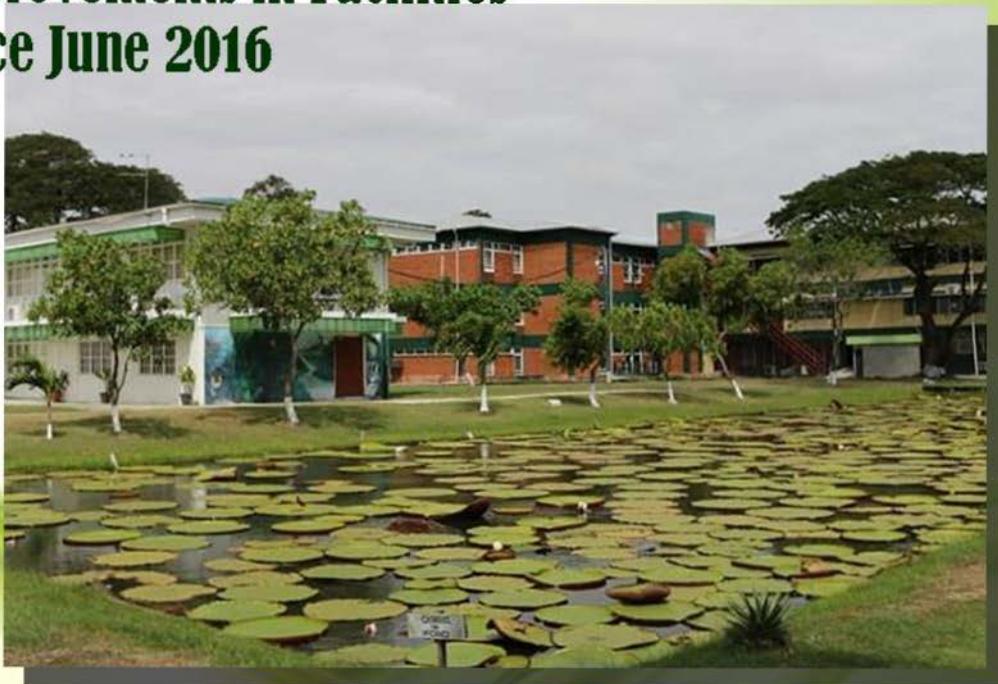


THE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA

## Improvements in Facilities Since June 2016



Office of the Vice-Chancellor  
February 2019



UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

### **Improvements in Facilities since June 2016**

The pursuits of the Administration of The University of Guyana are guided by the Pillars of Project Renaissance, which aims to rebuild UG's educational and economic enterprise and enable it to become a consequential national and international education stakeholder. The first Pillar is Capital Investment, which involves human, finance, physical and brand capital. The improvements in the facilities across the University fall within the first Pillar and are aimed at enhancing the teaching and learning environment for students and the working environment for academic and administrative staff. Listed are the 33 major and minor projects completed since June 2016, with funding provided by the Government of Guyana, through the Ministry of Education, the University, and private sources. Altogether, the amount invested in improving facilities totaled **G\$472,387,066 AND US\$822,000.**



School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI)

#### 1) NEW SEBI BUILDING

This building was constructed to facilitate the university's growing need for both teaching and office space. The School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI) building is a two flat structure which can facilitate in excess of three hundred students across six lecture spaces if necessary. This building was constructed at a cost of **G\$69,801,926**, with funding from the Ministry of Education. The ribbon-cutting was held in March 2017 with then Minister of Education, Hon. Rupert Roopnarine, officiating.



New 500 KVA Generator

#### 2) NEW 500 KVA GENERATOR AND SWITCHGEAR DISTRIBUTION

This unit was purchased to replace an obsolete FG Wilson unit. In its current arrangement, this unit serves many important buildings across campus, including the New Building Society (NBS) dorms, the Center for Information Technology (CIT), the former spicy dish building and the Cheddi Berret Jagan (CBJ) Lecture Hall and the law building, with capacity for additional load thus being able to facilitate the university's expanding needs. This project was funded by the University of Guyana, at a sum of **G\$21,879,482**.



