



COVICRIER

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

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Seminars and Conferences

WATER SEMINAR AT CRI The Water Resources Research Center held a seminar on April 3rd at the Institute, formally presenting to interested persons and government agencies the findings of a study entitled: "Water Resources Appraisal of the College of the Virgin Islands Area, St. Thomas." The study was conducted by Mr. Fernando Gomez of the U.S.G.S. Caribbean District and Dr. Owolabi Ajayi while he was on the staff of CRI.

The study was intended as a pilot project from which lessons could be learned to more effectively manage the scarce water resources in the Virgin Islands. The study demonstrated that the college could be self-sufficient as far as water is concerned with judicious conjunctive management of the wells on campus and the existing structures from which rain water could be harvested. A scheme for improving the economy of operating the water supply and

distribution system was recommended and the importance of conscientious monitoring of water use was stressed. Participants to the seminar were encouraged to apply the knowledge gained in the CVI study in developing water management schemes in other areas in the Virgin Islands.

The seminar was initiated by Mr. Henry Smith, Coordinator of the Water Resources Research Center. In addition to representatives from most government agencies of the Virgin Islands, seminar participants included several local engineers and other interested professionals engaged in private practice.

RAIN WATER CONFERENCE Preparations for the 2nd International Rain Water Cistern Systems Conference which will be held on St. Thomas in June are well underway. Hosted by the Caribbean Research Institute and the American Society

of Civil Engineers, the conference will be held on June 25 thru 27th with most of the activities being held at the Yacht Haven Hotel.

Field trips have been set up to give the participants an opportunity to observe different uses of rain water and to get a closer look at rain water harvesting facilities, storage methods, and desalination techniques. Sites already planned for field trips are: Mahogany Run, V.I. Water and Power Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration rain water catchment site.

The Department of Commerce has agreed to participate in sponsoring a cocktail at the hotel and will provide visitor's with V.I. bags from the visitors' bureau.

The coordinating committee will spend the next few months finalizing plans.

"ROUND TABLE MEETS AT CRI: The second meeting of the Environmental "Round Table" met on April 3rd in the Institute's conference room.

This group was formed last year by the Director of CRI for the purpose of bringing together agencies with environmental concerns as an Inter-Agency Environmental Round Table.

Agencies represented were V.I. Water and Power Authority, Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, V.I. Housing Authority, and the U.S. Geological Survey from Puerto Rico.

The main topic of discussion concerned the possibilities of coordinating several projects during the '84 -'85 fiscal year. Projects were agreed upon and proposals are

being formulated to aid in carrying out these projects. A follow-up meeting was set for May 15th.

Environmental Research Center

RAINFALL- Water records collection for the Lameshur Bay Watershed have been resumed after being dropped in 1983.

These records have been kept for 5 years. They represent a significant data base for interpreting various diverse natural resource management models such as water resources, effects of watershed development, and the survival of young fish and lobster.

EFFECTS OF LARVAL AND JUVENILE FISH This study completed a 5 year effort by the Ecological Research Center (ERC) to evaluate the factors tying terrestrial development

to certain marine resources. The results of the first study had shown that maintaining mangrove and salt pond systems reduced by over 90% impacts of runoff on critical nearshore marine habitats. The second study has shown that nearshore fisheries are replenished by a more or less constant breeding effort. The survival of these young fish however depend on whether the bays receive an optimal level of nutrients and freshwater. Too much runoff causes the wrong algae to grow, too little causes a poverty of algae. In either case the young fish starve. The problem in development then is to control runoff at an optimum level and quality rather than either expedite or eliminate it.

WATER QUALITY STUDIES One of the outcome of the ERC Water Quality Studies which have ana-

lized the quality of cistern water on St. Thomas and St. John, is a report on the ways in which a citizen can insure safe drinking water and methods which can be used to check and treat water. Further studies include: (1) Pathogen Screening for Water Supplies. (2) Water Quality of V.I. Groundwater. (3) The Cistern as an Ecosystem. (4) Water Quality Analytical Services.

