ACTI CONFERENCE & 31ST AGM

MARCH 26 - 28, 2025

CAYMAN ISLANDS

"RE-IMAGINING HIGHER
EDUCATION - IMPACTING ECONOMIC & SOCIAL
TRANSFORMATION IN THE CARIBBEAN"



Re-imagining Higher Education Impacting Economic & Social Transformation in the Caribbean

March 26 -28, 2025 University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI), Grand Cayman



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MESSAGE - PRESIDENT, ACTI



Dr. Garth Anderson

President, ACTI

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world" Nelson Mandella.

It is with great honor and enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2025 Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions (ACTI) Conference and the 31st Annual General

Meeting. This year's theme, "Re-imagining Institutions (ACTI) Conference and the 31st Annual General Meeting. This year's theme, "Re-imagining Higher Education - Impacting Economic

& Social Transformation in the Caribbean," speaks to the urgent need for innovation, collaboration, and visionary leadership in shaping the future of education across our region.

As we navigate a rapidly evolving global landscape, higher education must serve as the cornerstone of economic resilience and social progress. The Caribbean's unique challenge, ranging from economic diversification and digital transformation to sustainable development and workforce readiness, demand a bold re-imagining of how we educate and empower our people.

This conference presents an invaluable opportunity for academic leaders, policymakers, industry experts, and students to engage in meaningful dialogue, share best practices, and forge strategic partnerships. Together, we can build institutions that are not only centres of knowledge but also engines of innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable growth.

Above all, the theme "Re-imagining Higher Education - Impacting Economic & Social Transformation in the Caribbean" presents opportunities for research to play a pivotal role in driving change. Some of the key areas on how research can emerge as a significant outcome includes:

 Curriculum Development: Research on workforce needs and societal issues can inform the creation of relevant, evidence-based curricula and

MESSAGE - PRESIDENT, ACTI

interdisciplinary programs that address pressing Caribbean challenges.

- Policy Formulation: Research can influence public policy, ensuring higher education aligns with national development goals and introduces innovative educational models.
- Collaboration: Research fosters partnerships among universities, governments, NGOs, and the private sector, enhancing knowledge sharing and resource allocation to tackle regional challenges.
- Capacity Building: Research initiatives can improve training programs, develop student research skills, and enhance the overall skill set of the workforce.
- Impact Measurement: Research can evaluate the effectiveness of higher education initiatives and establish feedback mechanisms for continuous improvement.

In summary, prioritizing research within higher education can position Caribbean institutions as key drivers of economic growth and social progress, facilitating sustainable development in the region.

I extend my deepest gratitude to our conference organizers, speakers, and participants who have dedicated their time and expertise to this important cause. May our discussions and initiatives pave the way for a future where Caribbean higher education is a global model for excellence, inclusivity, and transformative impact.

Welcome, and let us re-imagine higher education for a brighter, more prosperous Caribbean.
Sincerely,

Garth Anderson, Ed.D.

President, Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions

MESSAGE - PREMIER & MINISTER FOR EDUCATION



Hon. Juliana O'Connor-Connolly JP, MP
Premier & Minister for Finance &
Economic Development, Education,
District Administration & Lands,
Financial Services & Commerce,
Health and Cabinet Office

Distinguished Colleagues and Education Leaders, I am honoured to welcome you to the 2025 Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions (ACTI) Conference and to celebrate the University College of the Cayman Islands' (UCCI) milestone 50th anniversary. We convene at a critical juncture when higher education

foundation for transformation across our Caribbean nations. Our institutions are powerful engines of social mobility, economic resilience, and cultural preservation in a rapidly changing world. In the Cayman Islands, we have embraced this transformative potential through concrete action. Our dual-entry TVET pilot programme at UCCI now enables students to earn certificates in computer and construction technology, while our TVET Grant has empowered over 60 learners pursuing specialised training. international accreditation UCCI's and strategic partnerships-including with Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences-further exemplify our commitment to excellence and global engagement.

As we confront shared challenges from climate change to technological disruption, our collective response must evolve beyond traditional approaches. The future demands educational systems that cultivate not just technical competence but critical thinking, creativity, and ethical leadership.

Looking ahead, I envision tertiary education as the cornerstone of sustainable economies, strong democratic institutions, and vibrant

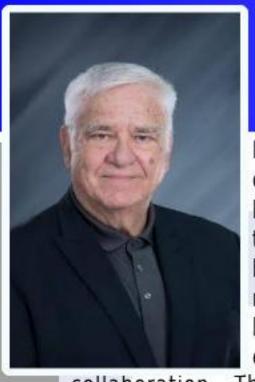
MESSAGE - PREMIER & MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

cultural heritage across our region. Through ACTI, we have a powerful platform to shape policies, develop our workforce, and integrate technologies that serve our unique Caribbean context. The deliberations throughout this conference will influence the Caribbean we build together. Let us forge an educational vision that honours our shared history while boldly embracing the opportunities of our interconnected world.

I extend our warmest Cayman kind welcome as we celebrate UCCI's legacy and reimagine higher education in the Caribbean.



MESSAGE - PRESIDENT, UCCI



Prof. Robert W. Robertson, AICP, PhD, PFHEA

President & Chief Executive Officer University College of the Cayman Islands

It is my distinct pleasure to welcome delegates to the 2025 ACTI Conference, hosted here at the University College of the Cayman Islands. We are honored to bring together esteemed educators, researchers, policymakers, and industry leaders from across the Caribbean to engage in meaningful dialogue and

collaboration. The theme of this year's conference, "Re-imagining Higher Education - Impacting Economic &

Social Transformation in the Caribbean," is both timely and critical to our region's future. As Caribbean nations continue to navigate the evolving landscape of education, technology, and economic development, the need for forward-thinking solutions has never been greater. This gathering provides an invaluable opportunity to exchange ideas, share best practices, and forge partnerships that will drive lasting progress.

In addition to exploring sustainable development and educational innovation, this conference will also provide critical insights into optimizing operational efficiency in higher education. As institutions strive to enhance their impact with limited resources, sharing strategies for improving effectiveness, resilience, and adaptability is key to ensuring long-term success.

At UCCI, we are proud to host this distinguished assembly of thought leaders. I encourage you to take full advantage of this conference—to engage in thought-provoking discussions, build new connections, and explore opportunities for regional collaboration.

MESSAGE - PRESIDENT, UCCI

May this event inspirebold ideas and meaningful action that will contribute to a brighter, more sustainable future for us all.

On behalf of UCCI, I extend my warmes't welcome and best wishes for a successful and enriching conference.



CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30AM - 9:30AM Registration

9:30AM - 10:00AM Welcome & Keynote Address - Prof. Paloma Mohamed

Inclusive and Innovative Higher Education for Sustainable Development

Panel 1: Inclusive and Innovative Higher Education for 10:00AM - 11:20AM Sustainable Development

> "The Role of Higher Education in Advancing Social Mobility and Sustainability in the Caribbean"

Presented by Mrs. Tawney Bennett and Mrs. Karolina Norris

 "Optimizing Leadership Development for Caribbean School Administ Evaluating Jamaica's Aspiring Principals Programme"

Presented by Dr. Darien G. Henry

• "Exploring the University of Guyana's Contribution to Sustainable Development through Research: Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)"

Presented by Prof. Emanuel Cummings, Ms. Lucy Butchey and Dr. Cecil Boston

11:20AM - 11:40AM Networking and Coffee Break

11:40AM - 1:00PM Panel 2: Operational Optimization in Higher Education

 "Improving Higher Education in the Caribbean: Using a Structured Approach to Drive Innovation"

Presented by Dr. Robert Robertson

 "Tomorrow's Curriculum: Strategies for Embedding Climate Action in Education Learning Domains"

Presented by Mr. Jason McIntosh and Mr. Lance D. Scott

 "Adaptable and Student-Centric Operations: Enhancing Sense of Belonging in Higher Education - from the Perspective of a University Registrar"

Presented by Dr. Patricia Robinson

11:40 AM - 1:00 PM	Parallel Session - Students
	"Leadership: World Changers"
	Facilitator: Mr. Howard Isaacs
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Lunch Break
2:00 PM - 3:20 PM	Panel 3: Higher Education for an Inclusive Future
	•"40 Years of the University of Guyana School of Medicine:
	Transforming Guyana Through Physician Training and Advancing
	Universal Health Coverage"
	Presented by Prof. Emanuel Cummings, Mr. Keon Skeete and Dr. Cecil Boston
3:20 PM - 3:50 PM	Breakout Sessions & Presentations
3:20 PM - 3:50 PM	Students' Planning Session
3:50 PM - 4:00 PM	Wrap-Up

CONFERENCE AGENDA

DAY 2 - THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025

Sir Vassel Johnson Hall: all main conference sessions, lunch and coffee breaks. School of Teacher Education: all students' sessions.

