The UTT IMPACT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The Official Newsletter of The University of Trinidad and Tobago

APRIL 2026 edition



Senator Professor Emeritus the Honourable Prakash Persad, Minister of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (front row, fourth from right), His Excellency Víctor Hugo Morales Meléndez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (front row, centre), Mr Hansen Narinesingh, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (front row, third from right), and Ms Rhoda Patiram, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (front row, second from left) with Dr Nadine Sangster, Associate Professor and Programme Leader, Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship (MME), UTT (front row, second from right) and faculty and postgraduate students of UTT's MME programme set to visit Mexico City on an international study tour.

Mexico Bound: UTT Postgraduate Students Receive Ministerial and Diplomatic Send-Off ahead of International Study Tour

This article is submitted by the ***MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, MANUFACTURING AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP UNIT, UTT***

The Ministry of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (MTEST) recently hosted a courtesy visit and academic send-off ceremony for sixteen students enrolled in UTT's Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Innovation, Manufacturing Management and Entrepreneurship (IMME), and the M.Sc. in Innovative Design and Entrepreneurship (IDE), both of which fall under the Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship (MME) Unit.

The initiative traces its origins to a formal proposal submitted to the Embassy of Mexico by the MME Unit. Mr. Flavio González, Head of Trade and Co-operation at the Embassy of Mexico in Port of Spain, took personal ownership of the programme's development, facilitating a structured series of preparatory sessions with the student cohort in the months prior to departure. These sessions covered Mexico's economic architecture, key industries, trade relationships, and the cultural context of doing business in Latin America, giving students a substantive academic foundation well before arriving on Mexican soil.

Senator Professor Emeritus the Honourable Prakash Persad, Minister of Tertiary Education and Skills Training, acknowledged the weight of the occasion in his address, situating the tour within the Ministry's broader commitment to developing globally competitive skills and deepening international partnerships. His endorsement of the initiative and the physical presence of his office at the send-off underscored the alignment between UTT's internationalisation agenda and national skills development priorities.

Among the most memorable elements of the morning was the presentation of individual Certificates of Recognition by the Embassy of Mexico to each student, the academic staff delegation, and key contributors to the programme.

Several students chose to deliver portions of their remarks in Spanish, a detail that was particularly well received by His Excellency Víctor Hugo Morales Meléndez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United Mexican States to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, and the Embassy team. The gesture demonstrated cultural awareness and a genuine effort to engage with their host country on its own terms, precisely the disposition that the International Study Tour seeks to cultivate.

The International Study Tour is a mandatory, credit-bearing component of both the M.Sc. IMME and M.Sc. IDE programmes. This edition marks the programme's first visit to Mexico and takes the cohort to Mexico City from May 4 – May 7 for structured industry, institutional, and government engagements.

The tour programme is organised around four thematic areas, each reflecting a core pillar of the MME Unit's curriculum. Engagements include visits to COMCE (Mexico's principal private-sector trade promotion body), the Economic Diplomacy Directorate of the Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, the food manufacturing company La Moderna, and the Instituto Mexicano del Petróleo.

Students will be assessed throughout the tour, and upon their return, will contribute to a tour report and deliver presentations on their findings and the implications for enterprise and industry development in the Caribbean.

The tour is led by Mr Aaron Ameerali and Dr Jorrel Bisnath of UTT's MME Unit.

For further information on UTT's Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship programmes, visit ***www.u.tt/mme****, call* ***642-8888 ext. 32157*** *or email* ***nianna.alexis@utt.edu.tt***

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PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COURSES



4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27 May Online	**Inventory and Warehouse Management for Business Professionals**
Tuesday 5 May In person, UTT Chaguanas Campus	**High Voltage Cable Termination Splicing and Testing**
5, 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26 and 28 May Online	**Effective Public Speaking and Presentation Skills**
11, 13, 18, 20 and 25 May Online	**Principles of Contract Management**
11 to 14 May In person, UTT Chaguanas Campus	**Electrical Fire Investigation NFPA 921**
12 and 13 May In person, UTT Chaguanas Campus	**First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)**
18, 20, 25 and 27 May; 1, 3, 8 and 10 June Online	**Records and Information Management Strategies**
19 to 21 May In person, UTT Point Lisas Campus	**Process Plant Optimisation and Energy Conservation**
19, 21, 26 and 28 May; 2 June Online	**Mastering Scope of Work (SOW) Development Training**
25 to 27 May Online	**Meeting Management and Minute Taking**
25 to 27 May In person, UTT Chaguanas Campus	**Harnessing AI for Breakthrough Innovation and Strategic Impact**
26 and 27 May In person, UTT Chaguanas Campus	**Grounding and Lighting Protection in Electrical Systems**

Visit **peutraining.utt.edu.tt** *for more information*

Nystrom Edwards Leverages Academic Excellence towards an International Career

*Three-time UTT graduate **NYSTROM EDWARDS** is a Principal Software Engineer at world-renowned investment bank and financial services company, Morgan Stanley. After completing different progammes at the University, his stint running his own software company, and working in the oil and gas industry, Nystrom has settled in the field of ICT, racking up quite a number of achievements. Keen on the idea of promoting the benefits of studying at UTT, he shares his story:*



