

Institute of
International
Relations
at UWI



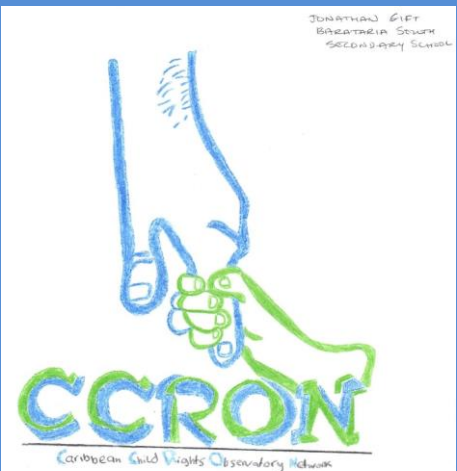
ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

2014 - 2015 *Annual Report*

**THE
DIPLOMATIC
ACADEMY**
OF THE CARIBBEAN



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES



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Introduction

The Institute of International Relations (IIR) is a centre institution of The University of the West Indies. Established by Swiss funding in 1966, the IIR has become a well-established and highly regarded interdisciplinary Caribbean regional centre for the analysis and advancement of international relations. It has trained many of the Caribbean's political, business and diplomatic leaders over the years. Located on the St. Augustine Campus of The University of the West Indies, the Institute offers a programme of courses and supervises research leading to the Postgraduate Diploma in International Relations; M.Sc. in Global Studies; M.Phil and Ph.D. in International Relations.

The programme of courses comprehensively covers the geographical, historical, political, economic, social, cultural, legal and institutional aspects of international relations and emphasizes an inter-disciplinary approach in the study of relations between nations and other entities. In addition to conducting teaching, research and study of international relations, the Institute engages in many activities including the organisation of special programmes, courses and seminars, and the provision of consultative assistance and research, for the governments and private sectors of the region, and regional organisations and agencies, which are intended to strengthen Caribbean responses to the challenges of international relations and the understanding thereof in the community at large. The Institute of International Relations is committed to training the next generation of diplomats from the region. To this end, a new diplomatic training centre – The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean – was launched on 6 May 2014.

Governance of the Institute

The governance of the Institute, chaired by the Vice Chancellor, is vested in the Board of the Institute. The management of the Institute rests with the Director, who is responsible to the Board for the proper discharge of his functions.

A. STAFF

Director

Professor W. Andy Knight is currently the Director of the IIR. He is the tenth Director of the Institute and assumed duties in January 2013. His goal is to build upon the excellent work done in the Institute over the years, and to use his experience, connections and networks to expand the IIR's reach and make it better known throughout the world. He has re-established connections with bodies such as the ACS, CARICOM, CELAC, and the OAS in the region, with diplomatic and consular corps present throughout the Caribbean and with multilateral institutions such as the United Nations System, the Commonwealth.

Major awards and special honours/distinctions to staff

Ms. Ekana McAlister was awarded the third prize at The UWI Employee and Service Excellence Awards 2014 for Employee Excellence in the Administrative, Technical and Service Staff category.

Newly appointed and promoted academic staff

Dr. Matthew Bishop and **Dr. Debbie Mohammed** were promoted from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer with effect from August 1, 2014.

Dr. Georgina Chami assumed duty as Research Fellow at the Institute of International Relations on August 1, 2014.

Dr. Jacqueline Laguardia Martínez was previously temporarily appointed as a lecturer from March 17, 2014 to 31 December, 2014. Subsequently, she was offered a three-year contract from August 1, 2014 to July 31, 2017.

Dr. Dave Seerattan assumed duty on August 1, 2014 as Lecturer in International Political Economy/International Developmental Economics at the Institute of International Relations.

Dr. Johann Geiser was contracted as a Specialized Seminar (Part-Time) Temporary lecturer for the academic year 2014/2015 in the course INRL 5000: Specialized Seminars. Ms. Christal Chapman assisted in Semester II when Dr. Geiser fell ill.

Diplomat in Residence

Dr. Teruyuki Tsuji is currently attached to the Institute of International Relations, The University of the West Indies as a Diplomat-in-Residence (September 2014-August 2015). Previously a member of Japanese diplomatic delegation at Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Tsuji served Japanese Embassies in Port-of-Spain (1994-1997) and in Kingston (1998-2000) as a research analyst and cultural attaché. He completed his PhD in Comparative Sociology at Florida International University. His dissertation committee was chaired by Alex Stepick, a known scholar of international migration studies, and included Dr. Anthony Maingot, an affiliate of the IIR, and Kelvin Yelvington known for his research on Trinidad and wider Caribbean. He has been working to develop a book manuscript, which focuses on one of the significant ethnographic cases discussed in his dissertation: La Divina Pastora devotion in Siparia. The affiliation to IIR and broader UWI allows him to conduct additional ethnographic and archival research in order to complete the manuscript. His project has been funded by Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.

Visiting Fellow

Dr. Simon Hollis, a visiting fellow from October 2014-December 2014, is a Postdoctoral researcher at the Swedish National Defence College¹ and Lecturer in Risk and Disaster

¹ Funded through the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency/ Myndigheten för samhällsskydd och beredskap

Management at the CORTRA Training and Consultancy in association with the Geneva Graduate School of Governance. Dr. Hollis received his PhD in international relations at the Hertie School of Governance in 2012. His thesis examined the role of regional disaster risk management programmes. A revised version is currently in production with Palgrave Macmillan (*The Role of Regional Organizations in Disaster Risk Management: A Global Strategy for Resilience*). Dr. Hollis has also published in a variety of international peer-reviewed journals on various aspects of international and domestic cooperation on disaster management. He is a postdoctoral researcher at the Swedish National Defence College and lectures on risk and disaster management in association with the Geneva Graduate School of Governance.

As part of his postdoctoral project, funded by the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, Simon is examining the role of international organizations in supporting Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in small island developing states in the Caribbean and Pacific regions. The main aim undergirding this project is to increase our knowledge on how DRR principles can create more resilient and safer societies for the future.

Newly appointed and promoted ATS staff

Appointment/promotion

Ms. Kemi Burgen was promoted from Clerical Assistant Grade 3 to Clerical Assistant III, Grade 6 on 1st August, 2014 to 31st July, 2015.

Part-Time Appointments

Mr. Keshan Latchman served as Editorial & Publishing Assistant of the Institute's journal - *Caribbean Journal of International Relations and Diplomacy*. His contract ended on 31 January 2015.

Ms. Lynelle Clarke served as Postgraduate Research Assistant at the Institute of International Relations. Her contract was extended from 1st September 2014 to 31 July 2015.

Ms. Corinne Sandy was first appointed to serve as an IIR research assistant (March 2014 – July 2014). She was then contracted to serve as Clerical Assistant III, Grade 6 at the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean from August 2014 to July 31, 2015.

Research Assistants

1 st October, 2014 to 31 st August, 2015	Ms. Casandra Harry
3 rd November, 2014 to February, 2015	Ms. Candacy Lindo
3 rd November, 2014 to 30 th April, 2015	Mr. Ricky Ramnarine

Staff on leave – Appointment to the United Nations

Ms. Tamara Brathwaite, Librarian II, has been appointed Associate Librarian at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Condolences

Professor Yves Collart, the third and last Swiss Director of the IIR (1969-1973), died on October 29, 2014 at the age of 84. Professor Collart was instrumental in successfully converting the joint venture, established in 1966 between the Governments of Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago,



into a regional institution fully controlled by Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. A firm believer in local potential, he achieved this conversion at a date much earlier than anticipated. One of his major accomplishments was the incorporation of IIR into The UWI under a constitution that would give IIR a certain degree of autonomy while still subject to The UWI staff, degree and administrative regulations and

standards. IIR is still governed by that constitution. Prof Collart drew commitments from regional Governments to, not just financially support the Institute, but also to send their diplomats for training. He made it a place where both academic and practical diplomatic training could thrive.

His administrative achievements were matched by his academic ones in his specialty, History and International Politics. He gave courses and seminars, supervised graduate students in this area and was well known for his rigorous historical method to the study of International Relations.

After his departure, he continued to serve on the IIR Board, continuously promoting international cooperation between IIR and the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva along with other international bodies. He was well loved by his students who admired his humility and dedication to excellence. Some of them such as Orville London, Colin Granderson and Henry Gill, to name just a few, went on to greater achievements.



The Institute of International Relations mourned the loss of **Dr. Johann 'Hans' Geiser** who served as a temporary lecturer (Part-Time) for the academic year 2014/2015 in the course INRL 5000: Specialised Seminars. Dr. Geiser fell ill in Semester II and the former Lecturer at the Institute of International Relations and one of the pioneers of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean, passed away on May 11, 2015.