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM Registration

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM Welcome & Keynote Address - Prof. R Clive Landis

Operational Optimization in Higher Education

10:00 AM - 11:20 AM

Panel 1: Operational Optimization in Higher Education

- "Internal Review of the Registry Department"
 Presented by Dr. Sonja Madden
- "Resource Mobilization: Unlocking Potential Resources to Enhance Opportunities in Higher Education"

Presented by Dr. Kenneth Williams and Prof. Paul Ventura

 "Beyond Employment: An Examination of the Purposes of Tertiary Education"

Presented by Prof. Livingston Smith

 Improving financial Viability Through Students' Campus Business Ventures: A case study of a Higher Education Institution(HEIs)

Presented by Mrs. Tamara McFarlane and Ms. Yolanda Henry

10:00 AM -11:20 AM

Students' Parallel Session

Panel Discussion: Innovation, Investment and Entrepreneurship

Panelists: Mr. Jeffrey Firestone CEO of the Firestone Group and the TradeUP Fund.org and Faculty representatives of Palm Beach State College, Lake Worth, Florida;

Mr. Machel Forde of Maven Securities Ltd.

Moderator: Ms. Annette Alleyne

11:20 AM - 11:40 AM

Networking and Coffee Break

11:40 AM - 1:00 PM

Panel 2: The Digital Future of the Caribbean

• "Future-Ready Caribbean: Digital Skills as a Strategic Imperative"

Presented by Dr. Genève Phillip-Durham

 "Al Powered Predictive Analytics for Retention, Revenue and Results: A Case Study of a Community College in Jamaica"

Presented by Ms. Yolanda Henry and Mrs. Tamara McFarlane

 Resource Mobilization: Applications of Artificial Intelligence for Climate Change Mitigation.

Presented by Dr. Kenneth Williams and Prof. Paul Ventura

2:00 PM - 3:20 PM

Panel 3: Higher Education for Sustainable Development

- "MOOCs: Are They the End of the World as We Know It, or
- a Smart, Sustainable Means for Global Learning and Education?"

 Presented by Prof. William P. Schonberg
- "RESEMBID's Impact: The Cayman Islands' Training Experience"
 Presented by Mr. Paul Puckerin
- "Examining the Impact of Andragogical Principles on Pedagogical Practices and Learning Outcomes in Higher Education"

Presented by Mr. Cleon Foster, Miss Nadine Newman and Dr. Sasha- Gaye Belnavis

Systematic Review of Innovation in Associate Business
 Degree Curricula in the Caribbean for Sustainable Development
 Presented by Dr. Amitabha Basu

2:00 PM - 3:20 PM

Students' Parallel Session

Planning

3:20 PM - 3:30 PM

Networking and Coffee Break

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Students' Forum

4:30 PM - 4:45 PM

Wrap-Up

CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Registration

9:30 PM - 10:50 AM

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM Welcome & Keynote Address - Mr. Ian Gilmour

Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean

Panel 1: The Reality of Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean

• "The Transformative Potential of Generative Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education: An Investigation of Pedagogical, Ethical, and Equity Implications"

Presented by Ms. Sherene Williams

- "Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean: Balancing Innovation, Ethics, and Energy Sustainability"
 Presented by Dr. Ian Charlery
- "A Strategy for Better Al Adoption in the Caribbean in Higher Education Starts with Gen-Z"

Presented by Mr. Enoete Inanga

10:50 AM - 11:00 AM Networking and Coffee Break

Panel 2: Caribbean Regional Food & Nutrition Security & Climate Action

- "Building Climate Resilience and Food Security in the Caribbean:
- A Case Study of Barbados' Sustainable Development Strategy"
 Presented by Mrs. Alicia Forde
- "Assessing the Impact of Hurricane Beryl on Food Security in Jamaica: An Analysis of Price Fluctuations in Essential Agricultural Food Items"

Presented by Mrs. Farah McGowan and Mrs. Sheridon King-Coke

• "From Imports to Independence: Prioritizing Local Food Consumption for Food Security and Health"

Presented by Mrs. Paulette Wright-Hall

11:00 AM - 12:20 PM

Students' Parallel Session

"Protocol and Social Graces for World Leaders"
Facilitator: Dr. Angela Samuels Harris

12:20 PM - 12:30 PM

Closing Remarks & Vote of Thanks

12:30 PM - 1:20 PM

Lunch

1:20 PM Tour Departs UCCI

OVERVIEW OF TITLES & THEMES

OVERVIEW

Conference Title: Re-imagining Higher Education - Impacting Economic & Social Transformation in the Caribbean

This year, the focus is on how Higher Education institutions can be positioned as future-forward, agile, flexible entities with transformative strategies that drive social and economic advancements across the Caribbean region, characterized by its diverse cultures and economic landscapes. The pivotal role of Higher Education institutions in fostering regional development by aligning academic, technical and vocational programmes with local economic needs, while embracing innovation will be highlighted.

Themes:

Submissions should engage with the following:

1. The Reality of Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean - "The Reality of Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean" explores the transformative potential of AI within the unique socio-economic and cultural context of the region. It examines how AI can drive innovation and economic growth in key sectors such as tourism, agriculture, and financial services, while also addressing pressing social challenges like healthcare access, educational equity, and disaster resilience. This theme delves into the ethical dimensions of AI adoption, highlighting concerns around data privacy, bias, and regulation. Additionally, it considers the role of AI in reshaping higher education to prepare a workforce equipped with future-ready skills, as well as the region's readiness in terms of digital infrastructure, policy frameworks, and capacity building.

OVERVIEW OF TITLES & THEMES

By addressing these critical areas, this sub-theme seeks to chart a path for the sustainable and inclusive integration of Al into Caribbean societies.

- 2. Operational Optimization in Higher Education During a period of fiscal constraints, escalating competition, and ever-changing student expectations, operational optimization has become of paramount importance for higher education institutions. This sub-theme invites participants to explore principles and practices that can assist tertiary educational institutions to enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve service delivery while maintaining academic quality. The various sessions will focus on resource mobilization for institutional sustainability, ethics and integrity in higher education, data-driven decision-making for enhancing excellence in higher education, building partnerships and collaboration for high impact, and strategic enrollment management. This sub-theme aims to create a more agile, responsive and student-centered environment through the lens of operational optimization.
- 3. Inclusive and Innovative Higher Education for Sustainable Development Inclusivity, Diversity, Innovation and Equity in the delivery of Higher Education in the Caribbean must assume a significant and enhanced role given the skill-gaps facing most countries in our Region. Given the mandate of tertiary institutions across the Caribbean to rapidly address the skill-gaps, ACTI is intentionally seeking through the 2025 Conference to have participants explore and exchange experiences that would embrace inclusivity, innovation and equity in the delivery of higher education aimed at serving the needs of our respective countries, while ensuring that focus is given to our sustainable development. Indeed, the vision

OVERVIEW OF TITLES & THEMES

for greater inclusivity in higher education across the region must intentionally acknowledge the compelling need for diversity of both students and staff across our tertiary education institutions, while placing emphasis on best practices that would enhance, inter alia, socialization and effective participation of our students within the higher education space in the Caribbean.

It is the expectation that the 2025 ACTI Conference will generate ideas surrounding awareness, training, responsibilities of critical stakeholders along with companion rights and responsibilities which can be explored; ultimately leading to sustainable development of the Caribbean Region.

4. Caribbean Regional Food and Nutrition Security and Climate Action
- The Caribbean region faces unique challenges in ensuring food and
nutrition security due to its limited agricultural infrastructure,
susceptibility to climate change, and reliance on imported food. This
sub-theme emphasizes integrated approaches to food security, which
include climate-smart solutions, crop diversification, community
empowerment through community-led initiatives, and the promotion of
healthy dietary practices. These strategies aim to build resilience and
foster economic as well as sustainable development. The sub-theme
also encompasses regional collaboration, supported by relevant policies
and investments in research and technology, which are essential for
developing innovative solutions that enhance productivity while
minimizing environmental impact.

Theme: The Reality of Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean

Click on title to view abstract

1. The Transformative Potential of Generative Artifical Intelligence in Higher Education: An Investigation of Pedagogical, Ethical, and Equity Implications

Author: Ms Sherene Williams

Affiliation: Church Teachers' College

2. Artificial Intelligence in the Caribbean: Balancing Innovation, Ethics, and Energy Sustainability

Author: Dr. Ian Charlery

Affiliation: A1 Cleaning Services

3. A Strategy for Better Al Adoption in the Caribbean in Higher Education Starts with Gen-Z

Author: Mr. Enoete Inanga

Affiliation: Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College

4. Future-Ready Caribbean: Digital Skills as a Strategic Imperative

Author: Dr. Genève Phillip-Durham

Affiliation: University College of Cayman Islands

5. Al Powered Predictive Analytics for Retention, Revenue and Results: A Case Study of a Community College in Jamaica Authors: Ms. Yolanda Henry and Mrs. Tamara McFarlane Affiliation: Excelsior Community College

Theme: Operational Optimization in Higher Education

Click on title to view abstract

1. Improving Higher Education in the Caribbean: Using a Structured Approach to Drive Innovation

Author: Dr. Robert Robertson

Affiliation: University College of Cayman Islands

2. Optimizing Leadership Development for Caribbean School Administrators: Evaluating Jamaica's Aspiring Principals Programme

Author: Dr. Darien G. Henry

Affiliation: Montego Bay Community College

3. Adaptable and Student-Centric Operations: Enhancing Sense of Belonging in Higher Education – from the Perspective of a University Registrar

Author: Dr. Patricia Robinson

Affiliation: University College of Cayman Islands

4. Internal Review of the Registry Department

Author: Dr. Sonja Madden

Affiliation: Montego Bay Community College

5. Resource Mobilization: Unlocking Potential Resources to Enhance Opportunities in Higher Education

Authors: Dr. Kenneth Williams and Professor Paul Ventura Affiliation: Antioch University & US Africa Initiatives (USAFI)

6. Improving financial Viability Through Students' Campus Business Ventures: A case study of a Higher Education Institution(HEIs)

Authors: Mrs. Tamara McFarlane, Ms. Yolanda Henry and Ms.

