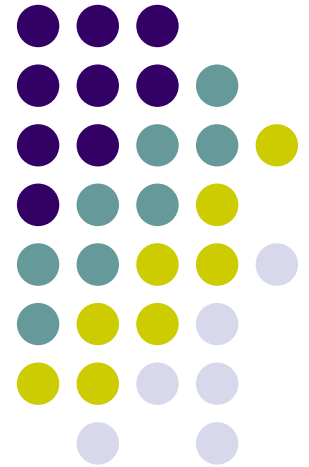


Session Number	GS-310
Presenter's/Author's Name	Nichole Johnson
Presenter's Institution or City, State, Country	IIE/EducationUSA - REAC Mexico, Central America & Caribbean

Accessing the Prospective Student Market in the Caribbean

Nichole Johnson - IIE/EducationUSA
Craig Hastings - LASPAU
Joy Sandza - U.S. Embassy Port-of-Spain
Eva Barnes - U.S. Embassy Kingston



Caribbean Students in the US



OD Rank	Place of Origin	% Ugrad	% Grad	2006/07	% Change
	WORLD TOTAL	40.1	45.7	582,984	3.2
	Caribbean	68.5	24.5	13,854	0.0
26	Jamaica	60.7	30.4	4,110	-1.3
37	Trinidad & Tobago	66.4	27.6	2,912	-0.4
50	Bahamas	75.9	18.7	1,681	3.1
63	Haiti	82.7	11.8	1,163	13.0
73	Dominican Republic	64.6	25.9	961	9.8
98	Belize	55.1	36.6	454	-1.7
100	Barbados	63.4	29.1	440	-5.8
115	Guyana	62.4	30.0	343	-1.7
118	St. Lucia	65.0	25.1	331	-3.2
120	Dominica	71.6	21.1	327	-13.0
123	Grenada	76.8	16.5	297	-21.0
128	St. Kitts & Nevis	73.4	21.0	271	2.3
140	Cayman Islands	87.6	10.5	210	-5.8
143	Antigua & Barbuda	72.9	18.7	203	-10.2
144	Turks & Caicos Islands	86.4	9.0	199	19.9
146	Netherlands Antilles	69.5	21.6	190	29.3
152	St. Vincent & Grenadines	70.5	23.7	139	-0.7
158	Suriname	66.3	27.7	101	-13.7
161	Aruba	68.9	22.2	90	-1.1

Source: 2008 IIE Open Doors Report

Caribbean sends more students to the US than any other region



Region	Ratio of Student Population per 10,000
Caribbean	40
Oceania	16
Central America & Mexico	15
East Asia	14
Europe	14
Middle East	11
South America	9
South & Central Asia	7
Southeast Asia	6
Africa	5
North Africa	2

Sources: 2008 IIE Open Doors Report, UNESCO Institute for Statistics

Caribbean Students: 40% are concentrated in just two States



State	% of Total
Florida	25%
New York	16%
Texas	7%
Massachusetts	6%
Washington, D.C.	5%
Georgia	4%
Maryland	4%

English-speaking Caribbean



- Anguilla
- Antigua & Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- St. Kitts & Nevis
- St. Lucia
- St. Martin
- St. Vincent & Grenadines
- Trinidad & Tobago
- Guyana *
- Belize *