In 1972, Dr Geiser was a member of the team that set up the Institute of International

Relations (IIR) at The UWI. He lectured there until 1974 when he left for New York to head up the UNITAR's International Law Training programme for government legal advisers and university professors from various developing regions.

As Chief of the European Office of UNITAR (1976-1981) Dr. Geiser acted as liaison between the UN Specialized Agencies and European-based international organizations. In 1989 Kofi Annan appointed him Director of the Training Department at the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization in Turin, Italy. Concurrently, he served as the first Director of the United Nations Staff College in Turin.

Nine years later Dr. Geiser would return to the Caribbean as UNDP Resident Representative and UN System Resident Coordinator with responsibilities for Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. After that tour of duty, he lectured at the Institute of International Relations on Sustainable Development and Human Rights on and off until semester II (2014-2015) when he delivered his final class to students of the Institute of International Relations at the St Augustine Campus.

Activities aimed at changing culture/process, quality assurance etc.

- The employment of Student Assistants for Saturday duty during Semester and special projects during the vacation break of May to August.
- Advertisement for one position of Library Assistant III, Grade 9 following the removal of one position of Librarian.

Efforts to improve recruitment and retention

- Following discussions on the projected evening programme at the Institute, a recommendation was put forward for the employment of additional temporary staff and security for late shift (evening) hours

Special initiatives in which the section is involved

- In collaboration with the Alma Jordan Library, the setting up of Campus wide access to select IIR journal titles.
- The extension of support and collaboration and with the Library at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Major accomplishments of the reporting section – IIR Library

Although renovation work was scheduled to begin on July 21st 2014, work actually commenced on Monday August 4th, 2014. Staff regained access to the Library on Tuesday 26th August while the Library reopened for service on Tuesday 2nd September, 2014. The Library was closed again on Friday 5th September to accommodate additional roofing work. The construction of a wall on the western end of the Library elicited concerns by staff over the loss of natural light in that work area and an emergency exit route. In January 2015, there was an electrical fire at one of the student terminals following a power surge with both machines remaining out of service for the remainder of the second semester. Mr. Sagar of the Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Unit paid a visit to the Library on May 1st, 2015 to advise on safety procedures and later on May 7th to conduct the Pregnancy Risk Assessment for Miss Malika Charles. Three of the air conditioning units in the Library were recommended for changing following malfunctioning of the units. One unit was replaced in June 2015.

With reference to staffing, Student Assistant Keshan Latchman continued with Saturday duty while Student Assistants Kwasi London and Jenille Gray were hired to undertake select library projects over the period July 1st to August 14th, 2015. The newly established position of Library Assistant III, Grade 9 was initially advertised in May 2015. The issues of late shift allowance for the Library Assistants and the payment of the travel allowance along with compensatory time off for Saturday duty were matters which were raised by the Library Staff for clarification during the academic year.

Installation of three Dell smartcard reader keyboards was finalized when the Library reopened for service in September 2014. With regard to working in Aleph, Staff encountered issues with some records not showing up in UWIIinC following the copy cataloguing of these documents: - this was brought to the attention of the relevant staff at the AJL. Work continued on the entry of data into the Serials/Acquisitions module of Aleph with ninety six journal entries to date. Following on a request for refresher training on the setting up of staff profiles and the creation of staff proxies, this training was facilitated by Sham Narine of the AJL in March 2015. The IIR Library Staff, working in close collaboration with the Acquisitions librarian at the AJL, were also able to set up online access to thirteen (13) IIR journal subscriptions to the wider Campus community. In spite of its restricted budget, the IIR Library has gone the route of e-resources and acquired its first e-book in September 2014.

Student papers from the Diploma programme for the years 2003 to 2013, and MSc. Student research papers for 2008 to 2013, were submitted to the Alma Jordan Library in July 2014 for entry into UWISpace. With the entry of these papers in UWISpace, the Library has been receiving requests by researchers for access to these documents. Given the issue of copyright, a letter has now been drafted for remit to the students (authors) seeking permission to grant access. The Library has also received a written request from one IIR Student seeking withdrawal of her Seminar paper from the library's collection of student papers and, in addition, from UWISpace. This measure has led to a call for a review of the collection of student papers which will now take place during the academic year 2015 to 2016. At the beginning of the second semester, students encountered problems with registration which affected loans and circulations. In June 2015, the IIR Library submitted a request for changes to be made to TAB 16 of Aleph with specific reference to due return time for Reserve Overnight loans and 7 Day loan facility for IIR ATS Staff.

At the request of the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the IIR Library hosted Gloria Deoraj-Deen for one week of intensive training during the period January 19th to 23rd, 2015. In February 2015, the Library received a request from the

Director for the extension of borrowing privileges and the use of the Library by five Analysts working as part of a Committee on National Security. Access to the Library's facilities was granted for Semester II of the academic year. .During the period March 9th to 25th, 2015, the Library hosted an Intern from the College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT). The Intern, Ayanna Lopez, was trained in all aspects of the Library's operations. A request was also forthcoming from Wendy Sealy, former Librarian at the Institute, for the training of a Library Assistant from UWI-Roytec, Mr. Justin Piper for one day on April 29th, 2015.

Displays during this year featured an array of international themes. In September 2014, the Library showcased its signature "What to do with a Degree in International Relations". The Library was transformed into an "oceanic experience" for World Oceans Day while, with the International Day of Forests on March 31st, a "Tree of Information" was mounted from floor to ceiling inviting comments from patrons: these comments were pinned to the tree. Displays were also mounted paying tribute to Professor Yves Collart, the third Director of the Institute who passed away on October 29th, 2014, and to commemorate the life of Dr Hans Geiser, former Lecturer at the Institute who died on May 11th, 2015. A request for assistance with a display was also forthcoming from one Lecturer, Dr Georgina Chami, seeking the Library's input in the setting up of a CCRON display for a Youth Development conference held on March 23rd to 27th, 2015.

At a Staff Meeting in January 2015, the Director informed Staff of a decision coming out of the Board meeting in June 2014, to rename the IIR Library "The Norman Girvan Library" in honour of the late Professor Emeritus Norman Girvan. This proposal was sent to the Naming Committee.

Public & Professional Service of staff

W. Andy Knight

- Member of the publications committee of the International Studies Association (ISA)
- Co-Chair of the Editorial Committee of the *Caribbean Journal of International Relations and Diplomacy*
- Member of the Steering Committee to establish a Think Tank on Regional Security in the Office of the Prime Minister.
- Contributor to the drafting of speeches for Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, SC on issues of foreign policy.
- Consultant to the Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Winston Dookeran on issues related to Trinidad and Tobago foreign policy.
- Co-founder of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago
- Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada
- Member of the Academic Council on the United Nations System
- Member, Academic and Scientific Board of Ocean Security International (OSI)
- Board Member of the World Economic Forum's Committee on Welfare of Children
- Board Member of the Institute for Gender and Development Studies (IGDS)
- Member, of the Publications Committee of the International Studies Association (ISA) Board of Governors
- Editorial Board Member of African Security; Canadian Journal of Political Science; Journal of Eastern Caribbean Studies; Global Governance; Global Responsibility to Protect.
- Member of Canada Research Chair College of Reviewers

M.L. Bishop

- Honorary Research Fellow of the Political Economy Research Centre (PERC), Sheffield, UK
- ERASMUS Mundus Mapp Visiting Scholar, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands

- Visiting Fellow, Wuhan University, China
- Transatlantic Visiting Fellow, University of Warwick, UK
- Member, International Studies Association (ISA) ;
- Member, UK Political Studies Association (PSA);
- Member, Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS);
- Member, British International Studies Association (BISA);
- Member, BISA International Political Economy Group (IPEG);
- Member, Society for Caribbean Studies (SCS);
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA)

T. Brathwaite

- Member, Library Association of Trinidad and Tobago (LATT)
- Personal Member, American Library Association (ALA)
- Associate Member, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)
- Public Relations Officer, Network of NGOS of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women
- Life Member, National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago

C. Farrell

- Member, Library Association of Trinidad and Tobago (LATT)
- Member, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)
- Member, Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
- Member, American Library Association (ALA)
- Member, Latin American Studies Association (LASA)
- Member, St. Augustine Campus Libraries User Survey Committee
- Member, Patron of Queens Hall

R. M. Kirton

- Member, Organization of American States Electoral Observation Missions in Caribbean States.
- Reviewer of Citizen Security Programme for government of Guyana/ Inter-American Development Bank Project.
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association
- Member, Latin American Studies Association

J. Laguardia Martínez

- Member, Chair of Caribbean Studies, University of Havana, Cuba
- Member, Cuba Research Forum, University of Nottingham, UK
- Member, Latin American Studies Association (LASA)

D. Mohammed

- Member, European Union-Latin America and the Caribbean (EU-LAC) Academic Council for the period 2013 to 2015.
- Member, International Relations Disciplinary Group –Faculty of Social Sciences (FSS) Cross Campus Conference.
- Member, Organizing Committee Caribbean Centre *for* Competitiveness.
- Member, Steering Committee-Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).
- Member, Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute (TTTI)
- UWI Representative on the Business and Labour Advisory Committee (BLAC) of the CSME-Trinidad & Tobago Focal Point- Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- UWI Representative - Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment.
- UWI Representative -Trade Related Issues (TRI) Sub Committee - Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment.
- Member, Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) Research Support Group on the CSME.
- Member, CDB- Research Group on Knowledge Management.