Nystrom Edwards

After completing secondary school, instead of pursuing A' Levels, I opted to pursue pre-engineering Mechanical Engineering at UTT, graduating in 2007, before moving on to the National Engineering Technician Diploma in Mechanical Engineering, and graduating two years later. Having an aptitude for computing and writing software programmes from age fifteen, I then enrolled in UTT's Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) in Computer Engineering in 2009, graduating in 2012. This programme was accredited by the Institution of Engineering and Technology based in the UK, which simplified the process for furthering my studies there. I eventually enrolled in the University of Glasgow's Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Software Engineering and graduated in 2018 with distinction. My thesis which covered Software Tooling and the Software Development Lifecycle was published in two academic journals, with my Source Control Integrated Issue Tracker (SCIIT) winning the Distinguished Tools Track Paper Award at the International Conference on Software Maintenance and Evolution (ICSME) 2019 conference.

Based on my academic performance, I was offered a position within the Morgan Stanley graduate Technology Analyst Programme (TAP) in 2019, and gained the Principal Software Engineer designation in 2025. I have been named in the Black Tech Achievement (BTA) Awards Top 50 List 2026, nominated for the BTA Software Developer of the Year 2024, and presented the Sir Goeff Palmer Award for Student of the Year at The Black Scottish Awards in 2024.

UTT has contributed to my overall professional development through the quality of its lecturers, the quality of its facilities, and its focus on entrepreneurship which keeps the mind active on finding innovative solutions for problems, a skill which I utilise to this day.

For students wishing to pursue ICT at UTT, I would urge them to be very curious about technology; not just how it works, but how it works in detail. During my studies and my career, I have always looked behind the "why" technology works. Starting on the surface should lead to learning the layer of abstraction below the current technology, encouraging you to keep going until you understand the concept in full detail, which is powerful to compounding your understanding.

As a passionate advocate for best practices, I encourage all ICT enthusiasts to focus on making small effort changes with large impact, with a view of driving innovation, empowering others, and advancing diversity in the field.

Marlon Gerard Farmer: Overcoming Obstacles to Achieve Success

***MARLON GERALD FARMER**'s story is one that embodies triumph in the face of darkness, overcoming the biggest of obstacles. After completing his studies at UTT, he achieved unimaginable success, which he details in the following article:*



Marlon Gerard Farmer

Having a clear understanding of the global need to diversify into green energy to mitigate climate change, I sought to become a subject matter expert on sustainable energy solutions for Trinidad and Tobago and the wider Caribbean. As a result, I enrolled at UTT, first pursuing the National Engineering Technician Diploma (NETD) in Electrical/ Electronic Engineering, then Bachelor of Applied Science (B.Sc.) in Utilities Engineering - Electrical Option, eventually graduating with a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Energy Engineering with a specialisation in Renewable Energy, in 2024.

In an attempt to showcase the real-world application of knowledge gained as part of my NETD, my final project theoretically and practically focused on re-starting the chiming of the clock at UTT John S. Donaldson Port-of-Spain, for the first time since the 1970s. After achieving my B.A.Sc., I obtained a Wireman's License from the Chief Electrical Inspector of Trinidad and Tobago, and spurred by my earlier academic successes, my M.Sc. thesis was published by the Journal of Smart Science Technology.

It should be noted that my academic achievements did not come without sacrifices. In order to complete my bachelor's degree, I made the difficult decision to reduce my work hours, and by extension, my income, and had to yet again overcome the impact on my financial status, in attempts to start the master's programme at UTT. Furthermore, balancing academic growth with family life was quite a challenge as a married man with three children. The demands of long-term study meant missing family events and precious moments with loved ones, which looking back, were the hardest parts of my journey.

Now, as a Senior Engineering and Maintenance Technician at Angostura Ltd, I am proud of the sacrifices made. I strongly believe in pushing forward through adversity and using setbacks not as obstacles, but as stepping stones to progress. As a result of my time at UTT, I was able to start my own business and grow in a greater capacity at my current job. I am now able to share the ups and down of my UTT experience at career days, youth community programmes and similar events aimed at motivating the most vulnerable members of society.

Reflecting on my journey, I am keen on expressing sincere gratitude to UTT for fostering my growth, mentorship, and providing pertinent guidance, and I eagerly anticipate pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy at the university in the near future.

To those wishing to meaningfully contribute to the development of Trinidad and Tobago, I encourage you to enrol at UTT, truly the national university.

uSTART Entrepreneur Spotlight

From Sketch to Couture: The Entrepreneurial Journey of Corina Lochai

Welcome to the Incubator Projects Unit's "Entrepreneur Spotlight."

