Unions project, the single largest project undertaken by the TUEI.

The project involved training 40 women from 14 countries of the English - and Dutch - speaking Caribbean in the principles of trade unionism to, *inter alia*, equip women with collective bargaining skills so that they can participate fully in negotiations aimed at addressing the needs of working women; and to develop a library of teaching materials to be used in the continuous training of trade union women which would include specific literature relating to the special needs of women.

During her tenure which ended in 2010, Ms. Phillips, as Head of the Institute, made great strides in the field of worker education, introducing academic, personal and professional training programmes for women and men across the region. She also introduced the Anne Liburd Distinguished Lecture Series, "Forever Indebted to Women", to honour trade union women across the Anglophone Caribbean.

In paying tribute to Ms. Phillips, we also recognise the sterling contribution of Ms. Eula Morgan and Ms. Dorothy Lee as well as the support given by Ms. Sania Davis and Ms. Mary Davis.

WAND salutes you, Ms. Phillips and offers our best wishes for continued work in your field of choice.

"Women are never stronger than when they arm themselves with their weaknesses." - Madame Marie du Deffand

NEW PUBLISHING HOUSE LAUNCHED

Jugaro Publishers is the newest publishing house to set up business in Jamaica. It was launched on February 2, 2013 on the grounds of the Jamaica Theological Seminary. Jugaro is committed to justice and peace and will publish original scholarly work in the fields of religious studies, theology, mission, biblical studies, women's studies, politics, history and culture. Though based in Jamaica, Jugaro will serve the region and the wider international community.

PAHO LAUNCHES REPORT ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

The Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO), Jamaica, launched its "Report on Violence against Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: A Comparative Analysis of Population-based data from 12 Countries". The launch was held on March 26, 2013, at the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

Although there have been many studies on violence against women in the Caribbean and Latin America, the PAHO report is significantly different as it brings to light a comparative analysis of violence against women across 12 countries: Bolivia, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Paraguay and Peru.

The overall objective of the study coincides with that of local and regional women's organisations which is to "raise awareness of violence against women at national and regional levels". However, the PAHO report encouraged a public health perspective in addressing issues of violence against women.

Copies of the report can be had from the PAHO office, which is located on The UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica.

No to Violence. Yes to Peace.

NEW BOOK ON CARIBBEAN THEOLOGY LAUNCHED

Rev. Dr. Garnett Roper's book, Caribbean Theology as Public Theology is the most recent publication on biblical interpretation and hermeneutics. The work addresses issues of colonialism, slavery, poverty, inequality, distortion of identity of Caribbean people which dog present society. It offers a new way of doing theology in the Caribbean context. Essentially, the narrative is wrapped around issues of social development and the role of both government and Church in creating a new society based on the values of equality, freedom, liberation and justice. The work makes very good reading and should be read by all.

Rev. Dr. Roper, a biblical scholar, theologian, preacher and statesman, is President, Jamaica Theological Seminary (JTS).

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Ms. Andrey Joseph, President of the La Pointe Development Committee (centre) making a point at the research meeting held with the women of the LPDC. Left is Ms. Sophia Serieux, a member of the research team. At right is Andrey's sister, also a team member. WAND and the LPDC are involved in a community participatory research project. Andrey is the local Coordinator of the community research project. The findings of the project will go towards theorising on development studies.

CONGRATS! ANDREY

Congratulations are extended to Ms. Andrey Joseph, President of the La Pointe Development Committee, on her nomination as Councillor, Micoud Village, St. Lucia. Andrey attributes her nomination to the Women and Development Unit. Said Her, "It is because of WAND I am a councillor. If it was not for WAND I would not be a councillor. It is because of the confidence WAND gave me". Andrey who was nominated for the position by the Governor General, Dame Pearlette Louisy will be responsible for the governance of the region. WAND and the LPDC are partners in working towards the development of the La Pointe community.



Ms. Joan Cuffie pays a courtesy call to Professor Vivienne Roberts, Deputy Principal of the UWI Open Campus before taking up position at WAND on July 29, 2013. Dr. Judith Soares, Head of WAND, proceeds on sabbatical on August 1, 2013.

For more information about WAND's activities and work in the Caribbean and to read and download our publications, please visit our website at www.open.uwi.edu/wand.