



53rd Convocation

Saturday, November 16, 2019

10:00 h and 16:00 h

*University Square
Turkeyen Campus
Greater Georgetown*

Aims of The University of Guyana

The aims of the University are to provide a place of education, learning and research of a standard required and expected of a university of the highest standard, and to secure the advancement of knowledge and the diffusion and extension of arts, sciences and learning throughout Guyana.

(University of Guyana Act, Chapter 39:02, Act 6 of 1963 Amended by 5 of 1965, O. 14/1965, Section 4;21 of 1977, 19 of 1993 and 14 of 1995.)

Mission Statement of The University of Guyana

The mission of the University of Guyana is to discover, generate, disseminate, and apply knowledge of the highest standard for the service of the community, the nation, and of all mankind within an atmosphere of academic freedom that allows for free and critical enquiry

(Academic Board, 2001)

Historical Note

The University of Guyana is Guyana's sole national higher education institution. It was established in April 1963 with the following Mission: "To discover, generate, disseminate, and apply knowledge of the highest standard for the service of the community, the nation, and of all mankind within an atmosphere of academic freedom that allows for free and critical enquiry." It began its operations in October of the same year at Queens College, the nation's premier secondary school, before moving to the Turkeyen Campus in 1970. At first, programmes were confined to the Arts, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences. A Faculty of Education was created in 1967, and this was followed by the Faculty of Technology in 1969, the Institute for Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE), in 1975, the Faculty of Agriculture in 1977, and the Faculty of Health Sciences in 1981, the latter as an outgrowth of Natural Sciences.

A Forestry Unit was established in 1987 and it subsequently became part of the Faculty of Agriculture, and in 2003 the Faculties of Arts and Education merged to become the School of Education and Humanities. Additionally, the turn of the millennium saw the formation of the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (SEES), born of the merger of the Geography Department and the Environmental Studies Unit. Also created were the Biodiversity Centre, which is pertinent to the activities pursued by SEES, the Faculty of Natural Sciences, and the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, and a Centre for Information Technology (CIT), which serves the entire university. The University of Guyana expanded in 2000 with the addition of the Berbice Campus at Tain. In October 2016, as part of a broader reorganisation, which is discussed below, SEES was transformed into the Faculty of Earth and Environmental Studies, with a Dean, rather than a Director, as academic and administrative head of the unit.

The University of Guyana now offers more than 120 undergraduate and graduate (post-graduate) programmes, including in Natural Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Forestry, Urban Planning and Management, Tourism Studies, Education, Creative Arts, Economics, Law, Medicine, Optometry and Nursing. The 2017-2018 academic year witnessed the introduction of several new undergraduate and graduate programmes, including ones in Psychology, Agro-technology and Business, Entrepreneurship, Supply Chain Management, and Visual Communications and Social Work. Several online programmes are available, as are extra-mural classes through the IDCE at four locations--in the city of Georgetown and the towns of Anna Regina, Essequibo, Region 2; Linden, Upper Demerara, Region 10; and New Amsterdam, Berbice, Region 6. The institution has a 2018 enrollment of just over 8,000 students from all 10 administrative regions and it has graduated more than

22,000 students, who have gone on to successful careers locally, regionally and internationally in all professional fields of endeavor. The University also is a major contributor to the public and private sectors and to the national economy.

The University of Guyana offers certificate, diploma, associate degree, undergraduate degree, graduate (post-graduate) degree, and professional degree programs. These programmes are delivered through the following eight organisational units: seven Faculties and one School, each of which is headed by a Dean: Agriculture and Forestry; Earth and Environmental Studies; Education and Humanities; Health Sciences, with a School of Medicine; Natural Sciences; Social Sciences; and Engineering and Technology. The newest unit, the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI), was established in June 2017. The 2016-2017 academic year also witnessed the launch of Turkeyen and Tain Talks as a bi-monthly series to facilitate conversations with the community on important national and international subjects, establishment of the Undergraduate Research Programmes and the hosting of successful inaugural student research conferences at Turkeyen and Tain, and founding of the The University of Guyana Press, as part of efforts to boost research and scholarship.

CONVOCATION INNOVATIONS

For the first time in the history of the university, the certificates, diplomas and degrees were awarded at two ceremonies in 2017. The ceremony for the Faculties of Agriculture and Forestry, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Technology, was held at the National Cultural Center (NCC) at 10:00 h, while the ceremony for the Faculties of Education and Humanities, Health Sciences, and Social Sciences was at the Sophia Exhibition Centre, at 16:30 h.