Sharee-Ann Bartley

Affiliation: Excelsior Community College

Theme: Inclusive and Innovative Higher Education for Sustainable Development

Click on title to view abstract

1. Tomorrow's Curriculum: Strategies for Embedding Climate Action in Higher Education Learning Domains

Authors: Mr. Jason McIntosh and Mr. Lance D. Scott Affiliation: Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica

2. MOOCs: Are They the End of the World as We Know It, or a Smart, Sustainable Means for Global Learning and Education?

Author: Prof. William P. Schonberg

Affiliation: Missouri University of Science and Technology

3. RESEMBID's Impact - The Cayman Islands' Training Experience

Author: Mr. Paul Puckerin

Affiliation: University College of the Cayman Islands

4. The Role of Higher Education in Advancing Social Mobility and Sustainability in the Caribbean

Authors: Mrs. Tawney Bennett and Mrs. Karolina Norris

Affiliation: Truman Bodden Law School

5. Examining the Impact of Andragogical Principles on Pedagogical Practices and Learning Outcomes in Higher Education

Authors: Mr. Cleon Foster, Miss Nadine Newman and Dr. Sasha-

Gave Belnavis

Affiliation: Church Teachers' College

6. 40 Years of the University of Guyana School of Medicine: Transforming Guyana Through Physician Training and Advancing Universal Health Coverage

Authors: Prof. Emanuel F Cummings, Dr. Cecil Boston, Dr. Nigel Gravesande, Mr. Keon Skeete, Dr. Steven Khan, Ms. Susette James,

Ms. Vanessa VanLong and Ms. Lucy Butchey

Affiliation: University of Guyana

Click on title to view abstract

7. Exploring the University of Guyana's Contribution to Sustainable Development through Research: Alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

Authors: Ms. Lucy Butchey, Prof. Emanuel Cummings, Dr. Cecil Boston, Dr. Steven Khan, Dr. Nigel Gravesande, Ms. Suzette James,

Mr. Keon Skeete and Ms. Vanessa VanLong

Affiliation: University of Guyana

8. Beyond Employment: An Examination of the Purposes of Tertiary Education

Author: Prof. Livingston Smith

Affiliation: University College of Cayman Islands

9. Systematic Review of Innovation in Associate Business Degree Curricula in the Caribbean for Sustainable Development

Author: Dr. Amitabha Basu

Affiliation: St Mathews University School of Medicine

Theme: Caribbean Regional Food and Nutrition Security and Climate Action

Click on title to view abstract

1. Building Climate Resilience and Food Security in the Caribbean: A Case Study of Barbados' Sustainable Development Strategy

Author: Ms. Alicia Forde

Affiliation: Barbados Community College

2. Assessing the Impact of Hurricane Beryl on Food Security in Jamaica: An Analysis of Price Fluctuations in Essential Agricultural Food Items

Authors: Mrs. Charmaine Heslop-Thomas, Miss. Sandra Shelly, Mrs Farah McGowan, Mrs. Sheridon King-Coke, Mr. Omar Isaacs, Mr. Paul Morris, Miss June Hoilett.

Affiliation: Shortwood Teachers' College, Church Teachers' College and Bethlehem Moravian College

3. From Imports to Independence: Prioritizing Local Food Consumption for Food Security and Health

Author: Mrs. Paulette Wright-Hall

Affiliation: University College of the Cayman Islands

Dr. Amitabha Basu

Dr. Amitabha Basu, MBBS, MD (Path), MClinEd (Edin), is the Associate Dean of Basic Sciences. He joined the SMUSOM faculty in June 2006.



His areas of expertise include medical education, pathology, and clinical nutrition. Dr. Basu has more than a decade of training and experience as a histopathologist in various hospitals in India and Nepal.

He has been awarded several Golden Apple awards during his time at SMUSOM. In addition to his teaching, which spans over two decades, he has extensive experience in research on clinical teaching in medicine, faculty development, curriculum reform, and innovations in medical education. His research activities span both anatomical pathology and medical education, and they have been published in various national and international journals, namely the Am J Clin Pathol, British Medical Journal, Indian Journal of Applied Research etc. He has presented at several medical conferences, including the IAMSE, Ottawa Conference organized by AMEE and American Cytopathology. Dr. Basu's research interests and presentations include assessment, peer tutoring, academics in virtual environments, and team-based learning. He is currently pursuing a certificate course on Leadership Principles from Harvard Business School online and a PhD in Higher Education Leadership for Changing Populations from Notre Dame of Maryland University. An avid family man, Dr. Basu believes in team effort, consistency, and nurturing and developing physician-leaders.

Dr. Sasha-Gaye Belnavis

Guided by the Jamaica proverb 'If yuh wah good yuh nose affi run' which means in order to be successful you must work extremely hard, are words that can



truly describe the resilientspirit that describes Miss. Sasha-Gaye Belnavis's life journey. Growing up in the close-knit community of James Hill Clarendon, she discovered her passion for learning through the Performing Arts. Her innate talent has allowed her to obtain a Bachelor of Arts in Drama in Education at the Edna Manley College of the Visual and Performing Arts. Equipped with optimism and a fervent spirit, she began her teaching profession, dedicating herself to the field of education for over nine years at the secondary level and currently lectures at the Church Teachers' College in the area of Classroom assessment and Special education. The experience of encountering a different culture, dealing with different disabilities, and teaching students from diverse backgrounds expanded her understanding and strengthened her dedication to promoting inclusive education. Driven by a strong desire to have a positive impact via teaching, Miss. Belnavis pursued a Master's degree in Special Education and a Doctoral Degree in Administration and Leadership at Walden University. In addition to her academic pursuits, she is actively involved in extracurricular activities and oversees two performing arts groups while coordinating a variety of community outreach initiatives that appeal to many backgrounds. Every path entails challenges, and in contemplating her years in the classroom, she comprehends that education encompasses more than just imparting knowledge; it involves fostering both emotional and intellectual growth. This lifelong learner aspires for her teaching to have a profound influence that reaches beyond the boundaries of the classroom, molding the future leaders, intellectuals, and empathetic persons that our planet urgently requires.

Mrs. Tawney Bennett

Tawney is a Lecturer in Law at the Truman Bodden Law School, where she delivers the University of Liverpool's LL.B degree.. She holds an LL.B, a Master's degree



in Education, and is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy. With a passion for teaching, Tawney has experience across undergraduate, postgraduate, and work-based learning programs, specializing in Criminal Law and Criminal Justice. Her practical expertise stems from conducting empirical research in UK prisons, where she examined key problem areas—such as the prisoner complaints process—to help institutions improve their performance ahead of inspections. Beyond law, Tawney has a keen interest in pedagogy and innovative teaching practices, shaped by her leadership roles focused on enhancing the student experience.

ACTI

Dr. Cecil Boston

Dr. Cecil Boston is an academic and leader in the field of medical sciences, currently serving as the Dean of the College of Medical Sciences at the University of Guyana. With an extensive



academic background, he brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to his leadership role. Dr. Boston holds a Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Sciences and a Diploma in Education, both from the University of Guyana. His academic journey has also led him to earn three master's degrees in specialized fields: Environmental Management, with a focus on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management; Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety; and Biochemistry and Physiology, from prestigious institutions including the University of Guyana, the University of the West Indies, and the University of Central Lancashire.Dr. Boston's doctoral research focused on an in-depth study of herbal medicine used in the treatment and management of diabetes mellitus in Guyana. His case study, conducted in Pakuri (St. Cuthbert's Mission), investigated the intersection of indigenous knowledge, diabetes management, and conventional medicine. This pioneering research has contributed significantly to the understanding of traditional health practices in the context of modern medical approaches, particularly in the treatment of chronic diseases like diabetes. His research interests span a range of critical topics, including diabetes treatment and management, environmental health, public health and policy and laboratory science. These contributions have positioned him as a leading expert in his fields of study. In addition to his academic achievements, Dr. Boston

PRESENTERS/AUTHORS (DR. C. BOSTON)

has also served as a consultant for high-profile organizations such as the Government of Guyana, the World Bank, and the World Health Organization. His consulting work has focused on advancing research and developing policies to improve health outcomes and environmental sustainability in both local and global contexts.

Dr. Boston's remarkable academic achievements, combined with his dedication to research and policy development, have established him as a key figure in advancing knowledge, improving health practices, and fostering sustainable development in his areas of expertise.



