



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE  
CAYMAN ISLANDS

# 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

# YOUR CAREER PATH TO SUCCESS



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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

## Dr. Robert W. Robertson

President and CEO of UCCI

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The University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) is a vibrant academic institution that provides a world-class education for the Cayman Islands.

As President and CEO of UCCI I have experienced a University community that truly lives up to its mission of being student-centred.

On my very first day, I felt a community that was ready and willing to innovate and give back to its students, stakeholders and community. A community that supported each other to be the best that we could be.

Guided by our three pillars; student-centered, suitably resourced and engine for economic development, innovation and social change, the University is transforming the country.

This annual report shares our exciting progress made in 2022 and the foundations for the future development of this important institution.

You will read about how improvements to our facilities, infrastructure and programme areas have made UCCI a better place to study and develop. You will also read about our commitment to further diversify our faculty, staff and students.



Our campus community works every day to cultivate a culture of inclusion and belonging.

And finally, you will see that we are engaging with our community in ways that matter to them. We are building relationships with local communities, stakeholders and businesses to provide the Cayman Islands with future leaders, innovators, trades people and businessmen and women.

I am proud of all that we have accomplished and I am confident that with these foundations in place, 2023 will be a very positive year for team UCCI.

# A MESSAGE FROM

## Gilbert A. McLean, JP

Chairman of the Board of Governors  
of the University College of the Cayman Islands

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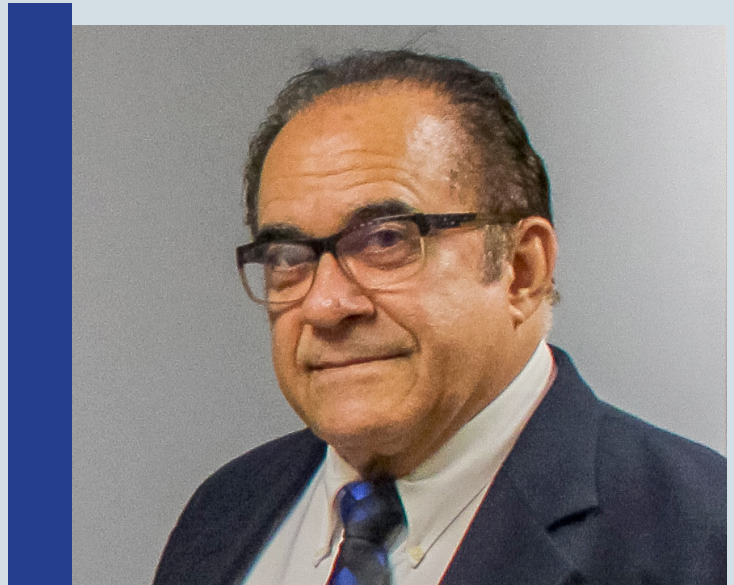
On behalf of the University College of the Cayman Islands' Board of Governors, I am very pleased to present the 2022 annual report.

This year's annual report reflects the University's ability to remain stable and maintain student excellence even in a year of change; where we not only emerged from the pandemic but also saw a change in leadership, vision and mission for the University.

2022 was certainly a year of challenges, but more importantly also triumphs. The successes achieved by the University throughout 2022 show the strength of our faculty, staff and students and the community spirit evident each and every day; where students are truly the centre of every decision that is made.

There are many successes to be proud of in 2022, but I will highlight just a few. In 2022 the Professional and Technical Education & Training (PTET) division saw its first cohort of Caymanians trained in renewable and sustainable trades, all fully funded by a grant from RESEMBID (the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Resilience, Sustainable Energy and Marine Biodiversity Programme), which awarded UCCI €432,210.02. These students are now finishing their programmes of study and are highly sought after by employers within the Cayman Islands. The programme was also extended to Brac Campus.

Importantly, 2022 also saw the appointment of a new President and Chief Executive Officer at UCCI. We were thrilled to welcome Dr. Robert W. Robertson to UCCI and his vision for quality industry and educational partnerships, growth in accredited vocational skills and strategic expansion within both Cayman Brac and Grand Cayman campuses, will truly propel the University forward in providing certified graduates in these fields.



2022 also saw UCCI take great strides forward in its process to seek U.S. regional accreditation, SACSCOC. This is indeed a milestone as we strive to deliver excellence in teaching and assessment of student learning outcomes. Accreditations were also achieved in 2022 for the PTET division, which gained NCCER accreditation for its provision and many of its instructors.

In 2022, the Board also signed off on a new student information system (SIS) for UCCI, something which will be implemented within 24 months and will revolutionise systems, processes and data output at the University.

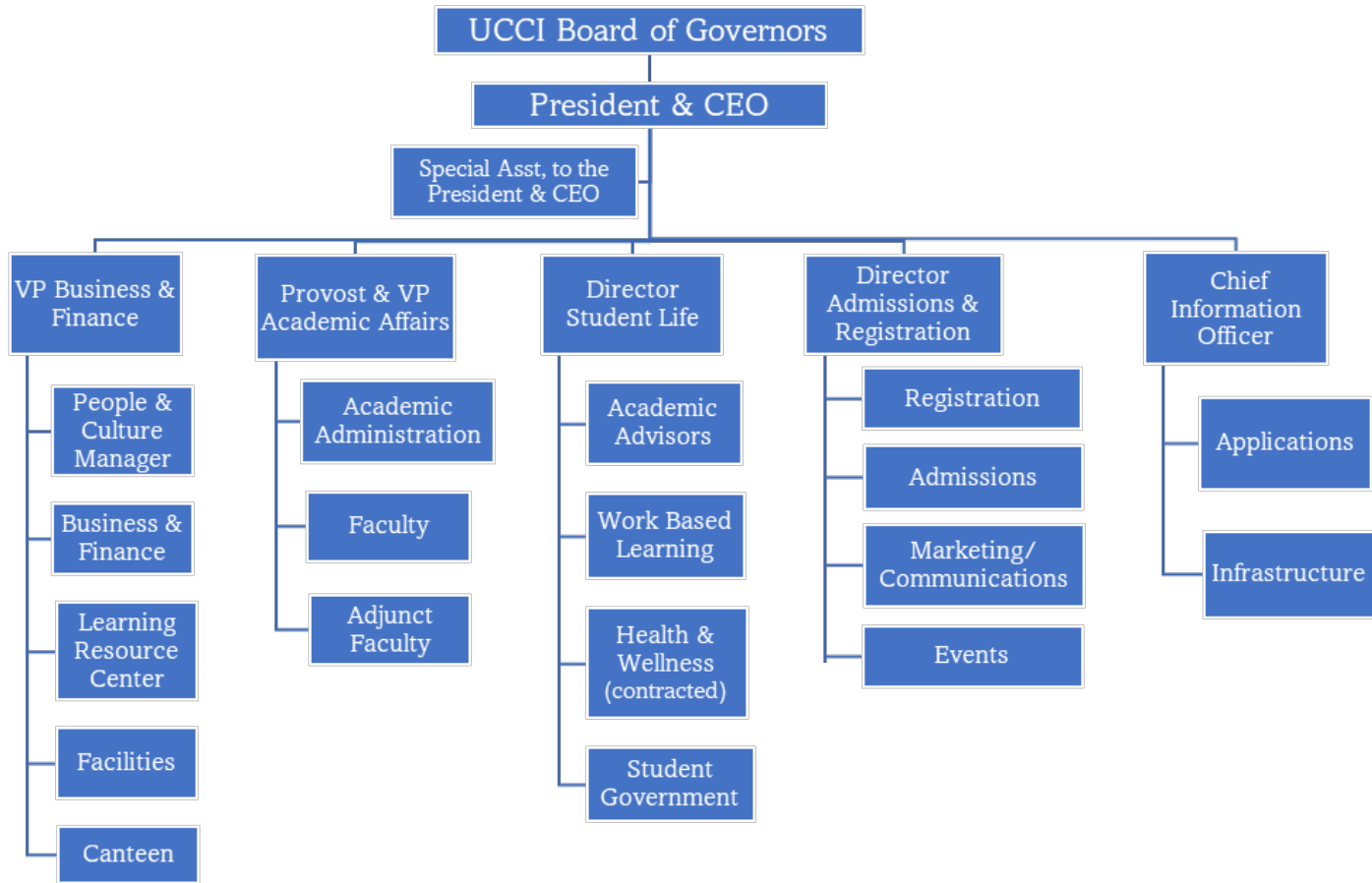
Lastly, yet most importantly, 2022 saw great achievements from UCCI students. Our nursing students went on to attain a 100% pass rate in their Regional Examination for Nurse Registration (RENr). Passing the RENr qualifies nurses to obtain the title of Registered Nurse.

