



University of the Virgin Islands

# eMagazine

# Alumni



Special Edition

Spring 2009

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*Specializing in Futures*

## A Message from our President



UVI President  
Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster

Greetings to all UVI alumni, Best wishes to you all for a healthy, productive and happy New Year. As we begin the 2009 spring semester and get ready to celebrate the 47<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our beloved University, there is much to share with you.

Our enrollment is increasing; we are filling our residence halls; the planning for participation in the 2009 VI Carnival has begun; the shuttle on the St. Thomas Campus is rolling every day; students, faculty and staff on both campuses have been trained as certified mediators; we are holding a groundbreaking ceremony for the new

Wellness Center on St. Thomas; and 55 students received their diplomas from UVI in the second December graduation. This list is only a small sample of the activity and achievements that faculty, staff and students can report ; and if you wish to learn more about the University, I recommend you visit our new and improved webpage.

Clearly, the University is continuing to develop and to support the social and economic transformation of the Virgin Islands, while at the same time it enhances the lives of the people in the VI and the rest of the Caribbean. In other words, we are fulfilling our mission and striving to achieve our vision. We have been able to accomplish much more than most would expect with the assistance

and support of alumni and partners. Thank you.

This year the Board of Trustees will select and hire a new President and leader for the University. The role of President is a very special and demanding one, but it has been an honor and a pleasure for me to work with and serve the faculty, students, staff, alumni and the Community these past six and a half years. I hope you will all continue to support your *alma mater* and feel proud about its accomplishments, especially since your actions contribute to its success and reputation.

LaVerne E. Ragster, Ph.D.  
President

The Alumni e-Magazine is published by UVI's Alumni Affairs Office to provide news and information pertinent to the UVI family.

LaVerne E. Ragster, Ph.D.  
**President**

Henry H. Smith, Ph.D. '76  
**Interim VP for Institutional Advancement**

Linda I. Smith '98 '03  
**Director of Annual Giving  
and Alumni Affairs**

Patrice K. Johnson  
**Director of Public  
Relations**

Deanna E. Rogers '87  
**Alumni Trustee**

### Alumni Affairs Office

#### Visit us on St. Croix

UVI Great House Room 105  
#2 Estate Golden Kingshill, St. Croix 00850

Mailing address St. Croix Campus  
RR#1 Box 10,000 St. Croix, VI 00850-9781  
340-692-4023  
lsmith@uvi.edu

#### Visit us on St. Thomas

Faculty West #7  
#2 John Brewer's Bay St. Thomas, VI 00802

Mailing address St. Thomas Campus  
#2 John Brewer's Bay St. Thomas, VI 00802  
340-693-1040

[www.uvi.edu](http://www.uvi.edu)

## A Message from the Interim VP for Institutional Advancement



Dr. Henry H. Smith '76  
Interim VP for Institutional  
Advancement

Having spent most of my professional career at UVI, I have had the opportunity to participate in a multitude of exciting and rewarding occasions. The time spent in Institutional Advancement will always be remembered as some of the most memorable, as it gave me a chance to interact with fellow graduates of CVI/UVI and to share memories that all UVI graduates share, though we may have graduated decades apart.

I now serve the University in a position that allows me to impact the student experience. I ask you to work with me to make it possible for others to gain from UVI that which you and I have. Universities live and grow through their graduates. UVI is still a very young institution and your support is critical. Your monetary donations mean a lot but so, too, do your contributions of ideas and observations. You serve as ambassadors for UVI and in that capacity can assist with the recruitment of students, as well as by providing internship assistance and other employment opportunities. These things, you will recall, meant a lot to you when you were a student.

I encourage you to contact my office or to contact me directly if you have questions, concerns or suggestions as to how we might better work with you to serve the University of the Virgin Islands – our Alma Mater by the Sea. I look forward to hearing from you.

Henry H. Smith, Ph.D. '76  
hsmith@uvi.edu

### INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT CUSTOMER SERVICE

#### We will provide quality services by...

- identifying what is important to you.
- referring inquiries that we cannot answer.
- maintaining confidentiality where required.
- identifying ourselves when we speak to you.
- providing clear, timely and relevant information.
- ensuring our Internet services and information are up-to-date.
- presenting artistic programs that increase the community's arts appreciation and social bonds.

#### We promise to...

- smile.
- follow up on everything.
- greet everyone we meet.
- treat your concern as our concern.
- know our jobs ... and the University.
- treat our co-workers as we would a customer.
- always remember that communication courtesy matters.

