

U N I V E R S I T Y O F T H E B A H A M A S

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT
2019~2020

2019~2020



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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The 2019-2020 academic year for the University has surely been shaped by two major shocks: (1) the near complete destruction of the East Grand Bahama UB-North campus in the wake of the passage of Hurricane Dorian; and (2) the health calamity and associated economic fall-out from the COVID-19 pandemic. At the end of the academic year for which this report is written, the University continues to confront these twin shocks, and, as best as it can in the circumstances, move forward with the 2019-2024 Strategic Plan for the University. Regarding the Strategic Plan, it should be noted that the Board of Trustees had set the President and

his administration with the task of recommending to the Board a new Strategic Plan that would come into effect at the end of 2019, and that the Board approved the Strategic Plan presented to the Board by the President in November 2019.

Despite the huge double blow to University's development plans caused by the twin shocks, the University has continued its national tertiary education mission, adapted to the shocks, and stood as a beacon of resiliency for the country. When faced with a national crisis, the institutions that project stability and continuity offer the nation an important source

of encouragement. In this regard, UB has stood resilient - signaling to the Bahamian people, "this too will pass". I cannot overstate the importance of the morale-boosting role that the University has played in weathering the literal and metaphorical storms battering our country.

When UB-North's East Grand Bahama campus was blown to bits by the raging seas and winds of Hurricane Dorian, Dr. Ian Strachan, Vice-President of UB-North, and the irrepressible employees and students of UB-North, kept UB's tertiary educational project going in the North through the use of temporary facilities

in the Freeport area. With the Board's full support, Dr. Strachan and his team then immediately set about to find a new location for the core services of UB-North and to re-purpose the East Grand Bahama campus around the sustainability lessons offered by Dorian. While Dorian was a blow to the University's goal of expanded access to higher education, the setback was temporary and the mission continues.

The COVID-19 pandemic was also met with a robust response from the University during the 2019-2020 academic year. The University was the first institution to initiate remote working protocols for its employees, and led the way for other institutions to follow suit in compliance with the emergency regulations. This meant a massive effort had to be undertaken by the University to shift from the physical classroom to remote teaching using a variety of video conferencing

and online education platforms. This adaptive transition was a complete success thanks to the hard work of the faculty, the Chairpersons, and the Deans under the leadership of the VP of Academic Affairs, Dr. Maria Oriakhi, and her team in Academic Affairs. Our students also have to be commended for their understanding and strong support for the academic strategies that were put into place by the University during the academic year to keep the University up and running. Last but not least, the Board and the entire University owe the Government a huge debt of gratitude for maintaining the Tuition-Grant Programme and stabilizing the finances of the University during the national fiscal crisis facing the nation. Through providing free tuition, the grant advances a key aspect of the mission of the University and a national goal of the Government – expanding access to higher education.

Despite the tough times, there are good things happening at the University in the areas of academic programme review, teaching, and research. In the face of any storm, and in the fine tradition of Bahamian resiliency, University of The Bahamas moves forward and upward. Together, with the support of all Bahamians, the University will continue to strive to support national development. And, in this effort, the University is committed to continuous improvement and the development of a top-notch University of which all of us can be proud.

Onward.

Dr. K. Jonathon Rodgers
Chairman



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This academic year has been an historic and challenging one for University of The Bahamas. However, I am extremely proud of UB's students, faculty, staff and administration, who were able to respond well to all the challenges we faced and overcome them. This truly speaks to our tenacity, and our belief in carrying out UB's mission.

We started the academic year well, but the Northern Bahamas was

unfortunately visited by Hurricane Dorian. This hurricane was like no other, and it devastated much of Abaco and Grand Bahama and our University of The Bahamas-North Campus.

This was a blow to us, but under the leadership of Dr. Ian Strachan, Vice President of UB-North, we were able to secure a new location and resume classes within one month of the storm. Students who were able, also came to our

Oakes Field Campus to continue their programmes, and through the generosity of our friends at Hampton University in Virginia, USA, some students received scholarships to continue their studies there.

The year 2020 began with renewed vigor, but in mid-March the COVID-19 pandemic reached Bahamian shores and, once again, we had to work swiftly to adjust our operations. While moving to

Zoom meetings was relatively easy, Academic Affairs had the greatest challenge in transitioning over 90% of our face-to-face classes to online platforms. Dr. Maria Oriakhi, Vice President of Academic Affairs, and the Academic Senate were able to successfully do this, along with our dedicated faculty.

We also quickly established a COVID-19 Task Force, led by Dr. Marcella Elliott-Ferguson of Vice President of Administrative Services, and Mr. Ronnie Stevenson, Vice President of Operations. The task force was able to put the necessary plans in place for a phased reopening of our campuses, as the situation

changed, and maintenance and upgrades to ensure the proper sanitization methods and social distancing protocols.

Despite the changes, we were able to successfully continue our operations and achieve the following:

- We successfully broke ground for what will be our new campus residence hall, inclusive of retail spaces and a parking garage.
- The Ceremonial and Occasions Committee planned and executed our first virtual Commencement Ceremony for the Class of 2020.
- The Academic Senate held virtual elections to continue working seamlessly.
- The Division of Institutional Advancement held successful fundraising campaigns for both Hurricane Dorian Relief and COVID-19 technology needs.
- Dr. Danny Davis, Assistant Vice President of Institutional Strengthening, was able to assist the Ministry of Health with work on the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am looking forward to the 2020-2021 Academic Year, knowing that we have even greater things to achieve.

Rodney D. Smith, Ed.D.
President and CEO
University of The Bahamas

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. K. Jonathan Rodgers, M.B.E., Chairman
Ms. Alessandra Holowesko, Vice-Chair
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Mr. Raymond Rolle, Trustee
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Mr. Peter Whitehead, Trustee
Mr. Brian Jones, Trustee
Mr. Henry St. George, Trustee
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Mr. Reno Miller, Alumni Association Trustee
Ms. Ravelle Dean, Student Trustee
Ms. Jeannie Gibson, Staff Trustee

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Mrs. Tracy Ferguson-Johnson, General Counsel
Mr. Michael Stevenson, University Secretary
Mr. Erald Thompson, Chief Internal Auditor
Mrs. Marissa Mason-Smith, Ombudsman

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Dr. Rodney D. Smith, President and CEO
Dr. Maria Woodside-Oriakhi, Acting VP Academic Affairs
Ms. Ingrid Culmer, Acting VP Finance and Business Enterprise
Dr. Mychal Coleman, VP Human Resources
Dr. Marcella Elliott-Ferguson, VP Administrative Services

Mr. Dino Hernandez, VP Institutional Advancement & Alumni Affairs

Dr. Ian Strachan, VP, University of The Bahamas-North

Mr. Joe W. Stubbs, Dean of Students

Mr. Elgin Smith, VP, Chief Information Officer

Mr. Ronnie Stevenson, VP Operations

Ms. Maelynn Seymour-Major, Chief of Staff

DEANS AND SENIOR ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Danny Davis, Assistant Vice President, Institutional Strengthening and Accreditation

Mr. Philip Weech, Assistant Vice President, Sponsored Research and Grants

Dr. Douglas Barkey, Dean, Liberal & Fine Arts

Dr. Carlton Watson, Dean, Pure & Applied Sciences

Dr. Peter McWilliam, Dean, Faculty (UB-North)

Mrs. Remelda Moxey, Dean, Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies

Dr. Vikneswaran Nair, Dean, Graduate Studies and Research

Dr. Ruth Sumner, Dean, Social and Educational Studies

Dr. Berthamae Walker, University Librarian

Dr. Earla Carey-Baines, University Editor

Dr. Pandora Johnson, Special Projects & Initiatives

ENROLMENT AND GRADUATION

In Fall 2019, enrolment was 4,671 students, slightly more than the 4,399 registered in Fall 2018. While New Providence and Grand Bahama residents accounted for the vast majority of students, the student population included natives of 14 countries spanning several continents and regions around the globe. During 2019-2020, there were 443 graduates of UB comprising 76% (335) females and 24% (108) males, with more than three quarters of the graduates (81%) receiving baccalaureate degrees. Among the newest alumni were also associate degree, diploma and certificate holders.

ENROLMENT

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

Census Date	September 20th, 2019	Oldest Student	65
Total Headcount	4,671	Youngest Student	15
Unique Students*	5,070	Average Age	23
Males	1,256	Freshmen	2,250
Females	3,415	Sophomores	859
Average Cumulative GPA	2.60	Juniors	684
Average Number of Courses Taken	4.6	Seniors	878

TOTAL STUDENTS

Campus		Fall 2018	Fall 2019
Main - Oakes Field	Total Students	3,938	4,177
		Change from prior year	
	N	-248	239
	%	-5.92%	6.07%
UB-North	Total Students	461	494
		Change from prior year	
	N	-22	33
	%	-4.55%	6.72%
Total	Total Students	4,399	4,671
		Change from prior year	
	N	-270	272
	%	-5.78%	6.18%

SEX

SEX	CAMPUS		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Main - Oakes Field					
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Female	3,029	88.70%	386	11.30%	3,415	100.00%
Male	1,148	91.40%	108	8.60%	1,256	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

* Unique Students represents how many individual students were enrolled in the Fall 2019 semester at some point in time.

FIRST GENERATION STATUS[†]

FIRST-GENERATION	CAMPUS		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Main - Oakes Field					
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
No	1,898	90.51%	199	9.49%	2,097	100.00%
Yes	1,311	90.10%	144	9.90%	1,455	100.00%
No Data	968	86.51%	151	13.49%	1,119	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

ISLAND OF RESIDENCE[‡]

ISLAND	CAMPUS		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Main - Oakes Field					
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Abaco	105	87.50%	15	12.50%	120	100.00%
Acklins	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Andros	74	98.67%	1	1.33%	75	100.00%
Berry Island	10	100.00%	0	0.00%	10	100.00%
Bimini	5	83.33%	1	16.67%	6	100.00%
Cat Island	17	100.00%	0	0.00%	17	100.00%
Crooked Island	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Eleuthera	143	94.70%	8	5.30%	151	100.00%
Exuma	32	94.12%	2	5.88%	34	100.00%
Grand Bahama	259	36.79%	445	63.21%	704	100.00%
Inagua	9	90.00%	1	10.00%	10	100.00%
Long Island	52	100.00%	0	0.00%	52	100.00%
Mayaguana	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
New Providence	3,415	99.59%	14	0.41%	3,429	100.00%
San Salvador	12	100.00%	0	0.00%	12	100.00%
Other	39	84.78%	7	15.22%	46	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

[†] Based on survey information. A first-generation student is one whose immediate family members have never attended college or university.