Each month, we will feature a forward-thinking entrepreneur from our cohort, market or workshop to showcase how our university's ecosystem is driving real-world economic and community impact. By highlighting these stories of ambition and execution, we celebrate the vital bridge between academic purpose and the next generation of leadership and innovation. They represent the practical application of the theories taught in their classrooms.



Corina Lochai







Some of Corina Lochai's designs.

CORINA LOCHAI is a fashion designer and entrepreneur from Trinidad and Tobago, whose passion for fashion was cultivated from a young age through creative influences such as Barbie, Bratz, Disney princesses and early exposure to expressive, character-driven style. She pursued both her diploma and Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design at The University of Trinidad and Tobago, where she developed not only her technical skills but also her confidence as a creative. Her academic journey was both demanding and transformative, pushing her to evolve from a reserved individual into a more expressive and communicative designer. One of her proudest achievements is her final-year thesis collection, Ever Blooming, which reflects her growth, creativity and dedication to her craft.

As the founder of the online boutique "Keeping_You_Covered", established in 2022, Corina has actively carved out her space within the fashion industry, gaining hands-on experience in customer engagement, branding and sales. Her work focuses on creating stylish, accessible pieces for women of all sizes, with a particular interest in serving plus-size clients who seek fashionable and well-fitting garments. Currently, she is working toward gaining a Master of Science in Innovation, Manufacturing, Management and Entrepreneurship at The University of Trinidad and Tobago. With aspirations of launching her own fashion house in the future, Corina remains committed to growth, innovation and making a meaningful impact within the fashion landscape.

Want to support or collaborate?

*Connect with Corina Lochai on social media on Instagram: **keeping_you_covered (boutique page)**. Instagram: **everblooming.designs (design page)**. WhatsApp: **335-4518** or reach out directly to learn how you can support their growing business.*



FOOTBALL

Saturday 2 May UTT O'Meara Sporting Facility	**UTT Tier 2 vs Defence Force FC** (4:00 p.m.)
Sunday 3 May La Horquetta Rangers Grounds	**UTT Women vs AC PoS Women** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 9 May Ken Cooke Grounds	**UTT Tier 2 vs T&T Police FC** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 16 May La Horquetta Rangers Grounds	**UTT Tier 2 vs QPCC FC** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 23 May Malabar Youngstars Recreation Ground	**UTT Tier 2 vs Malabar Youngstars FC** (4:00 p.m.)

CRICKET

Sunday 3 May Knowles Street, Curepe	**UTT vs Curepe** (2:00 p.m.)

Accredited for Global Recognition

UTT Programmes Meet International Standards

Accreditation, in its truest sense, refers to quality and the quality that this accreditation offers speaks to three major areas: "Competence" (assessing the skills and training given to students), "Opportunity" (preparing the students to seize opportunities in the world of work) and "Portability" (ensuring that the students' qualifications can be recognised outside of Trinidad and Tobago). UTT is mission-driven, results-oriented and committed to continuous quality.

In December 2017, UTT received Continuing Institutional Accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) for seven (7) years - the maximum period that can be awarded to tertiary institutions.

The list of programmes which have received specialised accreditation, include:

The Joint Board of Moderators (JBM) *comprising* **the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Institution of Structural Engineers, the Institute of Highway Engineers, the Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation and the Permanent Way Institution** *on behalf of the Engineering Council, UK*

- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Civil Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Civil Engineering Systems

Institution of Chemical Engineers, UK

- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Chemical Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Process Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Process Engineering

Energy Institute, UK

- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Petroleum Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Energy Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Petroleum Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Petroleum Engineering
- Master of Science in Energy Engineering

Institution of Engineering and Technology, UK

- Diploma in Computer, Network and Telecommunication Engineering
- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Instrumentation Engineering
- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Renewable Energy Engineering Technology
- Diploma in Software Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Manufacturing and Design Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Computer Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Utilities Engineering
- Master of Science in Cybersecurity
- Master of Science in Information and Communication Technology
- Master of Science in Innovative Design and Entrepreneurship



UTT Students Promote Wellness and Community Engagement Across Trinidad and Tobago



Students from UTT San Fernando Campus conducting a wellness session at the JC MacDonald Home for the Elderly.



Students from UTT Tobago and MIC Tobago Technology Centre during a clean-up at Buccoo Beach.

In March 2026, The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), through its Student Support Services (SSS) Unit, officially launched its Community Engagement Campaign 2026, an annual initiative aimed at fostering civic responsibility, leadership development, and a strong sense of community among students. The campaign engages student groups across multiple campuses in structured volunteer activities on campus and with community partners, including children's homes, senior care facilities, environmental projects, and charitable organisations. These initiatives reflect UTT's continued commitment to holistic student development and national service, consistent with its broader institutional mission.

The campaign commenced with the launch of a Senior Fitness and Wellness Programme at the JC MacDonald Home for the Elderly on March 9, 2026. Led by student volunteers from the San Fernando Campus Kinesiology and Sport programmes, the four-week initiative promotes safe and accessible physical activity for residents, while providing students with practical, service-oriented learning experiences.