#### Our mission is to...

- build lifelong donor relationships
- administer resources to inspire trust and continuing commitment from donors
- develop major sources of ongoing support
- promote the University's brand and image in support of the public awareness of UVI's role in the community
- support the Virgin Islands' artistic heritage and cultural foundations



## A Message from the Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs

Linda I. Smith '98, '03

Happy and Prosperous New Year! As 2009 opens with many historic events and activities, this special edition Alumni e-Magazine is a product of our commitment to *going green*. I encourage you to share your copy with fellow UVI alumni, family and friends. This being our 47<sup>th</sup> year, as the new Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs, in conjunction with VISION 2012 my focus remains the establishment and strengthening of relationships through various alumni-related initiatives. If you have not yet done so, take a moment, update your alumni information and share your achievements.

As we continue to place *students first*, this month we have finalized three scholarships to be launched during the 2009 Fall Semester. These scholarships would not have been made possible without the support of our UVI partners like you. As a two (2) time alumna, I appreciate the value of an education and my commitment to assisting others. This e-edition is filled with interesting submittals from members of the UVI Family including messages from our President, from the Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement ('76), the Alumni Trustee ('87), the Director of Public Relations' update on the launching of our new website, upcoming events such as the 2009 Agricultural Food Fair, Charter Week Activities and a myriad of alumni-related topics. I look forward to your ideas and suggestions.

Linda Smith, BA, MPA  
(340) 692-4023  
lsmith@uvi.edu

# 9 REASONS TO SUPPORT THE 2009 UVI Annual Fund!

### 1. Tuition and fees don't cover the full cost of a UVI education.

Only about 60 percent of the total cost is covered by tuition and fees. The remaining 40 percent is covered by endowment, income and annual gifts. Your gift helps make up the difference between what students pay and what their education actually costs!

### 2. Annual Fund dollars enhance student life in countless unrecognized but crucial ways.

They provide necessities such as books, computers and software, lab materials, library services, Student Exchange opportunities, summer academies and more.

### 3. Increase alumni giving rate.

Alumni giving rates serve as the measure by which corporations and foundations rate alumni involvement. This is a major consideration for these groups when making major gifts to colleges and universities.

Con't on page 8



## A Message from Deanna Rogers your Alumni Association Representative



Deanna Rogers '87  
Trustee

Dear Alumni Family:

I extend sincerest wishes for hope, peace, health, happiness and prosperity to the UVI alumni family and friends throughout this

New Year. I also take this opportunity to thank you for your support of UVI, the Association and the Chapters. Your dedication, commitment and hard work have contributed to the success and viability of our Chapters.

As I approach my fifth year as trustee on UVI Board, I would like to thank you for your support and confidence as I address your concerns while representing your issues on

the Board. I am honored to serve as your representative for it has always been my hope that the UVI Alumni Association along with its Chapters becomes a strong organization that is recognized globally as we build relationships at our University and in our community.

This year promises to be an exciting year for UVI and our nursing community as the St. Thomas/St. John Chapter of the UVI Alumni Association sponsors a Gala for Charter Day, on March 14, 2009 at Wyndham Sugar Bay Resort on St. Thomas, that will celebrate forty (40) years of Nursing Education at CVI/ UVI. Special recognition will be given to the first Nursing Graduating Class of 1969, many of whom have excelled in their field and are still involved in their careers today.

Interested alumni, family and

friends can contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (340) 693-1044 for more details. Moreover, you can expect a telephone call from committee members reminding you to reserve the date of March 14, 2009 to attend this function.

In closing, I am asking you to make a New Year Resolution to stay connected to UVI through the rebuilding and strengthening relationships with your Chapter. Ms. Jacqueline Sprauve, Association President, is available to offer assistance; she can be contacted via telephone at (340) 777-6737 or email at [uvialumassoc@yahoo.com](mailto:uvialumassoc@yahoo.com).

Respectfully,  
Deanna Rogers '87  
Trustee

### **ALUMNI CHAPTER MEETINGS**

#### **ST. CROIX**

The next Alumni Executive meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 22, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Room 133, Cooperative Extension Service Building, UVI St. Croix Campus. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Mr. Marthious Clavier '02 (340) 692-4090 or email [mclavie@uvi.edu](mailto:mclavie@uvi.edu)

#### **ST. THOMAS**

St. Thomas/St. John Alumni Chapter Association is scheduled for Monday, February 23, 2009 at Schneider Regional Medical Center, 3rd floor Conference Room. For more information, contact Ms. Pamela Toussaint '98 at (340) 693-1550 or [ptoussa@uvi.edu](mailto:ptoussa@uvi.edu).

