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Innovation on Show at 8th Research Technology & Innovation Day



Dr. Cliff Riley (at podium) Executive Director, Scientific Research Council (SRC), has the rapt attention of the audience as he delivers the keynote address titled, "Cross-Institutional Collaboration for Advancing the National Research and Innovation Agenda," at the Opening Ceremony of the University of Technology, Jamaica's (UTech, Ja.) annual Research, Technology and Innovation Day held on Thursday, March 11, 2016 at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, UTech Papine campus.

A wealth of knowledge sharing on cutting edge research and innovation being undertaken by members of faculty, staff and students at the University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) was showcased at the staging of the University's 8th annual Research, Technology and Innovation Day (RTID) held on Thursday, March 10, 2016 at the University's Papine campus.

Held under the theme, *Research in Action for Sustainability and Global Competitiveness*, the one-day showcase attracted a wide cross section of stakeholders including students, educators, members of government, members of the diplomatic core and members of the private sector and the media who were provided with the opportunity to view exhibits mounted by each of the University's three Colleges and five Faculties and to participate in a Speakers Forum featuring presentations on current high impact research and innovation being pursued in the many areas in which the University teaches and researches.

Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President in his welcome affirmed that UTech, Jamaica is committed to building a research culture and capacity to respond to the needs of citizens and to advance Jamaica's Vision 2030 national development goals. He noted that researchers comprising faculty, staff and students and industry partners have been making strides in using knowledge of science, technology, engineering, the arts and

mathematics (STEAM) to pursue relevant research in this regard. He noted that some of these have included development of *Blighia Sapida* Oil (Ackee) as a pharmaceutical base; research on the cost of healthy eating in Jamaica; the use of alternative energy cooling solutions for residents living in homes constructed with concrete roofs, among a host of other innovations that are adding value to society.

Mr. Martin Henry, Manager, Projects and Operations, School of Graduate Studies, Research and Entrepreneurship, UTech and Chairman of the RTID organising committee in his remarks at the Opening Ceremony, noted that the objectives of Research, Technology and Innovation Day are to showcase recent results of research activities undertaken by faculty members and students, demonstrate the facilities within the various units and other resources that are available to conduct research, highlight existing research between the University, academia and industry partners, to attract potential research partners and to promote the University's courses of study, especially graduate research degrees.

Keynote speaker at the Opening Ceremony, Dr. Cliff Riley, Executive Director of the Scientific Research Council (SRC) delivered a well-received presentation focused on "**Cross-Institutional Collaboration for Advancing the National Research and Innovation Agenda.**" A former Associate Professor and Associate

Dean in the College of Health Sciences, UTech, Jamaica and an outstanding researcher in the fields of Biotechnology, Pharmaceuticals and Diabetology, Dr. Riley reminded the gathering that "advancing the research and innovation thrust in any institution is no easy task," emphasizing that "it takes partnership; buy in from staff, strategic planning, a common vision and financing." He noted that each collaborator must be able to speak openly in an environment of open communication, trust and equality, to move research agendas forward.

Lamenting that research and innovation are often viewed as "the bastard child" in the national development agenda, Dr. Riley argued that all industries such as tourism, agriculture, commerce, etc.

Cont on page 2

Inside This Issue

- ◇ UTech, Jamaica Launches Waste Management Centre 3
- ◇ COBAM Summit Highlight's Economic Sustainability & Growth 4
- ◇ SHTM Students Showcase Excellence 5
- ◇ Michael Lee-Chin Shares Framework for Wealth Creation 6

Research, Technology & Innovation Day

SRC Head Calls for Partnership to Advance National Research Agenda

all require the contribution of science, technology, research and innovation to drive change and to move the country forward. The SRC head recommended the utilization of a tri-helix approach with synergies among academia, government and industry for the realization of the Vision 2030 development targets.

Noting further that research must lead to sustainable development and improvements in the quality of life and standard of living for all Jamaicans, Dr. Riley declared that “gone are the days when we publish for

publish sake, or patent in the name of owning a patent. Our research must impact the lives of our people. Our patents must lead to innovations, they must reach the people you originally intended it to reach,” he affirmed.