Ms. Lucy Anne Butchey

Ms. Lucy Anne Butchey currently serves as the Research Assistant in the Deputy Vice-Chancellor's Office of Academic Engagement at the University of Guyana, a



role she has held since October 2020.her's Certificate and is currently advancing her expertise by pursuing a Master's degree in Psychology.Ms Butchery has a BA in English and Historty a Trained Teacher's Certificate and is currently advancing her expertise by pursuing a Master's degree in Psychology.

Dr. lan Charlery

Dr. Ian Charlery is a business leader, Al strategy consultant, and entrepreneur known for his expertise in digital transformation and operational efficiency. As



CEO of A1 Cleaning Services, he took over a struggling company and successfully turned it into a high-performing enterprise recognized for its integration of Al-driven automation and robotics. Holding a doctorate in business administration, lan's research focuses on technology adoption, workforce adaptation, and the socioeconomic impact of Al. His doctoral thesis explores how cleaning workers adjust to technological shifts, highlighting challenges, training gaps, and job satisfaction. Beyond his leadership in facilities management, lan consults on Al governance, policy frameworks, and ethical technology deployment in Small Island Developing States. As a 2024 ISSA Emerging Leader, he continues to shape industry discussions on Al-driven business solutions and innovation. At the ACTi Conference, lan will present a structured review of Al implementation in the Caribbean, analyzing its role in sustainability, education, governance, and economic development. His session will explore how AI can drive regional growth while balancing local challenges and opportunities.

Mrs. Farah Christian-McGowan

Farah McGowan is a senior lecturer, researcher, and curriculum developer with expertise in Geography and Social Studies. She holds a



Master of Science in Built Environment (Land Management) from the University of Technology, a Bachelor of Education in Geography from the University of the West Indies, and a Diploma in Teaching from Shortwood Teachers' College. With over a decade of experience in tertiary education, she specializes in regional development, meteorology and climate studies, geography fieldwork, and Caribbean socio-political issues. At Shortwood College, she integrates ICT and student-centered Teachers' methodologies to foster critical thinking and independent learning. Beyond teaching, she has contributed to curriculum development, research initiatives, and educational resource creation for the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information. She is also the series editor for Collins Social Studies for Jamaica, aligning with the National Standard Curriculum for grades 7 to 9. A recipient of multiple teaching excellence awards, she remains committed to advancing teacher education through innovative approaches to teaching and learning.

Prof. Emanuel F. Cummings

Professor Emanuel F. Cummings,
Deputy Vice Chancellor
Academic Engagement University of Guyana. A
Fulbright Scholar, a full Member



of the British Physiological Society, ty in Medicine (CAAMHP) and The Barbadian Accreditation Council, including the first ever site visit that was carried out by CAAMHP and was instrumental in the Accreditation of the University of Guyana School of Medicine as well as the recently the Institutional Accreditation of

the University of Guyanaa Full Member of Health Systems Global and a former Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences/College of Medical Sciences where he significantly pioneered the a number of new both undergraduate and graduate programs in addition establishment of the College of Medical Sciences as well as successfully leading the negotiations with the World Bank and the Government of Guyana for the funding of a new state of the art Medical Sciences building that is soon to be commissioned. He is a Professor Molecular Medicine and Genetic, has a PhD in Nutritional Biochemistry and MSc in Biochemistry/Physiology from the University of Central Lancashire in the UK among others. He is an eminent medical researcher with a number of publications in the area of the Management of Diabetes mellitus, cancer and obesity. He has hundreds of Citations and his work has been cited by Medical Researchers all over the world and is known for promoting the concept; "Starvation in the Midst of Plenty that defines both Diabetes Mellitus and Obesity He has been a Member of several Site Visits

PRESENTERS/AUTHORS (PROF. E. CUMMINGS)

Team on behalf of the Caribbean Accreditation Authority in Medicine (CAAMHP) and The Barbadian Accreditation Council, including the first ever site visit that was carried out by CAAMHP and was instrumental in the Accreditation of the University of Guyana School of Medicine as well as the recently the Institutional Accreditation of the University of Guyana.



Mr. Jeff Firestone

Jeff Firestone, CEO and Founder of the Firestone Group Inc of Boca Raton Florida, has been serving the Caribbean since 1984 and feels it is time to



give back to this community that has helped support his businesses for many years. Through the power of education and in partnership with Palm Beach State College the first TradeUP! remote online scholarship program offers a 30 credit curriculum in tourism, hospitality and event management. Mr. Firestone invites private schools and colleges in the Caricom region to reach out and learn more and explore hundreds of other courses of study available online at Palm Beach State College. He also encourages businesses and governments to join him help their own communities with the TradeUP! program. Please visit tradeupfund.org and contact jeff@thefirestonegroup.com for more information. We also appreciate this opportunity to be introduced to the members of ACTI at this conference.

Mrs. Alicia Forde

Alicia Forde is a linguist and educator with over 12 years of teaching experience at both secondary and tertiary levels. She is currently a Tutor II at the



Barbados Community College and the Co-Ordinator for CORE 100 English & Communication. She holds a Bachelor's in Linguistics with a minor in Education and a Master's in Tourism and Sport from the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill. Additionally, she earned a Diploma in Teacher Training from Erdiston Teachers' Training College and certifications in Digital Media. She is also proficient in Spanish (Intermediate Level 2).

Passionate about education, Alicia has worked with community organizations like The St. Michael Parish Independence Committee to support individuals in their educational pursuits. She is also the Vice President of Uplifting Barbadian Women, a local NGO dedicated to leadership, education, and entrepreneurship through programs like "Wo-mentorship," which empowers women as entrepreneurs and effective communicators.

Committed to lifelong learning, she believes education is crucial for sustainable development in all areas. Through her teaching and advocacy, Alicia continues to impact students and communities, fostering growth, leadership, and opportunities for a better future.

Mr. Machel Forde

Machel Forde is a seasoned finance professional with over a decade of success in North American capital markets. As a Director in Global Structured



Products at BMO Capital Markets, Machel managed a portfolio exceeding \$10 billion CAD. His expertise lies in leveraging quantitative strategies and the development of innovative tools to navigate complex market dynamics. A graduate of the Barbados Community College and a recipient of the prestigious Barbados Government Scholarship, Machel holds a Master of Quantitative Finance and a Bachelor of Mathematics from the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada. His academic achievements laid the foundation for a career marked by technical excellence and collaborative leadership. Having recently relocated to Barbados, Machel is now focused on his next venture: developing an innovative investment strategy and launching his own fund. This endeavor reflects his passion for creating value through financial markets and his commitment to leveraging his global expertise to drive impactful outcomes. Machel aspires to establish a platform that fosters growth, resilience both in his venture and his home country of Barbados. His leadership, dedication to innovation, and entrepreneurial vision position him as a dynamic force in the Caribbean financial landscape.

Mr. Cleon Foster

Cleon Foster is a dedicated educator with a diverse range of experiences. He holds a Secondary Teaching Diploma in Science and Physical Education



from Church Teachers' College (1998-2001) and a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from GCFoster College (2004-2006). He furthered his academic pursuits by earning a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of the West Indies (2019-2021).

Mr. Foster has a rich history of classroom experience, having taught at Burnt Savanna Primary School from 2001 to 2021. He also served as Acting Vice Principal at Black River Primary School in 2018-2019. Currently, he is an Acting Lecturer at Church Teachers' College.



Mr. lan Gilmour

Ian is the Managing Director of Euler Digital - a Cayman-based firm focused on organic and inorganic growth building a portfolio of technologies and



services that deliver hyperpersonalisation and hyper productivity. In addition, Ian is the Chair of the AI Forum Advisory Board and is the lead for strategy and sales. Ian also founded AI GEN, AI Forum's youth and student arm. Ian had a career in banking (Deutsche Bank, HSBC) and consulting (IBM, PwC) before joining the AI Forum Advisory Board in 2019.

His day-to-day job at Euler is designing and coding, working with linguists and ML engineers, a low resource language system called Bezoku - as part of the Intel Liftoff program.

- He is in the beta launch phase of a service for automation prone workers called Median Human.
- Al Forum is launching a new model using proprietary Al Quadrant methodology, analyzing the global Al product landscape.
- · Ian was also the Chair of the Cayman Island Al Society (CIAIS).

Dr. C. Nigel Gravesande

Dr. C. Nigel Gravesande is the University of Guyana's Sixth Registrar in the Institution's history of 60 years. Previously, he served as Registrar of the



T. A. Marryshow Community College in Grenada for over a decade. His undergraduate and graduate degrees in History and International Relations allowed him to serve in Guyana and Grenada at both Executive Senior levels in the public and private sectors including his appointment as Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry in Guyana, Director of International Economic Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Grenada as well as Director of Tourism in the Spice Isle. His successful record of leadership in various roles as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Regional Institution, Caribbean Export, headquartered in Barbados, Secretary to the Councils and Organs of the T. A. Marryshow Community College and the University of Guyana as well as a Council Member of the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) for the past eight years, would have contributed to the on-going transformation of these national and regional institutions.

Dr. Gravesande was an active participant at the inaugural ACTI Training Leadership Institute that was held at St. Ann's, Jamaica in June 2013 and continues to serve and represent ACTI at various fora. He is passionate and committed to playing a proactive role in deepening the regional integration process, particularly among the institutions serving the human resource needs of the Caribbean.

