



# Renaissance

Office of the Vice-Chancellor, The University of Guyana

Vol. 2 No. 5, July-August, 2017



## *Investiture Ceremony*

**Inauguration  
of 10th Principal  
and  
Vice-Chancellor,**

Professor Ivelaw L Griffith

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## *Turkeyen & Tain Talks 8*

**Youth,  
Crime  
and  
Violence**

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### *Personality Profiles:*

*Dr Nigel Gravesande*

*Mrs Svetlana Marshall-Abrams*

*Ms Rosheni Takechandra*

**FEES hosts Annual  
Students' Awards  
Ceremony**

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***Turkeyen & Tain Talks 7***  
**- Guyana's Emerging Oil  
and Gas Economy**

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# The VC Speaks

*Leap that you might fly! Know that envy and jealousy disguise as caution because they fear your transformation.”– Selwyn Collins*

## Renaissance Year I of Flying and not Fearing

This edition marks the end of my first year as Vice-Chancellor, which began on July 14, 2016. Overall, it has been an incredible year of dreaming and doing, of facing and fixing, of channeling personal and institutional energy into construction rather than being crippled by vicious criticism. The words above, by Education Resource Ambassador Selwyn Collins in his book *The EarthHeart Knows*, capture the essence of my attitude and approach during this past year.

As I explained in my July 28, 2017 Investiture Address, mindful of Tagore’s proposition that “You cannot cross the sea simply by standing and staring at the water,” rather than lament the herculean challenges, I launched Project Renaissance to rebuild UG’s educational and economic enterprise and enable it to become a consequential national and international educational stakeholder.

The Investiture provided an occasion to mention some of the notable Year I achievements, which include improvement of physical facilities and of WiFi access, a partnership with GTT to offer Mobile Money to enhance both the time-efficiency and cost-efficiency of services to students, and the first Race for PACE, which raised G\$4.1 million to establish a Student Support Fund. We also inaugurated Distinguished Lecture Series to celebrate the work and workings of three academic giants—Professor Clive Thomas, Professor Sister Noel Menezes, and Dr Ulric Neville Trotz, launched a new UG website, restored the Walter Rodney Chair, launched the Etiquette Training Program for Student Leaders, and created Turkeyen and Tain Talks as a bi-monthly series to facilitate conversations with the community on important national and international subjects.

Moreover, we began to boost the Arts, including the appointment of music icon Keith Waithe as the first Distinguished Visiting Artist-in-Residence since Martin Carter’s time, began infrastructure work on a new Students’ Social Complex, the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, a new Maintenance Complex, and the property at Pere Street, Kitty. We also established the Undergraduate Research Programme, launched the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI) and the University of Guyana Press, and hosted the First Diaspora Engagement Conference, at the end of which we launched the Caribbean Diaspora Engagement Centre. Remarkably, too, the stage-setting work done with the School of Medicine led to its re-accreditation for four years.

In sum, much has been achieved during Renaissance Year I, and I am thankful to all individuals and organizations within and outside the university for contributing to our Flying and not Fearing, knowing full well that the journey has just begun.

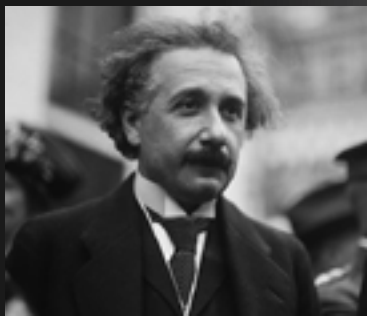
Keep on keeping on!



Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, B. Soc. Sci., MA, MPhil, Ph.D.  
Tenth Principal and Vice-Chancellor



## *THE VICE-CHANCELLOR'S JULY-AUGUST QUOTES*

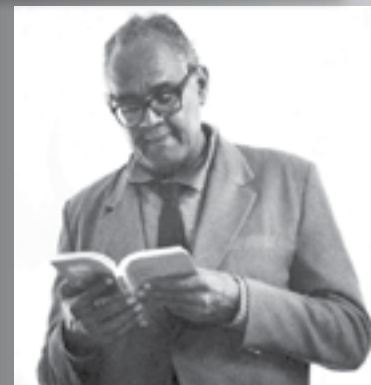


"Not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted."

--Albert Einstein

"Like a jig shakes a loom, like a web is spun a pattern, all are involved all are consumed."

-- Martin Carter



# Editor's Note

Dear Readers,

The collaboration between the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and the Centre for Communication Studies (CCS) of The University of Guyana brings to you this Volume 2: No. 5 edition of *Renaissance*, a monthly newsletter. *Renaissance* is the Vice-Chancellor's medium of sharing with you the developments and areas of interest that need to be celebrated at our University.

This July-August edition is especially unique since it marks our one year anniversary. It is no coincidence that in July our Vice-Chancellor, too, commemorated his one year with the University, rightfully with an investiture ceremony.

Whilst the University was on break for the June-August vacation period, we were still involved in a number of noteworthy activities. The Turkeyen and Tain Talks series has consistently packed the meeting rooms with eager and concerned citizens, willing to discuss pertinent and impacting topics.

The University has much to be proud of. In this edition we congratulate the Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Medicine on achieving re-accreditation. Three of UG's Computer Science students are mentors and members of the Guyana Robotics Team. This team recently represented our country in Washington at the First Global Robotics Competition, securing an amazing tenth place out of 164 participating countries.

UG's Turkeyen and Berbice Campuses held their Orientation Ceremony and activities in the month of August. Enjoy images from both of these events. As the semester progresses the *Renaissance* team wishes all our new and continuing students a hard-working and productive semester. To our administrative staff and lecturers we wish you patience and hope that your commitment towards moulding the country's future leaders, administrators and specialists in their own fields, does not waver.

As you read, be inspired to join us as we celebrate UG's *Renaissance*!



Denise Hopkinson-Braam  
Editor

# UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA

## Vice Chancellor's Fund for Strategic Initiatives

### Giving to UG

Supporting UG can be achieved through monetary donations/material contributions in the form of gifts and/or sponsorship(s)

#### THE PROCESS

**Send Cheques via Registered Post to**  
The University of Guyana  
Turkeyen Campus  
Greater Georgetown  
Guyana

**All donations should be made out to**  
The University of Guyana

**Donations may also be sent electronically using the following**  
Account name: University of Guyana

Foreign Exchange  
Account #: 001-124-7  
Bank Name and Address  
Republic Bank Guyana Ltd  
38 Water Street  
Robbstown, Georgetown  
Bank swift/ABA/ Routing

#### Accountability and Reporting

- A receipt shall be issued when cheque or cash is received from donors
- A certificate of contribution shall be issued for donors using the electrical transfer system
- A register of donors will be maintained
- Weekly report on cumulative donations received
- Inform and update donors on use of funds
- Donations deposited into accounts
- Donations entered into ledger Accounts
- Donations disclosed in Management Reports and Financial Statements

#### If Intermediary Bank Is Requested

USA Bank of America  
NY Branch, 100 West 33rd Street  
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ABA Code: 026009593  
Swift Code: BOFAUS3N  
Account#: 6550325990



## The University of Guyana Hosts Ceremony to Officially Inaugurate Tenth Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith



On July 28, 2017 Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith was officially inaugurated as the tenth Vice-Chancellor of The University of Guyana, at an investiture ceremony held in the George Walcott Lecture Theatre (GWLT), after months of administering his services without a formal installation.



