

## Inside this issue

<i>New Communication &amp; Information and Science Advisory Committees</i>	2
<i>Secretariat activities</i>	3
<i>Staff News</i>	3
<i>Farewell/Welcome at the UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office</i>	4
<i>Letter of the day/NBCJ activities</i>	5-6
<i>Nicole Webley, Young Professional Programme</i>	7
<i>Minister Grange chairs informal ICH meeting/Delivers WBCD (World Day for Cultural Diversity) message</i>	8
<i>Jamaica represented at Latin America/Caribbean (LAC) online training for periodic reporting of the 2003 convention</i>	9
<i>Publication(s)</i>	10
<i>Regional News:</i>	10
<i>40 Jamaican teachers benefitted from Blended learning/Blackboard Academy</i>	11
<i>JFUCCA</i>	12

## REAPPOINTED MINISTER OF CGES, HON OLIVIA GRANGE WITH MINISTER OF STATE, HON ALANDO TERRELONGE



**Minister Grange reappointed as Minister with responsibility for UNESCO**

**Minister of State Alando Terrelonge returns to the Ministry of CGES**

Minister Grange meets with Minister of State, Hon. Alando Terrelonge, who has returned to the the Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport, after being sworn in at King's House on September 14.

## NEW ADVISORY COMMITTEES FOR COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION AND NATURAL SCIENCE, 2020

Advisory Committees are one of the channels through which JNC-UNESCO implements its programme in relation to the work of UNESCO. They are established in UNESCO areas of work and are appointed by the Chairperson/Minister with responsibility for UNESCO Hon Olivia Grange

Two committees were appointed during the period

The new C & I Advisory Committee Members are:

**Mr. Cordel Green** (Chair)  
Executive Director,  
Broadcasting Commission



**Mr. Oliver Watt** (Co-Chair)  
Public Relations & Corporate Communications  
Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and

Sport  
**Ms Denzie Stephenson**  
Communication Specialist  
Operations Manager, OCM  
Productions

**Dr Paulette Kerr**  
University Librarian,  
UWI, Mona Campus  
**Ms Topaz Isaacs**  
Personal Banking Officer  
(Bank of Nova Scotia)

**Dr. Joseph Farquharson**  
Department of Language,  
Linguistics & Philosophy,  
UWI

**Ms Judith Alberga**  
Media and Communications Specialist  
Manager, Homegrown &  
Content Monetization, TVJ

**Ms Helene Coley-Nicholson**  
Attorney-at-Law /Legal  
Advisor, Press Association  
of Jamaica

**Ms Indi Mclymont-Lafayette**  
Development Communications Specialist

**Mr Dwayne Cargill**  
Principal Director (Actg)  
Ministry of Education,  
Youth and Information

**Miss Lilyclaire Bellamy**  
Executive Director  
Jamaica Intellectual Property Office

**Ms. Beverly Lashley**  
Executive Director,  
National Library of Jamaica

**Mr. Lincoln Robinson**  
Senior Communications  
Specialist

**Ms. Valana Hill**  
Manager - Technology Architecture,  
Business Analysis & Planning, National Commercial Bank

**Ms Maureen Thompson**  
Director-General,  
Jamaica Library Service  
**Mr Mark Jeffrey Deans**  
President,  
Library and Information  
Association of Jamaica  
**Mrs Isabel Bermudez Viera**  
Advisor for Communication  
and Information  
UNESCO Kingston office  
**Mrs Doolarie Hopkinson**  
Public Education/  
Documentalist  
Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO  
**Mr. Everton Hannam**  
Secretary-General,  
Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO

The new Natural Science Advisory Committee Members are:

**Dr. Ronald E Young** (Chair)  
Professor Emeritus,  
UWI



**Mr Daniel A. Wong**, LLB, JP  
(Co-Chair)  
**Dr. Cliff Riley**  
Executive Director,  
Scientific Research Council  
**Dr. Paul Aiken**  
CEO,  
Mona-Tech Engineering

Services Ltd.  
**Mrs. June Spence-Jarrett**  
Executive Director,  
JADCO  
**Dr. Mona Webber**  
Director,  
Centre for Marine Science  
UWI (Mona),  
**Dr. Sherene James-Williamson, PhD**  
Department of Geography &  
Geology  
Associate Dean, Faculty of  
Science & Technology,  
UWI (Mona).  
**Ms. Claire Bernard**  
Deputy Director-General  
Sustainable Development  
and Social Planning,  
Planning Institute of Jamaica

**Ms Eleanor Jones, MA, OD**  
Chairman & CEO  
Environmental Solutions  
Ltd.

**Mr. Sadpah Bennett**  
Assistant Chief Education  
Officer/National Science  
Coordinator.  
Ministry of Education Youth  
and Information, Core Curriculum Unit.