Dr. Darien G. Henry

Dr. Darien G. Henry is a transformational educational leader and strategist, currently serving as Principal of Montego Bay Community College in



Jamaica. His nationally recognized impactful leadership at Cumberland High School in Portmore showcased his ability to drive innovation and improve school operations and lead school transformation. A passionate advocate for educational equity, he specializes in teacher leadership, TVET, and the education of boys. Beyond institutional leadership, Dr. Henry plays a vital role in tertiary education governance. He is a Council Member at both the University of Technology, Jamaica, and the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica, influencing policy in governance, student discipline, and quality assurance. As Chair of the Legislative and Governance Technical Committee at the Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission, he helps shape national policies on higher education. His doctoral research explores leadership preparation and the impact of systemic changes on education. A prolific writer, he contributes to major Jamaican publications and is an award- winning Broadcast Communication Specialist with over 25 years of media experience.

Dr. Henry holds a doctorate from Temple University, a Master's in Leadership in TVET, and degrees in Geography, Environmental Science, and Media & Communications. He is also a devoted father and volleyball enthusiast.

Ms. Yolanda Henry

Yolanda Henry is a dedicated professional with a strong background in education. She is the Campus Director for one of the off-site campuses of the



Excelsior Community College in Jamaica. She also serves as the assistant secretary of the Association of Graduate Researchers in Education (AGRE).

With a strong commitment to education and community service, Miss Henry is a Justice of the Peace in Jamaica, demonstrating a deep dedication to civic engagement and social justice. She is an active youth mentor, guiding and inspiring young people.

Ms. Henry is currently pursuing the PhD in Leadership in TVET and Workforce Development at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. She has presented at various conferences in the Caribbean and North America contributing to critical discussions in education and youth development.

Mrs. Charmaine Heslop-Thomas

Charmaine Heslop-Thomas is a lecturer in Geography and Social Studies at Shortwood Teachers' College, Kingston, Jamaica. She has been an educator and



researcher for over 20 years. Her research focus is primarily on climate change impacts and adaptations. She has authored several book chapters and journal articles on climate change. She has shared her research findings in various local and international fora as she pursues her passion of educating the world about the adverse impacts of climate change and strategies to reduce vulnerability. She is a recipient of The Third World

Academy of Sciences' Award for conducting postgraduate studies. She studied at the University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica. She was a member of the Research Team at UWI, Jamaica, that in 2007 shared the Nobel Peace Prize for work done in Climate Change under Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change with Al Gore, former Vice President of the United States.

Ms. June Hoilett

June Hoilett is the Acting Senior Lecturer in the Department of Geography, History, Social Studies and Primary at the Shortwood



Teachers' College. She is responsible for coordinating the teaching practice experience in her department. She holds a Masters in Teaching and Learning from Nova Southeastern University, a Bachelor of Arts (Hons.) from the University of the West Indies and a Diploma in Teaching from Shortwood Teachers' College. Miss. Hoilett has taught for over 30 years at both the secondary and tertiary level. She has also supervised students on teaching practice across the different levels in the education system from Early Childhood to the Secondary level. Not only has she supervised her students on the practicum exercise, but has also supervised their research across the various educational levels. She believes in the use of research to drive policies. These policies should result in higher education impacting the social and economic transformation in the Caribbean. Each member of the Caribbean community should not only hear of these policies but should feel them touching their lives.

Mr. Howard Isaacs

Howard Isaacs is a Justice of the Peace for the parish of St. Ann, Jamaica. Principal of the Moneague College and a Past President of the Jamaica



Teachers' Association (JTA. He has also served as the interim Executive Director of the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica and First Vice President of the Caribbean Union of Teachers.

In 2004, he was awarded the status of a Professional Fellow in Education to the Commonwealth by the British Council. In November 2014, he was awarded the status of an Emerging Leader in the Americas by the Government of Canada and in 2015, he was awarded the Prime Minister's Medal of Appreciation for service to Education in Jamaica.

He sits on committees for the Joint Board of Teacher Education (JBTE), the Teachers Colleges of Jamaica (TCJ), the Teachers Services Commission (TSC), the National College of School Leadership (NCEL) and the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica (CCCJ). He has also served as the First Vice President of the Caribbean Union of Teachers and several national boards and committees to include: The University Council of Jamaica, Jamaica Tertiary Education Commission, Jamaica Teaching Council and the National School Leaving Certificate Steering Committee.

Mr. Omar Isaacs

Mr. Omar Isaacs is a dynamic educator with over 8 years of teaching experience and is currently a lecturer of Geography at Church Teachers'



College; Mandeville, Jamaica. He completed his B.Ed in Geography and History at Shortwood Teachers' College, St. Andrew, Jamaica. Mr. Isaacs is also a Disaster Management Expert which is complemented by his master's degree in Disaster, Risk and Resilience conducted at the University of Canterbury and Lincoln University in New Zealand. As an influential educator, he is guided by his philosophy "Educate to Inspire and Develop Lives." Mr. Isaacs has conducted research that assessed performance and behaviours related to boys at the secondary level in St. Andrew, Jamaica, examined informal settlement in St. Andrew, Jamaica and examined flood resilience in the township of Hokitika, New Zealand. Furthermore, Mr. Isaacs commits himself to youth development and community engagement through volunteerism in Kingston, St. Andrew, St. Thomas and Manchester, Jamaica. Moreover, he serves in leadership roles in several volunteerism and charity organizations which aim at empowering youth and uplifting communities.

Mr. Enoete Inanga

If you combine a little quirkiness with humor, wit, creativity, and an aptitude for serial entrepreneurship — and then add a deep appreciation for



STEAM subject areas, education, music and family—you just might have the makings of someone with an interesting story to tell. Enoete Inanga is exactly that: a melting pot of talents, cultures, and experiences.

Born to Eno L. Inanga and Amorelle E. Inanga, both lifelong educators, it's no surprise that Enoete was deeply influenced by their passion for teaching and learning. He went on to earn a BSc in Computational Physics, followed by a Master's degree in Telecommunications Systems and Networking from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois.

Today, as a lecturer in Mathematics and Computer Science at the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College in St. Kitts and Nevis, Enoete brings that same passion to the classroom. While teaching core concepts, he actively encourages his students to approach learning with creativity—even in subjects that don't traditionally emphasize it.

He is especially committed to adding value to the lives of those who struggle with these subjects—because he's been there himself. His own journey through those challenges fuels his mission to help others not just survive, but thrive beyond the classroom.

Ms. Suzette James

Ms. Suzette James, is the Senior Research Collaboration and Internship Officer attached to the Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of



Guyana with responsibility for research collaboration and internship opportunities for the University of Guyana. Additionally, she serves as the Head of Department for the Associate of Arts General Studies Programme offered to Second Lieutenants of the Guyana Defense Force. Ms. James holds a Master of Business Administration from the Australian Institute of Business and is a former Administrative Officer of the University of Guyana Library where she was instrumental in planning various book launches and promoting library resources among other library related activities. Ms. James has experience in the field of Monitoring and Evaluation as she has worked for several years within the health sector of Guyana especially in the area of HIV/AIDS.

ACTI

Dr. Steven Khan

Dr. Steven Khan is a Senior Technical Officer for Curriculum in the Office of the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Engagement. He holds in BA in



Health and Islamic Studies at the University of Madinah KSA, An MA Applied in Linguistics and TESOL from the Anglia Ruskin University and a PhD in Educational from University of Technology Malaysia. Dr. Khan has over the years has gained valuable experience in developing and implementing curriculum. strategies that align with educational standards and objectives. He is also an expert in the systematic approach to assessment for both teachers and students, curriculum evaluation and educational programs for effectiveness and institutional compliance and has several research publications in the field of education

Mrs. Sheridon King Coke

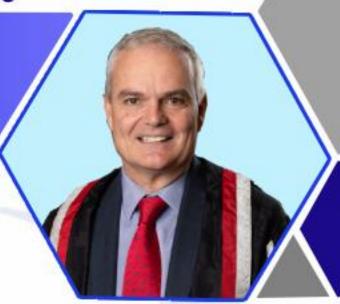
Sheridon King Coke is a lecturer in Geography at Bethlehem Moravian College, St. Elizabeth, Jamaica. She has been an educator for over 14



years, with extensive experience teaching at the secondary level before transitioning to tertiary education. Her research focus is primarily on Geographic Information Science and Geomatics within the Built Environment. She has authored and reviewed various materials for Collins Publishers and the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC). She has shared her innovative teaching approaches through the development of an Augmented Reality Sandbox, a state-of-the-art geographic educational tool that has been featured on the Jamaica Information Service (JIS) and in the Prime Minister's Budget presentation. She is completing her Master of Science Degree in the Built Environment, specializing in Geomatics/Geographic Information Scienceat the University of Technology. She studied at Shortwood Teachers' College, Jamaica, where she successfully completed her Bachelor's in Geography Education. She has maintained an impressive 80% and above pass rate for her students in external examinations and is committed to differentiated learning approaches that cater to diverse student needs and learning styles.