The special event was chaired by Dr Nigel Gravesande, Registrar of The University of Guyana, and the official declaration was administered by Professor Nigel E Harris, Chancellor of The University of Guyana. Actually, the ceremony marked a unique moment in the institution's fifty-four year history since establishment. As anticipated, it also drew a sizeable audience from various constituencies across Guyana, from abroad and included distinguished guests, to name a few, Dr Emmanuel Cummings, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences; Mr Ron Glasgow, President of the University of Guyana Students' Society, Professor Suresh Narine; Captain Gerald Gouveia,

CEO of Roraima Airways; Honorable Nicolette Henry, Minister of Education; Professor Ophelia Weeks, President of the University of Liberia and Dr Warren Smith, President of the Caribbean Development Bank, whom all extended congratulatory messages as marks of respect towards Professor Griffith. Also, among the attendees were other notable officials, to name a few, His Excellency Brigadier David Granger, President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana; Honorable Moses Nagamootoo, Prime Minister and First Vice President of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana; Madam Justice Yonette Cummings, Acting Chancellor of the Judiciary and other members of the Government

of Guyana, The University of Guyana and the diplomatic and civic communities.

It should be noted that, throughout the ceremony one important point was reiterated, that Professor Griffith, despite some critiques, was indeed a remarkable choice for the Vice-Chancellorship. Additionally, to characterize the 'man of national and Caribbean academia,' one can agree that Professor Griffith exemplifies audaciousness and diligence and is the face of perseverance and hard-work. Also, it can be noted that his efforts have shown what it really means to be a true leader and visionary in today's society and the success of various projects he has driven highlights how his heartfelt and dedicated services are transforming the academic environment with the support of staff and other bodies.

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Furthermore, during the proceedings, Mr Keith Waithe, an acclaimed musician, first delivered a spellbinding performance



to enliven the atmosphere and was followed by the numerous distinguished guests delivering their messages and then by Professor Harris' welcome. In his speech, Professor Harris, remarked that the ceremony was a moment of opportunity not just for the newly installed Vice-Chancellor but for the staff and students, since it affords them innovative ideas from a man of many visions to cater for the creation of other ventures. He pointed out that it is necessary for collective support to be given to Professor Griffith since he is now the appointed person who must lead the university forward and transform its academic environment while successfully fulfilling the ambitious dreams, hopes and aspirations of the institution's founding fathers.

Following this address was the official robe segment where Professor Griffith was disrobed of his Doctoral robe and assisted by the Registrar in being attired in the Vice-Chancellor's robe. Immediately after this symbolic exchange, Vice-Chancellor Griffith addressed the audience as the newly inaugurated tenth

Vice-Chancellor of The University of Guyana. He communicated that his task is to continue working towards improving the institution by taking initiatives and taking advantage of those initiatives and subsequent partnerships from organizations that can increase growth and provide expansion and opportunities to various arenas for the benefit of the institution. He further reported on some of the recent initiatives the University has embarked on such as the Renaissance projects such as the newsletter, Turkeyen and Tain Talks Series and the establishment of the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI).

Without a doubt, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, is focused on bettering the institution and catapulting it into an academic place where it has never gone before. He has showcased, via the creation of multiple academic initiatives as well as social endeavors, how ardently he is working in order to propel the esteemed institution to greatness. He will continue to do so by working to create different paths for citizens and all past, present and potential academics to be provided with opportunities that can bring about change and subsequent development to the institution.





## Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences hosts Annual Students' Awards Ceremony



The Faculty of Earth and Environmental Sciences (FEES) hosted its Annual Students' Awards Ceremony for the academic year 2015/2016 on Friday, April 21, 2017 at 16:00 hrs in the Education Lecture Theatre (ELT).

The list of awardees consists of Ms Nikita La Cruz (1st year) – Bachelor's of Science Degree in Environmental Studies, Ms Bonita Davis (2nd year) - Bachelor's of Science Degree in Environmental



*From left to right: Ms Janelle Christian and Ms Daniella Mohamed*

Studies, Mr Jefferson Jaikissoon (3rd year) – Bachelor's of Science Degree in Environmental Studies, Ms Rehana Thomas (4th year), (Best Research Project & Best Graduating Student) – Bachelor's of Arts Degree in Geography, Mr Alston Alleyne (Best All Round Student) - Bachelor's of Science Degree in Environmental Studies, and Ms Hemwantie Singh (Best Graduating Student and Best Thesis) - Master in Environmental Management.

In addition, students were rewarded for their involvement in extra-curricular activities that aid in the development of the Faculty. They were: Mr Akeem Gardner, Ms Devika Samaroo, Mr Nkofi Hodge, Ms Sharanda Williams, Mr Lakeram Singh, Ms Carlesa Duncan, Mr Alston Alleyne, and Ms Daniella Mohamed. These awards were sponsored by Dr Paulette Bynoe, AA, Dean of FEES.

The Faculty, since its inception in 1993, (formerly the Environmental Studies Unit) recognized the importance of rewarding students each year (and at each level) for their academic excellence. A student, who, for his/her respective year, has attained the highest Grade Point Average (GPA), but not less than 2.7, is qualified for consideration.

The Faculty wishes to express sincere thanks to the sponsors (Conservation International Inc, Environmental Engineering Solutions, Shell Service Station, Development Policy & Management Consultants (DPMC), Environmental Management Consultants (EMC), E & A Consultants Inc, Austin's Book Store, and the Guyana Goldfield Inc.), the Guest Speaker (Ms Janelle



*From left to right: Ms Janelle Christian and Mr Akeem Gardner*

Christian) who is an alumna of FEES and the Head of the Office of Climate Change, Ministry of the Presidency, Dr Nigel Gravesande (Registrar, University of Guyana), Ms Gwyneth George (University Librarian), and the parents and guardians of all the students who received medals/awards.

# UGBCL Reading & Literacy Programme 2017



*Group photo of volunteers and students*

With corporate support, the University of Guyana Berbice Campus Library (UGBCL) held its 13th Annual Reading Programme during July 10– 28, 2017. The programme catered for approximately sixty two (62) students at the grade five (remedial level). The students were mainly from Cropper Primary School, the Berbice Islamic School and the Bal Nivas Shelter.

Before the programme commenced, twelve volunteers (UG students) were exposed to a one-day training session, which was conducted by Ms O Davis, a Literacy Trainer. The opening ceremony was held on July 10, where parents were among the guests. The Guest Speaker for the day's proceedings was the Education Officer, Reg. 6 (Primary), Mr S Udit. Aspects of the Reading Programme included students reading to the teacher, writing short paragraphs, peer reading among

others. Teaching through technology was also incorporated into the learning activities via phonic videos and the movie "Boss Baby".