A. Montoute

- Member, International Studies Association (ISA)
- Member, Academic Council of the United Nations (ACUNS)
- Member, Caribbean Studies Association (CSA)
- Member, Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) Regional Integration Cluster
- Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) Ministry of Trade, Industry and Investment.
- IIR Staff Student Liaison Committee (Faculty Representative)

M. Scobie

- Member, Caribbean Studies Association
- Member, International Studies Association
- Research Fellow: Earth System Governance Research Project
<http://www.earthsystemgovernance.org/people/person/michelle-scobie>
- Regional Research Fellow Coordinator for the Earth System Governance Research Project for the Caribbean Region: Earth System Governance Research Project-
<http://www.earthsystemgovernance.org/people/person/michelle-scobie>
- Member, UWI Network on Caribbean Regional Sea Governance- to support the work of the Association of Caribbean States' Caribbean Sea Initiative
- Project Coordinator: Projects in Education Ltd. (Non-profit organisation fostering women's development in Trinidad and Tobago) and responsible for one of UWI's most long standing mentorship programs SUMMON - Recipient of the 2012 Excellence in UWI life award.

D. Seerattan

- Member, Regional Financial Stability Coordination Council (RFSCC).
- Member, American Economics Association.
- Member, Central Bank of Barbados Research Review Panel.

- Member, Project Team for the IADB Project on Financial Risk Assessment in an Integrating Region: The Caribbean.
- Assistant Editor, Journal of Business Finance and Economics in Emerging Economies.

B. STUDENTS

The total number of registered students for 2014/2015 academic year was: **129**

MPhil/PhD - 36

M.Sc. - 58

PG Diploma - 35

The number of registered students for the academic year under review is down from last academic year 2013/2014 which was: **141** (MPhil/PhD - 43; M.Sc. – 71; PG Diploma – 27).

Twelve (12) students graduated with a Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations, thirty-three (33) with a M.Sc. in Global Studies and two (2) with a Ph.D in International Relations in 2014/2015 which is a significant improvement over last academic year.

The following students graduated with a distinction in Post Graduate Diploma in International Relations:

- *Samantha Allahar*
- *Vishal Ganessingh*
- *Richard Lynch*
- *Raeisa Perreira*

In the Master of Science in Global Studies cohort, the following students graduated with a distinction:

- *Vladimir Budhu*
- *Martina Mendoza*
- *Shezraé Nesbitt*
- *Chadwick Noel*
- *Nelsonia Persaud-Budhram*
- *Shilohna Phillanders*
- *Anthony Phillips-Spencer*

Winston O'Young and **Khellon Q. Roach** both graduated with a Ph.D in International Relations.



From left to right:

Dr. Mark Kirton - IIR Lecturer and Khellon Q. Roach's supervisor

Dr. Khellon Roach - Ph.D Graduate

Dr. Samantha Roach - Ph.D Graduate and wife of Dr. Khellon Roach

Prof. Clement Sankat - Pro Vice Chancellor and Campus Principal

Academic Competitions

The 33rd Model OAS General Assembly for Universities of the Hemisphere was held in Saint Kitts & Nevis from March 24 – 26, 2015. It was co-organized by the Office of the Assistant Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Ministry of Youth Empowerment, Sports, Information Technology, Telecommunications and Posts of Saint Kitts and Nevis.

It was the first MOAS Assembly to be held in the English Speaking Caribbean and the purpose of the MOAS is to promote democratic values among the youth of the Caribbean and of the Hemisphere, and to disseminate the mission and role of the OAS. A six member team of Shilohna Phillanders, Kurba-Marie Questelles, Anthony Phillips-Spencer, Vladamir Budhu, Simone Phagoo and Rondelle Keller along with their faculty advisor Dr. Debbie Mohammed represented the Institute and by extension the Faculty of Social Sciences and The UWI with distinction. They gave an outstanding performance and the level of professionalism and insight which they applied to the issues of their respective committees is testimony to the preparatory work they did as a team with just three weeks' notice.

The OAS Secretariat, fellow Faculty Advisors and fellow delegates from the other participating member countries all expressed delight at their intellectual prowess, debating skills and seemingly effortless ability to win the support of delegations, regardless of cultural or linguistic differences for the resolutions they proposed. They were excellent ambassadors of what The UWI embodies and formidable representatives for their assigned country - Colombia.

It came as no surprise that three team members secured convincing victories for positions on the next MOAS leadership team: Shilohna Phillanders - Secretary General Designate of the 34th MOAS; Kurba-Marie Questelles - Vice Chair Designate General Committee; and Rondelle Keller - Chair Designate, Second Committee.



From left to right:

Rondelle Keller, Vladimir Budhu, Kurba-Marie Questelles, Shilohna Phillanders, Simone Phagoo, Dr. Debbie Mohammed and Anthony Phillips-Spencer.

Community Service/Outreach

In the weeks leading up to February 28, 2015, the IIR community pledged its commitment and resources to giving back to our national community. Students at all levels (diploma, masters and MPhil/PhD and alumni) along with staff (academic and nonacademic) were enthused by the idea of mobilizing the humanitarian arm of the Institute. Donations were made to the Amica Home for Girls in Curepe, and Comfort Care Geriatric Home in Mt Hope. The Institute was able to accumulate a wide range and quantity of items from the aforementioned sources and also secured donations from the National Flour Mills Ltd. The support from students and staff was overwhelming and the momentum that the project gained particularly in the final week prior to its deadline had evidenced the potential of the IIR to cooperate across all levels in order to bring this and other like initiatives into fruition.

Requests have been made by members of staff and students, alike, to make this an ongoing year round project so that the IIR and its students could keep in touch with the humanitarian aspect of the field. Although much effort had to be made towards its realization, the excitement, commitment and determination to give back to society would be the engines that propel the longevity of this project. It is hoped that this outreach could be the catalyst for inculcating a culture of humanitarianism in the IIR.



A wide array of items were donated.



Volunteers at the drop off at Amica House. From left, Josef Walker, Shilohna Phillanders, Shezraé Nesbitt, Anthony Phillips- Spencer, Candace Campbell.



Loading the vehicles on drop off day.

The fun “**Lots of Socks**” event was held on March 20, 2015 to raise awareness of World Down Syndrome Day (WDSO). Students/Staff were required to wear brightly coloured socks preferably with three (3) colours representing the three chromosomes associated with the condition. This is also to show support for the Down Syndrome Family Network.

Staff/Student Liaison Committee

In an effort to enhance the quality of the learning experience at the Institute, we are pleased to introduce the representatives of the first Staff/Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) of the Institute of International Relations. This committee, a University wide initiative, was established on February 4, 2015 at a staff/student meeting held at Lecture Room 1.

Level	Name
P.G. Diploma	Anwar Hollingsworth
M.Sc	Shezraé Nesbitt
M.Sc	Fayrial Mohipath
M.Sc	Anthony Phillips-Spencer
MPhil/Ph.D	Lynelle Clarke (Chairperson)
Faculty	Annita Montoute
Secretary	Lucia Williams- Legall

The Staff/Student Liaison Committee serves as a mechanism to draw to the attention of the Director, matters which adversely affect the students learning environment and to find appropriate solutions to these issues in the shortest possible time.

Issues which can be addressed at the IIR will be handled by the Secretariat working closely with the IIR Library, Lecturers and the Director. Matters which need to be addressed at the faculty/campus level will be brought to attention of the relevant authorities.



Staff/Student Liaison Committee

From left to right:

Back row - Anwar Hollingsworth, Lynelle Clarke and Anthony Phillips-Spencer.

Front row - Shezraé Nesbitt, Fayrial Mohipath and Dr. Annita Montoute.

Missing - Lucia Williams- Legall

Cuba/Panama study trip

The following article '*The Cuban Paradox: Poverty in Paradise*' is written by Chinaka Nelson about the August 2014 study trip to Cuba and Panama.



It is Sunday 24th August 2014 and a small group all clad in navy blue polo shirts, with the visible IIR logo join the obscenely long line at Piarco International Airport. The fatigue etched on everyone's faces betrayed the events of the last week, one dominated by edifying forums and leisure activities that catered to all involved. The experience provided much needed relaxation for staff and students alike, but, like true academics, the trip would have been incomplete had it not raised thought provoking issues and forced us to interrogate popular opinion.

