



Renaissance

Office of the Vice-Chancellor, The University of Guyana Vol. 2 Nos.1 & 2, Jan-Feb, 2017

WELCOME BACK STUDENTS!

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The VC Speaks

New Year, New Aims

"The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it, but that it is too low and we reach it." - Michelangelo

The month of January often is a time to ponder and plan for the year ahead, and set goals and objectives. This often is done not just in the personal context, but in the professional one; not only by individuals, but also by institutions. There is wisdom in Michelangelo's proposition above, whether the pondering and planning are being done by an individual or an institution, to guard against the danger he cited.

I am mindful of this wisdom as I contemplate what this year's Renaissance journey might entail. Thus, my intent is to aim high, and for two key reasons. One, I know we have the capacity to achieve great things by mobilizing the resources and goodwill of various relevant stakeholders. Moreover, our students and our society deserve more than educational and economic mediocrity. What, then, one might ask, are some of my high aims for 2017. They include construction of a student social complex and the establishment of a School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI). The feasibility study team of local and international specialists and stakeholders is working assiduously to facilitate my submission of a proposal to our governing council at the end of March.

Achieving big things in the pursuit of educational excellence requires investing in better salaries and working conditions of the people who are critical to the success of whatever big plans are made. Therefore, it should surprise no one that a reasonable salary increase would be on my list. Moreover, there should be no wonderment in hearing that tuition would need to be increased, to help meet the staff salary obligations and to enhance the quality of the educational experience. The conference on diaspora engagement being planned for the end of July is another big and bold aim.

Also on my 'aiming high' list is the establishment of the University of Guyana Press and the launching of a merchandizing and branding initiative, including the unveiling of a new website. Yet, our aiming high pertains not only to bringing new initiatives to fruition. It extends also to things started earlier, such as Turkeyen and Tain Talks begun last semester, and the Vice Chancellor's Renaissance Lectures, begun in January.

Will there be setbacks? Oh, yes! Should we allow the prospects of setbacks to prevent us from aiming high? Oh, no! So, mindful of Michelangelo's prescient proposition, I invite you to join me in making a success of my aiming high this year. Our students and our nation deserve it.

Keep on keeping on!



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



The Vice Chancellor's January - February Quote

“I come from the nigger yard of yesterday
leaping from the oppressors’ hate
and the scorn of myself;
from the agony of the dark hut in the shadow
and the hurt of things;
from the long days of cruelty and the long
nights of pain down to the wide streets of
to-morrow, of the next day leaping I come,
who cannot see will hear.”

- *Martin Carter*



Editor's Note



Denise Hopkinson-Braam
Editor

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: Nos. 1 and 2 editions of *Renaissance*, a monthly newsletter. *Renaissance* is the Vice-Chancellor's medium of sharing with you our University's developments.

In this edition we acknowledge the re-opening of the University for Academic Year 2016/2017 Semester II. As we approach the end of the fifth week of classes we hope students are settled and in full working stride, to have a productive and successful semester.

Some of the new developments at UG include: an MOU signed with London South Bank University; a contract with the Ministry of Public Security's Citizen Security Strengthening Programme and the Inaugural Diaspora Engagement Conference to be held in Guyana.

Earlier this year a number of UG students and a few staff were affected by an apartment fire. We commend the University's administration for their support to those affected.

The *Renaissance* team had an opportunity to profile visiting Professor David Phoenix, Vice-Chancellor of the London South Bank University and Dr Penny Sibert, Guyanese Fellow at Nottingham University. We hope you enjoy reading their stories.

Additionally, in February all Faculties participated in UG's Open Career Day, showcasing students' work, existing programs and new programs envisioned for the future. We thank all those hard working and dedicated staff and volunteer students for long hours spent in preparation for thousands of people who visited Turkeyen Campus on Career Day.

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

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

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

If Intermediary Bank Is Requested

USA Bank of America
NY Branch, 100 West 33rd Street
New York 10001
ABA Code: 026009593
Swift Code: BOFAUS3N
Account#: 6550325990

All donations should be made out to
The University of Guyana

Accountability and Reporting

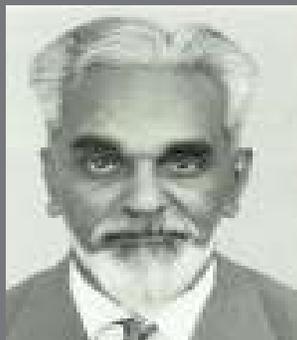
- A receipt shall be issued when cheque or cash is received from donors
- A certificate of contribution shall be issued for donors using the electrical transfer system
- A register of donors will be maintained
- Weekly report on cumulative donations received
- Inform and update donors on use of funds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

For further details and enquiries
please email
donate@uog.edu.gy

For alumni membership and matters please email
alumni@uog.edu.gy



DID YOU KNOW?



Professor Harry Annamunthodo



The first Convocation of the University of Guyana was held on January 13, 1968, at Queen's College Auditorium.

The Graduating Class was comprised of 31 graduates: Twelve Bachelor of Arts graduates; two Bachelor of Science graduates and seventeen Bachelor of Social Science graduates.

The feature address was delivered by Professor Sir Harry Annamunthodo (1920 - 1986) Kt 1967; MRCS and FRCS 1951; MB BS London 1946; DTM&H 1948; FACS 1961. Professor Annamunthodo, Guyanese, was the first West Indian to be appointed to a Chair in the

Faculty of Medicine at the University College of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. He was an outstanding teacher at the University, a founding member of the Association of Surgeons in Jamaica and was instrumental in building the capability of not just the Medical Department in Jamaica, but also other medical training facilities throughout the Caribbean.

In his 25 years of teaching at UWI, he contributed to the training of over 1500 medical graduates, who are now holding leading positions throughout the West Indies, North America and other parts of the

world. His speed and dexterity as a surgeon were well known, as well as his interest in carcinoma of the penis (of which he was probably the world's expert in his day) and surgical venereal diseases.

He attended Queens College, Guyana, London Hospital Medical College, University of London MB, BS. He was also the holder of a diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. He was a recipient of the following awards: Knight Bachelor (1967), Emeritus Professor, UWI, and Hunterian Professor to the Royal College of Surgeons, England.

