Master of Science in Development Statistics Programme

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OVERVIEW
The M.Sc. in Development Statistics is a programme for the training of official statisticians, allied professionals and other persons wishing to acquire formal knowledge to undertake quantitative analyses in social and economic decision-making initiatives applied to development policy. It is a 36 credit programme comprising 8 taught courses accounting for 27 credits and a research paper accounting for 9 credits.

The duration of study is one year for full-time students and two years for part-time students. There are two (2) areas of specialisation:

i. Social and Demographic Statistics
ii. Survey Research

The focus of the training is on the development of applied skills that will meet the needs of prospective official statisticians, statistical officers, policy analysts and other allied research professionals and technicians. Specifically, students enrolled in the programme will acquire skills in the collection, analysis and interpretation of statistics for use in the formulation and implementation of social and economic policy in emergent economies such as those in the Caribbean region.

COURSE OF STUDY
Of the seven (7) compulsory courses, three (3) 4-credit courses shall constitute a CORE, to be taken by all students, irrespective of their areas of specialisation. The three (3) CORE courses (4-credits each) are:

i. SALI6010 Development Theory and Policy (Semester I)
ii. SALI6011 Policy Analysis and Management (Semester II)
iii. SALI6012 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (Semester I)

For students specialising in Social and Demographic Statistics, the following 3-credit courses shall be compulsory:

i. SALI6015 Survey Research Design and Management (Semester II)
ii. SALI6016 Demographic Techniques I (Semester I)
iii. SALI6017 Social Development Statistics (Semester II)
iv. SALI6031 Techniques of Applied Social Statistical Analysis (Semester I)
For students specialising in Survey Research, the following 3-credit courses shall be compulsory:

i. SALI6015 Survey Research Design and Management (Semester II)
ii. SALI6018 Survey Sampling - Design and Estimation (Semester II)
iii. SALI6019 Elements of Official Statistics (Semester I)
iv. SALI6031 Techniques of Applied Social Statistical Analysis (Semester I)

ELECTIVES

The 8th course may be chosen from among a list of approved electives which are offered at the SALISES or other Departments of the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus. The choice of the elective course is to be done in consultation with the Supervisor and Director and must be approved by the Director. Students enrolled in the Social and Demographic Statistics specialisation are encouraged to do ‘SALI 6024 Demographic Techniques II’ (Semester II) as their option. Those enrolled in the Survey Research specialisation are encouraged to do ‘SALI 6023 Monitoring and Evaluation’ (Semester II).

RESEARCH PAPER

The topic of the research paper, which will account for 9 credits, will be determined following discussion between the student and faculty members. A supervisor will be appointed to each student.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Prospective applicants are expected to have a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree or equivalent in a Social Science discipline or any other discipline in which he/she would have had exposure to a minimum of an introductory level statistics course.

While preference will be given to persons possessing a minimum of an Upper Second Class Honours Degree or equivalent qualification, applicants’ work experience, particularly if it is in a statistical, research or policy-oriented environment, would be favourably considered providing that they possess a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree or equivalent.

Additionally, strong consideration will be given to applicants’ exposure to training programmes such as the Demographic Analysis Workshop offered under the auspices of the CARICOM/CDB initiative. However, the latter set of applicants must possess a minimum of a Bachelor’s Degree.
COURSE CODE: SALI6012
COURSE TITLE: RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
SEMESTER: I
NO. OF CREDITS: 4
COURSE DESCRIPTION: The principal purpose of this course is to enhance students’ capacity to undertake research assignments in academic and operational contexts as well as critically evaluate research undertaken by other entities. The course is designed to ensure that students have an appreciation and understanding of the role of the philosophy of science in the research process. It also provides a medium for further discussion and development of issues akin to research design and ethical issues in the conduct of research. Particular emphasis is placed upon exposing students to quantitative and qualitative methodologies associated with scholarly research processes. In both contexts, where appropriate, topics for discussion will include conceptualisation and measurement, data collection, sampling decisions, secondary data analysis, data preparation and data analytical considerations. Students are exposed to research writing practices and the preparation of research proposals.

COURSE CODE: SALI6015
COURSE TITLE: SURVEY RESEARCH DESIGN AND MANAGEMENT
SEMESTER: II
NO. OF CREDITS: 3
PREREQUISITE: SALI6012 RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides a more advanced treatment of issues and topics that arise in the context of survey research. In addition to recapping, the essential features that underlie the survey research process, the course seeks to re-emphasise the importance and enhance students’ understanding of errors that occur in the conduct of survey research. The course also addresses methodological challenges from the standpoint of cross-sectional and longitudinal surveys, survey instrumentation and data collection, interviewing processes, non-response, data preparation and processing, and ethical considerations. There is some practical exposure to challenges that usually arise in economic and social surveys.

COURSE CODE: SALI6016
COURSE TITLE: DEMOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES I
SEMESTER: I
NO. OF CREDITS: 3
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course introduces the basic techniques of demographic analysis. Students will become familiar with the sources of data available for demographic research and basic techniques used for demographic analysis. In addition to nuptiality, fertility, mortality and migration, their underlying theoretical frameworks and their measurement; introductory and intermediate techniques akin to life table analysis, standardisation, cohort and period measures and population projections are also central in the execution of the course.

COURSE CODE: SALI6017
COURSE TITLE: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS
SEMESTER: II
NO. OF CREDITS: 3
PREREQUISITE: SALI6012 RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course provides students with a greater awareness and knowledge of concepts, methods, statistical procedures and dissemination standards that are commonly associated with a broad range of social statistics. Insofar as such statistics are required to describe and explain social phenomena, the course also addresses epistemological issues that shape one’s understanding of the social universe from different standpoints. In treating with methods, the course addresses issues akin to data collection, measurement and data quality assurance and standards.

COURSE CODE: SALI6018
COURSE TITLE: SURVEY SAMPLING - DESIGN AND ESTIMATION
SEMESTER: II
NO. OF CREDITS: 3
PREREQUISITES: SALI6012 RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES and SALI6031 TECHNIQUES OF APPLIED SOCIAL STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is an advanced course requiring knowledge of elementary and intermediate applied statistics and prior exposure to seminars in survey sampling as taught in Research Methods Courses. Students are exposed to practical problems which enable students to develop an understanding of sampling design issues. With respect to complex sampling designs, there is some concentration on the development and manipulation of selection and other compensatory weights, methods of handling missing data, the effect of stratification and clustering on estimation and inference, alternative variance estimation procedures and other challenges to estimation and statistical inference.
COURSE CODE: SALI6019  
COURSE TITLE: ELEMENTS OF OFFICIAL STATISTICS  
SEMESTER: I  
NO. OF CREDITS: 3  
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course explores the nature and scope of official statistics in accordance with international standards and provides a framework for tracing its development and role in the transformation of national statistical systems in Caribbean societies. As such, the course introduces students to the historical antecedents that facilitated the development of different national statistical systems in Caribbean societies. It also examines critical issues pertinent to different criteria that impact the efficacy, effectiveness and efficiency of systems of official statistics within the Caribbean Region. The course also recognises the various stakeholders that produce and consume official statistics and strives to sensitise students about principal virtues that are deemed essential in optimising exchanges between the different stakeholders.

COURSE CODE: SALI6023  
COURSE TITLE: MONITORING AND EVALUATION  
SEMESTER: II  
NO. OF CREDITS: 3  
PREREQUISITE: SALI6012 RESEARCH METHODS FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES  
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course exposes students to major issues that arise in the field of monitoring and evaluation with special reference to developing countries though some cases that emerge out of the experiences of developed countries are presented as alternative scenarios. Despite some initial focus on the philosophical, theoretical and methodological underpinnings of monitoring and evaluation, particular attention is placed upon different research designs that permit practical approaches based upon qualitative and quantitative insights. To this end, different technical inputs that permit monitoring and evaluation will be discussed from the standpoint of their respective theoretical, methodological, statistical and substantive dimensions, and as far as possible, their relevance in practical settings.

COURSE CODE: SALI6024  
COURSE TITLE: DEMOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES II  
SEMESTER: II  
NO. OF CREDITS: 3  
PREREQUISITE: SALI6016 DEMOGRAPHIC TECHNIQUES I  
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course treats with the principles that emerge in the context of more advanced techniques of demographic analysis. It covers demographic techniques based on stable and quasi-stable population theory as well as model schedules of fertility, mortality, nuptiality and migration. As such, the course seeks to develop techniques that are critical in the conduct of demographic analyses in environments and other settings where data are incomplete or defective. The course also seeks to introduce students to multistate increment-decrement life tables as well as survival analysis.

