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COLLEGE OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS, CARIBBEAN RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ST. THOMAS, V.I. 00801

VOLUME V, NUMBER 2

June 1982

Research: Projects And Plans

VISITOR'S COMMITTEE AT CRI

A Committee of Visitors (See Vol. IV, December 1981 spent the week of June 7

thru 11 at the Institute for the purpose of evaluating its structure, functions, affiliations, research projects and plans for the future.

Besides visiting and talking with all the members of the Institute the committee met with Dr. Richards, President of the College, and were guests with Dr. Harrigan, Director of the Institute, on a local TV talk show where they discussed "Research and Research Institutions." They also met with members of the Institute's Consultative Committee.

Dr. Linsky spent a day ^{Rep} VIERS (Virgin Islands Ecologi-

cal Research Station) in St. John for the purpose of familiarizing himself with marine research being done there.

The members are expected to submit a report of their findings with recommendations to the President.

INSTITUTE CONDUCTING V.I. DROP- OUT STUDY

The Drop-Out Study which the Institute has been commissioned to conduct by the V.I. Department of Education

has been well underway since April. Dr. Leonard Bliss, principal investigator for the study, reports that with the staff consisting of two (2) persons on St. Thomas and two (2) on St. Croix the data collection is well ahead of schedule.

All eight grade cohorts have been identified and sampled on St. Croix and the research assistants are presently working to finish identifying private school students in that district.

Approximately 80 percent of the St. Thomas sample has been traced in the St. Thomas/St. John District and we now know whether or not these students finished school.

The programs for entering information on computer files have been written and are now in use.

The research assistants are: Mrs. Ella Ogden and Mr. James Sundre (St. Thomas), Mrs. Dorothy Bølling and Miss Patricia Morris (St. Croix).

EXTENSIVE
WATER PRO-
JECT BEGUN

A new and extensive project is being undertaken jointly between the Water Resources Research Center, the CVI Physical Plant and the U.S. Geological Survey. This project will entail a study of the water resources of the CVI campus and adjoining areas. Data gathering of well water levels has already begun. Additional points for measuring ground water levels will be established. Geophysical surveys will be undertaken and new wells will be drilled. The study will be done over a two year period and will result in a greatly increased understanding of the ground water resources. This will provide a solid base for making decisions on managing our water in the future, and the study will demonstrate the value of having such a base for all the Virgin Islands.

The Project entitled, "Ground Water Availability in the College of the Virgin Islands Area, St. Thomas, USVI", has as principal investigators, Drs. Richard Champney and Owolabi Ajayi from CRI and Mr. Fernand Gomez of the United States Geological Survey, (USGS) in Puerto Rico.

Sponsored by the Office of Water Research and Technology (OWRT), Department of Interior, Washington, D.C. and the USGS San Juan, Puerto Rico, the project is expected to be completed by 1984.

Comings And Goings

CORT XX
TRAINING
WORKSHOP
HELD IN
ATLANTA, GA.

April 15 thru 17 were the dates of the CORT (Consortium on Research Training) twentieth workshop. Held in Atlanta, Georgia, the main speakers were Gerald T. White from the University of California who treated the topics "Preparing the Thesis or Dissertation for Publication" and Malcolm M. McDonald of the University of Alabama Press who discussed "Publishing your Manuscript". Desretta McAllister of North Carolina Central University gave a paper on "Research and the Librarian: A Helping Hand". Workshops were held after each presentation.

CRI was represented by Drs. Harrigan and Varlack and Mrs. Brown-Comment, Administrative Assistant in charge of editorial work. The group found the sessions very stimulating and enlightening in view of the fact that CRI is trying to step up its publication efforts.

Dr. George Breathett, Director of CORT, was honored at a surprise banquet organized by staff members commemorating his nine years of leadership to the Consortium. Remarks were made by Dr. Joseph Himes of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, Dr. Mable McLean of Barber-Scotia College and Dr. Norwell Harrigan of CRI along with several others.