The programme culminated on July 28th, with a closing session, where students showcased aspects of what they would have learnt during the three week period. Certificates and gifts were given to both students and volunteers. In addition, the most improved student of each group and the long-serving volunteers were also given tokens. The Regional Educational Officer, Ms V Jaikishun, and the District Education Officer, Mr L Salik, attended the closing ceremony. A notable high point of the programme was renowned story teller and UG lecturer, Mr Michael Khan, performing his dramatic story-telling pieces.



*Special invitees at the Head Table*



*Students performing an item*



*Section of the audience*

## Office of Planning and International Engagement in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launches the 2016 Human Development Report

The Office of Planning and International Engagement in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) launched the 2016 Human Development Report under the theme *Human Development for Everyone*. The launch was held on Wednesday, 26 April, 2016 in the New Lecture Theatre. The Human Development Report 2016 speaks to how human development can be ensured for everyone - now and in the future and draws its vision from and builds on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivelaw Griffith delivered welcome remarks and underscored the importance of education in the achievement of human development and the role of The University of Guyana in improving the lives of people. Resident Representative a.i. of the UNDP, Ms Shabnam Mallick also delivered remarks detailing the performance of Guyana on some key indicators. She was followed by Dr Patrick Chesney who presented the key findings of the 2016 report.

The Minister of Finance, Hon Winston Jordan, M.P. delivered the feature presentation on the steps the Government has been and will be taking to ensure that Guyanese continue to experience development.



*From left: Professor Ivelaw Griffith Vice-Chancellor UG, Ms Shabnam Mallick, Resident Representative a.i. of the UNDP, The Minister of Finance, Hon Winston Jordan, M.P. and Dr. Hector Butts, Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance.*

The gathering included members of the Diplomatic Corp, senior public officials as well as faculty and students of the Departments of Economics, Sociology and Government and International Affairs.

In the 2016 report, Guyana is ranked 127 out of 188 countries and has been grouped in the 'Medium Human Development' category. To improve its

ranking, the access to quality education is vital. The University of Guyana as a national institution, is specially placed to assist Guyana with improving its ranking and enabling sustainable development.

The report is available at <http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/librarypage/hdr/2016-human-development-report.html>.



*Dr. Hector Butts,  
Finance Secretary, Ministry of Finance*



# Personality Profile

## Svetlana Marshall-Abrams

After eight years of engagement in the field of journalism, Svetlana Marshall-Abrams is now one of the leading Health Journalists in Guyana. In December 2016, she was honoured by the Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) after being adjudged the overall winner of the PAHO/WHO (Guyana Office) competition for Excellence in Health Journalism.

Svetlana received her first award from PAHO/WHO Health competition in December 2015, after one of her many articles, "Enough not being done for 'sicklers' – says victim, Dr. Norton pledges gov't support," emerged as the best News Feature Article. The award came just one month after the mother of one graduated from the Centre for Communication Studies, University of Guyana with a Bachelor of Social Science Degree in Communication Studies (Distinction).

"I have a passion for health journalism and human interest stories. These platforms allow me to speak on behalf of the voiceless, educate the uneducated, and simultaneously inform policies," she said. The 27-year old journalist started her career on February 2, 2009 at the National Communications Network (NCN) in her home town, Linden. Her experiences thereafter afforded her the opportunity to grow professionally, gaining experience in print and broadcast journalism. She noted that some hurdles faced in the field of health journalism are lack of information and access to professionals within the field. Dedicated in making a stance for the much neglected field, Marshall-Abrams collaborated with the Guyana Nurses Association to produce her first magazine – "Nurses in Guyana 1966-2016: Reflection, Celebration and Inspiration" in recognition of her country's 50th Independence anniversary.

Marshall-Abrams describes her choice to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies as "one of the best decisions she has ever made". She proudly lists her parents as her biggest supporters through her academic life. She entered the field of journalism in 2009, with only the knowledge she had acquired after completing Communication Studies (CAPE) at Mackenzie High School. She added that though she quickly grasped an understanding of the profession, studying at the Centre broadened

her horizons. "Those four years helped me to put what I had been practicing into perspective and most of all I was able to improve on my writing skills in particular", said Mrs Marshall-Abrams. She recalls that the Health Journalism and Culture and Environment courses within the Communication Studies Programme were especially beneficial since it allowed for students to write stories on real issues in society thereby exposing students to issues and issues to new, fresh perspectives and solutions.

She noted that the various theories of communication help one to think critically. Still a far way to go, Marshall-Abrams envisions pursuing her Master's in Public Health Communication in the near future. For her, the sky is the limit.

Born to Debra and Wainwright Marshall, Svetlana Marshall-Abrams spent most of her childhood years in a logging community called Mabura Hill. It was there she secured her nursery and primary education, as her father worked with Demerara Timbers Limited (DTL). Her mother worked as an entrepreneur. Though she was not exposed at the time to the various forms of media, Svetlana would record herself presenting information on Guyana to anyone who was willing to listen. She ceased every opportunity to read the newspaper to her parents and two older brothers. At the age of eleven, Marshall decided that she would be a teacher, journalist and novelist in the years to follow. Unlike many persons, Marshall-Abrams knew exactly what she wanted at this tender age and as such her decisions were always in keeping with her vision thereafter.

Aside from journalism, Svetlana is part of a small business called New Generation Great Minds (NGGM) and Startup Grind Georgetown Guyana. Her active involvement in these groups allows her, along with her colleagues, to promote entrepreneurship.

Ms Marshall-Abrams enjoys reading, cooking and spending quality time with her family and friends. One of her favourite quotes is "Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts" by Winston Churchill.



The University of Guyana,  
in association with The Caribbean Alliance of  
National Psychological Associations (CANPA),

presents

# Suicide, Youth Violence, and Professional Psychology

## A Public Symposium

- Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Georgetown  
Thursday, November 9th, 2017  
8:30 am - 6:30 pm
- Little Rock Suites, 10 Main Street,  
New Amsterdam, Berbice  
Friday, November 10, 2017  
2:00 pm - 6:00 pm

With support provided by UNICEF

Admission: **FREE**

Register by sending an email to [pace@ug.edu.gy](mailto:pace@ug.edu.gy)  
Subject: Registration for UG CANPA Symposium 2017.  
Email should state: Name, Organization and Contact Information.

Deadline for registration: Saturday, October 7, 2017

For more information call:  
623-3159 or 623-3154



## Invitation

The Tenth Vice Chancellor of the University of Guyana

*Professor Jewelaw Lloyd Griffith*

requests the pleasure of your company at

## *Turkeyen and Tain Talks 9*

at which a distinguished and knowledgeable panel will address the topic:

*“Constitutional Reform -  
To Court Brave Change or To Leave Well Enough Alone?”*

Date: Thursday, September 21, 2017

Venue: Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Georgetown

Time: 18:00 – 20:00 hrs

**ADMISSION IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

THERE WILL BE LIGHT REFRESHMENTS SERVED.

Please RVSP to (592) 623-3159

This event will be streamed live at Facebook: @UGPACEAlumni



# QC Summer Math Institute visits UG



The Queen's College Association (NY), Inc ("QCAANY") hosted its second annual Queen's College Summer Math Institute (QCSMI) at Queen's College. The students who attended included third and fourth form students from Queen's College, Tutorial High School, St. George's High School, Central High School, Bishops' High School, and Saint Stanislaus College.