## New Facilities Maintenance Building

### 3) NEW MAINTENANCE BUILDING

Conscious of the derelict state the then Facilities Maintenance building was in, efforts were made to have all administrative staff within this department relocated to a space that was conducive to getting work done. Comprising a staff complement in excess of one hundred employees spread across eight divisions, this building was deemed necessary for both health and safety reasons, in addition to improving the general paradigm and moral of all employees within this division. This building comprises over two thousand square feet of space, complete with office, storage and washroom spaces, constructed and outfitted for occupancy to the tune of **G\$29, 039,245, with G\$26,000,000** provided by the Ministry of Finance and G\$3,039245 provided by the University.



## New Student Social Complex

### 4) NEW STUDENT SOCIAL COMPLEX

As the enrollment grew without commensurate growth in academic, administrative and social space, the students increasingly lost space for social and club engagement. This project was conceptualised and brought to fruition under the auspices of the Administration. This modern building is equipped with office and recreational spaces. When fully completed it will feature, among other things, a lift to cater for physically challenged students. This building was constructed compliments of funding from the University of Guyana, via funds from the Learning Resource Fund, to the tune of **G\$56,937,478**.



Cheddie B. Jagan Lecture Hall

#### 5) RENOVATION OF THE CHEDDI BERRET JAGAN LECTURE HALL

This building, which bears the name of one of the nation's great leaders, had deteriorated to a state not fitting for the name bearing it. As such, on the occasion of the observance of his birth centenary and with funding from the Yesu Persaud Foundation and the Faculty of Social Sciences (notably the CEMPA/CEMBA programmes), the building was renovated and restored, surpassing its former glory with the installation of two fire escapes, at a cost of **G\$16,136,890**. This building comprises five lecture halls, of which two are used exclusively to facilitate the Commonwealth Master's Degree programmes and is able to accommodate in excess of three hundred students at any one time.



Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Centre for Behavioral Sciences and Research

#### 6) TRANSFORMATION OF THE SPICY DISH BUILDING INTO THE JAY AND SYLVIA SOBHAJ CENTRE FOR BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES AND RESEARCH (CEBRES).

Boasting a new modern design and scheduled to facilitate the university's behavioral sciences programmes including the suite of new psychology programs, this building will also host other important facilities such as the campus gym, book store, food court, three lecture halls accommodate 350 students, one graduate seminar room, a medical center, a model Counselling Center, three prayer rooms, The Robotics Club, and 16 offices. This building was renovated via joint funding from the Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation in conjunction with UNICEF and the University, to the tune of **US\$460,000, US\$25,000, and G\$4,770,876, respectively**. The state-of-the-art building, due to be launched in March 2019, also will be fully equipped with brand new furniture and electronic teaching equipment that was gifted by the Jay and Sylvia Sobhraj Foundation and UNICEF.



## Road Rehabilitation

### 7) NEW PARKING LOT AND ROAD REHABILITATION

Due to the heightened demand for parking space around the Turkeyen campus, which resulted from the university's increased driving population, there was need for additional parking spaces. Therefore, the University's Administration partnered with the Ministry of Public Infrastructure to repave UG Road and create a new parking lot to accommodate 78 vehicles comfortably. The projects were executed concurrently, with the parking area costing **G\$13,894,541**.



## George Walcott Lecture Theatre

### 8) UPGRADES IN THE GEORGE WALCOTT LECTURE THEATRE (GWLT) AND THE SMALL LECTURE THEATRE (SLT)

Conscious of class sizes associated with using these spaces and the discomfort associated with same due to the then excessively warm environment, the plan was birthed to have these spaces upgraded to improve the teaching and learning experience of students and the teaching environment for lecturers. Students now benefit from an air conditioned, comfortable and more conducive environment to receive lectures, in addition to new washroom facilities, lighting and a controlled environment due to new windows being installed. These projects were funded by the University of Guyana, at a cost of **G\$10,677,183**.