WRRC DIRECTOR On May 12 and 13, Dr. Champney attended the annual
IN WASHINGTON meeting of the National Association of Water Institute Directors held in Washington D.C. The primary topic of discussion at this meeting was the probability of continued funding for Water Resources Research Institutes by the Office of Water Research and Technology in the U.S. Department of Interior. Cautious optimism was the feeling expressed in this regard.

Copies of bills which had been introduced in the House and the Senate were distributed. There would be continued funding for the Water Institute Program, if passed.

Workshops were held to formulate policy on establishing and managing regional institute programs.

CONSORTIUM Dr. Jones-Hendrickson attended a meeting in Barbados
GRADUATE of the Interim Committee of the proposed Consortium
SCHOOL FOR Graduate School in the applied Social Science for
ENGLISH- the English-speaking Caribbean and Suriname, held
SPEAKING on June 16-19.
CARIBBEAN AND

SURINAME The objectives of the Consortium are: (1) establish a high level institution in the Caribbean which would provide the social sciences cadre necessary to formulate, analyze and assess development objectives, planning and implementation; (2) undertake, simultaneously, the social science research needed for development with particular reference to the least developed countries in the region; ... (3) undertake, as a priority, project-oriented research in the area of transfer of science and technology in close collaboration with natural scientists and governmental authorities in the region.

Outreach Activities

The Director participated in a number of activities during the quarter.

On May 16, Dr. Harrigan was key-note speaker at the Sun Day Celebration and Energy Fair on St. Croix. He paid special attention to the Institute's contribution to the Territory's Energy Budget and Energy Plan, the basic document for the establishment of the Energy Office; the promotion of alternate energy technology in five energy reports, a seminar on energy self-sufficiency, the development of a process for converting agricultural waste into alcohol fuel, and an almost completed research project on solar stills (See Vol. V, March 1982).

May 20th and 21st were the dates of a very important symposium in Road Town, Tortola, on "Social Change in the British Virgin Islands" at which Dr. Harrigan was keynote speaker. He presented a profile of the evolution of the social system and the manner in which islanders had historically coped with the conflicts brought about by change and "progress" he said:

"The whole matter raises a number of difficult questions: land ownership: (How significant an amount has already been alienated and how much of this has, in fact, been obtained by subterfuge?); the control of the economy: (Is it by the local people?); immigration: (What limits?); job preferences: (Who is actually first in line?); public utilities and services--hospital, water, electricity: (What is the social cost?); housing: (Who needs it?); the poor: (Are their numbers increasing?); deviance among the youth: (What triggers it?); racism: (Are we fooling ourselves?); violent crime: (Where will it end?).

"These problems would have to be addressed in a society where we find genuine contributors to the islands' economic future as well as rapacious developers determined to rob us of our birthright and leave us destitute; partners in the islands' social development and cultural heritage as well as "do-gooders" with an eye on the main chance, organizing to improve what they do not understand and to provide what we do not need, and calling on the same people to provide the funds; those who love this land and are prepared to defend it against all comers as well as native "quislings" who would sell it from under us; and expatriates and natives, belongers and non-belongers, whites and blacks who don't give a damn one way or the other."

SRC
COORDINATOR
AT ECNAMP
MEET

Between June 21 - 25, 1982, S.B. Jones-Hendrickson attended and presented a paper at a Caribbean Conservation Association/Eastern Caribbean Natural Area Management Program (CCA/ECNAMP) in Anguilla.

Dr. Jones-Hendrickson presented the highlights of a 55-page document commissioned by ECNAMP. The document is entitled "The Importance of Marine Resources in the Development of the Lesser Antilles (or Eastern Caribbean)."

The paper is divided into four sections, a summary and a conclusion.

The four main sections treat 1) marine resources, 2) economic development in the traditional sense, 3) the constraints to economic development in the case of Microstates, and 4) the importance of marine resources within the framework of economic development.