Our first cohort of bachelor's level social work students graduated in 2022. In addition, we had over 250 graduates walk at our UCCI commencement ceremony, the highest number ever. Business students were honoured at the 13th Annual Cayman Islands Institute of Professional Accountants (CIIPA) Awards Gala and won the Atlantic Region Championships of the CFA Research challenge. It was a great year for many of our students.

The UCCI Board of Governors is immensely proud of the achievements of each student in 2022. We can all look forward with great enthusiasm, and I am very encouraged about the bright future ahead for UCCI.



# ORGANISATIONAL CHART 2022



UCCI Cayman Brac Campus Meet & Greet

# BOARD AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES

The role of Governance is to ensure the University is well-managed. The University College Law sets out a bicameral governance structure for the University, dividing fiscal and academic authorities between two bodies, the Board of Governors and the Administrative and Academic Committee, each of which has been granted its own statutory powers and responsibilities. Each body has its own set of sub-committees. The board determines which matters it requires the Administrative and Academic Committee to also submit for approval by the board where those matters cut across the distinctive roles of the two bodies. It is a collegial self-governance model for a university, in which both internal and external stakeholders are represented within governance.

Members of the Board of Governors and the Administrative and Academic Committee are collectively and individually stewards of the University, advancing and upholding the mission of the University, understanding and having relevant input into the University's vision, strategies and objectives, and overseeing the business and affairs of the University. Each member must act in good faith with the best interests of the University, as a whole, in mind to defend the autonomy and independence of the University and to enhance its public image.

The three primary functions of University governance are: (1) approval - governance approves specific policies, plans, or projects in accordance with terms of reference for the Board of Governors and the Administrative and Academic Committee. (2) oversight-governance receives a wide variety of reports and information through which it monitors the quality and substance of college leadership and decision-making. (3) advice - governance is consulted and provides input on proposed initiatives at various stages of development.

The role of University governance is one of oversight with a focus on strategic matters rather than management or administration. The role of governance is not to manage the University, but to ensure that the University is well-managed. In general, the President, as Chief Executive Officer, and the President's Corporate Management Team have the responsibility for implementing the University's mission, strategic directions, and policies.

The Board membership consists of the President, who shall be a member ex-officio, and the following other members each appointed generally for three years by the Governor.





# UCCI BOARD OF GOVERNORS

## 2022 Membership

- Mr Gilbert A McLean, JP, Chairman
- Mr Philip Scott, Ministry of Education representative (served up to 25 April 2022)
- Mr Joel Francis, Ministry of Education representative (appointed 26 April 2022)
- Mr Jared Awe, Deputy Chairman
- Dr Gayle Woods
- Mrs Nichelle Scott
- Mr Ronnie Dunn, Minister of Finance Representative (served up to 31 October 2022)
- Mr Vinton Chinsee, Minister of Finance Representative (appointed December 2022)
- Mrs Pamela Ebanks-Small (appointment expired 27 May 2022)
- Mr Steve Bramwell (appointment expired 27 May 2022)
- Mr Leonard Lewis (appointment expired 27 May 2022)
- Mrs Lindsay Japal (appointment expired 27 May 2022)
- Mr Carson Ebanks, MBE, JP, OLY (appointed 30 June 2022)
- Mr Keith Myers (appointed 30 June 2022)
- Mr Jaron Leslie (appointed 30 June 2022)
- Ms Shan Whittaker (appointed 30 June 2022)
- Dr JD Mosley-Matchett, Acting President (Ex-Officio Board Member)  
(appointment expired 31 October 2022)
- Dr Robert W Robertson, President (Ex-Officio Board Member)  
(appointed 1 November 2022)



# ACCREDITATIONS



ACCREDITATION SERVICE  
*for*  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS,  
COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



National Center for  
Construction  
Education and Research



INSTITUTE OF THE  
MOTOR INDUSTRY





# INDUSTRY PARTNERS



# WHO WE ARE

For more than 45 years, the University College of the Cayman Islands ( UCCI) has been transforming the lives of Cayman's residents as the nation's premier provider of post-secondary education. Established as a community college in 1975, our historic beginnings were fuelled by the changing needs of our society.

Today, UCCI has evolved into Cayman's choice for comprehensive tertiary education, offering innovative programmes that prepare students for a lifetime of personal and professional success. With a variety of certificates, undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as continuing and professional education and workforce training programmes, we are prepared to assist students at any chapter of their story.

## OUR MISSION

The University College of the Cayman Islands' mission is to provide higher learning that contributes to the Cayman Islands and global societies by advancing knowledge and developing innovative graduates through its educational, cultural and social activities.

## OUR VISION

Across stakeholder groups, UCCI is celebrated as the nation's public university system - a core institution that shapes and enables inclusive economic development and innovation and is instrumental in solving the most pressing economic and social problems.

By providing a student-focused, dynamic, affordable and accessible education, UCCI is the foremost contributor to delivering on the nation's commitment to providing economic and social mobility for all.

Across established and emerging industry sectors, UCCI is known for delivering cutting-edge education and training, empowering employees and building the capacity and productivity of organisations that enhance the nation's ability to attract and retain business and capital while ensuring a favorable quality of life.

Student achievement has soared at every level in the Cayman Islands as aspiring students vie for admission into UCCI's foremost programs and articulated pathways into the local and global workforce.