Caribbean Education Update



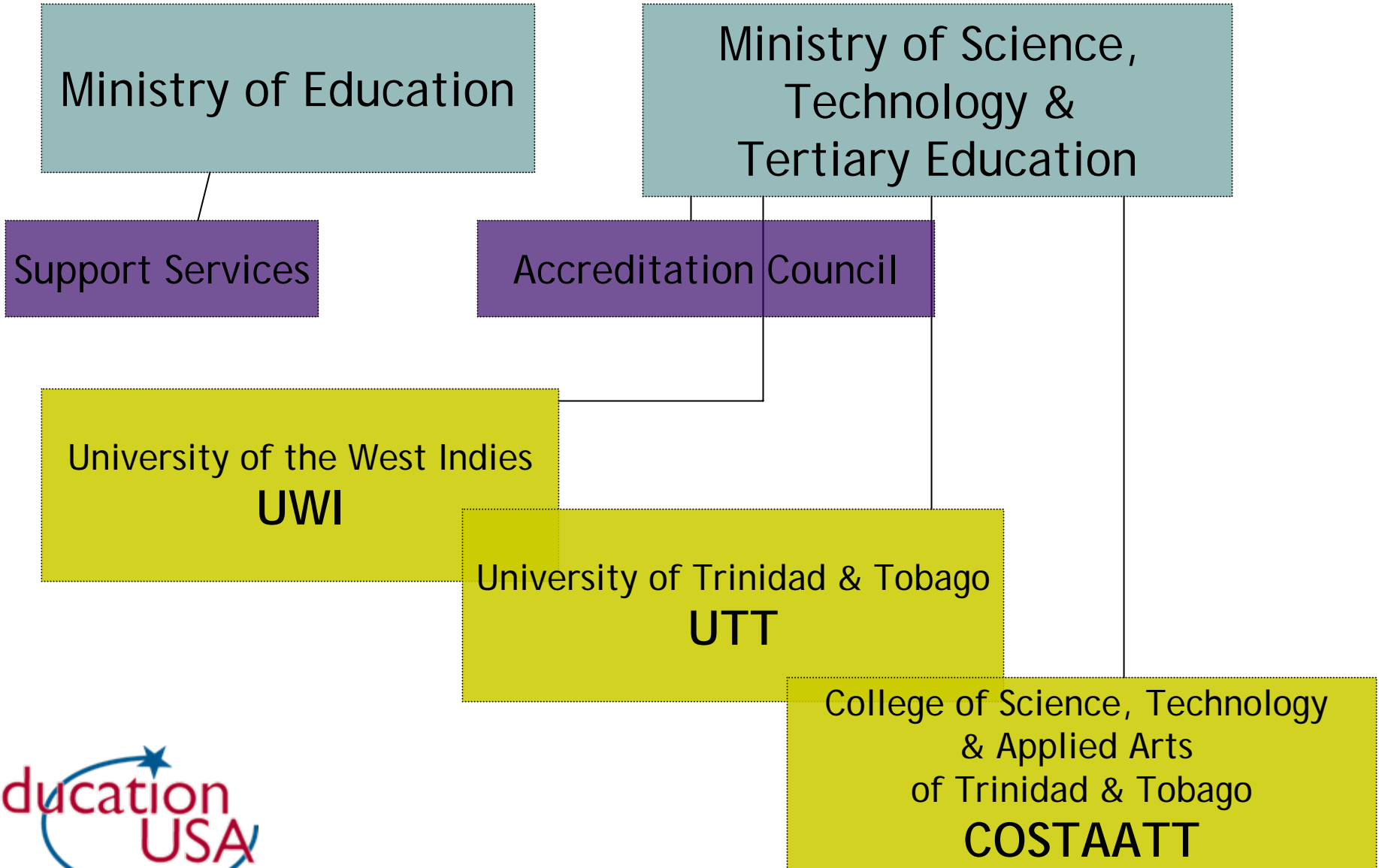
- Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) / GCE 'O' Levels
 - Taken at the end of Form 4 or 5
- Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examination (CAPE) / GCE 'A' Levels
 - Sixth Form
 - CAPE: 2 levels - 1 and 2
- Tertiary Level
 - Associate Degrees





- CSEC: six-point grading scheme (1998)
- CSEC passes:
 - Grades I - III
- CAPE: 22 subjects
 - Three 1-Unit courses
 - Twenty-two 2-Unit courses
- Associate Degrees - 2007 CXC offering

Higher Education in Trinidad & Tobago



- Population of 15,589,000 (according to UNESCO)
- Average percentage of trained teachers is 80%
- However, some exceptions:
 - Anguilla - 68%
 - Barbados - 73%
 - Dominica - 60%
 - Grenada - 67%
 - Guyana - 57%
 - St. Kitts - 58%
 - St. Vincent - 74%



Out of 131 countries/economies

- Barbados - 50
- Jamaica - 78
- Trinidad and Tobago - 84
- Dominican Republic - 96
- Guyana - 126

Obstacles to economic development



- Crime and theft
- Corruption
- Access to financing
- Inefficient government bureaucracy
- Poor work ethic
- Inadequately educated workforce

Priority training areas for Caribbean from CARICOM declarations



- Health
- Education
- Communication (bridging the digital divide)
- Information and communication technology
- Telecommunications
- Crime and security (law enforcement)
- Climate change and disaster prevention
- Renewable energy
- Agriculture



Fulbright Academic Exchange Program

- Foreign Student program
 - includes Faculty Development Program
 - Fulbright Trinidad 2000 Program