Cuba, (where the group spent most of its time) is both maligned and praised in contemporary discourse. The island is perhaps best known for having produced the controversial figure, Fidel Castro who spearheaded the Cuban Revolution and later ruled the country for decades. Of the rebellion, Castro once said that it "is a struggle to

the death between the future and the past.” Our visit to the island underscored just how much the country wavers between navigating a bright future despite a nostalgic attachment to a foregone era.

Sweltering heat welcomed us to Cuba. The formalities at Immigration and Customs were routine except for some provocatively dressed female staff with their black fishnet stockings and short skirts triggered whispers of shock and surprise from members of our group. As the rich aroma of Cuban cigars infiltrated our nostrils and the vintage vehicles came into view, it was certain that this would be no ordinary trip. Our first lesson, courtesy Dr. Laguardia Martínez, was at the airport as we learned of the different exchange rates for foreign currency. The next came as we huddled into taxis en route to the *Hotel Nacional*; air conditioning is a luxury. As we encountered more antique cars, coco taxis and reformatted bicycles that functioned as taxis, it was evident that Cubans are a resolute people. Whether by choice, circumstance or both, they are a creative bunch who have adapted to life on the largest Caribbean island, trivia made apparent by the vast available land that became visible as the plane descended into the José Martí International Airport.

The educational seminars spanned a three day period and the well informed panellists engaged our attention with intense discussions about Cuba’s past and the possibilities for a brighter future. The island’s political and economic landscapes were central points of the dialogue. With high unemployment and a bloated state bureaucracy, Cuba is economically fragile. Its move from a heavy dependence on sugar exports to a service centered economy is indicative of the country’s attempt to insert itself in the global system but has also left hordes of people under or unemployed. Further, with its aging population, a human resource crisis looms. Add debt and little disposable income and the equation becomes even more complicated. Arguably worse than this though is the Cuban dependency syndrome and socialism, a product of the Revolution does not appear to have a solution to this acute problem.

The Cuban Revolution, premised on social justice as a means for development demanded political consensus and social cohesion. Its success cannot be overstated but more than half a century later, its relevance is called into question as the continued absence of democratic governance is an issue with which the country's leaders must contend as efforts are made to engage the global community. Thus, the island's foreign policy can no longer be shaped by domestic size and concerns. Multilevel reform, inclusive of an attitudinal shift by both citizens and the government is necessary. While this stance suggests that socialism is not a tenable model, there are those who believe that Cuba should cling to the gains from the Revolution. They submit that the revolutionary spirit must not be suffocated by modern day woes.

While the lectures furnished us with rich information about Cuba, nothing compares to living the experience. During our tour of Old Havana, there was that surreal feeling that we had entered another time period. The ancient buildings, canons and statues permitted Dr. Laguardia Martínez to share her expert knowledge of Cuba's history. Still, history is never far from reality as young children approached us pleading for a financial donation. The elderly woman too, dressed in full costume demanded that we pay her for snapping a quick photo. Some of us rode a carriage for the first time while others opted for more conventional means of getting around the old city.

La Plaza de la Revolución afforded us the opportunity to walk where national heroes once did. Opposite the plaza, hangs the unmistakable image of Che Guevara, a constant reminder of his indelible role in Cuban independence. Despite the scorching temperature, everyone took pictures, ensuring that this trip would not only be etched in our memories.

At *el Museo de la Revolución*, the curator recounted the life of José Martí, a key figure in Cuba's fight for freedom. The unwavering passion and fervor with which she chronicled his life's adventures was not limited to her; it seemed to be an innate Cuban trait. It was evident on our visit to the Caribbean Association of Residents in Cuba. The warmth and love were almost tangible as members of the small audience informed us

about their Caribbean heritage. It was the same kind spirit that Dani, a sketch artist projected as he quickly but aptly drew caricatures for group members as we explored Old Havana. Despite the Centre for Advanced Studies of Cuba (Nanotechnology and Biotechnology Complex) being closed, the employees were kind enough to come in on their vacation and open the Centre for a brief tour.

While the days in Havana were lengthy with dusk not setting in until 8pm, daylight fatigue failed to tame our nocturnal spirits. From the Carnival on the first night to the Cabaret on the last, we made sure to maximize our stay. While the Cabaret showcased the dancing talent of Cubans, we also had the chance to display our skills at *La Casa de la Música*, which could easily be deemed the highlight of the trip. Even the Director, Professor Knight or Prof., as we fondly called him proved that he was not simply an accomplished academic and, in true patriotic form, we ensured that the entire crowd knew we were Trinbagonians as we shouted “Trinidad y Tobago” several times.

Our short sojourn at Memories Hotel and Resort, Varadero was blissful. Everyone yearned to stay a bit longer and we even wished that the trip could have started there. Some dared to ride a camel while others cooled down in the pool or beach and sampled food and drink at the many restaurants and bars. In true “Trini” style, our night ended with a beach party. It would be an exaggeration to say that we were the life of the event as the Cubans proved that they too not only love but know how to party.

Upon arrival in Panama, everyone sighed in relief because Wi-Fi was available to all and once again, our smart phones were useful for more than its camera feature. Still, I doubted whether anyone missed being connected to the wider world as Cuba had presented another world worthy of exploration. Naturally, no visit to Panama would be complete without seeing the Panama Canal which we did after touring the World Heritage Site, *el Casco Viejo*. Our last day was spent shopping but, even a day was insufficient as some of us missed the bus back to our hotel. Still, the group, comprised mainly of women would agree that shopping is always a welcome activity.

Cuba has carved a place for itself in world history and our group from IIR was privileged to have experienced the country and its culture. Like other states, it faces many challenges but unlike some and perhaps ironically, Cuba's woes are directly linked to its attempt to chart a brighter future. Still, its slogan, "*la patria es la humanidad*" or *fatherland is humanity* remains a strong point for the island. The belief in self, fellowmen and country is a trait for which there is no substitute. José Martí once said that "the only thing a man ever owns outright is a place in his country." Cuban patriotism is easily recognizable and its people's hospitality is undeniable. During our short stay on the island, we never once felt out of place. Culture and that humane element eroded the language barrier as our untamed spirits effortlessly mingled as would old friends meeting for the first time in years.

C. STRATEGY APPRAISAL

- Under the umbrella of the Strategic Planning exercise 2012-2017, the IIR Librarian served on the User Perspective Committee which has devised a training programme for the St. Augustine Campus Libraries to be rolled out at the beginning of the academic year 2015/2016.
- In light of cost containment, The St. Augustine Campus Librarians discussed proposals aimed at realigning staff and workflows in keeping with the Campus Libraries Operational plan.

The Strategic Perspectives

Revenue Generating/ Cost Containment Activities – IIR Library

In February 2015, the IIR Library put forward a request for a petty cash fund of \$500.00. The Library's budgetary allocation for the year stood at \$1,011,113.00. To date, funds have been allocated to acquire approximately 731 monographs and renew subscriptions to 51 periodical titles, comprising both print and electronic journal subscriptions.

Detailed account of the core activities of the section

Service upgrades

- Offer of campus wide access to thirteen IIR journal titles
- Acquisition of E-book subscription
- Entry of Student Seminar/MSc. Research papers into UWllinC
- Entry of data into the Serials/Acquisition module of Aleph with ninety six entries in the system to date
- Expansion of the journal holdings to include two additional titles
- Expansion of Outreach activities to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Diplomatic Academy, CCRON, and Wuhan University, China
- Request for changes to be made with regard to Reserve Overnight for the students and seven day loans for ATS Staff

- Continuous promotion of outreach activities with the discussion series “Bibliochats”

Facilities Upgrades

- Refurbishment of the Library with upgrades to the ceiling and lighting, roof repairs and repainting.
- Replacement of the photocell unit of the book theft detection system.
- Resetting of the card value unit for the photocopying machine.
- Dell smartcard reader keyboards in operation from September 2014.
- Upgrade of the air conditioning system in the library with one unit changed to date.
- Request for upgrade of the circulations desk.
- Use of caution tape at select areas and non-skid mats at the circulations desk.
- Use of premiums such as flash drives and copy cards at library orientation.

<u>Budgetary allocation:</u>	\$1,011,113. 00
Expenditure to July 31, 2015	\$ 802, 644.07
Expenditure carried over from 2013-2014	\$ 140, 599.30

Monographs	Serials
\$568,667.99	\$93,416.78

- Books purchased: 703 (Donated:28)
- Subscriptions renewals: 51 (Electronic:12)
- Items sent for binding: 48 (Journals)
- Items copy catalogued: 631
- Theses scrutinized: 2

The income generating account which was set up for the Library for the receipt of fines/lost books/replacement charges and the receipt of monetary gifts, stood at \$41,121.11 as of July 31, 2015.