Faculty of Health Sciences Building

#### 9) COMPLETE ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AND CIVIL WORKS AT FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

As part of a wider initiative to ready the School of Medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences for reaccreditation, both Health Sciences buildings were completely rewired, and other necessary civil works were undertaken. Once completed, these works resulted in improved teaching and learning spaces for students, in addition to a better and more robust electrical and communications infrastructure, which facilitated additional cooling, improved telephony, data communications and an overall better teaching and learning arrangement for lecturers and students, respectively. These works were undertaken with funding from The University of Guyana to the tune of **G\$68,082,505**.



Electrical Upgrade at the Turkeyen Library

#### 10) ELECTRICAL UPGRADE OF THE OLD WING OF THE TURKEYEN LIBRARY

The library's old wing was in dire need of an electrical overhaul, as the then existing infrastructure was in place in excess of twenty years, which was in direct violation of policies guiding such commercial installations. Also, being cognizant of the sensitive and invaluable materials housed at this section of the library, efforts were made to have this situation corrected promptly. Consequently, the relevant expertise in the areas of design and installation was engaged in order to successfully address the situation. Funding for this project was received from the Ministry of Education and totaled **G\$1,546,885**.



Extension of Agriculture and Forestry Building

### 11) EXTENSION OF THE AGRICULTURE BUILDING

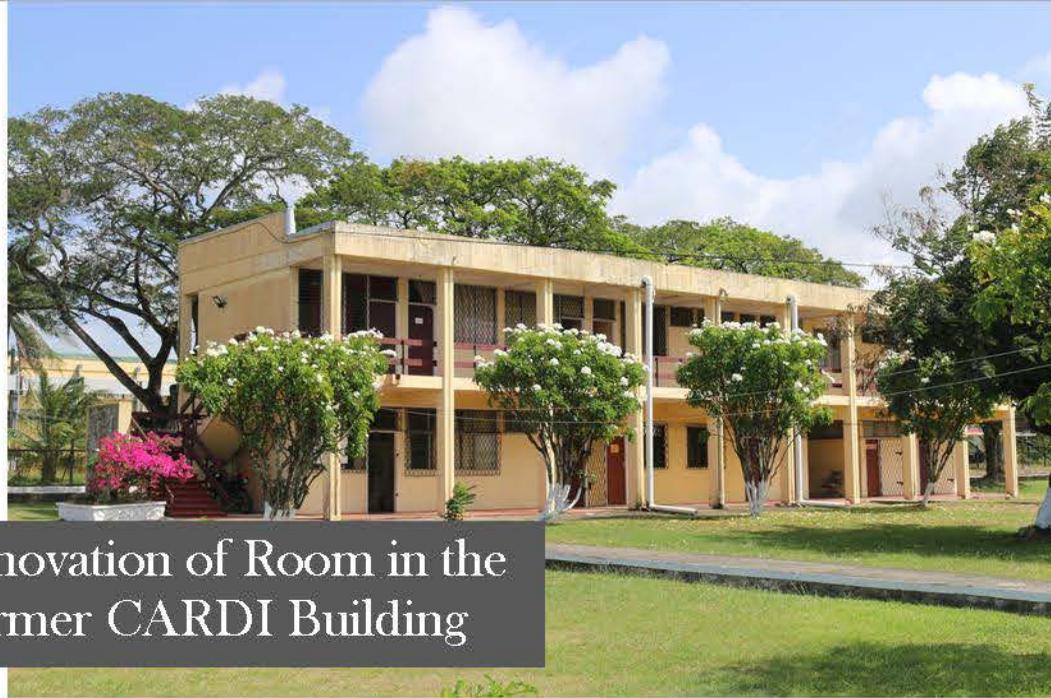
Due to a campus-wide need for space, works were executed on this building. This project would have derived benefits inclusive of increased office spaces, along with increased and improved washroom facilities, and a fire escape for personnel stationed at the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry. This project was funded by the Ministry of Education and The University of Guyana, to the tune of **G\$26,247,309**.



