



UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES SCHOOL
OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND RESEARCH, THE BAHAMAS

10th
ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
R
10TH
ANNUAL
RESEARCH
DAY

THEME:
CLINICAL AND COMMUNITY MEDICINE:
A VITAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP

SEPTEMBER 29TH-30TH, 2016

**COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS SCHOOL OF NURSING AUDITORIUM
GROSVENOR CLOSE
NASSAU, THE BAHAMAS**



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

The University of the West Indies is the region's flagship institution of higher learning, serving sixteen countries of the English-speaking Caribbean. There are three main campuses situated on the islands of Jamaica, Trinidad and Barbados respectively, and a fourth campus, the Open/Virtual Campus servicing the 13 non-campus based countries.

From its humble beginnings in 1948 with one medical faculty and 33 students enrolled, UWI has grown to include seven faculties, 4 campuses and 12 centres spread throughout the Caribbean. Student enrolment currently averages over 46,000 students.

UWI offers over 800 programmes of study. Each year the University produces approximately 5,800 graduates at undergraduate, graduate and diploma levels.

UWI's network of over 75,000 graduates continues to be at the forefront of Caribbean and global thought, imagination and action.

UWI consistently provides the Caribbean region with its leaders in government, business, education, law, engineering, medicine and other key sectors.

UWI is internationally known for its academic and research excellence with a showcase of over 75 Rhode scholars. Within the region, UWI stands proudly as an icon of Caribbean integration and culture. It maintains a UWI Centre in Nassau through which Bahamian students may seek admission to any of the campuses and access programmes of the new Open Campus. The Bahamas has been the site of programmes of the UWI since 1964 and currently has four distinct programmes:

- o UWI Open Campus, The Bahamas formerly the School of Continuing Studies (SCS);
- o Centre for Hotel and Tourism Management (CHTM);
- o School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas (SCMR);
- o Law Programme in association with College of The Bahamas

MESSAGE *from* THE MINISTER OF HEALTH

HON. DR. MICHAEL PERRY GOMEZ, M.P.,

The Bahamas has embraced the growth and development of the University of West Indies School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas, since its establishment in 1997, and it is indeed an honour for me to celebrate with Director, Faculty, Students and Administrative staff on the occasion of its Tenth Annual Research Day activities to be held on the 29th and 30th September, 2016.

This year's theme, "Clinical and Community Medicine: A Vital Research Partnership" is expected to address issues that will support and advance our national Health priorities. It is commendable that our premier institution, The University of the West Indies School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas, is conscious of the clinical importance for the need of research in our country and the region. The tremendous growth in the post-graduate programmes and the regional recognition for its research initiatives again, speak to the dedicated efforts of its team to the promotion of equity and quality assurance in healthcare.

It is certainly a pleasure to extend greeting to Professor Sir George Alleyene, Chancellor, University of the West Indies and Director Emeritus, PAHO and Professor Stan Reid, SickKids Hospital, University of Toronto, two long standing friends of medical community of The Bahamas.

I wish to also express my sincere gratitude to the management of the Royal Bank of Canada, for their annual corporate partnership as this organization continues to support the improvement of health care in the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

The Government and Ministry of Health, remains committed in its support for the programmes of the University of West Indies School of Clinical Medicine Research, The Bahamas. It is hoped that together with the continual support of the established partnerships we will provide a forum on the academic calendar for the advancement of research and best practices for the participants and our community.

I wish you every success during your scheduled activities.



MESSAGE *from* THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

HON. JEROME K. FITZGERALD, M.P.,



For the past decade, The University of the West Indies' School of Clinical Research and Medicine has celebrated its Annual Research Day. Once again, I am delighted to convey my congratulations to you on this occasion. For ten years, this academic institution has been a trailblazer in the medical field and has educated scores of Bahamians and regional citizens on relevant health issues. I commend your institution for providing the public with information to empower individuals and to promote healthier lifestyles as a result of its research and their findings.

