

Georgetown, Guyana

Second Diaspora and Entrepreneurship Conference is scheduled for July

The University of Guyana Diaspora and Entrepreneurship Conference is scheduled for July 21-25, 2019 at the Ramada Georgetown Princess Hotel. The 2019 theme, Cultural Diversity and Innovation: Engaging the Diaspora for an Enhanced Caribbean Competitive Landscape will touch on many timely issues including best practices in leadership, technology, entrepreneurship, innovation, economic growth, diversity and inclusion and the role of the Caribbean Diaspora.

Participants are invited from Guyana and the Caribbean, the Guyanese and Caribbean Diaspora communities, and faculty and students of the University of Guyana, to participate by: registering and attending, submitting proposals to be presenters and keynote speakers, applying to showcase work and products

This conference seeks to generate new understanding about Diaspora engagement opportunities and to assist policymakers, NGOs, entrepreneurs and researchers to further integrate Diaspora voices in development conversations. Additionally, there will be opportunities for Hometown Associations and local businesses to showcase their work and products respectively, seek technical assistance and invite investment.

This conference is a joint collaborative effort between the Guyanese and Caribbean Diaspora and the University of Guyana with several members of the global Guyanese and Caribbean Diaspora playing leading roles on the conference planning committee.

In commenting on the conference, Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivelaw Griffith said that "The University of Guyana is committed to collaboration with the Guyanese Diaspora globally to implement programmes to facilitate engagement and entrepreneurship and to enhance our understanding of the ways in which skills within the Diaspora can contribute to the development of Guyana and the wider Caribbean."

The focus of the conference will be on entrepreneurial activity for youth, women, indigenous communities, and diaspora populations, whose ideas and initiatives will serve as the foundation for new ventures and innovations. The conference is first and foremost about giving space for ideas to flow. Groups, institutions, and individuals are encouraged to participate. The opportunity for engagement will be available for persons working on projects and or have ideas which they believe could be usefully applied for community and national development.

More details about the conference can be found on the conference website:

<https://diaspora-entrepreneurship.uog.edu.gy/>.

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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, 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.