Among the early activities was a campus beautification project at the ECIAF Campus on March 11. Established in 1954 in Centeno, ECIAF remains a premier centre for agricultural training in the Caribbean. Student volunteers enhanced various recreational spaces on the campus promoting environmental stewardship and campus pride.

UTT students also strengthened community partnerships through outreach to the St. Mary's Children's Home, beginning with an Easter Fun Day on April 11, which included games, crafts, and refreshments. Additional initiatives, including the development of an agricultural garden, are planned to provide sustained support for the children.

In Tobago, students partnered with the MIC-IT Tobago Technology Centre to conduct a beach clean-up at Buccoo Beach, reinforcing environmental awareness and the importance of collective action in preserving natural resources.

Collectively, these initiatives have engaged over 100 student volunteers thus far, providing meaningful opportunities for experiential learning while advancing social responsibility. Through programmes such as the Community Engagement Campaign, UTT continues to develop graduates who are not only technically competent but also socially conscious, community-oriented, and committed to contributing to national development.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UTT

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 to 14 May UTT Campus at NAPA	**BFA in the Performing Arts Capstone Recitals**
Wednesday 6 May 10:00 a.m. UTT Chaguanas Campus	**Renewable Energy II Competition Award Ceremony**
Friday 8 May 7:00 p.m. UTT Campus at NAPA	**The Last Days of Judas Iscariot**
Thursday 14 May 1:00 p.m. UTT Tamana Campus	**Launch of the Professor Selwyn R. Cudjoe, O.R.T.T. Library Corner**
Wednesday 20 May 3:30 p.m. UTT Campus at NAPA	**MME Elevate: Job Prep and Career Expo**
Friday 22 May 7:00 p.m. UTT Campus at NAPA	**Book Launch: "Steelpan Vibrations: Unlocking the Human Mind"**
Wednesday 27 May Various UTT Campuses	**Indian Arrival Day Curry Duck Competition**

UTT Hosts Workshop on Underwater Noise Pollution with International Facilitators

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) hosted the GloNoise Underwater Radiated Noise (URN) Toolkit Introduction Training Workshop, a national stakeholder engagement initiative, delivered in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), and the Maritime Services Division of the Ministry of Works and Infrastructure.

This two-day workshop brought together key national stakeholders and features facilitators from Brazil and Portugal, who will provide technical guidance and share global best practice in addressing underwater noise pollution from shipping activities.

Participants were introduced to the URN Assessment Toolkit, an interactive online learning platform and knowledge hub designed to support the understanding, assessment, and management of underwater noise pollution, with a focus on mitigating the environmental impact on marine ecosystems.

Welcoming participants, Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag), UTT, highlighted the national importance of this initiative. He stated "Trinidad and Tobago's designation as a lead pilot country – the only one in the Caribbean - is both a recognition of our capability, and a responsibility we must take seriously". He added that the success of this initiative will depend on how effectively knowledge is translated into action.



Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag), UTT (centre), with (l-r) Marcos Souza, Underwater Acoustics Lead, Blue Oasis; Lieutenant Commander Ronald Alfred, Director, Maritime Services Division, Ministry of Works and Infrastructure; Dr Reia Guppy, Project Lead, Associate Professor and Programme Leader, Marine Sciences, UTT; and Maria Apolonia, Senior Consultant, Aquatera, at the Opening Ceremony for the GloNoise Underwater Radiated Noise (URN) Toolkit Introduction Training Workshop at UTT Chaguaramas Campus.

Ms Sevtap Ozdogan, Project Manager for GLONOISE, International Maritime Organization, in her online presentation, stated that meeting the sustainable ocean agenda, and protecting diverse marine environment requires collective and global effort. She also remarked that partnerships such as this which has facilitated the ongoing event, are necessary for advancing sustainable maritime development, a sentiment echoed by Lieutenant Commander Ronald Alfred, Director, Maritime Services Division of the Ministry of Works and Infrastructure.

The workshop provides a platform for national dialogue on existing policies and the development of coordinated strategies for underwater noise management in Trinidad and Tobago. Discussions will also explore how international frameworks and tools can be adapted to the local context while strengthening technical capacity among national stakeholders.

Through the hosting of workshops such as this, UTT continues to demonstrate its commitment to innovation, applied research and sustainable national development. The University of Trinidad and Tobago expresses sincere appreciation to international and local partners for their continued support in advancing efforts to address underwater noise pollution and protect marine ecosystems.



UTT and PowerGen Strengthen Educational Access Through Student Scholarships and Bursaries

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) has collaborated with the Power Generation Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (PowerGen), to host the third annual Utilities and Sustainable Engineering (USE) Award Ceremony. This ceremony serves to recognise top students from the University's USE programmes, through the awarding of bursaries and scholarships by PowerGen.

This joint initiative is the result of a two-year old Memorandum of Understanding between UTT and PowerGen, by which both parties committed to collaborate in energy-related research, particularly in areas such as energy efficiency, while training and developing human capital in emerging fields.

