DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH AND PSYCHIATRY

Professor Denise Eldemire-Shearer, BA Bishop’s (C), DPH, MB BS, PhD UWI – Head of Department

WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Department was able to meet over 75% of the targets for the period 2006-2007 due to the commitment and effort of the staff. The department was involved in teaching both at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels covering the several aspects of community health, public health, family medicine, psychiatry and psychology.

The department was involved in service through the health centre with hospital services offered by the Section of Psychiatry, and outreach activities offered through special initiatives and projects. A major thrust was to improve the research output of both staff and students.

With the malaria outbreak in December 2006, three members of staff were deployed to the Ministry of Health to assist in the management of the epidemic.

Community Health lecturers were involved in all 5 years of the medical undergraduate programme while Psychiatry was involved in years 1-4.

The Department was ranked the top medical department by outstanding lecturer effectiveness by the Strategic Transformation’s exercise to assess performance. The courses received an average of 4.5. The scores for lecturers received an average of 4.7 and ranged from 4.1 to 5 with two lecturers receiving a 5. The undergraduate coordinator, Dr. Tomlin Paul, was recognized as the Guardian Life Teacher of the year.
A remedial programme for students was conducted with Dr. Lorraine Barnaby of the Department, leading the team. This programme was comprised of both academic and psychosocial components and was extremely successful in helping students to improve their performance.

The overall delivery of the undergraduate programme saw minor changes in structure. The Health and Environment course (HE12B) was moved from Semester I to Semester II in Year 2 with the last part of it being delivered at the beginning of Year 3. In addition, Understanding Research (HE21A) will, in the future, be delivered in Year 3. This should allow for students to have a better appreciation of its application to clinical and health care issues.

The Department also piloted team building workshops, led by Dr. Paul, with the Classes of 2011, 2010 and 2009. Excellent feedback was received from students and faculty members.

Efforts to improve the quality of the programme continue with several workshops on standard setting and item writing. Lecturers also attended workshops in teaching methods offered by the Faculty and the Instructional Development Unit.

POSTGRADUATE

The postgraduate programme continued as before with the DM in Psychiatry, PhD’s in Clinical Psychiatry and Public Health and Master of Public Health. There was no new intake into the Family Medicine programme.

Student Profile

20 graduated from the Master of Public Health
6 graduated from the Master of Public Health/Health Education/Health Promotion
3 MPhil’s in Public Health were upgraded to PhD
4 DM Emergency Residents rotated through the Health Centre – 3 months each.
6 MSc Clinical Psychology
9 PhD Clinical Psychology, 1 graduated, 2 pending defense of thesis.
7 residents in DM. Psychiatry, 1 graduated.
Family Medicine, 4 students graduated, 3 with the MSc, 1 DM and 4 students continue in the programme.

SERVICE

Service is offered to both the community through the Health Centre and various outreach programmes including the Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre, CARIMENSA as well as the Hospital through the Section of Psychiatry. The Section of Psychiatry offers services in several areas: Adult and Child Psychiatry, Drug Abuse, Community Psychiatry, Psychotherapy.

Mona Ageing and Wellness Centre

The Centre completed its second year of operation during the period. Two (2) online courses: Fundamentals of Ageing and Clinical Aspects of Ageing were approved by Graduate Studies and offered to students. 35 medical undergraduate students participated in special study modules in ageing and 7 social work students at the BSc. and MSW levels had placement. Ageing careers week was celebrated by mounting displays in 3 banks and on campus.

There was participation in health fairs and seminars across the corporate area giving information and talks on ageing and retirement.

The Centre was actively involved in several research projects with the main partner WHO. There was also collaboration with a Montréal group on a Caribbean-wide study.

CARIMENSA

The Caribbean Institute of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (CARIMENSA) developed by the Section of Psychiatry leased offices at 23 Connolley Avenue, Kingston 4. In an effort to secure a building in downtown Kingston for permanent housing of the Institute, negotiations were held with the United Church of Jamaica and Grand Cayman for the purchase of the building at 54-56 Church Street; architect Patrick Stanigar has completed a development proposal for the renovation of this building. The legal firm of Myers Fletcher & Gordon has prepared draft Memoranda of Articles of Association of the Institute. The UWI Board for Graduate Studies has given provisional approval for the MSc in Cultural therapy, a novel mental health therapeutic instrument pioneered in Jamaica that will be taught by CARIMENSA.
A Pilot Cultural Therapy ‘Risk Reduction’ 3 week workshop with 9 y-
olds from Allman Town Primary School established in August 2006 was 
continued with weekly activities with the children during the year and a 
repeat 3 week program in August 2007. An annual ‘show & tell’ of the 
children’s “Dream A World” sociodrama was completed and performed 
completed at the St. Matthews Church Hall, 28-30 Weeville Gordon 
Street, Allman Town, Kingston 4, on July 26, 2007. The second book to 
be published by CARIMENSA entitled “Dream A World – 
CARIMENSA and the Development of Cultural Therapy in Jamaica” 
was launched at the Annual ‘Show and Tell” in July 2007, and describes 
the efficacy of the process with the participating children. International 
collaboration with the USA National Association of Drama Therapists 
and the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with 
Concordia University Canada completed the Cultural Therapy 
activities for the year.