VC reaches out to affected students

—following devastating fire at Cummings Lodge apartment building



Vice-Chancellor Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith (centre), Registrar Dr Nigel Gravesande (left of VC Griffith), AR Students' Welfare Ms King (right of VC Griffith) and PRO Ms Paul (far left) handing over assistance to affected students and staff.

University of Guyana (UG) donated \$100,000 each to 10 students and two staff members who were displaced recently by a fire that destroyed an apartment building in Cummings Lodge. More than 50 students of UG, the Cyril Potter College of Education (CPCE) and the Rajiv Gandhi Medical School were affected by the blaze. The first six students and one staff member received their cheques at a simple presentation ceremony that was held on January 25 in the Vice-Chancellor's office.

The effects of the fire has encouraged the university to consider establishing stronger support programmes for students and staff. At the ceremony, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith said that the univer-

sity has an obligation to find a way to help its students. He further noted that a Student Welfare Fund will be established to provide stronger financial support for students and staff in crises, but there is also the need for other investors, who can consider building more dormitories on campus.

Registrar of the University, Dr Nigel Gravesande, who was also present at the ceremony said that this incident now offers an opportunity to have partners to collaborate with the university to provide expanded accommodation. The university will continue to give moral support to the students and staff. Dr Gravesande will meet with the Student Welfare Division to ensure the students affected by the fire are comfortable enough to continue their studies.

The students who received financial assistance were Raphael Fraser, Navindra Manohar, Jewel LeFleur, Usham Changa, Yoinca Rowland, Tressyia Ketwaroo, Minroy Punwa, Vasnje Ganeshnauth and Rovin Persaud.

Staff included Trovanna Azeez, Office of Philanthropy, Alumni and Civic Engagement and Dhanraj Budhai, Department of Dentistry. The donations to the students and staff were made from funds raised privately by the Vice-Chancellor for his Fund for Strategic Initiatives. Contributions to the fund can be made by contacting the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Dr Paloma Mohamed, the University's Bursar or the Chief of Staff in the Vice Chancellery.

CSSP signs contract with UG for prisons survey

Reprinted from GINA, GUYANA, January 19, 2017

The University of Guyana (UG) will be conducting a survey in the prisons and lockups across Guyana with the aim of developing a rehabilitation and reintegration model for ex-offenders. On Wednesday Project Manager of the CSSP Clement Henry and UG's Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC), Academic Engagement Dr Michael Scott signed contracts for the study.

The survey is being facilitated by the Ministry of Public Security's Citizen Security Strengthening Programme (CSSP).

Beginning January month end, the six-month research is expected to support the overall prison system reform. Henry cautioned the University to ensure that ethical principles are followed when conducting the survey. "The client must also be informed that all data will be kept confidential being only accepted by members of the study team," Henry said.

The University's VC, Dr Scott, guaranteed that every researcher is ethical in the conduct of their work. Faculty staff, from both Turkeyen and Tain campuses, includes medical personnel, legal personnel, mathematicians, criminologist and social workers are going to comprise the core team leading the survey. "The persons who'll be engaged in this exercise are very seasoned researchers and consultants and have had experiences working with international organisations," Dr Scott, who will have oversight responsibility for the survey, assured.

The exploratory survey will provide ground breaking data for the research. Dr Scott said that some 30 students from the University will be trained in data collection to assist the team in conducting the survey.

The University has sought the assistance of Tres de Febrero University of Argentina with the drafting of the survey. "We recognise that our situation is quite different and so we have made our inputs into the instrument insofar as it reflects our context," Dr Scott explained. The Argentine university has extensive experience in conducting prison surveys in the hemisphere.

The survey is part of Component Three of the CSSP, which seeks to:

- finance sustainable re-entry initiative by assessing rehabilitation and reintegration needs across the prison system,
- develop a rehabilitation and reintegration model based on the needs assessments and the outputs of the survey,
- develop a case management programme to support and track inmate progress and offer training to Guyana Prison Service (GPS) staff on delivering rehabilitation and reintegration services.

CSSP is a five-year programme that aims to contribute to a reduction in crime and violence in Guyana, especially in targeted communities and among youths, by increasing their human and social capacity.

The specific objectives of the project are to: improve behaviours for non-violent conflict resolution in targeted communities; increase Guyana Police Force's effectiveness in crime prevention and crime investigation nationally; and improve the Guyana Prison Service's effectiveness in reducing offender recidivism.

The CSSP is being funded by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the government. Henry noted that US\$74,200 has been allocated for the survey.



University of Guyana's Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Engagement, Dr Michael Scott pose with Project Manager of the CSSP Clement Henry after the signing of the contract for a survey on the prisons of Guyana

Save the Date: March 14, 2017

Turkeyen and Tain Talks 6

Topic: Economic and Financial Policy and Praxis in Guyana

Place: Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown

Date: Friday, March 14, 2017

Time: 18:00 h



UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

DR PENNY SIEBERT

-Guyanese Fellow at Nottingham University

“My interest started as a child, pretty much around snakes”, Dr Penelope Siebert laughingly said. She is calm, very simple; her upbringing mirrors the average Guyanese child. Today Dr Penelope Siebert, known fondly as “Dr Penny”, is a research fellow at the University of Nottingham, and her life tells the tale of someone who has stretched her childhood dreams in a continual basis to advance her knowledge in the field of science. In her youthful days, Dr Siebert worked at the University of Guyana (UG) as a technician in the Physics and Biology departments. She left Guyana in 1984 to advance her education.

Dr Siebert visited Guyana recently after 30 years away and her stay was primarily centered on her area of work at the University of Nottingham. During a recent interview, she said that her visit was aimed at establishing research collaborations with UG, and one of the reasons behind that move hinges on her childhood, since she grew up in Guyana until she was 20 years old. As she progresses in her field of work, she said that there is always a part of her that tells her she should return to Guyana. She said that research in the United Kingdom (UK) allows one to collaborate with other institutions. As such, she chose the University of Guyana. She said her childhood can be described as interesting. She vividly recalls “what used to be the old track or dam”, which she noted has been

transformed into housing areas. She was also intrigued with an array of cars and other vehicles as compared to many bicycles which numerous rode during her days in Guyana.