Tamarakay Beadle (1st right), 4th year Medical Technology student, College of Health Sciences, explains how blood groups are determined in the laboratory. Listening keenly from 2nd left are Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, UTech, Ja.), Mr Jongikhaya Rabe, First Secretary, South African High Commission and Mr. Dennis Chung, CEO, Private Sector Organization of Jamaica (PSOJ), while Dr. Haldane Johnson, Acting Deputy President peers curiously into a microscope.



High school students look curiously at a model of an animal cell mounted by the Faculty of Science and Sport as a student explains its relevance to the study of Forensic Chemistry. At right is a crime scene display which also attracted much attention.



Pictorial Highlights

Researchers call for improved regulation on the classification and labelling of ‘superfoods’



Prof. Fitzroy Henry, Professor of Public Health Nutrition, College of Health Sciences (COHS), delivered an engaging presentation titled, “Should

Superfoods be Regulated?” The study which was done in conjunction with COHS researchers, Mrs. Sheerin Eyre, Ms. Shanika Allen and Ms. Deonne Caines sought to support the establishment of regulatory measures for labelling these foods to prevent misleading claims regarding safety and their perceived health benefits. Prof. Henry shared that “superfoods” are foods that have natural beneficial effects on body function and maintenance that go beyond the classical nutritional criteria and are relevant to an improved state of health or reduction of the risk of disease. These foods include breadfruit, sweet potato, yam, banana, plantain. His presentation highlighted those additional health benefits in the context of the classical ranking and cost of these Caribbean



Dr. Earle Wilson (left), Lecturer, School of Engineering and Hydrogen Project Lead Researcher shows Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, food being cooked by a modified hydrogen gas cylinder stove.



Prof. Nilza Smith, Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Computing speaking at the launch of the UTech, Jamaica Waste Management Centre on Monday, March 14, 2016. (seated l-R) on the platform are Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President and Dr. Haldane Johnson, Acting Deputy President.

UTech, Jamaica Launches Waste Management Centre

launch of the Centre, noting that the NWC is now placing greater emphasis on its waste water portfolio. He disclosed that the Commission collects and treats sewage for approximately 25% of the Jamaican population at some 70 waste water treatment plants and is undertaking several waste water related projects island wide as part of the thrust to "actively re use sewage effluent... as part of implementing integrated solutions that promote economic benefits for Jamaica."

The University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) through its Faculty of Engineering and Computing, on Monday, March 14, 2016 officially opened and launched a Waste Management Centre to support training in wastewater treatment for Jamaica and the Caribbean region. A large gathering of educators, students, water and environment industry representatives witnessed the historic launch of the facility at a special ceremony hosted at the site of the Centre on the University's Papine campus.

Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President, UTech, Ja. in his remarks said that the establishment of the Waste Management Centre represents an advancement of the University's thrust to strengthen research and training in keeping with national development goals. Prof. Gyles noted that the University has been offering courses in waste water management for a number of years, but will now be able to take academic offerings to another level with the added capacity for research in the area.

Prof. Nilza Smith, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, in her overview explained that the facility is intended to provide UTech, Jamaica with "a unique treatment plant facility to support our undergraduate and graduate programmes with a hands-on approach to the waste management hierarchy." Noting that there is no other facility of its kind in the Region, Prof. Nilza Smith told the gathering that "the Centre aims to be the heart of a larger outreach programme to Jamaica and other Caribbean countries by providing a diverse suite of services, training, risk assessment, hazardous waste treatment and disposal, waste minimization studies, Wastewater Treatment Plant commission and evaluation. Since 2008, the Faculty has been pursuing the process of accreditation at ISO/IEC standard.

Three State-of-the-Art Testing Labs

The Waste Management Centre comprises three state of the art testing laboratories: Environmental Engineering, Microbiology/bio-technology and a special equipment laboratory. The facility also includes additional amenities of bathrooms, showers, kitchenette and quiet spaces to enable researchers and innovators to use the facility for extended periods of time to achieve their research goals.

