



*Best Wishes for 2007*  
*From the Staff of the Women and  
 Development Unit*

**“Making Women Powerful”  
 Preliminary Evaluation Report**

One year after conducting the five day course “Making Women Powerful”, WAND met with some of the participants to discuss their progress. The following should be noted:

(i) All participants of the programme spoke enthusiastically of the positive impact the training had made on their lives, from personal development to keeping a job, gaining a job to an improved quality of life.

(ii) Two young women were outstanding. The first arrived three days late to the course but was so motivated by what she gained that she is now employed in the Grenadines (St. Vincent). She advocates the benefits of the training and always enquires when another one will take place, so that other young people can participate. The other young woman was eight months pregnant while taking the course. She changed from a withdrawn, sullen young woman to a confident young woman, recognizing she was “a person who could benefit from opportunities”. She is now enrolled in literacy classes, and has a better relationship with her family, to the extent that she has not given up her baby for adoption as she had planned to do.

(iii) At the government level, the Youth Department has asked for a repeat of the course, and seems willing to contribute some resources.

The “Making Women Powerful” course which was held between May-June 2005, in St. Vincent was designed to bring awareness to young women on a range of issues such as employment and training opportunities (which included skills in computer use, money management, family planning, and their rights under the family law) and HIV/AIDS. Some 22 young women benefited from this intervention. □

**WAND Receives Award**

WAND was recently presented with an Appreciation Award from the Bureau of Gender Affairs, Barbados at the Bureau’s 30th Anniversary Award Ceremony (Nov. 14) at the Grande Salle, Central Bank of Barbados. WAND was among several organizations that were recognized for their contribution to the work of the Bureau over the years.



The Awards Ceremony marked the end of a week-long programme of activities in recognition of the contribution of the Bureau of Gender Affairs to the social development of Barbados. □

*Women never have young minds. They are  
 born three thousand years old.*  
 —Shelagh Delaney

## Staff Continues to Upgrade Skills and Knowledge

### Conferences

The Tutor/Coordinator attended *UNESCO Forum on Higher Education, Research & Knowledge Colloquium, Nov 29 - December 1, 2006, Paris France*. The theme of the Conference was "Universities as Centres of Research & Knowledge Creation: An Endangered Species? The Colloquium was attended by over 800 participants from more than 110 countries.

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*ICT Transforming Society* was the theme of the Information Society of Barbados Conference, October 19 -20, 2006 held at the Sherbourne Conference Centre. Several areas were explored such as open source, security, intelligent communications and the important aspect of governance as we seek to keep pace with technology and promote the efficiency of processing and disseminating information. Ms. Sheree Trotman, Librarian at WAND attended this Conference.

*There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.*

- Beverly Sills  
American Opera Singer & Director

### From the Reference Library...

The Library continued to offer services to students and other visitors. In an effort to improve in-house access, there has been a physical reorganization of the materials which has resulted in there distinct Sections: WAND Publications, Caribbean and General.

### Publications forthcoming:

*Making Women Powerful: A Summary of WAND Projects 1995-2006*

### Workshops

Cececlia Batson-Rollock attended *the Interactive Teaching Strategies Workshop* hosted by the Instructional Development Unit, Cave Hill on September 8, 2006. This workshop sought to identify diverse teaching and learning styles that influence student-teacher interaction and new interactive teaching strategies. It also spoke to student and teacher resistance to interactive learning and instructed on how to develop a strategic plan for teaching a course. Ms. Batson-Rollock holds a M.Ed, Reading and Educational Foundation.

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Ms. Sheree Trotman, also participated in a workshop: *Disaster Information Management* held Nov 7-9, 2006, Havana, Cuba. The workshop topics included developing a disaster plan, providing guidelines to salvaging damaged material, restoring the physical properties of information materials (print, audio visual, electronic), causes of deterioration of materials, overview of preservation and conservation, role of knowledge management and becoming acquainted with lessons learnt from disasters in the Caribbean. Participants received new insights into the area of disaster management and its link to preservation

This workshop hosted by Caribbean Disaster Information Network, (CARDIN), UWI and The Latin American Centre for Disaster Medicine, (CLAMED), Ministry of Health, Cuba. □

**Today  
is here...  
Tomorrow  
never**  
-Toni Morrison  
American Writer &  
Educator

# WAND

Notes

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