

ADVANCING NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

ACTT Grants UTT Continuing Institutional Accreditation for Seven Years

In a display of continued institutional excellence, The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) has been awarded Continuing Institutional Accreditation for seven years by the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT).

The reaccreditation period which runs from December 17, 2025 to December 16, 2032 is a reflection of the level of dedicated work done by staff during eighteen months of rigorous self-assessment, followed by visits by the accreditation team to each UTT campus to conduct interviews related to University operations.

Professor Rean Maharaj, Acting President, UTT commended each member of staff, faculty, the students, alumni and industry stakeholders who contributed to this achievement, adding that it "affirms the quality of our institution, our

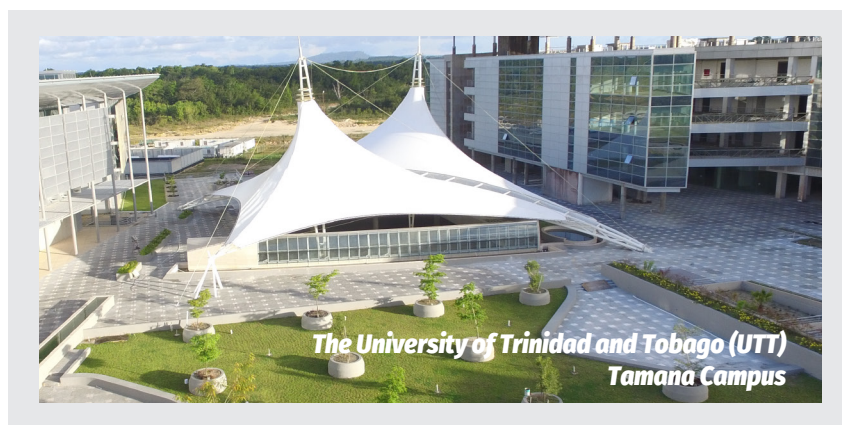
academic and administrative systems, and our commitment to accountability and continuous improvement."

This is the second time in UTT's twenty-two-year history that it has been granted accreditation for the maximum period, which further demonstrates how the University fulfils its responsibility to the national community by achieving and maintaining high standards of quality and effectiveness.

The awarding of accreditation also positively impacts UTT's global standing, and lends credibility to its academic programmes, which works to the benefits of our students. As the national University, quality must be reflected not only in the programmes delivered, but also in the standard of graduates we developed, as they are our number one priority.

While seeking accreditation is voluntary, UTT has established a governance structure to ensure and facilitate independent review in attempt to meet international academic standards. The University is proud to strengthen its foundations, building greater institutional stability and positioning itself for sustainable growth and increased national impact.

Congratulations, once again, to The University of Trinidad and Tobago on being awarded Continuing Institutional Accreditation for seven years. Let us all use this achievement as an opportunity to celebrate UTT's academic standing, organisational development and overall excellence in tertiary education.



UTT Announces 2026 Honorary Degree Recipients

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) will confer honorary degrees upon four distinguished nationals at the first session of its 2026 Presentation of Graduates Ceremony, to be held on November 17, 2026 at the Lord Kitchener Auditorium, National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA), Port-of-Spain.

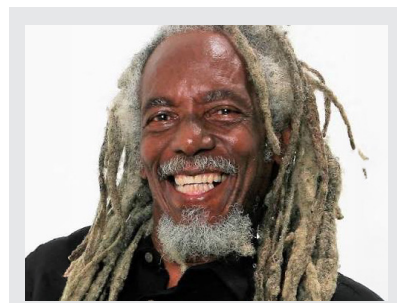
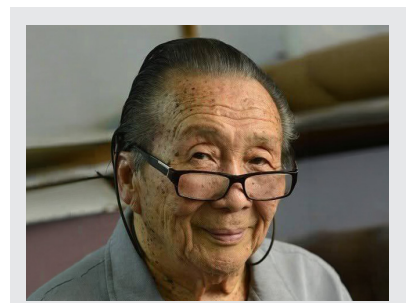
The 2026 honorary degree recipients, who are being recognised for their outstanding contributions to the development of Trinidad and Tobago:

• **Mr. Willie Chen** – in recognition of his contribution to the artistic and cultural landscape, will be posthumously awarded an *Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts*

• **Mr. Neval Chatelal** – in recognition of his contribution to music, culture and the performing arts, will be awarded an *Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts*

• **Mr. Anthony Emrold Phillip (Brother Valentino)** – in recognition of his contribution to music, culture and the performing arts, will be awarded an *Honorary Doctorate of Letters*

• **Pundit Bhadase M. Maraj** – in recognition of his contribution to cultural and spiritual development, will be awarded an *Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters*



The University is honoured to recognise these distinguished individuals, whose achievements reflect a sustained commitment to excellence, service and nation-building. Through their contributions to their respective fields and to the wider society, they have enriched Trinidad and Tobago's cultural and social landscape and continue to serve as sources of inspiration.