Dr Siebert attended St John’s College in Waterloo Street, and during her recent trip she revisited the institution to decipher what has really changed. “Nothing has changed”, she said with a chuckle. In her childhood days, she recalled visiting New Amsterdam, climbing the trees and playing on the “back dams”. Later in her teenage years, she spent most of her time in Lethem in the Rupununi, an area which she wishes to visit given her memorable days. She said her first trip to the Rupununi occurred when she was 16 years old. While there, her friends decided to make a quick trip west of Lethem and suddenly she was in Bom Fin in the state of Roraima, Brazil. Her love for the area began at that time and her friendships with persons there also excited her adventurous mind.

Regarding her career path, Dr Siebert recalled spending time around her childhood friend Lawrence Van Sertima, who reared several snakes and according to her, this experience impacted on her interest in natural sciences and biology as well as diseases. After leaving Guyana, Dr Siebert started schooling at the tertiary level at the University College of London in the 1990s where she studied Human Sciences. She said that prior to schooling; she sought a job before she became a home student. She recalled her first job in the UK, as one of an Anatomy Technician. “So my first job was embalming bodies”, she said as she laughed. She would then encounter her first embalming moment, which she described as scary. However, she was prepared since the interview process prior to being employed provided information on her duties. She said when she started in that profession, embalming occurred during the summer period.

Over time, Dr Siebert started a family and continued progressing through her academic life. She trained and became a midwife. At that point her interest grew in the field of public health. She then received training in public health, and in the part of the practice



Dr Penny Siebert

she said, she enjoys examining various diseases and control mechanisms for communicable diseases. These days, however, “the big thing” in the UK is the non-communicable diseases, she said, noting that attention is sharply aimed on such ailments. On the lighter side of things, Dr Siebert holds closely her love for the traditional Guyanese food and during the interview she mentioned “pepper-pot” and “garlic pork” at Christmas time. She recalled her grandmother being the producer of “world cuisine” dishes. Today, those cooking skills are etched in the family. Following her first visit to Turkey recently, Dr Siebert said that the campus has changed immensely. She said she was not sure what to expect on her recent visit. But she noted that she was impressed by the campus as it is. Recalling life on campus in her days at Turkeyen, she said that it was a busy atmosphere during the semester and one of the places which captured the essence of school life was the canteen. She said she has not seen one during her recent visit, noting that the canteen provided space for persons to socialize.

Dr Siebert works in a research unit at Nottingham University. The unit is referred to as the Centre for Health, Innovation, Leadership and Learning (CHILL). She works alongside other health care professionals while putting theory into practice. She focuses on the area of implementation and evaluation and she examines health care innovations, the implementation process, and its impact on improving patient outcomes. Dr Siebert holds a Master of Science in Public Health from the University of Nottingham and she did a doctoral research at the University of Sheffield.



Dr Penny Siebert

Three awarded at Walter Rodney Creative Writing ceremony

The annual Walter Rodney Foundation (WRF) for Creative Writing Competition, on February 16, 2017 awarded three academics of the University of Guyana (UG), at Moray House, Georgetown.

The Walter Rodney Foundation presented prizes to the three 2016 winners of the competition's various categories.

Copping First prize in the Poem Category was recent English graduate, Gabrielle

express their ideas through the competition.

The award ceremony saw a host of other competitors, UG lecturers, officials of the Ministry of Education, and members of the art industry in Guyana.

Also gracing the ceremony with his presence was UG's esteemed Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith. In his remarks, he applauded the winners of the competition, while praising the WRF for its



Donald Rodney presenting award certificate to the winner of the Poem Category, Gabrielle Mohamed.



Vanda Radzik presenting award certificate to winner of the Fiction Category, Nicholas Peters.

Mohamed, with her piece "Hell that springs from the memory of the dead." Following that category was the winner of the Non-Fiction piece, and second time awardee of the Walter Rodney Foundation, Dr. Andrew Hutson, for his piece "Guyana's Evolution: Ebb and Flow." Meanwhile, the winner of the Fiction category was Nicholas Peters with his piece "The Centuries old Flame".

While presenting their different pieces, the three awardees expressed gratitude to the Walter Rodney Foundation for the opportunity to

initiate through the creative writing competition.

Meanwhile, Professor Griffith revealed that the University of Guyana is hoping to soon launch its Undergraduate Research Programme.

"In the context of facing the realities of our university, which reflects the realities of our society, we have got to reenergize, reestablish and support research," Professor Griffith said. He continued, "But it is not only the research by the lecturers; we have got to do that with the students."

He further explained that, over the past decades, he has

been successful in doing undergraduate research programmes in different parts of the United States, and therefore plans to do the same at UG.

"I would like to extend the offer to students of all faculties to reach out to Dr. Troy Thomas, who is the founding Director of the Undergrad Research Programme at the University of Guyana," VC Griffith urged.

The Walter Rodney Creative Writing Award was launched

in October 2013, under the auspices of the Walter Rodney Foundation. The Atlanta, Georgia, USA based organisation aims to recognise and award the creative works of UG students, both past and current, who are living in Guyana. The WRF also seeks to improve lives and build capacity through scholarship and programs that promote education, health, and human development from a social justice perspective.



Professor Ivelaw Griffith presenting award certificate to the winner of the Non-Fiction Category, Andrew Hutson



The UNIVERSITY of GUYANA

DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Save The Date!

July 23rd to 28th 2017

Georgetown, Guyana

Dreaming Diaspora Engagement Doing Diaspora Engagement

ESTABLISHING A CARIBBEAN DIASPORA ENGAGEMENT CENTRE AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA & HOSTING A FOUNDING CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE SESSIONS WOULD BE AROUND THE MAIN TOPICS OF:
HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION/UG, SPORTS, TOURISM, ARTS
AND CULTURE, ENTREPRENEURSHIP

PARTNERS INCLUDE: GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA,
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION

THERE WILL BE A CALL FOR PAPERS ON DIASPORA
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

LOOKOUT FOR CONFERENCE REGISTRATION INFORMATION
FOR ADDITIONAL DETAILS, E-MAIL: UGDIASPORA@UOG.EDU.GY

First Diaspora Engagement Conference to convene in Guyana



Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith,
Vice-Chancellor, University of Guyana

The University of Guyana (UG) will host its Inaugural Diaspora Engagement Conference from July 23 to 28 2017, in Georgetown, Guyana, under the theme: Dreaming Diaspora Engagement, Doing Diaspora Engagement.

