

## ABOUT Project Renaissance

Project Renaissance aims to rebuild UG's educational and economic enterprise and enable it to become a consequential national and international educational stakeholder. It is both a Dreaming project and a Doing project, with four main pillars or Imperatives, which are:

- **Capital Investment**, which involves human, finance, physical and brand capital;
- **Academic Enhancement**, which entails improving instructional needs and credentials, curricula, teaching and learning, and introducing new educational programmers;
- **Economic Viability**, which requires fortifying the major existing revenue streams (government subventions and tuition fees) and expanding the revenue base through alumni and corporate giving, grants, and merchandising; and
- **Alumni and Civic Engagement**, which entails embracing alumni and business and civic partners within and beyond Guyana, celebrating their achievements, and inviting them to invest in the University and the society's human capital development, as well as rebranding.

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UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

## The University of Guyana

### *Renaissance* Scorecard II

**JUNE 2017—JULY 2018**

*"My vision is to make UG into a dynamic, nationally relevant, world class University and to do it as quickly as possible. This requires a Renaissance." – Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith*

**This Scorecard** highlights some of the pursuits and gains of Project Renaissance during Year II. Some are small, others large, some are tangible while others are process and stage-setting as we journey along Renaissance Road. Yet, all are significant, in that they complement and reinforce earlier and other efforts to rebuild and rebrand the University. They reflect the hard and dedicated work by academic and administrative staff, students, government officials, the University's Education Resource Ambassadors at home and abroad, business and civic supporters, and others.

## RENAISSANCE SCORECARD II

June 2017—July 2018

- ⇒ Successfully nominated Scientist Dr. Dawn Fox for the OWSD-Elsevier Foundation Award for Early-Career Women Scientists in the Developing World; hosted the milestone inaugural meeting of the Editorial Board of the University of Guyana Press and successful Second Annual Undergraduate Research Conferences at Turkeyen and Tain; and sent several student delegations abroad, including to Trinidad, and Oklahoma, Georgia, and Massachusetts.
- ⇒ Improved Internet services across the University, including in the Registry, PACE, Personnel, Institute for Gender Studies, Senior Common Room and NBS Dorms. The new "UG Turkeyen WiFi" and the "Government Free WiFi" wireless networks now provide Turkeyen with free WiFi almost throughout campus, and Tain is fully covered by the free "UGBC WiFi" network
- ⇒ Increased 2017/2018 enrollment over 2016/2017 by 3.16 percent; awarded the first Renaissance Scholarships to two Indigenous students from the Bina Hill Institute in the North Rupununi; and launched new diplomas in Psychology and Land Management Administration, with the support of UNICEF and the Commission on Lands and Surveys.
- ⇒ Paid 2017 salary increases of 6 percent to UA staff and 8 percent to UB staff, an average of 4.5 percent for merit, and allowances for traveling, entertainment, academic materials, study leave (salary and housing for three months), sabbatical leave (salary and housing for 12 months), leave passage, and responsibility allowances for Coordinators, Heads, and Deans.
- ⇒ Hired a Business Development Manager to boost the entrepreneurial pursuits of the University and create and strengthen corporate partnerships, and a Supply and Logistics Officer to improve and streamline the University's procurement system.
- ⇒ Negotiated/signed Academic Collaboration Agreements focused on research, academic programs and overall academic enhancement with external stakeholders, including Guyana Defence Force, Power Producers & Distributors Inc., Guyana School of Agriculture, Guyana Police Force, Guyana Lands and Survey Commission, Macorp, and Citizens Security Project.
- ⇒ Created the UG Guyana Broadcast Trust to manage the University's Broadcast Licenses in support of teaching Broadcast Journalism; created a database of 20,000 potential partners; created and implemented an 'I love UG' Alumni campaign; and launched the University of Guyana Alumni Association, with Chapters in Berbice and Toronto (and London).
- ⇒ Completed the Agriculture and Forestry expansion, which provides for student recreational space, new offices, a fire escape and sanitary block (\$26.2 Million); began work on a Student Social Complex (initial cost, \$30.3 Million); opened Tain library extension (\$18.5 Million); and broke ground for the new Math and Science Building at Turkeyen, to cost \$66 Million
- ⇒ Signed multiple agreements for technical and financial support for oil and gas, agriculture and forestry, foreign languages and the construction of a new library, as part of strengthening our international partnerships. The partners include: UWI, University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), Anton De Kom University of Suriname, the University of French Guiana, Amapa University of Brazil, GT&T, the Embassy of China, the FAO, and the CDB.
- ⇒ Provided laptops and projectors for Berbice Campus (\$2 Million); and engaged contractors for: rehabilitation in Education & Humanities (\$1.8 Million) and construction of three shade houses for Agriculture and Forestry (\$ 4.1 Million); rehabilitation of the Biodiversity Centre (\$1.4 Million); and for the Library at Turkeyen, which is still ongoing (\$10 Million plus).
- ⇒ Appointed the first set of Academic Advisors to enhance student success; improved the timeliness of grade submission; celebrated the successful completion of the first year of operation of the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI); and hosted a Consultation on Writing to begin efforts to improve the writing proficiency of students.
- ⇒ Created the Conversation on Law and Society Series to examine issues of great importance to the society. Justice Courtney Abel of Belize, Justice Adrian Saunders, President of the Caribbean Court of Justice, Jurist-in-Residence Carl Singh, and Professor Karim Al Zubaidy, President of the University of Trinidad and Tobago, were among the notable speakers.
- ⇒ Appointed Keith Waithe and Dave Martins as Artists-in-Residence, with events held in different parts of the country; named retired Chancellor of the Guyana Judiciary Carl Singh as the inaugural Jurist-in-Residence (and later as Head of the Department of Law); and appointed Dr. Vincent Adams as inaugural Distinguished Visiting Engineer-in-Residence.
- ⇒ Secured, among other things: US\$500,000 from the Ministry of Natural Resources to support Engineering and Technology and other units; US\$400,000 for Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Centre for Behavioural Science and Research; US\$250,000 for Nand Persaud Soil Testing Laboratory at Tain; US\$25,000 grant from Exxon towards the enhancement of Agriculture and Forestry;
- ⇒ US\$500,000 worth of items including video equipment from Huawei; and US\$10,000 from Scotia Bank towards a smart Classroom for Natural Sciences.
- ⇒ Held an Oil and Gas Consultation; renamed the Faculty of Technology the Faculty of Engineering and Technology; hosted a Consultation on Food and Nutrition Security and established a Feasibility Study Team to establish an Institute on Food and Nutrition Security, supported by a US\$50,000 grant from the FAO.
- ⇒ Hosted Professorial Lectures at Turkeyen and Tain (first time), delivered by Professors Michael Scott, Paloma Mohamed and Gomathinayagam Subramaniam; held the successful Inaugural Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovation; and hosted a rewarding Oil and Gas Local Content Forum