At the award ceremony, Guyanese-based Sharu Laloo was awarded a scholarship for the Most Outstanding National Energy Technician Diploma (NETD) Final Year Project, and for exceptional work in his final-year Bachelor in Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) in Utilities Engineering project, Vikash Persad was also awarded a scholarship. Recipients of this year's PowerGen bursaries are Shivani Ragbir and Ariyan Taiju, for Consistent High Academic Performance at the B.A.Sc. and NETD levels, respectively.

In his address, Professor Rean Maharaj, Acting President, UTT commended all awardees for fulfilling UTT's mission to produce graduates who are technically competent, disciplined and ready to contribute to society. This mission, he added, is achieved in part because UTT's programmes are deliberately industry driven, "Through advisory boards and continuous engagement with employers, curriculum design, delivery and review remain aligned to real industry needs".



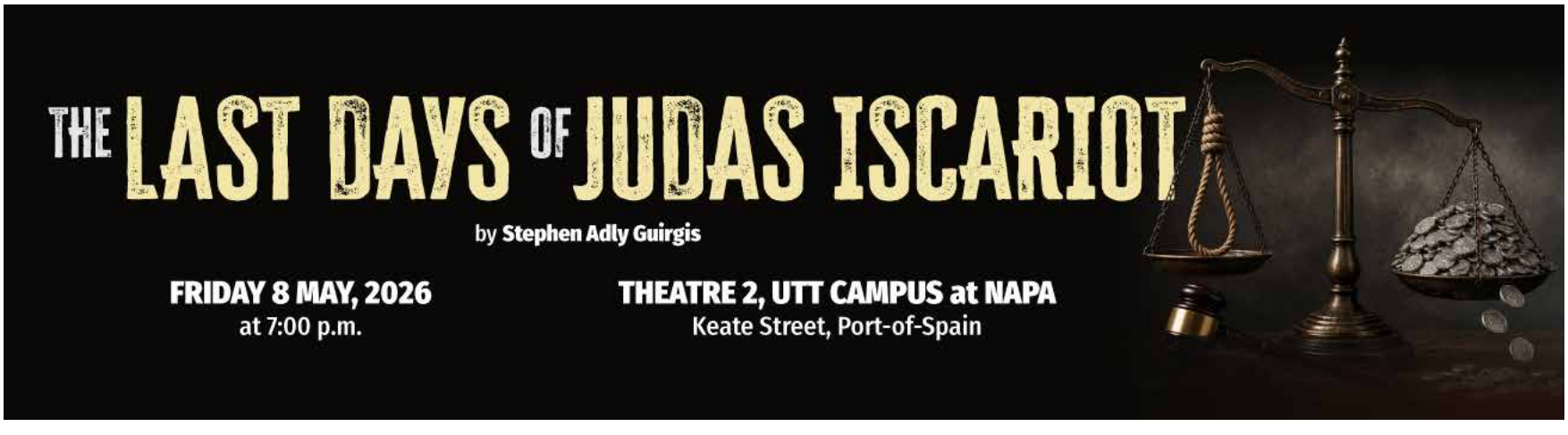
Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag), UTT (centre), with (l-r) Dr Miguel Jagessar, Assistant Professor, Utilities and Sustainable Engineering, UTT; Ariyan Taiju, PowerGen busary recipient; Marsha Mohammed, Head Legal Advisory Services, Legal and Regulatory Affairs, PowerGen; Shivani Ragbir, PowerGen bursary recipient and Eddy Nicholas, Manager, Outage Management, PowerGen at the recent award ceremony.

Also speaking at the award ceremony was Marsha Mohammed, Head, Legal Advisory Services, Legal and Regulatory Affairs, PowerGen, who also lauded the awardees on their achievements, citing they 'represent the very best of what our country has to offer – talented, disciplined and forward-thinking individuals – ready to take on the challenges of the transforming utilities landscape.

At this event, two longstanding members of USE staff were also recognised for their contributions to the Unit, Mr Moti Ramsingh, Senior Instructor and former Discipline Leader, with over twenty-one years' service who has been instrumental in the development and strengthening of the NETD programmes; and recently retired Instructor in Electrical, Electronic and Renewable Energy Engineering Technology, Mr Deoraj Ramroop, who, over nineteen years, made a significant contribution through his dedication to teaching and hands-on training.

Through collaboration such as this, UTT demonstrates its commitment to building the next generation of engineers and technical professionals while supporting national sustainable development goals. UTT also thanks PowerGen for its continued partnership, and looks forward to working together, to the benefit of all of Trinidad and Tobago.

For further information on UTT's Utilities and Sustainable Engineering programmes, visit ***www.u.tt/utilitiesengineering****, call* ***642-8888 ext. 21055*** *or email* ***anna.scott@utt.edu.tt***



UTT BAFT Students Showcase Culinary Innovation at Inaugural Rabbit Meat Festival

This article is submitted by the ***BIOSICENCES, AGRICULTURE and FOOD TECHNOLOGIES UNIT, UTT***



Grilled rabbit skewers



Patrons enjoying some of the dishes on offer at UTT's Rabbit Meat Festival.



