

## Viewpoint

By RICKEY SINGH



# Going of McIntyre from UWI

IN THIS year of the golden jubilee of the University of the West Indies (UWI) the West Indian intellectual who has give almost 10 years of service as Vice Chancellor of that institution has decided to resign, some three years ahead of completing his third term.

As he prepares to officially vacate office by the end of August, this week's column puts some focus on the contributions of this outstanding son of the Caribbean.

A name virtually synonymous with the Caribbean's political economy, Alister McIntyre, the Grenada-born former Secretary General of the Caribbean Community (Caricom), has spent at least half of his 66 years in the service of this region.

Think of any of the most important commissions, committees or assignments mandated by the region's governments or major institutions over the past two decades in particular, and the name Alister McIntyre will inevitably be there among some of the finest of

the Caribbean's scholars and intellectuals.

But the pressures of high offices, the demands of some of the very challenging assignments have been taking their toll and, as I understand it, has been aggravating a health problem.

Therefore, he has chosen to resign and leave the university authority to search, in cooperation with the region's governments, for a successor in the longer term.

In the short term, as an interim arrangement, it is expected that the celebrated exponent of West Indian culture, Rex Nettleford, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, will succeed McIntyre from September for possibly two years before he also goes into retirement.

Nine years ago, when he edited a special issue of a publication by the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER) in honour of McIntyre, the Institute's former Director, William De-

mas — hailed as the "elder statesman" among Caribbean economists, noted:

"For nearly 30 years, Dr Alister McIntyre has been involved in analysing and clarifying issues of political economy affecting the Caribbean, the Third World and North-South relations."

As observed by Demas, himself a former Secretary General of Caricom who, like McIntyre, also served on the 15-member West Indian Commission, headed by Shridath Ramphal:

"McIntyre has been a leader among the generation of West Indian writers who followed Sir Arthur Lewis, the pioneer of Caribbean political economy ..."

Not surprisingly, he prefers that others point to his achievements or shortcomings as Vice Chancellor of the UWI. But he told me of his sense of satisfaction in succeeding in "clearing the books, removing the red ink on ar-

rears and with the university in a much better shape financially to tackle the many challenges as an institution preparing for a new century."

His innovations, outside of changing the financial situation of the university, would include a modernisation programme extending to distance education, more business orientation and making the institution more student friendly and building community relations.

In an invited brief comment on McIntyre's contributions to the university, Shridath Ramphal, the UWI's Chancellor for the past eight years and a close co-worker with him on varying assignments, commended him as "our outstanding Vice Chancellor of the modern era who has positioned the UWI for the 21st century."

McIntyre has served in various capacities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

(UNCTAD) between 1982 and 1987, including as Deputy Secretary General.

His distinguished services have also included consultancies with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

While serving as UWI's Vice-Chancellor, McIntyre has also been involved in numerous special assignments, among them as Chairman of the IDB/OAS Independent Group of Experts on Smaller Economies and Western Hemispheric Integration, Vice-Chairman of the West Indian Commission.

He currently heads the special technical advisory group of the Caribbean's negotiating machinery, under Ramphal's chairmanship on external trade and economic matters.

Evidence of the high esteem in which

he is held across the Caribbean would include the many honours and awards McIntyre has received among them: Jamaica's Order of Distinction; Guyana's Cacique Crown of Honour; the UWI's honorary doctor of laws. He is also a recipient of Caricom's highest honour, the Order of the Caribbean Community (OCC).

Significantly, his association officially ends in September when he will be more incorporated in the region's strategy for the opening rounds of negotiations between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and the European Union for a successor to the current Fourth Lome Convention.

Guyana would also be pleased to know that McIntyre intends to continue to serve as the Personal Representative of the United Nations Secretary General on the Guyana-Venezuela border dispute. It is an assignment he assumed one year after his appointment in September, 1988 as Vice Chancellor of the UWI.

**\*RICKEY SINGH is a Caribbean journalist.**



**WEST INDIES GROUP OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS (WIGUT)  
ST. AUGUSTINE**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

TO: WIGUT Members  
FROM: Secretary, WIGUT  
DATE: 17th March, 1995  
SUBJECT: ACTION RE NEGOTIATIONS FOR 1993-96 TRIENNIUM

---

At the Special General Meeting of WIGUT held on Tuesday 14th March, 1995 the current status of salary negotiations for the 1993-1996 triennium was discussed.

- (1) The deteriorating position, in terms of salary, of staff at St. Augustine vis-à-vis colleagues at Mona and Cave Hill was highlighted. Salaries at Mona are on average 66% higher (80% higher on 1st August 1995) and those at Cave Hill 95% higher than salaries at St. Augustine.
- (2) The extreme tardiness of the Negotiating Sub-Committee in responding to our call for negotiations to begin was also a source of concern. To date WIGUT has only a verbal indication that negotiations may begin in the third week of March despite having submitted our latest proposals in August 1994! Initial proposals were jointly submitted by all three WIGUTs as early as June 1993.

The meeting decided that decisive action was needed to signal the strong dissatisfaction of the membership in respect of (1) and (2) above and to facilitate an early start to meaningful negotiations.

In this regard, the following resolution was unanimously passed:

**"Be it resolved that this General Meeting instruct all WIGUT members to embark on an immediate withdrawal of enthusiasm and, in particular, to refrain from submitting any examination papers to the Registry until further notice".**

Please be guided accordingly.