COURSE CODE: SALI6031  
COURSE TITLE: TECHNIQUES OF APPLIED SOCIAL STATISTICAL ANALYSIS  
SEMESTER: I  
NO. OF CREDITS: 3  
COURSE DESCRIPTION: This course is primarily geared towards enhancing students’ abilities to use and interpret elementary statistical analyses in social research and decision-making contexts. Students are exposed to elements of descriptive and inferential statistics in the context of questions and problems that emerge in applied social settings and policy-relevant studies. Students will also be introduced to SPSS in order to enhance their skills in data management, data manipulation, data analysis and the interpretation of SPSS output. A variety of topics will be examined surrounding data analysis such as sampling designs, data measurement, the use and interpretation of statistical charts and diagrams, and statistical analysis. The main areas to be covered include descriptive statistics, probability concepts, distributions and inferential statistics.
GRADUATES
OF M.Sc. IN
DEVELOPMENT
STATISTICS
PROGRAMME

Oswald Alleyne
“I entered the M.Sc. in Development Statistics as my second option as the programme I intended to pursue was not offered for that academic year. Despite it being my second option I would be the first to admit that it was an extremely good fit for my skills, experience and career goals. The courses were very rigorous and contained topics on current and emerging issues. The diversity of the academic staff coupled with small class sizes provided a good forum for meaningful exchanges. Development Theory and Policy which remains a favorite course of mine left many colleagues disillusioned with the entire development agenda, and its impact on the Caribbean. There were many passionate debates both within and outside of class. I was particularly impressed at the breadth and scope of the Research Design Course and how it allowed me to be critical of my efforts in the past.

My advice to any prospective student is ….if your choice of a graduate degree is to be part of a truly “intellectual exploration with strong data analysis and research skills” the M.Sc. in Development Statistics is clearly the programme for you. It is important also to acknowledge that in addition to the strengths and diversity of the academic staff, the warmth and encouragement of the supportive staff add to a very warm and rewarding experience. Since leaving SALISES, I have worked as a HIV Program Analyst, U.S Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Georgetown, Guyana”
David Bazil

David Bazil has held senior positions at a number of institutions each with critical input to the future development of Trinidad and Tobago. He has served, among others, the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, the Central Statistical Office, the Trinidad and Tobago Securities & Exchange Commission, and the Tourism and Industrial Development Corporation.

Mr. Bazil has been engaged as the Senior Economic Analyst at Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago with responsibility for the provision of technical opinions and analysis in furtherance of the company’s long term economic and financial interests. He was formerly the Coordinator, Research and Development at the Ministry of Public Administration’s Public Sector Transformation Division where he designed, implemented, monitored and evaluated strategic interventions to improve service delivery across the public sector. Prior to joining the Ministry of Public Administration, Mr. Bazil was a senior manager at a financial services regulatory body where he provided policy and advisory support to a Board of Commissioners.

In 2009, he was appointed the Chairman of the Supervisory Committee of the TEXTEL Credit Union Cooperative Society for a three year period and was elected in March 2012 to the Credit Union’s Board of Directors where he served as the Assistant Treasurer and Chairman of the Credit Union’s Asset-Liability Management Committee. He assumed the position of Treasurer/Manager in April 2013 with general responsibility for the operations and financial performance of the Credit Union.

Mr. Bazil is an Economics graduate with post-graduate training in Finance, Marketing, Research and Management. He is a final level candidate in the Chartered Financial Analyst examinations administered by the CFA Institute and has held positions as an adjunct lecturer at Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies and the School of Business and Computer Sciences. Mr. Bazil was trained in Utility Regulation at the Public Utility Research Centre, University of Florida, and was interned at the US Securities and Exchange Commission and the World Bank where he received training in market regulation and development.

Melissa Berkley

“I entered the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme in 2011 as a full-time student under the Social Services scholarship funded by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. I was attracted to this programme because I saw it as an opportunity to develop my technical skills in the area of research. Three years prior to commencing the programme I spent most of my career working in the area of research in the corporate environment. As a result I saw this programme as an opportunity to enhance my technical skills to make myself more marketable. I must say that the M.Sc. in Development Statistics has done for me exactly what I had expected. It resulted in developing my skills specifically in the areas of data analysis and research design.

The programme is by no means a walk in the park but the sacrifice was definitely worth it. I also like the fact that the research is placed within the context of development policy. Given that my work experience focused mainly on market research, the development and policy analysis courses gave insight as to how research can be used in decision-making processes that can impact policy.

After completing the course, I am looking forward to working the area of research for policy implementation and development where I can apply the skills that I have gained in this programme.”
Satesha Bernard

“A programme that promotes individual growth in academia through well-structured courses, projects and presentations represents Development Statistics.

M.Sc. in Development Statistics has thoroughly provided me with a merger of the essential tools of theory and practical experience necessary to pursue my desire to engage in survey research. The programme encourages participants to apply the knowledge it provides in practical ways thus moulding students for life beyond educational pursuits.

M.Sc. in Development Statistics has facilitated my development in survey research allowing me to pursue a career in a field that I love.”

Taresa Best-Downes

“This programme was much more than I expected: intense, demanding but extremely rewarding. It provides you with skills that are in high demand across the Caribbean region. You look at policy and research more critically and the skills I have learnt have helped me to work with colleagues and stakeholders more efficiently in formulating development strategies. Any person working in the socio-economic policy environment would benefit from the courses offered in the programme.

My name is Taresa Best-Downes and I have worked as a National United Nations Volunteer Researcher attached to the UNFPA and the Ministry of Planning and Sustainable Development where I worked on Trinidad and Tobago’s National Population Policy. I am a 2014 graduate of the M.Sc in Development Statistics.”

Leandra Boochan

I came into the M.Sc in Development Statistics programme with the desire to be a better researcher but more than that I am leaving with an experience that truly fuelled my passion for research. This has mainly been due to the progress that I have made throughout the programme and the incredible support that I have received from Dr. St. Bernard, who has been lecturer, supervisor and friend to all the students who have passed through the programme. With that support, I was driven to do better and to push harder to improve the work that I did each semester. This was no easy task with greater intensity of knowledge and application required with each passing semester but I am proud to say that I did it. I had great support over the past two years as student from my family and colleagues at work and those at SALISES with the same drive to excel. One great aspect about the students is that we help and I imagine will continue to help each other. Information is shared and no one gets left behind. I have fond memories of the late nights, the study groups and the very last week on the race to finish my thesis. The entire experience has given me an even deeper respect for fellow academic researchers who are so dedicated and humble. I strive to be just that. Being a student at SALISES has been an incredible experience.

It has given me a real foundation in the field of research and social statistics and has equipped me with the right skills to pursue my dream of becoming a Statistician. I have been molded to know and to do better in this field and to ‘blaze the trail’ as Dr. St. Bernard would say. One journey has ended but there are many more to begin. SALISES has shaped me to continue to work hard, be persistent and aim for nothing less than excellence.”
Derryn Carter-Rennie

“I obtained my M.Sc. in Development Statistics at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago in 2011. During the pursuit of my Master’s programme, I worked at the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management, the Ministry of National Security, Trinidad and Tobago as the Community Outreach Programme Officer for three (3) years in which I designed and implemented several projects at the community level. I currently hold the position of Senior Programme Officer at the Poverty Reduction Programme, the Ministry of the People and Social Development, where I specialize in poverty research for the unit.

It was truly a rewarding experience to pursue my M.Sc. in Development Statistics and the skills obtained via the programme have been extremely useful especially in Trinidad and Tobago where greater emphasis is being placed on research. My knowledge of demography, survey research and the use of SPSS has made me very marketable despite Trinidad’s competitive labour market. The SALISES Faculty has also been very accommodating and understanding especially to those who worked full-time and had families. Therefore, I am incredibly grateful to have been another successful product of SALISES and I am quite proud to be a graduate with the M.Sc. in Development Statistics.”

Jaime Bristol

What can I say, the process of getting my M.Sc. in Development Statistics was indeed a challenging yet enjoyable one. Coming into the degree with a background in research was probably my “kryptonite”. I had to understand that what you think you know will never be enough, and you have to be as versatile as the process of research itself. We were held to such a high standard in general, but more often than not when writing my Research Paper, it was very frustrating to be sent back to make a million and one changes. Interestingly enough it was not necessarily because something was incorrect, but the more you tried to be on point is the more you opened yourself up for additional work. Hearing Dr. St. Bernard say ‘you are a reflection of SALISES but more so myself’ will forever be burned to my memory. All in all, though not many made it, I am proud to say I did and I was pushed till the end. The experience was profound!