[‡] Determined by a student's permanent address of residence.

CITIZENSHIP[§]

COUNTRY	CAMPUS		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Main - Oakes Field					
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Brazil	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Colombia	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Dominica	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
Guyana	11	100.00%	0	0.00%	11	100.00%
Haiti	21	91.30%	2	8.70%	23	100.00%
India	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Jamaica	27	100.00%	0	0.00%	27	100.00%
Kenya	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Nigeria	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
Peru	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Saint Lucia	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
The Bahamas	4,099	89.28%	492	10.72%	4,591	100.00%
Trinidad And Tobago	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Turks And Caicos Isl	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
United States	3	100.00%	0	0.00%	3	100.00%
Unknown	2	100.00%	0	0.00%	2	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

STATUS

STATUS	CAMPUS		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Main - Oakes Field					
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Continuing Student	3,110	90.99%	308	9.01%	3,418	100.00%
Dual Enrolment (JumpStart)	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
First-Time Student	715	85.63%	120	14.37%	835	100.00%
Pre-College	150	70.42%	63	29.58%	213	100.00%
Readmit	23	100.00%	0	0.00%	23	100.00%
Second Degree	145	97.97%	3	2.03%	148	100.00%
Transfer	33	100.00%	0	0.00%	33	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

[§] Citizenship is at the time of admission. Dual citizens whose citizenship includes The Bahamas are counted once as The Bahamas.

FT/PT

FT/PT	CAMPUS Main - Oakes Field		UB-North				Total Count	Total Column Percentage
	Count	Column Percentage	Row Percentage	Count	Column Percentage	Row Percentage		
Full-Time	3,098	74.17%	91.14%	301	60.93%	8.86%	3,399	72.77%
Part-Time	1,079	25.83%	84.83%	193	39.07%	15.17%	1,272	27.23%
Grand Total	4,177	100.00%	89.42%	494	100.00%	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

AGE GROUP

AGE	CAMPUS Main - Oakes Field		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
<18	452	85.93%	74	14.07%	526	100.00%
18-19	1,162	88.23%	155	11.77%	1,317	100.00%
20-21	784	90.01%	87	9.99%	871	100.00%
22-24	708	90.77%	72	9.23%	780	100.00%
25-29	552	92.62%	44	7.38%	596	100.00%
30-34	221	94.04%	14	5.96%	235	100.00%
35-39	127	88.81%	16	11.19%	143	100.00%
40-49	118	85.51%	20	14.49%	138	100.00%
50-64	50	92.59%	4	7.41%	54	100.00%
65+	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Unknown	2	20.00%	8	80.00%	10	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

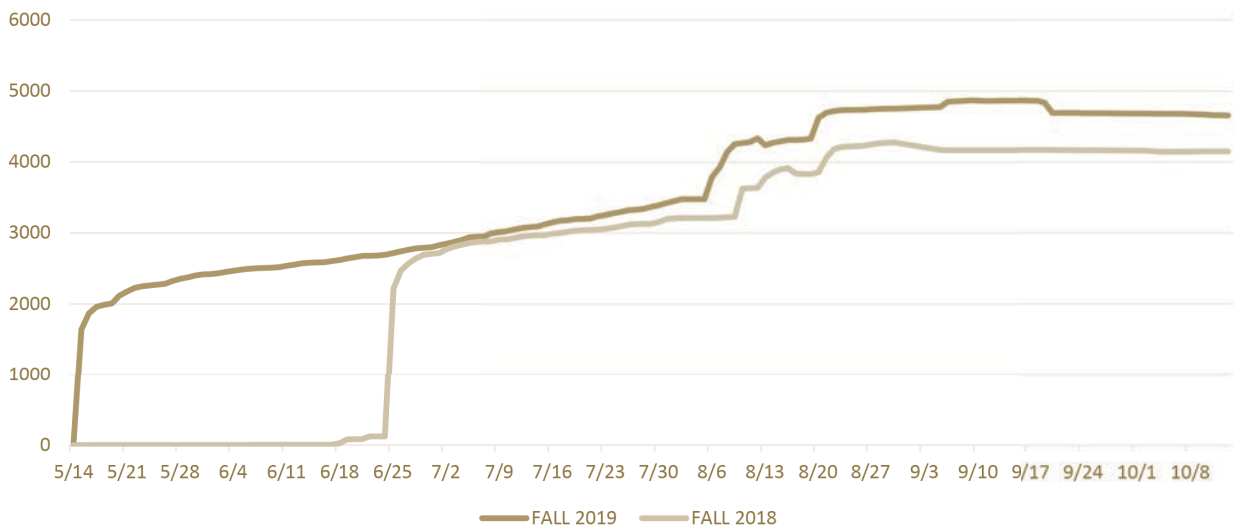
ACADEMIC DIVISION

COLLEGE	CAMPUS Main - Oakes Field		UB-North		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Business & Hospitality Mgmt	1,070	89.84%	121	10.16%	1,191	100.00%
CELEARN	261	75.43%	85	24.57%	346	100.00%
Chem, Environ & Life Sciences	529	88.91%	66	11.09%	595	100.00%
Communications & Creative Arts	129	93.48%	9	6.52%	138	100.00%
Counselling Services	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Culinary Arts & Tour Studies	155	98.10%	3	1.90%	158	100.00%
Education	523	83.55%	103	16.45%	626	100.00%
English Studies	24	96.00%	1	4.00%	25	100.00%
Math, Physics & Technology	351	93.10%	26	6.90%	377	100.00%
No College Designated	15	93.75%	1	6.25%	16	100.00%
Nursing & Allied Health	705	93.63%	48	6.37%	753	100.00%
Social Sciences	414	93.03%	31	6.97%	445	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

MODALITY

INSTRUCTIONAL METHOD	CAMPUS					
	Main - Oakes Field		UB-North			
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage	Total Count	Total Percentage
Mixed**	526	94.10%	33	5.90%	559	100.00%
Non-Traditional	7	100.00%	0	0.00%	7	100.00%
Online	5	100.00%	0	0.00%	5	100.00%
Traditional	3,627	89.14%	442	10.86%	4,069	100.00%
Unknown	12	38.71%	19	61.29%	31	100.00%
Grand Total	4,177	89.42%	494	10.58%	4,671	100.00%

POINT IN TIME ENROLMENT**



** Point In Time Enrolment (PITE) shows the total enrollment at any given date throughout the Fall semester.

GRADUATION

DEGREE, DIVISION AND SEX AY 18 - 19

DEGREE	Male		Female		Total Count	Total Percentage
	Count	Percentage	Count	Percentage		
Associate	37	42.05%	51	57.95%	88	100.00%
Business & Hospitality Mgmt	4	36.36%	7	63.64%	11	100.00%
Chem, Environ & Life Sciences	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Communications & Creative Arts	4	44.44%	5	55.56%	9	100.00%
Culinary Arts & Tour Studies	3	16.67%	15	83.33%	18	100.00%
Math, Physics & Technology	15	75.00%	5	25.00%	20	100.00%
Social Sciences	10	34.48%	19	65.52%	29	100.00%
Baccalaureate	87	20.05%	347	79.95%	434	100.00%
Business & Hospitality Mgmt	35	26.72%	96	73.28%	131	100.00%
Chem, Environ & Life Sciences	12	20.69%	46	79.31%	58	100.00%
Communications & Creative Arts	3	15.79%	16	84.21%	19	100.00%
Education	17	16.35%	87	83.65%	104	100.00%
English Studies	0	0.00%	2	100.00%	2	100.00%
Math, Physics & Technology	10	90.91%	1	9.09%	11	100.00%
Nursing & Allied Health	3	4.84%	59	95.16%	62	100.00%
Social Sciences	7	14.89%	40	85.11%	47	100.00%
Certificate	2	13.33%	13	86.67%	15	100.00%
Communications & Creative Arts	0	0.00%	1	100.00%	1	100.00%
Culinary Arts & Tour Studies	1	33.33%	2	66.67%	3	100.00%
Education	1	100.00%	0	0.00%	1	100.00%
Nursing & Allied Health	0	0.00%	10	100.00%	10	100.00%
Diploma	5	20.83%	19	79.17%	24	100.00%
Business & Hospitality Mgmt	0	0.00%	1	100.00%	1	100.00%
Education	5	21.74%	18	78.26%	23	100.00%
Total	131	23.35%	430	76.65%	561	100.00%

FACULTY AT-A-GLANCE

ACTIVE FULL-TIME FACULTY	205
PART-TIME FACULTY	283
NON-INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY	18
NEW HIRES	18
RETIREES	6
TOTAL NUMBER OF FACULTY (FULL-TIME, PART-TIME, NON-INSTRUCTIONAL)	506

YEAR IN REVIEW

JULY 2019

Government Tertiary Education Grant Programme Launched

In July, the much anticipated Government Tertiary Education Grant Programme was formally launched with an invitation for students and potential students who met the requirements to apply. A key plank of the government's pledge to increase access to tertiary education, the programme covers the cost of tuition, select fees and a housing accommodation grant for eligible applicants. UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith, a first generation university graduate, heralded the initiative as one that will produce the human capital necessary to make The Bahamas more resilient, competitive and dynamic. Enrolled students must take a minimum of 12 credits per semester and maintain at least 2.0 GPA or the minimum GPA requirement for their respective programme e.g. a 2.75 GPA for nursing grant recipients and a 3.00 GPA for teacher education grant recipients.



UB Bahamas Government Tertiary Education Grant Programme at University of The Bahamas

University of The Bahamas Off-Campus Housing Registry

[Click here to learn more.](#)

UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS

Bahamian NBA Star Hosts Basketball Clinic and Funds UB Scholarship

Grand Bahama native and Sacramento Kings star guard Chavano “Buddy” Hield spent a part of his NBA off season with eager young basketball players who enrolled in his Buddy’s Elite 24 Basketball Clinic held at the Kendal G.L. Isaacs Gymnasium. A total of 24 high school students considered the best in the country were rigorously trained by professional basketball players and coaches. At the end of the week-long camp, Bimini native Bradley Lightbourne was announced as the recipient of the University of The Bahamas Mingoes scholarship.



Chavano “Buddy” Hield (centre) poses with UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith and other officials.



From left VP of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs Dino Hernandez, Chavano “Buddy” Hield, and President Dr. Rodney D. Smith.

SEPTEMBER 2019

Hurricane Dorian Devastates UB-North Campus but Community Rebounds

University of The Bahamas did not escape the wrath of deadly Hurricane Dorian that levelled homes and infrastructure and caused massive devastation in Grand Bahama and Abaco. In the storm's aftermath, harrowing tales emerged of mothers, fathers, children and the elderly having to ride out Dorian's fury on rooftops, in crawl spaces, attics, cupboards and in floodwaters. The storm caused severe damage to the University of The Bahamas-North campus in East Grand Bahama, displacing approximately 600 faculty, staff and students.

