



dateline: UVI

The monthly newsletter of The University of the Virgin Islands

April 27, vol xv, number 4

UVI Employees Honored at Service Awards

Dozens of UVI employees and retirees were honored in April in what is being called the best UVI Service Awards Ceremonies ever. Annual UVI Service Awards Ceremonies on the St. Thomas and St. Croix campuses honor UVI employees who have served five or more years in increments of five years, recent retirees, and employees with perfect attendance. The ceremonies are usually followed with refreshments.

This year's ceremonies had an extra flair that honorees said truly made them feel appreciated. Tablecloth draped tables topped with centerpieces, token ceramic tea cups, balloons and other decorations greeted the honorees, their guests and UVI employees when they entered the Administration and Conference Center conference room on St. Thomas and the Great Hall North West Wing on St. Croix. Music set the perfect mood and lunch was served on china.

"This is an amazing turnout," UVI President Dr. LaVerne Ragster said at the St. Thomas campus event. Dr. Ragster said it was important that she recognized the services of those who serve UVI. She noted that UVI employees have varying personalities, roles and uniqueness in the way they go above and beyond in providing service. The theme of this year's 35th Annual Service Awards Ceremonies was "UVI Poised for Change." The awards were for the period from April 1, 2008, to March 31, 2009.

Each year UVI employees nominate colleagues who they feel provide exceptional service for the "Employee of the Year" honor. The selected person is revealed near the end of each ceremony. This year's Employee of the Year on the St. Thomas campus is Information Technology Specialist Dawn Matthew. The St. Croix campus Employee of the Year is Christine Henry, an administrative



Top: Dawn Matthew, center, was named UVI St. Thomas campus 2009 Employee of the Year. She is shown with UVI President Dr. LaVerne E. Ragster, and 2008 Employee of the Year Gary Metz. Bottom: St. Croix campus 2009 Employee of the Year Christine Henry, right, is presented with flowers by her supervisor Kofi Boateng, who was also honored for his 25 years of service to UVI. 2008 Employee of the Year Francisca Barry presented Henry with the award.



assistant in the Cooperative Extension Service.

Matthew and Henry will again be recognized at the Annual Employee Recognition Awards administered by the Virgin Islands Division of Personnel on May 21 and 22, at the Reichhold Center on St. Thomas and UVI's Great Hall on St. Croix, respectively.

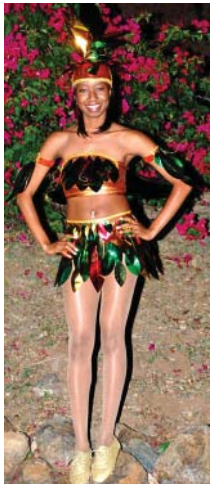
For the second year, Dr. Ragster presented Presidential Awards, which are given to employees she selects for their exemplary service. "I find their work, attitudes and passion, as well as the dedication they show, exemplary and special," she said of the recipients.

On the St. Thomas campus Presidential Awardees were Dayle Barry, Violetta Donovan, Lily Mae Durante, Charles Martin, Erik Pattison, Peter Sauer, Dr. Henry Smith and Roy Watlington. Presidential Awardees on the St. Croix campus were Marthious Clavier and Nereida Washington.

Events Calendar

April 28	UVI Staff Council Meeting	STT/STX
April 30	UVI Senate Meeting	STT/STX
May 1	Children's Parade	STT
May 2	Adults' Parade	STT
May 7	Assistive Technology Open House	STX
May 9	Ragster Scholarship Fund Dinner	STT
May 9	SBDC Business Expo	STT
May 9	Assistive Technology Open House	STT
May 16	Billy Ocean at Reichhold Center	STT
May 17	Ragster Scholarship Fund Lunch	STX
May 18	Commencement	STT
May 19	Commencement	STX

Let Our Energies Combine for Carnival 09



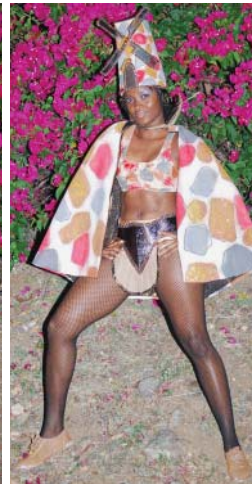
Earth



Water



Sun



Wind

The UVI St. Thomas campus Carnival Committee used the concept of going green to develop this year's entry for the May 2, Carnival Adults' Parade. The theme is "Let Our Energies Combine for Carnival 2009," with a focus on the use of alternative energy – sun, wind, earth and water – which is represented in each section of the troupe. The mocko jumbie section represents the forests. The costumes and float are being designed with the use of recycled wire hangers, CDs, LP albums, toilet paper and paper towel bases and burlap. Volunteers are still needed to help with costume and float construction. For more information, to join the troupe or to volunteer call St. Thomas Campus Student Activities Supervisor Junie Violenes at 693-1111.

Nine-Year-Old is Miss CYFAR

Francielli Baker won the title of Miss CYFAR in the first-ever pageant held on April 4. CYFAR is the Children, Youth and Families At Risk (CYFAR) program, a federally funded after-school program administered by UVI's Cooperative Extension Service. Baker and four other contestants competed in introduction, speech, dance, question-and-answer, sports-



Francielli Baker

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Rick Grant Wins Student Honor

UVI St. Thomas campus student employees were recognized for their contributions to the University during Student Employee Appreciation Week in April. It included the Student Employee Appreciation Awards Ceremony. The highlight was the selection of the Student Employee of the Year. UVI Senior Rick Grant received the honor of Student Employee of the Year. Nominations for the award are submitted by supervisors and students are judged on reliability, initiative, quality of work, disposition and contribution to employer. Grant worked in the Student Activities Office. Lena Lafond of the Admissions Office and Nicoye Smithen of the Eastern Caribbean Center were finalists for the award.



wear, professional wear and evening wear segments.

The other contestants were first runner up Francier Baker, who also won best evening wear title; second runner up and Miss Photogenic Majestik F. Estrada Petersen; second runner up and Miss Intellect K' Nyzha K. Henry; and second runner up and Miss Cooperative Adajah Y. Benjamin. About 100 people attended the event which was held at the Gladys Abraham Elementary School.

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