Kerry-Ann Burris

“The M.Sc. in Development Statistics has been a wonderful experience for me. Unique to other Master’s programmes, it is applicable to the Caribbean situation which is what initially captured my interest and every course only seemed to deepen that interest. I was able to get a job related to my studies exactly one (1) week before I graduated from the programme and was very anxious to impart my wealth of knowledge obtained from SALISES to Trinidad and Tobago.”
Stephen Cockburn

“In 2013, I, Stephen Cockburn, successfully completed a M.Sc. degree in Development Statistics at the University of the West Indies under the supervision of Dr. Godfrey St Bernard. Prior to that, I completed a B.Sc. degree in Economics and Management. The M.Sc. degree in Development Statistics program was a well-structured programme that enabled me to develop my skills in the methods of conducting survey research. The program has also enlightened me on the application of statistical procedures to survey results in the pursuit of policy analysis as it applies to developing countries.

The experience gained in the preparation of my final research paper under the guidance of my supervisor Dr. St Bernard, has sharpened my skills in, actually carrying out the research process in practice, producing results using SPSS, statistically analysing those results, and explicitly presenting my conclusions. The program has complemented my experience as a practicing statistician and consequently my intellectual desire has now been whetted to further pursue a higher degree. The M.Sc. degree in Development Statistics is a programme that I would highly recommend to any budding survey statistician.

For over thirty years I was employed in the National Accounts Division of the Central Statistical Office in Trinidad and Tobago. For fifteen of those years I specialized in the compilation, analysis and presentation of value added statistics for the petroleum industry, the largest sector of the economy of Trinidad and Tobago. In the conduct of my duties as a statistician, I collected and analysed financial, as well as production data from all major oil and gas companies. I provided them with assistance in completing the required questionnaires. I also attended locally-held meetings with international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and Standard and Poor’s who regularly visit Trinidad and Tobago to examine the economic health of the economy. In addition, I worked in conjunction with the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, assisting in the development of the Survey of Private Capital.”

Cindy Chadband

“I am currently pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy Degree (PhD) in Social Policy at SALISES. My decision to enrol in this programme was heavily influenced by the positive experiences I had while reading for the M.Sc. in Development Statistics. The M.Sc. programme has really deepened my interest in research particularly that of a quantitative nature. I must admit that it was a challenge at times to balance the demands of the programme with that of everyday life. However, members of the academic staff always seem to be there at the right time to utter words of encouragement.

Since graduating from the M.Sc. programme, I have been working as Research Advisor to students of the M.Sc. in Occupational and Environmental Safety and Health Programme and as a Part-time SPSS Instructor at SALISES.”

Sterling Chadee

The M.Sc. in Development Statistics at SALISES stands out as an exceptional and highly relevant postgraduate programme in statistics that develops much needed capacity in the area of official statistics. This programme truly enriched my understanding of statistics and official statistics in particular. The range of courses offered covers pertinent subject-matter areas that are of fundamental importance to a national statistical office and of growing concern in the wider community. Overall, this M.Sc. programme is administered by a small but friendly and supportive staff. The academic staff, comprised of many lecturers with extensive research and professional experience in various fields, brought a realistic ‘real world’ perspective to the programme.
Carla Copeland  
“Upon consideration of this programme I had mixed emotions. I was already a holder of an M.A. in Educational Psychology lecturing at a prestigious university, when the need arose to acquire qualifications in statistics. When I researched the program the courses intrigued me and I became totally excited.

When the classes began I found I had wonderful lecturers and “hard-working” peers. This course held my interest and excitement throughout its run. My mind was opened to new concepts that caused me to think critically and analytically. For all the courses delivered I felt like I was being taken to a new place and when I left I would be forever changed. It was a pleasure sitting at the various feet of wisdom.

There were times during my thesis work when I felt like all was lost. But this SALISES group never gave up on me. This accomplishment is as a result of a wonderful UWI SALISES team. I will be forever grateful. Many thanks for your effort, interest and kindness.”

Donnel Cuffie  
“Before ever thinking seriously about pursuing postgraduate studies, I had always heard from other Master’s and Ph.D. students about the vast difference between the postgraduate and the undergraduate experiences. At the orientation meeting before starting the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme, everyone present was forewarned by Professor Watson that the programme was a demanding one. Well, whoever said that seeing is believing, surely spoke the truth - after only a couple months into it I was firmly converted to the “it’s not an easy road” sentiment.

However, while it did present a stern challenge, I think it also helped me to discover within myself capabilities that I never knew I had. For me, apart from the new knowledge obtained and friends made, this was the biggest takeaway from my experience in this programme: a new awareness and confidence in what I am able to achieve.

“If anyone were to ask me my advice about this programme, I’d tell them “It is a difficult, but by no means unachievable, upward climb. If you persevere and take it one step at a time, you will eventually reach the top; and when you see the view (in terms of a career) that’s to be had from up there, you’ll realise that the time and effort was entirely worth it.””

Kira Deane
“I entered the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme as a full-time student specializing in Social and Demographic Statistics in September 2012. I chose to pursue this programme offered by the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) because it covered not only the theoretical aspects of demography, but also introduced students to the demographic techniques needed to function as Statisticians in a statistical office. It also seemed as a rational choice having participated in one of the Demographic Analysis Workshops CARICOM/CDB for regional statistical officers. The lecturers were all very knowledgeable and experienced in each subject area presented. The Policy Analysis and Management course allowed me to see another side to data analysis especially as it relates to evidence-based policy-making. Policy analysis is not the usual daily task of a Statistician and I thoroughly enjoyed exploring this new ground and the prospects it presented for career development. I would definitely recommend this programme to Statisticians and Policy Analysts working within the Caribbean Region.

I had the opportunity to present my research paper, the final component of the programme, at the Seventh Regional Research Seminar October 31st 2014 in Guyana. That event concluded an extremely challenging but overall, very rewarding experience. I would encourage future M.Sc. in Development Statistics students to seek opportunities to present their research.”

Anisa Duncan
“During the last semester of the Master of Science Programme in Development Statistics, I was employed by the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago as a Policy and Research Analyst. Although working in the telecommunications field was new to me, I was able to immediately apply the skills and knowledge I learnt from the program since graduating in 2011. I have been involved in several projects related to the collection of data through surveys and work mainly in the collection, analysis and dissemination of administrative data in the telecommunications and broadcasting industry. I also participate regularly in the International Telecommunications Union Expert Working Group on ICT/Telecommunications Indicators, where key decisions are made on the definitions for ICT indicators. This program has definitely improved my competence in the area of survey research and has contributed significantly to my career success to date.”

Janelle Forde
“I was introduced to research and statistics while pursuing my Bachelors of Science in Sociology and since then I knew I wanted to pursue the study further. When I found out about the Master of Science in Development Statistics, I knew it was exactly what I wanted to do. I am now an entrepreneur in the field of fashion and integrating research in my daily life was easy as the M.Sc. in Development Statistics was comprehensive, practical and made use of real life scenarios; coupled with highly knowledgeable and experienced lecturers who were able to relate the course professionally and efficiently. Now nothing in my business is left to chance; everything is based on research and systematic procedure which results in a profitable, highly efficient business that reduces waste in time and resources.”
Dana Gibson

“My experience with this programme was indeed an amazing one and I enjoyed every aspect of it as I sojourned semester by semester. This I can confidently say in retrospect having crossed the finishline. It was indeed a challenge and at times I felt tested and tried - literally but my love for the subject-matter made it an experience worth having.

Having been taught the fundamentals and rudiments of the scientific research process, it has increased my passion for investigating social phenomena. The process in which data are collected, analyzed and interpreted excites me and it is because of this I felt that this programme was right for me. Ultimately, it is my desire to use these skills to contribute to the formulation of good and effective social and economic policy which is key to any society’s development.”

Shari-Ann Henry

My experience at SALISES was inspiring and astounding. First, I was exposed to stalwarts in the field of Policy-making, research and statistics, who opened my eyes to the critical stages surrounding research and statistical analysis. This has helped to boost my confidence level as it relates to how well I utilize applied statistics given the nature of the research problem. Moreover, the majority of my lecturers were amicable and always tried to attend to the problems I faced with specific courses. Furthermore, it is because of this M.Sc. Programme that I intend to pursue a PhD in the near future because it has allowed me to look at social issues differently and how statistics can help to analyze and evaluate these issues. The policy aspect of this degree has helped me to enhance the importance of Policy-making in research especially the stages of policy analysis studied in ‘Policy Analysis and Management. Furthermore, while doing this degree, I was able to be more skeptical with the employment and development statistics published by governmental agencies (especially in cases where governments boast that unemployment has decreased) quarterly and annually. In all of this, the M.Sc. in Development Statistics has taught me the importance of statistics in everyday life.