Additionally, unlike previous years, all students graduating with diplomas wore academic robes, along with those graduating with Bachelors and Masters degrees. Another new feature at last year's Convocations was the use of ceremonial gonfalons, which are banners, often shield-shaped, that hang from crosspieces on top of poles. These banners are usually carried at the head of the Convocation procession and identify the different Faculties within the university from which students are graduating.

In 2018, three ceremonies were held at the National Cultural Center. The first ceremony was held at 9:00 h, and will feature the Faculties of Agriculture and Forestry, Earth and Environmental Sciences and Education and Humanities, The second ceremony, for the Faculties of Engineering and Technology, Health Sciences and Natural Sciences, was held at 13:00 h. While the largest of the three ceremonies was held at 17:00 h for the Faculty of Social Sciences and the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation.

And for the first time in 55 years, the institution awarded Honorary Doctorate Degrees. The recipients were Mr Edmond (Eddy) Grant for Excellence in Music and Civic Engagement; Mr Yesu Persaud for Iconic Leadership in Business and Banking; Mr Jairaj "Jay" Sobhraj for Excellence in Entrepreneurship and Philanthropy and Ms Laura George for Outstanding Community Development & Advocacy.

Chancellor



Professor John Edward Greene

ABOUT Professor John Edward Greene

John Edward Greene, currently CEO, Global Frontier Development and Advisory Services (GOFAD) a Think Tank, is former UN Secretary General Special Envoy for HIV in the Caribbean 2012-2017. He was previously Assistant Secretary General, Human and Social Development, at the Caribbean Community Secretariat (2000-2010) and Senior Adviser, Public Policy, Health and Human Development, PAHO/WHO (1995-1999). His distinguished academic career at UWI included: Pro Vice Chancellor, Development and Alumni Relations, University Director, Institute of Social and Economic Relations (ISER), Interim Director, Consortium Graduate School for the Social Sciences in the Caribbean (1984-1986) appointments to the rank of Professor (1988), and Inaugural Professorial Fellow, ISER (1994). He has authored 10 books and over 60 articles in refereed journals and is Professor Emeritus of UWI. He holds a B.Sc. in Economics (University of London), MSc Political Economy (Mc Master University) and Ph.D. (University of British Columbia) and held visiting Professorship at UCLA, University of Havana, and University of British Columbia.

Professor Greene has played pioneering roles in: (a) establishing the Consortium of Graduate Studies in the Social Sciences in the Caribbean, an innovative multidisciplinary enterprise linking the Universities of the West Indies, Guyana and Suriname (1985); (b) expanding Alumni Relations and leading successful fund raising campaigns at UWI (1989-1994); (c) expanding research collaboration and international partnerships with Universities and Development Agencies in North America, Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America (1985-1994). He is also credited with leadership roles in the establishment of major regional initiatives such as (a) developing the blue print for the Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP), designated an international best practice by the UN in 2004; (b) the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Medical and other Health Professionals 2004, (c) the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), 2013, the Every Caribbean Woman Every Child Programme being championed by the Spouses of CARICOM Leaders Action Network (SCLAN) (2017) and the PANCAP Justice For All Programme engaging regional parliamentarians, faith leaders, representatives of the private sector, youth, civil society and key Populations (2013-2019).

Professor Greene was Adviser in social policy development to

many Caribbean governments and served on many prestigious Boards. These include: Director to the Canadian International Institute for Peace and Security, and Consultant to several international agencies including the World Bank, IDB, The European Union, UNDP, UNESCO. He was a member of Member of the Commonwealth Secretariat High Level Panel for South-South Cooperation in Higher Education, the UNAIDS/ Lancet Commission on Defeating AIDS- Achieving Sustainable Health. He was also Chair of the CARICOM Steering Committee for Climate Change and Sustainable Development. He is the recipient of numerous awards, including national honours Golden Arrow of Achievement from Guyana and the second highest honour, the Yellow Star from Suriname. He also received the prestigious PAHO/WHO Award for Administration in Public Health (2011); the Sir Phillip Sherlock Award from the University of the West Indies and University of Technology, Jamaica for outstanding contribution to Health and Development (2012), the Institute of Caribbean Studies, Caribbean American Heritage Award for Public Service (2016) and the Honorary Doctor of Laws from UWI for outstanding academic and public service (2017).