Fulbright Faculty Development Program



- Eligible countries in the Caribbean:
 - Antigua and Barbuda
 - Barbados
 - Dominica
 - Dominican Republic
 - Grenada
 - Haiti
 - Jamaica
 - St. Kitts and Nevis
 - St. Lucia
 - St. Vincent and the Grenadines
 - Trinidad and Tobago

Primary Institutions - Barbados



- Barbados Community College
- Erdiston Teacher Training College
- Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic
- University of the West Indies

Primary Institutions - Eastern Caribbean



- Antigua State College
- Dominica State College
- T.A. Marryshaw Community College (Grenada)
- Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College (St. Kitts and Nevis)
- Sir Arthur Lewis Community College (St. Lucia)
- St. Vincent Community College

Primary Institutions - Jamaica



- Bethlehem Moravian College
- Browns Town Community College
- Church Teachers College
- College of Agriculture, Science and Education
- Edna Manley College
- Excelsior Community College
- Knox Community College
- Mico College

Primary Institutions - Jamaica

cont'd.



- Montego Bay Community College
- Northern Caribbean University
- Sam Sharpe Teachers' College
- Shortwood Teachers' College
- St. Josephs Teachers' College
- University of Technology
- University of the West Indies

Primary Institutions - Trinidad & Tobago



- Cipriani College of Labour & Co-operative Studies
- COSTAATT
- John Donaldson Technical Institute
- National Institute of Higher Education Research, Science and Technology (NIHERST)
- San Fernando Technical Institute
- St. Josephs Teachers' College
- University of the West Indies

Fulbright Faculty Development Program



- 2009-2010 program closed in most countries
May 5, 2008 or May 30, 2008
- Application made online through LASPAU website and documents turned in to Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy

Fulbright Trinidad 2000 Program



- 2009-2010 program to be announced shortly
- Applications due July or August
- Application made online through LASPAU website and documents turned in to Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy

Organization of American States



- OAS Placed Graduate Scholarship Program
- OAS Self-Placed Graduate Scholarship Program
- OAS Undergraduate Scholarship Program

Eligible countries in the Caribbean:



- Antigua and Barbuda
- Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Dominica
- Dominican Republic
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Haiti
- Jamaica
- St. Kitts and Nevis
- St. Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Suriname
- Trinidad and Tobago

OAS Strategic Plan for Integral Development



- Social development and creation of productive employment
- Education
- Economic diversification and integration, trade liberalization, and market access
- Scientific development and exchange and transfer of technology
- Strengthening of democratic institutions
- Sustainable tourism development
- Sustainable development and environment
- Culture

OAS Scholarship Programs



- 2009-2010 program now open
- Application made online & documents submitted in country
- Application deadline set by country so materials can reach Washington, D.C. by July 1, 2008 deadline

Factors Affecting Access: Restrictive



- Affordability <\$15K
- Additional costs for travel
 - Visas
 - Delivery
- Climate (North & Midwest)
- Distance from home
- Priority lists of approved courses
- SAT requirement
- US Admissions not familiar with Caribbean educational system

Factors Affecting Access: Facilitative



- Sound academic preparation
- Proven track record
- Agreements with local schools and MOE
- Students can enter as a freshman with CXC's
 - UK- require A levels
 - Canada- most require A levels
- Flexibility and range of programs
- Choice of schools with varied offerings
- Family ties

Recruiting Tips: Ministry of Education & Articulation



- Consult EducationUSA Adviser
- Build relations with Education Officials
 - Ministry of Education (tertiary)
 - College President
- Develop special programs
 - Out-of-state tuition waivers
 - Earmarked scholarships



- Personal contact & word of mouth
- Sharing positive experiences
- Returning or visiting frequently



Recruiting Tips: Admissions Visits

- Group visits preferable
 - Consortium
- Timing
 - September & October
 - January & February
- College Fairs



Caribbean



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THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Trinidad and Tobago operates on a 7 - 5 - 2 - 3 system:

Primary School - 7 years

Secondary School - 5 years

Advanced Secondary School - 2 years

Undergraduate Degree - 3 years

Historical Context

Trinidad and Tobago are the southernmost islands in the Caribbean chain, only 10 km (7 miles) from the Venezuelan coast and geologically part of the South American sub-continent. Both islands are about 33 km (21 miles) apart, occupying a total land area of 5,128 sq. km (1980 sq. miles). The population of the islands reaches just above 1.3 million tracing roots back to Africa (40%), India (40%), Europe, the Mediterranean, the Middle East and China. The country also has a number of denominations, the major ones being Catholicism, Hinduism, Islam and to a lesser extent a growing number of protestant, fundamentalist and new age religions and sects.

