



WAND Notes

Newsletter of the Women and Development Unit,
University of the West Indies

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This issue features also:

- Women in prison go for degrees
- Reaching out to people with lupus
- Doing a neighbourly turn

WAND establishes Web site, extends unit's reach

The unit has added a Web site to its range of communication and documentation services. The WAND site, which is a sub-domain of the University's Web, went on-line February 15, and provides background information on the Unit and links to various services. It can be reached at <http://www.uwichill.edu.bb/wand>. Tutor/Coordinator of WAND, Dr Judith Soares said that the establishment of the site was another step towards enhancing the technical capabilities of the Unit's documentation, research and communication activities.

"The site extends our reach, making it easy for anyone in the world with Internet and Web browsing capabilities to learn about us and our work and be able to pursue further contacts," she said.

"It certainly is another move in our continuing outreach within our community in which we work, but extends the ability to share with a diverse worldwide community with similar interests."



Screenshot of the new WAND Web.

Men as Parents Workshop promotes responsible fathering

Men as Parents was the title of a workshop held on April 7, sponsored by the unit at Bay Primary School, Barbados. Fourteen fathers of children from the school attended and discussed issues related to effective parenting and their roles as fathers.

Among the aims of the workshop were for fathers to understand partnership and for those not living with the mothers, to understand matters such as visiting rights, custody issues and child maintenance.

Staff continues to upgrade skills

WAND staff continues to upgrade their educational and skills levels. Secretary Cecelia Batson has completed her BA in English at the Cave Hill campus of the UWI while office attendant Marvo Roach is completing a WAND-sponsored Computer Studies course at the Academy of Learning, Bridgetown.

Sponsorship for women prisoners in degree course

WAND is funding three women in Glendairy Prison, Barbados to do a newly introduced degree course in Social Sciences. They have begun the first year course, Fundamentals of English, delivered by distance by a

visiting UWI tutor. The two natives of St Vincent and the Grenadines and a Jamaican are pursuing the course. Their sponsorship falls under the unit's continuing work with women in prison for drug trafficking.

Talking Parenting



Clockwise from top, Pupils of Bay Primary School watch a movie during a WAND affective education session ; Spiritual Counsellor Rommell Lawrence talks with a parent; Principal Maureen Belle (3rd right) and Deborah Moseley of WAND (2nd right) with parents, who are caught(above) in discussion after a workshop last November.

WAND makes neighbourly contribution to community women

The unit continues to play a responsible neighbourly role in the community in which it is located. Two women in the Pinelands community are the beneficiaries of training courses in Computer Studies. An unemployed woman is gaining skills that should make her more employable and a small businesswoman is training to enhance her management and financial skills with the aid of computers.

Working with people with lupus

Twelve people comprising people with lupus and their caregivers attended a workshop on to gain a better understanding of the disease and implications for an extended life. The presenters were doctors who specialise in the area and the programme included a pep talk by spiritual counsellor, Rommell Lawrence.

To be a good human being is to have a kind of openness to the world, an ability to trust uncertain things beyond your control

- Martha Nussbaum

Twentieth Century Philosophy Professor

WAND

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SUPPORTING PROGRAMMES FOR CARIBBEAN TRANSFORMATION