



COVICRIER

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

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Research: Projects & Plans

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE In January and February the new Consultative Committee held its organizational meetings when CRI in relation to the College and research efforts in the Virgin Islands and the Caribbean was discussed.



In attendance were: Mr. Andre Ottley (attending for Senator Virdin Brown), Dr. Darshan Padda, the Reverend Canon Clarke,

(Chair), Dr. Wilburn Smith, Mrs. Linda Creque, Dr. Robert Brander and Dr. Norwell Harrigan. The other member, Mr. Philip Gerard of St. Croix, was unable to be present. Institute staff present to provide information requested by the Committee were the Director, Coordinators of Environmental and Social Research Centers, and the Administrative Assistant who served as Secretary.

The main topic of the January meeting was consideration of the Visiting Committee's report to the President (see COVICRIER, June 1982). At the February meeting a sub-committee was formed, with Canon Clarke and Drs. Smith and Padda as members, to study further the implementation of recommendations made by the Visiting Committee and a draft Mission Statement submitted by the Director. A report will be made to the whole committee by

the group. The Consultative Committee, comprised of members of the community, serves as an advisory body to the Institute.

BASIC SKILLS STUDY Phase II of the Basic Skills Study, "Item Analysis and Description of Student Skills for Grades 10 and 12," has been completed and presented for review. The study will shortly be available to interested persons.

DROP-OUT STUDY Negotiations are underway with the Department of Education for the conduct of Phase II of the Drop-out Study. This phase will attempt to uncover the reasons for the relatively high incidence of drop-outs in the Territory's school system.

UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY A meeting of representatives of the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Government of the Virgin Islands and the College met in St. Thomas to discuss a cooperative request made by Governor Luis to the Department of the Interior some time ago which has now been acted upon following the visit of Mr. Pedro Sanjuan, Assistant Secretary for Territorial and International Affairs. The Director of CRI will serve as contact person for the project in the Territory and it is expected that USGS personnel will be based at the Institute.

Personnel

STUDENT AIDES AT CRI CRI added five student aides to its personnel this semester. They are: Lauritz Hutchinson, Sybil James, Loden Warrington, Philmore

Andrews and Clement Brown. They are assisting in various areas of the Institute in the collection of data for research projects and clerical and library work. This is Miss Hutchinson's second semester with us.

SMITH RETURNS Henry H. Smith returned to the Institute after a two-year leave of absence for study towards his Ph.D at Colorado University. Having successfully completed his course work, he will now be working on his dissertation.

Mr. Smith will be serving as Research Specialist (Water Resources) with the Environmental Research Center at the Institute. He was formerly with the now-abolished Water Resources Research Center serving as acting director for six months prior to his departure on leave.

VOLUNTEER AT CRI Mrs. Winifred Neiblum, a semi-retiree who returned to St. Thomas last year, has offered her time on a voluntary basis to CRI. Mrs. Neiblum, originally from New York, lived in St. Thomas for three years prior to her return. Her last position was with Mary Mount Manhattan College in New York where she served as Administrative Secretary to the President. Other positions held were with the American Civil Liberties Union where she served as Administrative Secretary to the Associate Director and Assistant to the Executive Director of the Association on American Indian Affairs.

Mrs. Neiblum has been helping with the reorganization of the filing system and with the reference library at CRI.

The donation of Mrs. Neiblum's time is sincerely appreciated and it is hoped that there would be others willing to donate voluntary service to the Institute at this time of fiscal stringency.

LAB REAC- The Institute's St.
TIVATED Thomas laboratory
which was inactive
for some time has now been
reactivated through the efforts
of Mrs. Annelise Knudsen who is
on a temporary appointment at
CRI. Mrs. Knudsen has had technical
training in laboratory work
at the School of Medicine
Laboratorium, Copenhagen, Denmark,
and has done graduate work at the
School of Medicine, Tulane
University New Orleans. Formerly,
Mrs. Knudsen worked with
Medical Diagnostic Laboratories
of St. Thomas and also with the
Department of Health.