The Conference is expected to attract several hundred participants. Hosted by the University of Guyana with support from a team of leaders in the diaspora and oth-

er stakeholders, the Conference is organised around two overarching pillars: human, social and entrepreneurship development, and diaspora philanthropy and diplomacy.

It would provide the platform for developing a diaspora engagement strategy that would inform the work of the first Caribbean Diaspora Engagement Center. The launch of the Center is expected to be a major highlight of the six-day Conference. According to UG's Tenth Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, "the Conference will contribute to the development of diaspora policy and a framework to effectively attract direct diaspora investment and engage the diaspora in nation building."

The conference has three components namely; an academic symposium, a business forum,

and community engagement. The symposium will receive academic presentations on key issues such as international and regional migration policies, cultural identities and the Diasporas, financial transfers and remittances, social remittances, tourism, diaspora trade and investments, among other areas.

The community engagement dimension will focus on building relationships with key stakeholders such as diaspora community leaders, governments, and hometown associations. In this context, delegates have an opportunity to participate in a Give Back Market Place, where there would be various opportunities to volunteer time and resources to community development projects. The Business Forum will consider the processes for facilitating investment, trade and enterprise development. Members of the government and the private sector will present op-

portunities and policy initiatives to potential investors.

Many countries have recognized the potential of their Diasporas and have used structured mechanisms such as diaspora conferences to harness the potential of their Diasporas and engage them effectively.

Members of the huge Caribbean diaspora in New York, Canada, U.K. are expected to attend and provide input, match skills and create trans-national networks to build a robust diaspora engagement and productive partnerships.

There are more than 2 million first and second generation Caribbean descent persons living overseas who have acquired expertise and experience which can be used to foster sustained economic development in the Caribbean.

Save the Date

The Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture

II

"The Publishing Pillar of the Renaissance Bridge"

by Ian Randle

Place: Herdmanston Lodge, Georgetown

Date: Thursday, March 16, 2017

Time: 18:00 h

Save the Date

Public Lecture to Mark International Women's Day

by Chandra Persaud

Based on her recent MPH research

"Application of the Domestic Violence Act in Guyana"

Place: The Theatre Guild,

Parade St, Georgetown, Guyana

Date: Wednesday, March 8, 2017

Time: 18:00 h

Prominent Professors visit UG

- MoU signed with London South Bank University, UK



Professor David Phoenix, Vice-Chancellor of London South Bank University and Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana

Professor David Phoenix, Vice-Chancellor of London South Bank University and Professor Jaipaul Singh of the University of Central Lancashire, were recent guests of Vice-Chancellor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith of The University of Guyana (UG). The purpose of the visit was to further discuss and agree on areas for collaboration between London South Bank University and the University of Guyana, and agree on a way forward for the UK Champions Support Group for UG. The latter is an informal network of senior university executives committed to supporting UG, chaired by Professor Phoenix.

The visitors engaged the Committee of Deans on collaboration for research and teaching-learning enhancement. Areas identified for collaboration are agriculture, bio-diversity, the health sciences, humanities and the soon-to-be-established School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation at UG. Meetings were held with students and faculty/staff at the University's Institute for Distance and Continuing Education in New Amsterdam and the Berbice Campus at Tain, Corentyne.

The party also held discussions with the Hon. Dr Rupert Roopnarine, Minister of Education, H.E. Mr Greg Quinn, the British High Commissioner, and had a working lunch with civic lead-

ers of New Amsterdam and Regions 5 and 6 at State House in New Amsterdam. The opportunity was taken to share developments at UG and further strengthen support for the University's renaissance.

One highlight of the visit was the Inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture, held at the Turkeyen Campus on February 2. Professor Phoenix spoke on "The Importance of the Entrepreneurial University for Nation-Building", an issue that is a priority for the University's Administration as it seeks to broaden its funding base beyond the government subvention and tuition/fees to include planned giving, merchandising, public-private partnerships, investments, grants and contracts. Grounded in his experience in a similar revitalisation of LSBU since he assumed office three years ago, Professor Phoenix's ideas were deeply philosophical, informed by the latest research and most importantly practical, helping the audience to assess and analyse UG's position.

Following the lecture, the two Vice-Chancellors took the opportunity to sign an agreement indicating their intention to work quickly to define specific implementation plans for the areas discussed. Vice-Chancellor Phoenix was also presented with the first University of Guyana Champion Award by Vice-Chancellor Griffith, for his continued interest in and support for UG and

for his exemplary engagement in aiding the renaissance of the University of Guyana.

Professor Phoenix first came to Guyana about twenty years ago, when he was Dean and then Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Central Lancashire, and has returned several times since. Like Professor Singh, who was born in Guyana, he has a strong interest in seeing the University of Guyana develop and discharge its mandate as a national university, active in the nation's development. Thus, while the visit was an institutional visit, the underlying strong personal bonds continue to fuel UG's growing institutional relationships.

The visit was organised by the office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Planning and International Engagement, headed by Dr Barbara Reynolds. Meanwhile, the second Vice Chancellor's Lecture is scheduled for March 16. It will be delivered by Mr Ian Randle, Chairman of the Jamaica-based Ian Randle Publishers (IRP) on the subject "The Publishing Pillar of the Renaissance Bridge: Why, What, How". The Lecture will also provide the occasion for Mr Randle and Vice-Chancellor Griffith to sign a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a UG Press as an imprint of IRP. Pursuit of the UG Press is an integral part of Vice-Chancellor Griffith's efforts to stimulate and support research and scholarship at UG. Another key initiative in this respect is the recent establishment of the Vice-Chancellor's Research Support Fund, with GUY \$1 million from private fund-raising.



Professor David Phoenix and Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith

First Annual Vice-Chancellor's Cabinet Retreat

-Facing and Fixing as we Strengthen the Pillars of the Renaissance Bridge

The First Annual Vice-Chancellor's Retreat was held on January 19 -20, 2017 at Renaissance House, Houston, East Bank Demerara, Guyana. The program was planned with three objectives in mind.

- First to identify at least three strategic goals, with objectives and measurable outcome indicators, for each Cabinet Portfolio Area for Semester II through August 2017, mindful of the four pillars of the Renaissance Bridge: Capital Investment, Academic Enhancement, Economic Viability, and Alumni Engagement.

