



# JAMNAT E-NEWS

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## HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UNESCO

On 14 December, UNESCO celebrated the 65th anniversary of the adoption of its constitution. Director-General Irina Bokova was joined at the ceremony by her three predecessors Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow (1974 to 1987), Federico Mayor (1987 to 1999) and Koïchiro Matsuura (1999 to 2009).



### Dr. Leila Thomas

Dr. Thomas provided invaluable service to the Jamaica National Commission for UNESCO for well over thirty years. During this period she served on a number of Advisory Committees including Communication and Information. She was also very involved in the World Book and Copyright Day activities.

As a former head of the Jamaica Library Service and the Jamaica Movement for the Advancement of Literacy she brought a wealth of experience and expertise to the Advisory Committees of the Commission. She was a board member and Chairman of the General Information Programme Committee, 1979-1987; Member, and

General Information Programme Advisory Committee 1979-2011.

She crafted a number of programmes in order to obtain funding from UNESCO for important projects like; the production of the JAMAL "Life Skills Coach Training Manual", the training of instructors to deliver the JAMAL/H.E.A.R.T. Trust High School Equivalency Programme, the production of 24 television episodes for the Jamal Foundation media programme and the "Regional consultation on National Book Policies" for the National Book Development Council. She also helped

to formulate a number of library oriented projects to be funded by UNESCO such as Jamaica Library Service 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary international conference and ACURIL 32<sup>nd</sup> Conference that was held in Jamaica, 2002. She was very involved in the planning of the visit of the Director-General of UNESCO, Professor Federico Mayor to Jamaica in 1999 (MINEDLAC/PROMEDLAC Conference).

Dr Thomas is survived by her sister, Sylvia Thomas, the former Secretary General of JNC-UNESCO



## ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL BIOETHICS COMMITTEE OF JAMAICA

- Ms. Cheryl Brown attended her 1<sup>st</sup> International Bioethics Committee meeting in October and chaired the first session – Principle of respect for human vulnerability and personal integrity: Progress report of the IBC Working Group.
- Dr Anthony Mullings presented at the 8<sup>th</sup> Global Summit of National Bioethics Committees (July 26-27) and the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Bioethics (July 28-31). The presentations were: NBCJ: Experience Sharing: Newly Established National Bioethics Committees – Lessons Learned and Plans for the Future & Vulnerability in Research Ethics: A redefinition and rethink, respectively.
- Dr Anthony Mullings' article on NBCJ was published in the UNESCO Publication on National Bioethics Committees in Action, 2010 and referenced by Dr. Cheryl McPherson in an article published in BSEC Newsletter for December 2010.
- At the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual BSEC Symposium. Dr. Derrick Aarons, spoke on "Philosophical Reflections on Universal Access to Health" and Mrs. Shereen Dawkins-Cox spoke on "I Don't Wanna Wait in Vain": The Ethical Implications of Unlimited Access and Limited Resources"
- Dr. Mullings submitted a presentation "Prenatal Screening: The Ethical Challenge and a Possible Answer".
- Prof. Ralph Robinson along with Byron Wilson PhD presented a paper titled "Teaching Ethics: Incorporating Ethics into an Undergraduate Science Curriculum"

## JAMAICA'S DR. DERRICK AARONS ELECTED TO UNESCO BIOETHICS NETWORK

Dr Derrick Aarons, the first in the Caribbean to gain a doctorate in Bioethics and immediate past president of the Bioethics Society of the English-speaking Caribbean, has been elected to the Executive Council of RedBioetica UNESCO. He was elected on 24 November 2010 at the 3rd International Congress of RedBioetica UNESCO for Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Bogota, Colombia. His tenure on the Executive will be from 2011-2013.

At the Congress he delivered a well received presentation entitled "Bioethics and the Environment in the English-speaking Caribbean."

RedBioetica UNESCO is a bioethics network of all countries in Central and South America and the Caribbean, and has specific objectives to promote regional cooperation in bioethics to help resolve bioethical issues at the national,

sub-regional, and regional levels.

Dr Aarons will provide the link between the English-speaking Caribbean countries and those of Central and South America in addressing the specific bioethical issues that are common to countries of the South. Some of these challenges include:

- Impediments and risks to public health;
- Environmental injustice;
- Injustices in health and health care;
- Research;
- Medical tourism;
- Conflicts of interest in public service, corruption, and abuse of power;
- The consequences of illiteracy, discrimination, and injustice on the human condition; and
- The need for updated laws and regulations to protect the public from harm

(whether from the unperceived risks to health associated with some advertised products, emerging biotechnologies requiring regulation in each country, or other sources of potential harm existing in the society).