Employee Engagement and Development

Short UWI Training Courses Completed By IIR Staff - August 1, 2014 to July 31, 2015.

Prefix	Name	Grade	Course	Title	Start Date	End Date
Miss	Mc Alister, Ekana	Grade 9 Senior Secretary	C3232	E-Recruit(Admin Assistant)	12/02/2015	12/02/2015
Miss	Charles, Malika	Grade 4 Library Assistant 1	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	29/06/2015	30/06/2015
Miss	Melville, Carrill	Grade 5 Library Assistant 11	C3249	Microsoft Excel 2013	03/06/2015	05/06/2015
Miss	Melville, Carrill	Grade 5 Library Assistant 11	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	01/06/2015	02/06/2015
Ms	Modeste, Harriett	Grade 2 Office Attendant	C3249	Microsoft Excel 2013	15/07/2015	16/07/2015
Ms	Modeste, Harriett	Grade 2 Office Attendant	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	22/06/2015	23/06/2015
Mrs	Ramon- Fortuné, Marilyn	Grade 10 Snr Admin Assistant	C3232	E-Recruit(Admin Assistant)	15/01/2015	15/01/2015
Mrs	Ravello, Gina	Grade 4 Library Assistant 1	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	22/06/2015	23/06/2015
Mrs	Ravello, Gina	Grade 4 Library Assistant 1	C3249	Microsoft Excel 2013	10/06/2015	11/06/2015
Mrs	Ravello, Gina	Grade 4 Library Assistant 1	C3147	Banner Finance	19/01/2015	20/01/2015
Miss	Sandy, Corinne	Grade 6 Clerical Assistant 111	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	27/07/2015	28/07/2015
Miss	Sandy, Corinne	Grade 6 Clerical Assistant 111	C3075	Microsoft Word 2013	15/06/2015	16/06/2015
Dr	Scobie, Michelle	Lecturer	C3229	Career Transition & Succession	02/05/2014	02/05/2014

Other courses pursued by IIR staff

Prefix	Name	Grade	Title	Institution	Start Date	End Date	Certificate dated
Miss	Melville,Carrill	Grade 5 Library Assistant 11	Supervisory Management Workshop	SBCS	17/06/2015	18/06/2015	18/06/2015
Miss	Melville,Carrill	Grade 5 Library Assistant 11	Master of Science in Mediation Studies	UWI	17/06/2015	18/06/2015	10/11/2015
Mrs	Ramon-Fortuné,Marilyn	Grade 10 Snr Admin Assistant	Year 1 MSc in Strategic Leadership & Management	UWI	01/09/2014	Continuing	
Miss	Mc Alister,Ekana	Grade 9 Senior Secretary	Diplomacy and Protocol for Executive Assistants	DAOC	24/04/2015	24/04/2015	24/04/2015
Mr.	Joseph, Liu	Grade 6 Admin Asst II	ACCA Level 2	SAC	04/06/2015	Continuing	

Specialized courses pursued by the IIR library staff

Malika Charles

- A Tour of the World Bank E- library, Webinar, March 12, 2015

Cherill Farrell

- Creating staff Profiles and Proxies in Aleph, AJL, March 17, 2015
- International Association of University Libraries (IATUL): “Strategic Partnerships for Access and Discovery”, Hannover, Germany, 5 – 9 July, 2015.
- 11th Northumbria International Conference on Performance Measurement in Libraries and Information Services, Edinburgh, UK, 20-22 July, 2015.

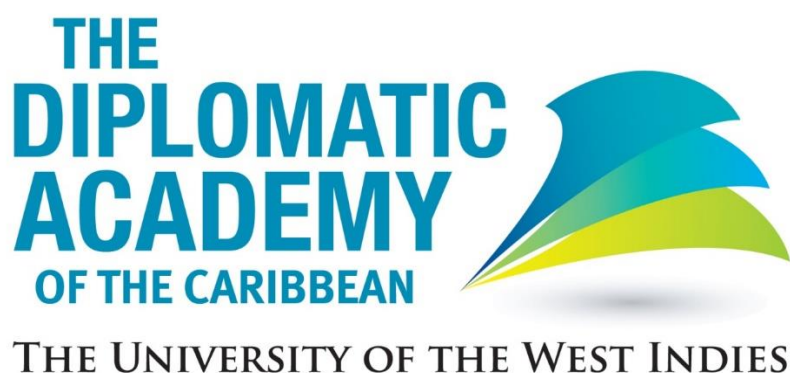
Specialized courses pursued by the IIR library staff (cont'd)

Carrill Melville

- A Tour of the World Bank E-library, Webinar, March 12, 2015.
- Creating Staff Profiles and Proxies in Aleph, AJL, March 17, 2015.
- Emerald- Guide to Getting Books Published, AJL, March 17, 2015.

Gina Ravello

- A Tour of the World Bank E-library, Webinar, March 12, 2015.



**Modules successfully completed from
August 2014 – December 2015**

Module 4: Understanding the United Nations

August 11-15, 2014

Thirteen (13) participants

Led by Ambassador **Walter Lichem** and **Professor W. Andy Knight**, this module provided participants with knowledge and understanding of the basic principles governing the United Nations system architecture, the United Nations founding values, the functioning of its main bodies such as the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, the articulation with countries' missions and the main issues and points of negotiation on several hot topics.



Participants with Mr. Richard Saunders - Campus Registrar and Facilitators: Amb. Walter Lichem and Prof. W. Andy Knight.



Facilitators: Amb. Walter Lichem and Prof. W. Andy Knight.

Module 5: **Intelligence, Statecraft and Multi-dimensional Security in the Caribbean**

September 8 -12, 2014

Twenty nine (29) participants

This module was led by **Professor Angela Gendron**, Senior Fellow at the Canadian Centre of Intelligence and Security Studies and **Professor Martin Rudner** of the Norman Paterson School of International Affairs, Carleton University, Ottawa and examined the role of intelligence in international affairs, and in support of diplomatic activities.

Module 6: **Summit Diplomacy: G7/8, G20, CARICOM, Summit of the Americas, CHOGM**

October 27 – 31, 2014

Fourteen (14) participants

The lead facilitator of this course was **John J. Kirton**, a professor of political science, founder and director of the G8 Research Group and the founder and co-director of the G20 Research Group, the BRICS Research Group and the Global Health Diplomacy Program, all based at the Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College in the University of Toronto.

This course was designed to enhance the ability of participants to shape the summit diplomacy in which their countries and communities participate and those which affect them, by exploring how and why such summits operate to produce results, the ways in which they can be influenced from inside and out, and how the summit systems can be institutionally strengthened to this end.

Module 7: ***The Rise of China and Its Impact on the Caribbean***

January 19 – 23, 2015

Thirteen (13) participants

The Rise of China and Its Impact on the Caribbean was facilitated by **Gordon Houlden**, Director of the China Institute Professor of Political Science at the Alberta School of Business University of Alberta. Partnering with him was **Ambassador Richard Bernal**, Alternate Executive Director Inter-American Development Bank.

The course aimed to equip participants with an understanding of China's rapid economic growth and the opportunities and challenges that this remarkable fluorescence presents for the Caribbean.



Facilitators

**Professor Gordon Houlden and
Ambassador Richard Bernal**

Module 8: ***The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Business, Politic, Culture***

January 26 – January 30, 2015

Twenty-one (21) participants

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Business, Politics, Culture was a collaboration with the Trinidad Saudi Chamber of Commerce (TSCC). It was led by **His Excellency Dr. Fahad Aldawood**, expert on the Saudi Judicial Apparatus & Law Enforcement System, Presenting Saudi Member at International Judicial Conferences and **Professor Brinsley Samaroo** who is a Senior Research Fellow at the Academy of the University of Trinidad and Tobago.

The course, which attracted former Minister in the Ministry of Gender, Youth and Child Development - Mrs. Raziah Ahmed, represented the first ever educational programme in the region designed to provide in-depth knowledge about the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and ways in which interested persons and organisations may effectively engage the Kingdom and pursue available opportunities.



His Excellency Dr. Fahad Aldawood addresses the class with the help of translator and Chairman of the Trinidad Saudi Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Umar Khan.

Module 2, Session 4 and 5: **Protocol and Diplomatic Law: Rules and Procedures**

March 2 – 6, 2015 and March 9 -13, 2015

One hundred and ten (110) participants.

The very popular module, **Protocol and Diplomatic Law: Rules and Procedures** was held in Barbados (in partnership with the Training Administration Unit) and Jamaica respectively. As done previously, the Diplomatic Academy partnered with *Protocol Partners, Washington Centre for Protocol*. The module was facilitated by **Gary Biggs**, Founding Partner and veteran protocol officer with over twenty seven (27) years' experience and **Lawrence Dunham**, Senior Associate and former U.S. Assistant Chief of Protocol (1989- 2005) .

