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Ecological Research Center

CANOY ATTENDS REGIONAL MEETING

Dr. Michael J. Canoy, director of the Ecological Research Center (ERC) traveled to La Parguera, Puerto Rico this quarter to participate in a three-day meeting of the Regional Fisheries Management Council. Canoy is a member of the scientific and technical committee, which drafted plans concerning reef fish, lobster, conch and the maximum permissible number of these organisms to be removed from waters within the 200-mile protection zone in the U.S. Caribbean.

ENERGY EXTENSION SERVICE IS FUNDED

The Energy Extension Service (EES) is now a fully funded program of the U.S. Department of Energy. Begun in 1977 as an experimental pilot program, EES is now located in all fifty states and territories. It is geared to the needs of residents and small businesses, suggesting ways to help them conserve energy and save money. CRI is a subcontractor of the local EES program, which is coordinated through the V.I. Energy Office.

Educating the public on alternate sources of energy is an important function of the EES. Available to V.I. residents is the Energy Information Room, located in Room 301 of the Classroom/Administration Building on the St. Thomas Campus of CVI. Housed there are several hundred publications on fifty energy-related subjects, in both technical and non-technical language. Interested persons are welcome to visit the Energy Information Room during business hours. Call 774-1252, ext. 259 for further information or to make an appointment.

SHELLFISH RESEARCH BEGINS ON ST. JOHN

A study of conch and whelk was started in October by Dr. Canoy to evaluate the fishery potential of those species on the south coast of St. John. He will study many aspects of the shellfish, including how rapidly they reproduce and their growth rate.

Water Resources Research Center

BULLOCK BEGINS WRRC CONSULTANCY

Don Bullock joined the staff this quarter as a short-term consultant for the Water Resources Research Center (WRRC). His projects will include a water use/demand survey, technical assistance to the V.I. Department of Commerce and development of solar desalting systems. Bullock has a B.S. in mechanical engineering from the University of New Hampshire. Prior to joining CRI he was president of Zurko Trading, Ltd. in St. Croix. In the early 70's Bullock was co-designer of a seawater reverse osmosis unit, which was the first commercial unit available. In addition, he has designed desalination equipment for Polymetrics, Inc. in Santa Clara, California.

SMITH COLLABORATES ON V.I. WATER PLAN

At the request of Darlin Brin, commissioner of conservation and cultural affairs, Henry Smith, research associate, assisted in the formulation of a workplan for the development of the Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan (CWRMP) for the Virgin Islands. The workplan is required by the Water Resources Council and the Environmental Protection Agency, the principal funding agencies for the CWRMP. Smith's experience in water resources planning enabled him to contribute significantly as part of the Center's community outreach effort.

PEEBLES PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL MEETINGS

Dr. Roger Peebles, WRRC director, attended the National Association of Water Institute Directors Meeting in Washington, D.C. in November to discuss national, regional and local objectives of the Office of Water Research and Technology. Following that he traveled to the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco to take part in sessions on statistical hydrology modeling.

Social Research Center

FIRST PHASE OF STUDY COMPLETED

A preliminary document has been drafted through the joint effort of CRI and CVI's division of social sciences. The research is concerned with how the College can play a larger role in community affairs, especially in surrounding neighborhoods. The Kirwan Terrace Housing Project was chosen as the first study site because of its proximity to the St. Thomas Campus. Social and demographic data were gathered and are included in the report, which will form the core of a more comprehensive study.

The document was prepared by Dr. Jones-Hendrickson, coordinator of the Social Research Center (SRC), Dr. Frank L. Mills, CVI's institutional research officer and assistant professor of social sciences and Leslie Reovan, instructor of sociology. Initiating the project early this fall were Eric Blake, assistant professor of social welfare, Dr. Orville Kean, CRI acting director, Malcolm Kirwan, director of business and financial affairs and Dr. Paul Leary, dean of instruction and academic affairs.

**INSTITUTE GEARING
UP FOR 1980 CENSUS**

The Caribbean Research Institute has been designated as the agency responsible for conducting the 1980 Virgin Islands Census. Melvin Hendry, formerly of the U.S. Census Bureau, was appointed by the Bureau to be the technical adviser for the project. Hendry has much solid experience in data-processing and in conducting counts outside the United States mainland. Dr. Frank Mills has been acting as interim census coordinator. His expertise in survey methods is known and respected throughout the territory.