Working in the field of bioethics for the past 15 years, Dr Aarons is currently a member of the Medical Council of Jamaica and the recently launched National Bioethics Committee of Jamaica. The NBCJ is expected to launch its programme of work by addressing some of these issues in Jamaica, Dr Aarons said.



## MAB IN JAMAICA

**A MAB sensitization workshop was held 5-7 July 2010 at the Jamaica Conference Centre** to engage stakeholders in the UDC process to establish three Biosphere Reserves within its designated areas at Ocho Rios, Caymanas and Portland Bight

The consultant was Mrs. June Marie Mow who presented on

- Conceptual Framework of Biosphere Reserves
- The World Network for Biosphere Reserves
- Biosphere Reserves
- The statutory Framework of Biosphere Reserves and the Seville Strategy
- The Madrid Action Plan

- Biosphere Reserve Functions of Conservation, Development and Logistics
- The benefits to be derived from the establishment of a Biosphere Reserve for stakeholders, using documented case studies



UDC'S Sara Simpson participated in the **14th IberoMAB Meeting, 9-14 November 2010** It was held by the Institute of Ecology A.C., MAB-Mexico and UNESCO/MAB with support from CONANP (National Commission for Protected Areas in Mexico) and the Government. It was conducted jointly with the Iberoamerican Conference "Biosphere Reserves: All Hands, All Voices" in Puerto

Morelos, Quintana Roo State, Mexico.

Activities conducted over the five (5) day period included:

- An exhibition on Biosphere Reserves within the region
- Preparation of the IberoMAB Action Plan (2010-2020)
- Convening of the 14th Meeting of the Red IberoMAB
- A number of presentations on experiences of countries within the management of Biosphere Reserves worldwide

During the Red IberoMAB

meeting the main focus and consensus of the parties was on the impact of climate change globally and how Biosphere Reserves could contribute to increasing country's resilience to climate change and its impacts.

### STAFF NEWS

#### *Condolences*

*We extend our sympathy to the families of Dr Leila Thomas (Sunday 2 January 2011) & Mr. John Maxwell (Friday 10 December 2010).*

*Rest In Peace.*



#### *Departure*

*The NBCJ records its gratitude to Dr. Audia Barnett for the service she gave. Dr. Barnett resigned from the committee and has migrated.*



#### *Congratulations*

*Mrs. Shereen Dawkins-Cox (NBCJ) gave birth to her 1<sup>st</sup> child, a son*

*She was also elected as Vice President of the Bioethics Society of the English Speaking Caribbean (BSEC)*



## INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



Ms Stacey Jowhill, Secretary, at the JNC-UNESCO booth featuring the work of UNESCO and the UN on their work on the elimination of violence against women.

It was part of an activity hosted by the Bureau of Women's Affairs at St Andrew Parish Church Hall on 25 November 2010.

## ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARIAT

#### Advisory meetings:

- NATCOM meeting - 16 Dec
- Education Committee Meeting - 14 October
- Social and Human Sciences Committee Meeting - 22 November
- Communication Committee Meeting - 22 November, 7 December

- Culture Committee Meeting - 23 November

#### External Meetings:

- MAB tour to Aruba - 1-3 November (Secretary General Everton Hannam)
- MAB tour to Belize - 15-19 Nov (Secretary General Everton Hannam)

- Career Development Expo - 25 Nov (Secretary General Everton Hannam)
- International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women Exhibition - 25 Nov, St Andrew Parish Church Hall (Stacey Jowhill and Intern Marcia McKlmon)

## CARIBBEAN SUBREGIONAL WORKSHOP ON WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION

### The subregional workshop “Capacity Building Programme for World Heritage Centres” was held in Havana, Cuba, 15- 17 September 2010

The Caribbean Office in Cuba organized the Workshop to ensure that participants were given the necessary information for preparing documents for the signing of conventions and preparing listings for World Heritage Sites.

It was suggested that the World Heritage Committee create a format that would assist in the identification of sites and provide a framework for implementation. It was also proposed that the Intersectorial Institutional Development of Culture was necessary to ensure the following:

- long term institutional memory
- technical capacity
- capacity building of State Parties to ensure continuity
- the development of specific training programmes to meet the needs of State Parties
- communication and practicum to include Youth- e.g wider participation of youth in Heritage and Bioethics Programmes.