**Mr. Peter Clarke**  
Managing Director  
Water Resources Authority  
**Miss Joy Douglas**  
Chairman

Man and the Biosphere  
(MAB) National Committee  
**Dr. Chenielle Delahaye-McKenzie**  
Science Programme Manager  
Ministry of Science, Energy  
and Technology  
**Mr Massimiliano Lombardo**  
Programme Specialist for  
Natural Sciences,  
UNESCO Kingston Office

## SECRETARIAT ACTIVITIES

### International Meetings:

These meetings were held virtually and allowed for the participation of representatives from the various sectors of interest.

- Artificial Intelligence for Information Accessibility AI4IA Conference, 28 September
- International Day for Universal Access to Information – A Caribbean Perspective in partnership with the Media Institute of the Caribbean, 28 September
- Learn how to use Microsoft 365 and Teams to empower teaching in any modality: face-to-face, hybrid, and distance learning in the Caribbean, 28 September
- 11th Session UNESCO Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All program, 23-24 September (Cordel Green, Jamaica's representative)
- "How Open Science can be promoted in the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean?" 21 September, Kingston, Jamaica
- 50th anniversary Man & the Biosphere (MAB), 18 September
- UNESCO Creative Cities Beijing Summit, 17-18 September
- GRULAC meeting, 17 September (Permanent Delegation to UNESCO)
- 11th Session Scientific & Technical Advisory Body, 14-15 Sept, (Permanent Delegation/Amb Monteith)
- 8th session ICH Bureau meeting, 8-10 September (Amb Monteith)
- Online High Level Dialogue: impacts and challenges of

the COVID -19 pandemic crisis in Latin America and the Caribbean, 10 September

- Media & Information Literacy (MIL) Caribbean Consultation, 30 July
- **Webinar #6 for the Caribbean: Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in times of COVID-19**, online, 29 July
- First UNESCO online meeting of Ministers of Culture, 21 April 2020 (Hon Minister Olivia Grange)
- UNESCO Caribbean Virtual Dialogue: 'Rethinking the Media Landscape in Caribbean Small Island Developing States post-COVID-19' (Cordel Green presented)

### Other Meetings:

- CI Advisory Committee Zoom meeting, 31 August
- Strategic Objective meeting with Andrea Fraser, 19 August
- NBCJ Zoom meeting, 30 July
- Science Advisory Committee meeting with Programme Specialist, UNESCO Cluster Office, 14 July 2020
- ICS World Youth Day, 12 August. Health, Education and Economic Em-

powerment were featured areas with presentations from private sector companies and international organizations. Dr Maria Smith represented JNC-UNESCO on the Mental Health panel

- UNESCO and World Health Organization (WHO) launched a new Massive Open Online 4 wk Course (MOOC) "Journalism in a pandemic: Covering COVID-19 now and in the future". This was shared on facebook for those interested and Patrick Champagnie, a former member of the JNC-UNESCO Communication Advisory Committee, applied and earned a certificate after successfully completing the requirements

## STAFF NEWS

### *Welcome*

2 new staff members to the UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office

- Paula Isturiz-Cavero, Programme Specialist, Social & Human Science
- Dr Faryal Khan, Programme Specialist, Education

Live Streaming on the Facebook pages of: **12 AUG** 1pm-3pm

**SHAPING THE NEW NORMAL:**  
YOUTHLED DISCUSSIONS FOR ENABLING CARIBBEAN RECOVERY & RESILIENCE

**CO-CHAIRS:**  
 • Kim John Williams, Program Associate at Institute of Caribbean Studies, Public Policy Professional  
 • Jémine Shepherd, Director of Youth for Excellence (Y4E), Professor of American Studies, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
**MODERATOR:**  
 • Kenya Troutman, Supervisory Public Health Analyst at DC Health in Washington DC, USA