Historically, Trinidad and Tobago were colonized, and Trinidad was brought under Spanish rule, French influence and later British rule until the country received independence in 1962; Tobago's history is somewhat different. Prior to independence, Trinidad and Tobago's education largely adopted the colonial British culture, customs and practices at all levels including having a theocratic system where Roman Catholicism and the Church of England heavily invested in the education of society.

Curriculum, Qualifications and Examinations

Primary and Secondary Education

Primary and secondary school curricula, for the most part, make use of the national curriculum. The national curriculum fundamentally deals with building academic capabilities among students in an effort to prepare them for the workplace. Subjects fall into broad categories from primary toward secondary education. These include compulsory subjects such as Mathematics, English Language, Foreign Language, Science and Social Studies whereas at the specialist level other subjects such as the Literatures, Business Studies, Arts, and Technical Craft are offered.

Students within the primary school sector normally exit this stage at age 10-11 with a primary school leaving certificate. Primary school graduates prepare to write a State-administered examination, the Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA). The SEA curriculum addresses literacy, numeracy, reasoning and comprehension skills, as well as science and social studies knowledge at an elementary level.

Secondary schools cover education for students between 11-18 years. At some schools, continuous assessment (covering general knowledge and skill areas) within the lower school level is required before

articulation to the upper secondary school level. It wasn't until 1972, when Caribbean governments, through the establishment of the Caribbean Community or CARICOM, that a policy for introduction of a regional curriculum to enable secondary school graduation was articulated and effected. This gave birth to the Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC). Since then, secondary schools in Trinidad and Tobago have offered the Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate (CSEC) examinations administered by CXC, alongside the traditional British General Certificate of Education (GCE) Ordinary Level examinations. Regardless of the route taken towards graduation, all students by age 16 should have completed the CSEC (general or basic proficiency) or less commonly the GCE Ordinary Level curriculum to be awarded with a secondary school graduation certificate. In general terms, graduation with 5 or more CSEC passes with grades I-III or GCE Ordinary Levels with grades A-C is considered a full or successfully completed secondary school certificate. A very recent policy development in Trinidad and Tobago has led to the establishment of the National Secondary Examination Certificate (NSEC) in which the Ministry of Education grants national certification to secondary school students for completing secondary assessment after three years (Level 1) and after a further two years (Level II). Thus, there are two level awards after Forms 3 and 5 respectively.

For yet another group, and beyond this stage, college bound students traditionally pursue the GCE Advanced Level curriculum, graduating at age 18. Successful completion of the program is achieved having obtained a minimum of two (2) A' level passes including the General Paper subject. Although grades A-E are regarded as passes at A' level, only grades A-C attract college admission credits into baccalaureate programs at North American colleges and universities. Alternatively, the CAPE curriculum has been introduced in Trinidad and Tobago and this offers a modular approach to further and higher education having both 1-Unit and 2-Unit courses. In the CAPE scheme, there are six 1-Unit foundation or core courses and a number of 2-Unit specialized subjects that are optional. The foundation courses cover units in Caribbean Studies, Communication Studies, Statistical Analysis, Information Technology, Functional Spanish and Functional French. Specialized courses range from vocational to academic courses in several disciplines.

Two Private schools, the International School of Port of Spain and Maple Leaf International School, based on the American and Canadian systems respectively, opened for enrollment in 1994. They provide a college preparatory, holistic education for children in grades pre-kindergarten through Grade 12.

Tertiary/Higher Education

Except for Trinidad and Tobago, other Caribbean countries may award the CXC Associate degree at community colleges and upper secondary schools. Post-secondary and tertiary-level programs have been traditionally offered through The University of the West Indies (UWI) and its predecessor – the University College of the West Indies – for some 40 years, set aside from other technical and vocational institutions in the country. Some decades later only specific programs were available by correspondence studies or through study-abroad initiatives by the Government and the UWI. Within the past decade the face of post-secondary and tertiary education has changed rapidly with an increasing number of local institutions offering both local and overseas programs that cater to technical, vocational and academic education and training. The state-owned University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) was established in 2004. Its main role is to meet the needs of this very industrialized country for a highly trained and qualified engineering and technology manpower base.