### **Alumni Association Contacts**

The following chapters are seeking alumni volunteers for office positions:

#### **Anguilla Chapter**

Trevor Connor '83  
[tconnor@viaccess.net](mailto:tconnor@viaccess.net)

#### **Antigua Chapter**

William Schouten '74  
268-462-0270

#### **Dominica Chapter**

Aylmer Irish '91  
767-448-2191

#### **Florida Chapter**

Jennifer A. Turnbull '76  
[dimijon58@hotmail.com](mailto:dimijon58@hotmail.com)

#### **Nevis Chapter**

Ernie France '94  
[efran@caribsurf.com](mailto:efran@caribsurf.com)

#### **St. Croix Chapter**

Marthious Clavier '02  
[mclavie@uvi.edu](mailto:mclavie@uvi.edu)

#### **St. Kitts Chapter**

Jonathan Bass '85  
[Jonathan.Bass@cwskb.cwplc.com](mailto:Jonathan.Bass@cwskb.cwplc.com)

#### **St. Maarten Chapter**

Robert C. Arrindell '94  
[robertoarrindell@hotmail.com](mailto:robertoarrindell@hotmail.com)

#### **St. Thomas/St. John Chapter**

Jacqueline A. Sprauve '74  
[uvialumassoc@yahoo.com](mailto:uvialumassoc@yahoo.com)

#### **Tortola Chapter**

Lynda Varlack '97  
[aiquelynda@mac.com](mailto:aiquelynda@mac.com)

#### **Washington, D.C. Metro Area**

Deanna P. Nisbett '96  
[dpnisbett@yahoo.com](mailto:dpnisbett@yahoo.com)

#### **South Atlantic Chapter**

Imani-Marley Husbands '96  
[imanimarley@yahoo.com](mailto:imanimarley@yahoo.com)

## Alumni Notes

**Robert R.B. Phillip, '92, Grenada** - received a Master of Education in Counseling/Psychotherapy from Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas in 2007. Currently employed as a counselor at the Ministry of Education in Grenada. Phillip also has a small private practice that offers services in Marriage/Family & General Counseling.

**Francis Tobienne Sr., '79, St. Croix** - has worked at HOVENSA, LLC for the past 30 years and currently holds the position as the Accounting Services Manager responsible for A/P & Payroll Departments.

**Rev. Robin Mallor Kruszewski '75, Greg Krusewski '75, MI** - this husband and wife team are organic farmers who raise chickens, sheep, bees and 11 acres of trees. Their farm is a host site for WWOOF-USA and welcomes visits from young people interested in learning organic farming. For more information contact Three Roods Farm at <http://webpages@charter.net/rmallor>.

**Melrose Treasure, '79, St. Croix**, - is president of St. Croix Association of Retired Personnel and she is working hard with other executive members to get the chapter chartered.

**Jasmine Buttolph, '05, Morocco** - is in her second and final year of the Peace Corps in Morocco and she is loving it! Buttolph speaks Berber and is learning Arabic this summer. She also teaches English to children and French to teenage girls who are no longer in school.

**Dr. Trevor Connor, '83, St. Thomas** - was honored at the 2008 Annual Alumni Recognition breakfast. Also in 2008 Dr. Connor was recognized as an

Associate Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and his St. Thomas practice offers 10% discount to UVI Alumni seeking dental care.

**Sheila Woodard, '90 Texas** - Welcomes anyone from the class of 1990 to contact her at [gsjjwod@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gsjjwod@sbcglobal.net).

**Angela Amaro Haynes, '84, Florida** - co-hosts WEDR99 JAMZ Sunday morning Gospel radio (can be heard on the internet at [WEDR.com](http://WEDR.com)) in North Lauderdale, Florida. Angela and her husband are founders of the Haynes Gospel Singers and they have produced three CD's.

**Kathleen Louise Hellmich, '86, Washington** - her book "It Doesn't Hurt to Ask: It's all about Communication," was released in March 2008. Hellmich is an executive who coaches, speaks and trains nationally in the area business communication, with particular emphasis on networking and intergenerational communication.

**Oral Coulbourne, '90, St. Kitts** - is currently an Executive Officer at the St. Kitts Social Security Board.

**Esther Clifford, '06, St. Croix** - Owns *ECliff's Arts & Crafts* leather store in Market Street, Frederiksted. The store sells leather slippers for ladies and men.

**George Deller, '94, St. Thomas** - has taught at Bertha C. Boschulte (BCB) Middle School on St. Thomas for 31 years. He is currently a counselor at BCB.

**Natalie Anthony, '04, Florida** - obtained her RN, BSN licenses from UVI. She worked in the Intensive Care Unit at Schneider Regional Medical Center for three years after attending the Graduate Nursing program in preparation for the NCLEX, RN and is working hard to become an Adult Acute Care Nurse Practitioner.