Prof. Clive Landis

Professor of Cardiovascular Research, Clive Landis assumed the role of Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The University of the West



Indies, Cave Hill Campuson August 1st, 2021. He previously served as Deputy Principal of the Cave Hill Campus, and as Pro Vice Chancellor, Board for Undergraduate Studies. An experienced researcher, Professor Landis has published over 150 scientific papers and conference presentations on the pathophysiology of inflammation during wound

healing, vascular disease, and recovery post-surgery. More recent research interests have centered on viral and public health research: established viruses such as HIV as well as emerging viruses such as ZIKV and SARS-CoV-2. Professor Landis' interest in HIV has revolved around the Immunology PhD programme that he founded at Cave Hill, as well as a sixteen-year research collaboration with the public HIV laboratory. On a regional level he served as chair of The UWI's Zika Task Force and COVID-19 Task Force, while supporting laboratory capacity building as chair of the Caribbean Cytometry & Analytical Society. His most recent research has focused on policy response during a time of pandemic.

Dr. Sonja Madden

Dr. Sonja Madden is the Acting Vice Principal, academic services at Montego Bay Community College (MBCC). She is passionate about student



advancement especially those who are intellectually challenged. She holds a Doctoral Degree from Nova Southeastern University in Autism Studies, a Masters of Business Administration, a Bachelor's of Science, and a Diploma in Teaching. She has also completed the Principal's Qualification Programme with the National College for Educational Leadership.

Dr. Madden's passion lies in the field of research, planning, and policy. She has been recognized for academic excellence, research and leadership and is a 2021 recipient of the League of Innovations award. She is also an advocate for the deaf community through her teaching of sign language. Her aim is to make an impact and drive meaningful change.



Mr. Jason McIntosh

Jason McIntosh is a seasoned educator and curriculum development expert with extensive experience in shaping educational programmes to meet the evolving needs of students and institutions.



Curriculum Development at the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica, he plays a pivotal role in overseeing curriculum design, ensuring alignment with national standards, and advancing educational excellence.

Jason also leads the distance and online education unit, supervising the adaptation of academic programmes for digital platforms. His expertise in online learning ensures accessibility and innovation in course delivery, making education more flexible and inclusive. In addition to leading the distance and online education unit, Jason oversees the internationalization of curricula, ensuring that Jamaica's educational offerings remain globally competitive. He is instrumental in forging partnerships with private and public sector entities, as well as international organizations, to enhance educational access, quality, and collaboration.

As a Quality Manager and ISO 9001 Lead Auditor, Jason is committed to upholding the highest standards of quality assurance in education and institutional management, driving continuous improvement and operational excellence.

Beyond his professional contributions, Jason is deeply committed to community service. He serves as a Justice of the Peace, promoting justice and civic engagement. As the General Secretary and a Pastor at the Tree of Life Church of God, he provides spiritual leadership and mentorship. His dedication to education extends further as a board member of Orangefield Primary School, where he helps shape policies to enhance student success. Currently pursuing an advanced degree, Jason remains devoted to continuous learning and professional growth, ensuring his contributions to education, faith, and community development remain impactful and relevant.

Prof. Paloma Mohamed Martin

Prof. Paloma Mohamed is the eleventh Vice Chancellor of the University of Guyana. She is a full Professor of behavior and strategic communications



as a futurist scholar for her work on change in both humans and human systems. Her recent work on the effects of technology on human life systems is of international interest. She is the first woman to lead the University in its 61-year history. She is also the first woman to be appointed Vice Chancellor at any University in the Anglo-phone Caribbean. She been awarded two Presidential Medals in 2012 and in 2015 as well as A City of New York Award for Culture in 2013. In 2015, she became the first woman Caribbean Laureate for Excellence in Arts and Letters, considered the Nobel prize of the Caribbean. She was educated at the University of Guyana, The University of the West Indies (St. Agustine), Harvard University (HUES) and CAMH in Canada. Amongst several Board held positions, Prof. Mohamed sits on the Caribbean Examinations Governing Council, is also Chair of its Research Advisory Committee (RAC). She also sits on the academic board of Commonwealth of Learning amongst several other national boards. She is the author of several books and research articles and is producer of several films and documentaries. Prof Paloma Mohamed Martin is also a beloved teacher and humanist who has been variously referred to as a servant leader and a Titanium butterfly.

Mr. Paul Morris

Mr. Paul Morris is a seasoned educator with over 30 years of experience in teaching Geography, History, and Social Studies. He currently serves as



a lecturer at Shortwood Teachers' College, where he continues to shape the next generation of educators. A key contributor to the first CXC Geography SBA Published Guide, he has been instrumental in advancing geographic education in the Caribbean. His teaching career spans 12 years at the high school level, where he taught Geography, and 10 years at the advanced level, instructing GCE A-Level and CAPE Geography.

Passionate about hands-on learning, Mr. Morris emphasizes field-based education to enhance students' spatial awareness and understanding of environmental processes.

An outdoor enthusiast, he is the founder of Twinpeak Edu-Ventures, an educational and recreational start-up dedicated to field trips and hiking experiences that integrate adventure with learning. His research focuses on environmental sustainability and resource mapping, reflecting his commitment to conservation and geographic literacy.

Through his extensive teaching, mentorship, and field-based initiatives, Mr. Morris continues to inspire and develop future educators and geographers, promoting a deeper connection between classroom theory and real-world application.

Ms. Nadine Newman

Nadine Newman is a highly accomplished and community-driven individual with a diverse professional background. As a School Counsellor, Classroom



Teacher, and College Lecturer, she demonstrates a deep commitment to education across all levels. Miss Newman currently serves as the full-time Lecturer and Director of the CTC Institute for Excellence in Leadership and Teacher Development, where she plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of educators and leaders.

Beyond the academic sphere, she is deeply involved in community service. Serving as a Justice of the Peace and Mediator, she contributes significantly to fostering justice and resolving conflicts within the community. Her dedication extends to extensive charity work, demonstrating a passion for making a positive impact on the lives of others. As a Mentor, she guides and inspires individuals, empowering them to achieve their full potential.

Her diverse roles and unwavering commitment to service and education truly define her as an "extraordinaire." Her dedication to fostering growth, justice, and community well-being reflects a life devoted to empowering and uplifting others. Her experience allows her to bring a unique and valuable perspective to every endeavour, making her an invaluable asset to any community or organization.

Mrs. Karolina Norris

Karolina Norris a committed academic with over 14 years of experience at leading UK academic institutions teaching students on undergraduate and



postgraduate programmes. Currently working at Truman Bodden Law School in the Cayman Islands as a Law Lecturer where she delivers teaching in commercial and corporate subjects for the University of Liverpool's LLB Degree.

Karolina holds and LL.B degree as well as an LLM in International Commercial Law. She is a Fellow of Higher Education Academy (FHEA) and a member of European Association for International Education (EAIE).

She is also a qualified Dissertation Supervisor. Karolina has published in the area Common European Sales Law as well as written a dissertation on the role of e-commerce in facilitating the methods of payment in international sales transactions. She is extremely focused on delivering high quality teaching and enhancing student satisfaction, ensuring the undertaken Law course by the students is engaging and practical for the purposes of their future career. Karolina's principal research interests lie in internationalisation of the

curriculum for Law programmes as well development of online learning platforms for the purposes of growing students' digital competence.

Dr. Genève Phillip-Durham

Dr. Genève Phillip-Durham is a scholar, consultant, and higher education leader with expertise in governance, institutional capacity -building, and policy development. She holds a BSc in Public Sector



Management, a Postgraduate Diplomain International Relations, an MSc in Global Studies, and a PhD in International Relations. She currently serves as Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences at the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI).

With over 15 years of experience, Dr. Phillip-Durham has held senior academic and administrative roles across the public, private, and multilateral sectors. She has served as Dean of Academics at the University of St. Martin, Lecturer at the University of the West Indies, and a Consultant for UN Women, UNDP, IADB, and regional and international institutions. Dr. Phillip- Durham is a recognized leader in Caribbean studies and sustainable development. She serves as an Associate Editor of the Island Studies Journal and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Island and Marine Studies. She is also a member of the Executive Council of the Caribbean Studies Association (2023-2025) and an Academic Board Member of the Accreditation Agency of Curaçao (since 2017). Her work in sustainability and climate change extends to her roles as Secretary of the Board of Directors of Solar Head of State and Affiliate of the Resilient and Sustainable Islands Initiative.

Dr. Phillip-Durham has authored peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, and policy reports on policy, governance, resilience, capacity building, climate change, artificial intelligence, and diversification in the Caribbean. She is frequently invited to speak at international conferences across the Caribbean, North America, and Europe, contributing thought leadership in her areas of expertise.

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Mr. Paul Puckerin

Paul Puckerin is the Dean of the Professional & Technical Education and Training (PTET) Division, of the University College of the Cayman Islands



since April 2021. He is responsible for the School of Hospitality Studies, the full-time and part-time TVET programmes, Continuing Education courses as well as the newly launched Workforce Readiness Academy which focuses on customized professional training. As part of his credentials, he holds a master's degree in educational leadership and a certificate in Leadership and Management (ILM) Level 7. Additionally, he has over 20 years of experience working in the capacities of educator and administrator at the secondary and tertiary levels in the public and private sectors. He is currently pursuing doctoral studies at University of Technology, Jamaica in the area Career and Technical Education (CTE).