This year's theme, "Clinical and Community Medicine: A Vital Research Partnership" is a reminder of the importance of working together to build healthier communities. Relevant and specific research based on trends and norms within communities allow for tailored and specific medical strategies. The prevention and treatment of illness can also be strengthened when there is a strong collaboration among the service providers and their constituents.

There is no arguing that research is critical in the healthcare industry. As the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) educates students to create life-long learners, medical practitioners are a clear example of individuals who commit themselves to life-long learning. Individuals in the medical field must constantly engage in re-training and keeping abreast of new technology and techniques to enhance the delivery of quality health services. As we take a greater interest in data at the Ministry of Education, research is now a key component to the decision-making process within the MoEST and we know firsthand of the value of research to aid in strategic and informed decisions.

Congratulations on the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of your Research Day. As you continue to chart new courses in health care in our country, may we all work together to build a healthier Bahamas through the promotion of healthy lifestyles highlighting the importance of the multiple benefits of clinical and community medicine working in tandem. I applaud you for your commitment to Clinical Research and wish you continued success in the years ahead.

MESSAGE *from* THE SPONSOR

NATHANIEL BENEBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR

RBC ROYAL BANK, BAHAMAS, CAYMAN & TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS

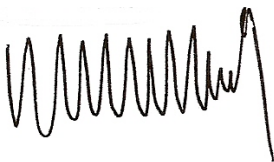
RBC Royal Bank is pleased to sponsor the 10th Annual Research Day held by the University of the West Indies School of Clinical Medicine and Research. At RBC, we take pride in being part of this community and in utilizing our corporate citizenship engagement programmes, to take action when significant needs present themselves.

Supporting research and educational initiatives that will improve the health of Bahamians is a core area of focus for our community involvement programmes. Our goal is to provide sponsorships and donations that will have a lasting social impact.

The medical research conducted through this programme, will benefit a wide spectrum of persons in The Bahamas and wider Caribbean. Helping communities thrive is at the heart of our corporate citizenship statement; and this year's theme of 'Clinical and Community Medicine Partnership' perfectly aligns and supports this belief system.

The key accomplishments of the Research Unit since its formation remain impressive. These accomplishments, along with the University of the West Indies' excellent track record in training Bahamian medical professionals have made this an ideal partnership for success.

We look forward to continuing this vital partnership well into the future.



Nathaniel Beneby
Managing Director
RBC Royal Bank, Bahamas, Cayman & Turks & Caicos Islands



Royal Bank

MESSAGE *from* THE DIRECTOR

DR. ROBIN ROBERTS MBBS FRCSC MBA

In 1997, the University of the West Indies established the Clinical Training Programme in the Bahamas with the primary objective to teach clinical skills, knowledge and competencies to medical students in the final two years of their undergraduate degree programme. Ten years later our then Director, Professor Howard Spencer, made the commitment to advance a research agenda as well, giving birth to the University of the West Indies School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas.

The School's vision was to become the leading centre of research, in all aspects of health in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. This supplement attests to our achievements as we celebrate the compilation of abstracts of our 10 Annual Research Day symposium. Of the 174 presentations, 84% are original research projects submitted by our faculty and students; the others by invited regional and international researchers. From 9 submissions covering 2 sessions over a half-day event in our 1st Research Day, our 10th Annual event showcases 28 papers and 6 sessions covering 2 days. From a sporadic appearance at the Annual Caribbean Public Health Agency's Annual Scientific Conference, the School presenters have become regular fixtures on the regional and international podium. At CARPHA's meeting in 2013 we had the distinction of two of our postgraduate students sharing the award of the best research papers presented.

As we celebrate this milestone on the academic calendar, we are mindful of the mission central to our being: To improve the health of the people of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas through clinical research. The success of this 10th Research Day is measured best by the context in which we undertake to do research: we are all active practitioners, with both clinical and teaching responsibilities. The School has a full time staff of 6 university lecturers in partnership with 88 Associate lecturers, primarily of honorary status – all of whom have a fulltime public and private practice; we deliver health care services every day. We are not endowed with research grants and fellows; we thank our faculty for their commitment to advance health in the country. Nor do we have the advantage of large class sizes; our combined 170 undergraduate and postgraduate students is twice the numbers of 10 years ago.