Her Excellency Christine Carla Kangaloo, O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Chancellor of The University of Trinidad and Tobago, will preside over this year's session for higher degrees and honorary doctorates.

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UTT Pays Tribute to Calypso Icon The Mighty Sparrow

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) joins the national, regional and international community in mourning the passing of Slinger Francisco, O.R.T.T., internationally celebrated as The Mighty Sparrow who died on September 27, 2026, at the age of 91.

Widely regarded as one of calypso's most influential and accomplished artistes, The Mighty Sparrow devoted more than seven decades to an artform through which he entertained, educated and challenged generations of audiences. His extraordinary body of work helped shape the musical and cultural identity of Trinidad and Tobago and contributed significantly to the international recognition of calypso.

Born in Grenada and raised in Trinidad from early childhood, he began singing at a young age and eventually earned the sobriquet "Little Sparrow" because of his energetic stage performances. As his career developed, Sparrow's distinctive voice, commanding stage presence, sharp social commentary and characteristic wit made him one of the Caribbean's most recognisable cultural figures.

His music provided an enduring commentary on Caribbean life, addressing subjects ranging from society, culture and education to politics, relationships and international affairs. Even as his reputation grew internationally, his work remained firmly rooted in the experiences, humour, complexities and aspirations of Caribbean people.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago has itself contributed to the scholarly examination and preservation of Sparrow's legacy. In 2014, UTT hosted *The Anthropology of Sparrow: An Anthology of the Works of Slinger Francisco (1956-1962)*, which examined his work during a pivotal period in Trinidad and Tobago's history and explored its contribution to the development of an emerging national identity.

Professor Selwyn R. Cudjoe, O.R.T.T., Executive Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Governors of UTT, reflected on Sparrow's place in this great African musical tradition that enslaved Africans brought to the West Indies in the 17th century. In other words, Sparrow's career can be seen as a continuation of the works of one of our earliest calypsoes,

"Ja Ja Romey Eh/ Ja Ja Romey Shango" that was sung at the calinda or stick fights, an African martial art form, and other religious festivities.

"Through his music, he chronicled the evolving social, political and cultural life of Trinidad, Tobago, and the wider Caribbean. His wit, intellect and artistry allowed generations to see themselves, their struggles and their aspirations in his work. His prolific repertoire of musical compositions ushered in another phase of our social and cultural life. And for that we are very grateful."

Sparrow's achievements included eight Calypso Monarch titles and eight Road March titles, while his exceptional artistry and influence earned him recognition throughout the Caribbean and internationally and cemented his place as the "Calypso King of the World." His remarkable catalogue traversed themes of national pride and unity, education, international relations and social and political commentary. Through humour, satire, melody and an unmistakable performance style, Sparrow reached audiences across generations and socio-economic backgrounds while helping to elevate calypso as a powerful vehicle

for Caribbean storytelling and social commentary.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago extends its deepest condolences to the family, friends, colleagues and countless admirers of The Mighty Sparrow throughout Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean and the wider world.

As the national university committed to scholarship, culture and the preservation of Trinidad and Tobago's heritage, UTT joins the nation in celebrating the life and extraordinary contribution of Slinger Francisco, The Mighty Sparrow, whose voice, music and legacy will remain an enduring part of the Caribbean story.



Slinger Francisco, the Mighty Sparrow, 1935 - 2026

Marine Sciences Graduate Co-Authors New Study on Lane Snapper



Graduate of UTT's Master of Philosophy in Marine Sciences in Coastal and Ocean Studies Gianluc Robinson - Researching the Life of Lane Snapper

The Centre for Maritime and Ocean Studies (CMOS) proudly congratulates Gianluc Robinson, a maritime studies graduate of the Bachelor of Applied Science in Coastal and Ocean Studies, on the publication of his co-authored research paper in the journal *Fisheries Research*.

Co-authored with Mark H. Tupper, the study examines changes in the size and sexual maturity of lane snapper (*Lutjanus synagris*) in Trinidad over a thirty-four-year period.