His presentation seeks to give a closer insight into how the University College of the Cayman was able to transform the lives of 50 unemployed citizens through a \$405,000.00 CI European Union Grant Funded TVET Programme. Ladies and Gentlemen ...

Dr. Patricia Robinson

Dr. Patricia Robinson is a respected academic leader and educator with significant influence in tertiary education. With over 15 years of leadership experience in academia and



industry, she has become a strong advocate for educational equity and student empowerment. As University Registrar, Dr. Robinson develops effective systems that promote student success while supporting inclusive excellence within institutions. Her approach blends strategic thinking with practical solutions, creating educational environments where students can both excel academically and develop a sense of belonging. A certified Maxwell Leadership Coach, Trainer, and Speaker, Dr. Robinson applies her expertise as a Maxwell Certified DISC Consultant & Trainer to help individuals and organizations reachtheir potential. Her methods have enabled many to overcome barriers and achieve meaningful growth.

Dr. Robinson holds a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with specialization in Higher Education Administration, along with degrees in Organizational Communication and Ministerial Leadership. This diverse academic background allows her to address educational challenges with both theoretical knowledge and practical experience.

Central to Dr. Robinson's philosophy is the belief that belonging is essential to genuine success. Through her work, she encourages educational leaders to build environments where diversity is valued and all students can develop to their fullest potential.

Dr. Robert W. Robertson

Dr. Robert W. Robertson is the President and Chief Executive Officer, University College of the Cayman Islands. He holds an appointment as a Senior



Fellow, School of Advanced Studies, Commonwealth Institute, University of London. He served as the first President (2016-2022) of the Bahamas Technical and Vocational Institute; and, he has more than twenty-five years of experience leading award-winning institutions in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors.

In 2011, Robertson received an Online Administrator Excellence Award from Pearson, in 2016, he was named a Fulbright Specialist by the US Department of State; in 2023 he was named an International Scholar by Global Affairs Canada; and, in 2024 he was named a Principal Fellow, Higher Education Academy in the United Kingdom.

Robertson holds graduate degrees from the US, Canada and the United Kingdom including a Doctorate in Management and Organization (Stirling University, Scotland); Master of Public Administration (Dalhousie University) and a Graduate Diploma in International Development (London School of Economics and Political Science). Dr. Robertson has published more than sixty-five peer-reviewed articles, and he is frequently invited as a guest speaker at professional conferences and community events.

Dr. Angela Samuels Harris

Dr. Angela Samuels Harris, is a retired educator and former Principal of Montego Bay Community College. She has made significant contributions to



education at both the Secondary and Tertiary levels. She was honoured with the Joint Committee for Tertiary Education Lifetime Achievement Award (2015) and the Prime Minister's Medal of Appreciation (2016).

Dr. Samuels Harris holds degrees from the University of the West Indies, the University of Maryland, and Columbia University. She has held teaching and leadership roles in various institutions across the Caribbean, North America, and Bermuda. She served on numerous educational committees, including the University Council of Jamaica, the Council of Community Colleges of Jamaica, and the UWI Western Jamaica Advisory Board. She also led as President of the Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions.

As Principal of Montego Bay Community College, her visionary leadership brought pioneering initiatives like Jamaica's first Seniors' Learning Institute and the Caribbean's first Funeral Services and Mortuary Sciences programme. Currently, she continues her service as an assessor for the University Council of Jamaica, a board member of Mt. Zion Primary School, and the Organization and Education Chairman of the Montego Bay/Mt. Ward Methodist Circuit, overseeing four primary schools. Her enduring impact spans both education and community service.

Prof. William P. Schonberg

Dr. William P. Schonberg is an engineering professor at the Missouri University of Science and Technology. He received his BSCE from Princeton University,



and his MS and PhD degrees from Northwestern University. The results of his research have been applied to a variety of engineering problems, including the development of orbital debris protection systems for spacecraft in low earth orbit and in-situ resource utilization for lunar habitats. At Missouri S&T, Dr. Schonberg teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in civil, mechanical, and aerospace engineering. In 2014 he was a Visiting Professor at the University College of the Cayman Islands where he taught Engineering Law and Ethics. Dr. Schonberg continues to be invited to serve on national technical committees by various federal agencies and organizations, including NASA and the U.S. Air Force. In 2019, he was awarded a Fulbright Distinguished Chair, which allowed him to spend 6 months at the Defense Science and Technology Group in Melbourne, Australia. In late 2023, Dr. Schonberg visited the University of Aruba as a Fulbright Specialist to review its BS and MS programs in Sustainable Engineering and offer comments and suggestions on their development.

Mr. Lance Denva Scott

Lance Denva Scott is an experienced educator, researcher, and project management professional with expertise spanning national,



regional, and international levels. He has over seven years of experience working with local, regional, and multinational agencies, focusing on climate change adaptation, disaster risk management and finance, sustainable agriculture, and rural development. He done work across the Caribbean including Dominica, Belize, Grenada, Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica including internationally in countries such as Nigeria. Lance holds advanced degrees in Geography from The University of the West Indies (UWI), including a BSc., MPhil., and PhD (expected 2025). His PhD research explores the intersection of climate finance, rural development, and livelihoods and sustainable development, focusing on weather index insurance and finance accessibility using mixed methods research. Lance's has contributed to national and regional policies on climate resilience and disaster risk including a comprehensive review of Jamaica's Disaster Risk Management Ecosystem. Beyond his work in climate and disaster risk and adaptation, Lance is an advocate for education reform and worked on the Jamaica Education Transformation Commission's 2021 report. Lance hopes that his work will have a lasting impact on both national, regional and international climate change and education policies.

Mrs. Tamara Scott-McFarlene

Tamara Scott McFarlane is a distinguished educator and administrator in Jamaica's higher education sector, recognized for her contributions



to language education and educational leadership. She currently serves as the Director of Student Services and lecturer in Language and Communication at Excelsior Community. Tamara is a certified teacher mentor, with more than 20 years' experience fostering critical thinking in students. She holds a masters in Education, a Bachelor of Language Language Arts in Communication and Society (Honours) and is currently pursuing MPhil/PhD studies in Curriculum Instruction and Development at the University of the West Indies (Mona). Her research interests second chance education, educational partnerships, include curriculum development and has made presentations in these areas at local and regional conferences.

ACTI

Ms. Sandra Shelly

Sandra Shelly is the Head of the Geography/History/Social Studies/ and Primary Department at Shortwood Teachers' College. Miss Shelly



has over thirty years of experience in the teaching profession and has taught history and social studies at both the secondary and tertiary levels.

Miss Shelly has strong interest in geography but it is her love of history that has given her the opportunity to foster critical thinking among her students. Her students are encouraged to explore new ideas, to work collaboratively and to make positive contributions to the global community.

Miss Shelly heads a team of lecturers who all supervise research studies at Shortwood and who are committed to fostering a culture of research in her department.

Mr. Keon Skeete

As an Assistant Registrar at the University of Guyana, Mr. Keon Skeete serves all the statutory Boards/Committees of the University of Guyana. He also



supports the Registrar and Senior Assistant Registrar in preparing minutes and recording decisions of meetings. Additionally, Mr. Skeete assists with the day-to-day operations of the Committees and Archives Unit where he functions as the interlocutor between the support staff and the Senior Assistant Registrar of the Unit He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Communication Studies, a Postgraduate Diploma in Human Resource Management, and a Master of Science Degree in Strategic Development Studies. He is the recipient of the Director's Award for the most resourceful student.

ACTI

Prof. Livingston Smith

Professor Livingston Smith is a distinguished university administrator and academic with extensive experience in accreditation, fundraising, and leadership. Currently serving



Ms. Vanessa Vanlong

Ms. Vanessa Vanlong started working as an Administrative Officer 1 at the University of Guyana, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry in September, 2012.



In 2014, she was transferred to the Office of Resource Mobilization and Planning, where she worked for two years. From 2013 to 2016, she acted as Assistant Registrar in various divisions, including Students Welfare, Admissions, and Records and Data Management. In December 2016, Ms. Vanlong was confirmed as the University's substantive Assistant Registrar of Records and Data Management, a position she still holds today. Ms. Vanlong holds a Bachelor of Social Science Degree in Business Management and a Commonwealth Master of Public Administration Degree.

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Prof. Paul Ventura

Professor Paul Ventura has over 40 years of professional experience in higher education. He has been both a faculty member and an communication and management and managing



and management and managing international training programs in Latin America, Asia, and Africa. His recent work includes leading online and on-site training in resource mobilization for senior university administrators on behalf of the Association for African Universities (AAU), Ain Shams University in Egypt, the University of Juba in South Sudan, and Anguilla Community College. Over a period of seven years, Paul was the Chair of Sustainable Business Programs at Marylhurst University in Oregon and until he left in 2016, served as the Dean and Director of its Schoolof Business.