## OUR CORE VALUES

- Equal education opportunities
- Enhancing employability
- Advancing awareness and involvement in society
- Holistic education and meaningful interactions
- Success and self-realization of persons residing in Cayman
- Character building
- Inspiring and enriching the lives of faculty, staff, and students
- Open, accountable decision making, communication and teamwork and good governance
- An environment that fosters diversity and inclusivity



# MEET THE UCCI ALUMNI

## Renita Barnes

Programme: **AA Literary Studies**

Since graduating UCCI in 2013 with an Associate degree in Literary Studies, I have been successful in obtaining:

- A Bachelor's degree in Communications & Multimedia Studies with a minor in Film studies from the Florida Atlantic University in 2015,
- A Diploma in Mission Studies from the Trinity Theological College in New Zealand in 2017 and,
- A Master's degree in Gender & Development Studies from the University of the West Indies in 2021.

### Career

I am thankful to be working within the Cayman Islands civil service, where I have the opportunity to learn more about the structure of the government and public administration. It has fuelled my curiosity in learning and understanding more about our home the Cayman Islands, its history, policies and legislations. I have been working with the civil service for two and a half years. I began as the Protocol Assistant within the Protocol Office in 2019. Currently, I am seconded to the Governor's Office as the Corporate Services and Media Officer and I am the first Caymanian to fill this role and work in the Governor's Office in this capacity. It has truly been a very rewarding opportunity where I continue to gain new knowledge and experience to take with me through my civil service career.

### UCCI contribution

Whilst being a student at UCCI from 2011-2013, I had the pleasure to be a part of the Pandemix steelpan band and the UCCI dance group. I do believe at this time, the performing arts grew to be the spirit and energy of the UCCI campus and led the way for more student engagement, clubs and groups. It was the pace setter for the performing arts programmes that UCCI has today.



It is a privilege for me to offer guidance as an alumni student who has been given the opportunity to still dance with the UCCI dance group. I am able to help dancers and students navigate their UCCI journey, understand Caymanian history & the workings of the Cayman Islands Government, as well as highlight community and gender issues and discuss their perspectives with them. It is wonderful to still have the opportunity to support the UCCI's Dance group as a dancer and support the appreciation of Caymanian & Caribbean culture through dance and movement. The Dance Group and Steelpan band have been local and international ambassadors for UCCI and it has been a joy to represent UCCI locally, at dance productions in Jamaica and in Montreal, Canada at steelpan competitions.

I am proud to be a UCCI alumna, as my journey as a student was such a transformative experience and prepared me for the milestones which came after. I will also have appreciation, gratitude and love for UCCI and will continue to share my amazing experience at this institution with others.

# UCCI IN NUMBERS 2022

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS	2020-2021		2021-2022		Increase/ Decrease (%)
Enrolment Category	Students	(%)	Students	(%)	Percent
Total Students Enrolled	1941	100	1774	100	-9%
Distribution by Gender					
Number of Male Students	766	39	743	42	-3%
Number of Female Students	1175	61	1031	58	-12%
Distribution by Residential Status					
Number of Caymanian Students	1542	77	1371	78	-11%
Number of Non-Caymanian Students	331	16	348	20	5%
Number of Civil Service College Students	67	7	45	2	-33%

## FULL-TIME/PART-TIME PER SEMESTER ENROLMENT (2021-2022)

Full-time/Part-time Student Enrolment (2021-2022)						
	FALL	(%)	SPRING	(%)	SUMMER	(%)
Total	1475	100	1298	100	969	100
Number of Full-time Students	532	36.06	717	55.24	465	48
Number of UCCI Part-time Students	906	61.42	548	42.24	472	48.7
Number of CSC Part-time Students	37	2.52	33	2.54	32	3.3

**Note:** A full time student is defined as any individual enrolled in 12 or more credit hours in the Fall/ Spring semester. Students enrolled in at least 6 credit hours in Summer are also considered full time. All 1-year certificate, pre-college programme and Dual Entry students are considered full time.



## PRE-COLLEGE/CERTIFICATE ANNUAL ENROLMENT (2020-2021 and 2021 - 2022)

	Other (All Full-Time) 2020-2021	Other (All Full-Time) 2021 - 2022	Increase/ Decrease (%)
Pre-College Programme	74	61	-18%
Certificate Programme	85	61	-28%

## DUAL ENROLMENT PER SEMESTER ENROLMENT (2020-2021 and 2021 - 2022)

### Year 12 Dual Enrolment Programme (F/T)\*

SEMESTER & YEAR		FALL 20 - 21	SPRING 20 - 21	SUMMER 20 - 21	Total	FALL 21 - 22	SPRING 21 - 22	SUMMER 21 - 22	Increase/ Decrease (%)
NUMBER	110	110	110	329	137	133	130	400	33.78%

The Year 12 Dual Entry figures above do not represent new enrolments rather, they reflect returning students from semester-to-semester.

## STUDENT ENROLMENT BY ACADEMIC LEVEL

The figures provided below, in Table 6, are 2021 – 2022 academic year semester statistics with 1774 enrolments. Statistics from the 2020-2021 academic year are provided for general comparison.

STUDENT TYPE/CATEGORY	2020-2021	2021-2022	Increase/Decrease (%)
Undergraduate Degree/Diploma/Certificate-Seeking	1296	1375	6%
Graduate	12	11	-8%
Other	936	821	-12%
TOTAL	2244	2207	-1.5%

Undergraduate Degree/Diploma/  
Certificate-Seeking includes:

- Associates
- Certificates
- Pre-College
- Bachelors
- Non-degree Graduate includes:
- PGCE
- CEMBA

Other includes:

- Continuing Education
- Customer Service Training
- IT Academy
- TVET
- CSC

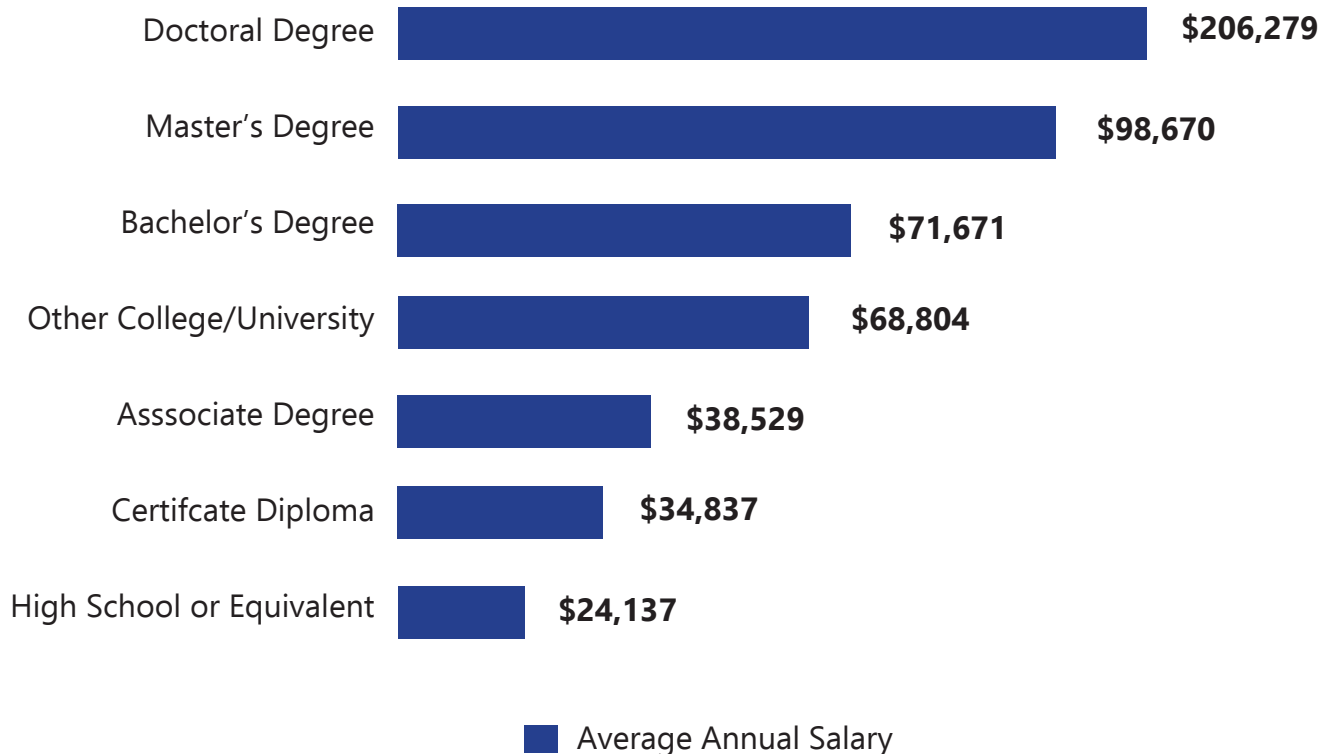
STUDENT TYPE/CATEGORY	2020-2021	2021-2022	Increase/Decrease (%)
Associates	841	893	6%
Bachelors	244	288	-6%
Certificates	73	72	-1%
Graduate executive	11	15	37%

## DID YOU KNOW?

The difference in average pay almost doubles between someone with an Associates degree when compared to a Bachelor's degree holder.

*"One of the key strategies to improve a person's quality of employment, and ultimately to enhance an individual's standard of living, is to raise the level of educational attainment. There is a direct positive correlation between required education and salary earned."*

### Required Education by Salary (CI\$)-YTD 2022





# YEAR IN REVIEW

## Women in The Cayman Islands: Contributions, Challenges and Change.

*December 2022*

UCCI Faculty Scholarships Awarded for the 2022 NSF Math and Science Training Workshop Ms Antoinette Gayle and Ms Natalee Knoop were awarded scholarships to participate in the Math and Science Training Workshop organized by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and West Virginia University from December 2nd to 4th, 2022. The majority of expenses for the trip were covered by the National Science Foundation.



Ms Natalee Knoop



Ms Antoinette Gayle

## Vision 2050: Agri-Business & Food Processing Organization Perspective

*November 2022*

Dr Kavita Panjwani was the chairperson and key speaker at this international conference that took place from November 16th through 18th last year. The conference was also the basis for an Emerald Publishing special issue of Emerging Markets Case Studies.

## UWI Transparency and Accountability Seminar

*November 2022*

Dr Livingston Smith presented the topic "Why, what, and how constitutional reform can be strengthened through enhancing transparency and accountability in the Caribbean" as a panellist during the November 2022 Transparency and Accountability Seminar hosted by the University of the West Indies Faculty of Social Sciences. The event was live streamed on UWITV. Other participants included Dr Roger Koranteng, Commonwealth Advisor and Head of Public Service Governance; Professor Trevor Munroe, Rhodes Scholar and Founder of National Integrity Action (Jamaica); and Belizean diplomat Dr Dylan Vernon.



Dr Livingston Smith

## UCCI Launches Major Research Project Into The Cayman Islands' Future Labour Force

October 2022



The University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI), in collaboration with WORC and the Chamber of Commerce, launched an online survey which aimed to be one of the biggest studies of its kind into workforce needs within the Cayman Islands.

UCCI solicited 750 participants across the Cayman Islands to complete a short, online survey. The findings from the study informed key stakeholders in the Cayman Islands about the factors affecting employers and employees across a variety of industries.

The study was part of UCCI's RESEMBID project, launched in summer 2022. The University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) received a grant of €432,000 (CI\$405,000) from the European Union (EU) RESEMBID Programme to engage 55 unemployed and underemployed Caymanians in a year-long training programme in sustainable trades. This was so successful that it was also rolled out into Cayman Brac.

The objective of the research is to improve the labour market conditions across the Cayman Islands with the view to help promote ongoing economic development. It is anticipated that the findings will help the Caymanian Government and businesses to effectively plan for the future jobs market and labour force and drive employability.

## Celebrations for 14 Nurses at UCCI's School of Nursing, Capping, Pinning and Candle Lighting Ceremony

October 2022

On Thursday, 13 October 2022, the University College of the Cayman Islands held its prestigious annual 10th Capping, 6th Pinning and Candle-lighting ceremony for 14 UCCI School of Nursing students.

The event, held in the University's Sir Vassel I Johnson Hall, saw special guests in attendance, including the Hon. Christopher Saunders, MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Finance & Economic Development and Minister for Border Control & Labour and the Hon. Sabrina Turner, MP Minister for Health and Wellness, and Dr. Hazel Brown, the Chief Nursing Officer of the Cayman Islands Health Services Authority. The Rev. Torrance Bobb gave the invocation and dedicatory prayer.

This event is a traditional ceremony that harks back to the origins of professional nursing established by Florence Nightingale in the mid-19th century. The capping ceremony honours second-year students as they begin the hospital -training part of their program. The traditional nurses' cap is a badge of honour, and the candle lighting symbolises the lamp that Nightingale famously carried while caring for soldiers in field hospitals.



Nursing students at UCCI



# WELCOME TO THE METAVERSE



A massive 1,500 people came out in October 2022, to UCCI's Open Campus and Metaverse Event. This event, open to all ages had a huge number of "Have-A-Go Activities" from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm for those aged under 21.

Activities included:

- Shark Tank business challenge
- Bake off challenges
- Steel pan workshop
- VR and gaming experiences
- Music and dance
- Hands-on workshops with all areas
- Meet and greet with instructors
- Giveaways

The evening also saw a business networking "Mocktails and Mixes".

## Dr Ivan Eubanks – Keynote Speaker at Pak-TESOL Conference

*September 2022*

Dr Ivan Eubanks was the Keynote Speaker at the 1st annual Pak-TESOL conference in Islamabad, Pakistan at Allama Iqbal Open University. He also conducted a two-day pre-conference workshop and delivered two 90-minute parallel sessions during the conference.

His keynote address was entitled: Learned Journals and the Generation of Discourse Communities. More than 1,100 people registered for the conference. Notably, Allama Iqbal Open University has approximately 1.5 million students and 50 campuses across Pakistan. Dr Eubanks subsequently delivered a 5-day workshop on "Understanding Research and Academic Writing" at Fatima Jinnah Women's University in Rawalpindi, Pakistan from September 26th to 30th.



