



UNIVERSITY of GUYANA
Turkeyen Campus

UG Alumni E-News

Greetings from the University of Guyana!

Bulletin No. 4 July-August 2009

Visit the University of Guyana website, <http://www.uog.edu.gy/>

Facts about UG - Post-Graduate Programmes

The following post-graduate programmes are currently being offered: Diplomas in International Studies, Development Studies and Education with options in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science, Modern Languages and Administration. Master's Degrees in Nursing, Forest Biology, Social Sciences, Education, English and History. Executive Masters in Business Administration and Public Administration.

Advisory - Alumni

The Office of Resource Mobilisation & Planning is in the process of verifying entries on the alumni list and it may be necessary to contact alumni. If we do not receive a response within two weeks of our request, your entry will be deleted.

Brazilian Documentary Festival

The Embassy of Brazil, the Centre of Brazilian Studies together with the Department of Language & Cultural Studies of the University held a Brazilian Documentary Festival from Wednesday, June 10 to Monday, June 14 in the Learning Resource Centre. The festival featured documentaries on Quilombagem (Jurandir Moura), Olga (Jaime Monjardim), Vinicius de Moraes (Miguel Faria Junior) and Narradores de Jave (Eliane Café).

UG/UNICEF Documentation Centre

On July 7, two documentation centers consisting of publications and data on social statistics and other information on women and children in Guyana were handed over to the University of Guyana by Mr Johannes Wedenig, Country Representative of UNICEF. The facility is accessible to students, researchers, planners, policy makers and the public. The centers will be housed at both Turkeyen and Tain Campuses.



UGBC 6th Annual Reading Programme

The University of Guyana Berbice Campus held its 6th Annual Reading Programme from 13th - 31st July. The Reading programme catered for sixty five (65) slow learners, ages 8-12 most of whom were students from the Tain Primary School. Volunteer teachers were trained by Reading Specialist Ms. Natasha Mendonca, who was a former student of the University of Guyana Berbice Campus. Reading strategies and techniques were taught to the students. At the Closing Ceremony students were able to display what was taught to them and they were given prizes as well as a certificate. Volunteer teachers were also given certificates and gifts.

The Turkeyen Campus in collaboration with Courts (Guyana) Inc. held its 6th Annual Reading Programme from 4th - 21st August in the University's Library. Eighty (80) children, ages 8-12 from the Sophia community participated in the programme. The children were taught phonics, how to make sentences and paragraphs, write letters & poems and illustrate poems. Each student was presented with a certificate of participation & a book from the University's Library. Mr Pernell Cummings, Marketing Assistant, Courts (Guyana) Inc also presented lunch packs to each student. Prizes were awarded to the most outstanding and most improved child, which included a voucher valued \$3000 from Courts. Resource persons were given certificates of appreciation.

Professor Compton Bourne appointed Chancellor

Professor Compton Bourne, O.E., has been appointed Chancellor of the University of Guyana with effect from July 29. Professor Bourne is a graduate of the University of London, the University of Birmingham and the University of the West Indies. He is currently the President of the Caribbean Development Bank. Professor Bourne is the eight distinguished individual to serve in this position.



Prof. C. Bourne

UG participates in Crisis Management IV experiment

Eleven (11) students from the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences (SEES) and the Faculty of Technology, and five (5) staff members from SEES and the Faculties of Technology and Natural Sciences were among the thirty (30) participants in a Crisis Management Experiment in Guyana from July 13-17, 2009 at the Headquarters of the Civil Defence Commission (CDC), Thomas Lands. The activity was organised by the United States Southern Command and Army Corps of Engineers in collaboration with the CDC. The purpose of this experiment was to integrate traditional and non-traditional technologies to plan, prepare, respond and reconstruct during and after flooding resulting from persistent and continuous rains. The experiment was preceded by a five-day Flood Management Technology training programme that was conducted over the period July 7-11, at the Centre for Information Technology, Turkeyen Campus. This training exposed participants to the computer model Hydrologic Modeling System (HEC-HMS and HEC-RAS) that was used in the experiment.

Television Production Workshop

The University of Guyana, Centre for Communication Studies partnered with the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Higher Education for Development, the American Council on Education and the Ohio University to host two “*Television Production Workshops*”, for Guyanese media practitioners. The workshops were held at Turkeyen and Tain Campuses from August 3-21 and August 23-25 respectively and was focused on TV journalism, with three main outlines: ethics, production and performance. Fifteen (15) organisations from Georgetown, Berbice, Linden and Lethem were represented at the workshops. The facilitators were Dr Vibert Cambridge and Professor Mary Rogus both of the Ohio University. The workshop was the first of such activities in the current 3 year project – another will be held in Summer 2010 and the final in 2011.