A Plan of Action for the development of a Capacity Building Programme for the Caribbean, 2010-2014 was:

- the establishing of sites

of memory related to the Slave Route and

- the development of courses in Heritage studies in our Colleges and Universities (University Degree and M.A. Degree).

A number of suggestions and recommendations were tabled by participants representing their respective countries. Suggestions from Jamaica were:

- UNESCO should develop an Intermediate Scale for looking at monumental sites for the Caribbean Region as an intermediate stage or a work in progress.
- continue projects like Youth Path that involves and train the youth
- support projects that speak to the Caribbean identity e.g. the Slave Route Project and Indigenous Religions.
- UNESCO should encourage and support the Development of Caribbean Experts.

#### Meetings while in Cuba

While in Cuba I met and had a discussion with Jamaica's Ambassador to Cuba, His Excellency Adale Robinson, on the World Heritage Conference and the need for Jamaica to have nominations for Heritage Sites. He is standing ready to help especially in areas where we can benefit from Cuban experts.

I also had meetings with Consultants Herman Van Hoof and Isabel Rigol Heritage. Van Hoof was assigned by UNESCO to the Jamaica National Heritage Trust from 1986-1987 to do feasibility study on three sites: Port Royal, Spanish Town and New Seville. During the period of one year and six months International Experts and Local Experts conducted historical, financial, economic studies and design for each site complete with drawings and estimates.

Twenty-five copies of the study and a video “Out of many one people: Cultural Heritage of Jamaica” were deposited at the Institute of Jamaica.

Van Hoof said a lot of detailed work was done on each site. He went on to say that there were challenges but nothing that could not be overcome

*“Port Royal was a little too ambitious and needed to be scaled down*

*Seville was not properly presented at the time and should have no difficulty*

*qualifying now under the umbrella of “Cultural Landscape”*

*Spanish Town, although a great site, needed more work and a substantial amount of funding. He concluded that this site has endless potential and must be restored”.*

He further suggested that we must look at the presentations that were made in the 80s as much is still relevant to future plans.

Isabel Rigol, who worked on the Seville Project, agreed that the site more than qualify under the area of Cultural Landscape.

We should take note that since 1986 eight world sites have been put forward by Cuba. During the same period Jamaica, on the other hand, have not had one site reach the qualifying stage.

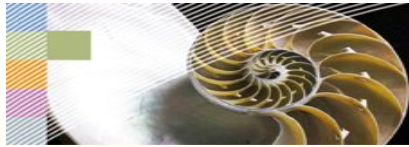
#### SEVILLE 500 YEARS

At the final session of the workshop a toast was proposed and a cake cut in honour of Seville (Jamaica) 500 years anniversary.

Report submitted by Dr Maria Smith, Programme Manager



## A science observatory for Latin America and the Caribbean



Red de información  
sobre política científica  
SPIN: Science Policy Information Network

The Science Policy Information Network (SPIN) launched in Montevideo (Uruguay), is a revolutionary cluster of databases equipped with powerful graphic and analytical tools that has been devised for decision-makers and specialists in science, technology and innovation (STI) by UNESCO's Regional Bureau for Science in Latin America and the Caribbean.

It includes:

- a detailed inventory in Spanish and English of each national innovation system in the region,
- a database encompassing all the relevant legal frameworks in each country;
- an inventory with detailed descriptions of more than 900 different technical and financial science policy instruments

implemented by the 33 countries in the region,

- a database containing 170 descriptions of national and international organizations and other NGOs which provide technical and financial co-operation in science and technology.
- a digital library specializing in STI with over 800 titles produced by UNESCO;

To access the SPIN platform:  
<http://spin.unesco.org.uy/>

For details:  
[bes@unesco.org.uy](mailto:bes@unesco.org.uy)

## THE WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE & WORLD NETWORK OF BIOSPHERE RESERVES

The World Heritage Committee has inscribed four natural and 17 cultural sites, including one mixed site, Papahānaumokuākea (USA) bringing the total number of sites inscribed on the World Heritage List to 911.

Three countries saw their sites added for the first time: Kiribati, the Marshall Islands and Tajikistan. One existing natural site has also been recognized for its cultural values and thus becomes a mixed site, Ngorongoro Conservation Area (Tanzania).

The next session of the World Heritage Committee will take place in Bahrain

in June 2011. On the agenda is Jamaica's Blue & John Crow National Park

For details:  
<http://whc.unesco.org>



UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves has acquired 13 new Sites. There are now 564 sites in 109 countries.