**MENTAL HEALTH PANEL:**  
 • Dr. Katija Khan, Consultant Psychologist, Neurological, and Lecturer in Clinical Psychology at UWI, St. Augustine  
 • Dr. Maria Smith, PhD, Programme Manager, Jamaica Adolescent Health Alliance, former National Commissioner for UNICEF, Editor of "Revolutions" representing An Afro-Jamaican Identity, PhD in Cultural Studies  
 • Rebecca Booker, Founder of the Queen Beige Club  
 • Thais Fares, Founder of the Blue IT

**Other Speakers:**  
 • Renelle White, Gender In-Sync Specialist at the Silver Living Foundation  
 • Deodat Persaud, Health Coordinator for the Caribbean Youth

### Online Webinar/ Course

## FAREWELL/WELCOME, UNESCO KINGSTON CLUSTER OFFICE



(L -R) SG E. Hannam, K. Grigsby, Dr M Smith, I. Viera and D. Hopkinson

JNC-UNESCO bid farewell to Katherine Grigsby, Director/ Representative, UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office. She concluded her tour of duty effective 31 August 2020.

We also said farewell to Gisselle Burbano, Programme Specialist, SHS. We wish her all the best in her new posting in Costa Rica

Goodbyes were said to Laretta Sowe (Administrative Officer) and Annette Scott-Campbell (Secretary) on their retirement from UNESCO.



At a brief farewell for the outgoing director/representative, Katherine Grigsby we thanked her for her productive time in Jamaica.

We will soon welcome the new Director and Representative in the Caribbean Small Island Developing States, Dr. Saadia Sánchez Vegas who said that she is

“firmly committed to exercise strategic and operational leadership to advocate for the Caribbean Small Island Developing States, SIDS as #UNESCO’s priority in the framework of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. In the context of the #COVID-19, I advocate not only for a ‘new normality’, but also encourage a strengthened global solidarity: a horizon of recovery rising from a deep sense of humanity toward such normality, which I hope and imagine is near, and which I trust will be more egalitarian, more equitable, fairer, and more sustainable”.

(Source: fb page)

## LETTER OF THE DAY

LETTER OF THE DAY |  
THE RISK OF OPENING  
OUR ORDERSPublished: Wednesday  
June 3, 2020

THE EDITOR, Madam:  
It is a matter of concern that the country's borders will reopen to allow persons of unknown COVID-19 status to freely enter and move among our people. Colleagues of mine have expressed their frustration at having worked hard to protect fellow Jamaicans and themselves only to have it potentially eroded by the new Government decision.

It is understandable that the prime minister would like to get money into the pockets of those in need, as the Government is unable to provide further assistance while the economy is floundering; however, the inevitable increase in COVID-19 cases is worrisome.

The statement that persons will be taken from **'travel bubble' countries** is interesting, as I wonder where does that put our neighbour to the north. The minister of tourism already identified Jamaica as being a country that would fall into the **'domestic' travel for**

Americans, so therein lies some conflict, as far as I see it, unless the USA is also a **'travel bubble' country**. The minister anticipated Jamaica would be providing welcome relief for travellers from the north.

It would have been good for the Government to allow private labs to take on the task of rapid testing of the visitors and recouping the cost through a travel cess, or other means, given the financial constraints facing the Government. Visitors could also be tested prior to beginning their flight or be asked to produce a certificate indicating, within the last 72 hours, a negative test from a reputable lab in their country of origin. This process would be similar to obtaining an international health certificate for yellow fever.

The signing of a pledge document by visitors attesting to their status, as proposed by the Government, offers little surety. These visitors will be walking among our people and so the wearing of masks while in public should be mandatory. It cannot be free entry for COVID-19, for if this is to be, why are we

being so rigorous with our nationals?

## A ROUGH RIDE

In less than 14 days we will be in for a rough ride. Our sympathies to the hotel workers who have no choice but to work in a potentially unsafe environment as much as their employers take steps to protect them. This is when we need the Occupational Health and Safety Act, as the Factories Regulation is not really applicable outside of factories. We need laws that are relevant and speak directly to the group of workers they seek to protect.

The honourable prime minister is indeed between a rock and a hard place, and for that he has my sympathies. We suffered a glancing blow while we were in lockdown mode; what will we do with a full-frontal blow? The health system cannot manage. Am I being pessimistic or overly cautious?