A quick read of our abstracts reveals our clinical focus; our strategic goal was to create within five (5) years a research unit which will be the focal point of clinical research in the Bahamas with particular skills in: cardiovascular disease epidemiology, diabetes, obesity and maternal and child health. We have met our goal. This could not be possible without the Ethics Committee, lead by Dr. Nelson Clarke, providing due diligence to evaluate and approve research proposals, and to be equaled only by the endless days and evenings of toil by

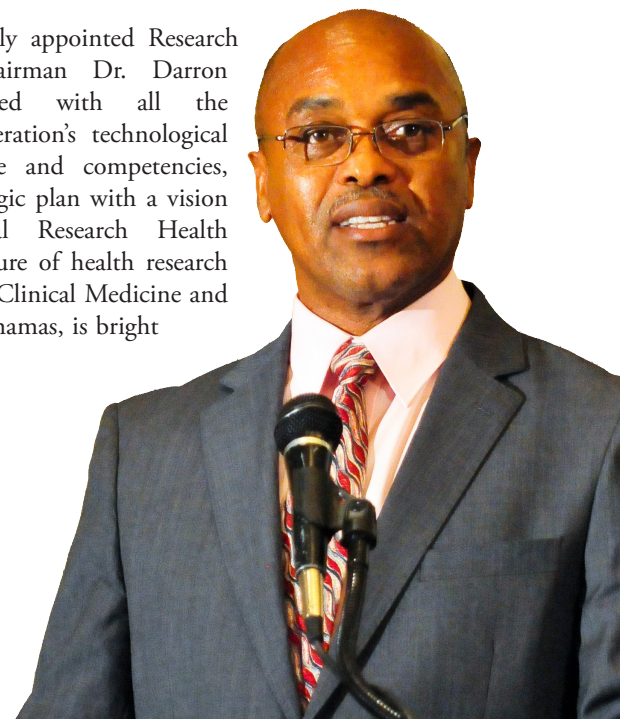
our able-bodied epidemiologist Dr. Morton Frankson, providing the guidance and required statistical input to all an sundry.

As we advance our research agenda into this second phase, we are cognizant of the fact that only few of our research initiatives have transcribed into the peer-reviewed journals. The dictum of publish or perish is not the mandate of active clinicians in the daily practice of delivering patient care in countries of limited resources. This supplement is a testament to our commitment to the academic imperative. So too, a year ago we launched our UWI Nassau Institute of Clinical excellence Bulletin (UWI NICE).

We are proud of the new knowledge we have created over the past ten years. We thank our corporate partner, the Royal Bank of Canada, that has provided the financial sponsorship to our annual event; the College of the Bahamas School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions for sharing their academic facilities; the Public Hospitals Authority and the Ministry of Health - our primary supporters and resource providers; and above all the people of the Bahamas, the life blood of our existence, our purpose of being.

Above all, we are mindful that there is no school without students to teach; our postgraduate students and their supervisors in their academic pursuits, have generated over 90% of the school's research presentations. This supplement, their work in print, we hope will inspire them to take make the natural progression, to publish. In the words of Stephen King: To write is human, to edit is divine.

With our recently appointed Research Committee Chairman Dr. Darron Halliday, infused with all the millennium generation's technological skills, knowledge and competencies, and a new strategic plan with a vision for a National Research Health Council, the future of health research at the School of Clinical Medicine and Research, the Bahamas, is bright and purposeful.



MESSAGE *from* THE CHAIRPERSON

DR. DARREN HALLIDAY

The Research Committee of the UWI School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas is delighted to present its Tenth Annual Research Day Scientific Conference in which our faculty and students showcase their research projects. In addition we have an exciting cadre of international speakers; many of whom we have partnered with on various project.