Biosphere Reserves are areas designated under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme to serve as places to test different approaches to integrated management of terrestrial, freshwater, coastal and marine resources and biodiversity. Biosphere Reserves are thus sites for

experimenting with and learning about sustainable development.

For details:  
**Complete List of Biosphere Reserves (2010)**  
<http://www.unesco.org/mab/doc/brs/>  
**World Map of Biosphere Reserves (2009)**  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018>

**UNESCO Strategy on climate change**  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0016>

**International Conference of Island and Coastal Biosphere Reserves (Final Report)**  
<http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0018>

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<http://jncunesco.gov.jm>

For more information on the UNESCO Office for the Caribbean please visit:  
[www.unesco.org/kingston](http://www.unesco.org/kingston)

For more information on the global UNESCO please visit:  
[www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)

## PUBLICATIONS

## The adventures of Patrimonito

UNESCO's World Heritage Education Programme has developed a series of short, animated cartoons for schools which depict the adventures of a character called Patrimonito, a heritage guardian whose name means 'small heritage' in Spanish.

So far, eight 4-minute films have been made. There is no dialogue but music and short texts accompany each film in one or more of the six official languages of UNESCO: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

Five of these films follow the fortunes of cultural heritage:

- the historic centre of Havana (Cuba);
- the wooden church in Urnes (Norway);
- the 11 churches built out of the rockface in Lalibela (Ethiopia);
- historic monuments of Novgorod (Russian Federation) and;
- the Old Town of Avila (Spain).

The remaining three focus on natural sites:

- the Sub-Antarctic Islands (New Zealand);
- the Virunga Mountains (Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda) and;
- the Great Barrier Reef (Australia).

For details and to view these films:  
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/patrimonito>

## REGIONAL MAB REPORT

In continuation of the efforts towards engaging English and Dutch Speaking Caribbean countries in the concept of a Biosphere Reserve visits were undertaken by Ms. June Marie Robinson, UNESCO Consultant and Everton Hannam, Secretary-General and Member of the International Advisory Committee of Biosphere to Aruba (31 October–3 November) and Belize (14-17 November). I

n Aruba

- Courtesy calls made to Michelle J. Hooyboer-Winklar, Hon. Minister with responsibility for UNESCO matters and Hon. Oslin B. Sevinger, Minister of Integration, Infrastructure and Environment
- Discussions held with Mr. James Oduber, Secretary-General of the Aruba National Commission
- Visit to Arkok National Park, a possible Biosphere Reserve site
- Meeting with UNESCO Club of Aruba
- Meeting with NGO, **StimAruba**

Hon. Oslin B. Sevinger expressed his interest to get the process moving forward especially if funding was provided to enable this.

As Vice President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs (WFUCA) and President of the Regional Federation of

UNESCO Clubs of Latin America and the Caribbean, I met with the representatives of the Aruba Youth Parliament (UNESCO Club). It was agreed that

- UNESCO celebrated days are to be celebrated by the Youth Parliament
- Celebrations to mark the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UNESCO Club movement to be organized
- The Aruba National Commission for UNESCO will provide funding for the club in 2011
- A Calendar of activities for next year will be prepared
- Preparations for the 2011 World Congress in Vietnam will begin

In Belize

- Meetings with officials of the Belizean Government:
  - Hon. Gaspar Vega, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources and Environment
  - Hon. Patrick Faber - Minister of Education

and Youth and Chairman of the Belize National Commission

- Hon. Rene Montero, Minister of Agriculture and Fishers
- Mr. Eden Martinez - Senior Human Resource Development
- Visit to Turnefe Atoll, a possible Biosphere Reserve site
- Discussions held with Dr. David Brown, Secretary-General of the Belizean National Commission
- Meeting with representatives from Government and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs)

The Secretary-General, National Commission Belize undertook to prepare a cabinet submission while nomination forms will be prepared by the NGO's for submission.

