



IN MEMORIAM

The Caribbean Academy of Sciences, regrets to inform you that one of our Foundation Fellows and Former President, Professor Wilfred Rupert Chan, passed away on September 27, 2017

Professor Chan (Willie) was born in New Amsterdam, British Guiana (Guyana) and attended Rosignol Government School and received a scholarship to Berbice High School in 1941. He completed his Senior Cambridge Certificate, earning a scholarship to Queen's College in 1946 where he achieved the London Higher Certificate where at 19 he earned an Open Scholarship to The University College of the West Indies (UCWI) Open Scholarship. He left for Mona, Jamaica to pursue studies in science at The UCWI, becoming the first graduate to complete a doctorate (U. of London) at the institution. He started his academic career in 1958 at UCWI and spent the next ~40 years teaching Organic Chemistry and mentoring post-graduate students in the field of Natural Products research at UWI, Mona, Jamaica and at St. Augustine, Trinidad & Tobago.

In 1966, Willie Chan was co-founder and Organizing Secretary of a Biennial International series of symposia attended by leading Natural Products Chemists globally. This series, now called The Mona Symposium on Natural Products and Medicinal Chemistry is well established and recognized as the longest running symposium in Latin America and the Caribbean. Along with the lineage of a myriad of graduate students, this symposium attests to Willie's legacy of excellence. The 1992 Symposium was dedicated to him and he was named Conference Life Chairman in recognition of his esteemed international reputation in the field of Natural Products Chemistry.

He was appointed Professor of Organic Chemistry in 1970 and in 1996, on retirement from UWI, was awarded the title of **Professor Emeritus** of Chemistry. He was a made a Foundation Fellow of the Caribbean Academy of Sciences at its inauguration in 1988 and was President of CAS between 1998-2002. Willie is one of NIHERST's Caribbean **Icons** in Science, Technology, and Innovation.



Prof Wilfred Chan
26 Apr 1931— 27 Sept 2017

CAS extends condolences his wife Audrey, children: Suzanne, Robert and Carolyn, daughter-in-law: Wendy, grandchildren: Marlon, Lian and Elliott, and to colleagues, and friends, as well as his many graduate students dispersed around the globe.



Inside this issue

In Memoriam	1
Teacher's workshop	2
Chapter Reports	3
New members	4
CAS 2018	5
Notes to Contributors	6

A peek inside this issue

- CAS bids farewell to founding member Prof. Wilfred Chan
- CAS makes strides in STEM education training
- CAS 2018 Conference!

Preliminary Report on Trinidad Teacher Training Workshop

January 17th—18th 2018

March 2018

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The Caribbean Academy of Sciences believes that a high priority should be put on science education of children, at the earliest stages, as the most positive way of improving the understanding of science and its values by Society. At the Caribbean Conference on Education for Sustainable Development, October 2005, we concluded that science education will be a major activity of the Academy in collaboration with the Ministries of Education, Teacher Education Colleges and general environmental groups. Within this framework of action, CAS has also actively participated in the IANAS Science Education Programme and will continue to generate and work on activities that will be included in future. These Workshops have been carried out since 2008 in Guyana, Jamaica, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Dominica, Antigua, St. Kitts Nevis and Barbados for both Primary & Secondary teachers from forms 1 -3. This particular STEM Teacher Training Workshop was designed and delivered by the Caribbean Academy of Sciences (CAS) for the Shell STEM programme and Ministry of Education, organized by Sacoda Serve Limited. The Facilitators delivered course material on an array of topics geared towards promoting an integrated approach in the delivery of Math, Science and



Participants getting some hands on experience

Technology Education curricula in lower secondary school students in Trinidad & Tobago. The sessions were highly interactive and captured the interest of the teachers throughout the period. While the content targeted the lower school teachers and curriculum, its basic elements can be applied to all levels of the school system.

The objectives of the workshop were as follows:

- i. Identify the purpose, and principles, of integrated STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education
- ii. Understand the research that underpins an integrated approach to STEM education
- iii. Apply the Design Cycle in practical activities that illustrate an integrated approach to STEM education
- iv. Source, and suggest appropriate modifications to, resources for integrated STEM

lessons, units and/or activities

v. Understand how indigenous problems and resources can form the basis of an integrated STEM lesson, unit and/or activity

vi. Identify, and describe ways of overcoming, challenges in implementing STEM lessons, units and/or activities

vii. Promote communication and collaboration with colleagues, as part of an integrated STEM education support system

viii. Enact, and report the efficacy of integrated STEM lessons, units and/or activities in their classroom(s)

The original target group for the workshops was 35 teachers, however there was an overwhelming demand during the registration process - with approximately 125 teachers expressing an interest, even after the close of registration. As a result, 50 participants were listed for the workshop from over 30 secondary schools throughout Trinidad. Further elimination from the fifty nominees were due to natural attrition and scheduling conflicts for the workshop days. A total of 42 teachers participated over the two day period.

NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTERS

BARBADOS

The Barbados Chapter has been very busy!

Professional development and outreach by members:

- Girl Guides Association of Barbados, Pax Hill, in collaboration with Jamestown Soroptimists International targeting girls in science: conducted tours looking at indigenous plant biodiversity and plant usage
 - Barbados Association of Guidance Counsellors (BAGC) National Career Showcase
 - UWI Faculty of Science and Technology Science Showcase at BAGC
 - UWI Research Week Activities
 - UWI Faculty of Science and Technology (FST)
 - CSEC Summer School Outreach
- UWI FST Christ Church Foundation School Visit and Outreach

Future plans:

- Membership drive – possible one day seminar with funding from TWAS

- Re-launching of national poster competition – Science, Technology and Sustainable Living
- Adoption of one primary and one secondary school to establish science clubs
- Partner with Barbados Astronomical Society to take students (on rotation) to Harry Bayley Observatory on Friday nights
- Marine environment project (among possible options- adopting a beach, working with an ecologically friendly hotel)

— **Dr. Andrea Sealey (Chapter President)**

We are now on Facebook and Twitter!