Prof. Smith disclosed that the Centre was built at a cost of approximately J\$62M funded entirely by UTech, Jamaica. She said that the Centre is anticipated to become self-financing within the next five years through expected profitable income generation from consultancy services and development of innovative ideas in the area of wastewater treatment, bio-materials and biofuels

which represent the current research being undertaken by the Centre.

Training Courses for Operators and Engineers

Prof. Smith also announced that The Faculty of Engineering and Computing has entered into a collaborative MoU arrangement with the Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CreW) and the University of Monterrey, Mexico to develop online courses to be offered to the English speaking community in the Caribbean and Central America.

A collaborative arrangement has also been brokered with the National Water Commission (NWC) for the development of a pilot project to conduct a training programme for its Operators. The National Environmental and Planning Agency (NEPA) was also invited by the University to participate as part of the initiator of this project. To date, 85 operators and engineers at various management levels have pursued the Wastewater Operator Training Course at UTech, Jamaica and have received dual certification from California State University, USA.

Mr. Mark Barnett, President, National Water Commission (NWC) congratulated UTech, Ja. on the

Mr. Chris Corbin, Programme Officer for the United Nations Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP) – one of the core implementing services for the Caribbean fund for waste water management in his remarks, noted that traditional ways of management of waste water are not necessarily addressing "emerging contaminants of concern" such as pharmaceuticals, hormones, micro plastics and drugs that are finding their way into our water supply. He emphasized the need to therefore improve levels of waste water treatment and re use throughout the region and expressed hope that the partnership with UTech, Jamaica and other academic institutions and researchers will advance this thrust.

The Opening Ceremony was followed by a tour of the three laboratories at the Waste Management Centre.

Touring the New Waste Management Labs



Prof. Nilza Smith (right) Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Computing shares a light moment with colleagues as she leads a tour of the labs located in the newly opened UTech, Ja. Waste Management Centre. Sharing in the happy occasion from left are Ms. Sasheca Soares, Administration and Budget Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank; Caribbean Regional Fund for Wastewater Management (CreW), Miss Dennise Forrest, former coordinator, CreW, Mr. Mark Barnett, President, National Water Commission, Mr. Chris Corbin, Programme Officer for the United Nations Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP) and Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President.

COBAM Summit Highlights Economic Growth and Sustainability



Dr. Paul Golding (centre), Dean, College of Business and Management, extends a hearty welcome to Mr. Devon Barrett (right), General Manager, Victoria Mutual Wealth Management Limited and Mr. Christopher Williams (left), President and Chief Executive Officer, Proven Investment Limited to the Economic Growth and Sustainability Summit hosted by the College on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, UTech, Ja. Papine campus.

The College of Business and Management kick-started its Celebration of Excellence with an Economic Growth and Sustainability Summit on Wednesday, March 16, 2016 at the UTech, Ja. Papine campus to bring awareness to the challenges being faced by Jamaica in achieving economic prosperity as well as provide solutions to impact government policy. The Summit included a panel discussion moderated by journalist, **Mr. Cliff Hughes** of Nationwide News Network which addressed the theme, *“Powering Economic Growth and Sustainability through Investment, Innovation, Productivity and the Law.”*

The panellists were **Mr. Christopher Williams**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Proven Investment Limited, **Mrs. Sharon Nelson**, Senior Lecturer, College of Business and Management, UTech, Ja., **Mrs. Michelle Chong**, Chief Executive Officer, Honey Bun Limited, **Mr. Owen Ellington**, Former Commissioner of Police and **Mr. Devon Barrett**, General Manager, Victoria Mutual Wealth Management Limited.

Dr. Paul Golding, Dean, College of Business and Management in his welcome said the College’s annual Celebration of Excellence is to recognize the achievements of its staff, students and alumni as well as to showcase the College’s impact on the society. In addressing the timeliness of the summit, Dr. Golding said that Jamaica is among the slowest developing countries in the world having only achieved a dismal 1% growth in economic activity over the last thirty years. He emphasized the need for all Jamaicans to participate in the country’s national growth agenda if we are to achieve real and sustained growth and provide equal opportunities for prosperity for everyone.