Library Extension at the Tain Campus

### 12) LIBRARY EXTENSION TAIN CAMPUS

This project was conceptualised in keeping with international standards and best practices for University Libraries and also arose from a dire need for space due to an expanding student population. Earmarked as capital works and funded by the Ministry of Education in conjunction with the university, this project was executed for a sum of **G\$21,854,143**. The completed product saw the university receive an additional temperature-controlled library space in excess of fifteen hundred square feet.



### Renovation of Room in the Former CARDI Building

#### 13) RENOVATION OF CARDI SPACE

As the University continued to battle with space allocation for both student and staff purposes, an immediate need had arisen for space to be made available for a new business development officer. An area was made available within the CARDI building, as a unit of the Registry division would have vacated same, to take up residence in their newly constructed building. Renovation of this space was done compliments of funding from the university, to the tune of **G\$1,714,100**.



### Faculty of Social Sciences Building

#### 14) INSTALLATION OF FANS AT THE LECTURE SPACES FOR THE FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND HUMANITIES

A petition was raised by students in relation to the discomfort being experienced while attending classes in these lecture areas. This discomfort was associated with uncomfortable heat associated with the space, especially during afternoon sessions. Therefore, in response to this the University purchased and installed fans throughout these spaces. Funding for this project was provided by the University of Guyana, to the tune of **G\$179,550**.



## Rehabilitation Works Completed at the Turkeyen Library

### 15) BAT EXCLUSION, PROOFING AND FUMIGATION OF THE LIBRARY'S NEW WING

Reports related to the unbearable presence of bats and other vermin at the library's new wing location required immediate attention. Staff members had begun complaining about feeling unwell. Thus, an emergency situation ensued causing the library to be closed for a period until all related issues were resolved and the library restored to a state of normalcy. These works were successfully executed and completed with University funds. Additionally, similar works were undertaken in the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, and the Welfare Division of the Personnel Department via similar funding means, all at a sum of **G\$10,927,661**.



## Turkeyen Library

### 16) TURKEYEN LIBRARY ROOF

Two sets of work were done to have the roof of the library's new wing repaired, as it was in a deplorable state, with books and other important material from the library's Caribbean Research unit were exposed to the elements. As such, immediate emergency works were required. Experienced personnel were contracted, and all issues were rectified, by way of funding from the University at a sum of **G\$172,000** for the first project and **G\$3,360,350** for the second one.



Learning Resource Centre

#### 17) LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE (LRC) UPGRADE

Responsible for all official photography and videography of our university, the area which housed the LRC component of the library was in a deteriorated state. Successful efforts were made to have this unit relocated to a space that was more conducive to effectively and efficiently achieving its purpose, whereby the former University press area of the library was renovated and repurposed accordingly. This project was executed via university funding at a sum of **G\$2,433,100**.

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Rehabilitated J21 Lab

#### 18) REHABILITATION J21 LAB

This area, housed in the Education Building of the Faculty of Education and Humanities, required urgent attention, as the space is utilized by students enrolled in the Education program for delivery of practical teaching/learning sessions. Deemed as a most valuable component to the Faculty, where course delivery is concerned, this area was earmarked for emergency renovations and was funded by the University, at a sum of **G\$2,135,238**.



## Solar Powered Classrooms

### 19) PV SYSTEM UPGRADE MPB

This building boasts to be the only building on campus that is powered exclusively by renewable energy in the form of solar. However, as the demand for energy grew, due to increased class sizes and frequency of same, the original design of the electrical infrastructure quickly became inadequate. Therefore, based on recommendations, a decision was taken by the Administration to have this system upgraded, so as to effectively and safely handle increased power demands. All upgrades were undertaken, and the system was restored to a fully functional state at a sum of **G\$2,646,033**.