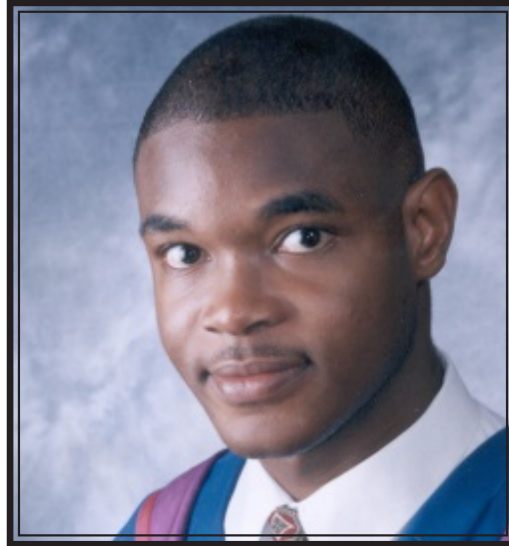
The theme for this Research Day is “Clinical and Community Medicine: A vital research partnership.”

President Bill Clinton commented recently on the model he emphasized to build The Clinton Foundation. He noted that the primary focus was to bring a number of persons together with a similar mindset to work for the common good of all. No one individual has all the skills sets, but “Together Everyone Achieves More”

Medical professionals have worked seamlessly together for so many years, that we often take it for granted. This is so true in research, but often results are not disseminated timely or access is limited. The Ministry of Health, The Department of Public Health and various hospitals in The Bahamas do high quality research of national importance and impact; we are seeking to showcase this research. Our theme for this year reflects this philosophy also.

We have had the opportunity to be a part of the team that worked with Dr. Donald Simeon, The Ministry of Health and The School of Clinical Medicine and Research, The Bahamas and others, to consider the idea of a National Research to formulate a national research strategic plan.

To disseminate our research, we have compiled all the abstracts from this Research Day and prior Research Days



to be published in a special supplement of The West Indian Medical Journal which will be available in both print and electronic format.

We thank the faculty, students and guest speakers for contributions. Special recognition and kudos to Dr. Frankson for his invaluable input in his one-room, research unit; he work tirelessly to ensure that students submit there projects on time and of the highest standard. Our residents achieving awards for Best paper at the regional CARPHA conference attest to this. Special thanks to all our associates, Royal Bank, The College of the Bahamas, The Public Hospital Authority,

The Ministry of Health, The West Indian Medical Journal, members of research Committee, the past Chairs the faculty of SMCR for all their contributions and all you who have made this conference a reality. Above all we thank God for all wisdom and knowledge.

Isaac Newton once said “I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants.” Many have gone before us, sacrificing their lives to medicine at great personal cost; so let us continue to move “forward, upwards onward TOGETHER!”

Our thanks to God..

“Modern medical advances have helped millions of people live longer, healthier lives. We owe these improvements to decades of investment in medical research.” - Ike Skelton

PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2016 DAY ONE

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm

REGISTRATION

SESSION I

QUALITY OF LIFE

1:00 pm – 1:15 pm

Health-related quality of life among women diagnosed with breast cancer at The Princess Margaret Hospital, Nassau, The Bahamas

Bradia Cooper*

1:15 pm – 1:30 pm

Quality of life in peri-menopausal women:
A Bahamian perspective

Chrispin Gomez*

1:30 pm – 2:00 pm

Healthcare Provider Burnout

Judith McKenzie

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm

Prevalence and sociodemographic factors of men with erectile dysfunction in Nassau, The Bahamas

Mucomba Millar*

2:15 pm – 2:30 pm

Sexual dysfunction in postmenopausal women

Saida Bowe*

2:30 pm – 3:00 pm

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION II

CHALLENGES AND OUTCOMES

3:00 pm – 3:15 pm

Knowledge, attitudes and practices toward family planning among women attending the clinics at Princess Margaret Hospital, Agape Family Medicine Center and the Public Health Community Clinics, Nassau, New Providence, The Bahamas