Minister of Education, Youth and Information, **Senator the Hon. Ruel Reid, CD**, in his greetings commended the College for hosting the Summit pointing out that “sustainable development goes hand in hand with the development of tertiary education.” The Minister reiterated that investing in tertiary education is a key strategy in unlocking Jamaica’s growth potential and

called for more synergies with the private sector to “explore additional conduits” to assist in meeting the demands for funding and access to educational opportunities.

Keynote Speaker, **Dr. Juan Pedro Schmid**, Country Economist, Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) told the audience that it is evident that economic growth has been a challenge for Jamaica. He lamented that the country has the second worst growth performance in the South American and Caribbean Region despite being rich in human and natural resources and having a geographically prime location. Dr. Schmid admitted that he was unable to provide a “quick fix” to Jamaica’s problem but proposed four areas which he thinks should be addressed if Jamaica is to achieve prosperity. These he said include government and private sector investments to provide a stable economic environment for entrepreneurial growth; continuous small innovations which can accumulate and impact economic growth; embracing and adapting a culture of excellence that fosters productivity and improves competition.

Mr. Williams who spoke on the impact of finance and investment on Jamaica’s growth called on the government to maintain the level of economic stability trajectory which now exists. He noted that the improvements in the exchange and interest rates over the last two to three years has augured well for the private sector, but called for more access to capital, the revitalization of the capital market and improved venture capital funds to nurture small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Mrs. Sharon Nelson who addressed the issue of productivity said that Jamaica’s education system has to be the catalyst to enable the transformation of a more economically vibrant economy. She argued that productivity can be significantly enhanced with education that empowers students to use the application of knowledge to foster innovation and provide meaningful solutions to solve problems.

Mr. Barrett in his contribution said that “the government and private sector should consider listing

some of its entities on the Jamaica Stock Exchange as a possible solution to cut under-spending of capital goods due to budgetary constraints and to enhance access to financing for productivity.”

Mrs. Michelle Chong a 34-year entrepreneurial veteran told the gathering that she attributes her success to a five-point strategy which she has incorporated in the management of her business. These she said are “mentorship, planning, execution/implementation, investing in people and doing the right thing.” She also emphasised that “entrepreneurs must have good corporate governance as well as utilize best practices to succeed.”

Mr. Owen Ellington, who spoke on the role of security and the law in creating an environment

for wealth creation, strongly urged the government to be diligent in its approach to tackling crime. He argued that Jamaica’s murder rate over the years has caused significant loss of employment, diminished investor and citizen confidence and resulted in the downward spiral of the economy. Lamenting that Jamaica’s murder rate ranks sixth in the world, the former Commissioner of Police called on the government to ensure that criminal offenders are caught and the proper punishment applied within reasonable time to reduce the likelihood of a reoccurrence of the crime by these individuals. He argued that “criminals believe that crime pays,” owing to the length of time it takes for their cases to be brought to trial and too often they are given a slap on the wrist when they are charged.

In attendance were specially invited guests, members of the business community, government and the private sectors representatives, UTech, Jamaica faculty, staff and students and other members of the public.

SHTM FINAL YEAR STUDENTS SHOWCASE EXCELLENCE



Final year students in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM), College of Business and Management demonstrated excellence, creativity and innovation at the staging of SHTM Day and Student Colloquium which showcased their annual exhibition of research work on Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at the Alfred Sangster auditorium, UTech, Jamaica Papine campus.

Dr. Gaunette Sinclair-Maragh, Head, SHTM in her welcome congratulated the final year students for their innovative ideas, noting that the students' final projects began as part of the requirements for their Research Methodology course done during their third year of study. "These started out in a very scientific way where they conceptualized the research ideas, created the literature and then found a creative way to transform that literature into a product that is tangible or is a service," she said. The Head of School also noted that for the first time, SHTM Day would also include a Student Colloquium involving group presentations judged by a panel of judges for first to third place prizes.