Today, both state-owned and private tertiary institutions either award their own qualifications or work with international providers as external studies centers for programs offered within the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom and more recently India. All local institutions are required to be registered to

be legitimate and legal tertiary educational entities in Trinidad and Tobago. They receive this status only after evaluation by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education and the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago.

Tertiary and higher education institutions offer varied programs at the certificate, diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate degree, postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma, master's degree and doctoral degree levels. Such programs are offered in the technical, vocational and academic areas in several disciplines: arts and humanities, social and developmental studies, education and human development, business, technology and engineering, and health and allied health fields.

- GATE - All citizens of Trinidad and Tobago pursuing tertiary education in approved local and regional institutions can benefit from the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) program, established in September 2004 and revised in January 2006. Undergraduate students receive free tuition and postgraduate students can access grants to cover up to a maximum of 50% of their tuition fees. The UWI campuses in Jamaica and Barbados are also GATE approved.
- HELP - Students of Trinidad and Tobago can access soft loans to fund any aspect of their tertiary education through the Ministry of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education's Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP). HELP was launched on June 22, 2006 and is approved for tertiary-level studies. Regional institutions such as UWI in Jamaica and Barbados, and St. George's University in Grenada (medicine) are also included in this program.

Institutions, Quality and Delivery

Educational institutions in Trinidad and Tobago are either government or privately owned and managed. The Ministry of Education indirectly manages public primary and secondary schools whereas denominational and government assisted schools are generally managed by special school boards. Government is presently designing and developing regional education boards to manage primary and secondary institutions within specific geographic districts. Quite unlike primary and secondary education, tertiary level institutions are governed by special governing boards and councils who may or may not receive State funds for delivering their programs to the public. Some public institutions are self-sustaining entities whereas others receive per capita grant funding for running their institutions. Private institutions, however, provide programs in association with international providers for the general public, for enterprises or specific industrial sectors. In some circumstances, only a few public tertiary level institutions provide degree level education in concert with industrial partners.

Quality in education is currently a major concern in Trinidad and Tobago given globalization influences and international developments. CARICOM has spearheaded a regional initiative to guide member countries to establish country-specific or territorial quality management schemes for education and training. In Trinidad and Tobago, this has recently taken place with the advent of the need to establish a National Qualifications Framework (NQF) and quality assurance activities both by institutions and external accreditation authorities. The NQF will outline a seamless system for education and training and ensure that all qualifications awarded locally, and those foreign awards which employers encounter from their workforce, are properly managed from pre-elementary to tertiary education. The Ministry of Education has established a Quality Assurance Unit for assessment of the quality of instruction at all secondary schools in Trinidad and Tobago. Likewise, the government has established the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago as a vanguard organization for tertiary/higher education quality.

Testing: The SAT is offered six times a year at five locations and the paper-based GRE twice. The computer-based GMAT is administered on an appointment basis. Although we wish students to demonstrate their commitment and competitiveness, we advocate the use of testing only as warranted, and discourage institutions from requiring the TOEFL of students as English is the native language on Trinidad and Tobago.

Students in the United States: Approximately 2,500 students from Trinidad and Tobago enter universities and colleges in the U.S. annually. 75% undergraduate / 20% graduate / 5% other. The most popular majors at the undergraduate level are: Business Administration, Engineering, Hard Sciences, Computer Science and Health Professions. The top states receiving these students are: Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas.

EducationUSA

Two EducationUSA advisers are employed by the Public Affairs Section of the United States Embassy and serve over 3,000 students annually in a wide range of programs designed to strengthen students' applications and readiness for U.S. higher education.

We host a very popular annual college fair. College Fair 2007 hosted 51 U.S. universities and colleges and 6 local institutions. Besides the primary goal of interacting with the students, their parents and teachers on a personal level, these events provide the ideal opportunity for articulation agreements to be initiated between the U.S. and local institutions. Registration information is available on our website <http://trinidad.usembassy.gov>.