DONNA MCKOY  
Chair, National Bioethics  
Committee of Jamaica

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For more information on the global  
UNESCO please visit:  
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# NATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF JAMAICA (NBCJ)

NATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF JAMAICA, REGIONAL PROGRAM OF ETHICS AND BIOETHICS, UNESCO (MONTEVIDEO OFFICE); A NETWORK OF LAC NATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEES INVITES TO THE FOLLOWING CONFERENCE

## ETHICAL ISSUES IN HEALTH CARE DURING COVID 19 PANDEMICS

**SPEAKER**  
**EDUARDO A. RUEDA**  
PRESIDENT OF LATIN AMERICAN & CARIBBEAN NETWORK FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN BIOETHICS

**JUNE 18th**  
**10am CT**

[CLICK HERE TO ACCESS THE CONFERENCE](#)

**NBCJ** | **Oficina de Montevideo** | **CNE**

**COVID-19 TASK FORCE**  
Informing the Caribbean's Response

## Ethical Issues in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Caribbean

A Review

**Sunday August 23, 2020**  
2:00 PM (JA Time) | 3:00 PM (EC Time)

**Dr Anna Kasell Perkins**  
Member, Jamaica National Bioethics Committee & UWI COVID-19 Task Force  
*Moderator*

**Ms Donna McKay**  
Chair, Jamaica National Bioethics Committee

**Professor Clive Landis**  
Chair, UWI COVID-19 Task Force

**Dr Sharmelle Ropchand Martin**  
Vice Chair, Jamaica National Bioethics Committee

**PRESENTERS**

**Dr Kirk Douglas**  
Director, Centre for Biosafety Studies, The UWI Cave Hill Campus  
*"Where are we with a COVID-19 vaccine?"*

**Professor Julie Meeks**  
Professor of Child Development and Nutrition, & Member of UWI COVID-19 Task Force  
*"Opening economies: Money vs Lives?"*

**Professor Terence Saemungal**  
Dean of The Faculty Of Medical Sciences, The UWI St Augustine Campus, & Member of COVID-19 Task Force  
*"Treatment Options: Status of Post-COVID Recovery?"*

**The Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO**

**LIVE ON** [www.uwivt.org](http://www.uwivt.org) [www.facebook.com/uwivt](https://www.facebook.com/uwivt) **UWI GLOBAL**

The NBCJ hosted a conference on 18 June and together with UWI had an online conversation on 23 August. A letter of the day on the opening of the borders was published

Estimated reach of the activity “Ethical issues in the management of the COVID19” was as follow:

Website had 119 users with 239 views. Facebook had 1152 unique viewers, an estimated reach of 3360 and engaged 99 persons.

The National Bioethics Committee of Jamaica (NBCJ) was established with the assistance of UNESCO. The establishment of a National Bioethics Committee in any

territory is a monumental step In the right direction. To be the first and only English Speaking Caribbean Territory to date, to do so, is also noteworthy. This step is to be lauded as it shows a recognition of the value and importance of the need for reflection on and examination of matters from an ethical perspective.

“cannot afford to focus exclusively on the scien-

tific and research aspects to the detriment of social dialogue so as to ensure that science delivers what people need and complies with an acceptable ethical consensus”.

## NICOLE WEBLEY OF THE YOUNG PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMME

The Young Professionals Programme is a recruitment initiative which aims to improve the geographical representation in the Organization and to promote gender parity. This programme provides young professionals from non- and under-represented Member States the opportunity to join the organisation.

Nicole WEBLEY is a Jamaican who currently works for UNESCO at its Headquarters in Paris.

As a graduate of the University of the West Indies she applied for the Young Professional programme that was advertised in the local newspaper and was invited by the organisation for an interview in Paris. She has been there since 2007 and have gained skills and competences in International Relations and development within a global context. She said that she has worked on interesting programmes dedicated to achieving sustainable development, expanded her professional network and grown professionally. She has also learnt about other cultures, met outstanding people and seen many places that she had always dreamt of visiting.

### What challenges if any were faced?

More important is what I learnt from or how I overcame these challenges. Each day has its challenges with each victory one becomes a bit more confident and humbler because **one victory doesn't ensure another**. So, I give each day my best effort and remain open to the new possibilities it offers.

### What has life been like for you living in Europe/Paris?

Paris is a beautiful city with so many things to do and places to see. The city is a cultural melting pot that has connecting flights to most major cities. So, if you are into the arts, fashion, gastronomy and travel, **it's a great city to visit**. Living in France also gives you the opportunity to learn French. One of the most important lessons that I have learnt while living overseas is to ensure that my agenda reflects my priorities despite the competing priorities and time differences. Therefore, maintaining strong family ties and friendships with the people that I care for is just as important as meeting my targets at work.