Student Internship

The University commenced its 2nd *Student Internship Programme* with a one-day workshop on Monday, August 10 in the Education Lecture Theatre. The internship commenced on Tuesday, August 11 and will end on Friday, October 2. The internship programme is intended to broaden the scope of learning experience of students by providing the opportunity for them to gain practical experience through working in organisations relevant to their programme of study. The programme was organised by the Office of Resource Mobilisation & Planning.



Participants of the Interns Workshop

UG congratulates Dr. Subraniam Gomathinayagam

The University of Guyana expressed congratulations to Dr. Subraniam Gomathinayagam whose research paper entitled “*Microbial Population in Guyana’s Soils*” was published in the 44th Caribbean Food & Crop Society Conference publication, 2008.

University of Guyana Library Professional Seminar

On Friday, August 28, a Professional Seminar was held by the University’s Library in the Learning Resource Centre and included presentations on “*Quality Assurance and Academic Libraries*” – Ms Gwyneth George (Chief Librarian); “*Workplace Violence*” – Ms Gloria Cummings (Deputy Librarian); “*The Impact of the Global Financial Crises on Libraries with special reference to Academic Libraries*” – Ms Hansrajie Ramcharan (Head a.g. RSD) and “*Effective Time Management is the key to Organisational Success: a look at Academic Libraries*” – Ms Tammy Hopkinson (Assistant Librarian).

Attendance at Meetings/Conferences/Seminars/Workshops

Ms Denise Simmons, Lecturer, School of Earth & Environmental Sciences, attended the “*Train-the-Trainer*” Workshop for Lecturers of undergraduate programmes in the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences at the Anton de Kom University, Suriname, June 22-26.

Ms Hansrajie Ramcharan, Head (ag), Readers' Services Division, Library, attended the 24th Annual Conference of the Caribbean Association of Law Libraries in Barbados, June 22-25.

Mr Tota Mangar, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, served as Assistant Chief Examiner in Caribbean History at a Standardisation and Script Marking Exercise in Kingston, Jamaica, June 28 - July 18. Mr Mangar also represented Guyana at the UNESCO's Memory of the World Sub-regional Workshop and International Advisory Committee Meeting in Barbados, July 26 - August 1.

Ms Akima McPherson, Lecturer, School of Education & Humanities, served as an Assistant Examiner for the CSEC Visual Arts Exams in Barbados, July 6-10.

Ms Candida Williams, Lecturer, School of Education & Humanities, participated in a *Spanish Immersion Course - Teaching Spanish as a Second Language* in Colombia, July 6-31.

Mr Arnold DeMendonca, Lecturer, Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry, attended the CACHE XII Annual General Assembly and CFCS 45th Annual Meeting in St. Kitts & Nevis, July 12-18.

Dr Sobramanian Gomathinayagam, Lecturer, Division of Agriculture, UGBC, attended the 45th Annual Meeting of CFCS in St. Kitts & Nevis, July 13-17.

Dr Paulette Bynoe, Director, School of Earth & Environmental Sciences, participated in the CDERA Education Sub-Committee and Iwokrama International Scientific Committee Meetings in Barbados and Trinidad respectively, July 14-17. Dr Bynoe also participated in the SALISES Conference titled "*Turtle Conservation, Ecotourism and Sustainable Community Development*" in Trinidad, July 27-30.

Ms Sharon Roopchand-Edwards, Lecturer, Faculty of Social Sciences, attended the Regional Symposium on Services in Antigua & Barbuda, July 14-17.

Mr Anand Persaud, Head, Department of Economics, Faculty of Social Sciences, attended IDB's 50th Anniversary Forum in Haiti, July 15-20.

Mr George Simon, Lecturer, School of Education & Humanities, attended the First Meeting of the Iwokrama International Science Committee in Trinidad, July 15-17.

Mr Bruce Haynes, Lecturer, Faculty of Technology, participated in the CROSQ IDB/MIP Workshop on *Measurement of Uncertainty* in Trinidad, July 22-24.

Mr Derek Archer, Lecturer, School of Education & Humanities, participated in the CXC French Examinations Grading Meeting, Barbados, July 26-29.

Dr Michael Scott, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences attended the CAPE/CXC grading exercise in Barbados, July 27-29.

Prof Miguel Neneve, Lecturer, School of Education & Humanities participated in the launching of a book to which he contributed and is completing teaching in a Masters Programme at the University of Rondonia, Brazil, July 27 - August 25.

Dr. Cyril Solomon, Head, Graduate School of Social Sciences, participated in grading CAPE/CXC Economics Examination in Barbados, July 27-28.