- Second to identify at least three preliminary strategic goals, with objectives and measurable outcome indicators, for each Cabinet Portfolio Area for Academic Year 2017-2018, mindful of the four pillars of the Renaissance Bridge.

- Third to advance the functional aspects of the recent re-organization by clarifying portfolio areas and enhancing the working relationships between and among unit leaders and units.





The Inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture highlights-

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY FOR NATION BUILDING

In the heartening spirit of enlightenment and educational rejuvenation stemming from the newly developed Renaissance lectures, on Thursday, February 02, 2017 the University of Guyana hosted the Inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture. The lecture focused primarily on the Importance of the Entrepreneurial University for Nation Building and also served as a platform for collaborative academic agreements between the University of Guyana and the London South Bank University with the signing and exchanging of the Letters of Intent.

The Renaissance Lecture Series is a multifaceted educational and philosophical program created by the University of Guyana's Vice-Chancellor with the cooperation of other notable university academics to namely: facilitate discussions about strengthening the core pillars of the Renaissance Bridge, specifically Academic Enhancement, Capital Investment, Economic Viability and Alumni Engagement. In his opening remarks, Professor Griffith referenced the great Rabindranath Tagore's saying, "you cannot cross a sea simply by standing and staring at the water," further disclosing that it is the university's intention



Professor David Phoenix

to cross numerous educational seas but that cannot be accomplished without the relevant and necessary actions required for the transformation process.

Additionally, he shared that the idea of a Renaissance Bridge is to exchange and engage with people from different calibers of society to construct a strong pillar of support between the university and the wider communities. Also, the lecture series is to engage national and international higher education policy leaders and practitioners with

a view to strengthen the university's international engagement and to enhance the entrepreneurship of the university overall and its constituent units.

The latter principle of the series underlined the event's proceedings where a profound, informative, interactive and quite collaborative discourse occurred. The aforementioned lecture title, 'The Importance of the Entrepreneurial University for Nation Building' was delivered by the Vice-Chancellor of the London South Bank University, Professor David Phoenix,

O.B.E in the University's Education Lecture Theatre (ELT) to a large reception including staff members and students of the university, special invitees and dignitaries such as the Honorable Minister of Public Security Khemraj Ramjattan, His Excellency Greg Quinn, British High Commissioner to Guyana, Dr Nigel Gravesande, Registrar of the University of Guyana, Professor Jaipaul Singh of the University of Lancashire, Mr Vincent Alexander, Dr Scott, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Academic Engagement and Dr Paloma Mohamed, Deputy Vice Chancellor of PACE.

The main dignitary of the event Professor David Phoenix O.B.E is a decorated scholar who, among many other achievements, was elected to Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians (Edinburgh) for his medical research works and also his works in educational policy. He possesses over twenty years of academic experience and has one hundred plus published papers under his name. Furthermore, in his presentation he explained the holistic concept of an Entrepreneurial University
continued on pg 24



Bettering Guyana's education from the background - Professor David Andrew Phoenix



Professor David Phoenix

Despite not being Guyanese, Professor David Andrew Phoenix exhibits a love for Guyana common to that possessed by locals.

An advisor to the University of Guyana since 2012, Professor Phoenix has been working behind the scenes to slowly raise the academic standards within Guyana on the tertiary level.

Professor Phoenix boasts an impressive professional and academic portfolio: with an academic background in biochemistry and molecular engineering, he is currently the Vice-Chancellor of the London South Bank University

and also sits on Universities UK, a board responsible for overseeing all of the universities within the United Kingdom. He is also an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (OBE), a Queen's honour given to an individual who has played a major local role in activities such as business, charity, or the public sector.

Indeed, while many Guyanese might not be familiar with his name, Professor Phoenix is certainly familiar with Guyana and has been visiting for the past 20 years in a bid to better UG. His most recent visit was in early Febru-

ary 2017.

"I've been coming to Guyana now for about 20 years and those visits have really been about trying to support UG and trying to support people in Guyana in terms of skills development," Professor Phoenix explained. He continued, "This visit, following upon a meeting I had with your new Vice-Chancellor in London, is to see how I could help support him and UG deliver what it hopes to achieve."

The recent visit also saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UG and Professor Phoenix's University, London South Bank. Phoenix explained that, since his appointment as advisor, he has been working along with UG to identify areas of collaboration that could benefit both universities.

"This agreement is specifically between London South Bank and UG and it basically lays the foundation for us to identify what are the two to three strands of work we want to do next," he said. He explained that, from the discussions had with UG Vice-Chancellor Professor Ivelaw Griffith, one key area of collaboration would be the development of business and enterprise. He shared that this area is one in which London South Bank University has a strong reputation and where Professor Griffith is keen to support for UG. Professor Phoenix added that, as usual, focus will be placed on opportunities for staffing and students exchange.

But how did such a relationship even begin? What really brought Professor Phoenix to the shores of Guyana?

For him, he said, it was the brilliance of a Guyanese scholar by the name of Professor Jaipaul Singh.

"When I started at the University of Central Lancashire, there was a Professor there – Professor Jaipaul Singh – who originated from Guyana and he had qualified from UG. He was incredibly passionate about trying to support the University in his country for the future. When I was a young lecturer, he was also one of the few professors who came to try and mentor me when I started," Professor Phoenix recalled. He said that, upon rising to a position of seniority, he was motivated to assist Professor Singh in his ambition to try and work to help UG.

"We started on booking exchange visits for medics to give them training in UK hospitals. Over the visits, I got to know UG more and it reached a point where I felt that – if I were given the chance – I could contribute something that would be a long-lasting legacy or benefit to UG and Guyana. I liked what potential it had to offer and I wanted to be a part of its future."

He further shared that the relationship so far has been fruitful and has seen a number of projects over the years. The most successful project so far, he said, has been linked to biodiversity and the environment.

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Turkeyen and Tain Talks 5

-Non-Communicable Diseases Matter



The escalating endemic of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) in Guyana continues to draw attention from the Government as well as local and international institutions as a cause for grave concern and action.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), “Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, are not passed from person to person. They are diseases of long duration and generally slow progression. NCDs affect all age groups and regions which are often associated with older age groups, but evidence shows that 16 million of all deaths attributed to NCDs occur before the age of 70. Of these “premature” deaths, 82% occurred in low- and middle-income countries.