### How many countries have you visited so far?

I am concerned about my carbon footprint and think that everyone should be too. Nevertheless, I am **grateful that I've managed** to visit the main regions of the world and I take mem-



ories of each city with me wherever I go.

### Any guidance or advice for young persons planning to join the Young Professional Programme

Yes, do your research about the organization and its programmes. If you aspire to have a life of service within the context of the UN System, go for it. You also should be able to multitask, meet tight deadlines, work in a multicultural environment and have flexible hours.

**It's a great opportunity** and if you are selected, I look forward to welcoming you.

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## MINISTER GRANGE CHAIRS INFORMAL ICH MEETING & DELIVERED A MESSAGE FOR WBCD

**Minister Grange, as Chairperson of the ICH Bureau held an informal meeting on 24 July 2020.**

This informal meeting was held to provide updates on the calendar of statutory meetings for 2020 and allow for informal discussion with Bureau members on these changes. During the informal Bureau meeting, a request was raised by Djibouti to hold the second meeting of the Bureau (11 September 2020) in person at UNESCO Headquarters.

in the informal meeting other participants from Jamaica were:

Joanne Archibald, Principal Director, MCGES  
 Everton Hannam, Secretary General, JNC-UNESCO  
 David Brown, Director, Policy and Research, National Cultural and Creative Industries Council  
 Ambassador Monteith, Permanent Delegate to UNESCO  
 Bernard Jankee, Jamaica's representative to the Bureau  
 (Director, African Carib-

bean Institute of Jamaica/Jamaica Memory Bank).

Following this informal meeting Bureau members were invited to an electronic consultation.

As provided in Rule 12.3 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee, the electronic consultation was to **seek the Bureau's approval** of a change of dates and place for the 15th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Due to the uncertainties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the host country (Jamaica) informed the Secretariat that they would not be able to host this meeting in Kingston, Jamaica.

The next scheduled meeting of the Bureau was held 11 September. In Paris, Jamaica was represented by Amb Monteith.

**MESSAGE BY THE HON OLIVIA GRANGE, CD, MP  
 Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport  
 for THE WORLD DAY FOR CULTURAL DIVERSITY FOR DIALOGUE AND DEVELOPMENT,  
 21 May 2020**

Jamaica, like the rest of the world has, unfortunately, been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and its attendant socio-economic shocks. An unprecedented number of Creatives and Cultural Practitioners, and related enterprises, are now either in decline, or in dire need of assistance for recovery. As a response, my Ministry is spearheading a series of Cultural Grants **targeting Jamaica's cultural communities** and, indeed, the entire creative sector. This initiative, funded now by ever depleting resources, is being facilitated in recognition of the fact that in these uncertain times it is our culture that our people must now turn to as a source of comfort, assurance, and connection.

As we reflect on and celebrate the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, I suggest **that Jamaica's Reggae music**, a long-standing source of philosophical and spiritual guidance to the world, is needed now more than ever. We need to recall and recite the melodious **strains of Bob Marley's One Love** to give the peoples of the world hope through this time of despair, and remind them of the value of community, in a time of physical distancing.

My Ministry commits to ensuring that singers, songwriters, instrumentalists, composers and the stakeholders in the Reggae music ecosystem are supported to help them continue to exercise their musical genius. I also commit to have Jamaica host a series of ResiliArt virtual discussions, through Jamaica Creative, in keeping with the spirit of the inaugural debate led by UNESCO on 14 May 2020. I wish you all Peace, Safety, and One Love.



## JAMAICA REPRESENTED AT THE LAC ONLINE TRAINING FOR THE PERIODIC REPORTING OF THE 2003 CONVENTION

UNESCO's Convention on the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (Convention 2003) around the World protects intangible cultural heritage such as cultural practices, dances, chants around the world. The Convention includes a clause to deliver reporting on the status quo, which allows State Parties to assess their implementation of the Convention, evaluate their capacities for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage, report on their inventories of intangible cultural heritage and update the status of elements inscribed on the Representative List.

Jamaica was represented by the designated focal point person, Bernard Jankee, Director, ACIJ/JMMB.

It was held with the objective to strengthen the knowledge and skills of the national focal points in preparing their **country's periodic report** and to support the national monitoring processes for the implementation of the 2003 Convention.