However, with an incredible will to rebound from the crisis, the UB-North community led by Vice President Dr. Ian G. Strachan quickly relocated teaching and administrative spaces to locations in Freeport. Remarkably, one month later operations resumed at the University's premises in the Teaching and Salaried Workers Cooperative Credit Union Building and at the Bishop Michael Eldon School. Thankfully, responding to the urgent need for aid, the UB, local, national and international community also provided relief supplies and support.



NOVEMBER 2019

President Smith Receives AASCU Nomination

UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith was nominated to serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) for a three-year term. Dr. Smith was also appointed to serve on the Committee on International Education, which serves in an advisory capacity to assist AASCU initiate and recommend policies, programs and services dealing with international education and global initiatives. AASCU is a Washington-based higher education association of nearly 400 public colleges, universities and systems whose members share a learning and teaching centred culture. It has a historic commitment to underserved student populations and a dedication to research and creativity that advances their regions' economic progress and cultural development.

Outstanding Alumni and Hall of Fame Inductees Celebrated

As is tradition, UB paid homage to eight of its alumni luminaries during its Hall of Fame and Outstanding Alumni Awards event held at the British Colonial Hilton Hotel. Class of 1979 graduates Dr. John Bain, a certified forensic accountant, and UB Director of Employee and Industrial Relations Ms. Wendyi Poitier were inducted into the Alumni Association Hall of Fame. Class of 1989 alum and Speaker of the House of Assembly the Hon. Halson Moultrie, and Vice President of Maintenance and Engineering at the Nassau Airport Development Company Mr. Kevin McDonald were honoured with the Outstanding Alumni Award. The Trailblazer Award was bestowed upon class of 1999 graduates and UB faculty Dr. Erecia Hepburn, Chair of Chemistry, Environmental and Life Science, and Social Sciences Professor Dr. Christopher Curry. Also, class of 2009 graduates, attorney Mrs. Ashley Carroll-Evans and writer and visual artist Mr. Bernard Petit-Homme received the Emerging Leader Award.



Alumni honourees pose in this photo with UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith (centre).



Hall of Fame honourees John Bain and Wendy Poitier.

New Centre Bolsters Country's Capacity for Climate Change Resilience

Months after experiencing the deadliest storm on record for The Bahamas, UB established the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research (CCARR) Centre. The CCARR Centre focuses on research concerning the human dimensions of climate change from a small island developing state (SIDS) perspective. It also collaborates with public and private sector agencies on effective policy development, and conducts education and outreach with the public and international organizations. Director of the CCARR Centre Dr. Adelle Thomas noted, "University of The Bahamas will focus on how climate change directly and indirectly affects our communities and how we can best adapt to these extensive changes." As a human-environment geographer, Dr. Thomas' research focuses on adaptation, loss and damage and vulnerability of SIDS to this existential threat.



Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. K. Jonathan Rodgers.



Director of the CCARR Centre Dr. Adelle Thomas.

DECEMBER 2019

UB and UTEB Sign New Industrial Agreement

University of The Bahamas (UB) and Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas (UTEB) executives signed the 2017-2020 Industrial Agreement in December 2019, ending many months of negotiations. With the new agreement came a commitment to ensuring faculty excellence at all levels – in teaching, research, scholarship and service – and a spirit of harmony and respect. The agreement strengthens the foundation for the University to grow its academic offerings, provide competitive salary scales for specialized faculty, complete outstanding faculty promotions. President Dr. Rodney D. Smith foreshadowed a productive and collaborative relationship with members of faculty and UTEB.



President Smith signs the agreement.



President Smith (at left) and UTEB President Mr. Daniel Thompson.

JANUARY 2020

Italian Ambassador Shares Lessons Learnt from Tackling Climate Change

Amidst a renewed urgency for climate change resilience and adaptation, the Italian Ambassador to The Bahamas shared some of the measures that his country and the European Union have undertaken to reduce the existential threat. Delivering a presentation to the UB community at the Oakes Field Campus on “Tackling Climate Change” His Excellency Armando Varicchio noted that the threat of climate change be overcome by strengthening international cooperation and keeping the issue high on the global agenda. “Today, we have a unique opportunity. Italy has recognized this and, in keeping the younger generations at the center of this issue, Italy became the first country to make climate change lessons compulsory for schoolchildren,” noted the Italian Ambassador. “Additionally, last November, the Italian Government decided that public schools would soon require students in all grades to study climate change and sustainability.” The Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research (CCARR) Centre and the Italian Embassy collaboratively hosted the lecture which also included remarks from Minister of the Environment and Housing Hon. Romauld Ferreira.



Italian Ambassador His Excellency Armando Varicchio.



From left are President Dr. Rodney D. Smith, His Excellency Armando Varicchio, CCARR Centre Director Dr. Adelle Thomas and Dean of Pure and Applied Sciences Dr. Carlton Watson.

FEBRUARY 2020

GPPI Launches Public Engagement On SDG Goals

The Government and Public Policy Institute (GPPI) increased its focus on engaging the public including local policy makers, civil society and the private sector on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) related to clean water, affordable energy, climate action, submarine and terrestrial life. GPPI Executive Director and Senior Policy Fellow Mr. Zhivargo Laing announced an impending series of town hall meetings for New Providence, Grand Bahama and Exuma to educate and engage the public as well as raise awareness about SDG goals 6, 7, 13, 14 and 15. The public discussions in Exuma will be facilitated in collaboration with the Exuma Foundation. The Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme, implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), awarded GPPI a grant to facilitate this critical work.

MARCH 2020

COVID-19 Pandemic Forces Transition to Remote Operations

Weeks before Emergency Orders came into effect in March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, UB was heightening its vigilance and mobilizing its resources and manpower to respond to the global emergency. Co-Chaired by VP of Administrative Services Dr. Marcella Elliott-Ferguson and VP of Operations Mr. Ronnie Stevenson, the COVID-19 Task Force was appointed and began its work. On 16th March with an announcement from Prime Minister the Most Hon. Dr. Hubert Minnis that national Emergency Orders would take immediate effect, the University transitioned to emergency remote operations for all of its campuses and centres, expect for critical essential services permitted under the orders. With the Banner application already in place and the accessibility of the Moodle education platform and other apps like Zoom and Teams, the steep pivot into remote operations was made easier.



Sustainable Grand Bahama Conference Delves into Hurricane Dorian Impact

Scores of scholars, researchers and policy makers converged on the Pelican Bay Resort in Grand Bahama to discuss the country's way forward in a sustainable fashion after its two northern-most islands were ravaged by Hurricane Dorian's monstrous fury last September. Various intellectuals from all walks of life, both locally and internationally, gathered to reflect on the impact of the deadly hurricane and others like it, reimagining small island sustainability and collectively proposing adaptive systems and action. Much of the island, and also Abaco, suffered the brunt of the deadly storm which pummeled The Bahamas last year. In its second year, the conference, entitled "Sustainable Grand Bahama", was hosted by University of The Bahamas-North with a special focus on what can be learned from Hurricane Dorian. The Grand Bahama campus remains a shell of its former self after the storm's devastation.

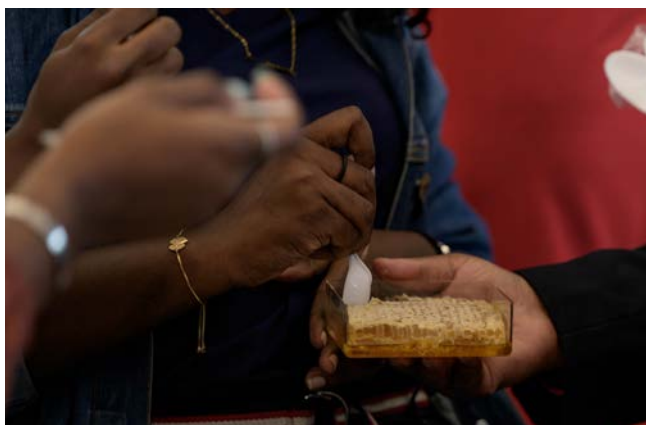


Scenes from the Sustainable Grand Bahama Conference.



Chemistry, Environmental and Life Sciences Week

UB students learned that the ‘birds and the bees’ can be a viable source of not just food sustainability, but also economic empowerment. Homegrown chicken farming and beekeeping was the focus on day two of Chemistry, Environmental and Life Sciences (CELS) Week. Industry experts showed students and faculty the benefits of being involved in both sectors, particularly in a small island developing state like The Bahamas. CELS week featured a number of other workshops and lectures on various aspects of local homegrown practices including aquaculture, composting and recycling, and caves and blue holes.



Scenes from Chemistry, Environmental and Life Sciences (CELS) Week.



Mr. Keyron Smith

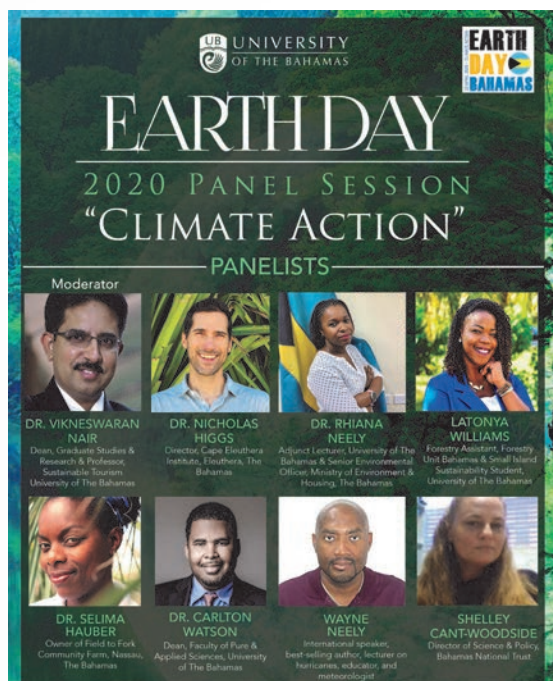
Research Edge Forum Leads the Pivot to Virtual Presentations

In the midst of a national emergency sparked by the COVID-19 pandemic, UB forged ahead with its research presentations. University researchers, who would have traditionally presented before a face-to-face crowd for the Research Edge Forum, presented via online conferencing instead. One of the research presenters, Keyron Smith, shared his findings on “An Examination of the Local Government System on the Outer Islands of the Bahamas” while Dr. Wise Mainga presented on “Perceptions of Employability Skills of Undergraduate Business Studies in a Developing Country”. Mr. Smith posited that a more robust local government system would have played a mitigating role in the COVID-19 spread in the Family Islands, as those communities would have been better equipped both financially and administratively. His study explored the local government system’s challenges to determine whether decentralising more power from the central government to local government would improve governance on the Family Islands.