Rabbit lasagna

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) proudly hosted its Rabbit Meat Festival on 25 February and 4 March, 2026 at its ECIAF Campus, highlighting the culinary versatility and nutritional value of rabbit meat, often referred to as "the other white meat."

The initiative was coordinated by Dr Marcus Nicholas Ramdwar, Associate Professor Bio-Sciences Agriculture and Food Technology, as a participatory learning exercise within the Agricultural Post Production Technology course for the 2026 Diploma in Agriculture cohort. The event also benefited from the culinary direction and expertise of Chef Brian Charles and culinary social media influencer Mrs Trudy Daisley, both students of the University.

As part of the practical learning experience, the class was divided into three teams led by students Nathaniel Mohammed, Camille Hernandez, and Chinyere Nimblett from Tobago.

Rabbit meat, a staple in Mediterranean and European cuisine, is steadily gaining recognition globally for its sustainability, lean composition, and high nutritional value. With an average protein content of 29 to 33g per 100g, rabbit meat surpasses chicken, which typically contains 20 to 27g per 100g, while also offering higher levels of iron and vitamin B12 and significantly lower fat and cholesterol content.

The festival challenged students to move beyond conventional preparations such as stews and curry, encouraging them to create innovative and gourmet dishes that showcased rabbit meat as a premium culinary ingredient. A key objective of the event was to introduce rabbit meat to individuals who had never previously consumed it, creating an opportunity for broader public appreciation of its taste, versatility, and nutritional benefits.

The culinary creations were both inventive and diverse. Mr Nathaniel Mohammed's team presented:

- rabbit meat wontons
- a creamy béchamel and rich tomato ragù rabbit lasagna
- a honey barbecue rabbit dish finished with smoked paprika and a honey-infused glaze

Ms Camille Hernandez's Trinidad-based team produced:

· a masala-infused rabbit and mushroom pastry pie

· pulled rabbit sliders

· grilled rabbit skewers with onions, sweet peppers, and pineapple charred over smoky coals

Meanwhile, Ms. Chinyere Nimblett's Tobago team prepared a traditional rabbit stew enriched with the creamy goodness of local coconut milk.

Beyond its culinary appeal, the festival also underscored the entrepreneurial and food security potential of rabbit production. Rabbits are relatively easy to rear, require less space, and involve lower startup and feed costs compared to poultry production. They mature within eight to twelve weeks, and can be sustained using garden waste and other accessible feed resources, making them an attractive option for small-scale farmers and household subsistence farming.

The event highlighted the potential for rabbit meat to become a valued component of Trinidad and Tobago's food landscape, from top-tier restaurants to community food enterprises, while contributing to the nation's agricultural value chain and nutritional security agenda.

This initiative reflects the University's continued commitment to innovation, practical learning, and sustainable agricultural development.

For further information on UTT's Biosciences, Agriculture and Food Technologies programmes, visit ***www.u.tt/baft****, call* ***642-8888 ext. 23149*** *or email* ***urshelle.decastro@utt.edu.tt***





Mr Ian Pritchard, Senior Manager, Sport and Recreation, UTT (left) and Ms Daisha Maxwell, Assistant Vice President, Human Resources and Administration, UTT (right) with winners and participants of UTT's 2026 National Aerobathon, powered by KFC.

UTT Leads Tertiary Education Fitness Movement with its 2026 National Aerobathon

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) recently hosted its fourth annual National Aerobathon 2026, powered by KFC, an initiative aimed at promoting health, wellness and community engagement through fitness-based activities. The event brought together UTT staff, students and members of the wider national community.

The event, held at the National Cycling Velodrome, Couva, saw title sponsor KFC, along with valued event partners, Central Athletic Club, Guiltless Yogurt, the Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee, Nestlé Trinidad and Tobago, Oasis, SM Jaleel and 103.1FM, play an integral role in the aerobathon's success through their continued support and collaboration.

This year, over $15,000 in cash and prizes was awarded across various categories. Over one hundred participants took part in an engaging, high-energy aerobic session led by certified instructors, who delivered dynamic routines tailored to all fitness levels, ensuring an inclusive experience for all.

UTT congratulates the overall winner, Dana Lewis, on her performance, and Leston De Roche in securing first place in the male category. Congratulations are also extended to all winners for their dedication and commitment to fitness.

UTT thanks each participant and sponsor for their involvement in the successful execution of the National Aerobathon and looks forward to supporting the fifth staging of the event.