Ms Tameca Sukhdeo-Singh, Head, Department of Social Studies, School of Education & Humanities, accompanied 3rd year Tourism students on an off-campus field trip to Suriname/French Guiana, July 31 - August 10.

Mr. Al Creighton, Dean, School of Education & Humanities, represented the University of Guyana at the meeting of ACTI Council in Dominica, August 13-16.

Ms Kaslyn Holder, Lecturer, Faculty of Natural Sciences, is currently participating in a training course on *Monitoring and Communication Biodiversity* in the United Kingdom, August 14 - September 4.

Dr Paloma Mohamed, Coordinator, Centre for Communications Studies, attended a CARICOM meeting with the National Aids Directors of the Caribbean in Grenada, August 16-18.

Msses Vishallie Singh, Assistant Librarian and Simmone LaRose, Deputy Librarian (ag), both of the Berbice Campus, attended the IFLA 75th General Conference in Italy, August 24-28.

Sabbatical or Earned Study Leave

Ms Donna Morrison, Department of Agriculture, Faculty of Agriculture & Forestry.
Ms Claudette Austin, Department of Foundation & Education Management, School of Education & Humanities.
Mr Philbert Gajadhar, Department of Language & Cultural Studies, School of Education & Humanities.
Ms Michelle Kalamandeen, Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences.
Ms Michelle Semple-McBean, Department of Foundation & Education Management, School of Education & Humanities.
Ms Romona Bennett, Department of Language & Cultural Studies, School of Education & Humanities.
Mr Ines Roldan, School of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences.
Mr Dwayne Benjamin, Department of Social Studies, School of Education & Humanities.
Ms Denise Simmons, School of Earth & Environmental Sciences.
Mr Terrence Bradshaw, Department of Language & Cultural Studies, School of Education & Humanities.
Ms Carolyn Walcott, Department of Sociology, Faculty of Social Sciences.
Mr Basil Dey, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Natural Sciences.

Feature Alumnus: Dr Basdeo Mangru



Dr Basdeo Mangru was born in Albion, Berbice. He attended Albion Government School and Corentyne High School, and taught in both primary and secondary schools in Guyana.

He graduated from the University of Guyana with a B.A. in History in 1970. In 1976, while on University of Guyana's faculty, he earned the distinction of being the first M.A graduate of the University. He was awarded a Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellowship in October 1978 to read for the Ph.D at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, from where he graduated in June 1981. His thesis is entitled *From Bengal to British Guiana. The Emigration of Indian Indentured Labour, 1854-1884*.

Dr. Mangru's main research interest centers on the migration and conditions of Indian workers in the Caribbean, particularly Guyana, in the 19th and 20th century. He is the author of five books: *Benevolent Neutrality. Indian Government Policy and Labour Migration to British Guiana, 1854-1884* (London, 1987); *Indenture and Abolition. Sacrifice and Survival on the Guyanese sugar plantations* (Toronto, 1993); *A History of East Indian Resistance on the Guyana sugar estates, 1869-1948* (New York, 1996); *Indians in Guyana. A Concise History from their arrival to the present* (Chicago, 1999) and *The Elusive El Dorado. Essays on the Indian Experience in Guyana* (Maryland, 2005). He is also editor of *C.F Andrews; Impressions of British Guiana. An Emissary's Assessment* (Chicago, 2007) and a co-editor of *The East Indian Diaspora* (New York, 1993). He has published extensively in refereed Journals and in Anthologies. An Annotated Bibliography of his works during the past 25 years was recently published in the *Journal of Indo Caribbean Research*, Canada. Dr. Mangru has won several awards and distinctions, including the prestigious Rockefeller Residency Fellowship in the Humanities, Queens College, City University of New York (1990-1991).

Dr. Mangru is currently a tenured Associate Professor of History at York College, CUNY. He is, *inter alia*, a member of the Association of Artists and Writers, and a biographee in Dictionary of International Biography and in several Marquis Who's Who publications.

This newsletter is a publication created to keep our alumni updated with news at the University of Guyana. An alumnus will be featured in each publication. If you are an alumnus please advise us of recent developments. If you would like to be featured, please send us your CV, a recent photograph and a letter telling us about yourself. These can be emailed [here](#). Feel free to send your questions and/or suggestions [here](#). We look forward to hearing from you!

Visit the Alumni website at <http://www.ugalumni.org>. Remember to add your name to the database and view the Guestbook!

Serve Guyana

Office of Resource Mobilisation & Planning, University of Guyana
Turkeyen Campus, P.O. Box 10-1110, Georgetown, Guyana.