**Joscaira Almonte, '02, St. Croix** - Obtained her CPA in 2002.

**Vanessa Hamilton, '08, St. Croix** - participated in BET's 2007 reality show College Hill featuring students from both campuses. In September '08 she gave birth to son Nazir Hamilton-Hiss.

**Donald Christmas, '01, New Jersey** - was among the graduates of Ross University School of Medicine's class of 2008.

**Congratulations and best wishes to all alumni.** Keep us posted on your accomplishments, successes and good news at: [www.formdesk.com/uvi/alumni](http://www.formdesk.com/uvi/alumni).

### WE NEED YOUR HELP !

We need volunteers for UVI Fundraising Activities. Interested individuals should contact UVI's Special Events Coordinator Liza Margolis at (340) 693-1053 or send an email to [lmargol@uvi.edu](mailto:lmargol@uvi.edu).

### WE NEED YOUR HELP !

## Alumni Firm Designs New UVI Website by Patrice K. Johnson, Public Relations Director



Patrice K. Johnson  
Director of Public Relations

The project sounded simple enough. “We’re redesigning the UVI website,” I’d tell people who would nod knowingly. But what they couldn’t know and I was soon to find out – redesigning the University’s website was (and still is) an intricate process of detangling and following threads to their logical conclusion. To my delight, the new UVI website ([www.uvi.edu](http://www.uvi.edu)) “went live” over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

Shepherding the University through it all was OmniSystems, Inc, an award-winning information technology engineering firm headed by UVI alumni Ian Tomlinson (1988) and Reginald Vigilant. OmniSystems Vice President Dean Wallace was the hands-on project manager who spent countless hours on the telephone and on each campus troubleshooting and training UVI staffers so that they’re able to provide updates as needed.

The redesign process, which began in September 2007, is a true example of collegiality and cross-functionality. Alumni as well as individuals from just about every area within the University contributed their suggestions, their time and energy to assist. The result, we believe, is a website that’s easy to navigate and that showcases the University as a sleek, 21<sup>st</sup> century educational institution.

Consisting of more than 1,600 pages, the UVI website is portal-based, encouraging visitors to enter depending on who they are – current students, prospective students, alumni, visitors and the like. The home page features a prominent main photo, which dissolves to reveal various images of life on both campuses. There’s a campus directory and several areas on the home page that can be used to showcase events, news releases, as well as athletics, arts and entertainment.

OmniSystems researched the best features of several university sites to create UVI’s design. The site utilizes Microsoft Share Point software as its content management system. MS Share Point makes it possible for designated UVI staffers with little or no technical expertise to quickly revise and upload pages. Let us know what you think. Send the Public Relations Office an e-mail message at [pr@uvi.edu](mailto:pr@uvi.edu).

Did you know with our alumni update link: [www.formdesk.com/uvi/alumni](http://www.formdesk.com/uvi/alumni) you can:

- Electronically update your alumni information;
- Share your experiences with other alumni;
- Receive alumni-related periodicals and updates;
- Stay connected!

## 9 Nine Reason to Give to the 2009 Annual Giving Fund - cont' from page 4

### 4. The Annual Fund supports financial aid.

It is a major reason UVI has had a critical role in its ability to increase scholarships. Alumni gifts enable our current students to benefit from the same excellent education you that you did.

### 5. The recent cut in UVI’s government appropriation.

With recent mandated budget cuts, private support from alumni and friends of the University in the form of Annual Fund contribution.

### 6. Reaffirm your commitment to UVI’s mission.

Your gift is needed like never before. UVI is a learned-centered institution dedicated to the success of its students and the enhancement of lives of the people of the Territory through excellent teaching, innovative research, and responsive community service.

### 7. Receive matching annual fund gifts.

Some corporations will match employee donations. Ask your human resources office if your company does this and help us claim these additional funds.

**8. Tradition** – To continue the tradition of alumni giving. Every dollar counts toward a cumulative total that greatly benefits every facet of the University.

**9. Make a difference.** Today, this year, and every year! See the giving form on page 15.

**Thank You**



## EVENTS CALENDAR

### REICHHOLD CENTER for the ARTS

#### **DanceBrazil (Dance)**

**March 14, 2009 – 8 p.m.**

Sexy, athletic and colorful! DanceBrazil fuses traditional Afro-Brazilian movements of capoeira, candomblé and samba with modern dance. The company will perform "The Ritual," paying homage to the Bahia region of Brazil.

#### **Gregory Isaacs with Tarrus Riley (Reggae) March 28, 2009 – 8 p.m.**

Dubbed the "Cool Ruler" after his album of the same name, Gregory Isaacs is a titan among Reggae musicians. Isaacs' 1982 "Night Nurse" became a hit that still burns the reggae charts today. The year 2008 marked 35 years of music-making for Isaacs. He celebrated with the release of the CD "Brand New Me" and a world tour.