These diseases are driven by forces that include ageing, rapid unplanned urbanization, and the globalization of unhealthy lifestyles. For example, globalization of unhealthy lifestyles like unhealthy diets

may show up in individuals as raised blood pressure, increased blood glucose, elevated blood lipids, and obesity. These are called ‘intermediate risk factors’ which can lead to cardiovascular disease.”

Reports from the Ministry of Public Health, Guyana indicates that the four (4) main non-communicable diseases - cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, cancer, and chronic respiratory disease - amount for the highest burden on mortality and morbidity. Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases account for 70% of all deaths occurring in Guyana and is the number one

cause of premature deaths (before the age of 70 years).

Harmful tobacco use, unhealthy diet, physical inactivity, and harmful use of alcohol were identified as the four (4) main risk factors associated with the onset of chronic non-communicable diseases. Reports also indicated that NCDs are totally preventable by the simple modification of these risk factors.

The University of Guyana through the platform Turkeyen and Tain Talks 5 focused on the topic, “Health: Non-Communicable Diseases Matter”. The event was held on Tuesday, 24th January 2017 in the

El Dorado Room of the Pegasus Hotel, Kingston, Georgetown, Guyana. The event featured remarks from the Honourable Minister of Public Health, Ms Volda Lawrence and heard oral presentations from a distinguished panel comprising Dr Penny Siebert, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham; Dr. Douglas Wilbert Slater, Assistant Secretary-General, Human and Social Development, Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat; Dr. William Adu-Krow, Pan American Health Organisation/World Health Organisation (PAHO/WHO) Representative for Guyana; Dr. Shamdeo Persaud, Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Public Health, Guyana; and Ms Aki-ma Sandiford-Simmons, Practicing Community Pharmacist.

In her remarks, Minister Volda Lawrence announced that Cabinet had recently given approval to reinstate the National Commission for the Prevention and Control of Non-Com-



municable Diseases which falls under the Chairmanship of the President of Guyana, H.E. David Arthur Granger.

The National Commission for the prevention and control of NCDs was established in 2013 under the Peoples Progressive Party Civic (PPPC). The commission was established to monitor the implementation of the National NCD Prevention and Control Strategy 2013-2020 and to evaluate the impact of the diseases.

The Board will comprise



representatives from various Ministries, Governmental, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and International Organizations' which include, inter alia the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation (GPHC); the Pan American Health Organization and the World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO); the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the University of Guyana.

Hon. Raphael Trotman in an announcement at the Post-Cabinet Press Briefing

stated that for the first time in Guyana's history, a President has been appointed Chairman of the Board of this Commission. He opined that "The fact that the President is the Chairman, tells the level of: one, his involvement; and two, the level of which Government will be approaching the whole matter of health and non-communicable diseases."

Dr Penny Siebert in her presentation pointed to the Global and Economic Burden of Non-Communicable Diseases on countries. She stated that

whilst effective treatment for NCDs is essential, early action and prevention are critical for preventing the onset of these diseases which will ultimately save our government valuable



time and money. Additionally, early action and prevention measures will also relieve the burden on often overstretched healthcare resources and dramatically reduce the number of NCD related deaths.

In 2011, the Ministry of Health, Guyana and the Pan American Health Organization (MoH/PAHO) conducted a cost of illness assessment for NCDs using data from local and international sources and found that:

1. The annual direct costs of treating diabetes and/or hypertension are estimated between US\$7.2 million and US\$10.8 million, with clinic visits and laboratory tests accounting for the highest burden of cost;
2. The annual direct cost

of treating cancers and cardiovascular diseases are estimated between US\$0.3million and US\$5.2 million with treatment and drugs accounting for the highest burden of cost;

3. Annual indirect costs of all NCDs are estimated between US\$207.5million, 10% of GDP in 2010, total annual costs accruing due to NCDs are estimated at US\$221.5 million.

The World Economic Forum's 2010 Global Risk Report identifies NCDs as the second most severe threat to the global economy in terms of livelihood and potential economic loss.

Dr. Douglas Slater during his presentation stated that there has been notable increase of NCDs across the Region and he stressed the need for Policy decisions to address this issue.

According to Dr Slater, during the 1980s, NCDs were overshadowed by the HIV/AIDS Epidemic and other communicable diseases which became a major preoccupation for the public, governments, and the media and therefore dominated the Global and National Health Agendas.

The Port-of-Spain Declaration which was signed at the 1st CARICOM Summit on Non-Communicable Diseases which was held in 2007 under the theme “Uniting to stop the epidemic of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases”, highlighted four (4) main actions to be taken by CARICOM Governments to alleviate this problem. These were to address tobacco control, improve eating habits, increase the level of physical activities, and ensure quality of care.

The setting up of National Commissions was an initial step in the Caribbean Regional Plan for the Prevention and Control of NCDs 2009-2013. Barbados, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago were among the first countries to establish NCD Commissions.

Internationally, over fifty (50) countries made a resolution and supported the adoption of a global target of 25% reduction in premature mortality from NCDs by 2025 at the 65th World Health Assembly which was held in 2012.

Dr Adu-Krow in his presentation pointed to the Report emanating from the High Lev-

el Meeting on Non-Communicable Diseases where it states that health and socio-economic toll of the non-communicable disease epidemic is an impeding achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, which is falling short of targets set in many countries. That is especially the case for Goals 4 and 5, on women’s and children’s health, which are intricately linked to non-communicable diseases, specifically since poor nutrition during pregnancy and early life causes a predisposition to high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes later in life.

The Report further stated that the impact of non-communicable diseases can be prevented with an approach that incorporates cost-effective, population-wide health-care interventions to address risk factors, known as public health “best buys”, and primary health-care measures to treat those who have con-

tracted or are at high risk of contracting such diseases. The widespread implementation of such interventions, which require modest investment, can lead to quick gains in counteracting the effects of non-communicable diseases.

Dr Shamdeo Persaud and Ms Akima Sandiford-Simmons provided key statistics



Turkeyen and Tain Talks 5

-Non-Communicable Diseases Matter

by age and sex regarding NCDs in Guyana. Dr Persaud stated that more Guyanese suffer from heart disease at a younger age than ever before. This phenomenon, he said, could be linked to family habits, genes, etc. According to Dr Persaud, the development of technology and change in lifestyles are other factors that play a major role in the increase of persons suffering from NCDs.