APRIL 2020

Admissions Policy Adjusted to Bridge Challenge Posed by Pandemic

In the midst of a global pandemic, the University continued to evolve. With the emergency orders impacting traditional school operations and examinations, the University announced an amendment to its Admissions Policy for both the Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters. An additional pathway for admissions was implemented; rather than submitting BGCSE results, students would be permitted instead to submit cumulative GPA from 10th and 11th grades and first term of the 12th grade and sit the UB placement examination. The announcement came after the Ministry of Education was forced to close all schools and suspended all national examinations throughout The Bahamas until further notice due to COVID-19.

*Commemorating Earth Day Call for Climate Action*

In commemoration of Earth Day 2020, a panel of six local scientists and environmental advocates spread the message that there is an undeniable urgency for climate action for small island developing states (SIDS) like The Bahamas. UB presented a virtual Earth Day panel discussion on Wednesday 22nd April which featured veteran meteorologist Wayne Neely; Dr. Nicholas Higgs, Director of the Cape Eleuthera Institute; Ms. Shelley Cant-Woodside, Bahamas National Trust Director of Science and Policy; Ms. Latonya Williams, Forestry Assistant and UB Small Island Sustainability Student; Dr. Carlton Watson, UB Dean of Pure and Applied Sciences; and Dr. Vikneswaran Nair, Dean of Graduate Studies and Research and sustainable tourism professor. Dr. Higgs said reducing consumption and waste and securing clean energy sources are steps in the right direction. However, for real momentum, citizen activism coupled with government action is needed, he noted.



Deputy Chief Medical Officer Educates UB Community on COVID-19

During a virtual research presentation to the University community, Deputy Chief Medical Officer Dr. Delon Brennen asserted that the stringent and unprecedented measures that the government implemented to curb COVID-19 infections were necessary. He posited that things could have been much worse for The Bahamas had those measures not been taken.

“Our situation could have been a lot bleaker than it currently is,” said Dr. Brennen at UB’s Research Edge forum. “From the time we started, our numbers would have been much higher than they are right now without those activities and those policies being put in place, first from a governmental level, and also from citizens really seeing that our reflection of where we are, our cases and our ability to handle it is really dependent upon what we do as a country and what we do as a nation.” Early in the pandemic, there was a severe restriction in movement and measures taken to curb mass gatherings as well as a transition to remote work operations in addition to other key health protocols.

MAY 2020

Researchers Share COVID-19 Findings

Two UB researchers identified key factors to be considered in mounting an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic. During a virtual Research Edge presentation, Associate Professor of Chemistry and Assistant Vice President of Institutional Strengthening & Accreditation at UB Dr. Danny Davis explained how mathematical modelling played a key role in predicting COVID-19 cases in The Bahamas by giving government officials and health authorities the opportunity for interventions to decrease the trajectory of infections. Dr. Davis provided research support in that vein for the Ministry of Health team. Meanwhile, UB Chair of Social Sciences and Assistant Professor of Sociology Dr. Nicolette Bethel stressed the need for social scientists to be involved in critical conversations regarding crisis response. She asserted that factors like social and economic equality; uneven development; and population density should be considered when implementing sweeping emergency regulations.



UB Announces New and Amended MBA Programmes

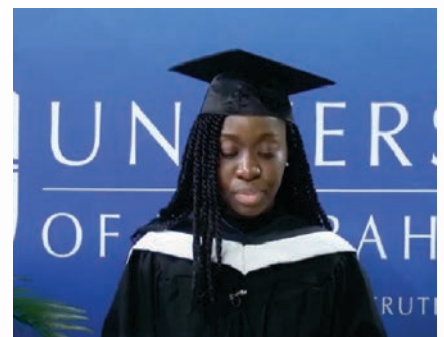
University of The Bahamas (UB) announced the rolling out of four new Master of Business Administration (MBA) degrees aimed at producing highly competent leaders capable of steering transformation in the country. The new MBAs include an MBA in Accounting; an MBA with tracks in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Financial Decision Making and Leadership; an MBA in Events Management; and an MBA in Hospitality Management.

The latter two degrees are in collaboration with Chaplin School of Hospitality and Tourism Management at Florida International University, UB said. The University, in a statement, said the degrees are UB's contribution to national development via the academic grooming of experts capable of driving business resilience and sustainability in The Bahamas' public and private sectors as the world enters an economic downturn.

JUNE 2020

Historic Virtual Commencement Ceremony

A charge to graduates to envision how they can help to drive the development of The Bahamas over the next 25 years was among the highlights of UB's historic Spring 2020 Virtual Commencement Ceremony held on Monday, 29th June. The 2020 Commencement Class completed their academic programmes during a period of extraordinary uncertainty, turbulence and opportunity. The Commencement message, delivered by UB alumnus, Group Chief Financial Officer for Fidelity Bank & Trust International Limited Mr. Gowon N.G. Bowe, was both pragmatic and optimistic. "The boundaries of life as we know it are no more," said Mr. Bowe. "Indeed, they have been reset - some of them have been completely destroyed and removed; new ones have been erected. But most importantly, it is safe to say that the way we do things is certainly a new world."



ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT

Academic developments form the bedrock of the institution's operations in responding to the needs of the Bahamian community and preparing its citizens to lead and drive development nationally and internationally. During the 2019-2020 academic year, as it continued to grow into a world-class institution, new graduate degree programmes were rolled out. The Academic Senate approved the following:-

1. Master of Business Administration

- Accounting;
- Leadership, Financial Decision Making, Entrepreneurship and Innovation;
- Hospitality Management;
- Events Management.

2. Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma in Public Administration

3. BA in Liberal Arts (UB-North)

Additionally, the Academic Senate also approved the Pre-Pharmacy programme.

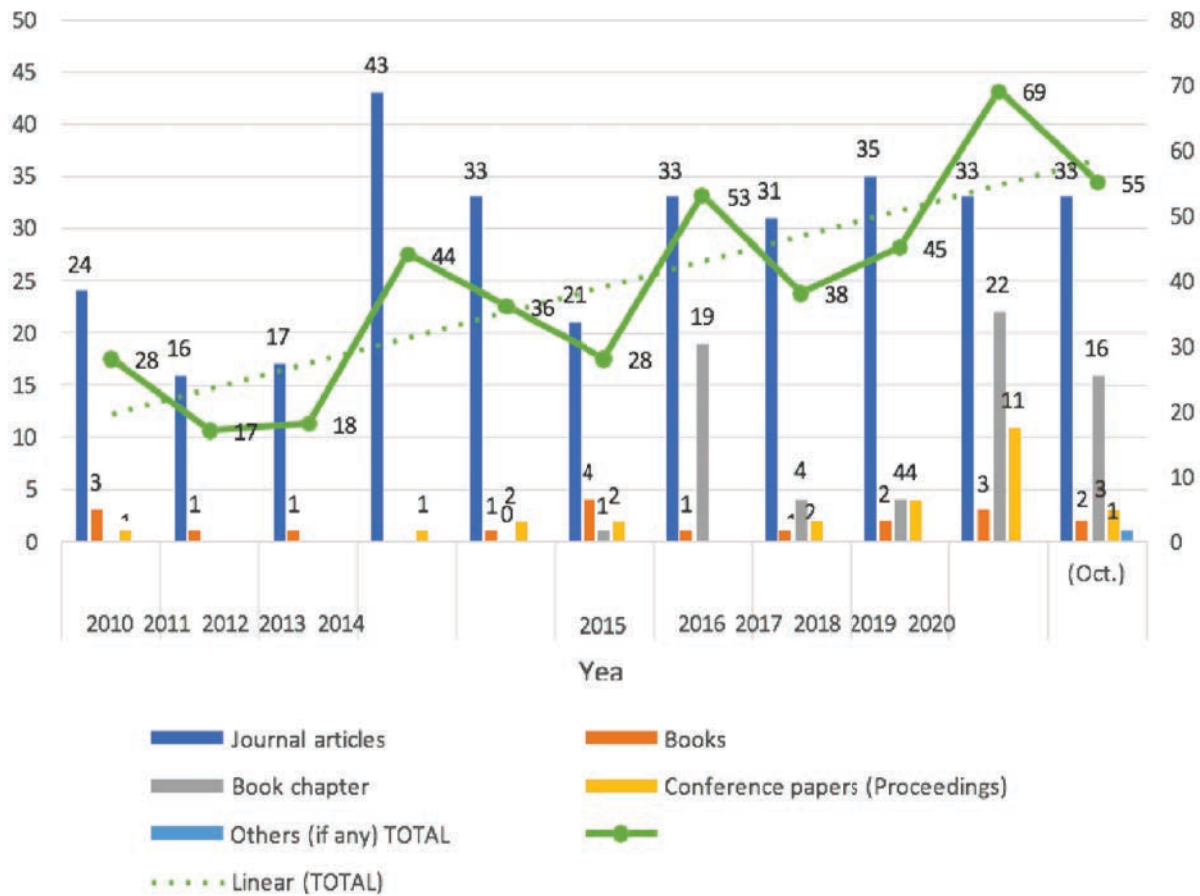
The Government and Public Policy Institute (GPPI) continued to serve as a linchpin for UB in the development of sound public policy and rigorous research. Among the developments was the government commissioning GPPI to implement the Public Service Capacity Building Programme. GPPI also developed a Report on a Framework for Reopening the Bahamian Economy during the COVID-19 pandemic; continued its work on the National Living Wages Survey and the National Economic Report Project; and solidified the support of the government and the Inter-American Development Bank to review update and lead public engagement on the National Development Plan process.

In another critical development, under the Continuing Education and Lifeline Learning (CELEARN) portfolio negotiated an agreement for the Jamaica-based e-learning One on One Educational Services to make available online courses and programmes. CELEARN courses are also being offered to a wider Caribbean market in fulfilment of the University's aim of increasing course content and enrolment.

In furtherance of the University's internationalization efforts, exchange agreements were renewed and initiated with Concordia University of Edmonton; Brock University; University of Canada West; and Ontario College of Art and Design University. Also, a project entitled "Global Perspectives on Sustainability through Education in The Bahamas" was activated which is funding 10 UB students (from 2020 to 2024) to complete one academic term of graduate studies at Dalhousie University. A grant from the Queen Elizabeth Scholars Fund Program is funding the project.