UNESCO in collaboration with CRESPIAL (Regional Center for the Safeguard



ing of Intangible Cultural Heritage in Latin America) developed the course with the aim to build capacities for the preparation of the country reports and to strengthen the national monitoring processes of the 2003 Convention. It also provide an occasion for peer learning, networking and strategic discussion among participating focal points and UNESCO colleagues.

The course, which has been adapted to an online format in response to the COVID-19 crisis, presents a new modality for delivering training under the global capacity-building strategy. The online training was conducted during the period of 19 May to 23 June and hosted on the online UNESCO Microsoft Teams Platform. It was composed of an introductory session, four thematic modules and one conclusive session spread over six weeks .

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## PUBLICATIONS



A new ECLAC-UNESCO report entitled Education in the time of COVID-19 alerts the international community to the widening of pre-existing gaps due to the pandemic, both in terms of access as well as equity and quality – a situation that will especially affect those most vulnerable.

The report prepared by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and the Regional Bureau for Education in Latin America and the Caribbean (OREALC/UNESCO Santiago) emphasizes that the contraction in economic activity forecast for the region calls for urgently addressing the need to safeguard financing as a fundamental priority to protect national educational systems from the exacerbation of inequalities in access to education and of the learning crisis.

The situation is even more pressing because, according to UNESCO's available figures on 25 countries in the region, educational spending would have increased by 3.6% between 2019 and 2020 without the pandemic. However, because of the economic contraction, the amount of resources available for education could fall by more than 9% in 2020 alone,

## REGIONAL NEWS

with the real budgetary consequences coming to light in 2021.

## REGIONAL MEASURES AND EMERGING CHALLENGES

The report indicates that national education responses have allowed for identifying priority challenges when implementing measures to ensure educational continuity, equity and inclusion while face-to-face classes are suspended and during the process of reopening educational centers. These challenges are:

With regard to equity and inclusion, focusing on the most vulnerable and marginalized population groups – including indigenous peoples, the Afro-descendant population, refugees, displaced and migrant persons, the most socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, and people with disabilities – as well as on sexual and gender diversity. The pandemic has exposed the shortcomings in digital inclusion, and the report indicates that unequal access to online educational opportunities widens pre-existing gaps in access to information and knowledge, which hinders socialization and inclusion in general, in addition to the learning process that distance learning initiatives seek to provide. With regard to quality and relevance, focusing on improving the content of curricula (in relation to health and

well-being in particular) and on specialized support for teachers, ensuring appropriate contractual and working conditions, teacher training for distance learning and the return to school, and socio-emotional support in order to work with students and their families.

In addition, the text indicates that the educational system's challenges are related to preparedness for responding to crises, meaning the resilience and adaptation capacity of both educational systems and accompanying social services. For that reason, it stresses the need for interdisciplinary and inter-sectoral approaches; the strategies for returning to school and revitalizing educational processes require coordinating and articulating the planning and implementation of the educational sector with that of other sectors, particularly health, nutrition and social protection.

These challenges serve as a specific call to fulfill the right to education. That is why it is indispensable to have the resources needed for budget allocation and distribution, which will face a twofold effect from the crisis, according to an initial analysis by the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP): there will be a significant impact from reduced investment in education throughout the crisis, as well as the resulting additional cost, while at the same time the financial resources available for the sector will decline.

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

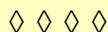
- JNC-UNESCO celebrates 55 years in November
- 210 session, Executive Board, 4-18 November 2020
- “Gaps, Debts & Positive Surprises”, What the pandemic has unveiled about our knowledge societies, 9-13 November 2020
- ICH Bureau meeting, 10 October 2020
- Executive Board Preparatory meeting, 14-15 October 2020
- ICH Committee 35th session, 14-19 December 2020

*International Days:*

13 February - World Radio Day

8 March - Int'l Women's Day

22 March - World Water Day



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UNESCO

## 40 JAMAICAN TEACHERS BENEFITTED FROM THE ONLINE/BLENDED LEARNING INITIATIVE & BLACKBOARD ACADEMY

In Jamaica, it is estimated that a total of 31 656 teachers are affected by COVID-19, of which 9 384 are in pre-school, 7233 in primary, 11798 in secondary and 3241 in tertiary education. An estimated 627 000 learners have been impacted by the school closures due to the pandemic, with the hardest hit being students at the secondary level, followed by those at the primary level.