The Guyana Strategic Plan for the Integrated Prevention and Control of Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases and their risk factors 2013-2020 builds on the successes and reviews of the shortcomings of Programmes that are already in operation – especially for breast cancer and cervical cancer (VIA), diabetes (the Diabetic Foot Clinic – DFC) and Eye Care (Mission Miracle).

The Plan states that prevention has to start at the community level, with people being better informed and better equipped to take care of their own health. The Plan also stated that an estimated 80% of causes of cardiovascular

disease and diabetes could be prevented simply through exercise, healthy diet, and by cutting back on smoking. Encouraging people to drink responsibly and stop smoking, to exercise more, and to improve their diet is therefore a basic but life-saving step.

The vision for the NCD strategy is in keeping with the Ministry of Health's (MoH) vision "for Guyanese citizens to be among the healthiest in the Caribbean and the Americas" The principles are as follows:

1. The right to the highest attainable level of health and therefore the provision of services commensurate with needs;
2. Equity in access to quality health services regardless of origin, ethnicity, gender, geographic location or socio-economic status;
3. Solidarity between member countries-working together to define and achieve common good;

4. People centered – primary goal of meeting the needs of the people, families and Communities; and

5. Leadership in the public health sector that focuses on the attainment of health for all and a shared vision that creates an enabling environment for mobilizing resources, improving performance and ensuring greater cooperation and accountability within the region. The CCH provides a mechanism for small member states to share "rare" medical specialists that are in demand within the region e.g. oncologists and endocrinologists.

Guyana has been using estimated statistics to account for the population at risk of developing NCDs and for those who are already living with these diseases. However, the Ministry of Public Health Chronic Disease Unit has adopted the STEP-wise approach population-based survey which commenced in 2016. The survey will be conducted in collaboration with the Guy-

ana Bureau of Statistics and is expected to determine chronic disease risk factors and surveillance in Guyana. The survey will acquire statistics for baseline figures which will allow health officials to closely monitor the population and facilitate the development and implementation of appropriate interventions to treat and prevent chronic non-communicable diseases.

The survey is also expected to give the Public Health Ministry an opportunity to forecast and procure the right types of medications in sufficient quantities, hence preventing drug shortages in the country.

The event provided an opportunity for the large audience at the Pegasus and those joining online to ask questions/ make comments immediately after the presentations. The basic income level and the inability of Public Servants to afford a healthy diet and lifestyle were among the top concerns raised during this segment.

Bettering Guyana's education from the background - Professor David Andrew Phoenix

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"We identified that there weren't many UK students or international visitors coming to UG at the time so we used the field station to form a link for students who were interested in biodiversity to come and do a sabbatical at UG. Since then, we've had about 20 or 25 UK students every year coming to UG," he said.

"We've also developed a number of research programmes linked to the environment. I'm still hopeful that, built on that, there will be a conference on sustainability, a global conference at UG, within the next few years. The initiative really just focused on using some of the specialist resources UG had access

to in regards to biodiversity to bring people in who perhaps weren't aware of the University and get them to know more about it and also know more about the environment and what Guyana had to offer."

Professor Phoenix believes, of course, that there are improvements still needed. He

recommended that UG partners with the Government of Guyana to develop a skills agenda identifying areas of industry that should be developed over the next 10 years, particularly focused on Guyana's natural resources. This, he said, would allow UG to also develop tailored courses.

The Inaugural Vice-Chancellor's Renaissance Lecture highlights-

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ENTREPRENEURIAL UNIVERSITY FOR NATION BUILDING

continues from pg 18

ty, actions the London South Bank University undertook to animate the entrepreneurship concept and he shared some indicative factors of LSBU's success as an Entrepreneurial University over the years.

Professor Phoenix disclosed that an "Entrepreneurial University is an institution which engages in and focuses on education, research, wealth generation and knowledge exploitation. Also, it is concerned getting different people to work in multiple disciplinary environments." Additionally, he made clear that education is distributed via various means and through education; knowledge is usually acquired and re-distributed. The development and creation of knowledge is necessary for technological innovation and as a result enables people to carry out research. Subsequent-

ly, wealth is generated and hence, knowledge exploitation occurs. Professor Phoenix added that "the use of these three cores is what creates a sturdy academic balance for an Entrepreneurial University." However, he pointed out that "there is a lot of debate on about what exactly is an Entrepreneurial University is."

Moreover, Professor Phoenix revealed that "the outcome of enterprise [entrepreneurial] and enterprise based activities is wealth creation and knowledge exploitation." He noted that "entrepreneurship is creating an environment where both staff and students develop the skills and abilities that will allow them to be enterprising in the future," he continued, joking "there is

not a single entrepreneur who can stand and say they are having a one hundred percent track rate because that will be lie."

He offered some guidelines for creating an Entrepreneurial University, stating that to achieve such an institution: entrepreneurship must be embedded within the educational curriculum and teaching strategies. Simply put, the university has to find ways to inculcate opportunities for staff and students to develop entrepreneurship tactics, policies and regulatory guidelines must be drafted in order to generate enterprise ideas into actions. Consequently, this will enable the creation of processes and procedures which will allow them take risks until success is achieved. In addition to this, stakeholder and

community engagements can be initiated to foster some degree of support, both socially and economically for the entrepreneur plan of action to flourish.

In closing, Professor Phoenix made certain that "entrepreneurship provides the grounds for people to try out new things every day." He complimented Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith on the current stance he is taking to engage with the staff and students conversing about the focus, structure and governance of the University of Guyana since the institution necessitates effective business strategies for excellent and productive performances.

Save the Date

The Inaugural Dr Ulric Neville Trotz Distinguished Lecture

*"Science, Policy and Culture:
Essential Elements of Transformative
Change in Guyana"*

by Professor Suresh Narine

Place: The Pegasus Hotel, Georgetown

Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2017 Time: 19:00 h

Save the Date

WOMEN IN AVIATION

Place: To be announced

Date: March 10, 2017

Time: 19:00h

Save the Date

University of Guyana Library 7th Annual Research Day 2017

THEME:

“Contemporary Issues in Library and Information Management”

SUB-THEMES:

The sub-themes identified for discussion are:

Sub-theme I:	Quality Management
Sub-theme II:	Multidisciplinary Research
Sub-theme III:	21st Century Librarianship
Sub-theme IV:	Technology in Information Services

*The University Librarian, Mrs Gwyneth George, invites you to
submit proposals for Paper and Poster Presentations*

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017

Place: Education Lecture Theatre

UG Trojans open

Basketball season on a winning note

The University of Guyana Basketball team, Trojans, won their opening game in the Georgetown Amateur Basketball Association (GABA) League competition on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at the Cliff Anderson Sports Hall where they opposed the Eagles Basketball club. Final score was 54 – 51.