Dr. Claudette Williams-Myers, Associate Dean, College of Business and Management, who represented the Dean of the College, **Associate Professor Paul Golding**, in her remarks, lauded the students for the tremendous dedicated work put in over the long term to ensure success of their final research exhibition, adding that notwithstanding challenges, the environment is filled with many opportunities that can be pursued through successful partnerships.

Keynote speaker at the opening ceremony, **Mr. Paul Pennicook**, Director of the Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) applauded the students, faculty and staff involved in the organisation of the exhibition, noting that it is an important initiative in advancing national efforts to give the tourism sector the emphasis that it deserves. Pointing out that there was a time when tourism in Jamaica was viewed with ambivalence by both policy makers and academia, Mr. Pennicook said that "today, tourism is a leading economic driver and an integral part of the Jamaican economy."

Encouraging the final year students to position themselves for excellence in tourism, the JTB Director provided reassuring data in support of the positive projections for the performance of tourism as a robust global industry. "Globally, 1 in 11 persons is employed in tourism and hospitality, with global travel rates expected to reach 1.8 billion travellers by 2030" he said, adding that, "here in Jamaica we have achieved above average growth rates of 3.4% annually over the past ten years." Mr. Pennicook also encouraged the large group of tertiary and high school students present, to ensure that they learn a second language as they pursue a career in tourism, given the huge potential market of Spanish and other foreign language speakers from Latin America, Europe and other parts of the world.

Innovative Projects

The students' research projects covered the areas of hotel and tourism management and food service management. Among the innovative ideas presented were:

- "Using application based technology to promote culture based tourism whilst enhancing visitor experience in Jamaica"
- "A revised perspective of sports tourism in Jamaica: Making the case for 'iconizing' Jamaica's tourism product"
- "Improving visitors' retention in Jamaica's small hotels through the adoption of emerging technologies in concierge services"
- "The Impact of nutritional labelling on meals consumed by University/ College students in Kingston & St. Andrew"
- "Diversifying the Jamaican diet through entomophagy (the practice of eating insects)"
- "Investigating the use of breadfruit in Pastry Making."



School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (SHTM) final year students explain their research projects during tours of the exhibition held at the Alfred Sangster auditorium on Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

Michael Lee-Chin Shares Framework for Wealth Creation with Budding UTech, Ja. Student Entrepreneurs



JDSEEL Award of Excellence: Miss Kacey Hunter (3rd left), Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Leadership (JDSEEL) student, presents Hon. Michael Lee-Chin, OJ, International Entrepreneur and Philanthropist with the JDSEEL 2nd Award of Excellence following his keynote address at the 3rd Annual JDSEEL Student Symposium held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016 at the Technology Innovation Centre, UTech, Ja. Papine campus. Sharing the happy occasion from left are Mr. Michael Steele, Head, JDSEEL, Dr. Paul Golding, Dean, College of Business and Management, His Excellency Sylvain FABI, Canada's High Commissioner to Jamaica, Prof. Rosalea Hamilton, Vice President, Community Service and Development, UTech, Ja. and Prof. Colin Gyles, Acting President.

A large gathering of UTech, Ja. students, members of faculty and staff, representatives from the business and diplomatic communities and other specially invited guests were left immensely inspired on the prospects for wealth creation through local and global entrepreneurship, from a highly effective keynote address delivered by business magnate, investor and philanthropist, **Hon. Michael Lee-Chin, OJ** at the 3rd annual Joan Duncan School of Entrepreneurship, Ethics and Leadership (JDSEEL) Student Symposium held on Wednesday, March 23, 2016, Technology Innovation Centre, UTech, Ja. Papine campus.

The student led symposium under the theme, *"Inspiring Local Entrepreneurship through Global Innovation"* was hosted by final year BSc. in Entrepreneurship students, JDSEEL in the College of Business and Management, as part of the final assessment for their course of study.

Acting President, **Prof. Colin Gyles** in his welcome commended the students and their lecturers for organising the symposium, noting that such student-centred initiatives and practical experiences are part of the University's thrust to produce work ready graduates who are able to hit the ground running and to "get the job done."