We are eager to work with you to make it possible for more students of Trinidad and Tobago to enroll in your institution. Please contact us for assistance:

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May 2008

Session Number	GS-310
Presenter's/Author's Name	Eva Barnes
Presenter's Institution or City, State, Country	US Embassy – Kingston, Jamaica

THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF JAMAICA

Jamaican educational system operates on a 7 - 5 - 2 - 3 system:

Primary School - 7 years

Secondary School - 5 years

Advanced Secondary School - 2 years

Undergraduate Degree - 3 years

Historical Context

Jamaica is the third largest of the islands of the Caribbean and the largest of the English speaking islands. The island has an area of 4,411 square miles and situated in the Caribbean Sea. Lying some 90 miles south of Cuba, Jamaica is situated in the middle of the Caribbean seas on direct trade routes between North and South America. The country is divided into three counties which are further divided into 14 parishes. Each parish has a capital town which is the center of local government administration. Kingston, the country's capital is built around the 7th largest natural harbor in the world.

Jamaica has a population of approximately 2.6 million which consists of mainly of people of West-African descent, comprising about 90.9% of the populations. Other populations are: East Indian 1.3%, White 0.2%, Chinese 0.2%, Lebanese 0.1%, Multiracial 7.3%. The island has a number of denominations the majority being protestant. Non-Christian religions in Jamaica include Rastafarianism which is indigenous to Jamaica and Bahá'í, Buddhism, Islam, and Hinduism and Judaism. Jamaica is a former British Colony until the country received independence in 1962.

Overview of Education in Jamaica

Jamaica's formal education system has its origins in the British systems and has several levels according to the Education Act of 1980. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Culture has overall responsibility for policy direction of education. The curricula of all primary, secondary and some tertiary institutions are determined by the Ministry of Education to ensure uniformity. Tuition is currently provided free of cost to students attending all primary and secondary schools. A number of schools are run by churches and private groups independently of and with government subsidy.

Primary education has achieved nearly universal enrolment. The goal of primary education is to assess the academic achievement of students at the primary level. Four assessments are done throughout the course of the program culminating with the Grades Six Achievement Test:

- **Grade Six Achievement Test (GSAT)**

In the seventh year of primary education and at age eleven or twelve students write a state administered exam called Grade Six Achievement Test. This exam seeks to measure skills mastered in literacy, reasoning, comprehension, social studies and science. Based on the results students are placed in secondary schools of their choice or schools near to where they live. Exam is highly competitive and students for the most part work very hard to get in to "Ivy League" secondary schools.

Primary and secondary school curricula, for the most part, deals with building academic and skills capabilities among students. Great emphasis is placed on Mathematics, English Language; literacy in addition to Social Studies, Arts and Foreign Languages.

Secondary level

Jamaica has 146 institutions that deliver education at the secondary level. Here the schools aim to providing its graduates with adequate training to qualify them for admission to tertiary institutions or obtain gainful employment in the public and private sectors. Students at the secondary level pursue a variety of subjects including compulsory subjects such as Mathematics; English Language; Foreign Language; Social Studies; Science History, Literature; Business Studies; Arts and Technical subjects. CSEC exams replaced British based GCE and most students must write and be successful in these regional exams before they can matriculate into a tertiary institution. Terminal examinations are administered at this level—final year of secondary school All students by age 16 should have written the CXC Examinations at the general and or technical proficiencies. Students upon successful completion of high school would have been successful in at least 5 CSEC subjects with grades 1-111 at the general proficiency level.

Most students who wish to enter college spend a further two years in high school. During this time they pursue subjects at the CAPE (Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations) level or GCE Advanced Level. The CAPE exams are done in modular approach having both 1-unit and 1-2 Unit courses.

In the CAPE scheme, there are six 1-Unit foundation or core courses and a number of 2-Unit specialized subjects that are optional. The foundation courses cover units in Caribbean Studies, Communication Studies, Statistical Analysis, Information Technology, Functional Spanish and Functional French. Specialized courses range from vocational to academic courses in several disciplines.

Examinations are written after each year of study and only grades A-C attract college admission credits into baccalaureate programs at North American colleges and universities.

Tertiary/Higher Education

Jamaica like many other Caribbean countries, **may** award the CXC Associate degree at community colleges and upper secondary schools. Post-secondary and tertiary-level programs have been traditionally offered through the University of the West Indies (UWI- a regional institution) and University of Technology – Jamaica formerly CAST(College of Arts Science and Technology);Edna Manley College of Visual and Performing Arts which combines schools of art, dance, drama and music); College of Agriculture (CASE); G.C. Foster College of Physical Education and Sports; Northern Caribbean University and twelve teacher training colleges and five community colleges. Additionally there is a Dental Auxiliary School, a Vocational Training Development Institute, twenty-nine Vocational Training Centres and six Human Employment and Resources Training (HEART) vocational training institutions organized by the Human Employment and Resources Training Organization.