Sharda Jaggernauth-Thomson

“I first became interested in demographic statistics as a researcher assigned to the Policy Support Section of the Educational Planning Division of the Ministry of Education. I met Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard when the Ministry engaged him to conduct a two-month training session in demographic analysis for educational planning, and I thoroughly enjoyed that experience. When Dr. St. Bernard mentioned the postgraduate degree programme, I knew that this was the path for me.

The Master of Science programme in Development Statistics is a rich one, covering topics in public policy analysis, research methodology and demographic techniques. What I particularly appreciated about the course was the breakdown of demographic and statistical techniques to its basics that a non-mathematician can easily understand and apply to real-life research areas in the public sector. I am now engaged in manpower planning in another government ministry where my new understanding of indirect estimation techniques can be applied to overcome some of the limitations faced with incomplete data.

On a more personal note, I can endorse the programme and staff at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies as being extremely supportive and helpful to students who work full-time. The spacing of the coursework assignments kept the workload challenging yet manageable, and the administrative staff always went the extra mile to assist students whenever necessary. My supervisor was extremely encouraging during a couple of personal setbacks and gave me the guidance to eventually get to the finish line. I am grateful and privileged to be part of the SALISES student alumni.”

J M. John
J M. John graduating class 2013/2014. The M.Sc. programme though challenging has enriched my career experiences and has put me well on the way to achieving my professional goals.

I had the pleasure of working closely with my mentor, Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard for a period of two years as his Research Assistant. To date, I have been employed as a Statistical Officer for a Government agency and continue to work in a supportive capacity on a number of statistical projects requiring technical skills gained in the programme.

Tessa Terri Ann King
“I am very proud of my M.Sc. in Development Statistics and pleased that I had the opportunity to earn this degree at SALISES, UWI. The journey that I had undertaken to fulfil the requirements for the completion of the degree was an exceptionally fine educational experience. The aptitude and the professionalism of the lecturers were exceptional. I am currently a Senior Research Officer. I must apply various aspects of theory and use some techniques that I have learned during my time at SALISES on a daily basis in order to fulfil my supervisory duties and responsibilities. I enthusiastically endorse the M.Sc. in Development Statistics offered by SALISES and everything it stands for.”

Narisha Khan
“In 2009 I enrolled in the M.Sc. in Development Statistics while employed as the Market Research Officer at the Business Development Company. In October 2011, just before formally graduating from the programme I was hired to be the Research and Statistical Manager of the Children’s Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, the first statutory body responsible for establishing and maintaining a child protection system in Trinidad and Tobago. Following this, and since July 2012, I have been the Senior Associate at Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Solutions Limited, “the leading provider of corporate social responsibility (CSR) and sustainability strategy in the English Speaking Caribbean” (CSR Solutions Limited Company Profile).

I enjoyed the programme immensely! Before registering for the programme I had been looking for a post-graduate degree which intimately explored the principles of research methodology and the theoretical basis of statistical analysis, and I felt that the programme answered these needs perfectly. It has given me the confidence to design research studies from the establishment of objectives to the development of reports in a very logical manner, and has also helped in different areas of my professional life. The principles I have learnt (especially with respect to research methodology and survey management) I have been able to apply to daily management tasks such as budgeting and strategic planning. I think that appreciation for research in the country has been growing over the past 5 years, and the programme has fully equipped me to be one of the people who can meet increasing demand.”

Cynthia L. La Fortune
“My first experience with real statistical data was in the 2000 Population and Housing Census. Working in the field and getting a firsthand view of the data collection exercise gave me an appreciation for data and data analysis. Eleven years later I was fortunate to be a member of the 2011 Population and Housing Census Planning and Management team. As a Statistical Analyst on the team my main responsibility was to assist in presenting the data collected to the national community in a manner which would inform public policy and foster evidence-based decision-making among users.

One of the most sought after reports generated from census data is the Demographic Report. The 2011 Demographic Report was released in February 2013 and was hailed as one of the best in relation to its content and analysis. The knowledge and training I received from pursuing the M.Sc. in Development Statistics made my contribution to this report much more significant. In fact, some of the items introduced which were related to different aspects of population dynamics were inspired by topics taught in the courses on Demographic Techniques I have absolutely no regrets that I made the choice to pursue this programme.”
Stephanie Lézama-Rogers

"After pursuing a Bachelors in Sociology, my passion for Statistical Research Methodology grew to an extent that I decided I wanted to have a better understanding of it. I got into the Development Statistics Master’s programme at SALISES because the programme was diverse as it offered a variety of courses from Research Methods, Applied Statistics, Policy Analysis and Monitoring and Evaluation that met my career objectives. This programme gave me the competency to solve quantitative and qualitative problems using Statistical Analysis and Policy Tools. I realized that having a M.Sc. in Development Statistics was an invaluable resource in my current and future goals and the assistance from the supportive professors in the SALISES Department has proven to be not only an academic tool but a source of guidance. The professors were extremely accessible - whether you want to chat about a particular issue that came up in class, or to have a more concentrated talk about assessment and assignments. Most of the classes had clear practical applications, and I was often able to use them in my job as soon as I learned them. The program was also accommodating to those like me who have a daytime job since the course is offered in the afternoon. The flexible course schedule provided me with an opportunity to complete the program. For anyone who is interested in any work involving Statistics, Monitoring and Evaluation and Policy Development I would highly recommend this programme."

Sinovia Moonie

"I currently work as a Research Assistant with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). The Master’s programme complemented my work statistics background and also provided the requisite exposure in social and demographic research that I needed to improve my proficiency in research and analysis. The programme content was relevant to my current needs and highly suitable for my future work in development and demography in the region. Though the actual experience of studying with SALISES was challenging at times it proved very rewarding in the end, not only in terms of the knowledge gained and skills developed but even more importantly the interactions and exposure that we were afforded."

Victor Mlambo

"After graduating with an M.Sc. in Development Statistics from SALISES in 2012, I expanded my research activities to incorporate agricultural and rural development studies using newly acquired survey research, as well as monitoring and evaluation skills. I also sit on the Technical Committee of the Nguni Cattle Project in the North-West Province of South Africa. The objective of the Nguni Cattle Project is to improve food security and income in resource-poor families through the provision of Nguni heifers and bulls. I advise on designing, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Nguni Cattle Project."

Kereen Olivier

“A graduate from The University of the West Indies (UWI) of the Master of Science in Development Statistics (2012), successful completion of the programme was made possible through much hard work, dedication and determination. Since then, I have been fortunate to continue my association with my Alma Mata as a member of the UWI employee fraternity. My position in the Faculty of Science and Technology allows me to apply my statistical knowledge to aspects of my duties. Development Statistics is a rapidly growing field and contributes to the region’s social, economic and political growth. The road ahead is indeed an exciting one as I do not intend to stop at the M.Sc. level. My experience in SALISES (Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies) has driven me to pursue my M.Phil/Ph.D in the near future.”
Laverne Parks

“I graduated from the programme in 2009 and I am currently employed as a Senior Crime Analyst. My job deals with the collection, collation, analysis and dissemination of crime statistics in Trinidad and Tobago. The M.Sc. in Development Statistics is a well-rounded programme which enhanced my overall appreciation of official statistics and it has prepared me for managing data effectively. This programme can be applied to various fields of employment and I have found that this degree immediately widens your job market. I am very pleased to have chosen this programme.”

Natalia Parris

“Success has always been a main goal in my life and in order to fulfil this goal I knew it was essential for me to enter a field that I am passionate about. Fittingly, statistics and research became my passion and I selected and enrolled in the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme in the St. Augustine Campus in September 2014 after having identified the desire to target and further my studies in the area of development statistics. Prior to entering the M.Sc. programme, I obtained a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics from UWI and worked as a Pensions Technician at Sagicor Life Inc. Barbados, being on the team responsible for the calculation and payment of benefits to companies and individuals insured with Sagicor.

I truly enjoyed the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme. At times, it became intense and demanding but in the end, very rewarding. The structure of the programme was very in line with my career goals and objectives, and I believe it really mould you into becoming the “perfect” statistician. SALISES became my home away from home for the duration of the year-long programme. Warm, welcoming and friendly staff and facilitators made it their interest to ensure that everyone was comfortable, challenged and successful with the programme. Once hard-working and determined to succeed, this degree programme provides a structured, thought-provoking and challenging time in a student-oriented and rewarding environment.