The course aimed to raise awareness of the principles of international protocol and global business etiquette and develop the skills required to serve as a courteous and diplomatic representative of one's organization.



Module 10: **Global Hemispheric and Regional Security and Defence**

May 18 – 22, 2015

Twenty-four (24) participants.

Global Hemispheric and Regional Security and Defence was the collaborative effort of the Diplomatic Academy and the Office of the Vice-Chief of Defence Staff (VCDS) led by Brigadier-General Anthony Phillips-Spencer.

Module 10 was ably facilitated by **Dr Ann Fitz-Gerald**, Associate Professor in the United Kingdom's Cranfield University's Defence Academy, **Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith**, Ninth President of Fort Valley State University and **Brigadier-General Anthony Phillips-Spencer**.

The course was intended to equip participants with the requisite knowledge to ensure greater capacity for strategic security decision-making, policy formulation and implementation, or programme design and delivery. It attracted several foreign based Military Attachés and key persons from the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS).



Senator the Hon. Brig. Gen. Carl A. Alfonso, former Minister of National Security, shares a light moment with Brigadier-General Anthony Phillips-Spencer and participants of the course.

Module 12: **Looking Towards Latin America: Growing Together**

July 12 – 14, 2015

Twenty-one (21) participants attended this module.

Looking Towards Latin America: Growing Together was held in partnership with the Argentine Embassy and the country's National Foreign Service Institute (ISEN). It attracted participants from thirteen (13) Caribbean countries and aimed to familiarise attendees with various aspects of Latin American culture, inclusive of politics, regional integration and economic structure and highlighted the many ways in which interested persons and organisations could effectively engage the region and pursue available opportunities.

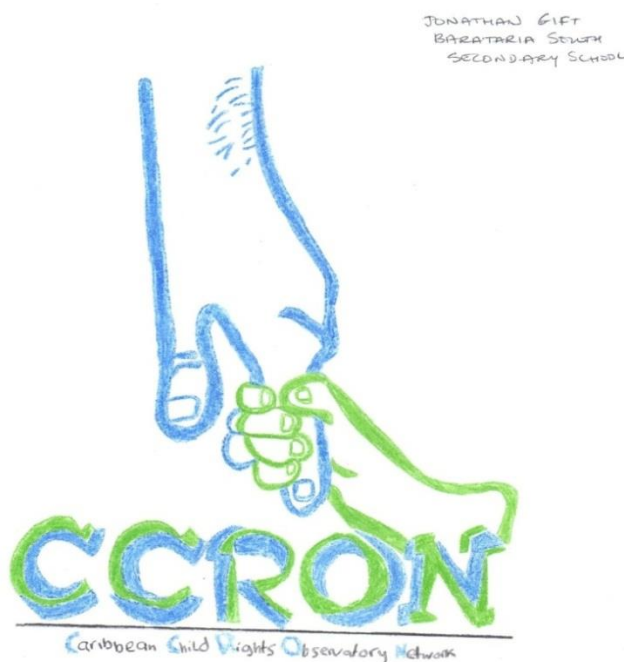


Ambassador Juan Valle Raleigh, Director of the ISEN (standing at furthest right) joins attendees for a photo op on graduation day.

Caribbean Child Rights Observatory Network

The Institute of International Relations won the bid to become the Hub of the Caribbean Child Rights Observatory Network (CCRON) in March 2014. In February 2015, CCRON launched a regional logo competition within Secondary Schools. The idea for the competition was not only to promote and showcase CCRON but more importantly to deepen students' knowledge on their rights and responsibilities under the CRC. The theme of the logo is **Children's Rights Awareness** and the winning design will be used on the CCRON website and in its official correspondence material. The competition officially closed on April 30, 2015. The judging panel comprised representation from regional bodies: Professor W. Andy Knight (IIR, T&T), Ms. Ceceile Minott (UWI Open Campus, Jamaica) Ms. Beverly Reynolds (CARICOM Secretariat, Guyana) and Mr. Patrick Knight (UNICEF, Barbados). The three winners were selected from an initial pool of over 60 entries from 5 regional countries: Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Belize, Guyana and Jamaica. They produced logos that were original, creative and representative of the aims of CCRON and theme of the competition.

First Place: Mr. Jonathan Gift, Barataria South Secondary School (T&T)



Second Place: Mr. Josiah Dubarry, Barataria South Secondary School (T&T)

JOSIAH DUBARRY
BARATARIA SOUTH
SECONDARY



Third Place: Ms. Christina Aldana, Saint Catherine Academy (Belize)



The following students were especially commended for their great efforts and deep thought which was evident in their pieces and descriptions:

- Ms. Neeshana Bhola, ASJA Girls College (T&T)
- Ms. Isake Perez, Saint Catherine Academy (Belize)
- Ms. Shenalice Richards, St. James Secondary School (T&T)

The official award ceremony for the first and second place winners Mr. Jonathan Gift and Mr. Josiah Dubarry took place at Institute of International Relations (IIR) on Thursday 25th June at 2pm. The UNICEF Representative for the Eastern Caribbean Ms. Khin-Sandi Lwin, Director and IIR Director, Professor W. Andy Knight and other CCRON members were in attendance at this award ceremony. The third place winner was awarded her prize at an official ceremony held in Belize in September 2015 by UNICEF representative.

IIR LIBRARY OUTREACH

In collaboration with the Alma Jordan Library, the IIR Library engaged in the handling of a request from the Federative Republic of Brazil in Port of Spain with regard to making the Embassy's collection visible to users of the University through the Campus Libraries Integrated Library System (ILS) and the setting up of an inter library loan facility. Correspondence was sent by the IIR Librarian to Dr. Jo-anne Ferreira and Dr. Nicole Roberts with regard to this initiative.

On Thursday 13th November, 2014 the Library hosted its second session in the discussion series "*Bibliochats*". This instalment featured an hour long discussion by Dr. Debbie Mohammed on her publication *The CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement: Impediment or Development Opportunity for CARICOM SIDS?*

With the launch of the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean and the Caribbean Child Rights Observatory Network (CCRON), the IIR Library has now extended its services to these centres of teaching and research.

Memoranda of Understanding

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean. The objective of the MOU is to provide a cooperative framework within which the parties can develop and implement thematic areas for collaboration. They include, inter alia, the following:

- Conference Diplomacy and multilateral negotiations, include drafting resolutions, chairing international conferences, rules of procedure and introduction to the UN System;
- Skills development in negotiation, cosmopolitan communication, facilitation and mediation, leadership, public speaking and media relations;
- Content based workshops on the United Nations System, conference diplomacy, climate change diplomacy, trade and economic diplomacy, human rights diplomacy.

The Ministry of the Peoples Power of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and The University of the West Indies for the creation of a Bolivarian Chair at The UWI. The modalities of cooperation include:

- Development of thematic courses/modules that will be conducted via classroom teaching.
- The arrangement of feature presentations, conferences and round table discussions with specially invited academics from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago as well as other designated countries.

The Higher Institute of International Relations (Cuba) and The UWI through the Institute of International Relations:

- Academic visits incorporating short and long term visits of scholars.

- Joint research and development activities including assistance with the development of relevant Centres within each institution.
- Participating and co-sponsoring of international conferences, seminars, workshops, academic meetings and joint issues of academic journals.
- Participating of students in summer/winter educational programs of a short term nature.
- Program collaboration and teaching at the undergraduate and postgraduate level and in the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean.
- Development of joint PhD and MSc. Programs in International Relations and global politics.

The UWI, Cave Hill, Barbados and the *Institute of International Relations, The UWI, St. Augustine Campus* which sought to clarify the relationship and expectations between the parties as collaborators on the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) funded project 'The Evaluation of the Port of Spain Declaration' Grant No. 107604-001. This was signed in February 2015.

The Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and *The Institute of International Relations, The UWI, St. Augustine* signed on the June 5, 2015.

The cooperation inter alia include:

- Exchange of information of structure and content of training programmes for diplomats;
- Identification of experts in mutually agreed areas.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Mexican States through the Matías Romero Institute (IMR) and *The University of the West Indies through the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean* to carry out activities of collaboration in the field of diplomatic training under the principles of reciprocity and mutual benefits.

The Institute of International Relations and the *Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals* to submit a proposal for a collaborative project H2020-INT-2014-2015 – Topic: 'The cultural, scientific and social dimension of EU-LAC relations' under the 'Horizon 2020 Framework'.

Past Activities

AUGUST 2014

Monday 11th - Friday 15th August, 2014

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 4: *Understanding the United Nations*.

Sunday 17th - Sunday 24th August, 2014

IIR students Study Trip 2014 to Cuba and Panama.

SEPTEMBER 2014

Monday 8th - Friday 12th September, 2014

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 5: *Intelligence, Statecraft and Multidimensional Security in the Caribbean*.