UB faculty continued to create new knowledge through their independent and collaborative research. Even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic research presentations continued – through the virtual platform – for Research Edge, a platform used by faculty to share their research with the University community and the public. UB's International Journal of Bahamian Studies served as the University's leading peer-reviewed publication. The following represents research publications by UB faculty, in both domestic and international peer-reviewed journals.

PUBLICATIONS BY COUNT



GERACE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A part of the University of The Bahamas System, the Gerace Research Institute (GRI) occupies a former US Naval Base on the island of San Salvador and has been in operation for over 40 years. GRI is a living-learning facility dedicated to studies in archaeology, biology, geology and marine science.

For the first time its history, the GRI was forced to suspend operations. The COVID-19 pandemic caused a disruption which led to the last group of visitors departing on 15th March 2020 and cancellations from anticipated future groups for the rest of the 2019-2020 academic year. During the period, the Institute hosted 47 groups from The Bahamas, the United States and Canada with the vast majority comprising visits from international institutions. These included students from high schools, undergraduate, and graduate institutions as part of their field studies in geology, archaeology, and marine biology as well as faculty research groups conducting approved research projects.

Over the 2019-2020 school year, accommodations scheduled for individual faculty, students, and researchers amounted to a little under 10,000 nights (calculated as each individual multiplied by the number of nights that individual stayed on the campus). This did not include groups who had not yet submitted their paperwork (which would have meant a higher total number of visitors). By the end of the 2019-2020 academic year GRI registered 5,041 nights, rather than the 10,000 nights who had been projected before the pandemic.





CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE RESEARCH CENTRE

The COVID-19 pandemic impacted the progress of the Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience Research Centre (CCARR). Nonetheless, there were still some major accomplishments for the period up to 30th June 2020. A five-year strategic plan was developed and the pipeline of potential national and international grant funders increased. Director of the CCARR Centre Dr. Adelle Thomas led education and outreach activities and forged partnerships with local, regional and international institutions. The CCARR webpage served as a primary vehicle for information dissemination. Importantly, as part of the National Sustainable Development Goals Technical Committee, the CCARR Centre also provided input on the Office of the Prime Minister's Sustainable Development Goals Informed Policy Recommendations.



FACULTY PROFILE HENRY HEPBURN

As an academic, professional architect, mentor, and luminary Associate Professor Mr. Henry Hepburn has contributed meaningfully to the shaping of The Bahamas.

The way Mr. Hepburn sees it, architecture is both an art and a science, making it an irreplaceable cultural cog from which the provision of quality education, particularly at the tertiary level, must benefit. Over the course of his 28-year career, many students have benefitted from their interactions from him, no matter how abbreviated or extended.

“It is a pleasure interfacing with students and encouraging them to pursue whatever it is they desire; notwithstanding, they must have integrity – putting in the effort, being persistent, timely and a diligent worker,” says Mr. Hepburn. “Architecture is not an easy profession; rather, it exacts a lot. Nevertheless, it is most rewarding to see one’s concepts become reality and clients’ satisfaction with the end product.”

He first joined UB as a lecturer in 1992 when it was The College of The Bahamas. A year later, he obtained his Oklahoman architectural license, and was later promoted to Assistant Professor. He now serves as Associate Professor of Architecture.

“It was quite fortuitous that I was led to become associated with The College of The Bahamas (now University of The Bahamas),” said Mr. Hepburn. “This presented the opportunity to share the experience and knowledge gained with students that would embolden them as they endeavor to become architects/planners/interior designers/landscape architects.”

He recalls that he did not originally intend to teach architecture. After obtaining a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Environmental Design and Architecture, and Architecture and Urban Planning respectively from the University of Oklahoma, Mr. Hepburn initially planned to work for the Bahamas government as an architect. However, the Ministry of Works did not recognize him as an architect. He subsequently travelled to London, England, where he obtained a Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) qualification and membership, then returned to The Bahamas, which by then had enacted the Architects Act, and was registered as a Bahamian architect.

He has been practicing in The Bahamas ever since and serves as Principal of Henry A. Hepburn Associates, Architects-Urban Planners-Interior Designers. He sees his contributions within the larger context of national growth and development.

"The nexus between architecture and nation building is relevant to the architecture process," said Mr. Hepburn. "Many integrative elements that create buildings are pertinent to that of nation building. Before one can conceive a building there must be consultation with the client, which is a fluid process that allows for changes to be made and adjustments to take place. The same holds true with nation building," he says.

In 2020, RIBA named Mr. Hepburn as a Fellow for 2021, an accomplishment that recognizes the contributions of architects to their communities, the profession, and those who seek to follow in their footsteps. Founded in 1834 for the advancement of architecture, RIBA is the oldest professional, architecture body in the world.

Mr. Hepburn views this honour from the oldest professional architecture body in the world as a boost for Bahamian architects and architecture in The Bahamas and as an affirmation that Bahamian architects are as equally qualified as any expatriate and should be given first preference to undertake projects in accordance with the Architects Act of 1994.

The veteran architect's legacy is enshrined in the new generation of architects, practicing nationally and internationally, whom he has educated and mentored over the years. He takes pride in the successes of all of his former students, as he believes their accomplishments go directly to the heart of nation building.



STAFF PROFILE ATALIA CASH

When Atalia Cash entered the financial services sector at the age of 18, she never suspected that years later, her affinity for providing stellar service to clients would blossom into a fierce passion for serving customers in the retail industry. Today, this passion helps to distinguish her role as the Retail Manager at University of The Bahamas (UB), responsible for Chapter One Bookstore, Independence Café and the Grab and the Go Café at the Oakes Field Campus.

Atalia has learnt to be tenacious and optimistic, characteristics that have aided her well in a dynamic global society.

“With values grounded upon integrity and hard work, I was raised to believe that all things are possible,” she says.

She was on a different path when entrepreneurship steered her in another direction.

“After working in the financial industry for almost ten years, I joined a group of dynamic entrepreneurs with a vision to build a business from the ground up. This experience taught me the importance of persistence, tenacity and innovation,” she recalls. “It also developed many other useful skills including employee training and development, public relations, and logistics management. Today, I am in love with retail and I hope to further develop my skills while adding value to this great institution.”

The holder of a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, Atalia also hopes to complete her Master of Business Administration in Marketing in February 2021.

Not content with merely being a witness to change and growth, she wanted to be a part of the evolution taking shape at UB.

“So often we hear the phrase “Be the change you want to see,” yet many people prefer to sit back and complain,” says the UB alumna. “At UB, we have the opportunity to mold the lives of our nation’s future leaders, to instill lessons that may remain with them for the rest of their lives. I still remember wise words that were spoken to me when I walked these halls and I feel as though as an institution we are poised to effect positive change.”

Now back at her alma mater, but in a different role, Atalia has been helping to drive e-commerce sales channels for the University’s retail enterprises. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Business Enterprise Unit was challenged to develop and launch a new sales channel. Sales are being facilitated for students throughout the country without being impeded by the restrictions of national emergency orders. While some have eagerly left their university years behind them, Atalia has vowed to be a lifelong learner.

“The world is changing. I fully intend to be a student for the rest of my life. Every experience provides a new opportunity for learning and I intend to take full advantage of each one. I hope to further develop skill sets while furthering my studies in business intelligence and analytics.”



STUDENT PROFILE ARTHURNIQUE JONES

Academics is not the only aspect of university life that has Arthurnique Jones' attention. As a student leader, ambassador and advocate, being fully immersed in leadership opportunities, governance and other co-curricular activities are high on her list of priorities.

As a biology major, Senator and Secretary General for the Student Government Association and Student Trustee on the Board of Trustees, Arthurnique has been involved in the full gamut of experiences as a university student.

"It's a great privilege to have contributed to the University in so many ways," says Arthurnique who also serves as President of the National Society of Black Engineers at UB. "With those positions, I've been blessed with the opportunity to make great investments in the future of this institution. Being alongside top professionals in the industry has afforded me the opportunity to sit at their side as they make decisions to plot the way forward. It's an opportunity very few students have been fortunate to pursue and I am forever grateful to be one of those students."

At 23-years-old, Arthurnique is pursuing a Bachelor's of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry, as well as an Associate of Science in Engineering. Her dream is to become a biomedical engineer. As a Biomedical engineer, Arthurnique would design biomedical equipment and devices, such as artificial organs and machines for diagnosing medical problems and provide technical support for biomedical equipment.

That's not her only dream; she also aspires to become the operator of a sustainable farm, with practices and methods that are not just profitable, but environmentally sound and good for communities. Balancing the two career paths will prove to be a daunting task, but fortunately for Arthurnique, balancing her wide breadth of responsibilities at UB and academic obligations has been good practice.

"The University has offered me the opportunity to obtain a top level education and gain the relevant skills that I need to work in those fields," said Arthurnique. "In addition, holding all those positions at the University has helped me develop my leadership, networking and time management skills which is necessary in any field of study. I've also developed the level of professionalism I would need in my desired field."

She enthusiastically expressed the highest regard for her professors. "In addition to that, I have garnered very good experiences and interactions with my lecturers who are professionals in their respective fields, and they constantly mentor and give insights relating to their successes and failures and how to maneuver in the professional environment and ultimately accomplish my career goals."

As Arthurnique navigates the twilight of her matriculation, the reality of nearing the end of an exciting, once-in-a-lifetime journey has dawned.

"I entered The College of The Bahamas, but I will be graduating from University of The Bahamas," she says. "It was a joy to witness the transition and the many changes that were made and those that are ongoing; the investments and strides made by students, faculty and staff, current and past administrations who have done a great deal of leg-work in terms of advancing the mission and goals of the institution. I am grateful to be a part of something that is making such great progress. When that day comes I will definitely be proud to say that I am an alumnus of this great intuition!"

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

Students represent the pulse of University life and during the 2019-2020 academic year, their engagement in myriad campus life activities and initiatives, volunteerism and outreach have increased vibrancy and excitement. Similarly, engagement in co-curricular activities contributes to overall student success. The academic year started on a high note but with two major crises that excitement morphed into a strong spirit of resilience and determination to overcome challenges.



UB MINGOOS WELCOME INCOMING FRESHMEN

The Fall 2019 semester began on an optimistic note as hundreds of students eagerly participated in New Student Orientation, Advisement and Registration activities held at the Oakes Field Campus and the UB-North campus. The incoming freshmen embraced their new UB Mingoos identity by taking part in the welcome ceremonies, learning about university systems and procedures and becoming familiar with the programmes which are in place to support student success.



STUDENT VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT RESPONSE

For the last few years UB students have been providing vital assistance to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) when severe weather threatens The Bahamas. September 2019 was no different as The Bahamas was battered by one of the most destructive and deadliest storms on record, Hurricane Dorian.