Leander Farrington*

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Knowledge, attitudes and practices of clinicians regarding adult vaccines: influenza, pneumococcal and hepatitis B throughout the government clinics within New Providence and Grand Bahama, The Bahamas

Bonji L Gaitor*

3:30 pm – 4:00 pm

The challenges and realities to establishing a renal transplantation service in The Bahamas

Robin Roberts

4:00 pm – 4:15 pm

Usefulness of the Rockall Score to predict high-risk lesions in patients presenting with non-variceal upper gastrointestinal bleeding

Jason Thompson*

4:15 pm – 4:30 pm

Outcomes of laparoscopic colorectal surgery in The Bahamas

Don Major*

SESSION III

FORMAL OPENING

6:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Reception: Paul Farquharson Bldg.
Royal Bahamas Police Force Headquarters
East Street

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm	Greetings and Remarks Research Committee Chair The Director SCMR UWI Mona, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Graduate Studies RBC Managing Director for The Bahamas Minister of Education Minister of Health	
8:00 pm – 8:30 pm	Getting to Zero HIV in The Bahamas	Professor Stan Read
8:30 pm – 9:00 pm	The Royal Bank of Canada Lecture: implementing sound health-policies in regions with limited resources	Professor Sir George Alleyne, Chancellor, UWI

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2016 DAY TWO

SESSION IV

TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE AND PERINATAL MORBIDITY

8:30 am – 8:45 am	Exploring personal and institutional concerns regarding the use of a virtual learning environment	Cheryl Hanna-Mahase
8:45 am – 9:00 am	Technology use among students and faculty of The University of the West Indies School of Clinical Medicine and Research	Christine Chin
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Innovative interoperability among mobile and software applications and a virtual electronic medical record system promoting patient safety in a medical marijuana programme	Jeff Lombardo
9:30 am – 9:45 am	Perinatal mortality trends in The Bahamas	Vrunda Sakharkar
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Retinopathy of prematurity at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit of the Princess Margaret Hospital	Zanele Balang

10:00 am – 10:30 am

COFFEE BREAK

SESSION V

CHILD HEALTH, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

10:30 am – 10:45 am	Keeping the score on child survival in Trinidad as we shift from Millennium Development Goal 4 to Sustainable Development Goal 3	Katavia Balfour
10:45 am – 11:00 am	An interim review of the benefits of the Sick Kids Caribbean Initiative to The Bahamas	Corrine SinQuee
11:00 am – 11:30 am	The rise and fall of HIV in The Bahamas: 1983–2014	Nikkiah Forbes
11:30 am – 11:45 am	Temporal trends in the incidence of Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia at a teaching hospital in Nassau, The Bahamas, 2009 to 2015	Charlyon Bonimy*

11:45 am – 12:00 pm	Resistance patterns of uropathogens in community acquired urinary tract infections in New Providence, The Bahamas	Denotrah Archer-Cartwright*
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	LUNCH	
SESSION VI	ONCOLOGY UPDATES	
1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Girl fight: Knowledge and attitudes regarding human papilloma virus and human papilloma virus vaccine in a Caribbean population	Nicole Branch*
1:15 pm – 1:30 pm	HPV-related cancers: Bridging the gap from bench research to clinical practice	Camille Ragin
1:30 pm – 2:00 pm	Clinical outcomes in non-metastatic prostate cancer treated with radiotherapy and hormones	Glenn Jones
2:00 pm – 2:15 pm	Prostate cancer treatment with irreversible electroporation: Efficacy and safety in 377 patients over five years	Nina Klein
2:15 pm – 2:30 pm	Age trends of colon cancer in Princess Margaret Hospital in The Bahamas: A 10-year perspective	Ricardo Davis*
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Breast cancer trends in The Bahamas: A 16-year review	Spencer Deleveaux
2:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Trends in gynaecological malignancies at The Princess Margaret Hospital in The Bahamas: 2000-2014	Raleigh Butler