Antigua & Barbuda Chapter

The Antigua and Barbuda chapter of CAS, started in November of 2010, started well, hosting annual seminars for several years but has been unable to garner additional support in recent times, making the day to day running of operations difficult for the current members. Dr. Malverne Spencer, retired long-term Director of the Division of Analytical Services of the Government of Antigua and Barbuda, believes this dearth of interest is due to a variety of factors. He recently commented, "Since CAS is research oriented, some Antiguans would be deterred because of the lack of research laboratories available on island. I believe another important reason is the level of qualification required to become a member. Many Antiguans lack these qualifications. Additionally, many of our graduates who do have these qualifications typically find themselves in senior positions in government and private industry and, given their work loads, are not keen in taking on additional responsibilities."

Dr. Spencer and I have been brainstorming on how to increase membership recognizing the roadblocks posed by the limitations he indicated above. One idea which we have discussed is shifting our chapter focus to science education, thus targeting the youth of the country. To this end we have been in touch with the Ministry of Education. Several individuals at the ministry as well as some teachers have similar ideas as our own. We will have a meeting sometime in the next couple of weeks to discuss where we can work together.

If you have any ideas which could help us, or have general comments, please feel free to contact me at jmoreno@aicasa.net.

— *Dr. Jorge Moreno (Chapter President)*

Guadeloupe Chapter

The DFA chapter met in general assembly on January 18th and is expects to host a delegation from the University of Quisqueya (Haiti) for engineering studies. The Chapter welcomed new member; Professor Anny Flory, bringing the total number of chapter members to 15. Anny Flory is a specialist in Chemical Engineering and will complete the chapter's shortcomings in this area.

— *Dr. Thomas Forissier (Chapter President)*

Welcome to our new members!

Ordinary Membership:

Mr. Raymond Aaron (Trinidad & Tobago)

Dr. Anny L. Flory (Guadeloupe)



Prof. Terrence Forrester being presented with his Fellow Certificate by Jamaica Chapter President, Prof. Dasgupta and Secretary, Prof. Lancashire



The Caribbean Academy of Sciences

21st General Meeting and Conference
Mona Visitors' Lodge and Conference Centre, Kingston, Jamaica
November 27 – 30, 2018

INITIAL CALL FOR PAPER AND POSTER TITLES

The 21st General Meeting and Conference of The Caribbean Academy Sciences (CAS) and the Caribbean Academy Sciences Jamaica (CASJ), will be held in collaboration with The University of the West Indies, Mona, during the period November 27-30, 2018 as part of The UWI's 70th anniversary and CAS' 30th anniversary celebrations.

The theme of the conference is **"Science, Technology and Innovation – Vehicles for a Knowledge Based Economy"**. This conference will be the premiere forum to foster cross-pollination among different research fields, and to expose and discuss innovative theories, frameworks, methodologies, tools, and applications which may be of use in enhancing the quality of human life and contribute effectively to sustainable economic development. The programme will feature distinguished plenary speakers, oral and poster presentations from graduate and undergraduate students arranged thematically under some of the following broad headings (i) Science, Technology and Innovation; (ii) Modeling and IT (iii) Energy, Innovation and Development (iv) Agriculture, Food and Agro Processing Food Security (v) Environmental Sustainability (vi) Materials Synthesis (vi) Natural Hazards and Disasters (viii) Health Sciences (ix) STEM Education for Economic Growth.

Submission of Titles and Abstracts for oral paper and poster presentations will be opened January 31 and **should be sent to KitFai.Pun@sta.uwi.edu (Attn.: Professor Kit Fai Pun)** and **cc copy to conference@caswi.org**. At least one author of a paper or poster presentation must be a member of the Academy. Please see <http://www.caswi.org> for membership application forms and payment options. **The DEADLINE for Submission of Titles and Abstracts is June 30, 2018.**

This year, we will be recognizing all presentations by honors students enrolled in Undergraduate Honors Society programmes. These presentations will be denoted as such in the conference programme.

PAPER AND POSTER COMPETITION AWARDS

All student member paper and poster submissions are automatically entered in the Paper and Poster Competition. The author(s) of the winning papers or posters will be announced and awarded prizes to be presented at the conference banquet.

Additional information from: englebert@caswi.org or novelette.sadlermcknight@uwimona.edu.jm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



21st BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE 2018

Tuesday 27th November 2018 – Friday 30th November 2018

At

UWI Mona Visitors' Lodge & Conference Centre, Jamaica

Details in our First Announcement on page 5

Dear Readers,

We want to hear from YOU!
Comments may be edited for length and clarity.

Send your comments to:
joanneseowlal@gmail.com

GUIDELINES TO CONTRIBUTORS

Articles on the natural history and environment are welcome especially those on Trinidad and Tobago.

Articles should not exceed 1,000 words (1 1/2 pages) and the editors reserve the right to edit the length. Images should be submitted as separate files.

Submit material to any of the following:

- 1) joanneseowlal@gmail.com
- 2) secretariat@caswi.org

Deadline for submission of material for the 2nd Quarter 2018 issue of the Bulletin is June 1st, 2018.