The experience was intended to affirm and align with their cultural and social identities and place them securely on pathways to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) excellence. The programme was led by Dr Terrence Blackman and Mr Cleveland Waddell. Other members of the team included Ms Karen Wharton, along with Ms Shindy Johnson, Ms Ede Tyrell and Ms Delon Ogle.

As part of the QCSMI, students received instructions on mathematical principles and theories throughout the day. Afternoon sessions generally included presentations by several Guyanese professionals on their vocations and the importance of mathematics in their professions. Ms Tyrell spoke with students about the faculties and programmes available at UG, the variety of career options available through studies within the Faculty of Health Sciences, and the admission requirements for each option.

Students were taken on several field

trips during the two-week programme including to the Tain and the Turkeyen



campuses. At the Tain campus, they were met by the Admin Officer, Mr David Cort, and students learned the history

of the campus, the courses offered, and the process of binding books. Campers also visited the library which they greatly admired. The QCSMI group was provided with a scrumptious lunch courtesy of the staff of UG at the Johns Science Centre and this was topped off with a very inspirational presentation by Ms Paulette Henry.

QCSMI and QCAANY are extremely grateful to the Vice-Chancellor Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith and his Chief of Staff, Ms Arlene McLean for making the trip to Berbice a reality.

The Math Institute ended their programme with a visit to the Turkeyen Campus where they took a comprehensive tour of the Library and were effusive in their praise of their hosts – Mr Paul Meusa and Mr Jolyon Boston. Gratitude is also expressed to the University Librarian, Ms Gwyneth George and Ms Clyden Harris for organising the tour. The students also spent some time in the Laboratories in the Faculty of Health Sciences where they enjoyed hands-on experiences of the Medical Technology world. Many thanks to Ms Audrey Anderson and Ms Ede Tyrell for conducting the labs, Ms Madonna Hamer for preparing the materials and the Med Tech students (Lorenzo Richards, Jamain Hatton, Melissa Kalladeen and Mahendra Umadat) who assisted throughout the day.

*Continues on pg 34*



# Personality Profile

## Dr Nigel Gravesande

Dr Nigel Gravesande, a mercurial figure in the University of Guyana (UG) hierarchy, grew up in a family of eleven (11) which included nine (9) siblings, a mom who was a School Teacher and a father, a Post Master. His parents were sticklers for ensuring their kids had a sound secondary education and also maintained that 'the only means towards upward social and economic mobility is through education.'

As a young child, Dr Gravesande grew up in Plaisance where he was largely influenced and motivated by Parish Priest, Father Hermon De Caries and Sister Mary Noel Menezes who was living at a Convent and also was a lecturer at the University of Guyana at the time. As his life unfolded he enrolled into the University of Guyana (UG) where he proved to be a disciplined and rebellious student, who commenced his Bachelors of Arts degree in his teens and completed what was originally a four (4) year Programme in three (3) years. Immediately upon graduating, he was enrolled in the first Masters Degree Program that UG was offering, where his thirst for scholarly research on the Guyana-Venezuela Border Dispute propelled him to complete his Master thesis titled "Guyana-Venezuela Boundary Dispute: An issue in effective occupation and international law."

Shortly after he finished his Masters Dr Gravesande took up an appointment at the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance as the Head of Latin America and Caribbean Division in the Department of International Economic Co-operation (DIEC), where he did not stay on for long. He migrated to the United States to spend some time working as a young professional with an international institution until he got an opportunity to take up an assignment for two years in Grenada. This two years resulted in him spending twenty eight years there where he was the first non-national to be appointed Grenada's Director of Tourism and Director of International Economic co-operation in Grenada's Foreign Ministry, as well as other important portfolios, such as the Director of Planning and Projects in the Ministry of Education, Senior Economic Analyst in the Embassy of China in Grenada, etc.

Eventually, Dr Gravesande found his niche where he served as the Registrar of the TA Marshall Community College in Grenada, but it is during this period while serving in Grenada that President Desmond Hoyte at the time began a process of reforming the Public Sector in Guyana and he invited Dr Gravesande to return to serve as Permanent Secretary in the



*Dr Nigel Gravesande, Registrar*

Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry. So he returned in 1990 but in 1992 the then President Hoyte lost the elections to Dr Cheddi Jagan who fired a number of Permanent Secretaries except him. Dr Gravesande worked along with Dr Jagan and was asked to accompany him to his first CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting in Dominica which he did. He continued to work for the then government but returned to Grenada a year later to serve as the Director of Trade Industry and Energy and it was during this period he did his PhD, where his thesis titled "Looking at the Effectiveness of CARICOM in the Context of the Globalization of the World Economy."

He believes that as individual sovereign territories we cannot survive unless we integrate and that was a vision that was clearly articulated by Prime Ministers that he admired such as the late President Forbes Burnham (Guyana), Dr Eric Williams (Trinidad), Errol Barrow (Barbados) and Michael Manley (Jamaica), who were all committed to the process of integrating

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the economies which propelled him to do diligent academic studies on the relevance of CARICOM.

He was later offered a position to serve his Alma Mater as the Registrar since he had previous experience at the TA Marshall Community College. He initially took up the appointment with a vision to work with the administration and Faculties to create an enabling environment to ensure that the student experience is positive. Moreover he holds the firm belief that the first contact that any student wishing to come to any University including the University of Guyana is at the Office of the Registry and long after they would have graduated there is still opportunity for engagement, whether through the arrangements of transcript and letters that can forge a credible and lasting alumni have that can give back. He also believes that without the students there would be no registry and satisfying the needs of the students must be the primary remit of every single colleague in the Office of the Registry. Additionally he believes that the University of Guyana must see itself as a strategic national asset providing for the human resource needs not only of Guyana but of the wider economic space called CARICOM.

Dr Gravesande, in offering advice to students believes that success in life comes from a simple mathematical formula of ninety (90) percent discipline and ten (10) percent ability which in its entirety means if you are discipline you will achieve success.

It is this formula he followed throughout his tertiary education that enabled him to be very successful and he encourages students to follow this pattern as he did, since it was his panacea for his success. In addition to the formula he added that students need to read for their degrees and commend them to take at least an hour and a half each day to review their materials taught to them since this was of immense help to him while pursuing his degree.

Dr Gravesande enjoys reading because he believes an informed person is an educated person and that knowledge changes, so in order to keep abreast with what is happening he can only achieve this through reading. He is also very passionate about his Roman Catholic faith, and on Sundays between 6am – 10am no one can get him to do anything because he dedicates this time fully towards fellowship and also believes in giving time to the marginalized by visiting, on almost every Sunday, at different Geriatric Homes and Hospitals.

Dr Gravesande is a humble, disciplined and dedicated public servant who continues to contribute to his country by helping to shape the minds of our future leaders of tomorrow and constructing a solid platform on which his successors can build .



UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

*Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith*  
Vice-Chancellor and Principal  
The University of Guyana

requests the pleasure of your company at the

## *Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture IV*

### **The Multiversity Universities of the Caribbean**

by

*Sir George Alleyne, M.D., F.R.C.P., F.A.C.P. (Hon), DSc (Hon)*

*Director Emeritus - Pan-American Health Organisation*

*Former Chancellor of the University of the West Indies and Former UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean*

Thursday, September 7, 2017

18:00 hrs

Education Lecture Theatre, University of Guyana, Turkeyen Campus, Greater Georgetown



## The University of Guyana Holds Concert to Raise Funds for Professor Joycelynne Loncke's Campus Steel Pan Project



The University of Guyana on Monday July 31, 2017 hosted a concert at the Theatre Guild featuring UG's Visiting Artist-in-Residence, Mr Keith Waithe, the Makushi players and others to raise funds for Professor Joycelynne Loncke's Campus steel pan project which will enable students to play the steel pan.

Professor Loncke, Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Education and Humanities, stated that she is very grateful for the performances by Mr Keith Waithe, the Makushi players and several others since the money will be donated to the University's acquisition of the steel band instruments. "It is wonderful how the pan has developed from the 1940's to

now, the technology is remarkable". She is also excited that her students will now have the opportunity to form their own steel band within the University. She also stressed that the steel pan project will not only cater for students from the creative arts department but students from all the various faculties on campus.

In addition, the concert "Music Sweet" featured some Guyanese music, talented musicians, poets and dancers. Gavin Mendonca, a young Guyanese musician, captured the crowd's attention with his auspicious performance by singing "Redemption Song." His performance was remarkable since persons in the audience began to sing out loud. The Distinguished Artist-in-Residence, Mr Keith Waithe and Makushi Players did an astonishing job by keeping the audience overwhelmed and entertained. At one point, persons from the audience were dancing and shaking while the drums and flute were played.

Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Vice-Chancellor & Principal of The University of Guyana, who was present at the concert stated that he will be re-establishing the artiste-in-residence programme since it was not functioning for many years ago. He noted that his next nominee will be Mr Dave Martin.

The Faculty of Education and Humanities and Professor Loncke appreciates the support of Mr Keith Waithe and the entire band and welcomes the donation towards the Steel Pan Project.



# Walter Rodney Chair Lecture

Scenes from The Walter Rodney Chair Lecture held at The National Library on August 3, 2017.



*Meetings with the President of the Caribbean Development Bank, Dr William Warren Smith, and then with a team from the Bank to discuss various areas of support to UG.*



# TEAM GUYANA ROBOTICS



Left: Team Guyana Robotics Team

Right: Team Guyana Robotics Team pose with Mark Benschop in Washington at the First Global Robotics Competition.

Photo Credits - STEMGuyana

Jubilant is a meager word to express how The University of Guyana should feel knowing that they are putting forth brilliant minds. Some of these minds have now proudly represented Team Guyana Robotics in the First Global Robotics Competition held in Washington DC, in July, where they copped 10th place out of 164 participating countries from around the world.

Farnaz Baksh is one of the managers and adult mentor for the team; with experience training in Lego Mindstorm EV3 building and programming. This qualified her for the position as a trainer during the STEMGuyana Summer camp of 2016. She is also a Computer Science student at The University of Guyana. "She aims to ensure that the students have the resources they need to keep them focused and dedicated to the teams mission." - STEMGuyana.

Arianna Mahase is also a Computer Science student at the University of Guyana. She told STEMGuyana that building a robot served to be challenging at first due to lack of experience. However with hopes of becoming a Robotics Engineer she believes getting involved was worth it. Sahief Poese is a part of the University of Guyana Robotics Club and joined the team back in April of this year. He has a love for motors and anything with wheels hence; his mission to launch a motor car racing group in Guyana. This crew along with their other members are examples of how far ones mind can truly take them if only we allow it to grow.

UG Renaissance  
**Gala**



*Antun's*



**96-46 Springfield Boulevard**

**Queens Village, NY**

**Saturday, September 9, 2017**

**9:00 P.M – 2:00 A.M**

**\$120 PER PERSON**



The University of Guyana  
**SCHOOL OF MEDICINE**  
 Faculty of Health Sciences

Our School of Medicine recently was accorded accreditation for four years from 2017-2021 by the Caribbean Accreditation Authority for Education in Medicine and other Health Professions (CAAM-HP). The decision to grant the re-accreditation with a few conditions was made at the July 2017 meeting of the Authority. The School first gained accreditation in 2008 and functioned as a professionally accredited institution up to 2015.

**Message from the Vice-Chancellor**

I offer hearty and well-deserved congratulations to the faculty, students and staff of our School of Medicine on this signally important achievement. As well, I extend my deep appreciation to the staff and students of the School, and to the staff of the University Library, Registry, Estates Management, Information Technology, and the Personnel and Public Relations Divisions. Thanks are due also to the consultant from Morehouse School of Medicine and others involved in the self-study and preparation for the site visit. I appreciate, too, the support and contributions of His Excellency, President David Granger, the Ministries of Public Health and Education, PAHO/WHO, and the Georgetown Public Hospital to this successful outcome. The investment of time and resources by the university in the re-accreditation of our School of Medicine is a tribute to the entire university and it strengthens our brand overall as we pursue Project Renaissance. However, substantial amounts of time and money will be required to complete the needed enhancements of this flagship Health Sciences programme.

Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, B. Soc. Sci., MA, MPhil, Ph.D.  
 Tenth Principal and Vice-Chancellor

# Personality Profile

## *The Radiant Rosheni Takechandra*

Stepping into a room with Rosheni Takechandra; the atmosphere can only be described as enlightening and filled with positivity. This adventurous and humanitarian soul follows the Baha'i Faith. She asserts that the Teachings and high standard of the Baha'i Faith and her parents' strict upbringing play an imperative role in shaping her high sense purpose and awareness and in her daily efforts to develop her character and just be a better person.

Being a Baha'i has thought her that every good deed that she does plays a role in the integration of a disintegrating world. It also helped to flourish her mindset change in the aspect that she acknowledged her setbacks in life and used them as stepping stones in making wiser decisions. Her favorite quote being "The betterment of the world can be accomplished through pure and goodly deeds; through commendable and seemly conduct" encouraged her as she became involved in teaching and development projects.

During her teenage years she faced the challenge of watching her friends go off to university leaving her behind due to the fact she was unable to afford it. Eventually Rosheni realized in order to have social mobility, she was required to educate herself, and, to be able to contribute and serve humanity in a greater capacity she needed both intellectual and spiritual growth as an individual. She took it upon herself to then study both Computer Studies and Project Management with the Institute of Commercial Management in the UK and obtained certificates and advanced diplomas.

Deciding to then obtain her degree from the University of Guyana she was faced with another setback having to study for four years to obtain her degree after being informed her previous diplomas were not



*Ms Rosheni Takechandra*

accepted. Rosheni endured and went forth setting new goals in her life for the future. She completed her Diploma in Communication Studies with distinction and in 2017 and will graduate with her Bachelor of Social Sciences, Communication Studies.