Report submitted by  
Everton Hannam,  
Secretary General



## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- 12-14 April, 2011 - Underwater Culture Heritage Conference, Kingston
- April 2011- National Bioethics Training



Visit our website:  
<http://jncunesco.gov.jm>



## UNESCO VACANCIES

**Central Services**

Chief of Section, Paris, Fr  
**Deadline:** 9 Feb. 2011  
 General Manager Paris, Fr  
**Deadline:** 1 March 2011  
 Deputy Director, Office Of  
 Director-General Paris, Fr  
**Deadline:** 12 March 2011

**Communication & Information Sector**

Adviser For  
 Communication &  
 Information, Beijing  
**Deadline:** 9 Feb 2011  
 Adviser For  
 Communication &  
 Information, Cameroon  
**Deadline:** 9 Feb 2011

**Natural Sciences Sector**

Programme Specialist  
 (Natural Sciences) Accra,  
 Ghana  
**Deadline:** 15 Feb2011  
 Programme Specialist  
 Montevideo, Uruguay  
**Deadline:** 14 March 2011

**Sector for External Relations and Information**

Director, Division Of Public  
 Information Paris, France  
**Deadline:** 6 Feb 2011

**Sector for Administration**

Chief Of Unit Paris, Fr  
**Deadline:** 14 March 2011  
 Chief Of Unit Paris, Fr  
**Deadline:** 4 March 2011

Chief Of Unit Paris, France  
**Deadline:** 28 February 2011  
 Database And Sap Systems  
 Administrator Paris, France  
**Deadline:** 14 March 2011

**Submit applications at:**  
[www.unesco.org/employment](http://www.unesco.org/employment)

**Or mail to:**

Chief Recruitment and Staffing  
 Section, Bureau of Human  
 Resources Management,  
 UNESCO, 7 Place de Fontenoy,  
 75352 Paris 07 SP, France

Send full CV in English or French,  
 on the Official UNESCO  
 curriculum vitae form.

COMPETITIONS, PRIZES,  
SCHOLARSHIPS,

[UNESCO/Israel \(MASHAV\) Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme](#) tions: 13 April 2011

The Government of Israel is offering a number of fellowships to its training course **"Slum Upgrading and the Delivery of Services to the Urban Poor"**. It is from 4 July to 2 August 2011 and will be hosted at the Weitz Centre For Development Studies.

The course is intended for planners, architects, engineers, economists, community workers, administrators and policy makers working in government ministries (such as local government, housing, development, welfare, health and others), in local authorities, NGOs and CBOs active in the field, as well as business organizations and academic institutions engaged with slum upgrading programs;

**Deadline** for the submission of applica-

**UNESCO Fellows:**  
**Marsha Nicola Watson**  
 &  
**Anthony Decorte Russell**

Under the UNESCO/Israel (MASHAV) Co-Sponsored Fellowships Programme) Marsha Nicola Watson (Programmes Manager, National Youth Service) & Anthony Decorte Russell (Lecturer/ Community Empowerment Coordinator, Excelsior Community College) were selected to participate in the training course "Educational Methodologies—Youth at Risk: Preventing School Dropouts and Facilitating Reintegration".

The course is currently underway.

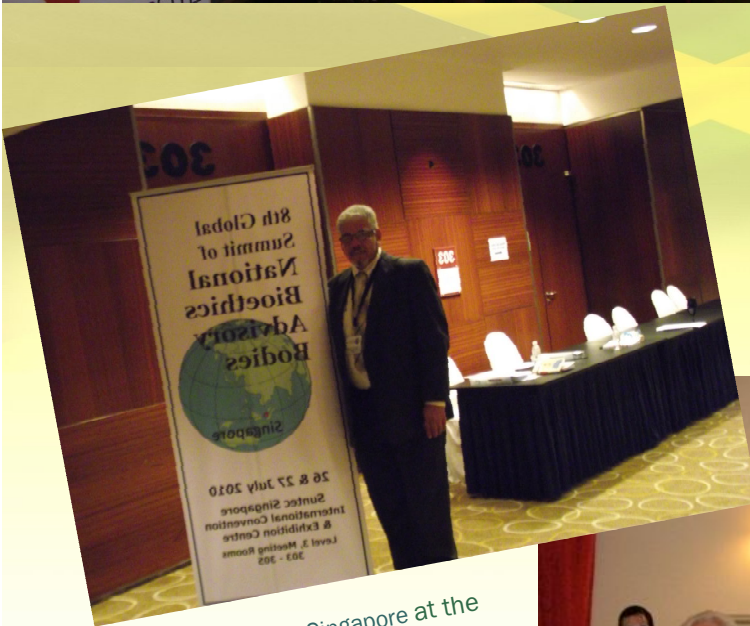
# PHOTOS



JNC-UNESCO's booth at the World Tourism Day Exhibition, UTECH Auditorium on 30 Sept, 2010



Secretary General Everton Hannam, with the Aruba UNESCO Club



Dr. Anthony Mullings in Singapore at the 10th World Congress on Bioethics (July 28-31).