On a trial basis, "at cost" services have been made available to businesses and government agencies. This has been well-received. If approved by CVI the testing of water will form an inexpensive on-going part of the ERC program.

GROUPS The Virgin Islands Eco-
VISIT logical Research Station
 (VIERS) has had a busy
schedule since early January.

In January a group of 25 students visited VIERS from Gustavus Adolphus College of St. Peter, Minnesota. Under the direction of Dr. Myron Anderson, the students conducted research in tropical marine life. Dr. Anderson has been coming to VIERS over the past ten years and a high level of professional research has been produced each time.

In March, Mr. Jessy Cogdell of Friends World College, New York arrived to do an internship semester at VIERS. A Biology major, Cogdell is learning first hand field work to supplement his major. His resident supervisor is Dr. Michael Canoy.

Dr. Bill Muchmore for State University of New York was at VIERS during the month of March on a grant from National Park Ser-

vice. His research included soil and forest, litter invertebrates, Peripatus, (a rare invertebrate found only in St. John and three other Caribbean Islands.)

Dr. Muchmore is a frequent visitor to VIERS and has added much to the information on local invertebrate life. He will continue his work through the month of May.

Fifteen students under the supervision of Dr. George Dale of Fordham University of New York spent two weeks in March at VIERS. Dr. Dale has seen the need and is now in the process of putting together a tropical study guide for Fordham University students. He will also make this guide available to VIERS for future use. This group felt that VIERS offered the finest field environment for broad tropical study. While there they were able to study first hand mangroves, estuaries, coral ecology and beach organisms.

Social Research

DROP-OUT An initial report on
STUDY the 2nd phase of the
2ND study has been com-
PHASE pleted by Dr. William
 Harris, Principal In-
 vestigator. School outcomes are
examined in relation to the stu-
dent's social environment, family
background, personal character-
istics and school experiences.
More data is being compiled to
complete and finalize the report
which will then be submitted to
the Department of Education.

Outreach Activities

Dr. Jones-Hendrickson gave the keynote address to open Black History month on the St. Croix campus. He spoke on: "Many Nations,

One People." He was also awarded a plaque from the Black History Month Committee of CVI, St. Croix for his contribution to the students on the St. Croix campus.

"An overview of the Post-Emancipation Economic Development in the Caribbean" was the topic of a lecture given to Dr. Highfield's Caribbean History Class by S. B. Jones-Hendrickson on March 15th.

Publications

MICROSTATE Microstate Studies
JOURNAL Journal No. 4 is ready
PUBLISHED for distribution after
many printing delays.

There are three main articles in the journal "The Interaction of Social Forces and the Production Process: Two French Communities in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands" by S.B.Jones-Hendrickson, "The Caribbean Woman as Dominant--Fact or Fiction?" by Janet D. Smith and "Training, Research and Documentation in Continuing Education" by Leonard Shorey. The Introduction is by Dr. William Harris and a short editorial note by the Director of the Institute.

Publications Available at CRI

JOURNAL

Microstate Studies. Vol. 1. University of Florida Press. \$4.00.

Microstate Studies. Vol. 2. University of Florida Press. \$4.50.

Microstate Studies. Vol. 3. Caribbean Research Institute. \$4.50.

Microstate Studies. Vol. 4. Caribbean Research Institute. \$4.50.

REPORTS

Ajayi, Owolabi and Smith, Henry. Compendium of Water Resources Data for the U.S. Virgin Islands. 1983 \$5.00.

Chang, Henry C. A Selected Annotated Bibliography of Caribbean Bibliographies in English. 1975. \$2.00.

McElroy, Jerome. Pricing Policies, Cost Allocation, and Demand in the Public Water Industry, U.S. Virgin Islands. 1976. \$3.50.

Smith, Henry and Ajayi, Owolabi. Runoff and Recharge on Selected Watersheds in the U.S. Virgin Islands. 1983. \$4.00.

(Orders must be prepaid with a check or money order made payable to The Caribbean Research Institute.)

<p>Institute Director: N. Harrigan Editor: A.M. Brown-Comment Production & Distribution: M. Rogers</p>
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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.