"Be anxiously concerned with the needs of the age ye live in, and center your deliberations on its exigencies and requirements." With this quote from her religion in mind, Rosheni's current and future plans include serving humanity on an international level. She believes this will inform her decision as to what her Master's Programme will be as she patiently lets the "will of God" be.

Eventually, Rosheni intends to open a restaurant to fulfill her passion for cooking and as a means to support her own charitable work. Rosheni Takechandra is sincerely an inspiration.



# Scenes From the VC's MOU signing with GTT Mobile Money



# Scenes from the UG's Masters Race and Awards Ceremony -- Held on June 23, 2017 under the Race for PACE Student Support Fund.





# Diaspora Engagement Conference

Scenes from the Opening Ceremony of the University of Guyana's Diaspora Engagement Conference, which was held on July 24, 2017 at the Ramada Princess Hotel





# TURKEYEN & TAIN TALKS 7

## - FOCUSED ON GUYANA'S EMERGING OIL AND GAS ECONOMY



Guyana's recent discovery of oil has provided an economical gateway for multiple platforms to have discussions and consequently initiate the required actions on ways the multibillion dollar priced petroleum extract resource can boost the nation's economy; thereby enabling long-term development in various arenas. One such platform addressing the pertinent topic-of-interest at this opportune time is the University of Guyana's educative and interactive series named Turkeyen and Tain Talks. During the series' seventh installment, held on May 10, 2017 at the Little Rock Suites Hotel, New Amsterdam, the topic-of-interest was, 'Guyana's Emerging Oil and Gas Economy' and what the emergence of those two crucial resources actually means to the nation and her people.

The event was well-received by patrons originating from various backgrounds, particularly the business sector and it was graced with the presences of officials and dignitaries from different social, legal, economical and political sections from across the country. Additionally, the event's proceedings were addressed mainly by Honorable Minister Raphael Trotman, Minister of Natural Resources and four other panelists; Professor Suresh Narine, Chairman of CGX Energy Inc; Mr Daniel Sandoval, Scholar and Former Director of Data Analytics at the Centre of Public Opinion Studies, University of Guadalajara, Mexico; Ms Kiran Mattai, Head of Guyana's Legal and Licensing Division and Mr Ryan Alexander, President of the Berbice Chamber of Commerce and Development Agency.



Since Guyana is often referred to as the bread basket of the Caribbean because of its vast agriculture and agricultural based businesses, the discovery and subsequent marketing of the natural resources will help to add to the growth of the country's distribution and development rates. In his opening remarks, Professor Ivelaw Griffith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana, who originally birthed the idea of the series, said that a conversation on such a pressing matter which concerns the nation needed to be conducted on an academic level. In addition to that, he stated that the series does not only cater for intellectual exchanges between experts and the audience but it also aims to foster a connection between the institution and alumni while providing an opportunity for them to give back to the university and instigate other academic changes.



According to Minister Trotman, “oil and gas are two significant resources.” In his brief introductory remarks centered primarily on the impacts of the emergence of oil and gas and its significance to the natural resource sector of Guyana, he commenced by recollecting an old childhood tale about Guyana supposedly having rich potential. Fortunately, this assumption was brought to light as a reality when the first major offshore discovery of oil was made approximately 180 miles off the coast of Guyana, on May 08, 2017. He continued explaining that, later ExxonMobil indicated its interest to assist Guyana in drilling for the oil. Minister Trotman explained that production for oil is slated to begin in May, 2020. A team of officials formally referred to as the Cabinet sub-committee which comprises of various ministers, such as the Minister of Finance, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Minister of Education, Minister of Social Protection, Minister of Agriculture and other Ministers, who are all critical to the plan-of-action process concerning oil production, will seek to work together to ensure that oil production becomes a successful reality.

Furthermore, Mr Ryan Alexander addressed the audience speaking exclusively on the willingness of the Berbice Chamber of Commerce to work with the Crab Island and Deepwater oil prospects as well as to partner with the CGX Energy Inc. Additionally, Mr Alexander relayed that, “it is very important for the Berbice Chamber of Commerce and also CGX Energy Inc to come on board with the oil and gas discussions and plan-of-actions so that future ventures can help to alleviate problems faced in the Berbice area.” He further added that, “Berbice is



one of the main agricultural communities in the country with multiple sources of labor that oftentimes go unnoticed as such, there is a need for more agricultural opportunities and sources of cheap labor to conduct vast agricultural businesses which can eventually attract international investors to Berbice and Guyana.”

Mr Daniel Sandoval delivered his lecture on Mexico’s natural resource history while highlighting the expansion process of oil and gas in Mexico during the early 1900s up until now. He also shed light on some initiatives a host of oil country can undertake to safeguard against exploitation from international companies.

Ms Kiran Mattai followed Mr Sandoval, and she spoke on Guyana’s preparation for the oil and gas economy through legal training. Ms Mattai chose three major points for her presentation; petroleum, principles of sovereignty and the relationship between oil and gas and green energy. It can be noted that, as an oil and gas attorney who has witnessed first-hand the globalization of oil and gas, Ms Mattai stated that the legality of oil and gas in Guyana when production begins will rely heavily on structured legal policies and systems and legal reinforcements. She further communicated that, “more appreciation is needed toward legal training when dealing with oil and gas and as an emerging economy the law needs to provide stricter legal ownership of the



nation’s resources.”

The final panelist to address the event with his discourse was Professor Suresh Narine. He chose to deliver his lecture on Guyana’s need to recognize that oil is not a resource that is guaranteed to last forever and, as such, if sustainable nation-building is to prevail then there must be a conversation on how to effectively maximize on the present availability of the resource so that long-term hardships would not prove to be too devastating. He stated that, “the nation’s government must now position themselves to make wise economic and beneficial moves in order to avoid exploitation and that a lesson can be learned from Mexico’s past decisions.” In his closing remarks, Professor Narine conveyed that, “oil is actually a gift to Guyana.” Also, he urged his fellow Guyanese to participate in whatever way possible in the production and marketing process of the natural resources so that development in all sectors can eventually prevail.

# TURKEYEN & TAIN TALKS 8

## YOUTH, CRIME & VIOLENCE

For many years the Guyanese society, and by extension, the Caribbean community, has been victim to a seemingly unstoppable trend of crime. Time and again, discussions, research and surveys are completed for more information on understanding causes and solutions of criminal activities. However, unfortunately, to date we as a community have not been able to effectively curb this trend. Noting the rising crime rates in Guyana, the University of Guyana hosted its 8th Turkeyen and Tain Talks during July 12, 2017 under the theme “Youth, Crime and Violence.”

The event, though planned months in advance, was scheduled just after the occurrence of two baffling criminal acts. The first involved the burning of the Camp Street prison by prisoners, which resulted in injured inmates, escapees and overcrowding of the Brickdam and Lusignan prisons. This resulted in heightened security threats to the nation and widespread fear. The second, which was an attempted robbery of a Republic Bank, Guyana branch, involved two educated and gainfully employed youths. One was identified as an employee of the bank, while the other, an Agronomist attached to the National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (NARI). These two incidents were made reference to at the Turkeyen and Tain Talks forum and the latter sparked conversation about a new face of crime; educated criminals.