Negotiations on 5-year cultural therapy rehabilitation proposal for 
Juvenile offenders with Ministry of Justice, Department of Correctional 
Services and the British High Commission, and the development of a 
proposal for parenting skills for teenage pregnancy and early childhood 
intervention for infants make up the major research activities of 
CARIMENSA for the year.

PAPERS PRESENTED

Bain B.

- “Explaining the CHART Network.” French Antilles and 
  Caribbean Symposium on HIV/AIDS, St. Maarten, 
  Netherlands Antilles. October 2006

- “National and Regional Approach Towards Containment of 
  HIV/AIDS.” Sexual and Reproductive Health Conference. 
  Knutsford Court Hotel, Kingston, October 2006.

- (with Reid M, Ruddock-Small M, Ramsay H, Bailey A.) 
  “Knowledge of Pharmacists about HIV/AIDS in Four 
  Caribbean Countries.” Fifteenth Annual Research Conference, 
  Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona, November 2006.

- “Understanding HIV/AIDS,” Workshop on Behaviour Change 
  Communication for HIV/AIDS Prevention for Faith-Based 
• “Reflections on the theme of Universal Access to Care and Treatment for Persons with HIV and AIDS.” Opening Ceremony, Second Annual Research Conference of the National AIDS Coordinating Committee of Trinidad & Tobago. Crowne Plaza Hotel, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. March 2007.

• “Care, Treatment and Support of ‘the Whole Person’ Living with HIV/AIDS.” Second Annual Research Conference of the National AIDS Coordinating Committee of Trinidad & Tobago. Crowne Plaza Hotel, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. March 2007.


De La Haye W.


• “New Updates in the Treatment of Depression” Wyeth Pharmaceutical Workshop for Family Practitioners Terra Nova Hotel September 2006.

• The Role of Dual Acting Antidepressants in the Treatment of Depression GlaxoSmithkline Pharmaceutical Workshop for Family Practitioners Pegasus Hotel, September 2006.
• “Lifelong Learning and the Self.” Heart Trust Lifelong Learning Conference. Sunset Jamaica Grande, October 2006

• “Dual Diagnosis” DM Psychiatry Seminar Series, October 2006.

• “Biomedical Ethics.” Correctional Services Annual Medical Management Conference Medallion Hall Hotel, November 2006.

• “Neurological Complications of Substance Abuse.” 33rd Annual Dr. Ena Thomas Memorial Symposium Jamaica Pegasus Hotel, November 2006.

• “Co-Morbid Psychiatric Disorders in Clients Admitted with Substance Misuse to a General Hospital in Kingston, Jamaica.” 15th Annual Research Conference, Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona. November 2006.


• A Comparison of Primary Health Care Needs of Street, Out-of-Treatment Drug Using Individuals in Three Caribbean Islands, April 2007.

Eldemire-Shearer, D.


• “Board of HelpAge International, England” on work being done on ageing in Jamaica, December 2006.

• “Psychosocial Issues at Midlife – Preparing for the Next Stage,” Jamaica Menopause Society Conference. KSAC Public Library, Tom Red Cam Drive, November 2006.


• “Ageing and Wellness.” St. Mary Health Department’s Seminar. Port Maria Hospital and Health Complex, April 2007.


Gibson, Roger

• “The Research Component of Counselling Psychology in Jamaica.” Northern Caribbean University, Mandeville, March 2007.

Hickling FW


• “Developments in Cultural Therapy”. Institute of Transcultural Psychiatry, Jewish General Hospital, Department of Psychiatry, McGill University, September 2006.


• (with Sorel E. Griffith EEH, Williams IC.) “Caribbean Psychiatry and Mental Health: The Road Traveled, the Journey Ahead”. Annual Meeting Society for the Study of Psychiatry and Culture, Washington DC, USA, October 2006.

• “Even de John Crow dem White” Institute of Caribbean Studies, UWI, October 2006.


• “New Challenges, New Directions for Rastafari after His Majesty’s visit and into the Millennium”. Institute of Caribbean Studies UWI Mona, April 2007.


Holder-Nevins, Desmalee


• “Pharmacist/PLWHA Interface- A Qualitative Review.” Research Dissemination meeting of UWIHARP, Pegasus Hotel, November 2006.

James, Kenneth


La Grenade, Janet


Lowe G


• “Suicide in Adolescents.” Mental Health Week. Ministry of Health, October 2006.

• “Depression and Anxiety at Mid Life.” Jamaica Menopause Society Conference, November 2006.

McCaw-Binns A


Morgan K.

• (with James CAB, Weaver SR.) “Psychiatric Patients’ Evaluation of the Efficacy of Traditional Medicine versus Western Biomedical Sciences in the Treatment of their Mental Illness”, April 2007.

Paul, Tomlin


• “Personality and Customer Service” Customer Care Training Workshop, Department of Community Health & Psychiatry, UWI, Mona, December 2006.