Daneille Marshall-Piper

My name is Daneille Marshall-Piper and I began the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme in 2011. After having completed a Bachelor’s degree in Education (Mathematics Specialization) at another University, I was searching for a M.Sc. programme that would further enhance my qualifications. With the registration deadline approaching, I decided upon the Master of Science in Statistics programme and awaited confirmation of whether I would be accepted or not. Some months later while reading the newspaper, I saw that there was an advertisement for persons to apply for scholarships for certain programmes and the M.Sc. in Development Statistics was one of them. I had never heard of such a programme so I immediately tried to find out about what it entailed. When I found out that it was not a pure statistics programme but rather a REAL WORLD APPLICATION of statistics, I called Graduate Studies immediately and was able to change my application to the Development Statistics programme. I have not regretted that decision. As a working wife and mother, there was a tedious balance to ensure that I attended classes regularly and completed assignments on time. Thankfully, I was able to do so. The small, intimate class sizes and the comraderie among students certainly helped me to cope and perform creditably. The office staff, namely Sheldon Warner and Francine Alleyne are true gems who always made me feel welcomed and encouraged. Even though this programme can be strenuous, it is also very rewarding. I was offered a job even before I had officially completed it because employers have already recognized the benefit of having an employee who has done this programme. The lecturers, in particular Dr. St. Bernard, have sufficiently prepared me for a field that I have grown to love and enjoy and if I decide to do a PhD, I would certainly return to SALISES.”
Vincent Ramlochan

“The M.Sc. in Development Statistics is by far one of the most intense and comprehensive Master's programmes offered by The University of the West Indies. What made this program appealing to me is how it goes beyond the theory of statistics and provided students with hands-on practical approach to statistics that is needed in the working world. I am currently working as a Research Officer at ExporTT which falls under the umbrella of the Ministry of Trade Industry and Investments.

The programme equipped me with detail and comprehensive knowledge of survey design and research methodologies that assist me daily in carrying out my working activities such as designing and implementing of surveys targeted to the non-energy manufacturing sector.”

Dindial Ramrattan

Mr. Ramrattan is currently working at the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago as an Economist in the Research Department. The mix of an undergraduate degree in Economics with a minor in International Relations and a M.Sc. in Development Statistics has provided him with both an appreciation for the various processes associated with monitoring and reporting on socio-economic conditions within the country.

Thus far, he has published articles in the World Journal Series on the topics of health and also, the female participation in the labour force. Further, Mr. Ramrattan has also presented work featured in the Central Bank’s working paper series. In addition, some of his work also focuses on inflation, agriculture and activities within the real sector. The demographic specialization allows for the use of projection techniques to forecast population dynamics for future years.

Michael Reid

“I have been a Research Officer in the Public Service from 1989. When I started the programme I was the Senior Research Officer in the Ministry of the People and Social Development. I felt that I needed to upgrade my skills in research to enhance my competency. The Master of Science in Development Statistics has provided me with the tools necessary to lead my Unit in conducting sound research and I am able to share my knowledge to build the team. I am able to critically assess research studies commissioned by my Ministry and work along with consultants to get the best results for the Ministry. I am now serving in the capacity of Director, Disability Affairs Unit of the Ministry.

The lecturers were well qualified practitioners in the areas they taught. This allowed them to share from experience and make the learning meaningful. The standard of work demanded at this level is high, but though the programme was challenging at times, there was support from faculty and peers to help me through. Dr. St. Bernard has always been encouraging and has a desire to see his students succeed.

The programme met my expectations by providing a wide range of courses that covered areas such as development theory, policy formulation and management and monitoring and evaluation that would benefit me in my career. I would recommend this programme to anyone who is interested in a career in research or social development, whether locally or internationally.”
Atala Sinnerine

“I always had a passion for Survey Research and the Master of Science in Development Statistics offered the opportunity for me to enhance my knowledge in this area. The programme is a rigorous one with its many projects as well as courses based on theory and statistics; however, it is a worthwhile experience.

While enrolled in this programme, I gained hands-on experience in the collection of primary data, writing research papers and also acquired the skill to use the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) to analyse data. Therefore, I am confident that I can apply the knowledge and skills I gained from this programme in the field of Survey Research. I recommend this programme to anyone who has an interest in Survey Research because of the benefits it offers with reference to knowledge, skills and experience.”

Marina Smith

“When I started the programme in 2008, I did not know what to expect. In the final analysis, it has proven to be an enlightening, relevant and invaluable experience.

It is evident that the programme coordinator puts great thought and effort into the selection of lecturers for course delivery. They are a high cadre of well qualified individuals with experience in their field.

The additional guest lectures serve to strengthen a student’s understanding as well as heighten their appreciation of the course content of the various modules. I think the programme would be enhanced if students could be afforded the opportunity for short term placements in organizations for the purpose of gaining practical experience.

Prior to my participation in the programme, my teaching was limited to introductory statistics in undergraduate programmes. Now I am capable of assisting students at the Master’s level with their research papers and have done such with successful outcomes.”

Maxine Williams-Daniel

“I was awarded a Master of Science Degree in the field of Development Statistics, with a specialization in Social and Demographic Statistics in the year 2011.

Pursuing this programme was a tremendous experience for me. Not only have I gained valuable knowledge, but I have also received first hand training in some of the tools needed to become a successful demographer in the future.

Although new, the programme was also organized in a systematic way that saw the professional delivery of courses.

I owe my success to the professional and highly knowledgeable lecturers who were ever willing to share their time and expertise with me.

I would recommend anyone who wishes to pursue a postgraduate degree, to choose a SALISES programme as I did.”
Nicole Williams

“I entered the M.Sc. in Development Statistics in SALISES to improve my skills in evaluating development programmes. Having been involved in humanitarian work for over 15 years, I wanted to be able to assess whether these programs were beyond good intentions with anecdotal successes; and that such initiatives delivered substantive results.

This M.Sc. went beyond the evaluation skills I sought. The policy and development courses provided the context. These courses revealed great understanding into the development of current Caribbean circumstance. The professional mix of UWI and senior public servant lecturers, made the course theoretically strong, but practical. The statistical courses went beyond anticipated “number crunching”; Qualitative research techniques were also shared and advocated. Some of the course material and the relatively short time-frame were difficult, but persevering with the course was extremely worthwhile.

The knowledge and skills I obtained are now integral to the research work and project proposals I complete for international humanitarian organisations. Critical to the work are the constant questions of; how to measure social change in the proposal, how to provide evidence that this program is working (or not) and therefore, how can the initiative be improved? For me, the UWI SALISES M.Sc. in Development Statistics provided the substance to help resolve these questions.”

Keren Wilson

As a Monitoring and Evaluation Officer with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), Keren Wilson shares the responsibility for reinforcing monitoring and evaluation systems in the Caribbean. This is carried out through the facilitation of M&E training and the delivery of ongoing M&E capacity development strategies through the provision of technical assistance in survey research methodology, data analysis and report generation to Ministries of Health, National AIDS Programmes and Civil Society Organizations in CARPHA’s member countries.

“The M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme has helped me to find my professional niche. It has equipped me with the tools necessary to excel in the M&E profession and make a contribution to the performance of regional public health systems; all of this through promoting and endorsing the important role of strategic information in efficient and effective programme management.”
LECTURERS OF M.Sc. IN DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS PROGRAMME

Patrick K Watson
Professor of Applied Economics and Director at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social & Economic Studies of the University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, Trinidad and Tobago. He holds Master’s and Doctoral degrees in Mathematical Economics and Econometrics from the Université de Paris I (Panthéon-Sorbonne) and a Bachelor of Commerce degree, with Accounting as a principal subject, from the University of Leeds. He specializes, and is widely published in, empirical studies related to the Caribbean Economy, in particular in the areas of economic modelling, money and finance and climate change. He currently serves as Chairman of the Trinidad & Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission and as member of the Board of Directors of the International Organization of Securities Commissions.

Godfrey St. Bernard
Dr. Godfrey St. Bernard is a Senior Fellow in the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. Between 1980 and 1987, he worked as a statistician in the Central Statistical Office (CSO) in Trinidad and Tobago and was responsible for the production of social and vital statistics published by the CSO.

He obtained a B.A Mathematics and Economics (1980) from The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine and M.A Sociology (1989) and Ph.D. Social Demography (1993) from the University of Western Ontario. He was the recipient of two prestigious fellowships that permitted him to complete his post-graduate studies at the University of Western Ontario – a CIDA/CELADE Fellowship (1987-1991) and a Population Council Fellowship during 1991-1992.

His current academic interests include problems akin to population and development, applied statistical analysis, research methodology, evaluation research and social policy. His current research interests focus upon children and youth, population policy and dynamics in the Circum-Caribbean, violence prevention and safety promotion, vulnerability and resilience in small states, return migration and the measurement of social phenomena.