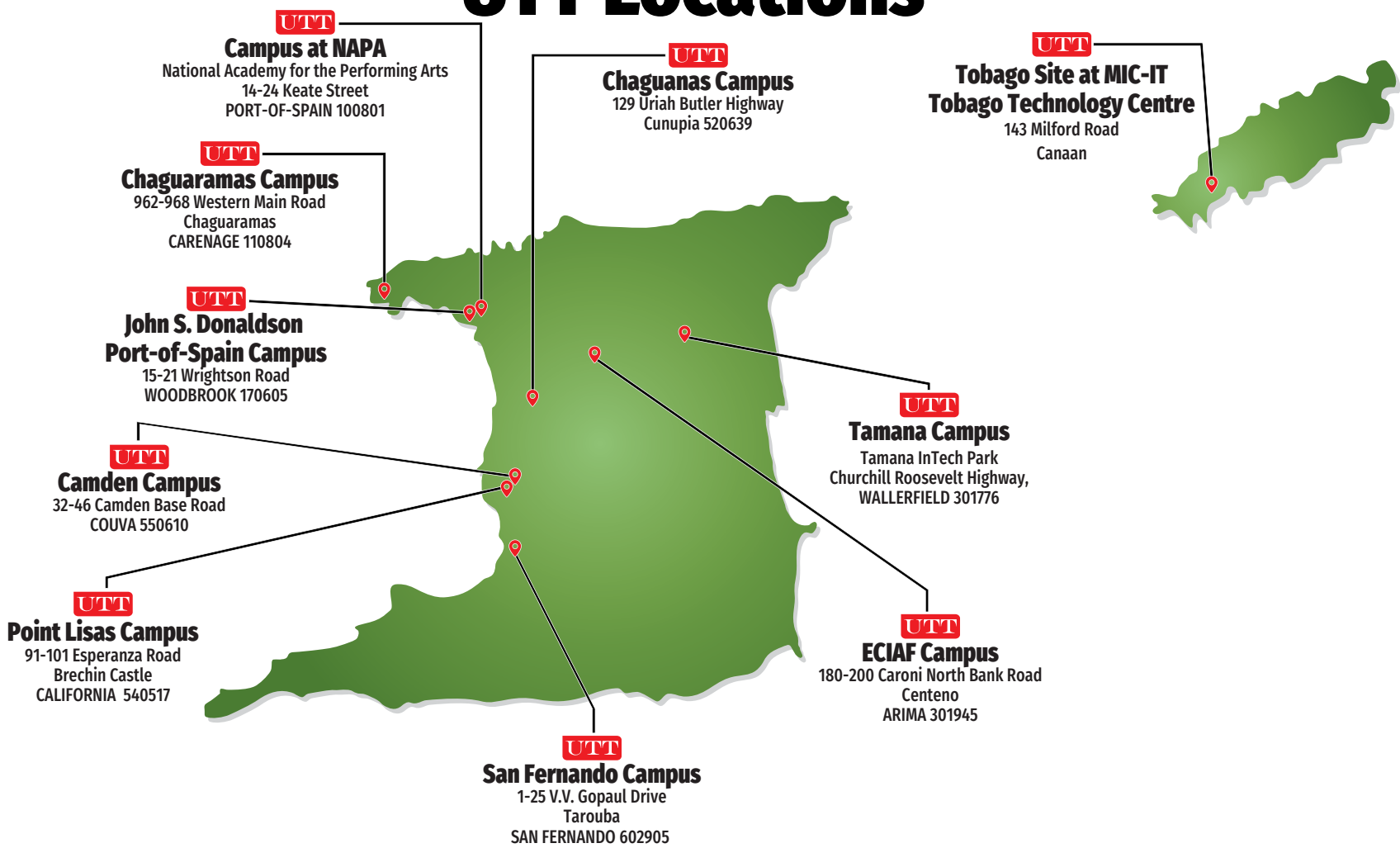


Overall winner of UTT's 2026 National Aerobathon, Dana Lewis, and Leston De Roche, winner of the male category.



A cross-section of the participants at UTT's 2026 National Aerobathon, powered by KFC, at the Nationa Cycling Velodrome, Couva.

UTT Locations



UTT Tamana Campus

- Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education
- Certificate in Security and Public Safety
- Diploma in Respiratory Therapy
- Diploma in Security and Public Safety
- B.A.Sc. in Criminology and Public Safety
- BFA in Digital Media Arts
- Bachelor of Education
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education
- M.Ed. in Educational Technology
- Master's in Health Administration - Health Systems
- Master of Philosophy (M. Phil.)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

UTT Chaguaramas Campus

- Certificate in Applied Maritime Operations
- Diploma in Maritime Operations
- B.Sc. in Coastal and Ocean Management
- M.Sc. in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management
- M.Sc. in Operational Maritime Management

UTT ECIAF Campus

- Certificate in Food Technology
- Diploma in Agriculture
- Diploma Animal Health, Production and Veterinary Public Health
- Diploma in Forestry
- Diploma in Food Technology
- Diploma in Natural Resource Management
- Diploma in Ornamental Horticulture
- B.Sc. in Agriculture and Entrepreneurship
- B.Sc. in Food Science and Technology

