



THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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## To Prospective Students of UTT,

The University of Trinidad and Tobago operates on the premise that a developed nation is a nation of developed people. An evaluation of the characteristics of developed nations will reveal that the single constant among them all is the high percentage of well educated citizens.

An abundance of natural resources does not guarantee development any more than a lack of natural resources equals underdevelopment; many developed nations have few if any natural resources. The little island of Singapore (it is barely larger than Tobago) has no natural resources whatsoever. What it has is a population of which more than 60% has had tertiary education.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago is one of the most important initiatives of the people of Trinidad and Tobago since the establishment of Point Lisas. UTT is, quite simply, an agent of social transformation. Its innovative approach to tertiary education has elicited international praise and UTT has easily formed alliances with some of the world's most respected universities. In addition, the Vision and philosophy of the University have attracted top-level academic staff from a wide range of universities in Africa, India, UK, the Middle East, USA, Canada and the rest of the Caribbean to supplement our own academic members of staff.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago is based upon a new and different approach to tertiary education, certainly in Trinidad and Tobago and the region and, quite possibly, in the world. The approach of traditional universities to those who would enter its hallowed precincts is this: if you don't measure up to our high entry standards, forget about a university education. UTT's approach is different: if you don't have our entry qualifications, we'll help you get them. The University's Pre-University Programme (PUP) offers assistance to those who need a little help to progress. In 2007, just two years after starting classes, there were 700 PUP students enrolled.

In addition to the Science, Engineering and Technology programmes which formed its initial base, the University now offers a range of non-traditional programmes: Performing Arts, Sports and Leisure and Fashion and Design, to name a few. In 2007, the University offered more than 100 scholarships to promising young sportsmen and women in 10 different disciplines. These scholarship-holders must follow an approved University academic programme as well as undergo a programme of coaching in their chosen sport. In less than one year, the young sportsmen and women have started registering successes nationally and in the region.

The University's four-year Bachelor's programmes include a "cooperative" element. That means that students must spend a portion of their time earning credits towards their degree by engaging in a managed work programme in a relevant industry or organisation. Thus, students in the Maritime Programme must spend some time at sea (literally!) while students enrolled in the Bachelor of Education programme are allocated to schools as part of the learning process.

An important element of the University's Vision is a "Learning through Service" programme. In addition to the "co-op" aspect of the programmes, students will be encouraged to participate in "Service Learning" initiatives in conjunction with local NGOs and CBOs.

The University sources its teaching and research personnel locally and internationally. By mid-2008, there were some 70 Assistant, Associate and Full Professors recruited from about 20 nations working at the University, all attracted by UTT's Vision and the rare opportunity to be part of the creation of something new, different and, above all, relevant.

UTT is very focused on being relevant to the needs of Trinidad and Tobago. The programmes are developed with the assistance of Advisory Councils comprising expert practitioners in their respective fields of endeavour. With the help and advice of these eminent individuals, UTT ensures that its graduates become contributing citizens immediately upon graduation.

UTT aims to produce graduates who are disciplined, productive and tolerant: disciplined not only in terms of the academic achievements (acquiring a discipline) but disciplined in the best sense of the word; that is, promoting an ordered environment in which production and productivity can take place.

UTT graduates must be productive. UTT produces entrepreneurial graduates whose innovations and creativity will be the major catalysts for the full blossoming of the productive force of the nation in all its varied fields of endeavour.

Finally, and most importantly, UTT graduates must lead in ensuring that, in our society, every citizen finds an equal opportunity to excel in a discipline that contributes to the all-round development of the nation.

UTT is and must be an agent of social transformation in Trinidad and Tobago and, inevitably, in the region. Why don't you consider signing on for one of our many programmes? To facilitate all those who wish to learn, we have campuses in the East, West, Central and South. We have built two campuses in our first three years and we have refurbished four that we inherited from the State. Our signature campus is under construction at Wallerfield and the designs for our Tobago campus have been approved.

*Yours truly,*

**Professor David McGaw – Provost**  
and Chairman of the Academic Council of  
The University of Trinidad and Tobago

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You can find out more about us on our website: [www.utt.edu.tt](http://www.utt.edu.tt).

**We look forward to welcoming you.**