Head of School, JDSEEL, **Mr. Michael Steele** in his remarks shared the vision and mission of the School and the Technology Innovation Centre (TIC) in the context of their combined contribution to the economic development of Jamaica. Among the outputs he noted, is the annual research and publication of the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) country report for Jamaica which provides a valuable perspective on entrepreneurial activity.

Lee-Chin who is Chairman of Portland Holdings Inc. spoke with passion as he took his attentive audience on a veritable journey of his life's work from his early beginnings as a young financier to his current status as a global investor with direct investments in many different sectors globally including banking, insurance, consumer goods, hospitality/tourism, media, waste management, telecommunications and agriculture through his stewardship at Portland Holdings.

His motivational address was punctuated with several sets of useful pointers which he affirmed he has used as his personal philosophical framework in making decisions and executing business transactions over the life of his 40-year career.

He told the budding student entrepreneurs that "in every aspect of your life, your highest value added is to create wealth," pointing to four main hallmarks in achieving this goal. These he said are 1. Confidence; 2. The ability to differentiate oneself in the marketplace; 3. Building the best possible reputation in whatever you do and 4. Addressing clients' needs in a genuine way that adds value to their lives by "making them wealthy."

Mr. Lee-Chin then shared what he termed the "five laws of wealth creation" which he said he has observed is common among every single wealthy person in the world. Sharing his very prescriptive "laws," he noted that "every wealthy person owns a few high quality businesses; consciously or unconsciously have their businesses domiciled in a long term growth industry; understands his/her business well and how to mitigate risk; uses other people's money prudently to create leverage and are holding those few businesses for the long run." Mr. Lee-Chin added that patience, perseverance, a sound intellectual framework, emotional intelligence, good

values, access to good role models and good financing must also accompany the prescriptive formula that is applied with consistency.

The global entrepreneur also cautioned the young student entrepreneurs to be mindful of the difference between perception and reality, arguing that a good prospective business venture is recognizable by its actual "dysfunctionalities" which need to be resolved and one which lacks equity capital. He disclosed that these existing conditions helped him to determine his company's – AIC Limited's decision to purchase 75 percent stakes in the then fledgling National Commercial Bank (NCB) in 2002 and the later purchase of Wallenford Coffee Company in 2013. Today both companies have made extraordinary turnaround in fortunes and hold combined asset bases of billions of dollars.

Mr Lee-Chin affirmed that the same opportunities and successes are possible with global trade in highly sought after quality Jamaican produce such as ginger, sea island cotton and cocoa. He urged the UTech, Ja. entrepreneurship students to pursue their good business ideas, asserting that "the world is awash with equity capital," to be tapped in support of the development of good business ideas.

The symposium was divided into two sessions and included JDSEEL student moderated panel discussions with industry

Con't on Page 7

Michael Lee-Chin Shares Framework Con't

professionals.

Mr. David Lee, Private Equity Manager, GK Capital Management was guest speaker during the second session. He too inspired the audience with his humbling personal story of his journey to becoming an entrepreneur, which he said included some mistakes but also many successes. He urged the budding entrepreneurs to embrace their calling, learn from mistakes and use sound principles in decision making. He also hailed the merits of investing in the stock market as part of an entrepreneur's efforts to raise capital.

JDSEEL students (l-r), Joel Lawrence, Gavette Francis, Lori-Ann Graham and Ruth-Ann Gayle lead a panel discussion which examined select findings in the 2014 Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) Report for Jamaica and its relevance to opportunities for young entrepreneurs. Panelists from left are Mr. Dennis Chung, CEO, Private Sector Organisation of Jamaica (PSOJ), Prof. Rosalea Hamilton, Vice President, Community Service and Development, UTech, Ja, Miss Dionne Palmer, Incubator Manager, TIC and Dr. Michelle Black, Lecturer, JDSEEL.

Accreditation Update



Prof. Colin Gyles (right) Acting President UTech, Jamaica is pleased to receive the Certificate of Programme Accreditation from Donald Delahaye, University Council of Jamaica (UCJ) Board Member.

The University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) is among ten (10) institutions that has been granted accreditation for some of its courses of study by the University Council of Jamaica (UCJ). The accreditation certificates were presented at a ceremony held on March 10, 2016 at the University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona Visitors' Lodge and Conference Centre.