More than 80 student volunteers worked as part of the NEMA-UB Tech Squad, rendering assistance in the Missing Persons, Donations and Situation Room units. UB students also worked with other disaster managers with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Agency (CDEMA), PAHO-WHO and other local and international partners in disaster management.



PROJECT SMILE ON A CHILD LIFTS THE SPIRITS OF EVACUEES

For many persons, surviving Hurricane Dorian was a traumatizing experience. After the storm, displaced residents from Abaco and Grand Bahama whose homes were destroyed or severely damaged were evacuated to New Providence and placed in temporary government accommodations. At one of those locations, the Kendal G. L. Isaacs Gymnasium, more than 120 UB students spent the day in October 2019 to lift the spirits of the children who were placed there temporarily. Approximately 400 youth evacuees, participated in learning and fun activities organized by UB's Student Government Association and various other student organizations. Blu, the mascot also made a special appearance.



SPRING CLUBS SHOWCASE INCLUDES STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Independence Park at the Oakes Field Campus came alive with student activity for the Spring 2020 Clubs Showcase. The showcase is an opportunity to feature the variety of student organizations and recruit new students for membership. In Spring 2020, the Office of Disabilities and Compliance helped to facilitate the display for students with disabilities and partners Mollitium the Nassau Stadium assisted with outfitting the space to accommodate students with using assistive devices such as wheelchairs, canes, prosthetics and those who needed barrier-free access to the stage. The Japanese Visual Arts society provided accessible entertainment and products during the showcase.

UNIVERSITY ATHLETICS

UB Mingo athletes participated in an abbreviated season of intercollegiate athletics as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



AN ABBREVIATED, YET RECORD-BREAKING SEASON

UB Mingo student-athletes and Education majors Ken Mullings Jr. and Kendrick Thompson set new records at the Gene Edmonds Memorial Invitational at Purdue University on 9th January 2020. Ken again set a new national record and was ranked second worldwide in the men's heptathlon after earning 5,678 points overall for a first place finish at the Purdue meet. It was his third year winning the event. With his finish, Kendrick was ranked third in the world in the men's heptathlon with a second-place finish of 5,636 points. Their achievements moved them a step closer to qualifying for the 2020 Summer Olympics scheduled for Tokyo, Japan. An exuberant University community celebrated the two during festivities held on Independence Park at the Oakes Field Campus.



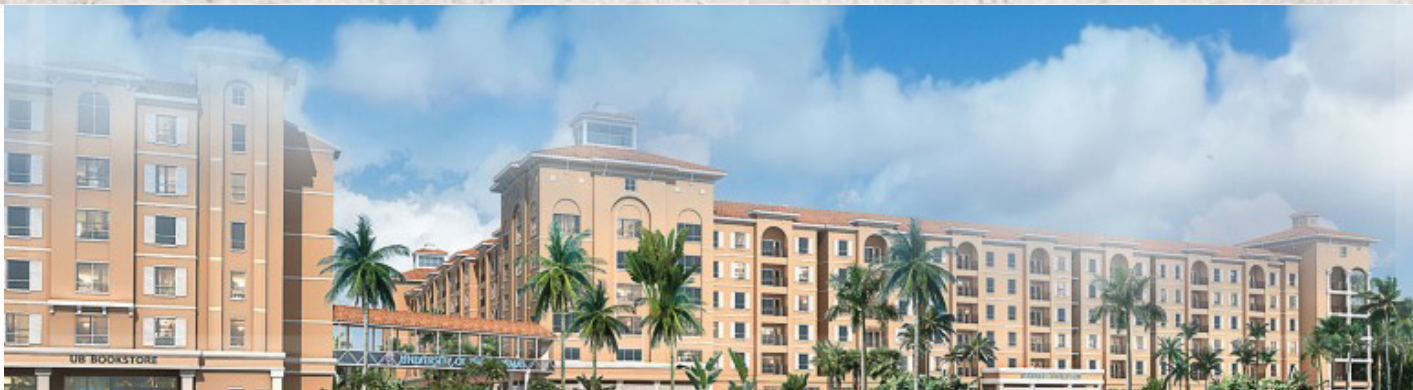
Remarkably, a number of track & field athletes also achieved personal bests during the abbreviated season. They were:

- Brandon Hanna (400m);
- Edvaughn Carey (shot putt);
- Tyler Gardner (8k);
- Benjamin Clarke (High Jump); and
- Keianno Rolle (Long Jump).

Further developments included the following:

- With the introduction of the men and women's cross-country team, UB Athletics expanded its complement of varsity sports.
- The Mingo Men's basketball team advanced to the second round of the playoffs before play was suspended due to COVID-19.
- The Mingo Women's volleyball team showed significant improvement, narrowly missing the playoffs in 2020 by one spot.





FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

GROUNDBREAKING FOR THE UNIVERSITY RESIDENCE AND MULTI-PURPOSE COMPLEX

The Oakes Field Campus of UB has not only undergone a marked expansion, it is also in transition from a commuter to a residential campus. In January 2020, a significant step in that transition was taken with the groundbreaking for the University Residence and Multi-Purpose Complex in the southeastern quadrant of the campus.

The ceremony, witnessed by government officials, members of the University community, alumni, donors and friends, happened with much fanfare. The \$95 million facility is being built managed and operated through a public-private sector partnership, will increase the vibrancy of campus life and inject new vitality into the surrounding communities. The partners in the project are UB, Providence Investment and Asset Campus International which are designing, constructing and will operate the mixed-use facility.

The complex will comprise a 1000-bed capacity; 400 parking stalls; over 50,000 square feet of common areas including a fitness centre, study rooms, a 200-seat dining hall, a 500-seat ballroom and a spiritual life centre. There will also be a University Village for leased retail commercial and business operations, and faculty residences. The capital project will also be used as a vehicle to increase the University's endowment. The land will be leased for \$100,000 annually and 20% of the annual profit will go towards the endowment fund.



UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS



OMBUDSMAN

Ms. Marisa Mason-Smith was appointed Ombudsman in August 2019. An historic appointment as the first for The Bahamas and the University, Ms. Mason-Smith is responsible for providing impartial, neutral and confidential third-party assistance to students, faculty, staff, and administration seeking dispute resolution. She reports directly to the Board of Trustees and acts as a liaison between individuals or groups and campus administration.



ACTING VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

UB alumnus Dr. Maria Woodside-Oriakhi was appointed Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs in October 2019, taking a position on the President's Administrative Council. Reporting to the President and working closely with the Executive Vice President, Dr. Oriakhi collaborates with academic deans and the university's Academic Senate to move the institution's academic agenda forward in accordance with the Board of Trustees' approved strategic plan.



DEAN, LIBERAL AND FINE ARTS

Dr. Douglas Barkey began his appointment as Dean of Liberal and Fine Arts in January 2020, commencing his oversight for the Communication & Creative Arts and English Studies academic units. As Dean, Dr. Barkey facilitates the delivery of academic programmes, including the development of new programmes, as well as the systematic review, assessment and evaluation of existing ones. He also manages the academic, operational, fiscal and human resources of the Faculty of Liberal and Fine Arts (FLFA). Dr. Barkey is a higher education leader, teacher, and artist with over two decades of international experience.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES DECISION TITLES

JULY 2019 – JUNE 2020

AUGUST 28, 2019

Approval of Policy for Naming of University Assets

Approval of Fundraising and Gift Acceptance Policy

Approval of Invested Endowment Funds Spending Rate Policy

Approval of Non-Disclosure Agreement

JUNE 25, 2020

Approval of UB Foundation

REPORT ON PRIVATE GIVING

DELTEC INITIATIVES FOUNDATION ESTABLISHES FAMILY ISLAND SCHOLARSHIP

Helping to eliminate the financial barrier that many young, gifted Bahamian Family Island students face in their tertiary academic pursuits is a major focus of the Deltec Initiatives Foundation.

The Foundation and University of The Bahamas (UB) forged a partnership in August 2019 to benefit extraordinary scholars in financial need with the establishment of the Deltec Initiative for Scholarship & Education scholarship tenable at UB.

Mrs. Tanya Carey, Chief Financial Officer of Deltec Bank & Trust Limited and Director of the Deltec Initiatives Foundation announced the partnership during the signing of an MOU for the Deltec Initiatives Foundation Scholarship Award. She expressed the Foundation's commitment to provide access to education.

"Deltec advocates for promising and deserving young Bahamians who desire to pursue higher education but require assistance to achieve this noble goal," she explained.

Dino Hernandez, Vice President of Institutional Advancement conveyed UB's gratitude to Deltec for this noteworthy initiative.

"UB Family Island students are special to us, they possess extraordinary scholastic talents and tenacity to travel and acclimate to either our New Providence or Grand Bahama campus in pursuit of their tertiary education. The assistance rendered through this generous gift alleviates some of the pressure they and their families may experience," Mr. Hernandez shared.

Aaliyah Adderley, a Long Island native, was selected as the first Deltec scholar.



Members of the Deltec team and UB's Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs team along with Deltec Scholar, Miss Aaliyah Adderley.



Deltec's First Scholar, Miss Aaliyah Adderley is embraced by Mrs. Ethel Chalopin, Executive Chairperson, Deltec Initiatives Foundation.

MATCHING GIFT CHALLENGE FOR HURRICANE DORIAN RELIEF

Moved by the Hurricane Dorian catastrophe and the severe damage it caused to the University of The Bahamas-North campus in East Grand Bahama, UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith and his wife Dr. Christina Smith were among the first to make a personal donation of \$25,000 towards the restoration efforts.

President Smith also issued a challenge to other potential donors to match their gift to the UB Hurricane Dorian Relief Fund as the University fully intended to restore operations in Grand Bahama.

The storm's devastating impact left the campus in shambles and displaced over 600 students, faculty and staff. Dorian reached category 5 status as it hovered over Grand Bahama and gutted the ground floor of the administrative block, ripped off windows, decimated infrastructure and left a tattered Hawksbill Hall residence.

With the assistance of the BECS Foundation and numerous other institutions of higher education in the United States (Hampton University, New York University, and Oakland University) as well as non-profit partners, the University was able to quickly mobilize to secure gifts through the UB Hurricane Doran Relief and Rebuilding Fund. To date, the fund has secured over \$461,461.44 in cash, pledges and gift in kind donations as of June 30, 2020.

Thankfully, just one month later UB-North operations resumed in temporary locations in Freeport, Grand Bahama. The University has also begun the pre-planning for a Campaign to Rebuild UB-North which will commence in 2021-2022.