Tarrus Riley's hit single "She's Royal" is a staple on radio stations throughout the Caribbean. The song appeared on Riley's groundbreaking "Parables" CD, which also features "Let Love Live," a collaboration with Duane Stephenson. In 2008, Riley re-released his 2004 debut CD "Challenges."

#### **Billy Ocean (R&B)**

**May 16, 2009 – 8 p.m.**

Trinidadian native and Grammy Award winning artist Billy Ocean is best known for hit songs "Caribbean Queen," "When the Going Gets Tough, The Tough Get Going," "There'll Be Sad Songs (to make you cry)," "Get Out of My Dreams, Get Into My Car." and "Lover Boy." In 2008, Ocean made a triumphant return to the music scene with the release of "Wilburforce." He left audiences wanting more at the 2008 St. Kitts Musicfest.

#### **The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley April 11, 2009 - 4:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

Stanley Lambchop is your ordinary 10-year-old leading a quite normal life. That is until one night the unthinkable happens and Stanley wakes up flat. What seems a tragedy turns to great fun as Stanley puts himself inside a big envelope and travels the world as a human letter.

For more information and tickets, call the Box Office (340) 693-1559 or visit our at [www.reichholdcenter.com](http://www.reichholdcenter.com)

### Other UVI Announcements

#### **UVI Carnival Troupe 2009**

Members of the UVI community interested in joining or helping to organize the University's 2009 Carnival entry should contact the Student Activities (340) 693-1111 on St. Thomas or (340) 692-4228 on St. Croix. The UVI troupe will participate in the Carnival Adults Parade on May 2.

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#### **Afternoon on the Green**

The University of the Virgin Islands is preparing for the annual Afternoon on the Green event, which is scheduled for Sunday, March 8, 2009, on the St. Thomas campus' golf course. This year marks the 20th anniversary of Afternoon on the Green and organizers are planning for it to be the best. The theme is "Have a Roast of a Lime for the 20th Time—Afternoon on the Green 2009." Food contributions are needed in these categories: pastries and sweets, soups, native drinks, vegetables/casseroles, main dishes/meats/poultry, seafood, and breads. To contribute a prepared dish call the Institutional Advancement Office at (340) 693-1040.

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#### **Dr. Alfred O. Heath Lecture Series Friday, March 20, 2009—6 p.m.**

The lecture features Dr. David Walton, whose work in Haiti has garnered much publicity as he brings attention to the travails of the less fortunate suffering from any number of illnesses and diseases. He will speak on his experiences in Haiti and his work to remediate the inequality of care available to the world's population.

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#### **St. Croix Alumni Chapter - has two (2) scheduled social events.**

- A Movie Night **February 20, 2009** on the UVI field.
- UVI Family Fun day **March 22, 2009** on the UVI field. For more information please call (340) 692-4090 or e-mail [mclavie@uvi.edu](mailto:mclavie@uvi.edu)

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#### **UVI Wellness Center - Groundbreaking**

Members of the University community participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the UVI Wellness Center on Thursday, Jan. 29. The Wellness Center will be a 6,000 sq. ft. building constructed along the southwest side of the existing UVI Sports and Fitness Center. The building will include a state-of-the-art dance studio and facility that will provide a place for students, faculty, staff and alumni to work out.

**Trouble the Waters** -The Virgin Islands premiere of the film "Trouble the Water," which won the best documentary prize at the 2008 Sundance Film Festival, is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 21, at UVI's Reichhold Center for the Arts. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students and are available at the Reichhold Center Box office Phone: 693-1559.

## Specializing in Futures - A Report

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### UVI Student Wins First Place in National Conference

University of the Virgin Islands student Vanessa Malone won first prize in a national science conference. Malone and six other UVI students joined approximately 800 other students from across the nation at the Annual Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP) National Student Research Conference, held Oct. 23 – 26 in Atlanta, GA. The conference highlights undergraduate student research and institutional strategies to enhance the quality of undergraduate science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education and research at HBCUs.

Malone was a winner of one of the few prizes awarded at the conference, winning first prize in the field of chemistry for work done with UVI faculty mentor, Dr. Omar Christian. In each discipline, first, second and third place was awarded for oral and poster presentations. Malone's project targets a Virgin Islands sponge species which is known to produce a suite of very biologically active (anti-cancer) metabolites. Results to date point to several promising leads from this project, as the extracts significantly inhibit the growth of several human cancer cell lines (e.g. lung and colon). The aim of Malone's and Dr. Christian's research is to isolate and identify the active component from this sponge. Even more exciting is the possibility of a obtaining a new drugable chemical entity.