Pro-Chancellor



Major General (ret'd) Joseph G. Singh

ABOUT Major General (ret'd) Joseph Singh

He was the Special Assistant to three Presidents of Guyana (2010 -2017) and held the Chairmanship of several State and autonomous Boards including the National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute, the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission, and the National Protected Areas Trust. He was CEO of the Guyana Telephone & Telegraph Company (2005 – 2010), Executive Director of Conservation International Guyana (2001 – 2005), Chairman of the Guyana Elections Commission (2000 – 2001), Director General of the Guyana National Service (1981-1990), and Chief of Staff of the Guyana Defence Force (1990 – 2000).

He is an alumnus of Queen's College, the University of Guyana (Public Administration), the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences of the University of Greenwich (MSc & Protected Areas Management), the British Army Staff College, and the Royal College of Defence Studies (post graduate in International Affairs & Strategic Studies). He is a Fellow of the UK Chartered Management Institute (FCMI) and a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS).

He is the recipient of Guyana's highest military award - the Military Service Star (MSS) and national and military awards from Brazil, Venezuela, Suriname, Cuba, France, and is an Officer of the Order of the Golden Ark of the Netherlands (for work in global conservation).

He is a published author on a wide range of topics for local, regional and peer-reviewed international publications. Since 2007 he has been a Member of the Regional Eminent Persons Selection Panel for the AN Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence. He is a Trustee of the Moray House Trust, Patron of the Guyana Heritage Society, the local representative of the UK Scientific Exploration Society, a Member of the Global Military Advisory Council on

Climate Change, an Honorary Elder (since 1969) of the Wai Wai community in the upper Essequibo, the Chancellor's Representative on the Council of the University of Guyana (since 2016), and was unanimously elected by the University Council on March 8, 2018 as the Pro Chancellor for a period of three years.

He is married to Carolyn (1971) and they have one son, daughter in law and three grandchildren.

He is also a Member of the Board of the Institute of Private Enterprise Development (IPED), and Chairman of the Kidney Foundation of Guyana.



Officers of the University

Pro-Chancellor

Major General (ret'd) Joseph Singh

MSS; MSc; FCMI; FRGS

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Philanthropy, Alumni and Civic Engagement) & Chair (Transitional Management Committee)

Professor Paloma Mohamed-Martin, A.A.

BSocSc; MSc; PhD, M.S.; SCL

Registrar

Dr C. Nigel Gravesande

BA; MA; PhD

Bursar

Ms Holda Poonai

BSocSC; ACCA

Director, Berbice Campus

Professor Gomathinayagam Subramanian, A.A.

BSc; MSc; PhD

Dean, Agriculture and Forestry

Dr Lawrence Lewis

Bsc, Msc; PhD

Dean, Earth & Environmental Sciences

Dr Temitope Oyedotun

BSc; MSc; PhD

Dean, Education & Humanities

Mr M Creighton

BA Hons. UWI; MS

Dean, Engineering & Technology

Ms Vertyn Klass

BSc; Msc

Officers of the University (cont'd)

**Dean
Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation**

Professor Leyland Lucas
BSocSc; PostGradDip; MBA; PhD

Dean, Health Sciences

Dr Emanuel Cummings
PhD (UK), DVM, MSc, Dip Ed, DIH

Dean, Natural Sciences

Dr Troy Thomas
BSc; PostGradDip; MSc; MSSc; PhD

Dean, Social Sciences

Mr Hector Edwards
BSocSc; MSocSc; MBA

**Director
Institute of Distance and Continuing Education**

Dr Jacqueline Murray
BSocSc; MSc; MEd, PhD



First Ceremony
10:00 h

The University Procession

Academic Festival Overture

(Composer Johannes Brahms)

Participants will appear in the following order:

Assistant Marshal

University of Guyana Students' Society Executive

Assistant Dean

Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry
Agriculture & Forestry Graduands

Assistant Dean

Faculty of Earth & Environmental Sciences
Earth & Environmental Sciences Graduands

