As the UWI Open Campus journeys, the Women and Development Unit takes this opportunity to remember the late Professor the Honourable Rex Nettleford, Vice Chancellor Emeritus and former Director, Extra-Mural Department/School of Continuing Studies who left us over two years ago with a lasting legacy. In the context of this legacy, we remember Rex in the following way.

**To remember Rex is to remember**
- the many disadvantaged Black Caribbean women and men who benefitted from the extra-mural programme of social justice to which he was so committed

**It is also to remember that:**
- the UWI was built on the foundations laid by the Extra-Mural Department/School of Continuing Studies
- elitism in higher education must be made a thing of the past;
- UWI must continue to value non-formal education and community outreach as a critical aspect of their educational construct;
- serving the underserved does not mean we should give the peoples of the region what we feel they should get, but it is to give them what they want and what they need;
- in serving the peoples of the region, we must always hold before us our socio-history, our unique culture and cultural diversity, the varying levels of development of the countries of the region, and hence, the particular needs of our constituencies;
- we should run our own race;
- we must walk with dignity
- we must hold dear those qualities that make us good human beings and worthy professionals: our professionalism, our standards, our integrity, our humility, our conscience and a commitment to fairness and justice.

We in the Women and Development Unit, also remember him as one who gave firm support to the Unit’s programme of activity. Rex understood the location of women in Caribbean society as is recorded in the excerpt below. *(Cont’d next page....)*
Remembering Rex Cont’d

Nettleford’s embrace of women was both significant and radical. It was significant because he opened the gateway through which many women, particularly poor, black women, entered the University of the West Indies (UWI) in an attempt to improve the quality of their lives. It was radical because such an action veered from the conventional direction being taken by the UWI and sanctioned by a society which had long marginalised its women, both ideologically and socially.

One can understand Professor Nettleford’s willingness to house WAND in the Department of Extra-Mural Studies and to include and address issues of social inequality within the remit of the Department because he, himself, appreciated the socially adverse conditions under which the majority of the region’s people have to exist. (Batson-Rollock et al, Caribbean Quarterly Special Issue, Vol. 57, No. 4, December 2011. pp. 89-98).

Memories are forever.

********

WAND Notes to get Facelift

After 15 years of existence, WAND Notes is to have a new appearance. Communications and Marketing specialist, the very qualified, experienced and talented Suzette Wolfe, recently advised that she will be giving the newsletter a ‘makeover’. Suzette, who is a boon to the Open Campus, is responsible for the production of the book, Breaking Down the Walls: An Evolution of the Extra-Mural Department of The University of the West Indies, 1947-2000 (2007) to which Rex made a significant contribution. The book is authored by Howard Fergus, Lennox Bernard and Judith Soares.

Jamaican Women: Trailblazers on the Road to Parliament

Jamaican Women on the Road to Parliament from the 19th to the Early 21st Century: A Perspective on their Entry, Contribution and Success in Politics is a recent publication (2012) by Evelyn Smart, founding Coordinator of the Jamaica Women’s Political Caucus which prepares women for entry into representational politics. The 180 page text highlights the contribution of women to the ‘emancipation’ of Jamaica through social activism and revolutionary action, electoral engagement and parliamenary representation from the 18th Century with Nanny’s military leadership to unseat British colonialism.

UWI Professor Emerita, Gender and Development Studies, and retired Principal, Mona Campus, Elsa Leo-Rhyne had this to say about the book.

Mrs. Evelyn Smart has made her contribution to the documention of this history through her research and recording of the lives of Jamaican women whose activism has been in the political arena and who have sought to bring about change through the political system. She is to be congratulated on tackling a mammoth task and for producing this volume which fills some spaces in the historical records and documents the part played by pioneering Jamaican women “on the road to parliament”.

This book which unearths new and important information is a must read for all women of all ages, classes and colour.

********

Stop the Violence against the Person!
As we condemn violence against women and girls in our society, let us equally condemn violence against men within our walls. Violence against the person is neither acceptable nor desirable.

Let us “beat our swords into plowshares” and our “spears into pruning hooks” (Isaiah 2: 4). Let peace be our mantra.