**BLISS INVOLVED IN
EDUCATION RESEARCH**

Dr. Leonard Bliss, research associate in education, is in the final data collection phase of a project in vocational education evaluation. The study is being conducted at the request of and with the support of the V.I. Vocational Education Advisory Council, a federally funded agency. Bliss is evaluating the following areas: vocational education program activities; advisement and counseling, job placement after completion of study; and student access to vocational education programs. In addition, the project includes a territorial job survey in the private sector to determine present and future need for graduates of vocational education programs. The project's final report will be available in mid-April.

Research is also underway to determine the level of basic skill attainment of K-12 students in the V.I. public school system. Dr. Bliss is principal investigator of this project. The Stanford Achievement Test, providing eight levels of tests in basic skills areas, will be administered to a representative sample of approximately 2,000 local public school students during the first two weeks of March. The test results will be reported out in a criterion referenced manner, in which comparisons made are between the student and a set of instructional objectives which the student is expected to reach based on school instruction. This research study is being sponsored jointly by CRI and the V.I. Department of Education. The final report will be released next May.

**CORT RESEARCH GRANT
AWARDED TO COLLEGE**

\$5,667 in research money is now available to CVI faculty and students through the Consortium on Research Training (CORT). This grant program, which is limited to research in the humanities and social sciences, is being administered by CRI. CORT is funded by the U.S. Office of Education under Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and seeks to strengthen the research competencies of faculties and students in historically black colleges and universities. Emphasis is placed on the various traditional and innovative methodologies, recognizing that such activity may have important implications for the curricula in these disciplines. Applications for grants must be accompanied by a research proposal, including a budget, and should be submitted by March 31, 1980. CVI faculty members are urged to inform their students about the CORT program.

**REEDER RESEARCHES
V.I. ECONOMIC NEEDS**

The concept of "economic education for the general public" has been studied this quarter by Charlotte Reeder, research associate. She surveyed both the private and public sectors locally to determine the level of interest and general need for such an education program. As a result of the study, several public seminars have been planned, co-sponsored by CVI's social sciences division and CRI.

The first seminar is scheduled for June 5, 6 and 7 on the St. Thomas Campus and will focus on the problem of inflation. Areas that will be explored include: sources of inflation, its impact on the consumer and policy alternatives for controlling inflation. Funding for the seminar will be provided in part by Continental Can, Inc. A second seminar is slated for September 1980.

**CARIBBEAN'S FUTURE
DISCUSSED BY UNICA**

Dr. S.B. Jones-Hendrickson attended the Sixth Annual Association of Caribbean University and Research Institutes (UNICA) Conference at the Miami Intercontinental Hotel on December 12-15. A wide variety of topics was discussed at the sessions, which were attended by administrative personnel of the region's universities. The main focus was current and future directions of research development and training in the 1980's.

Outreach Activities

**SRC COORDINATOR
ADDRESSES PUBLIC**

"An Assessment of Plantation Economies: The Case of St. Kitts" was the subject of a public lecture delivered by Dr. Jones-Hendrickson at the University of the West Indies Extra-Mural Center in Basseterre, St. Kitts. The October 30 address was one in a series of ongoing lectures at the University Center.

**CRI REPORT READY
FOR DISTRIBUTION**

This quarter the latest edition of the CRI REPORT was released. The 24-page booklet covers the period from July 1, 1977 through June 30, 1979 and outlines activities at the Institute's three centers of research. It also includes staff biographical sketches, photos and a list of publications available from CRI. Persons desiring the CRI REPORT should write to the attention of Stephanie J. Oliverio, special projects assistant, or call 774-1252, ext. 259.

**JONES-HENDRICKSON
HEADS COMMITTEE**

As of October 1, Dr. Jones-Hendrickson has been serving as chairman of the Committee on Missions and Goals of the College of the Virgin Islands. The group's primary purpose is to systematically review the College's goals and to develop suggestions which may form the basis of input for change within CVI.