UTT John S. Donaldson Port-of-Spain Campus

- Certificate in Applied Engineering
- Professional Certificate in ICT for Teachers
- Diploma in Computer, Network and Telecommunication Engineering
- Diploma in Fashion Design
- Diploma in Software Engineering
- Diploma in Visual Communications Design
- NETD in Civil Engineering
- NETD in Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- NETD in Mechanical Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Computer Engineering
- BFA in Fashion Design
- M.A. in Carnival Studies
- M.Sc. in Cybersecurity
- M.Sc. in Information and Communication Technology

UTT Campus at NAPA

- BFA in Digital Media Arts
- BFA in the Performing Arts
- M.A. in Carnival Studies

UTT Site at MIC-IT Tobago Technology Centre

** Approval for this site expected soon*

- Certificate in Early Childhood Care and Education
- Diploma in Agriculture
- Diploma in Forestry
- NETD in Civil Engineering
- NETD in Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- NETD in Renewable Energy Engineering Technology
- Bachelor of Education

UTT Aviation Campus at Camden

- Certificate in Aviation Technology
- B.Sc. in Aircraft Maintenance and Management
- B.Sc. in Aeronautical and Airworthiness Engineering

UTT San Fernando Campus

- Certificate in Applied Engineering
- Certificate in Process Operations
- Certificate in Sport Studies
- Diploma in Software Engineering
- NETD in Chemical Engineering
- NETD in Civil Engineering
- NETD in Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- NETD in Mechanical Engineering
- NETD in Petroleum Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Civil Engineering Systems
- B.A.Sc. in Kinesiology
- B.A.Sc. in Manufacturing and Design Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Process Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Utilities Engineering
- M.Sc. in Innovation, Manufacturing Management and Entrepreneurship

UTT Point Lisas Campus

- Certificate in Applied Engineering
- Professional Certificate in ICT for Teachers
- Certificate in Process Operations
- Diploma in Computer, Network and Telecommunication Engineering
- Diploma in Software Engineering
- NETD in Chemical Engineering
- NETD in Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- NETD in Instrumentation Engineering
- NETD in Mechanical Engineering
- NETD in Petroleum Engineering
- NETD in Renewable Energy Engineering Technology
- B.A.Sc. in Computer Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Energy Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Petroleum Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Process Engineering
- B.A.Sc. in Utilities Engineering
- M.Eng. in Petroleum Engineering
- M.Eng. in Process Engineering
- M.Eng. in Utilities Engineering
- M.Sc. in Energy Engineering with specialisation in Renewable Energy

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OVER 60 UNDERGRADUATE and POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES:

CERTIFICATE in:

- Applied Engineering
- Aviation Technology
- Early Childhood Care and Education
- Food Technology
- Process Operations
- Security and Public Safety
- Sport Studies
- Advanced Pan Fellowship Certificate

DIPLOMA in:

- Agriculture
- Animal Health, Production and Veterinary Public Health
- Coastal and Ocean Sciences
- Computer, Network and Telecommunication Engineering
- Fashion Design with Fashion Management Option
- Food Technology
- Forestry
- Natural Resource Management **
- Maritime Operations
- Ornamental Horticulture
- Security and Public Safety
- Software Engineering
- Visual Communications Design

** *Not GATE approved*

NATIONAL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN DIPLOMA in:

- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Instrumentation Engineering
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering
- Renewable Energy Engineering Technology

BACHELOR of EDUCATION

BACHELOR of FINE ARTS in:

- Digital Media Arts
- Fashion Design
- The Performing Arts
- The Performing Arts with specialisation in Music

BACHELOR of SCIENCE in:

- Aeronautical and Airworthiness Engineering
- Agriculture and Entrepreneurship
- Aircraft Maintenance and Management
- Coastal and Ocean Management
- Food Science and Technology
- Kinesiology
- Nautical Science\Maritime Operations

BACHELOR of APPLIED SCIENCE in:

- Civil Engineering Systems
- Computer Engineering
- Criminology and Public Safety
- Energy Engineering †
- Manufacturing and Design Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering
- Process Engineering
- Utilities Engineering

† *GATE funding available for Years 2 to 4*

MASTER of ENGINEERING in:

- Petroleum Engineering
- Process Engineering

POSTGRADUATE Programmes **

- Professional Certificate in ICT for Teachers
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education
- Master of Arts in Carnival Studies
- Master of Education in Educational Technology
- NEW! Master of Science in Electromechanical Engineering
- Master of Science in Energy Engineering with specialisation in Renewable Energy
- Master of Science in Information and Communication Technology
- Master's in Health Administration - Health Systems
- Master of Science in Innovation, Manufacturing Management and Entrepreneurship
- Master of Science in Innovative Design and Entrepreneurship
- Master of Science in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management
- Master of Science in Cybersecurity
- Master of Science in Kinesiology
- Master of Science in Operational Maritime Management

RESEARCH Degrees **

- Master of Philosophy (M.Phil.)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

** *Not GATE approved*

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UTT reserves the right to change programme offerings and/or schedules.