Metaverse shark tank winner





## 20 Caymanians in Brac/Little Cayman Sought for RESEMBID Phase 2

*September 2022*

In September 2022, the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) Brac Campus invited applications from unemployed and underemployed Caymanians who wished to re-train for free for a year-long sustainable trade training programme, thanks to a grant from the European Union (EU) RESEMBID Programme.

The project aims to assist twenty (20) Caymanians from the Brac/Little Cayman to gain sustainable employment in two key sectors, Sustainable Construction, and Information Communications Technology (ICT), with future classes to be offered in tourism and renewable energy. The goal is to move the Cayman Islands towards greater long-term social and economic resilience. In addition to the total cost of training, the grant will also pay for tools and equipment, making it free for students.

Leading the RESEMBID project for the University College of the Cayman Islands, is project officer, Cleveland Julien. Mr. Julien commented, "Our RESEMBID programme has been such a success and we can't wait to see how Phase 2 will continue to succeed. The Cayman Islands' economy is growing, and UCCI is proud to collaborate with RESEMBID and other essential business stakeholders to develop educational programs that will prepare the future workforce for those careers."

## Drones, Robotics and Digital Design the order of the day at UCCI's Awe-Inspiring Stem Summer Camp

*August 2022*

On 8 August 2022, UCCI welcomed back 30 aspiring young STEM experts to its annual STEM summer camp, which took place at the University's Sir Vassel Johnson Hall. Places for the extremely popular camp filled in under three hours this year, due to the amazing activities on offer. Campers participated in a jam-packed schedule of activities including 3D printing and design, vlogging, slime making, robotics and drones. The camp aimed to show students how fun and diverse science, technology, engineering and math can be and how a career in one of these sectors is much more than they see in a traditional classroom.

UCCI is a key provider of STEM related education in the Cayman Islands and believes that STEM sector employment will continue to grow as a prominent employment sector in the Cayman Islands. Getting students interested in STEM at an early age creates young people that want to develop their skills in this area and have more chance of going into a career in STEM. The camp is now in its sixth year. Mrs. Antoinette Gayle, Assistant Professor at UCCI, has been running the camp since it started in 2017 and each year demand has increased.

The camp was made possible thanks to the support of Cayman Enterprise City, who have sponsored the camp for six years and cover a large percentage of costs. The Water Authority Cayman Islands also provided reusable water bottles and thumb drives for the students' use and the Book Nook supplied gift certificates as prizes for outstanding campers. Students who attended the camp also received a pack of materials that include Robots and supplies to continue their learning at home and a pass to the STEM Carib conference, which will be held at UCCI in 2023.

## Dr Ivan Eubanks Led Training Seminars in Vietnam

*August 2022*

During the month of August 2022, Dr Ivan Eubanks led three training seminars for University faculty in Vietnam. The training seminars were entitled "Understanding Research and Academic Writing: Academic Writing for Publication." The first seminar was held from August 1–5 at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam (DAV) in Hanoi. The second seminar was held from August 8–12 at the Hué University, University of Foreign Languages in Hué, a city in central Vietnam. The third seminar was held at the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization's (SEAMEO) Regional Training Center (RETRAC) in Ho Chi Minh City.

The series of training workshops was part of a competitive exchange program organized by George Town University (Washington, D.C.) and sponsored by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.



Dr Ivan Eubanks

## European Union-Funded Training Programme for Caymanians kicks off at UCCI

*July 2022*

On July 8, 2022, the University College of the Cayman Islands hosted an official launch, to welcome 55 Caymanians into a free training programme, made possible by a grant of €432,000 (CI\$405,000) from the European Union (EU) RESEMBID Programme.

The University College UCCI received the funding for unemployed and underemployed Caymanians to engage in a year-long training programme in sustainable trades, which begins on 18 July 2022. The stakeholder event brought together the 55 Caymanians, along with industry partners including WORC, the Chamber of Commerce and GreenTech Solar. RESEMBID Programme Manager, Nnyeka Prescod, also delivered remarks marking the commencement of the training programme.

RESEMBID, funded by the European Union and implemented by Expertise France - the development cooperation agency of the Government of France - supports sustainable human development efforts in 12 Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) - Aruba, Anguilla, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Saint Barthelemy, Sint Maarten and Turks and Caicos.

The RESEMBID grant is intended to provide support to the Cayman Islands after the COVID-19 crisis, which resulted in a substantial number of unemployed persons across the islands. The project assisted Caymanians in moving towards gaining sustainable employment and long-term social and economic resilience in four key sectors: sustainable construction, renewable energy, Information Communications Technology (ICT) and tourism. The programme was initially opened for 50 Caymanians between the ages of 18 and 45. However, due to the high volume of applicants, this was extended to 55.

## Dr MoniKa Lawrence Presented at the DACI Conference

July 2022

On July 12th, Dr MoniKa Lawrence presented a paper entitled, "Naming Movements Providing Agency and Prominence: Neo Traditional Dance as a Deconstruction of Jamaican Traditional Practices" at the Dance of the Child International Conference (DACI).



Dr MoniKa Lawrence

## Dr Christopher Williams Presented at the National Gallery

July 2022

On July 21st, Dr Christopher Williams engaged in a panel discussion on "Race and Racism – Examining the Artistic Contribution of Nasaria Suckoo". The discussion took place at the National Gallery with Native Sons artists and the Gallery's curators.



Dr Christopher Williams



## NCCER Accreditation Achieved by PTET Division

August 2022

UCCI achieved another programme-level accreditation through the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER). Dean Paul Puckerin and his Professional and Technical Education and Training (PTET) division were informed on August 30th by NCCER's Cathy Tyler, Director of Accreditation & Workforce Development: "Congratulations to you and your associates on successfully meeting the standards for accreditation, as outlined in the NCCER Accreditation Guidelines & Program Compliance and verified by your recent audit."

On August 19, 2022, University College Cayman Islands participated in an initial audit of its training programme. Based upon the successful completion of your audit, accreditation has been granted by NCCER." This stellar achievement by the PTET division gives UCCI yet another area of programmatic accreditation to bolster our institution's international stature and elevate the



## **A double celebration this summer for UCCI's High Achieving Business Students**

*June 2022*

Business students from the University College of the Cayman Islands celebrated not just one, but two prestigious honors in summer 2022 thanks to the success of so many of the division's students.

The first celebration took place on Saturday 28 May 2022 and saw thirteen students from UCCI recognized for obtaining their bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in accounting. The ceremony took place at the 13th Accountants (CIIPA) Awards Gala, held at the Kimpton Seafire Resort. For more than a decade, CIIPA has celebrated Caymanians reaching key milestones in their accounting careers and this gala marked the beginning of the thirteen young Caymanians' careers in accounting.

Next, on Friday June 17, 2022, twelve students from the University College of the Cayman Islands received a lifetime membership to the Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society; established to honor students who have attained superior records in business programmes in schools, colleges, and universities with regional accreditation.

The Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society is for students in business, management, and administration. Membership in Sigma Beta Delta is the highest national recognition a business student can receive at a college or university with a Sigma Beta Delta chapter. To be eligible for membership, a business student must rank in the top 20 percent of the junior, senior or graduate class and be invited to membership by the faculty officers. The principles of Sigma Beta Delta are wisdom (sigma), honor (beta) and pursuit of meaningful aspirations (delta).

## **Achievements by the School of Nursing**

*June 2022*

From June 20th to 24th, UCCI's School of Nursing underwent intense scrutiny by a site visit team from the Cayman Islands Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). The resulting 62-page report culminated in the following summarisation: "The School of Nursing attained a minimum of 70% on five of the seven standards and an overall score of 75%; making them eligible for full approval as per the NMC Standards."

Then on October 6th, UCCI's School of Nursing secured yet another 100% pass rate in the Regional Examination for Nursing Registration (RENr).

## **Dr Livingston Smith and Dr Stephanie Fullerton-Cooper**

*June 2022*

Dr Livingston Smith and Dr Stephanie Fullerton-Cooper collaborated to edit a 500-page publication entitled The Cayman Islands History, Politics, and Society – Essays in Honour of JA. Roy Bodden. The book launch was held on June 14th and essay contributors included Dr Christopher Williams.

## **Dr Stephanie Fullerton-Cooper and Dr Erica Gordon present at CASA 2022**

*June 2022*

During the month of June at the Caribbean Sociological Association Conference (CASA), Dr Stephanie Fullerton-Cooper presented on the topic of "Blurring the Lines of Demarcation: Sociology and the Caribbean Author" and chaired a panel on the topic of "Caring for Boys". Dr Erica Gordon presented a paper on the topic "Reflections and Ruminations on Covid-19".

## UCCI's highly anticipated STEM Summer Camp returns this August

May 2022

In summer 2022, the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) hosted young people aged 11 to 13, for its highly anticipated STEM summer camp, which included fun activities including computer coding, lionfish dissecting, LED badge creation, robot building, 3-D printing, and much, much more.

The hands-on camp ran at the University campus in George Town at a cost of only \$200, thanks to the generous support of Enterprise Cayman (CEC), who is sponsoring the camp.

Antoinette Gayle, Organizer of the University College of the Cayman Islands' STEM summer camp, commented, "We are absolutely thrilled to once again be able to open up the University College of the Cayman Islands to eager, young students who want to learn about how fun and exciting a career in STEM can be. For only \$200, students can dissect fish, build robots, learn about computer programming and so much more. Everything they make they get to take home, and this genuinely is a great opportunity. We encourage students to apply early and we hope to inspire the next generation of Cayman's STEM experts.



STEM Camp



## UCCI's Graduate Educators Ready for a Global Marketplace with New Qualifications in Teaching using Digital Technologies

May 2022

The University College of the Cayman Islands' School of Teacher Education expanded its programme offer to help its graduate educators compete in a global workforce, by offering new qualifications in teaching using digital technologies.

Technology is a critical growth area in teaching across the world and earning this certificate ensures that UCCI's graduating educators understand how to apply technology tools in the classroom to meet modern teaching and learning practices.

Bachelor and PGCE (Postgraduate Certificate in Education) graduates will complete the Microsoft Certified Educator course which provides global educator technology literacy competencies needed to provide a rich, custom learning experience for students.

Alongside this new accreditation in digital technologies, UCCI also expanded its teaching offer even further with new classes in teaching children with additional learning support needs and children's literature.





## Atlantic Region Champions in the CFA Research Challenge

March 2022

The UCCI CFA Research Challenge team, under the guidance of Dr Kadeshah Swearing, won the Atlantic Region championship on March 3rd. Daphne Scott, a student team member who lives on Cayman Brac, also won the award for the best female speaker. UCCI has won this championship for the past four consecutive years: 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022. The team has since submitted the research and presentation for the sub-regionals leg of the competition and are waiting for feedback from the judges. If successful, the team will move on to the Top-Ten in the Americas competition (USA, Canada, and Latin America).



## \$25,000 in Scholarships Awarded to Fund Student Success

March 2022

In March 2022, The Peter N. Thomson Family Foundation - University College of the Cayman Islands programme, a comprehensive needs-based scholarship and retention programme for new and first-generation students at UCCI, awarded \$25,000 in scholarships to fund student success.

The scholarships were awarded to qualifying Caymanians to pursue their Associate or Bachelor studies at UCCI. Students receive up to \$2,500 in financial aid to cover tuition, fees, books, and supplies to pursue an Associates degree or a bachelor's degree. Funded by generous donors, the programme serves students by providing funding for retention services such as tutoring, mentoring and academic enrichment. The programme includes a co-curricular experience with an emphasis on leadership development and community service.

Over the past three years UCCI has received approximately 200 applications for the Peter N. Thomson scholarship with a total of 56 successful recipients. .





## OES Thematic Visit on March 9th

March 2022

The Office of Education Standards (OES) conducted a thematic visitation on the UCCI campus on March 9th to determine the wellbeing of the Dual Enrolment (DE) students resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Because this was the first visit of its kind on the UCCI campus, and because it was focused entirely on the DE students, the visit was closely aligned with the Cayman Islands Further Education Centre (CIFEC), which maintains ultimate responsibility for these students. The outcome letter issued by OES indicated that UCCI responded appropriately to accommodate students during the pandemic and worked to keep the students safe.



## UCCI Receives Major Grant from EU's RESEMBID

March 2022

In March 2022, the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) received a grant of €432,000 (\$C1405,000) from the RESEMBID Programme to help train students in trades that are sustainable, both environmentally and economically.

The University made the disclosure at a press conference held Friday March 25, 2022, in the Cascade Room of the UCCI. 50 unemployed

Caymanians were chosen to participate in the year-long programme.

RESEMBID, funded by the European Union and implemented by Expertise France - the development cooperation agency of the Government of France, supports sustainable human development efforts in 12 Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) - Aruba, Anguilla, Bonaire, British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Montserrat, Saba, Sint Eustatius, Saint Barthélemy, Sint Maarten and Turks and Caicos.

Funding for the UCCI project is coming from the RESEMBID COVID-19 Resilience Response Facility, a €12.7 million injection of additional money to address the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic across the 12 OCTs.

In addition to the cost of training personnel, the grant will pay for tools and equipment. Funds will also be used for a labor market assessment, curriculum development, an after-programme assessment, and the graduation ceremony.



Cleveland Julien, RESEMBID Project Manager

## UCCI strives to continue the conversation about Cayman's culture

January 2022

In 2022 Caymanian community leaders from the University College of the Cayman Islands ('UCCI'), took the lead in a conversation within the National Museum Speaker Series that focused on different aspects of Cayman history and culture. The UCCI and Cayman Islands National Museum ('CINM') partnership invited the community to "Immerse" themselves in an interactive series of speaker events which covered topics including empowerment from dance, Religious Pluralism in today's world, and more.



Dr. MoniKa Lawrence, Mr. Roy Bodden and a member of the audience

## BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE

### In 2022 UCCI made a number of significant steps forward in upgrading its infrastructure and facilities:

#### Infrastructure

Firstly, we invested in a better infrastructure. In 2022 the University upgraded to Cisco SFP+ switches (which are in some cases 100 times faster than the older replacements.) UCCI also upgraded a number of our older WI-FI access points to take advantage of the faster network speeds. UCCI is now operating some of the fastest data speeds on island by ethernet. PCs were upgraded in 2 Comlabs to modern high-performance machines.