*A Maxwell*  
.....  
FOR WIGUT EXECUTIVE



WEST INDIES GROUP OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS  
ST. AUGUSTINE

## PRESS RELEASE

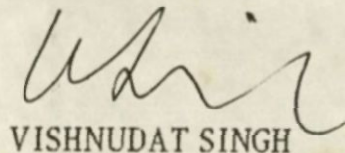
### ST. AUGUSTINE CAMPUS IN DANGER OF COLLAPSE

The St. Augustine Campus of the University is on the verge of collapse as a result of the failure of the UWI/University <sup>Leans</sup> ~~Leans~~ Committee's refusal to conclude industrial agreements for the academic and senior administrative staff since the 1981-1984 triennium. Members of staff are on the same salaries since that time while our colleagues at Mona have signed three agreements in 1984, 1987 (120%) and most recently for 1990-3 (75% Year 1 + 30% Year 2, parity with Cave Hill 1992-3 i.e. approximately 60% in the third year). There have also been two settlements at Cave Hill, (1984, 1987) giving our colleagues a 31% increase.

This failure, plus two devaluations, a \$20m. reduction in the University's subventions, an almost total elimination of all fringe benefits, non-replacement of essential buildings, equipment and materials, has led to an exodus of staff at all levels. At the end of the last academic year, a full 15% of the staff positions were not filled. 51 staff positions were vacant and 20 more members were on no-pay leave.

The ability of the University to recruit and retain staff has been severely diminished. Barbados has not faced this problem and in the case of Jamaica, in spite of even more severe IMF conditionalities, the Negotiating Sub-Committee has in the past seen fit to devise imaginative new ways to supplement the low salaries and now have implemented a system of 'regional adjustments' to make working in Jamaica attractive. This same committee has done absolutely nothing for this Campus.

In an effort to halt the further deterioration of the campus, it is absolutely essential that the Negotiating Sub-Committee now conclude the negotiations for the last two triennia, 1984-87, 1987-90. We call on the Chairman of the Negotiating Sub-Committee to move expeditiously to resolve the issue. The additional costs are not significant but the benefits will be tremendous.



VISHNUDAT SINGH

President (WIGUT, St. Augustine)

10 December, 1990.



# Strike alert scuppers Williams exhibition

By EARL MANMOHAN

PUBLIC viewing of the Eric Williams Memorial Collection from today has been put on hold due to the current industrial unrest at the St Augustine Campus of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

The collection which was officially opened at the university library last Sunday was due to be opened to the public today and tomorrow and next Friday and Saturday between 5 p.m. and 8 p.m.

However, the university could not risk having the exhibition open to the public in the wake of reports of sabotage in other sections of the campus.

The university was served with strike notice to begin on Tuesday at 11 a.m. following a breakdown in negotiations with the Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU) for a new collective agreement for the 960 non-academic staff.

It has reported an upsurge in incidents of sabotage on the campus this week, especially in the Engineering Faculty where important pieces of tools and equipment were either missing or damaged.

In addition, investigations are continuing into the placing of paper clips in door locks to several important offices.

## Cops called in to beef up campus security

The regular police have been called in and are now on 24-hour duty on the campus to help beef up security with the university estate police force.

Pro Vice Chancellor Compton Bourne yesterday issued a circular to members of the university community assuring them that the administration intended to maintain its normal operations during the strike, especially lab and library services to the 7,007 students who are in the middle of their mid-semester examinations.

He stressed that special measures have been put in place to ensure the safety and security of all staff and students so that they may pursue their legitimate activities on campus.

Bourne said the negotiations broke down at the Labour Ministry on Wednesday despite an improved offer.

This offer included a buy out of up to \$1,500 in lieu of the difference of the one per cent awarded to the academic staff, a six per cent wage increase for the period 1996/1997 to 1998/1999, a monthly COLA of \$50 for the first two years of the agreement, and \$100 a month in the third year and enhance severance benefits.

The police are also investigating threatening telephone calls to several employees should they turn up for work during the strike period.

In a letter to OWTU general secretary Doodnath Maharaj yesterday, Senior Assistant Registrar (Personnel and Industrial Relations) William Iton said the university, while recognising the union's right and the members' legitimate right to take strike action, was of the view that the employees who choose not to participate in such industrial action were also exercising their legitimate right and should be allowed to do so.

Iton said while the perpetrators could not be identified, the university was appealing to the union to ensure its members conduct themselves in a responsible manner during this period of uncertainty and accord to non striking employees the respect that they themselves were afforded.

## Tull protes

RETIRED Industrial judge Carl Tull through lawyer Reginald Armut written to *Newsday* editor part owner Therese Mill plaining about an article in their newspaper.

The article appeared 16 of *Newsday* on March under the title "Industrial judge sued by Republic over car loan".

In the letter to the paper, Tull condemns the as a "bitter and unjust attack upon him".

## Rat trap delinquen

By VIDHISHA MANNAH  
South/Central Bureau

FIVE trap guns were seized 23 delinquent fathers yesterday in raids by police officers involved in Operation Leap.

The trap guns, made piping, rat traps and nails with a quantity of ammunition were seized about four in the La Lune Forest, Mor.

Thirty officers under supervision of Cpl Cecil found the guns which believe were used to plant marijuana field. Some fully grown marijuana 500 seedlings were destroyed.

No one was arrested in connection with the marijuana guns.

But in the raids which some 14 hours in Fernando, Marabella and Town districts 23 men were to pay maintenance for their children were arrested.

## Assembly to

By KATHLEEN MAHARAJ

THE Tobago House of Representatives wants the Government to raise \$1 billion by either a \$1 billion Tobago development bond issue or by allowing the Assembly to borrow funds internationally.

In disclosing this to the THA Chief Secretary Charles said the Assembly wanted the Government to support its plan to obtain a "humanitarian" agency, by providing it with \$172 million bearer bonds.

He said the Government should support the THA to procure grant funds immediately and get approvals.

Among the agencies targeted by the Assembly

## Airport development

DIEGO Martin East Imbert is asking the Government why it has not term