Wednesday 10th - Thursday 11th September, 2014

IIR collaboration with Project Ploughshares on an IDRC funded project - Private Security Industry in the Caribbean and Latin America.

OCTOBER 2014

Thursday 2nd October, 2014.

Prof. Abdelwahab Hechiche delivered the lecture "Arab/Israeli Conflict: Towards a Peaceful Resolution of the Crisis".

Tuesday 7th October, 2014

The Caribbean Child Rights Observatory Network (CCRON) and UNICEF Office for the Eastern Caribbean Area hosted a discussion on the Use of Data and Technology for informing Children's Policy. Speakers included Jamir Nazar, Director of Policy, Strategy and Government Performance Management Division at the Office of the Prime Minister;

Asia Jutla, a public servant; Kenfield Griffith, entrepreneur and a 16-year old secondary school student who showed how his generation is navigating through the multiple platforms available to keep issues critical to children on the public agenda.

Wednesday 8th October, 2014

A meeting was held with the President of the Republic of Haiti – Excellency Michel Martelly, a committee of academics, senior administrative staff and few postgraduate students of The University of the West Indies, on the topic “Education Policy of President Martelly in Haiti”.

Thursday 9th October, 2014

The International Development Research Centre of Canada (IDRC), in collaboration with the Institute of International Relations (IIR) at the University of the West Indies (UWI), hosted a working breakfast on “The Role of Research and Partnerships in Stimulating Competitiveness and Innovation in the Americas” – Guest Speaker Dr. Howard Alper, Chair of the Government of Canada’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Council (STIC), and Distinguished University Professor at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Alper spoke on “The Changing Landscape for Partnerships and International Collaboration in Research for Development in the Americas” (Specially Invited Guests Only).

Monday 20th - Friday 24th October, 2014

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 2, Session 3: *Protocol and Diplomatic Law: Rules and Procedures*.

Tuesday 21st October, 2014

Workshop on “Challenges in the Energy Sector: The Case of the Caribbean”

Monday 27th - Friday 31st October, 2014

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 6: *Summit Diplomacy: G7/8, G20, CARICOM, Summit of the Americas, CHOGM*.

NOVEMBER 2014

Friday 21st November, 2014

Dr. Svend E. Hougaard Jensen, Professor of Economics at Copenhagen Business School presented a special lecture on the topic “Fiscal Policy and Banking Union in the Euro Area: Implications for the Caribbean”.

JANUARY 2015

Monday 19th January, 2015

Special Lecture entitled “Caribbean Regionalism in the Context of Economic Challenges” by the Right Honourable Owen Arthur, M.P. Former Prime Minister of Barbados.

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd January, 2015

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 7: *The Rise of China and its impact on the Caribbean.*

Monday 26th - Friday 30th January, 2015

Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 8: *The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Business, Politics and Culture.*

MARCH 2015

Monday 2nd - Friday 6th March, 2015

The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 2, Session 4: *Protocol and Diplomatic Law: Rules and Procedures*, was held in Barbados, in collaboration with The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Barbados.

Tuesday 3rd - Wednesday 4th March, 2015

At the ILO 9th Sub-Regional Meeting of Ministers in Nassau, Bahamas “Decent Work for Sustainable Development”, Professor Knight served on a panel session “International Meetings” on Wednesday 4th March, to introduce the Master of Labour Diplomacies.

Monday 9th - Friday 13th March, 2015

The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 2, Session 5: Protocol and Diplomatic Law: Rules and Procedures; held in collaboration with The UWI Mona Campus, Jamaica.

Tuesday 10th March, 2015

“What Happened to the Arab Spring?” (Round Table Discussion) and “The ISIS Phenomenon in Syria and Iraq” (Public Lecture) featured Dr. Mojtaba Mahdavi from the University of Alberta.

Thursday 19th - Friday 20th March, 2015

MSc Research Seminar Presentations.

Tuesday 24th - Thursday 26th March, 2015

Delegation of IIR students attended the 33rd Model OAS General Assembly in St. Kitts.

Tuesday 31st March, 2015

IIR in association with The Embassy of The People’s Republic of China to Trinidad and Tobago hosted an open seminar “The Evolution of China’s Foreign Policy” featuring Mr. Yuan Peng, Vice President of China Institute of Contemporary International Relations.

APRIL 2015

Thursday 9th - Saturday 11th April, 2015

Professor Knight attends the Universities President’s Forum at the 7th Summit of the Americas in Panama City, Panama.

Tuesday 21st April, 2015

Book Launch: *Legal Rights of the Poor Foundations of Inclusive and Sustainable Prosperity* written by Dr. Naresh Singh, International Development Advisor

Friday 24th April, 2015

Diplomatic Academy's one day workshop (in association with the Office of Institutional Advancement and Internationalisation and the Institute of Critical Thinking), entitled: "Diplomacy and Protocol for Executive Assistants".

Monday 27th April - Friday 1st May, 2015

Professor Knight visited South Korea, as a part of the Korea Foundation (KF) Visit for Distinguished Individuals in Academia.

MAY 2015

Tuesday 5th May, 2015

DAOC welcomes intern Ms. Khalida Saalim.

Tuesday 5th - Friday 8th May, 2015

Forum of the Future of the Caribbean held at the Teaching and Learning Complex, The UWI and the Hyatt Regency Trinidad featured speakers from the IIR - Prof. W. Andy Knight, Dr. Matthew Bishop and Dr. Jacqueline Laguardia Martínez.

Friday 15th May, 2015

One year Anniversary of the Caribbean Child Rights Observatory Network.

Monday 18th - Friday 22nd May, 2015

The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 10: *Regional Hemispheric and International Security*.

Thursday 28th May, 2015

IIR in collaboration with The DOAC hosted a seminar on the topic “Cuba’s Foreign Policy after the Normalisation of US/Cuba Relations” featuring Ambassador Isabel Allende Karam – Director of The Raúl Roa García Higher Institute of International Relations, Cuba.

JUNE 2015

Wednesday 3rd June, 2015

Roundtable Discussion on the topic “GUYANA – A Review of the 2015 Elections and Perspectives on the Way Forward.” Feature speakers: Dr. Mark Kirton – Senior Lecturer, IIR; Dr. Arif Bulkan – Deputy Dean, Faculty of Law; Mr. Clement Henry - PhD Student, IIR; Mr. Andy Johnson – Media Practitioner.

Tuesday 16th - Thursday 18th June, 2015

The UWI Open Day was held at the JFK Undercroft. This event is hosted for any persons wishing to become a part of The UWI family and to give more information on what life as a UWI student entails, for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. The Institute of International Relations had a booth at this event and members of the IIR staff were present to give insight on the programmes offered at the Institute. Prospective students also had the opportunity to apply for programmes during this three-day period.

Thursday 25th June, 2015

CCRON Logo Competition – Award Ceremony held at the IIR Board Room.

Friday 26th June, 2015

IIR Board Meeting held at the IIR Board Room.

JULY 2015

Monday 13th July - Friday 16th July, 2015

The Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean Module 12: *Looking Towards Latin America: Growing Together.*

D. Projected Activities for the 2015/2016 academic year

Institute of International Relations 50th Anniversary Celebrations

- Book launch: *History of the IIR* written by Dr. Mark Kirton and Dr. Khellon Q. Roach.
- Black tie dinner and reception
- Alumni Reunion

Proposed new areas of activity

- Renaming of the IIR Library to “Norman Girvan Library” in honour of the late Professor Norman Girvan.
- Renaming of the IIR Boardroom to “Yves Collart Boardroom” in honour of the late Professor Yves Collart.
- Renaming of the DAOC Boardroom to “Hans Geiser Boardroom” in honour of the late Dr. Hans Geiser.

Planned events /special initiatives

- The continued hosting of “Bibliochats” and film screenings in the Library.

Planned restructuring of functions/activities in the Library:

- Taking on board functions and responsibilities of a Grade 9, Library Assistant III with the removal of a position of Librarian.
- Changes to TAB 16 of Aleph for the IIR Library with regard to Reserve Overnight and Seven day loans for ATS Staff.
- Redesign and rebuilding of the Circulations desk for more efficient operations.
- Review of the collection of Student Seminar papers during the academic year 2015 to 2016.
- Upgrade of the library’s furniture.