Dr. St. Bernard is the co-author of one book entitled Behind the Bridge – Power, Politics and Patronage in
Laventille, Trinidad (1997) and a monograph entitled Adult Literacy in Trinidad and Tobago - A Study of the Findings of the National Literacy Survey 1995. In 1996, he authored yet another monograph 1990-1991 Population and Housing Census of the Commonwealth Caribbean - National Census Report: St. Lucia. Since 1994, Dr. St. Bernard has authored numerous scholarly studies that have appeared in peer-reviewed journals, chapters in edited books and in a variety of formats in other academic media. He has also been the author of a number of technical papers.

As a demographer/statistician and survey research specialist, Dr. St. Bernard has worked as a consultant on a wide array of projects locally, regionally and internationally. He has travelled globally and presented papers at conferences on every continent. During the period 2006-2009, he was instrumental as a co-leader of a CARICOM Project that trained in excess of 100 Caribbean statisticians and senior research professionals in the use of formal demographic techniques for analyzing census and sample survey data.

In 2012-2013, he was the President of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) and continues to serve the CSA sharing his experience with its membership. Dr. St. Bernard is also a member of a number of other prestigious professional associations including the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), International Sociological Association (ISA) and Population Association of America (PAA). Currently, he is the Chairperson of the SALISES Cluster on Population and Sustainable Development and continues to serve as an allied researcher in other SALISES Clusters including those on Youth Development and Sustainable Rural and Agricultural Development.

Having been primarily responsible for the establishment of the M.Sc in Development Statistics offered in the SALISES, Dr. St. Bernard continues to serve as the Coordinator of that programme. He teaches Research Methodology and Applied Social Statistics in SALISES and a number of other department across the St. Augustine Campus of The University of the West Indies. In addition to sitting on a number of doctoral examination committees, he has successfully supervised two doctoral candidates and more than 50 candidates who read for their Master’s degrees. With respect to public service, he has served and continues to serve on a number of Cabinet-Appointed Committees and Technical Advisory Groups in Trinidad and Tobago.

Corin Bailey
Dr. Bailey is a Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies on the Cave Hill Campus. He obtained his PhD in Social Geography in 2004 also from the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. The thesis was entitled Crime and Social Exclusion in the Kingston Metropolitan Area. His current academic interests include issues relating to Caribbean youth with special interest in youth and crime. Dr. Bailey’s teaching includes qualitative research methods and deviance.

Hyacinth Blake
Ms. Hyacinth Blake commenced work as a part time lecturer with SALISES in September 2014. She currently teaches the Development Theory and Policy Course (SALI6010) for the M.Sc. in Development Statistics Programme. Ms. Blake has over fifteen years’ experience as a tutor, lecturer and course coordinator at the tertiary level and has engaged with students nationally, regionally and internationally. More specifically, she has taught the following courses: the Organization and Management of the Social Services (2003-2007) and Social Policy Analysis (2004-2007) at The University of the West Indies (part-time lecturer), Social Policy and Social Divisions at the University of Sheffield (2010), Introduction to Sociology, Introduction to Social Sciences, and Survey Design and Analysis as an etutor and Course Coordinator at the University of the West Indies Open campus (2004-2005; 2008-2013) and as a face-to-face tutor at the Mona campus (2000-2002). Ms. Blake also served as a Master Tutor for the UWI Open Campus tutor-training course entitled Managing and Facilitating Online Instruction (2012-2013).

Ms. Blake is currently employed as the Senior Research and Policy officer with the Research Policy and Planning Unit at the Ministry of Justice (2012 to present). Prior to commencing her PhD studies with the University of Sheffield, she worked as a Policy Development Officer with the Ministry of Social Development (2003 to 2008). Thus, she has over seven years’ experience as a policy expert and has represented Trinidad and Tobago internationally at several policy-related fora including: the World Bank & OAS Technical Consultation on Policy Challenges for Social Development in the Region, Paraguay, June 4th – 6th, 2008; World Family Policy Forum, Brigham Young University, Utah, July 9th – 11th, 2007; World Family Summit +2, Jordan, December 5th – 7th, 2006; EU-LAC Conference on Social Cohesion, Belgium, March 27th – 28th, 2006; and the United Nations Commission on Social Development, New York, February 12th, 2005.
She has utilized her international experience to inform her courses and organized a guest lecture for her SALI6010 course with renowned development studies expert – Ms. Ankie Hoogvelt in November 2014 via Skype. Ms. Blake is expected to complete her PhD studies with the University of Sheffield in June 2015.

Dave Clement

Mr. Dave Clement is a guest lecturer in The Elements of Official Statistics Course in the Master of Science in Development Statistics. Mr. Clement retired as Director of Statistics at the Central Statistical Office of Trinidad and Tobago after 38 years’ experience in official statistics. Mr. Clement’s qualifications include a B.Sc. Degree in Economics from The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine; a Post-graduate Diploma in National Economic Accounting from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis and an M.B.A from Andrews University, Michigan, U.S.A.

Mr. Clement worked as a Consultant Statistician to the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands from 1999 – 2003, where he was responsible for re-establishing a functioning statistical service and was the Census Officer responsible for co-ordinating the planning and conduct of the 2011 Population and Housing Census.

Talia Esnard

Dr. Esnard earned her B.Sc. (First Class Honours) and Ph.D Sociology from The University of the West Indies. Since then, she has lectured several development courses at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Trinidad and Tobago. Her primary research interests include gender and entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial attitudes and intentions, mothering and entrepreneurship, and educational leadership

Melissa Felician

A Ph.D. candidate at the Pardee RAND Graduate School and an assistant policy analyst at RAND. She holds Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Economics from The University of the West Indies, and certificates for graduate-level training in statistics and quantitative data analysis from the University of Michigan. Before going to PRGS, she worked as a development economist for a Caribbean consulting firm, where she designed and conducted research on a range of social policy issues, including poverty reduction, climate change, education, disaster risk reduction, and social security reform. Her experience spans several English-speaking Caribbean countries, including Antigua and Barbuda, the Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. Over the last seven years, she has authored and contributed to more than a dozen published documents for clients within the United Nations (UN) System, the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), and the Department for International Development (DFiD) in the United Kingdom.

Linda Hewitt

Demographer/Statistician/Research Consultant

Special Research Interest:
Human Capital Investment and Development

Teaching and Research Areas of Interest:
Analysis of Population and Housing Census and Sample Survey Data, Design of Data Collection Instruments e.g. (Trinidad and Tobago Survey of Living Conditions 2014 and 2005), and Several OECS Countries (World Bank Poverty Assessment Project-2005), Current Part-Time Lecturer, Methods of Economic Investigation, Department of Economics, UWI, St Augustine, Monitoring and Evaluation-UWI SALISES Master’s in Development Statistics;

Membership-Professional Associations
• Elected Member, International Statistical Institute (ISI), Voorburg, The Netherlands
• Past Council Member International Association of Survey Statisticians (IASS)-2005-2007
• Past Vice President-(IASS)-2007-2011
• Member-International Association of Statistics Education (IASE)
Marsha Hinds-Layne
Marsha Hinds-Layne has created a praxis between lecturing and researching issues in sociolinguistics and communication and working in various media houses across Barbados and the Caribbean. She has worked at various media houses over the years, including CBU, CANA and Voice of Barbados. She currently writes a column on women’s issues for the Barbados Today newspaper. Hinds-Layne’s current research interests are communication in the Caribbean doctor/patient relationships, creating Caribbean intellectual histories and communication for other specialized Caribbean professionals. Hinds-Layne developed and lectures the module in communication for statisticians for SALISES, St. Augustine as well as the introduction to doctor-patient communication for first year medical students at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus. She is an ABD PhD candidate in intellectual history at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus and a full-time mother of four.

Madgerie Jameson-Charles
Dr. Madgerie Jameson-Charles is a holder of a Bachelor of Science in Psychology (The University of the West Indies), a Master of Education, Education for Employment (University of Sheffield, U.K.) and a PhD in Education, Learning and Instruction in Higher Education (University of Otago, New Zealand). She is a Certified Hospitality Department Trainer from the Education International, American Hotel and Lodging.

She lecturers at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus, School of Education in Fundamentals of Education Research, Educational Psychology, Cognition and Learning and Health and Family Life Education. She is the Coordinator of the Master of Arts programme in Technical Vocational Education and Leadership. She is an adjunct lecturer in Organisational Behaviour and Development at the Arthur Lock Jack School of Business.

Her research interests are teacher education and professional development; high stakes testing; youth guidance, empowerment and development; education for employment; making transitions; organisational development; and learning and instruction in higher education.

Samantha John
Dr. Samantha V John is a part-time Lecturer at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago. She attained her B.Sc. in Demography in 2003 and her M.Sc. in Demography in 2009, both from The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus. She received her Ph.D. in Applied Demography from the University of Texas, San Antonio in 2012.

She lectures on Demographic Techniques in the M.Sc. in Development Statistics programme at SALISES. Her in current academic interests include health demography, community development, and vulnerable populations.