The team which is captained by Barrington Browne gained most of their points from three main contributors in Kadeem Peterkin – 13 points, Sherland Gillis – 14 points and Denzel Logan – 11 points with defensive support being

provided by Jabari Joseph with 21 rebounds also supported by Sherland Gillis with 18 rebounds.

The team and coaches NylonLoncke and Warren Wilson must be congratulated on this performance as there continue to be challenges as per venue to practice and the availability of students. The Sports Department recognises the support which is always forthcoming from the Registrar’s office as efforts continue to ensure students are afforded opportunities to participate and compete in sports.

Save the Date

Office for Undergraduate Research at UG

hosts

Undergraduate Research Day, 2017

Date: 12th April, 2017

Place: University of Guyana,
Turkeyen Campus

Date: 13th April, 2017

Place: University of
Guyana, Tain Campus

UG hosts Open/Career Day 2017

The University of Guyana Public Relations Division hosted Open/Career Day activities on Friday, February 17, 2017 as hundreds of visitors including prospective students converged at the Turkeyen Campus to obtain a glimpse of the annual Career Day activities.

Held under the theme, *Dare to Dream, Make it Happen*, a number of exhibition booths were erected and hosted various pieces of information on programmes and events of the different faculties at Turkeyen. As has become an annual occurrence, a number of secondary school students from Regions 2, 4, 6, 7 and 10 flocked the campus accompanied by teachers and parents to obtain firsthand information on the event.

The day's events commenced during the mid-morning hours with the opening ceremony at the George Walcott Lecture Theatre (GWLT).

In his keynote address Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith called on students to work towards realizing their dreams. He said that such feats required them to undertake the requisite actions necessary to ensure they realize such aspirations.

Dr Nigel Gravesande, the University's Registrar, also spoke at the opening ceremony. He told the gathering which included repre-



Vice-Chancellor of the University of Guyana, Professor Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith interacts with a student during Career Day 2017



A section of the audience at in the GWLT during the opening ceremony



Attentive secondary school students being educated by medical students

sentatives of the public and private sector, UG students and other visitors the university is working towards the establishment of its business school by the commencement of Academic Year 2017/2018 in September. The school will be established to operate in tandem with the business sector here.

He said that the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation, enhance the local business sector including through the provision of the programme content. The content will focus on self-empowerment, the Registrar asserted.

Out on the tarmac, the intermittent rains during the day did not prevent participants from viewing the booths on display as well as visits to the faculties where students were eager to share their knowledge with the curious.

This year several private sector entities participated in Career Day. In addition, public sector firms such as the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission and the Guyana Energy Agency also participated in the event.

Later in the day, the much anticipated Talent Splash, provided a fitting crown to the day's activities as various cultural performances from the past and present students lived up to the expectations of the audience in the George Walcott Lecture Theatre.

UG hosts Open/Career Day 2017

Scenes from Open/Career day 2017



UG Commences Consultations:

Proposed School of Entrepreneurship & Business Innovation



The University of Guyana (UG) commences a three-day outreach to several Administrative Regions in Guyana to share the draft report of the feasibility team, commissioned to look into the establishment of a School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI) at the University.

munities, in order to develop and sustain industry-needed and nationally-relevant entrepreneurship and business education programmes; and begin the marketing of the SEBI initiative and extend the marketing and branding of the University overall.



The public is invited to attend these sessions to hear more about this initiative and share their opinions/suggestions. The objectives of the activity are to share with business, civic, and academic stakeholders the findings of the report of the Feasibility Study Team appointed to enable The University of Guyana to establish a School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation (SEBI) and get feedback on the report; set the stage for tangible partnerships between the University and the business and civic com-

The outreach team is comprised of several experts and stakeholders including Vice-Chancellor Prof. Ivelaw Griffith, Dr Edward Davis, Dean, School of Business, Clark Atlanta University, Georgia; Dr Leyland Lucas, Associate Professor of Business, Morgan State University, MD, USA; Dr Patrick Liverpool, Retired Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, MD, USA; Mr Eric Phillips,

Lecturer, Faculty of Social Sciences, The University of Guyana, and Advisor on Sustainable Development, Ministry of the Presidency; Deputy Director of the Berbice Campus Paulette Henry and Lecturer Dr Rishi Takur; Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences Hector Edwards and Assistant Dean Diana Gobin; and Head of Department of Management Hugh Todd.

According to Vice-Chancellor Griffith, "SEBI" is one of the key components of the Renaissance of our university. It will not only transform the educational enterprise of the university, but facilitate an educational and economic transformation of our nation."

He further stated that, "after listening to and learning from the business and civic stakeholders, the team will submit its final report to me early next month, to enable me to have further discussions at the university and then submit a proposal to the University Council at the end of March."

The first session was held on Monday, February 20, at the City Inn, Corriverton, Berbice at 11:00 h, followed by a consultation at 15:00 h at The University of Guyana

Berbice Campus Auditorium, Tain, Corentyne, Berbice.

The Anna Regina outreach was held on Tuesday, February 21, from 11:00h at the Regional Executive Office Board Room, Anna Regina, Essequibo Coast and on Wednesday, February 22, at 10:00 h, the outreach team was at the Linden Enterprise Network.

The first phase of the outreach concluded in Georgetown at 17:00h, at the Herdmanston Lodge, Queenstown, Georgetown. The session was chaired by Mr Gerry Gouevia, Chairman and CEO of Roraima Airways. A consultation session is planned for the Turkeyen Campus during Phase II of the outreach to be held in April.



Scenes from the School of Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation outreach in Berbice, Essequibo and Georgetown





Renaissance

Office of the Vice-Chancellor, The University of Guyana

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UG Learning Resource Centre

Vol 2, Nos. 1 & 2, January - February, 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. Our email address is vicechancellor@uog.edu.gy. 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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