"I am extremely pleased with Vanessa's performance; she took ownership of this project at an early stage," said Dr. Camille McKayle, interim dean of UVI's Division of Science and Mathematics. "She continues to amaze me with

her depth of knowledge above and beyond the normal expectations of an undergraduate student," Dr. McKayle said. Dr. Christian said, "she is one of UVI's best and brightest."

*"I am extremely pleased with Vanessa's performance; she took ownership of this project at an early stage,"*

Dr. Camille McKayle,  
Interim Dean of UVI's Division of  
Science and Mathematics

"UVI students presented their work alongside peers, and the University can be proud of the poise and knowledge that all the students conveyed," said Dr. McKayle. "This conference is an opportunity for students to participate in a professional conference as scientists sharing their research projects in poster and oral presentations." Dr. McKayle serves on the Advisory Committee for the conference. "The conference is a great example of an outcome of the National Science Foundation HBCU-UP program, which aims to strengthen the quality of the undergraduate STEM education that the nation's HBCUs provide their students."

The research by Malone and Dr. Christian has been supported by the Division of Science and Mathematics at UVI and the NSF HBCU-UP program. To learn more about UVI students' research, visit <http://ecs.uvi.edu/> and click on Research Symposium.

The conference is organized by the American Association for the Advancement of Science and funded by the National Science Foundation.

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"Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

-Will Rogers

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## 2009 AGRIFEST

Get ready for the largest agricultural exposition in the territory—The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Agriculture and Food Fair of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Agrifest 2009 will be held February 14-16. There will be crop and animal exhibits by farmers from across the region and a Farmers' Market filled with exhibits, plants, and fruits to admire and purchase. There will be exhibits from our neighboring Caribbean islands to include St. Kitts/Nevis, Antigua, Grenada, Guyana, BVI, St. Lucia

What treats are you looking for? Maufe, Red Grout, Sugar Cake or Jaw Bone. What special dish do you want to eat? Roast Goat, Vegetarian Lasagna, Kallaloo or Souse. All these and much more can be found at Agrifest.

The Fair will be fun for the entire family. There will be games for the children, and musical entertainment—from Quelbe to Salsa. There will also be educational exhibits from UVI and the V.I. Department of Agriculture. Agrifest 2009 promises to be bigger and better...come and experience the Agrifest Fair-wear competition, purchase locally made crafts and most of all experience the fellowship of friends and family. The 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Agriculture and Food Fair—Agriculture: The Future—Yours and Mine, Feb. 14-16 at the Rudolph Shulterbrandt Agricultural Complex in Estate Lower Love, St. Croix. Agrifest is jointly sponsored by V.I. Department of Agriculture and UVI Cooperative Extension Service, V.I. Department of Tourism, HOVENSA, AARP Virgin Islands, INNOVATIVE and Diageo.

## Local Soul food for the Soul.....

### *Baked Johnny Cakes*

*Calories 141: Fat 5g, Protein 3g, Carbs 20g, Sodium 242mg, Cholesterol 2mg*

- 1-1/2 Cups Sifted Flour
- 2 Tbsp Shortening
- 1 Tbsp Margarine
- 1/2 Tsp Salt
- 2 Tsp Baking Powder
- 1/2 Cup Whole Milk or Water
- 2 Tablespoons Sugar



Sift together flour, salt, sugar and baking powder. Add shortening and margarine and work in gently with fingertips. Add milk or water gradually until a soft, pliable dough is formed that does not stick to the bowl. Knead for 5 minutes. Roll into small balls, flatten and bake on a greased cookie sheet at 400°F until golden brown.

Johnny cakes are best served hot, but can be enjoyed cold. They are usually served with fried fish.

Source:

*Native Recipes Cookbook, Fifth Edition 2001, p. 66*

Published by: University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service

Special acknowledgement to Clarice Clarke, Cooperative Extension Service

\*\* Available at UVI Bookstores \*\*

## Message from the STT Campus Executive Administrator

### Facility Improvements

**Refurbishing of the upper campus classrooms** on the St. Thomas campus. A program was implemented during last summer to improve the aesthetics and security of the classrooms on the upper campus to include the Teacher Education Building, the Business Administration Building, Nursing and Science Building. Renovations included the retrofit of restrooms, resurfacing of interior corridor floors and replacement of doors and locks. Library restrooms were also renovated to make them ADA compliant. The renovations have given the buildings a much needed facelift but will also extend the useful life of the buildings. In addition, one of our goals is the continued upgrade of classroom furnishings and equipment to keep pace with technology.