Assistant Dean

Faculty of Education & Humanities
Education & Humanities Graduands

Assistant Dean

Faculty Engineering and Technology
Engineering & Technology Graduands

Assistant Dean

Faculty of Natural Sciences
Natural Sciences Graduands

Resident Coordinator

Institute of Distance and Continuing Education
IDCE Graduand

The Chancellor's Procession

Participants will appear in the following order:

Registrar

Librarian

Deans of Faculties/School

Directors

President, University of Guyana Students' Society

Chief Marshal

Members of Academic Staff

Bursar

Deputy Vice-Chancellor - PACE

Keynote Speaker

Mace-Bearer

Pro-Chancellor

Members of the audience are asked to stand as the Chancellor's Procession enters the university square and to resume their seats when requested by the Registrar to do so after the National Anthem has been played and the Mace has been rested.

Order of Proceedings

National Anthem

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

Opening of the Ceremony

Pro-Chancellor

Major General (ret'd) Joseph G. Singh

The Installation

*of
Chancellor*

Professor John Edward Greene

Bsc; MSc; PhD

Musical Rendition

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

Feature Address

Professor John Edward Greene

Chancellor

University of Guyana

Musical Rendition

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

Presentation of Graduands

Conferring of Degrees

*The Registrar will request that the Chancellor
confer the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates*

Order of Proceedings (cont 'd)

Musical Rendition

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

Announcement of Winners of Prizes
The Registrar

Valedictory Address

**The Winner of The President Medal
(Best Graduating Student)**

Musical Rendition

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

Alumni Words of Wisdom

Mr. Jason Benjamin
Class of 2006 and 2009

Conclusion of Convocation

The Chancellor will dismiss the Congregation

The National Anthem

Guyana Police Force Steel Orchestra

*The audience is asked to remain standing until the
Chancellor's Procession led by the Registrar leaves the
university square.*

End of first ceremony





Second Ceremony
16:00 h

The University Procession

Music by the Guyana Police Force Band, M.S
under the Baton of Superintendent Charmaine Stuart, D.O.M

Academic Festival Overture
(Composer Johannes Brahms)

Participants will appear in the following order:

Assistant Marshal

University of Guyana Students' Society Executive

Assistant Dean
Faculty of Health Sciences
Health Sciences Graduands

Assistant Dean
School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation
SEBI Graduands

Assistant Dean
Faculty of Social Sciences
Social Sciences Graduands

The Chancellor's Procession

Participants will appear in the following order:

Registrar
Librarian
Deans of Faculties/School
Directors
President, University of Guyana Students' Society
Chief Marshal
Members of Academic Staff
Representative of Alumni
Bursar
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
Keynote Speaker
Pro-Chancellor
Mace-Bearer
Chancellor

Members of the audience are asked to stand as the Chancellor's Procession enters the university square, and to resume their seats when requested by the Registrar to do so after the National Anthem has been played and the Mace has been rested.

Order of Proceedings

National Anthem

Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

Opening of the Ceremony
Chancellor

Professor John Edward Greene

Musical Rendition

What a Wonderful World

Composer: Woman Senior Superintendant Stuart
Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

Feature Address

Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards, OR, CCH
Chancellor of the Judiciary

Musical Rendition

Song of Guyana's Children

Composer: W. Hawley Bryant
Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

Presentation of Graduands

Conferring of Degrees

*The Registrar will request that the Chancellor
confer the Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates*

Order of Proceedings (cont 'd)

Musical Rendition

Trumpeter's Lullaby

Composer: Philip J. Lang
Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

Announcement of Winners of Prizes

The Registrar

Valedictory Address

**The Winner of The President Medal
(Best Graduating Student)**

Musical Rendition

I want to Build

Composer: C. A. Bovell, DSM
Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

Alumni Words of Wisdom

Mr Jason Benjamin

Class of 2006 and 2009

Conclusion of Convocation

The Chancellor will dismiss the Congregation

The National Anthem

Guyana Police Force Band, M.S

*The audience is asked to remain standing until the
Chancellor's Procession led by the Registrar leaves the
university square.*

Keynote Speaker



Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards, OR, CCH

ABOUT Justice Yonette Cummings-Edwards

Mme. Justice Yonette Decina Cummings-Edwards began her legal career in 1988 as a State Counsel within the Chambers of the Director of Public Prosecutions. She served in various positions within the Chambers from 1988-2000. In June 2000 Mme. Justice Cummings-Edwards was appointed a Judge of the High Court of Guyana and in January 2008 she was elevated to Judge of the Court of Appeal. From December 2015 she acted as Chief Justice of the Judiciary of Guyana and in March 2017 she was appointed acting Chancellor of the Judiciary and currently serves in this position. She is also the recipient of two National Awards: the Cacique Crown of Honour (CCH) and the Order of Roraima for her outstanding contribution to the legal field.