HELEN “ANNIE” RUSSELL, MBE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP MEMORIALIZES NATIONAL ICON

Beloved preschool educator the late Helen “Annie” Russell had a passion for excellence in teaching that is being immortalized in a memorial scholarship named in her honour to help fund the educational goals of future educators. In commemoration of his mother’s legacy, Dr. Barry Russell, accompanied by his wife Mrs. Missy Russell; son, Logan; daughter, Raegan; and sister, Barbara Mullings signed a Memorandum of Understanding to establish the “Helen “Annie” Russell, MBE Memorial Scholarship Award with a gift of \$25,000. This award will fund higher education for a deserving student enrolled in the Early Childhood Education programme at UB.

During the signing ceremony, Dr. Russell spoke fondly of his mother who was a compassionate preschool educator and philanthropist. He credited the investment his parents made in his education for his success. “This warms my heart to be able to do this in honour of my dear mother who I am so indebted to for all of my accomplishments and success. She was an excellent example, along with my father, of being good stewards of resources and the need and importance of nation building and giving back, especially to those who were less fortunate,” he noted. UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith thanked the Russell family for partnering with UB and investing in the education of UB students.

Mrs. Helen “Annie” Russell started Annie’s Nursery and Pre-School in the late 1950’s in the Wilton Street area for children aged 6-weeks to 5 years old. She also founded the popular Miss Hal Jackson Talented Teen pageant and was awarded an MBE by the Bahamas Government in 1996. Today, Annie’s Nursery and Pre-School remains a pillar in the Bahamian community and is managed by her daughter, Barbara Mullings and her daughter-in-law, Jesse Russell.

Dr. Barry Russell proudly signs MOU to Establish the Helen “Annie” Russell, MBE Memorial Scholarship.



UB officials and members of the Russell family proudly sign the MOU to establish the Helen “Annie” Russell, MBE Memorial Scholarship.

OAKTREE MEDICAL ENDORSES UBFIT THROUGH SPONSORSHIP



Check presentation with University President Dr. Rodney D. Smith; Vice President, Division of Institutional Advancement, Dino Hernandez; Oaktree Medical Center Medical Director Dr. Don D. Deveaux along with UBFIT Leadership team.

Oaktree Medical Center is the new title sponsor for UBFIT, the signature annual race hosted by University of The Bahamas as a way to bolster wellness and community engagement.

The medical center made a \$30,000 sponsorship commitment for a three-year period which will materialize for the 2021 UBFIT race as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic which caused delays.

UB President Dr. Rodney D. Smith thanked Oaktree Medical Center for its sponsorship, particularly since the donation came after the hardships which emerged as a result of Hurricane Dorian's devastation in Grand Bahama and Abaco.

"The generous giving from our donors and friends nationally and abroad remains vital as we continue to recover throughout this process," said Dr. Smith. "Supporting our signature UBFIT race is one of the ways we can make a difference in the lives of our students, faculty and staff in Grand Bahama while at the same time, meeting our wellness goals." Oaktree Medical Center Director Dr. Don Diego Deveaux noted that he is more than happy to be UBFIT's title sponsor since the health and education of a nation is its wealth.

"To whom much is given, much is required, and for the Oaktree family the opportunity to partner with University of The Bahamas for UBFIT represents many of the core values we believe in and is picture perfect and timely," he said.

UBFIT is one of UB's crucial community building and fundraising initiatives. In its inaugural year, more than 500 people participated with \$150,000 plus raised since 2017. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 2020 race scheduled for April was postponed to 2021.



Top from left to right: Kandice Eldon, Executive Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations; Banu Devi Nair, Academic Dean, One Eleuthera Foundation; Shaun Ingraham, President/CEO One Eleuthera Foundation.

Centre from left to right: Alfred Sears, Q.C., Chairman, One Eleuthera Foundation; Dr. Maria Oriahki, Vice President, Academic Affairs; Dr. Reginald Eldon, Senior Leadership Consultant, One Eleuthera Foundation.

Bottom from left to right: Dr. Rodney D. Smith, University President; Dino Hernandez, Vice President, Institutional Advancement; Marjie Findlay, Founding Member, One Eleuthera Foundation.

ONE ELEUTHERA FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP EXPANDS EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Providing new educational opportunities aimed at increasing the intellectual capacity of present and future UB students is the driving force behind a key partnership between UB and the One Eleuthera Foundation (OEF). During a virtual press conference in June, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed to facilitate access to resources, facilities and faculty.

One Eleuthera Foundation CEO Mr. Shaun Ingraham said the new partnership with UB will support the introduction of new methodologies in areas of sustainability, transformative practices, and aggressive educational opportunities for Eleuthera residents. Joint approaches to fundraising and an expanded capacity to realize sustainable and resilient island development will also be created, as well as experiential teaching and learning opportunities for UB students.

“The MOU will provide a framework to incentivize and assist young Bahamians and residents to choose careers that address sustainability directly,” said One Eleuthera Foundation Chairman Mr. Alfred Sears, Q.C. “This will be done through the sharing of our respective facilities, resources and faculty. It is anticipated that, through the

sharing and the joint development of programmes, courses and indigenous curricula, we will each realize increased capacity to contribute in new and creative ways to the country's development."

The collaboration is expected to serve as the catalyst for assisting young Bahamians and Bahamian residents in achieving their tertiary educational goals and will allow for the joint development of programmes, courses, and indigenous curricula.

Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Maria Oriakhi noted, "This MOU further advances the objective of the University to provide education and learning through a variety of patterns, levels and modes of study. It allows the University to foster national development and the opportunity to advance and disseminate knowledge."

COVID-19 EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND LAUNCHED

By May 2020 it became clear that University of The Bahamas students would need more assistance than usual with the new normal of virtual learning. The COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund was established to help students without reliable access to computer devices, technology and Internet connection. Since many UB students were already scholarship recipients, remote instruction ended up being an added burden that they could ill-afford, especially Family Island students. The fund was launched with a national and international appeal for donations of funds, technology and devices to help students in need so that their education would not be adversely impacted.

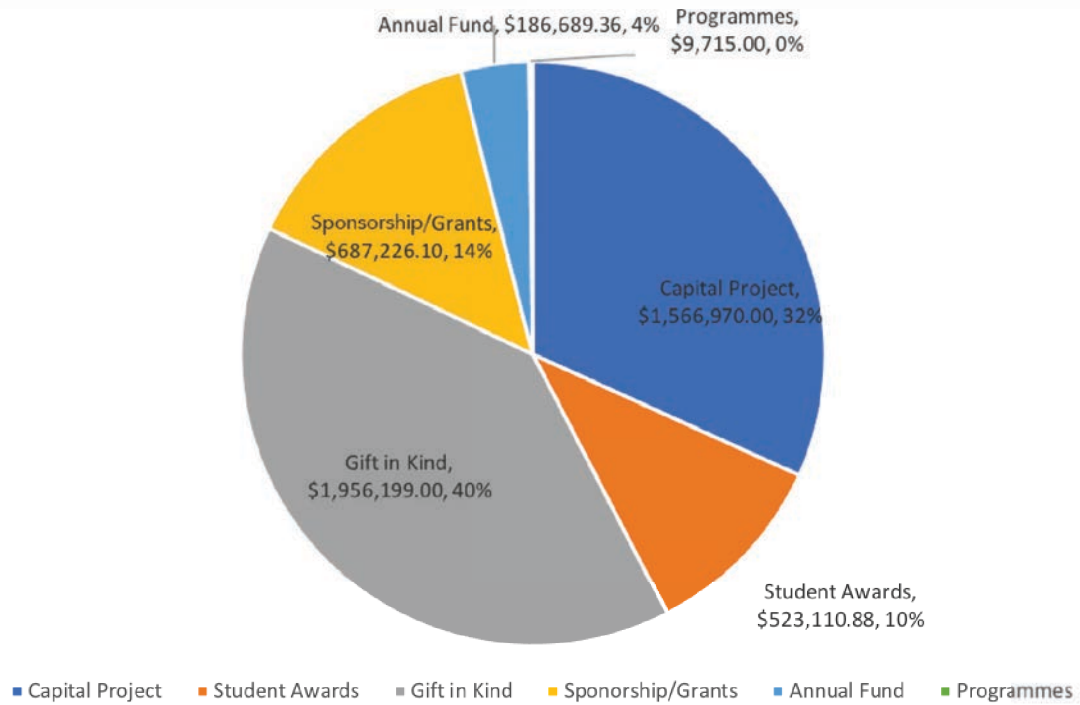


UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS-US FOUNDATION ESTABLISHED

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Dorian, dedicated alumni, friends and staff members helped to create the new University of The Bahamas United States (UB-US) Foundation as a public tax-exempt charitable body, organized under the provisions of section 501(c)(3) of the US Internal Revenue Code. Based in Fort Lauderdale, FL, the Foundation is staffed by an Executive Director and composed of volunteer board members who contribute their time and resources to enhancing the public awareness of the University and its programs. The UB-US Foundation works with the University's Division of Institutional Advancement to build relationships both among US-based alumni and friends, and between them and the University.

The Foundation aims to further its goals through fundraising and grants, and strives to do its part to enhance and enrich the academic and student life of the University. The Foundation Board of Directors is comprised of these officers and directors: Dr. Rodney D. Smith (Acting Chairman), Ms. Tracy Ferguson-Johnson, Mr. Dino Hernandez (who also serves as Executive Director), Ms. Alessandra Holowesko (UB Trustee), Ms. Debbie Weeks, Mr. Jon Voigtman, and Mr. Kenyada Meadows. Other staff members assigned to the Foundation include Ms. Judith Smith, Acting Comptroller to the Foundation and Ms. Nicole Thurston, Acting Recording Secretary to the Foundation. The UB US Foundation has done extensive and successful fundraising in support of the UB Hurricane Relief and Rebuilding Fund and the UB COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund. For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/UBUSFoundation.

TOTAL PRIVATE GIVING & COMMITMENTS



Please note that Annual Fund figures were adjusted, as private scholarships were received in 2019-2020 and recorded in the Financial Aid and Scholarships department.

*Based on unaudited financial data.