### Science Building Renovations

Renovations are currently in progress on the Science Building to expand and upgrade instructional and research laboratories. The work began last summer and is anticipated to be completed this spring. In order to continue to provide excellence in teaching and research, new state of the art equipment has been purchased with the assistance of Title III funds for use in classroom and student research.

### Shuttle Service

In Fall 2008, the St. Thomas campus instituted a shuttle service. One of the objectives of the service was to meet the challenge of students getting to classes on time, especially in cases where they have

limited time to get from one class scheduled on one side of the campus to a next class scheduled on the

*"Library restrooms were also renovated to make them ADA compliant."*

LilyMae Durante '84  
Acting Campus CEA

other side of the campus. In addition to providing a commute between the upper and lower campus, shuttle service is also provided to outlying areas of the campus such as the Marine Science and the East campus.

### Residence Life

Life has been made a little bit easier for students residing in our residence halls on the St. Thomas campus.



The former Harvey Student Center on St. Thomas campus is now UVI's new Conference and Administration Center.

In Fall 2008, the use of the student ID card was expanded to include its use as a debit card for

participation in the meal plans as well as for operation of laundry machines.

Beginning in Fall 2009, the student ID card will be utilized for the phased implementation of access control in residence halls as well as the implementation of a University wide one card system.

Other recent developments in residence halls include the installation of wireless service as well as the conversion of one of the two for-

mer Student Affairs administrative residences into a dormitory to meet the growing demand for on campus housing.

### Campus Changes

Alumni who have not visited the campus in recent times would be surprised to find many changes in various buildings around campus. Some significant changes include the Dining Pavilion (cafeteria) now located on the site of a former Student Housing Officer residence adjacent to the South residence halls. The Dining Pavilion was completed in October 2003 to bring dining services in closer proximity to residents. To residents delight, this eliminated the long trek to the former Leo M. Harvey Student Center for meals. The Bookstore is now located in the former Jerome House.



Students outside of UVI's Sports and Fitness Center on St. Thomas campus.

Alumni, faculty and students of the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) now have an opportunity to underline their loyalty to their school with the introduction of the License Plate Program, a grand initiative that allows UVI Supporters to boast license plates customized for the University. The novel program is of a two pronged nature as it allows the UVI Athletics Department to raise funds for Student-Athlete Scholarships while at the same time fostering community engagement.

The initiative encompasses both campuses of the university, St. Thomas and St. Croix. The Buccaneer License Plates is being sold at the affordable rate of \$75 to members of the University Community (Alumni, Students, Faculty, & Staff). The first five plates, 001 to 005, will be auctioned off to patrons by the Office of Institutional Advancement during the 2009 Spring Semester Charter Week.

The direct beneficiaries of the of the program are Student-Athletes

who have been identified for Athletic Scholarships and it is estimated that once the project is successful up to 27 students will benefit. All funds procured through the License Plate Program will be placed in the UVI Athletic Scholarship Fund.

The Athletic Department is making a concerted effort to lure exceptional Student-Athletes to their institution as they plan to use this as the premise to build even more on the good reputation of the school. A number of standout Student-Athletes from throughout the globe have already expressed interest in completing their tertiary education, while contributing to the school's athletic program, for 2009-2010. Get your UVI License Plate by simply completing the attached reservation form and mail to UVI Athletics Department #2 John Brewers Bay, St Thomas, VI 00802. Forms may also be hand delivered to the Institutional Advancement Office on the St. Croix Campus or Athletics Department of the St Thomas

Campus. Thank you in advance for your support.

**GO BUCS!!!**

Jerry R. Smith, PT, DPT, ATC  
University of the Virgin Islands  
Athletics Department  
Assistant Athletic Director /  
Athletic Trainer  
(340) 693-1228 Office  
(340) 693-1197 Fax

*See registration form on page 14*

**Support Your  
Alma Mater**



### A Special Note of Thanks

The Office of Alumni Affairs extends its appreciation to members of the UVI Family for your contributions towards making this publication a reality.

Special kudos to Astrid Carmona, our four (4) year Administrative Assistant for the Office of Institutional Advancement for rising beyond the call of duty and providing an above par product for the enjoyment of our Alumni.