The following courses of study have been added to the list of UCJ accredited programmes:

- Bachelor of Science in Computing
- Bachelor of Dietetics and Nutrition
- Bachelor of Science in Land Economy and Valuation Surveying
- Bachelor of Business Administration
- Specializing in
 - Human Resource Management
 - Production & Operations Management
 - General Management
 - Finance & Banking
 - Accounting
 - Administrative and Information Systems Management
 - Marketing

Bachelor of Science in Food Service Management*, expired October 31, 2013
Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management (joint with UWI)*, expired October 31, 2013

*The revised courses have been re-submitted to the UCJ and tentative date of May 17 & 18, 2016 have been accepted by the University for the accreditation site visit.

Interfaith Awareness Day Celebrates Unity in Diversity Among Religious Faiths

Members of religious groups came together to share their faith and to promote peace and tolerance among religious faiths at the 12th annual Interfaith Awareness Day hosted by the Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies, University of Technology, Jamaica (UTech, Ja.) on Thursday, March 3, 2016 at the UTech, Ja. Papine campus. This year's Interfaith Day was held in collaboration with the Jamaica Council for Interfaith Fellowship (JCIF) and focused on the theme, "One God, One Creation, One Common Home" – *The Call for a Global Response to Climate Change*.

Founder and coordinator of Interfaith Awareness Day, **Rev. Dr. Martin Schade**, Senior Lecturer, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies and General Secretary, Jamaica Council for Interfaith Fellowship, paid tribute to Pope Francis and the encyclical *Laudato Si* whom he described as a man of interfaith, a man of Ubuntu, and a steward of creation whose message has served to unite people from all over the world. Ubuntu is a South African philosophy which means, "I am what I am because of who we all are." Dr. Schade noted that Pope Francis called for all people to adopt the principle of Ubuntu, noting that he believed that human beings have an obligation and responsibility to respect, to care for and love each other and by extension protect "our common home," which is the environment.

Dr. Schade appealed to the large gathering of high school students, representatives from various religious groups and UTech, Ja. faculty, staff and students to embrace Pope Francis' message of interfaith and Ubuntu and to strive to become better stewards of our environment to ensure that we preserve it for ourselves and for future generations.

Representatives from the nine religious groups of **Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity** (Ethiopian Orthodox, Catholicism), **Islam, Religious Society of Friends** (Quakers), **Baha'i, Rastafari, Unification** shared the tenets of their faith and related them to the importance of taking action on climate change and protecting the environment.

High Achievers

Faculty of The Built Environment Honours Student Excellence

BCAT Student Covers International Sporting Competition



Rajay Murdock, student, Bachelor in Communication Arts and Technology (BCAT) School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Education and Liberal Studies was among journalists accredited to cover the 2016 IAAF World Indoor championship held March 16 -21, 2016 in Portland, Oregon, USA. His reports were carried on IAAF Radio and KLAS FM. Rajay interviewed 60M gold medal winner Trayvon Bromwell and did daily reports on IAAF Radio. See link to the IAAF Radio Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/IAAFradio/media>

Mrs. Sheena Johnson-Brown, Programme Director, BCAT notes that "it is quite an accomplishment to be working at an international level at such a young age and all the skills he is currently using have been taught through the Bachelor in Communication Arts and Technology Programme."

Rajay has covered several international events including Pan-Am games in Toronto, IAAF events in Beijing, China and won a youth journalism award for a feature he did on Jamaican sports while covering an IAAF event in Monaco, Europe. Well done!

STUDENTS OF THE YEAR: Dr. Garfield Young (right), Dean, Faculty of The Built Environment presents Anderson Dennis (left), Student of the Year, Caribbean School of Architecture with the E. Nadine Isaacs Architect Limited award. Anderson was also named to the Dean's List. At right, Dr. Young makes a presentation to Odean Wright, Student of the Year, School of Building and Land Management who was also named to the Dean's List and received the Jentech Award and the BSc. Urban & Regional Planning - FOBE Award – Year 3.

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