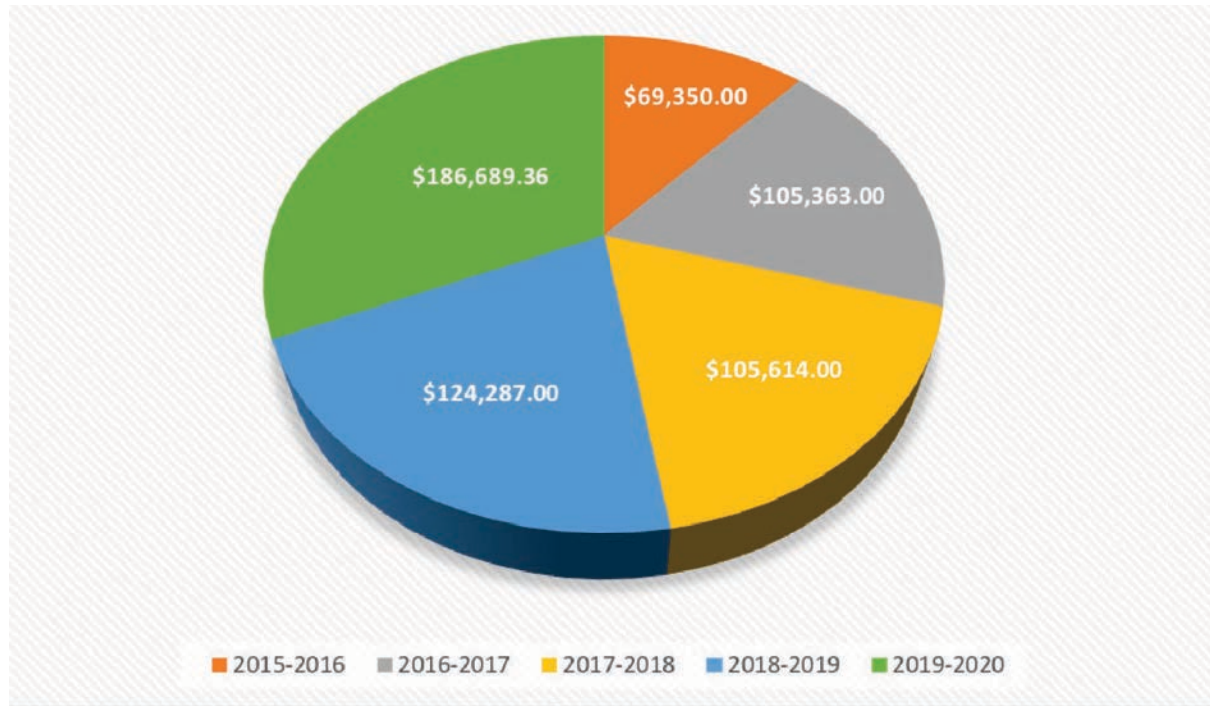
TOTAL PRIVATE GIVING AND COMMITMENTS BY YEAR



**FY’19-20 reflects the addition of gifts-in-kind received into the University and is not reflected nor counted in previous year’s activity.

*Based on unaudited financial data.

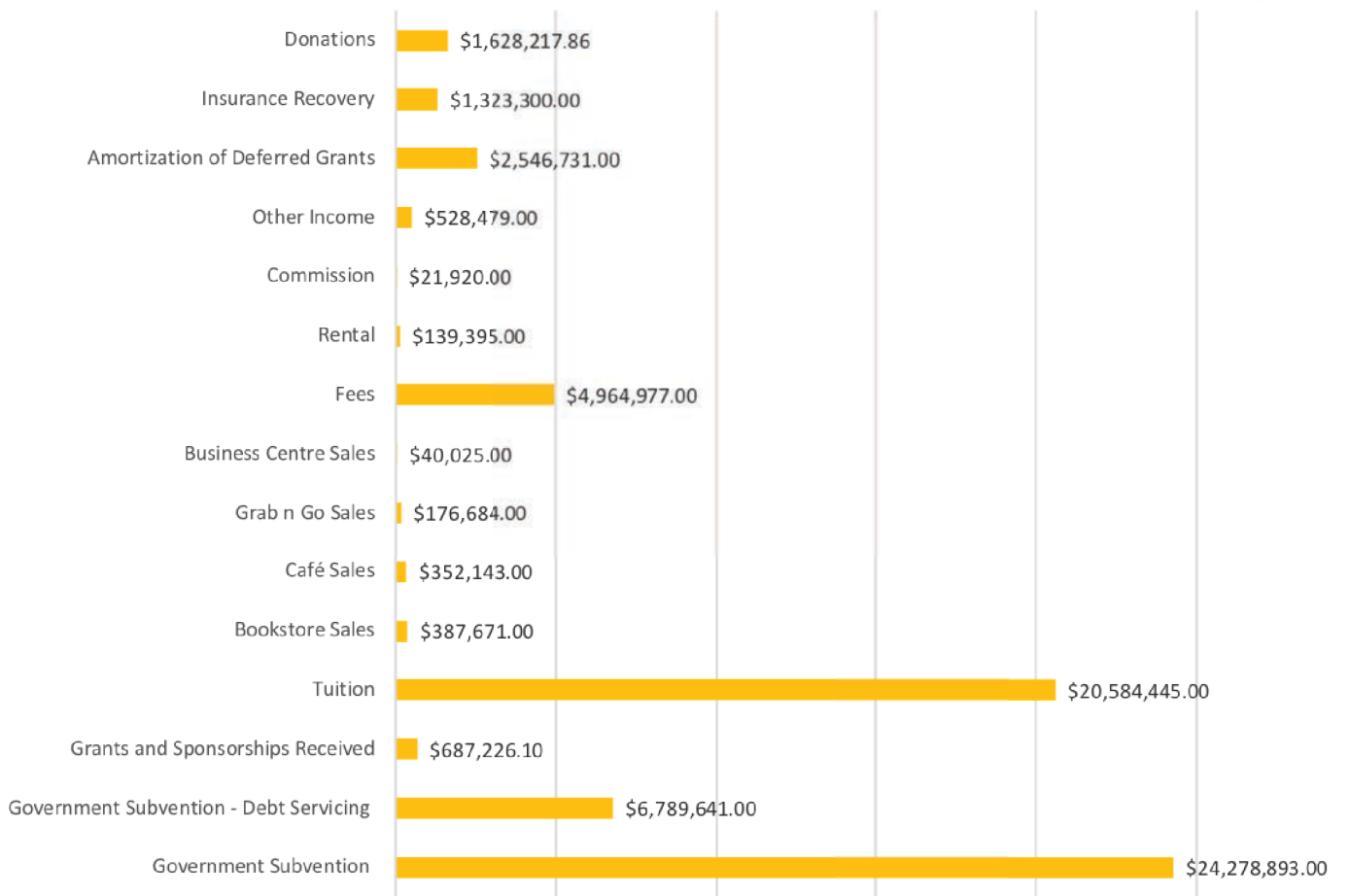
THE ANNUAL FUND



*Please note that Annual Fund figures were adjusted, as private scholarships were received in 2019-2020 and recorded in the Financial Aid and Scholarships department.

*Based on unaudited financial data.

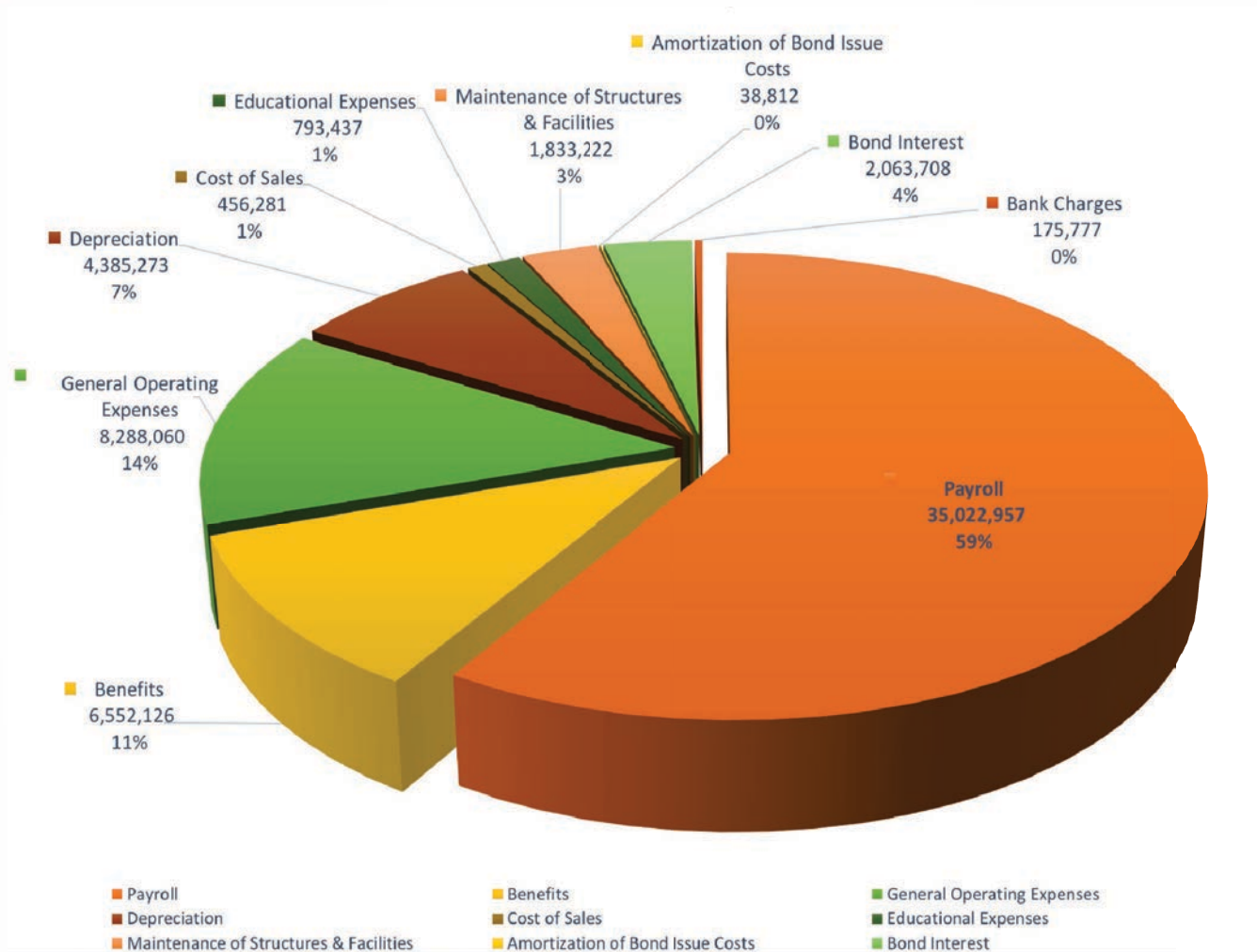
CASH REVENUES FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH JUNE 2020



*Based on unaudited financials provided by the Division of Institutional Advancement and Office of Sponsored Research and Grants Management

**Based on unaudited financials provided by the Division of Institutional Advancement and reflects cash received only (excludes pledges and gift-in-kind donations)

EXPENSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2020



*Based on unaudited financial data.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR A BETTER LIFE IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY.