Professor Ventura is currently the Deputy Chief and a Trustee for US Africa Initiatives (USAFI) where he supports fundraising and strategy for African universities, NGOs and community organizations. He also co-teaches an annual course in Philanthropy and Fundraising for doctoral students in educational leadership at Santa Clara University of California.

Dr. Kenneth Williams

Dr. Williams has more than thirty years of higher education, having served in various administrative roles and as a faculty member. He has



consulted with several organizations across the globe and was the recipient of funding for educational ventures from a number of agencies including the United Nations Inter-Telecommunications Unit, UNICEF, SAVE the Children, and local banking institutions in the Caribbean. He has led initiatives to strengthen resource mobilization environment in the Caribbean and New England, United States. He is currently working as a professor in the United States preparing doctoral students in leadership and change in an interdisciplinary program.

Dr. Williams received his education in Barbados (Erdiston Teachers' College/Cavehill UWI), Jamaica (UWI, Mona), the United Kingdom (LSE), and the United States (Columbia University). He has co-authored and authored publications on education in the Caribbean inclusive of the application of values-based and other leadership theories in the Caribbean context.

Ms. Sherene Williams

Sherene Williams currently serves Acting Head of Department in the School of General Education and Professional Studies. She holds



a Master of Education in Educational Measurement (UWI), Bachelor of Education in Business and Computing (UWI), a Certificate in Supervisory Management (UWI) and a Certificate in Integrating Technology in Education (Mico). She holds a professional certificate from Walden University in Designing Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment for Students with Special Needs. She has been a part of several research conference. She is a part of the education system for over 30 years with experience at the primary, secondary and tertiary level. She is an active researcher and coordinator of research courses. She is an avid Christian and mother of three children.

ACTI

Mrs. Paulette Wright-Hall

Paulette Wright-Hall is a dedicated educator with over 20 years of experience across various levels of education. As a Senior Lecturer in Colleger



Composition at the University College of the Cayman Islands, she is committed to student success, tailoring lessons to enhance writing, speaking, listening, and critical thinking skills. Her passion for education is evident in her ability to inspire learners to reach their full potential. Her experience in higher education includes serving as an Adjunct Lecturer at the International College of the Cayman Islands, where she guided adult learners and mature professionals in refining their critical thinking and communication skills. Her academic credentials include a Master of Arts in English and a Bachelor of Arts in Teaching English Education from the University of the West Indies, along with a Diploma in Double Option English from Church Teachers' College: Mandeville. Complementing her formal education, she has earned multiple certifications in artificial intelligence and instructional strategies, enhancing her expertise in both traditional and online learning environments. Beyond the classroom, she is deeply engaged in community service and has been recognized for her dedication to volunteer initiatives. A strong advocate for health and wellness, she holds certification in diabetes reversal and is committed to guiding individuals toward healthier dietary choices for improved well-being. In addition to her academic and health advocacy work, she hosts a religious podcast on a local radio station, providing thoughtful discourse on faithand personal development. She also coaches and manages netball teams, seamlessly integrating her passion for education, mentorship, and sports.

BRIEF HISTORY

The Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions Inc.

The Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions (ACTI) Inc was registered and Incorporated on November 8, 1990 in Kingston, Jamaica. It was established after a series of discussions among Caribbean tertiary institutions during the late 1980's.

Over the twenty years prior to this, in the English speaking Caribbean, several Tertiary Level Institutions (TLI''s) were being established to meet national needs. This applied to those persons going on to University studies and also to persons in middle management, technicians, workers in health professions, persons in the Performing and Creative Arts, and so on. In several countries, due to their small size and in order to effect economies of scale, several individual institutions, e.g. The Technical College, Teachers College, Nursing School, Sixth Forms of schools were amalgamated to form the national Tertiary Level Institution.

Sir Alister McIntyre, then Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI), became acutely aware of certain problems faced by most tertiary institutions within the region and urged the need for a mechanism designed to assist in the strengthening of tertiary level institutions and to effect better articulation between their programme offerings and those of the University of the West Indies.

Thirty three (33) institutions from twelve (12) Caribbean countries agreed to the establishment of the Association which was premised on the need to:

Facilitate cooperation and collaboration between the

BRIEF HISTORY

institutions in a wide range of academic, administrative and other areas.

- Facilitate more effective utilization of scarce resources in seeking to enhance access, mobility and quality in tertiary education.
- Facilitate articulation among the institutions.
- Facilitate the development and delivery of programmes and services at the tertiary level.
- Assist in identifying and meeting the ongoing tertiary education needs of the region and individual territories.
- Provide a professional forum for discussion and problem solving.

These needs were identified and researched cooperatively by the tertiary institutions in the region.

Sir Alister was elected the first President; Mr. Leton Thomas, then Principal of the Sir Arthur Lewis Community College and Mrs. Norma Holder, then Principal of the Barbados Community College were elected the two Vice-Presidents of the Association. Thus ACTI (the popular name for the Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions, Inc.) came into being.

Subsequently, it was considered advisable to transfer the corporate registration to Barbados and ACTI was therefore registered and incorporated in Barbados on 5 January 1998.

The Association's original Mission was to "To engage all stakeholders in tertiary education, regionally and internationally

BRIEF HISTORY

for the continued enhancement and development of tertiary education, its services and member institutions; and to provide technical support for all regional tertiary institutions."

ACTI's original Vision was to be the 'catalyst' for networking tertiary institutions, focusing on the effectiveness, relevance and quality of tertiary education in the region.

ACTI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2022 - 2025

President: Dr. Garth Anderson

Principal

Church Teacher's College

Jamaica

garth.anderson@ctc.edu.jm

1st Vice President: Dr. Haldane Davies

Education Consultant

haldanedavies@yahoo.com

2nd Vice President: Ms. Annette Alleyne

Principal

Barbados Community College

Barbados

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Treasurer: Mr. Philmore McCarthy

Principal

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Immediate Past President: Mr. Nigel Scott

Director

St Vincent and Grenadines

Community College

St Vincent and Grenadines

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CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE 2025

- Ms. Annette Alleyne (Chair), Principal Barbados Community College
- Ms. Jean Cobham, Executive Officer ACTI Secretariat
- Ms. Kiara Holder, Administrative Assistant ACTI Secretariat
- Dr. Kenneth Williams, Professor of Organizational behavior and Leadership - Antioch University
- Dr. Nigel Gravesande, Registrar University of Guyana
- Dr. Geneve Phillip-Durham, Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences -University College of the Cayman Islands
- Ms. Elena Fear, Executive Assistant to the President University College of the Cayman Islands
- Dr. Peter Paul, Special Assistant to the President & CEO University College of the Cayman Islands

Rapporteurs

Dr. Erica Gordon, University College of the Cayman Islands
Mr. Ian Drakes, Samuel Jackman Prescod Institute of Technology
Mr. Ricardo Benjamin, University College of the Cayman Islands
Mr. Cleveland Julien, University College of the Cayman Islands
Ms. Jewel Meikle, University College of the Cayman Islands
Dr. Annette Murphy, University College of the Cayman Islands
Dr. Susan Young, University College of the Cayman Islands

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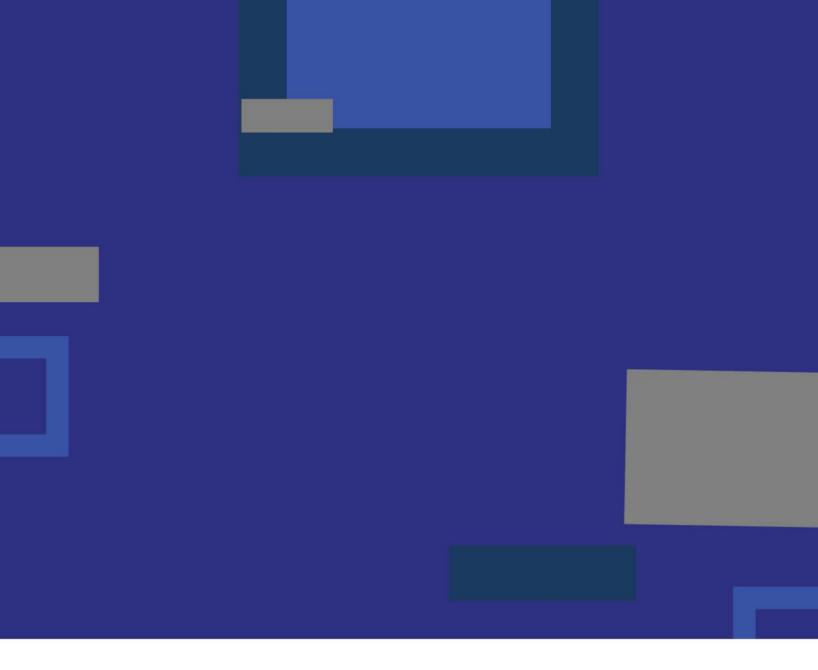
VISION AND MISSION

VISION

The Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions will be recognized regionally and internationally as the premier organization of tertiary education institutions which advances the effectiveness, relevance and quality of tertiary education in the region.

MISSION

ACTI's original Vision was to be the 'catalyst' for networking tertiary institutions, focusing on the effectiveness, relevance and quality of tertiary education in the region.



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