**GO BUCS!!!**

**U.S. Virgin Islands**

**U-000**

**UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**1962**

**U.V.I.'S**

**ST**

**LICENSE PLATE**

**SHOW YOUR BUCCANEER PRIDE!**

**UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_

EVENING PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE /ZIP : \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**\$75<sup>00</sup>**

MAKE CHECKS OR MONEYORDERS  
PAYABLE TO UVI ATHLETICS

**PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:**

- I will be registering my plates in the Virgin Islands
- I am purchasing these plates as souvenirs
- Send me a set of sequentially numbered series plates

**CHOOSE PLATES FROM U-6 THROUGH U-250**    **U - \_\_\_\_\_**

PLATES CAN BE LEGALLY REGISTERED AT THE VI BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES. (REGISTRATION FEE NOT INCLUDED)

**PLATES FOR SALE AT THE STT / STX UVI BOOKSTORE**

To Reserve Please Call UVI Athletics Department at 340-693-1199 or email: licenseplate@uvi.edu

2009 Annual Giving Form

**UNIVERSITY OF THE  
VIRGIN ISLANDS**  
**U.V.I.**  
**“Ultimate Viable Investment”**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE -Day \_\_\_\_\_ Night \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATION YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Please accept my direct contribution of:

[ ] cash OR [ ] check

If paying by check, please make it payable to:

***University of the Virgin Islands***

**Credit Card Type:**  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

***YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE!***

**Return this form to:**

The Office of Institutional Advancement  
#2 John Brewer’s Bay  
St. Thomas, VI 00802-9990  
or  
RR 1, 10,000 Kingshill,  
St. Croix, VI 00850

**Thank You!**



**Message from STT Campus Executive Administrator**—continued from page 12

Building and the Administration and Conference Center (ACC Building) is now located in the former Harvey Student Center. The renovation and expansion of the former Leo M. Harvey Student Center was completed in October 2007 and houses the major administrative offices and houses the major administrative offices on the St. Thomas campus and also serves as a conference center.

The consolidation of the major administrative offices in the ACC has given the University the ability to offer customers responsive and efficient services. For example, through the offices of Access and Enrollment Services and Bursar Services, we are now able to offer a one stop approach to student services to include admissions, registration, financial aid and bursar services.

The Library now serves as the administrative hub for Information are now able to offer a one stop approach to student services to include admissions, registration, financial aid and bursar services.

*LilyMae Durante '84*

Acting Campus Executive

Administrator (CEA)

ldurant@uvi.edu

(340) 693-1144

*"If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people."*

*-Chinese Proverb*

In 2002, the University launched a small but powerful division, designed to provide expanded educational opportunities to Virgin Islands residents and the surrounding community. The Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning or UVICELL Center as it is formally called, sought to change the perspective of the community who thought that higher education was not for them. Granted, the program's focus was not on providing degreed programs (the University already excelled at doing so), but its aim was to provide avenues for individuals who required skills to enter the workforce or retool the skills already attained.

The Center also allows the University to further extend its reach by providing a critical service to the business community. Working directly with the private sector, government agencies and non-profit organizations, the UVICELL Center specializes in the delivery of customized training solutions to suit organizational needs. The cost-effective solutions offered allow organizations to benefit from practical programs that are adapted to the specific requirements of the workplace while saving the organization money in traveling expenses.

Since its launch in 2002, the UVICELL Center has made significant strides to expand the number of programs offered and ensure that high-quality programs are delivered. For instance, the Center recently embarked on an extensive process to have a number of its programs evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE). ACE is the major coordinating body for all the nation's higher education institutions. As a result, the UVICELL Center can provide its students with college credits for selected programs through the ACE College Credit Recommendation Service.

In 2004, the UVICELL Center was approved as an authorized provider by

the International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET). As an authorized provider, UVICELL can grant Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for its training programs.

*"We are committed to providing you with the tools you need for success, whether you are focusing on a new career, looking to advance in your current profession or wanting to explore a hobby or leisure-time activity. CELL is dedicated to helping you make a difference in your life."*

UVI CELL Director  
Ilene Garner

The IACET certification is the standard that learners seek to ensure the quality of continuing education and training programs.

The Center is extremely flexible. It provides customized programs to suit the needs of organizations; evening and weekend classes for individuals and in 2006, the Center added over 300 online programs to its growing line-up of programs. Now students can have access to an entire suite of professional development programs from the comfort of their homes or offices anytime of the day or night.



Homeland Security Agreement Signing—(standing l to r) Ervin Mason, Sr. Homeland Security Training Coordinator, CELL Director Ilene Garner, (seated l to r) UVI President Dr. LaVerne Ragster and Homeland Security Director Mel Vanterpool.



Homeland Security Instructor suiting up as part of a demonstration for the Homeland Security Basic Awareness Training.



Students in UVICELL's GIA (Gemological Institute of America) Diamond Grading Program.



Students in UVICELL's Basic Computing for Senior's course.

With ease, convenience and flexibility, you too can try out a certificate program, prepare for certification or stimulate your hobbies. To learn more, call the UVICELL Center at (340) 693-1100 or visit <http://cell.uvi.edu>.