#### Security

A major upgrade in UCCI's security arrangements took place in 2022. UCCI successfully moved to Geofencing technology to automatically identify the origination point of attempted logins and screen those from international locations, meaning that login attempts from outside Cayman are automatically blocked before they can even attempt login (and exceptions can be made for individuals abroad). In addition, we have introduced multi factor authentication (MFA) which is the gold standard for organizations requiring top level cyber-security.

#### Software

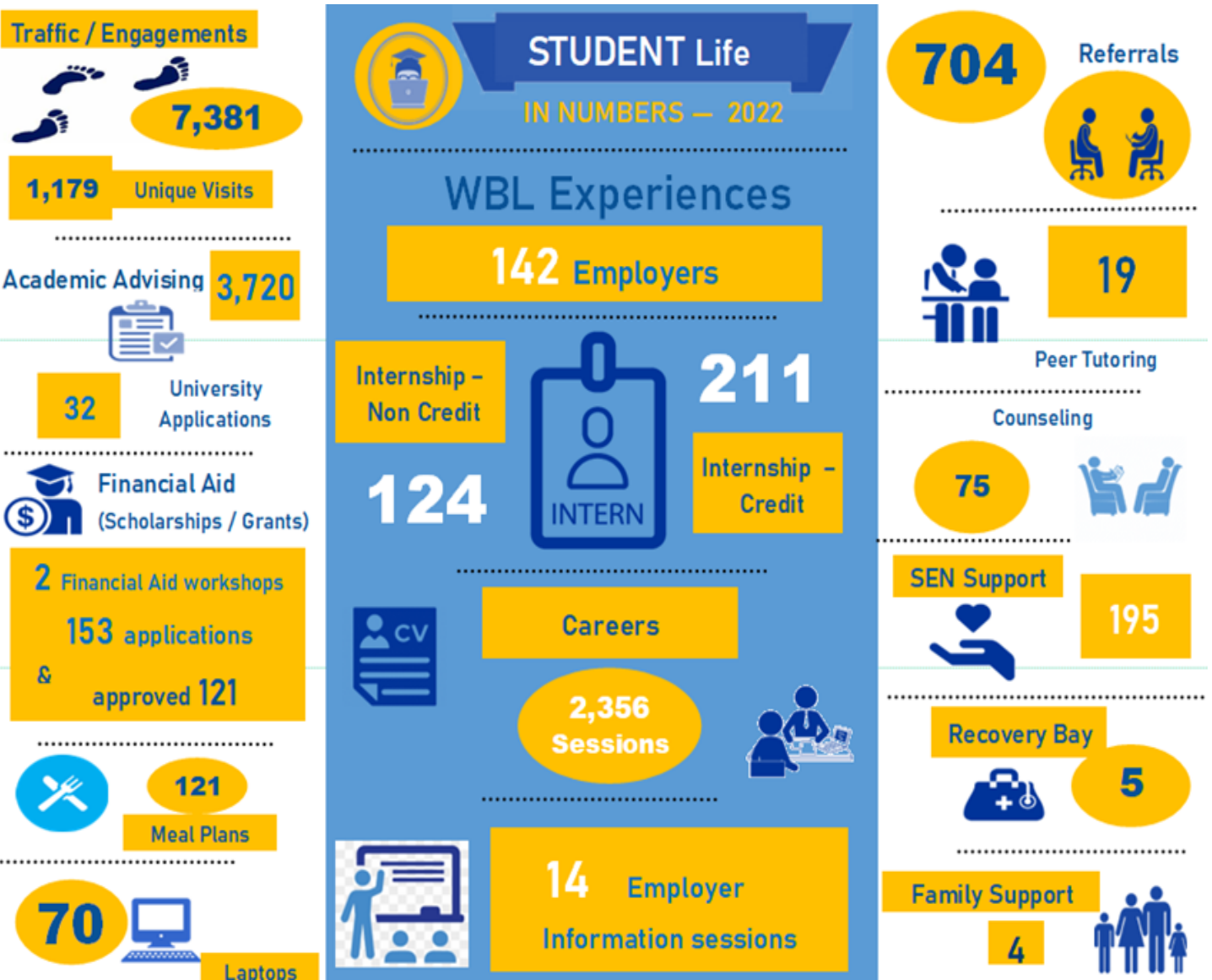
Student information system; UCCI started on a long process to upgrade its aged student information system Blackbaud. Work is underway to migrate to a very popular and well-regarded system. Project completion is scheduled for June 2024.

Learning Management System; UCCI operated our LMS Blackboard as a self-hosted version and this was upgraded to a SAAS / cloud version in early 2022. This was a major improvement from a security and operational reliability perspective.





# A YEAR IN REVIEW WITH STUDENT LIFE





# Student Government



## Introducing our 2022 – 2023 Student Government members

President – Meisha Thompson, 1st VP Grand Cayman – Asia Bush, 1st VP Grand Cayman – Chad Powell Jr., 2nd VP – Denton Powis  
2nd VP - Chris-ann Hooper, Finance Executive – Sahi Bennett, Marketing Executive – Shanelle Martinez and Secretary – Tavia Turner

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

## Brian Watler, Jr.

Programme: **AS Computer Science**

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Brian Watler Jr. attended the University College of the Cayman Islands ('UCCI') from 2010 to 2012 – pursuing an Associates degree in Computer Science. During his time at the University, he assisted Dr. MoniKa Lawrence with the choreography of the Cayman Quadrille for the university's annual spring concert. Brian later transferred to Savannah College of Art & Design ('SCAD'), where he obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Graphic Design (cum laude) in 2016.

During his time at SCAD, Brian discovered his love for children's illustrations, and was often encouraged by professors to further develop his style and produce graphics targeted towards children. While working at the Cayman Islands National Museum, Brian illustrated and developed the Museum's mascot, 'Muzey' that won the People's Choice award at the Cayman Islands Marketing Professional Association Conference in 2020 and has a keen interest in writing and illustrating children's books on Caymanian heritage and culture.

In 2021, Brian graduated from Liberty University with a Master of Science degree in Marketing: Digital Marketing & Advertising (with distinction). He is passionate about Caymanian heritage and culture and works towards sharing it in fun and creative ways.



Brian remains connected with UCCI and often includes present students to participate at Museum events, i.e., UCCI dancers and UCCI Pandemix. He has conceptualized the Jonkanoo parade for the Museum's anniversary celebrations of which the UCCI dancers participated through the directorship of Dr. MoniKa Lawrence, and has initiated the Speaker Series partnership between the Museum and the University.