She has worked as the programme officer for monitoring and evaluation at the HIV Secretariat, Ministry of Health. Her past working experience has also traversed other public sector units, the private sector, and academia in the area of health and social research.
Asha Kambon
Dr. Asha Kambon is a researcher and public policy expert, with over forty years of experience working at the national, regional and international levels. Her work has focused on Disaster Risk Reduction, as an Assessor and Trainer for the World Bank and the UNDG. Her most recent assignments were as, Post Disaster Needs Assessment (PDNA) Consultant, India (ADPC, 2014); Lead Trainer and Resource person for the development of the PDNA methodology (UNDG, 2013-2014), and Lead Technical Trainer PDNA Methodology, Samoa (SPC, 2014). Dr. Kambon concluded her international civil service career, as Regional Adviser for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), with just under twenty years with the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, (ECLAC) in June 2011.

Among Dr. Kambon’s accomplishments is the coordination of macro socio-economic assessments of disasters and the conduct of same, as part of ECLAC teams and joint international teams for countries in the Caribbean and Latin America. Dr. Kambon was part of the team of the early developers of the assessment methodology, with special focus on its application to the Social Dimension of Disasters and to SIDS. Dr. Kambon has acted as both Lead Trainer and Assessor for the World Bank, Pacific Region and Africa Region and in capacity building in the implementation of the PDNA methodology for the UNDG. As part of her early United Nations career, Ms Kambon had the privilege of assisting in the drafting of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women, convened in Beijing, China, under the direction of the Assistant Secretary General, Ms. Gertrude Mongella.

Elizabeth Lloyd
Elizabeth Lloyd is a Sociologist by training with a specialization in Health. She has fifteen (15) years of experience in science & technology as well as HIV/AIDS monitoring and evaluation. Eleven (11) of these years were with the Caribbean Health Research Council and subsequently the Caribbean Public Health Agency. Ms. Lloyd currently has responsibility for strengthening Caribbean M&E systems through the development of M&E training approaches and strategies. She leads a five (5) member team of M&E technicians in the development of M&E capacity of Ministries of Health, National AIDS Programmes and Civil Society Organizations. She is well respected for her M&E knowledge and ability to impart practical monitoring as well as evaluation techniques and strategies to stakeholders. Her work includes the conduct of M&E Programme Evaluations; M&E System Assessments; the development of M&E Frameworks and M&E Plans to guide the development of national M&E systems. She has also worked on the development of a number of notable M&E documents that are in use throughout the region. These include the Caribbean Indicators and Measurement Tool for the evaluation of National AIDS Programmes (CIMT document), the Basic and Advanced Monitoring and Evaluation Training Manuals. Ms. Lloyd is deeply committed to strengthening the region’s capacity to track, report and utilize data for improved programme management and strengthening the research to policy link. She is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Public Health.
Roy McCree
Dr. Roy McCree is a Fellow in the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

He attained a B.A. Degree (French, Spanish, Sociology) in 1986 and his M.Sc. in Sociology in 1995, both from The University of the West Indies, Trinidad, where he has worked since 1987. He received his Ph.D. in Sociology of Sport in 2005 from Leicester University, United Kingdom.

He joined the SALISES in 1991 and has been Research Fellow since 1996. He is presently the Editor of the Caribbean Dialogue, published by the SALISES and has held this position since 1995. He has lectured in several sociology courses and now serves as lecturer in the Sociology of Sport, Sport Policy and Public Policy.

His special research interests include Sport (athletic migration, professionalization, sport media, identity formation, sport participation, sport policy), Sport Patrice Parris-Searles

Dr. Patrice Parris-Searles holds a Ph.D. in Sociology from The University of the West Indies. Her research interest lies in the area of educational sociology, with an emphasis on youth participation, engagement and development within the education and training arenas.

Presently, she has worked as the Manager, Policy, Research and Planning at the Ministry of Gender, Youth and Child Development.

Dr.Parris-Searles possesses over fifteen years of experience in the area of social and academic research. As such, she has authored a number of academic papers. Dr. Parris-Searles has also strong competencies and experiences in social policy development and review.

Iwan Sno
Iwan Sno has over 26 years’ experience (with progressively more responsibilities) in Official Statistics. Since January 1995, Mr. Sno has been in charge of the General Bureau of Statistics of Suriname; from 1995 to 1999 as its Acting Director and since 2000, he has been its Director.

Mr. Sno is married and is the proud father of two. Mr. Sno has a Diploma in Mathematics (1986) from the Institute for Advanced Teacher Training in Suriname, an Advanced Degree (Drs.) in Sociology (1988, Cum Laude Graduate from the University of Suriname), as well as a M.Sc. in Demography (1994) from London School of Economics and Political Science in the UK. Between 1988 and 2009, Mr. Sno lectured part-time inter alia at the University of Suriname and the Institute for Advanced Teacher Training. He has participated in various (1 week to 4 months) Statistics and Management short courses, workshops and training sessions inter alia in the USA, Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, Chile and the CARICOM Region.

Since 1997, Iwan Sno is an active participant in the meetings of the Standing Committee of Caribbean Statisticians (SCCS) and from 2001 he has been a member of several CARICOM Advisory Groups dealing with statistical matters. Currently Mr. Sno is Chairman of the CARICOM Advisory Group on Statistics. Iwan Sno was one of the four representatives for Latin America and the Caribbean in the UN Statistical Commission (UNSC) for the period 2009-2012, and served on the UNSC Bureau during 2009-2010 as Vice Chair and as Rapporteur. Iwan A. Sno is a member of the British Society for Population Studies (BSPS, since 1994), of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP, since 2000), of the American Statistical Association (ASA, since 2010), and an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute (ISI, since July 2014). Iwan Sno is also Vice President of the Caribbean Association of Professional Statisticians (CAPS, since May 2014). In January 2012, Mr. Sno was made a Commander in the Honorary Order of the Palm of the Republic of Suriname for services rendered to the National Statistical System of Suriname for over 20 years. Since 2012, Mr. Sno contributes to the M.Sc. in Development Statistics of The University of the West Indies (UWI), by lecturing part-time on the course Elements of Official Statistics.
Sandra Sookram
Dr. Sandra Sookram is a Fellow at the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.

She attained both her B.Sc. and M.Sc. Degrees (Economics) from The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine in 1997 and 2001, respectively. She received her Ph.D. in Economics in 2005 from The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, and spent one year at Leicester University as part of a split-site Ph.D. programme.

She joined the SALISES in 2005 as a Research Fellow. She has lectured several economic courses and has served as a lecturer in Economic Development Policy in SALISES.

Her current research interests include poverty, the informal economy, occupational segregation and trade liberalization

David Thomas
B.A. Statistics (Specialization); M.Sc. in Statistics – Concordia University, Montreal Canada.

A Statistician and Consulting Survey Statistician; part-time lecturer in Development Statistics at SALISES.

Mr. Thomas led the conduct of research projects at the UWI-FDCRC from 2010 to 2012.

He has planned and designed the Post-Evaluation Survey (PES) of Trinidad and Tobago Population and Housing Census (2011); and analysed the results.

Mr. Thomas has had over thirty years working experience with the Central Statistical Office of Trinidad and Tobago in planning and conducting household and business establishment surveys. He has been given the responsibility for revising and implementing the current CSSP Labour Force Survey sampling design and conducting labour force surveys. Mr. Thomas has also conducted consultancy services in Labour Force Statistics for National Statistical Institutions in OECS countries. He has represented the Central Statistical Office at international conferences and participated in the standardization and harmonization of methodological concepts and frameworks of social and economic processes of International Statistical Institutions.

Mr. Thomas co-ordinated the UNICEF’s Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys for Trinidad and Tobago End-Decade 2000, Mid-Decade 2005 and produced statistical tables for the Country’s Reports on the status of women and children for End-Decade 2000, Mid-Decade 2005 and End-Decade 2010.
In Memoriam
Dennis Brown

Dr. Dennis Brown was born in Jamaica on 7th April, 1950. After completing his secondary schooling at Jamaica College and attended The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus where he studied Sociology.

After a brief stint with the Government in the Ministry of Social Security, he acquired a truck and moved to the rural countryside, in St. Mary, where he farmed and transported country folk to and from the market where they sold their produce. He eventually moved to Kingston where he continued these activities.

The call of academia eventually encouraged his return to the UWI to engage in postgraduate work. He obtained his Master’s in Demography under Professor George Roberts and then went on to the Consortium Graduate School of Social Sciences in the Mona Campus, earning his doctorate in 1993.