Chancellors

Pro-Chancellors and Vice-Chancellors

Chancellors

- ◆ *Professor Edgar Mortimer Duke, 1963 – 1965*
- ◆ *Sir Arthur Lewis, 1967 – 1973*
- ◆ *Mr William Demas, C.C.H., 1975 – 1981*
- ◆ *Sir Shridath Ramphal, Q.C., S.C., O.E., 1987 – 1992*
- ◆ *Mr Samuel Rudolph Insanally, A.A., C.C.H., O.E., 1994 – 2000*
- ◆ *Professor Calestous Juma, 2002 – 2003*
- ◆ *Dr Bertrand Ramcharan, 2004 - 2007*
- ◆ *Professor Compton Bourne, 2009 - 2012*
- ◆ *Professor Eon Nigel Harris, 2015 - 2018*

Pro-Chancellors

- ◆ *Sir John Carter, Q.C. C.C.H.; O.R, 1964 – 1966*
- ◆ *Sir Kenneth Stoby, 1967 – 1974*
- ◆ *Ms Cecilene Baird, C.C.H., 1977 – 1991*
- ◆ *Mr Harold B. Davis, C.C.H., 1991 – 1995*
- ◆ *Dr Martin Boodhoo, 1995 – 1999*
- ◆ *Dr Joshua Ramsammy, C.C.H., 1999 – 2002*
- ◆ *Professor Prem Misir, 2003 – 2014*
- ◆ *Ms Bibi Safona Shadick, 2015 - 2017*
- ◆ *Major General (Retd) Joseph G. Singh, 2018 - present*

Vice-Chancellors

- ◆ *Dr Lancelot Hogben, 1963 – 1965*
- ◆ *Professor Alan J. Earp, 1965 – 1968*
- ◆ *Dr Dennis Irvine, C.C.H., 1968 – 1982*
- ◆ *Dr George Walcott, C.C.H., 1983 – 1991*
- ◆ *Professor Dennis Craig, 1991 – 1996*
- ◆ *Mr A. Melvyn Sankies, 1996 (ag.)*
- ◆ *Professor Harold Lutchman, C.C.H., 1996 – 2000*
- ◆ *Dr James G. Rose, C.C.H., 2000 – 2008*
- ◆ *Mr Tota Mangar, A.A., 2008 - 2009 (ag.)*
- ◆ *Professor Lawrence Carrington, 2009 - 2011*
- ◆ *Dr Marlene Cox, 2012 (ag.)*
- ◆ *Professor Jacob Opadeyi, 2013 - 2016*
- ◆ *Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, C.C.H., 2016 - 2019*

Bursars, Registrars and Directors

Bursars

- ◆ *Mr Daoud K. Yamin, A.A. 1964 – 1966*
- ◆ *Mr David W. Jones, 1967 – 1969*
- ◆ *Mr George W. Williams, 1969 - 1974*
(Supernumerary 1969)
- ◆ *Mr Ulric C. A. Sandy, 1976 - 1980 (1972-1975)*
(ag.)
- ◆ *Mr Mujtaba A. Nasir, 1993 – 1994*
- ◆ *Mr Norman Joseph, 1996 – 1998*
- ◆ *Mr John Seeram, 1998 – 2013*
- ◆ *Ms Holda Poonai, 2014 - present*

Registrars

- ◆ *Mr David D. Karran, 1964 – 1984*
- ◆ *Mr George N. Cave, A.A. 1987 – 1992*
- ◆ *Mr Albert Butters, 1994 - 1996 (ag 1992 - 1994)*
- ◆ *Dr David Chanderbali, 1996 - 2008*
- ◆ *Mr Vincent Alexander, 2009 - 2015*
- ◆ *Dr Nigel Gravesande, 2015 - present*

Directors of the Berbice Campus

- ◆ *Dr Parsram Thakur, 2000 -2008*
- ◆ *Professor Daizal Samad, 2009 - 2013*
- ◆ *Professor Gomathinayagam Subramanian, 2014-*
present