Today, public and private tertiary institutions either award their own certificates diplomas and degrees.

In the last ten years Jamaica has seen monumental growth in the number of US based institutions providing education to select groups throughout Jamaica. This is to fill a gap created by the inability of public and private institutions to provide enough spaces in their institutions for Jamaicans who want tertiary education.

All local institutions are required to be registered to be an accredited tertiary educational entity in Jamaica. They receive this status only after evaluation by the University Council of Jamaica which remains the accrediting body for educational institutions in Jamaica.

Tertiary and higher education institutions offer varied programs at the certificate, diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate degree, postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma, master's degree and doctoral degree levels. Such programs are offered in the technical, vocational and academic areas in several disciplines: arts and humanities, social and developmental studies, education and human development, business, technology and engineering and health and allied health fields.

Financial Aid: All Jamaican students who attend locally accredited public tertiary institutions in Jamaica have their fees greatly discounted at the expense of the Jamaican government. Students never pay the full cost of the education received at public institutions but are expected to contribute towards their tuition fees. Additionally, many students compete every year for public and private sector scholarships at the public institutions in Jamaica

Student Loan Bureau: The Students' Loan Bureau lends to Jamaican students a percentage of their tuition fees. It is a revolving loan scheme and students borrow to repay at the end of their course of study. In excess of 6000 students apply for loans annually. Very few students are allowed to borrow money to pay their ancillary fees.

Institutions, Quality and Delivery

Educational institutions in Jamaica are either publicly owned in the case of government institutions or privately owned by individuals and or corporations. The Ministry of Education indirectly provides policy framework of public primary and secondary schools whereas denominational and government assisted schools are generally managed by special school boards. This is seen as important as the ministry seeks to put new emphasis on knowledge and learning skills to better prepare students to play their part in the changing world environment.

Tertiary level institutions are governed by special governing boards and councils who may or may not receive State funds for delivering their programs to the public. Some public institutions are self-sustaining entities whereas others receive per capita grant funding for running their institutions. Many private institutions, however, provide programs in association with other international providers for the general public. This has been a growing trend as other institutions try to facilitate the growing need for tertiary education for employed individuals. This is especially true in the discipline of education.

Quality in education is currently a major issue for many educators in Jamaica; The Ministry of education with many interested parties from the private sector have established an "Education Transformation Team" with a view to increase the number of students who successfully write and are successful in the GSAT and CSEC exams. This is seen as important as the ministry seeks to put new emphasis on knowledge and learning skills to better prepare students to play their part in the changing world environment.

Testing: The SAT is offered six times a year at five locations and the paper-based GRE twice. The computer-based GMAT is administered on an appointment basis. Here in Kingston we advocate the use of testing only as warranted, and discourage institutions from requiring the TOEFL of students as English is the language of instruction in Jamaica.

Students in the United States: Approximately 4,200 students from Jamaica are currently studying in the U.S. Of the composite number: 61% undergraduate / 30% graduate / 7% other. The most popular majors at the undergraduate level are: Business Administration, Engineering, Hard Sciences, Computer Science and Health Professions. The top states receiving these students are: Florida, New York, Maryland, Georgia Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Texas.

EducationUSA

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We host an annual college fair which provides an excellent opportunity for colleges and universities to meet Jamaican students their parents and teachers. Besides the primary goal of interacting with the students, parents and teachers the fair provides an opportunity to inform educators about the U.S. education system and the variety of majors offered in North American colleges.

We are eager to work with you to make it possible for more Jamaican students to enroll in your institution. We will assist you in making contact with examination bodies to receive transcript and translate transcripts. Please contact us for assistance:

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Useful websites:

<http://kingston.usembassy.gov/>

<http://www.universitycouncilja.com/>

<http://www.visitjamaica.com>

<http://www.moec.gov.jm/>

<http://www.cxc.org>

<http://www.mona.uwi.edu/>

Session Number	GS-310
Presenter's/Author's Name	Nichole Johnson
Presenter's Institution or City, State, Country	IIE/EducationUSA - REAC Mexico, Central America & Caribbean

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Public Library
Tel. 767-448-2401
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Charlestown, Nevis
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II. Binational Centers

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Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
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