UNESCO, together with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Information and the University of the West Indies Open Campus launched the Online and Blended Professional Development Initiative in Jamaica designed to enable teachers to make competent use of blended learning and online strategies in distance and online education in the time of COVID-19 and beyond.

The 4-day online workshop, 19 – 24 August, trains teachers with distance and blended teaching and learning skills in the new learning situation created by the novel corona virus COVID-19. The aim of this initiative is to equip a cohort of 40 teachers and master teachers in Jamaica with the skills, up-to-date tools and resources to apply

innovative teaching methods or adaptive pedagogies, to strengthen teachers' ability to respond to the current crisis, and to strengthen the resilience of Jamaica's education system to future shocks.

The topics covered in the workshop will focus on online educational methods, including the use of educational videos and interactive platforms, as well as the use of web conferencing tools such as zooming, online creation of assignments and quizzes, the selection of high quality online educational resources, and also a workshop day on online delivery pedagogy to engage students through online learning. The workshop also includes a component of critical thinking in online space leading to digital literacy.

This is particularly important when dealing with information for educational purposes, in order to validate the source and check the credibility of the information. With special attention to gender-specific learning, teachers will be qualified to involve girls and boys fully and equally.

### Blackboard Academy Caribbean Sub-regional Pilot Project 2020,

This initiative is designed to “train a cohort of 40 master facilitators in the Caribbean sub-region as experts in blended and online learning strategies to train 200 teachers, 10 per country, with the skills to apply innovative online and blended teaching methods or adaptive pedagogies in the new teaching and learning situation in the time of COVID-19,” UNESCO explained

“In addition, the initiative strengthens the teachers' ability to respond to the current crisis in the local environment and to strengthen the resilience of the sub-region's education systems to future shocks,” it said.

Blackboard Academy is a professional development platform for educators.

UNESCO, in cooperation with the regional ministries of education, is selecting the 40 facilitators to be trained during a four-week online workshop hosted by Blackboard Academy at K-12, elementary, and secondary levels with strategies for designing the online classroom.

# JFUCCA

## CLIMATE LAUNCHPAD

### WHAT IS CLIMATELAUNCHPAD?

ClimateLaunchpad is the world's largest green business ideas competition. Their mission is to unlock the world's cleantech potential that addresses climate change. The competition creates a stage for those ideas. ClimateLaunchpad is part of the Entrepreneurship offerings of [EIT Climate-KIC](#).

Kerry Ann Willis, a member of the JFUCCA executive, was accepted into the first round of the programme and is now among the top 2 and is representing Jamaica in the region

**Panel Discussion II**  
UNESCO Clubs Shaping Peace Locally & Globally

Moderator:  
Marietta Bentschey

**INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE**  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2020  
10:00 - 7:00 pm - NY Time

**UNESCO CENTER FOR PEACE**

**Dr. Nathal Michra**  
President Emeritus  
of UNESCO Clubs, Centers  
& Associations

**Christiana Jafari**  
National Coordinator  
of UNESCO Clubs,  
Centers, and Associations

**Lucrezia Maroniti**  
President Global Federation  
of UNESCO Clubs, Centers  
& Associations

**Maria Paula Azzarini**  
Honorary President Emerita  
Federation of UNESCO Clubs,  
Centers & Associations

**Dr. Daniela Rojas**  
President of Latin  
Federation of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**Elat Sylvain**  
President of Caribbean  
Federation of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**Densley Sully**  
President Bahamas  
Federation of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**Keisha Tindall**  
President of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**Mera Pali**  
President Singapore  
Federation of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**Akeo Suda**  
President Honorary  
Confederated Federation of  
UNESCO Clubs, Centers & A.

**Maria Antonova**  
President French Federation  
of UNESCO Clubs,  
Centers & Associations

**Mubtar Fufah**  
President Uganda  
Federation of UNESCO  
Clubs, Centers & Associations

**ZOOM Meeting ID: 931 7344 6625 - Passcode: 222383**



### Annual IMUN-STEM summer program

The UNESCO Centre for Peace hosted their annual IMUN-STEM summer program

3 students from YWCA UNESCO Club participated along with Carol Alberts, their coordinator

2 of them: Reanna Mamby spoke on Singapore and effects of climate change and Assantewaa Alberts spoke on El Salvador (see piic)

Fletcher's Land Youth Motivators Club lost their PR Officer, Alrick Russell. Condolences to the group. RIP Alrick

