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Georgetown /Guyana/ University of Guyana/ February 17, 2024/

Guyana Set to Host 53rd Association of Caribbean Universities, Research and Institutional Libraries Conference (ACURIL) May 12-16, 2024

Guyana is set to host the 53rd Association of Caribbean Universities, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) Conference on May 12 – 16, 2024 under the theme: ***“From metadata to big data: trends and hidden treasures in libraries, museums, and archives of the Caribbean.”*** The University of Guyana Library, along with its local counterparts, is planning and executing the event which will be hosted at the Pegasus Hotel in Georgetown.

The Annual ACURIL Conference is being hosted for the first time in Guyana. It will bring together some three hundred (300) librarians, information professionals, archivists and exhibitors from across the Caribbean and Latin America to examine and discuss the current challenges of libraries in the Caribbean, and discover and debate new trends and ideas in the information world that would help to counteract some of the issues faced by libraries in order to help them to reposition themselves to remain relevant in the new information age. The event will also provide a forum for recognising excellence, creativity and innovation in libraries in an attempt to stimulate growth and development and sharing of ideas and experiences in libraries.



The Guyana contingent in attendance at ACURIL 2023 in Jamaica; (from left to right) Ms. Simone LaRose, Ms. Donette Washington, Ms. Debra Lowe and Ms. Somattie Sayrange

The conference will entail four (4) days of engagement on the theme of innovative developments in the library and information field and will culminate with an Awards Ceremony which will honour library and information professionals from across the Caribbean region for their outstanding work in the field.

University of Guyana's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Paloma Mohamed Martin and several other academics and professionals in the library and information fields are expected to deliver presentations.

University Librarian and Member of the ACURIL Executive Council, Mrs. Gwyneth George said: "This is a wonderful opportunity for Guyana to host this Conference in this auspicious moment of the country's development. It will offer an excellent platform and a unique opportunity for libraries across the spectrum of Guyana to meet with their colleagues to discuss the challenges and opportunities that confront libraries in the era of the evolving metadata and big data. It is also a wonderful opportunity for the libraries to have important and significant discussions with the Government of Guyana about the continued importance of libraries in the strategic development thrusts of the country and in subscribing to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."



Mrs. Gwyneth George, University Librarian and Member of ACURIL Executive Council

For more information on how to register or other details about the conference please visit: <https://acurilconference.com/>

Or email: Info@acurilconference.com, registration@acurilconference.com or call the Conference Secretariat on +592-620-3049.

The University of Guyana in Brief

The University of Guyana, the national University of Guyana, now in its 60th year, was founded in October 1963, three years before Guyana became independent. "UG" as it is fondly referred to offers over 160 distinct programmes in over 60 disciplines from certificates, Bachelor's degrees, Master's Degrees to Ph.D.'s. These programmes are offered online, face-to-face or in blended formats. UG delivers through a Guyana-based system across eight campuses. This includes its 35-year-old community-based institute for Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE) and the second major campus at Tain in Berbice celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2025. The University of Guyana's student population is over 11,000.

Through its 8 Faculties, including an accredited College of Medical Sciences, School for Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation and the School for Earth and Environmental Sciences which is ranked # 5 globally, "UG" has provided education, training and research for over 60,000 alumni over its 60-year history with significant national and global impact. Other faculties include the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, The Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry, The Faculty

of Natural Sciences, The College of Behavioural Sciences and Research, The Faculty of Education and Humanities and the Faculty of Social Sciences. The University is also home to 10 Research Institutes including the internationally important Centre for Biodiversity, The Institute for Food and Nutrition Security, The Institute for Innovation, Research and Entrepreneurship, The Institute for Energy Diplomacy, The Green Institute, The Institute for Human Resiliency, Strategic Security and the Future, and the International Centre for Excellence in Early Childhood Education. The mission of the University of Guyana is to discover, generate, disseminate and apply knowledge of the highest standard for advancement of communities, the nation, and mankind within an atmosphere of academic freedom, transparent accountability, pragmatic innovation and universal respect.

UG's forward-thinking Blueprint 2040 is currently setting the course for the University's future design and institutional response to the changing needs of Guyana, the region and the world. UG is currently celebrating its 60th anniversary with renewed focus on becoming the leading teaching and research University in Guyana. Visit UG at www.uog.edu.gy

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