Mrs. Knudsen is now conducting tests on cistern water on St. Thomas.

VISITING Dr. Richard Jaeger
FELLOW from the University
of North Carolina,
Greensboro is on a visiting
fellowship with the Institute.
Dr. Jaeger is a well-known
national figure on the U.S.
Mainland. He is cited in
American Men and Women of Science
and Who's Who in the South and
Southwest.

Dr. Jaeger is currently Professor, School of Education at the University and has held institutional appointments as Visiting Lecturer in Statistics for the Department of Education, Howard University Washington, D.C., Visiting Research Psychologist, Developmental Research, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey and National Lecturer in Evalua-

tion, Nova University, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to name a few.

Dr. Jaeger also holds long-term and continuing consultancies with the National Institute of Education, Washington, D.C. He is a member of the National advisory Committee of Vocational Education Evaluation Program at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia as well as several other national prestigious committees and institutions.

His publications are quite numerous and range from A Primer on Sampling for Statewide Assessment, Princeton, New Jersey: Center for Statewide Educational Assessment, Educational Testing Service, 1973, to Academic Computing in Minority Colleges and Universities.

Outreach Activities

DR. BLISS Dr. Leonard Bliss,
IN ISRAEL Research Associate
(Education), was in
Israel from January 3rd to 16th
during which time he served as
Consultant in achievement testing
for the Ministry of Education in
Jerusalem. While there he worked
closely with Dr. Morris
Kuggelmas, Chief Scientist for
the Ministry of Education.

PARTICIPA- During Black History
TION IN Month, Dr. Jones-
BLACK Hendrickson, Senior
HISTORY Research Associate
MONTH and Coordinator of
the Social Research
Center, keynoted several events
at the College and High Schools
on the islands of St. Thomas and
St. Croix. On the St. Thomas
campus on February 1st he was one
of the main speakers and gave an

address entitled "Each Endeavoring, All Achieving."

At the Charlotte Amalie High School on February 16th, the topic of his address was "The State of Black Economic Dependency in the USVI: What can be Done About It?"

In Frederiksted, his address at the Arthur A. Richards High School on February 29th was Entitled "Sir Arthur Lewis: The First Black Nobel Laureate in Economics."

DROP-OUT STUDY RESULTS PRESENTED Dr. Bliss presented results of Phase I of the Drop-Out Study to a meeting of private and public school administrators on St. Croix on March 16th and on March 17th to St. Thomas administrators.

APPOINTED EXAMINER Dr. Jones-Hendrickson was appointed External Examiner for Graduate Economic theory and Graduate Quantitative Economies, for the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Assistant Examiner in business/social sciences for the Caribbean Examinations Council in Barbados.

Comings & Goings

DR. AJAYI Dr. Owolabi Ajayi at-IN FLORIDA tended the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Conference on "Water Supply: The Management Challenge," held at Tampa, Florida on March 14-17, 1983, where he made a presentation on "Progress and Needs in Caribbean Water Resources Operations." The paper was co-authored by Dr.

Ajayi, Donald Francois, P.E. of the Water and Power Authority (WAPA) and Terence Thompson, P.E. of the Envirosphere Company of New York.

The paper dealt with the Training of operations and maintenance workers, use of hillside and roof catchments, distribution systems and metering, and the authors made several recommendations for water storage and conservation in the Caribbean area as a whole. They stated that:

The experience gained in the Virgin Islands in managing water supply operations is applicable to other Caribbean islands in several ways. In most instances the Caribbean islands will continue to draw on a variety of sources for potable water supply. It will usually be preferable, however, to develop groundwater sources to the maximum extent possible. In developing groundwater resources, it is imperative that safeguards against over-pumping be implemented and that laws or regulations protecting groundwater quality from contamination from wastewaters or improper disposal of solid wastes be enacted and enforced.

Other participants to the conference came from the British Virgin Islands, Jamaica and the Dominican Republic.

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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.