



Dr Francis O. Severin, Deputy Principal

Dr Francis O. Severin has been appointed to the position of Deputy Principal. He is currently acting Deputy Principal and was previously the Director of the Open Campus' largest and most distributed division, the Open Campus Country Sites (OCCS), since October 1, 2013. Prior to his formal assumption of the post of Director OCCS in October 2013, he had acted in that position for long periods between January 2010 and 2013; therefore, effectively serving in that post for nearly one decade.

Dr Severin, a citizen of Dominica, graduated from The UWI Cave Hill Campus in 1991 with the Bachelor's degree in History and Social Studies with Education; and from the Mona Campus twice: firstly in 1998 with the MSc in Sociology specializing in Social Policy and Administration; and a PhD in Education, in 2006.

He served The UWI part-time as Local Tutor in The UWI Distance Education (UWIDEC) Programme, School of Continuing Studies (SCS), in Dominica from 1994 to 1998, facilitating the courses: Introduction to Caribbean History for Law and Social Sciences and Introduction to Sociology of the Caribbean.

On January 1, 1999, he was appointed to his first full-time role in The UWI as Programme Officer in the Office of Administration and Special Initiatives (OASIs), a Centre Unit in the Vice Chancellery, headquartered then on the Mona Campus in Kingston, Jamaica. Between 1999 and 2005, he accomplished several initiatives, including: the reformulation of the framework for Alumni Relations and the revitalization of The UWI's connections with its alumni.

In August 2005, Dr Severin returned to Dominica to take up the post of Resident Tutor and Head, School of Continuing Studies. While in that post he participated in the historical transition from the former entities that comprised the Board for Non-Campus Countries and Distance Education (NCC's & DE) to the Open Campus.

As Country Head, Dr Severin inaugurated several lecture series, including the Dame Eugenia Charles Distinguished/Memorial Lecture Series in December 2006, in collaboration with the Head, Centre for Gender and Development Studies, UWI, Cave Hill, Professor Eudine Barriteau; the National Bank of Dominica Ltd./UWI Open Campus Dominica Distinguished National Lecture Series in May 2008; the Dr Bernard A. Sorhaindo Memorial Lecture Series in July 2008; and the Annual Edward Oliver LeBlanc Memorial Lecture Series, in October 2012.

As Director, OCCS (the largest Division in the Open Campus), Dr. Severin led his distributed Division over the course of two accreditations and one mid-cycle accreditation review preparations (initial accreditation period of 2012/2018, mid-cycle in late 2016 and re-accreditation 2019/2026). He also led the Country Sites through the revolutionary Strengthening Distance Education in the Caribbean (SDEC) Project, from April 1, 2014 to June 30, 2019.

Dr Severin has served on numerous Campus and University boards and committees, including: University Council; University Appointments Committee; Board for Undergraduate Studies (BUS); Board for Graduate Studies and Research (BGRS); Finance and General Purposes Committee (F&GPC); Open Campus Academic Board; Senate Committee on Ordinances and Regulations (SCOR); Campus Evaluations & Promotions Committee (EPC); Campus Appointments Committee (CAC); University and Campus ICT Steering Committees; University Executive Management Team; University Senate and Library Evaluations and Promotions Committee.

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