Present at the forum were moderator Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Vice-Chancellor of The University of Guyana, panel members including Honourable Khemraj Ramajttan, second Vice- President and Minister of Public Security, Eworth Williams, Pastor, Mr Derwayne Wills, activist and Ms Patricia Gittens, Child Protection Specialist. The discussion by the panel members



focused on opinions, researched material, recommendations and solutions to the issue of crime and violence among the youths of Guyana.

Eworth Williams, Pastor for the Heavenly Light World Outreach Fellowship, stated that his church strives to keep a good relationship with the forty eight existing gangs in the Albouystown community, not as a factor of fear but because he believes it his duty to engage the troubled ones in his society. “If I do not reach out to them then someone else will and that someone else might not be of the greater good”, he said. In efforts to provide a positive role model for his community members,

*Continued on page 30*



Continued from page 27



in his discussion opined that the probability of having a good child for the future depends on factors such as parenting, abusive relationship, unemployment, poverty and not doing well at school. He referred to three reports which has been utilized by the Government and himself to create informed strategies in dealing with youth, youth crime and youth violence. These reports are namely the United Nations report on violence against children in the Caribbean, 2006, the Citizen Security survey and the Paramaribo Declaration of Youth of the Caribbean. Minister Ramjattan stated that the recommendations of the reports will be utilized to help resolve many issues. One such recommendation which has already been put into effect is the limitation of access to drugs and alcohol to young people. This was effectuated through a curfew requisite by Minister Ramjattan.

Continued on page 31

Williams has employed the strategy of involving religious leaders from varying religious backgrounds, entrepreneurs and local sportsmen/women to serve as role models. He also teaches Christianity in its practical form by helping to provide material necessities, such as clothing, and helps to connect members to job opportunities. He asked that we not only recognize that persons are in need of our help but also that we are able to help troubled individuals in their time of need.

Professor Griffith expressed his satisfaction with the focus of the forum, he stated "I am delighted that we can have a conversation about what universities do; stimulating conversations about issues that are sometimes uncomfortable issues, stimulating conversations about issues that are sometimes contentious issues. Our job at the university is not to curb contentiousness and to forgo things that may be problematic, but to face them in the eyes. If we don't face them, we can't fix them."

Honorable Minister of Public Security, Khemraj Ramjattan



*Continued from page 28*

Other recommendations included raising the standards of parenting, socialization and education for the youths from a tender age. Minister Ramjattan disclosed that he believes that the availability of community playgrounds will aid in lowering crime rates and as such community leaders and business men will be asked to lend support to the youths. Minister Ramjattan referred to the Citizen Security Strengthening Program (CSSP) funded by the International Development Bank (IDB) which acknowledges crime and violence in relation to the young people. Recently, two projects were embarked on as a community effort, one is currently being completed while the other is being pursued. These include identifying vulnerable youths, going through entrepreneurial skills training with Youth Built International; an overseas skills training company in collaboration with the Small Business Bureau. This was launched two months ago at New Amsterdam. The program was initiated with eight five students from varying areas. Another project which will involve twenty five at risk youths from twenty communities inclusive of Vreed-en-hoop, Buxton, Le Penitence, Kingston and Agricola, will create opportunities for skills set training for jobs such as electrical engineering, masonry, carpentry etc. Participants will be given an allowance of \$70USD per month to assist with their attendance at trainings.

Activist and panel member, Derwayne Wills spoke to the “get rich or die trying” mindset that is most often portrayed by the media and celebrated local “King Pins” of the current generation. This, he advised should be scrutinized because of the value system and mind set it molds for our young men. He also discussed the way our education system values and devalues our youths and recommended that it be changed. Wills opined that there are inefficiencies in the legal system such as unconscionable prison sentences e.g possession for marijuana which contributes to the continuous growth in the quantity of prisoners, prolonged trials and unfair bail amounts, just to name a few. He disagrees with the Government’s plan to expand the Mazaruni prison. He stated, “My colleagues and I alike would much rather prefer that the money be used instead for social development and recreation for those incarcerated”. Wills also made reference to the recent prison fire as “a radical act of defiance which has forced the system to correct itself,” a statement which the audience seemed to recognize and agree.

Ms Patricia Gittens in her discussion related the mental health issues the youths are challenged with. She spoke about changing behavior being the most difficult task for the Ministry of Public Security. Gittens noted that the Social Welfare Office as well as individuals and the society holistically has accepted these types of behaviors. She said, “Prevention exists in the resources that are available to us because we will never have enough money to change the



system; there is access to restoration of justice and reintegration but parents, caregivers and youths all have a role to play.” She encouraged the audience to tackle the issue of youth, crime and violence with the same passion and conviction exhibited towards the movement against parking meters to foster a similar movement against violence and a similar movement by youths for youths.

After the panelists had made their speech, the audience was given an opportunity to participate in an interactive question/comment session.



TRANSITION  
ISSUE 44 2017

EVELINA SINGH

BIOLOGICAL POSITIVISM: EVOLUTION, DEVELOPMENT  
AND CONTEMPORARY APPLICATIONS

HECTOR EDWARDS  
MICHAEL SCOTT

EQUITY THEORY AND DOPING IN CYCLING

DIANNA DASILVA-GLASGOW  
ROGER HOSEIN

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF SPSS AND  
TBT MEASURES FOR INCREASING FOOD AND  
AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS FROM GUYANA

DUANE EDWARDS

CORRUPTION AND STATE CAPTURE UNDER TWO  
REGIMES IN GUYANA: A PLURAL SOCIETY  
APPROACH

HECTOR EDWARDS  
DIANA GOBIN

MOTIVATION AND DOPING: A META-COGNITIVE  
FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING ATHLETES'  
ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOUR

JOURNAL OF THE INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES  
AND THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA TURKEYEN CAMPUS



# FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND HUMANITIES SCORES HISTORIC VICTORY



*The Winning Team after the event.*

History was made on March 24, 2017 when the Faculty of Education and Humanities won the University of Guyana Annual Sports Day. This was the first time that the Faculty has ever won the competition. The FEH comprises two former faculties –



*Staff participation in a novelty race.*

Education and Arts – which were merged in 2003. Neither the former Faculty of Education nor the former Faculty of Arts had ever won the annual event in its long history.

The victory has added historical significance since this is the first time that the event has been held at the National Track and Field Centre at Leonora, West Coast of Demerara.

To fittingly celebrate the victory, the faculty held an elegant Appreciation Ceremony at the Education Lecture Theatre, where the main speaker, Registrar Dr Nigel Gravesande, confirmed the faculty's maiden success after consulting the university's records.