Modules to be delivered by the Diplomatic Academy of the Caribbean:

2015

- Labour Diplomacy
- Digital Diplomacy (2-day Teaser)
- Protocol and Diplomatic Law

2016

- Global Health Diplomacy
- Protocol and Diplomatic Law
- Military Protocol
- The Art of Diplomatic Communication
- Digital Diplomacy
- Labour Diplomacy
- Aligning International Law with Domestic Law
- Mediation – Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in the Caribbean – Building Resilience
- Small States and Trade Diplomacy – The Caribbean Perspective
- Shifts in Hegemony
- The EU, Latin America and the Caribbean
- Mainstreaming Gender
- Security Intelligence – Regional Security
- Intelligence, Statecraft and Multidimensional Security in the Caribbean

E. Distinguished Visitors to the Institute of International Relations

Ms. Diane Abbott

Member of Parliament for Hackney North and Stoke Newington
House of Commons
London

Senator The Honourable Raziah Ahmed

President of Senate
Trinidad and Tobago

Senator the Hon. Brig. Gen. Carl A. Alfonso

Minister of National Security
Ministry of National Security
Trinidad and Tobago

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Chief of Strategic Outreach
William J. Perry Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies

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Embassy of Israel,
New York

The Right Honourable Owen Arthur

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Barbados

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Executive Partner
Fortitude Partners

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President of the Emancipation Foundation and Portal ALBA
The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Dr. Genevieve Boucaud

Associate Dean of Distance Education
University of the Southern Caribbean

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Technical Director
International Nuclear Services
UK

Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Brown

Defence Attaché Caribbean
United Kingdom

Colonel Claudia J. Carrizales

Military Liaison Office
Embassy of the United States of America

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Ambassador
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Dr. Ivelaw Griffith

President
Fort Valley State University
Georgia, USA

Prof. Abdelwahab Hechiche

Professor
University of South Florida
USA

H.E. Jan Henderson

High Commissioner
New Zealand High Commission to the Caribbean

Prof. Svend F. Hougaard Jensen

Copenhagen Business School
Denmark

Mr. Gordon Houlden

Director
China Institute at University of Alberta
Canada

Dr. M. Raymond Izarali

Associate Professor
Department of Criminology
Wilfrid Laurier University
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Rosalind Howells

The Baroness Howells of St. Davids OBE
House of Lords
London

H.E. Daven Joseph

Ambassador
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Ms Candyce Kelshall

Doctoral Research Fellow
The University of Buckingham, Centre for Security and Intelligence Studies
United Kingdom

Mr. Renny Khan

Director of International Programmes
Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry
University of Alberta

Prof. John J. Kirton

Co-Founder and Director, G7 and G8 Research Group and
Founder and Co-Director, G20 Research Group
Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College
University of Toronto
Canada

Ms. Madeline Koch

Managing Director G7 and G8 Research, the G20 Research Group, the BRICS
Research Group and the Global Health Diplomacy Program
Munk School of Global Affairs at Trinity College
University of Toronto
Canada

Mr. Takashi Komatsu

Overseas Reprocessing Committee
Japan

Dr. Sylvan Lashley

Dean
University of the Southern Caribbean

Justice Anthony Lucky

Judge
International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
Hamburg, Germany

Professor Mojtaba Mahdavi

ECMC Chair of Islamic Studies and
Associate Professor of Political Science
Department of Political Science
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Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
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House of Lords
London

Prof. Monica Suiz

Portal ALBA
The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

H.E. Huang Xingyuan

Ambassador
Embassy of the People's Republic of China

APPENDIX 1 – CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS & PUBLICATIONS

Conference Presentation

M.L. Bishop

Global Development Beyond the Rise of the BRICS
British International Studies Association Annual Conference,
London, England, June 2015

M.L. Bishop and W. A. Knight

Hegemonic Transitions in the Caribbean?
International Studies Association Global South Caucus
Singapore, January 2015

M.L. Bishop

The Intellectual Crisis in the WTO and Global Trade Governance
International Studies Association Conference
Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 2015

M.L. Bishop

Deepening sub-regional governance amidst regional disintegration: the curious case of
the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)
International Studies Association Conference
Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 2015

G. Chami

Discussant, Panel on Labour, Management and Development
Department of Behavioural Sciences Second Postgraduate Conference
The UWI, St. Augustine Campus, April 9-10, 2015.

G. Chami

Governance & Security in an Age of Global Flux
Eighth Global Studies Community Conference
Imperial College, United Kingdom, July 20 – 21, 2015.

M. Kirton

Changing Pathways in Latin America/Caribbean Relations: Challenges for the 21st
Century.
Conference Chair in Caribbean Studies
University of Havana, Cuba, December 8, 2014

W. A. Knight

A Political Economy Analysis of Non-Communicable Diseases
Forum of Key Stakeholders on NCDs: Advancing the NCD Agenda in the Caribbean
Barbados, 8-9 June 2015.

Refereed Publications

V. Muzaka and **M.L. Bishop** (2015) Doha Stalemate: The End of Trade Multilateralism? *Review of International Studies* 41 no. 2: 383-406. DOI: [10.1017/S0260210514000266](https://doi.org/10.1017/S0260210514000266)

Chami, G. (2014) The Caribbean and the G20: The Search for an Engagement Framework. *Anuario de la Integración Regional de America Latina y el Caribe* 10: 465-486.

Kirton, M and Marlon Anatol (2015) Current Trends in Caribbean Cooperation in the War on Drugs: A Study of Guyana. In *Cooperation and Drug Policies in the Americas: Trends in the 21st Century*. Eds. Roberto Zepeda and Jonathan Rosen. Lexington Books. ISBN 978-0-7391-9597-0

Knight, W. A. (2015) The Responsibility to Protect: From Evolving Norm to Practice. In *Unsettled Balance: Ethics, Security and Canada's International Relations*. Ed. Rosalind Warner. UBC Press. ISBN 9780774828659.

Knight, W. A. (2014) Aligning UN Development Efforts and Peacebuilding. In *Post-2015 UN Development: Making Change Happen?* Eds. Stephen Browne & Thomas G. Weiss. Routledge. ISBN 978-0-415-85662-1.

Knight, W. A. (2014) From Hegemony to Post Hegemony. In *From Unipolar to Multipolar: The Remaking of Global Hegemony*. *IDEAZ Journal*, Special issue, 10-12: 1-10.

Laguardia Martínez, J. (2015) Las relaciones Cuba - CARICOM: Presente y futuro en un entorno cambiante. *El ALBA-TCP: origen y fruto del nuevo regionalismo latinoamericano y caribeño*. CLACSO. ISBN 9789877220780.

Laguardia Martínez, J. 2015. Las actuales transformaciones en Cuba y sus efectos en las relaciones Cuba-CARICOM. *Memorias. Revista Digital de Historia y Arqueología desde el Caribe* 11 no. 25: 242-248 DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.14482/memor.25.1.6723>.

Laguardia Martínez, J. 2014. La Integración Económica en África” in *Integración Económica Internacional. Teoría del comercio internacional, política comercial y proteccionismo económico*. Ed. Gabriel Horacio Sueldo Editorial del Consejo Profesional de Ciencias Económicas de Buenos Aires, EDICON. ISBN 978-987-660-220-4.

Non- Refereed Publications and Related Works

Bishop, M.L. (2015) Reforming FIFA? *SPERI Comment*, 15 June.

Bishop, M.L. (2015) Non-Doms: Keeping the Baby; Losing the Bathwater. *SPERI Comment*, 14 April.

Bishop, M.L. (2015) Osbornomics”: Forever Blowing Bubbles? *SPERI Comment*, 30 March.

Bishop, M.L. (2015) Singaporean Lessons? *SPERI Comment*, 24 February.

Bishop, M.L. (2015) The New Geopolitical Economy of Oil in the Americas’, *SPERI Comment*, 27 January.

Bishop, M.L. (2014) Defending the Market? *SPERI Comment*, 12 November.

Bishop, M.L. (2014) What is Labour’s Narrative? *SPERI Comment*, 7 August.

Kirton, M. (2014) Los Pequeños Estados en el proceso de integración sudamericana: Guyana y Surinam en la Unasur. In *El Caribe, sus islas y el difícil camino de independencia, identidad e integración*. Instituto Cubano Del Libro - Editorial de Ciencias Sociales. ISBN: 978-959-06-1519-1.

Laguardia Martínez, J. (2014) Ed. El Caribe, sus islas y el difícil camino de independencia, identidad e integración. Instituto Cubano Del Libro - Editorial de Ciencias Sociales. ISBN: 978-959-06-1519-1.

Montoute, A. (2015) CARICOM’s External Engagements: Prospects and Challenges for Caribbean Regional Integration and Development. *The German Marshall Fund of the United States, OCP Policy Center, Wider Atlantic Program, Policy Brief: 1- 8.*

Montoute, A. (2014) New paradigm, greater collaboration? The Caribbean and Latin America in a globalizing world. In Atlantic vs. Pacific?: Latin America and the Caribbean, regional changes and global challenges, Yearbook of Regional Integration of Latin America and the Caribbean. Eds. Andrés Serbin, Laneydi Martínez and Haroldo Ramanzini Júnior. *Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales (CRIES)* 10: 109-128. ISBN 980-317-196-8.



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