



NOTABLE EVENTS

Notable Events

In academic year 2007–08, the Campus continued to distinguish itself through the various awards and distinctions conferred on faculty.

Of special note, too, was the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of the University that began at Mona on January 7, 2008 with the Launch at the historic Mona Chapel. The celebratory activities continued into the current academic year and ended with the award of scholarships including six to mark the six decades of the Campus's history.



Top: Prime Minister Bruce Golding attends the ceremony to launch Mona's 60th Anniversary celebrations

Left: Sixtieth Anniversary scholarship awardees pose with Principal Shirley

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Dr Trevor Yee



Professor Helen Jacobs

First US Patent

Dr Trevor Yee of the Natural Products Institute in collaboration with Professor Helen Jacobs of the Chemistry Department received the first United States patent for the Mona Campus for their new and extremely efficient method of extracting the active ingredients from Bitterwood. It is hoped that this will form the basis for upgrading an old industry from the export of raw materials (bitterwood chips) to the export of a more finished product further along the value chain. Bitterwood is an important component in the beverage industry.

Other Awards

Professor Hyacinth Evans received the Prime Minister's Medal for Excellence in Teaching.

Five Awarded National Honours



Professor Abraham Anthony Chen was awarded the Order of Merit (OM) for distinguished contribution in the field of Climatology.



Professor Edward Robinson was awarded the Order of Merit (OM) for distinguished contribution in the fields of Geology, Oceanography and Environmental Science.



Professor John Peter Figueroa was awarded the Order of Jamaica (OJ) for outstanding service in the field of Epidemiology and in the development of HIV/AIDS Awareness and Prevention Programme.



Professor Barbara Evelyn Bailey was awarded the Order of Jamaica (OJ) for distinguished contribution to Education and Gender Studies.

Dr Lorna Down received the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence 2007 for her article “Addressing the challenges of mainstreaming ESD in higher education”, published in the *International Journal of Sustainability in Higher Education*.

Dr Halden Morris received an award for Outstanding Leadership from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers USA and Jamaica.

Dr Michael Bucknor acted as the Chief Judge of the Canada and Caribbean Regional Adjudication panel for the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize, 2007–2009.

Mrs Frances Salmon for her sabbatical leave, 2007–2008, worked with the Bennett Coverley Collection at the National Library of Jamaica. The aim of the project was to provide physical description and subject access, and to create a general finding tool for the collection. The outcome has been an integrated database to “Miss Lou’s Views”. This bibliographic database includes summaries of the contents of Miss Lou’s commentaries



Professor Charles Denbow consultant cardiologist and senior lecturer in medicine was awarded the Order of Distinction in the Rank of Commander (OD) for his outstanding contribution and work in the field of medicine, and in particular, the teaching of medicine.

and subject descriptors. It allows access to digitized items in the Collection via hyperlinks. This project, resulting from the collaboration of the National Library of Jamaica and the UWI was awarded the Albertina Perez de Rosa Information Units Alliances and Collaborative Projects in the Caribbean Award 2008 at the ACURIL 2008 Conference in Montego Bay, June 2008.

MonaGIS was awarded the Best GIS Practice in Jamaica for 2007 by the Land Information Council of Jamaica, as well as Best Booth at the 2007 International GIS Day Exhibition.

The Campus received the Gleaner 2007 Honour Award for its contribution to Education in Jamaica.

60th Anniversary Celebrations

In Semester 2 the Mona Campus's 60th Anniversary Committee planned or coordinated a variety of activities to mark the University's 60th anniversary year. To a capacity audience which included the Governor General and Prime Minister of Jamaica, the Campus launched the anniversary year in a classic function at the Chapel and the Founders' Park. Thirty-three pouis trees were planted at the ceremony to commemorate the first students of the University.



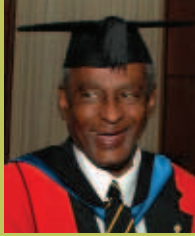
In addition to the various inaugural and distinguished lectures, conferences and symposia, art, photographic and library exhibitions, the Campus published three anniversary newspaper supplements and guest edited the Gleaner of July 12 to coincide with the beginning of the University wide Convocation Week. Beautification of the Campus, inclusive of repainting of buildings and landscaping of the grounds, was among the many ways that Mona welcomed the alumni of the Caribbean and the Diaspora, as well as colleagues from the other Campuses, to the grand highlight of the anniversary celebrations. A public relations and advertising campaign mounted to showcase the University's *Caribbean Impact, Global Reach* during the anniversary year did much to raise the visibility of the Campus to the nation.



Honorary Graduates

At our November, 2008 Graduation Ceremonies we conferred honorary doctorates on five outstanding contributors to Jamaica, the region and the Diaspora.

Mona's Honorary Graduates



Havelock Brewster, an international consultant, received the award of Doctor of Laws (LLD). A Guyanese national, Mr Brewster has had a sterling career as an international civil servant. He worked for many years as an economist in international organisations including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Inter-American Development Bank and CARICOM and also served as Guyana's Ambassador to the European Union, Austria, Belgium and Germany.



A Jamaican living in Britain, **Dame Darlene C. Davis**, was conferred with the Doctor of Sciences degree (DSc) for her outstanding career in midwifery, education and development. Dame Darlene plays a major role in the arena of healthcare in the UK and has led the UK's Royal College of Midwives for more than a decade. She is currently President of the International Confederation of Midwives.



Jamaican/Canadian entrepreneur extraordinaire, **Mr Michael Lee-Chin**, received the degree of Doctor of Laws. A graduate of Ontario's McMaster University with a degree in Civil Engineering, Mr Lee-Chin has returned to Jamaica and made good his dream of contributing to his native country by investing heavily in several development projects, buttressed by his significant financial services empire in Canada as well as in Jamaica.



Another outstanding Jamaican entrepreneur and an engineer by profession, **Mr Douglas Orane** received the Doctor of Laws degree. Mr Orane has, since 1995, headed one of the Caribbean's leading conglomerates, the Grace Kennedy Group of Companies, and has shown foresight and courage in his leadership of the CSME-ready business which currently boasts some 36 subsidiaries across the region.



Jamaican consultant and public servant, **Mr Roderick Rainford** received the Doctor of Laws degree. A former Governor of the Central Bank of Jamaica, Mr Rainford was named one of the ten most outstanding UWI Alumni during the institution's fortieth anniversary celebrations in 1988. For three years he served as Deputy Secretary-General of CARICOM and subsequently became the Secretary General, serving from 1983 to 1992.