Key

****INDICATES CANDIDATES ELIGIBILITY FOR THE RESIDENT PAPER COMPETITION.***

OVERVIEW *of*

UWI SCHOOL OF CLINICAL MEDICINE AND RESEARCH, THE BAHAMAS

The programme to teach undergraduate medical students in The Bahamas was established in 1997. At that time, it represented the first major expansion of the Faculty of Medicine UWI since the Eric Williams Complex was constructed in 1979. As in their two prior clinical teaching programmes in Barbados and Trinidad, the Bahamian initiative was established in a Government owned public health facility, the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). The 450-bed facility is the Bahamian Government's flagship institution delivering the full spectrum of health care services: primary, secondary and tertiary. With a cadre of postgraduate, Board certified specialists, predominantly patriotic Bahamians returning home and motivated to improve and advance health care, the institution was primed for the academic upgrade.

The goal of establishing a clinical training programme in the Bahamas was prefaced in the 1992 strategic plan of the PMH's Office of Continuing Medical Education: to transform the PMH from a service-based facility to an academic one. The rationale was that medical and surgical care delivered in an academic institution provides a higher quality of care and better patient outcomes than a purely service-based facility.

The Bahamian medical initiative was launched as a clinical training programme under the auspices of the St. Augustine campus, Trinidad. The undergraduate students could enter the programme for the final two years of their medical curriculum. They would transfer to the Bahamas after successful completion of their first three years at the Faculty of Medical Sciences in Jamaica, Trinidad or Barbados. The Bahamas programme's policy initially was to limit the class size to 25 students per year in the transfer.

In 2002, the school initiated the postgraduate training programmes starting with Family Medicine. Subsequently six postgraduate programmes were started: General Surgery in 2006, Psychiatry 2006, OB/GY 2006, Internal Medicine 2006, Pediatrics 2007, and Emergency Medicine 2008.

In 2007, on its 10th anniversary, the UWI Clinical Training Programme in The Bahamas, was upgraded to The School of Clinical Medicine and Research. The first Bahamian Director, was appointed in November 2009.

As of June 2015, a total of 336 medical students have graduated successfully with their medical degrees, Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MB,BS) and 51 certified specialists from

our postgraduate Doctor of Medicine (DM) programmes. To date, Bahamian nationals comprise over 80% of the total school graduates.

As of July 2016/2017 academic year, there were 88 undergraduate and 83 postgraduate students registered. The academic faculty is comprised of 6 full time lecturers, and a total of 88 associate lecturers, clinical tutors and honorary associate lecturers.

Establishing the medical school programme in The Bahamas is a national investment to provide the physician resource capacity to advancing health care services; it has yielded healthy returns. The UWI Faculty of Medical Sciences has emerged as the medical school of choice for Bahamians seeking a career in the practice of medicine. More importantly, our research tracking the outcomes of Bahamians who attained a medical degree from the UWI over the sixty-five years of existence of the university, reveals that over 90% have returned and remained in The Bahamas, providing access and availability of services to the Bahamian people. Over 50% of both of specialist and non-specialist trained physicians remain employed directly in the public sector over the span of their medical careers. The 'Brain Drain' phenomenon of medical professionals graduating from our regional, government-funded tertiary education institution, noted in the Caribbean and other developing countries, did not occur in the Bahamas.

A 2015 review of the physician manpower status, "The Bahamas Physician Workforce: Today and Tomorrow" predicts a physician shortfall to occur within the next 10 years due to attrition arising from physician retirement because of the aging population. A sustained student enrollment aligned with strategic objectives to meet targeted physician projections can circumvent this shortfall.

The Government of The Bahamas' national investment in the UWI undergraduate medical degree programme has yielded great dividends in human resource development and retention. The country is positioned well for the future in order to meet the physician needs and demands of the archipelago, inclusive of the implementation of a universal health coverage programme.



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10TH ANNUAL
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RESEARCH
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