Dean of the Faculty, Ms Claudette Austin, noted that the victory was due to the remarkable cooperation and motivation among the organizing team led by Deputy Dean, Ms Camille

Robertson, and students, who ensured that the faculty had an entrant in each event. The Faculty of Education and Humanities (FEH) scored points in both the track and field events, and beat the other six faculties, including the traditional powerhouse, the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The Dean also underscored the value of the Faculty's success when she observed that "...the Athletics Programme at the University of Guyana is an integral part of the overall educational experience, which seeks to build camaraderie among students and staff. Being a member of a team is an opportunity to learn and develop skills and build enduring relationships. Students will learn life lessons, such as, how to work within a team, selflessness, perseverance, relentlessness, and

how to win and lose with grace, humility, and sportsmanship". She singled out student Osafa Dos Santos, who served as FEH's coach and chief motivator, for his role in motivating, coaching and guiding the athletes. Osafa Dos Santos was named Champion Boy and Fiona Mentis, Champion Girl of the Games.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Professor Michael Scott, who also addressed the assembly, congratulated the students and noted that they had created a significant moment in the faculty's history. Also present at the ceremony were Vice-Chancellor Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith; Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Planning and International Engagement, Dr Barbara Reynolds who added her words of congratulations; University of Guyana Sports Organizer, Ms Lavern Fraser; members of the Faculty and other well-wishers from the university community.

Special tokens of appreciation and certificates were presented to the athletes.



*Faculty of Education & Humanities Contingent at the March Past.*

*Continued from pg 14*

Thank you too to the Dean of the Faculty, Dr Emanuel Cummings for facilitating the visit and to Mr Hosea Higgins for the many, wonderful photographs which clearly express how positive the experience was for the students.

This year's QCSMI was made possible through the sponsorships from Mid-Atlantic Oil and Gas, JHI Associates of Canada, Dr Edris Dookie, Fly Jamaica Airways, Banks DIH, Maplesoft of Ontario Canada, and supporters of QCAANY.

QCAANY was formed on August 21, 1991. The NY-based non-profit's stated purposes include to contribute significantly to the advancement and improvement of education in Guyana. Through its Youth Development Fund, QCAANY supports programs that prepare students to meet the challenges of adolescence and adulthood through activities and experiences that help develop social, emotional, physical and cognitive competencies. To learn more, please email QCAANY at [nychapter@qcguyanaalumny.org](mailto:nychapter@qcguyanaalumny.org) and visit the organization on the internet at [www.qcguyanaalumny.org](http://www.qcguyanaalumny.org) and [atwww.facebook.com/qcguyanaalumny](http://atwww.facebook.com/qcguyanaalumny).



# UGBC ORIENTATION 2017 AT A GLANCE

The University of Guyana Berbice Campus hosted its annual orientation during the period August 22 - 23, 2017. Highlights include:

## DAY ONE

### Tours – August 22

Guided tours of the facilities at both the Johns Centre and Tain Campus were conducted between 10:00hrs to 14:30hrs by student helpers; Lauristan Choy, Treshan Budhram, Maria Fraser and Joshua Lyte.



### Opening Ceremony - August 22

The 2017 orientation was held at Tain Auditorium at 15:00hrs with remarks done by Dr Gravesande - Registrar and the special remarks done by Professor Scott, DVC-AE.

*Continued on page 36*



## Prizes

*Continued from page 35*

At both the opening ceremony and at the information sessions, on Moodle, SRMS, Plagiarism, Referencing and Knowing your information sources and resources, prizes were given to students who answered questions posed to them.



## Photography: building positive memories

Students had the opportunity to have their photographs taken at various points on campus by UG staff members as every opportunity was exerted to have them engaged in a process of building positive University experiences to jumpstart their life on Campus.



*Continued on page 37*



## Photography Display

Pictorial display of 'Academic life on Campus' was mounted at the campus.



## DAY TWO

### Information Sessions

Orientation exercise format included:

- (i) Moodle
- (ii) SRMS,
- (iii) Plagiarism
- (iv) Referencing
- (v) Knowing your information sources and resources.



Continued on page 38



A Photographic Display and opportunities for Photography to allow the new students to start building memorable campus experiences continued throughout the orientation exercise.



# The University of Guyana Ceremonial Opening 2017

Scenes from The University of Guyana's Ceremonial Opening in the George Walcott Lecture Theatre (GWLT), Turkeyen Campus on August 21, 2017.









**V**ice-Chancellor and Principal of The University of Guyana, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, expresses sincere appreciation and extends our gratitude to all the sponsors, conference participants, performers at the cultural extravaganza and welcome reception, members of the planning committee and well wishers for your contributions to the successful hosting of the inaugural Diaspora Engagement Conference that was held from July 23 to 28, 2017.

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### Diamond:

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- Republic Bank (Guyana) Ltd.
- Ministry of Public Telecommunications

### Gold:

- EC Vieira Investment
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- Guyana Tourism Authority
- The Martin Foundation

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- Guyana Oil & Gas Association
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- CARICOM
- Mexican Embassy
- Indian High Commission

### Off-Campus Planning Committee Members

- Mr. Donald Ainsworth
- Mr. Chetwynd Bowling
- Mr. Michael E. Brotherson
- Professor Emeritus Vibert Cambridge
- Ms. Sophia Darlington
- Mr. Wayne Forde
- Ms. Shoba Gaymes
- Dr. Lear Matthews
- Dr. Indianna Minto-Coy
- Dr. Wazir Mohamed
- Dr. Keith Nurse
- Mr. Komal Singh
- Ms. Melanie Smith
- Dr. Raquel Thomas-Caesar
- Mr. Keith Waithe
- Mr. Gerald Willabus
- Ms. Gillian Williams

### Performers at the Diaspora Engagement Conference

- Chinese Dragon Dancers

#### Indian Cultural Centre:

- Sree Debasish Dass
- Mr Umesh
- Mr Mahendra Sharma
- Master Sohail Singh
- Ms Tiffany Sugrim

#### Dave Martins' Quartet

- Mr Dave Martins
- Mr Oliver Basdeo
- Mr Colin Perreira
- Mr James Jacobs

#### Keith Waithe & the Makushi Players

- Ms Helen McDonald
- Mr Larry Bartley
- Mr Chris Jerome
- Mr Rukiza Okera
- Mr Keith Waithe
- Mr Ivelaw Lamar Griffith
- Mr Keon Heywood

#### Renaissance Performers

- Mr Herbie Marshall
- Mr Gavin Mendonca
- Mr Kelvin Jones
- Mr Marlon Adams
- Mr Michael Smith
- Mr Mark Adams

### On-Campus Planning Committee Members

- Prof. Ivelaw Griffith
- Dr. Fitzgerald Yaw
- Ms. Christina Bynoe
- Mrs. Gwyneth George
- Mr. Alim Hosein
- Mr. Andrew Kendall
- Mr. Daren Khan
- Ms. Danniebelle Mohabir
- Ms. Paulette Paul
- Ms. Tamika Proffitt

The University of Guyana, Turkeyen Campus, Greater Georgetown

Visit: [www.uog.edu.gy/diasporaconference.uog.edu.gy](http://www.uog.edu.gy/diasporaconference.uog.edu.gy)

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# Renaissance

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**Vol 2, No. 5, July-August, 2017**

For our next edition we invite you to submit news items, short articles, poems and high resolution pictures of activities related to the national agenda and consistent with the development trajectory of UG. Share with us how UG has contributed to building industry and livelihoods for citizens both at home and abroad. Do share Renaissance with at least ten of your friends and send us their email contacts to facilitate direct mailing of future editions. We thank you for being part of this transformative initiative.

For more information or to make contributions:

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