• “Continuing Medical Education” CCFP 3rd Pan Caribbean Conference, Nassau, Bahamas, November 2006.

• “Standard Setting: Its Meaning and Rationale”, Medical Education Unit (MEU), Faculty of Medical Sciences, UWI, Mona, September 2006.


• “Continuing Medical Education – An Analogy with History of Disease.” 3rd Pan Caribbean Family Physicians Conference, Nassau, Bahamas, November 9-12.

Scarlett HP


PUBLICATIONS

WIMJ = West Indian Medical Journal

Peer Reviewed


Non-Peer Reviewed Books

Book Chapters


Abstracts


* Shetty, G., La Grenade, J., Jackson, M. Knowledge, attitudes and practices of teachers regarding children with behavioural problems. WIMJ; 2006; 55 (Suppl. 4): 7.

* Jones Cooper, C., James, K., Wilks, RJ. Human T-cell lymphotropic virus Type-1 (HTLV-1) related knowledge, attitude and behaviour among mothers who participated in the Jamaica Breastfeeding Intervention Study. WIMJ; 2006; 55 (Suppl. 4): 7.


* Benjamin LB, McCaw-Binns A, Nevins D, Benjamin GC. Barriers to sexually transmitted infections and HIV prevention practices amongst University students: Are condoms barriers? WIMJ; 2007;56 (Suppl. 1). CHRC.


Posters


* De La Haye, W. Shand, L, Whitehorne, P., Panton, M. Alcohol and illicit drug misuse among deportees admitted to a

* Lowe, GA., Lipps, G., Young, R. Validation of the Beck Depression Inventory-II in a cohort of Jamaican students. WIMJ; 2006; 55 (Suppl. 4): 7.


* Ming, S. A study of the knowledge and practices of diabetic persons with regards to preventing amputation. WIMJ; 2006; 55 (Suppl. 4): 7.


* Morris, Chloe. To Train or not to Train. 59th Annual Scientific Meeting. The Gerontological Society of America, Boston, USA. November 17, 2006.


**Technical Reports & Contributions**


* Eldemire-Shearer, Denise, James, Kenneth, Morris, Chloe. “Disaster Management and Older Persons: A Case Study, Jamaica”. Public Health Agency of Canada Ottawa, ON, Canada.


PUBLIC SERVICE

Bailey, Althea

– Member, Violence Prevention Alliance, Ministry of Health, Jamaica.

– Member, National AIDS Committee.

– Board Member, Jamaica AIDS Support.

Bain, Brendan

– Board Member, Family Life Ministries

– Member, Inaugural Technical Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS of the Pan-American Health Organization

– Founding member, Trans-Caribbean HIV/AIDS Research Initiative

– Inaugural Chairman, Executive Council, Caribbean HIV/AIDS Regional Training (CHART) Network.

Eldemire-Shearer, Denise

– Deputy Chair, Golden Age Home

– Chair, National Council for Senior Citizens

– Member, Social Security Task Force, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ)

– Member, WHO Advisory Board on Ageing and Health.

– Member, IFA International Committee.
La Grenade, Janet
- Chair, Mental Health Review Board.

Hickling, Frederick
- Member, Conflict Management and Resolution Committee, World Psychiatric Association.
- Member, Steering Committee, Latin American and Caribbean Mental Health Research Network, PAHO

McCaw-Binns, Affette
- Member, Maternal Mortality Committee, Ministry of Health, Jamaica
- Member, Vital Statistics Commission, Jamaica (PIOJ)
- Member, Population Task Force: National Development Plan, PIOJ
- Expert Panel Member, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences

Morgan, Kai
- Member, National Council on Drug Abuse, Treatment & Rehabilitation Committee
- Member, Executive Committee, Jamaican Psychological Society

Morris, Chloe
- Member, Social Security Taskforce, PIOJ

Paul, Tomlin
- Member, Board, McCam’s Child Development Centre, Kingston, Jamaica.
- Member of the National Family Planning Board of Jamaica,
- Chairman, Publicity Sub-committee.
- Chairman, Scientific Advisory Committee – 2006 Triennial Conference of the Caribbean
- Board member, Caribbean College of Family Physicians.
- External Examiner for Sports Medicine, G.C. Foster College
Scarlett, Henroy
- Member, Executive Council, JAPHI
- Chairman, Fundraising Committee, JAPHI
- Treasurer, JAPHI

Income Generating Projects (not including HIV projects)

The Master of Public Health remains the main income generating project of the Department. Income for the period 2006/2007 totaled J$12m which supports 7 members of staff.

2006 – 2007 Grant for the development of the Caribbean Institute of Mental Health and Substance Abuse (CARIMENSA). The UWI Mona Strategic Transformation Team. J$5M.


“Health Impact Assessment Study.” Study to explore potential health impacts of proposed expanded bauxite and alumina production at JAMALCO. Department is primarily involved with survey of community residents and determining health profile.

Work involves collection of mortality and morbidity data in public and private sectors.

There is collaboration with YALE University on this project. Approach and techniques used is being examined as a potential model for use in other international settings. (JAMALCO Funded). J$14,000,000.00.