## Staff Flats—Turkeyen Campus

### 20) STAFF FLATS

This space serves as a dorm area for staff members on a short- or long-term basis. However, due to years of neglect this area had deteriorated to a poor state, thus requiring immediate attention. A decision was taken to commence works on this space, thus facilitating the urgent repairs of the roof, replacement of rotted wooden members and improvements in washroom facilities. These works were funded by the university at a sum of **G\$3,999,400**.

21) Upgrade and Equipping of the burnt-out Physics lab with **US\$37,000** from ExxonMobil,

22) Upgrade of the GeoTechnical Lab in Faculty of Engineering and Technology with funds from GGMC and Equipment and Software funded by Schlumberger; **US\$ 50,000** (being launched on February 20, 2019).

23) Nand Persaud Soil Center at Johns Campus in Berbice, financed by the Nand Persaud Group at **US\$240,000** (to be launched in March 2019)

24) Remodeling of the burnt-out Natural Sciences Building in train, with G\$8,000,000 from the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission Fund and **US\$10,000** from Scotia Bank (in the pipeline).

25) Refurbishing and outfitting of the Gasifier Unit in the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry with funds from ExxonMobil **G\$3,700,000** (to be launched in March 2019).

26) Re-equipping of the Air Conditioning Unit and Electrical Engineering Unit Labs in Faculty of Engineering and Technology to the tune of **G\$10,000,000**, funded by the Guyana Refrigeration Company. Launched in May 2018.

27) Biodiversity Centre Upgrade: painting, PVC ceiling installed; painting of internal floors; replacement of fridge and hip sheeting; UG funds amounting to **G\$4,539,000**.

28) Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry Staff Lounge: replacement of furniture; repair of ceiling; funded by the University and the privately-raised Vice-Chancellor's Fund for Strategic Initiatives to the tune of **G\$2,853,681**.

29) Construction of a culvert at the Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry to access the fish ponds/green house. This project was funded by the University, at cost of



Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry

30) Repairs to the roof in one of the buildings in the Faculty of Engineering and Technology, at cost of **G\$1,677,000** from University funds.

31) Repairs to the Institute of Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE) QC compound at cost of **G\$2,058,890**; University funds.

32) Repairs to bridge at IDCE Anna Regina at cost of **G\$1,535,520**; University funds.

33) New Math and Science Building, which is a 2-story, 4357 square foot building, being made of clay blocks to reduce absorption and transmission of heat to help with energy conservation. This building will be jointly used by the Faculties of Natural Sciences and Earth and Environmental Sciences. It will have one wet lab and one dry lab and washroom facilities for students on the ground floor, and two offices, and two classrooms and staff washroom facilities on the first floor. It is expected to be completed this coming June. Construction is funded by the Ministry of Education to the tune of **G\$54,536,000**.

Office of the Vice-Chancellor  
February 20, 2019



Math and Science Building

## UG IN BRIEF

With a current enrollment of some 8,000 students, The University of Guyana (UG) has graduated more than 20,000 students who have gone on to successful careers locally, regionally and internationally. The University is also a major contributor to the national economy and to business and industry. Established in 1963 on a part-time basis with shared space at Queens College, UG moved to its own campus at Turkeyen in 1970 and expanded in 2000 with the addition of the Tain Campus. It now offers more than 120 under-graduate and post-graduate Programmes including the Natural Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Studies, Forestry, Urban Planning and Management, Tourism Studies, Education, Creative Arts, Economics, Law, Medicine, Business, Optometry and Nursing. Several online programmes are available and The UG also offers extra-mural classes at four locations through its Institute of Distance and Continuing Education (IDCE). The UG also offers the opportunity for student engagement in debating, sports, and cultural, religious and professional activities.

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## 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 programmes;

**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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