# OUR COMMUNITY

## Tanique Dunbar

Senior Lecturer

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Tanique Dunbar graduated from The University of the West Indies Centre for Hotel and Tourism Management, where she pursued a Bachelor of Science Degree in Tourism Management. She further pursued her Master's Degree in Tourism and Hospitality Management at the same University. Her career advanced as she lectured various Hospitality and Tourism courses at the Associate and Bachelor's levels at the University College of the Caribbean in Jamaica. In October 2012, she joined the University College of the Cayman Islands (UCCI) team as a Hospitality lecturer. At UCCI, Miss Dunbar instructs students in the School of Hospitality Program where she teaches students both at the tertiary and technical-vocational. Advancing in her role, she was promoted from a lecturer to a Senior lecturer.

Miss Dunbar in 2022, recently acquired a Master's Degree in Public Health Policy from the University of Suffolk, a Certified Hospitality Educator (CHE) certification from the American Hotel Lodging Educational Institute (AHLEI) and a Professional Development Certificate in teaching Students with learning Disabilities from the UNICAF University.

The diverse nature of her career as an educator has allowed her to implement many functions incorporating technical, administrative, and academic skill sets.



Her goal as an educator is to cater to students' educational, physical, and behavioural needs, improving the quality of education by motivating, inspiring, and creating a safe environment while stimulating creativity.

She has grown to love and appreciate teaching and has realized that teachers must have specific characteristics and skills to impart and facilitate learning. Miss Dunbar's teaching philosophy is "sow the best, and you will reap the best. "We can only reap a good harvest if we have sown a good seed."

To learn more about Tanique Dunbar, visit <https://www.portfoliogen.com/44c02fb8b0eb/>.



## OUR COMMUNITY

### Annette Murphy, DBA

Assistant Professor-  
Business and Finance

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Dr. Annette Murphy has been working in the Division of Business and Finance for over 16 years. During this time, she has taken on varied administrative responsibilities along with her teaching load. She is also actively involved in several university committees and is the faculty advisor for the UCCI Circle K club. She was recognised by Circle K international as Advisor of the Year in 2020.

Dr. Murphy has been the Student Consultancy Programme Coordinator for the past 15 years and continues to shape our young entrepreneurs. This programme has been one of our success stories at UCCI and within the Division of Business and Finance. Through this intensive consultancy programme, our students achieved a deep understanding of varied business enterprises. They used their time to effectively advise their clients with the intent to make them more successful in their business endeavors.

During the programme, our students got an opportunity to apply their knowledge and skills in business to real life experiences. They used this programme to combine fresh perspectives with recent learnings and provided each enterprise with innovative business strategies and solutions. This entrepreneurial mindset empowers our students to confidently meet the challenges they will face throughout their lives, not just those encountered at work. This was also a learning experience for our business owners who got a chance to glean new ideas, enhance their creativity and technological knowledge and reenergize their enterprises. To this end, Dr. Murphy's dissertation focused on "Exploring talent management strategies in small and medium size businesses in the Cayman Islands". She continues to research in this area and is in the process of writing and presenting on this topic.



Dr. Murphy is also the Coordinator of the Banking Certificate. She is involved in the selection of the students and determine their eligibility for the programme. She liaises with the Bankers' Association to get the presenters. Dr. Murphy also presents in the programme and ensures the participants meet the programme requirements and are eligible for certification.

Dr. Murphy is very involved in the International Accreditation Council of Business Education (IACBE), the division's accrediting body. She is the Vice President of the IACBE Region 11 Assembly and the primary IACBE representative for the Division of Business and Finance. She is currently leading the self-study exercise in the division, and to ensure that she has the necessary skills to lead, she completed training as a IACBE site visitor.

She is also inducted in the Sigma Beta Delta honor society and is the Vice President for the UCCI chapter. Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society is for students in business, management, and administration. It serves institutions that offer baccalaureate and graduate degrees in business, management, and administration.

## OUR COMMUNITY

# Dr. MoniKa Lawrence

Assistant Professor-  
Arts & Humanities

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Dr. MoniKa Lawrence holds a Ph.D. in Cultural Studies from the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. She has also studied in the USA, South Africa, and Israel in several disciplines, including Cultural Studies, Co-operative Management, Marketing, and Business Administration. Dr. Lawrence is currently an Associate Professor in Arts and Humanities and Artistic Director of the Performing Arts at UCCI. Since joining The University College of the Cayman Islands, Dr. Lawrence has developed as well as taught courses in Integrating Art, Drama, Music and Physical Education in Education, Performance and Dance Techniques, Dance Composition, Introduction to Caribbean Dance and Culture, Vocational, Foundation and Preparatory English and Education Law.

In 1986 a fledgling dance troupe at Stella Maris Preparatory School, Jamaica, began an exploration of Movement under the guidance of the school's principal, Sr. Mary Joseph, and Artistic Director MoniKa Lawrence. What started as a creative outlet for the past students of Stella Maris (SM) Preparatory School students and others interested in Dance, grew into an award-winning dance workshop featuring dancers aged 3-15 years old. Over the years, the SM Juniors have been awarded 82 gold medals, 25 silver, and 14 bronze medals at the JCDC Festival of the Dance Competition under her guidance.

Dr. Lawrence has established the Performing Arts program at the University of Technology in Jamaica and developed the syllabus for the dance courses, conceptualized, directed and choreographed a yearly show at the University, showcasing students in all the performing arts disciplines.

In 2010, following her success as the Founder/Artistic Director of the Stella Maris Dance Ensemble in Jamaica, one of Jamaica's leading adult dance companies, Dr. MoniKa Lawrence established the Performing Arts Programme in collaboration with UCCI. The Programme was established to give students opportunities to grow



artistically, enhance their creative imagination, interact with their peers and communities, build character, and afford them opportunities to travel and represent the University and The Cayman Islands. From the exposure, the arts would provide them an appreciation for their history as a people, while taking their place in society as productive and enlightened citizens. Through their performances at national and regional events, the University's visibility and status have been enhanced. Under the Directorship of Dr. Lawrence, the UCCI Dancers continue to participate in all major productions on the island including but not limited to; the National Museum Events 2020-23, Ministry of Youth, Sports, Culture and Heritage Heroes Day Celebration 2023, Talent Exposition of the Arts 2010 - 2023, Jasmine Hospices productions 2021- 2023, school halls, community events, churches, Cayman Arts Festival, Cayman National Cultural Foundation, Camana Bay Christmas Events, CARIFESTA in Barbados in 2017 and Trinidad in 2019, Jamaica Umbrella Festival in Jamaica in 2020 and 2023, and all University events.



# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF THE CAYMAN ISLANDS CAYMAN BRAC CAMPUS



## CAYMAN BRAC CAMPUS MEET & GREET

More than 50 Cayman Brac dignitaries, community members, UCCI board members, staff and students attended a meet and greet with the new UCCI President and CEO, Dr. Robert W. Robertson at the Brac campus. In attendance was the Minister of Education, District Administration and Lands, the Rt. Honorable Juliana O'Connor-Connolly, who shared her vision for a new university campus collocated with the Layman E. Scott High School and the opportunity for free education for Caymanians. Also present was the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Mr. Gilbert McLean, alongside fellow board members, Mr. Carson Ebanks and Dr. Gayle Woods plus representatives from Public Works, HSA, the Layman E. Scott High School, and many local businesses.





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