Dr. Brown worked as a Consultant in several areas of Social Development before working at the Planning Institute of Jamaica where he served as the Head of the Social Policy Unit. Thereafter he migrated with his family to Trinidad to take up an appointment as lecturer at The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus.

He served in this position until the time of his death on January 8, 2014.

Dennis never lost his passion for social justice and as a professional developed a keen interest in the area of Poverty. He did extensive research on the poor in the English-speaking Caribbean and British dependencies in collaboration with Kairi Consultancy. His published work in this area as well as on International Migration and earned some measure of international repute. As a scholar in the area of Social Development, Dr. Brown had a deep understanding of sociological theory which he applied to all of his research.

Dennis was also a passionate teacher and is best remembered for his attempt to instil high standards in the work produced by his students. In the closing years of his professional life, illness forced him to curtail a lot of his professional activities, but nonetheless, he continued to teach, write and publish until shortly before his passing. Dennis was also a kind, attentive father, who tried to instil what he felt to be the correct values in his children's lives. He was truly committed to the Caribbean Region and to the idea of regional integration.
ADMISSION PROCEDURES
Apply directly via the website http://sta.uwi.edu/postgrad/

CONTACT INFORMATION
ACADEMIC CO-ORDINATOR
Dr Godfrey St Bernard
1(868) 662-2002 Ext. 82148
Godfrey.stbernard@sta.uwi.edu

SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Sheldon M. Warner
1(868) 662-2002 Ext. 82394
Sheldon.warner@sta.uwi.edu or salises@sta.uwi.edu
Website: http://sta.uwi.edu/salises

Throughput of the M.Sc. Development Statistics

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Cohort</th>
<th>Number of Applicants</th>
<th>Number Rejected</th>
<th>Number Registered</th>
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Throughput Rate 2008-2016 = 61.3%
## Projected Throughput for 2008-2016

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Projected Throughput Rate by September 2016 = 90.6%

## Non-Trinidad and Tobago Applicants

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**Note:** The figures in parenthesis relate to the number of prospective graduates by the end of the 2015/2016 academic year. JH indicates that a graduate from the respective country was the recipient of the Jack Harewood Award of Excellence.
Student Engagement
M.Sc. Graduates - Development Statistics

- Students have had opportunities to participate and support relevant research interventions
- Students are encouraged to attend Annual Conferences of SALISES
- Students have had opportunities to assist SALISES Faculty in various research activities
- Students have had opportunities for apprenticeship and on the job training
- Students have collaborated with supervisors and presented formal academic research papers in conferences
  - Caribbean Studies Association
  - CARPHA
  - CARICOM Research Seminars
  - SALISES Annual Conferences
  - Population Association of America

Career Paths After Graduation
M.Sc. Graduates - Development Statistics

- Graduate students have been obtaining really good jobs and being promoted in their respective workplaces
  - Public sector departments (including National Statistical Offices)
  - UWI – Office of the Campus Principal
  - UWI Planning and Development
  - Arthur Lok Jack Graduate School of Business, Trinidad and Tobago
  - Telecommunications Services Trinidad and Tobago (Senior Management) – 2 graduates
  - Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago – 2 graduates
  - CARICOM Secretariat – 1 graduate
  - United Nations ECLAC in Port of Spain – 1 graduate
  - UNDP Volunteers – 1 graduate
  - Tertiary education – South Africa – 1 graduate,
  - U.S Center for Disease Control and Prevention - 1 graduate
  - Doctoral studies
  - Entrepreneurial Ventures – Online Statistical Tuition
  - Entrepreneurial Ventures – Fashion

Jack Harewood
Former Director 1970 – 1985

Jack Harewood, was born in San Fernando, Trinidad. He was educated at the London School of Economics between 1949 and 1952, where he gained his B. Sc. in Economics. His special subject was Statistics, including Social Statistics and Demography. His postgraduate work included three months of training in Sampling at Rothamstead Experimental Station in England, and a six month period of special work in Demography at Chicago University.

Upon returning home, Mr Harewood served as Assistant Government Statistician for Trinidad and Tobago during the 1957-1968 period and Associate Director, Census Research Programme at The University of the West Indies during the 1968-1970 period. He was appointed to the post of Associate Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), St. Augustine in 1970. Mr Jack Harewood had travelled widely and on several occasions attended prestigious conferences such as the World Population Conference in Belgrade and those convened by the International Statistical Institute and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population.

During his illustrious and distinguished career he authored a monograph entitled; The Population of Trinidad and Tobago, the CICRED Series, 1975. He was also the author of several other monographs, journal articles and chapters in edited texts. Mr. Harewood was also engaged in a number of technical studies that included directing and writing numerous reports and papers associated with the World Fertility Surveys and the Population and Housing Censuses in the Anglophone Caribbean.

The Jack Harewood Award
Most Outstanding Student Master’s in Development Statistics

2009  Laverne Parks
2011  Claire Moolchan
2012  Victor Mlambo
2013  Sinovia Moonie
2014  Sharda Jagernauth-Thomson
2015  Natalia Parris
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>Title of Research Paper</th>
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<td>Alleyne, Oswald</td>
<td>Condom self efficacy and risky sex among out-of-school youth in Guyana: the importance of HIV knowledge in reducing risky sexual activity</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 4, 2015</td>
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<td>Berkley, Melissa</td>
<td>Status offending behaviour in teenage girls in the community of Diego Martin</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>June 29, 2012</td>
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<td>Bazil, David</td>
<td>An exploration of voter intention in Chaguanas East Trinidad</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 6, 2011</td>
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<td>Bernard, Satesha</td>
<td>The generation gap; multi-generations at work in service industries in Trinidad</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<td>Best-Downes, Taresa</td>
<td>Religion affiliation and fertility; a demographic report on religious affiliation of females and fertility in Trinidad and Tobago.</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>September 26, 2014</td>
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<td>Boochoon, Leandra</td>
<td>Poverty in households headed by elderly females, the case of St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 7, 2015</td>
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<td>Bristol, Jaime</td>
<td>Teacher perceptions of special education training, support and intervention</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 4, 2015</td>
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<td>Brown, Linn</td>
<td>Changing demographics and the implications for labour supply: the case of St Lucia 2020-2040</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 4, 2015</td>
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<td>Burris, Kerry-Ann</td>
<td>The impact of education on fertility behaviours and fertility outcomes of women of reproductive ages in Jamaica in the era of fertility decline</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 3, 2013</td>
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<td>Carter-Rennie, Derryn</td>
<td>Natural disaster and population growth in Montserrat- a review of Hurricane Hugo and the Soufriere hills volcanic eruptions</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>October 9, 2011</td>
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<td>Chadband, Cindy</td>
<td>Age sex and age-sex trends in cardiovascular disease mobility</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<td>Chadee, Sterling</td>
<td>User satisfaction with the quality of statistical products from the central statistical office</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>September 10, 2015</td>
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<td>Cockburn, Stephen</td>
<td>An investigation into the relationship between examination anxiety during and academic performance at undergraduate level at The University of the West Indies, St Augustine.</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
<td>September 26, 2013</td>
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<td>Copeland, Carla</td>
<td>Time management and academic performance: a study of social sciences students at the University of the Southern Caribbean</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Name</td>
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<td>Cuffie, Donnel</td>
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<td>Deane, Kira</td>
<td>Socioeconomic status and reported health; a study about hypertension in the Barbados population</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<td>Duncan, Anisa</td>
<td>Measuring civic engagement in the young adults and the extent of their use of the internet as an outlet to express political voice</td>
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<td>Forde, Janelle</td>
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<td>Gibson, Dana</td>
<td>Revenue generation, human resource capacity and their impact on service delivery – the case of NGOs in the San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation</td>
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<td>Harripersad, Dane</td>
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<td>Henry, Shari-Ann</td>
<td>Sustainable housing in Jamaica: a temporal analysis of spatial in equalities</td>
<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<td>John, J Mercia</td>
<td>Perception of the media and the delivery of justice with reference to petty crime. The case of crime watch</td>
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<td>Jaggernauth-Thomson, Sharda</td>
<td>Demographic analysis of the full registration register of National Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago for the period 1970-2011</td>
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<td>Khan, Narisha</td>
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<td>King, Tessa</td>
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<td>La Fortune, Cynthia</td>
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<td>Lezama-Rogers, Stephanie</td>
<td>Organizational justice: nepotism and its impact on employees behaviour within three labour intensive tertiary level educational institutions in the east/west corridor of Trinidad</td>
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<td>Parks, Laverne</td>
<td>Job-seeking experiences of gate beneficiaries: a study of graduates of The University of the West Indies, Mona campus</td>
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<td>Parris, Natalia</td>
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<td>Dr Godfrey St Bernard</td>
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<td>Ms Elizabeth Lloyd</td>
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