Jones-Hendrickson concludes with the thought that the political directorate of the Eastern Caribbean have to view marine resources as critical to the development process of the region; that they have to become conversant with the intricacies of the importance of marine resources and the people involved in all aspects of the sea have to be aided at the least cost possible to ensure that marine sources are optimally used. He states that the people in the region have to see marine resources in the broad framework of a revenue base, a cost base and a culturally enhancing base.

He emphasizes that: "In these times when the Caribbean sea is seen by others as an area of global strategic importance, it is incumbent on the political directorate and the people, all of us, to awake to the full realization that marine resources must be brought into the matrix of the development process." The paper should be included in our working paper series shortly and at that time will be made available to the public.

SIX DAYS
UNDERWATER
HYDROLAB
MISSION

During the month of June, James Beets, Programs Technical Assistant of the Ecological Research Center (ERC), was involved in a research project on St. Croix. Along with three other researchers from the Virgin Islands Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, Mr. Beets spent six days in the underwater habitat completing research which was begun last year. The NULS-I HYDROLAB which is maintained by the National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to provide a facility for marine scientists to accomplish research at depths

impossible to adequately study from the surface, is positioned in 50 feet of water in Salt River Canyon. The research project was designed by Dr. Caroline Rogers of the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs to study the recruitment of corals and colonization of marine organisms at four depths to 120 feet.

Marine research, especially projects conducted from the HYDROLAB are very important for obtaining information on our natural resources here in the Virgin Islands. Our marine resources are fragile and not infinite. Most all of our fish, lobster and other marine foods are dependent on a clean, nearshore environment for shelter and proper growth. Research projects such as these can assess our environments and offer alternatives and solutions to inevitable problems.

Personnel

NEW FACES AT CRI

Miss Candace Lutzow joined the staff in the Water Resources Research Center as a Projects Assistant. Miss Lutzow, who holds a B.A. in Botany, has worked previously with CRI compiling data for a research project. She will be assisting Drs. Champney and Ajayi in collecting water samples, gauge readings and compilation of reports.

The new Programs Technical Assistant at the Ecological Research Center is Mr. James Beets. An M.S. in Ecology, Mr. Beets was formerly with the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs doing laboratory work. He will be assisting Dr. Canoy at VIERS in St. John with marine research being conducted there as well as the day to day managing of the station.

Dr. William H. Harris, a sociologist, was recently appointed as Research Associate in the Social Research Center. Dr. Harris has held faculty posts at Yale, Western Washington University, Stanford, and most recently at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut. He has done research in the topics of social power and social status, and he is a specialist in the relationship between social behavior and physiological processes. A native of Rhode Island, Dr. Harris holds two degrees in Asian studies, the B.A. from the University of California at Santa Barbara and the M.A. from Yale University. He obtained his PhD. in sociology at Stanford University in 1981.

Publications Available at CRI

- Albright, Alan B. Proton Magnetometer Survey of Marine Archaeological Sites in the Virgin Islands. 1975. 11pp. Free.
- Albright, Alan B. The Excavation of the HMS Santa Monica. 1974. 13pp. Free.
- Brody, Robert W. Fish Poisoning in the Eastern Caribbean. 1971. 39pp. \$2.00.
- Canoy, Michael J. and Klos, Ann M. A Literature survey and Technology Assessment of the Treatment and Utilization of Rum Distillery Wastes. 1978. 109 pp. \$2.50.
- Chang, Henry C. A Selected, Annotated Bibliography of Caribbean Bibliographies in English. 1975. 54pp. \$2.00.
- Janov, Gwenellen Citizens' Handbook: Virgin Islands Water Law 1979, 22pp. \$1.00.
- Painter, An. Energy Self-Sufficiency and the Virgin Islands. Proceedings of a Conference. 1978. 88pp. \$2.00.
- Purcell, Thomas W. The Effects of Rainfall on Two Undeveloped Tropical Bays in St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands. 1980. 47pp. \$2.00.

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The Caribbean Research Institute is a division of the College of the Virgin Islands. It was established in 1966 to provide a central research agency in the Virgin Islands and to encourage research in the Caribbean basin. It pursues a broad spectrum of investigation in the natural, physical, social and economic sciences.