Based on 500 fish sampled between 2017 and 2020, the researchers

identified a decline of approximately 16% in the species' average size at sexual maturity, compared with historical data. The findings raise important concerns about fishing pressure, stock productivity and the adequacy of the current legal minimum catch size.

The authors recommend increasing the minimum catch size to approximately 25-26 cm, strengthening enforcement and introducing measures to protect spawning fish. They also emphasise the importance of implementing these measures gradually and in a

socially responsible manner to reduce the potential impact on fishers.

This study is Gianluc's second round of research on the aquatic species which is native to the Caribbean. In 2022, he conducted Master of Philosophy (M. Phil) research which also focused on the maturity of the Lane Snapper on the north coast of Trinidad.

CMOS congratulates Gianluc on this significant research milestone! Marine Sciences celebrates this accomplishment and wishes him continued success throughout his research journey.

How UTT's Diploma in Forestry Secured My Professional Growth

Jason Baker, a recipient of a scholarship through the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), and national of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, pursued the Diploma in Forestry at UTT ECIAF Campus. Jason selected this programme to develop his knowledge and gain practical skills that would help him better understand and manage forest resources, improve his qualifications, and position himself for career advancement.

His most memorable experience was graduating and successfully completing the programme after the hard work and dedication he invested during his time as a student. He also credits the programme's lecturers and courses for having a significant impact on his development.



Scholarship Recipient Jason Baker

Currently, Jason is working as a Forestry Officer I, within the Law Compliance Unit of The Forestry Department in St Vincent and the Grenadines. He believes his studies

at UTT allowed him to grow professionally while working towards further career advancement within the forestry department. He recognised the true value of his UTT education when he began applying the knowledge and the training he gained to real-world forestry initiatives and community education efforts.

Beyond his professional responsibilities, Jason contributes to his community by educating the public about the vital role forests play in everyday life and the importance of protecting and conserving these valuable natural resources.

Sharing his experience, Jason's advice to students is to stay focused on their goals despite the challenges and obstacles that they may encounter on their journey to

success. He also encourages students to focus on gaining both knowledge and practical skills, building discipline, and developing a strong work ethic.

Jason's journey from the classroom of UTT ECIAF Campus to his current role in the forestry department demonstrates how education can strengthen professional capacity and create opportunities for career growth. Through his continued commitment to forestry, conservation and community education, Jason is building on the foundation provided by UTT while contributing to the protection and sustainable management of the region's forest resources.

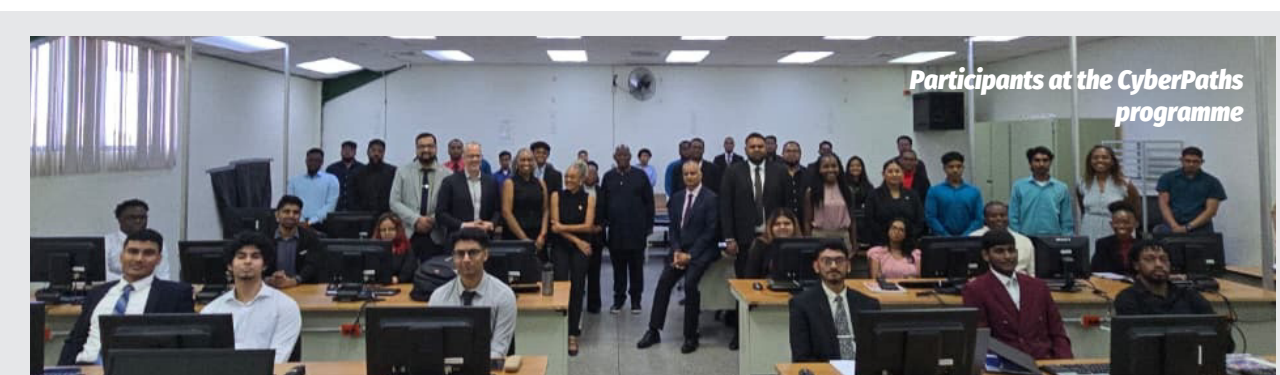
UTT congratulates Jason on his achievements and wish him continued success in his endeavours.

UTT Host Organization of American States Initiative on Cybersecurity

In a display of commitment toward the creation of strategic partnerships, The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) hosted the CyberPaths Programme, a joint initiative of the Organization of American States (OAS), the Citi Foundation, and the Trinidad & Tobago Cyber Security Incident Response Team under the Ministry of Homeland Security.

The event, themed *Building Blocks Towards A Secure Digital Future Initiative* ran from August 24-28, 2026, provided participants with a foundational understanding of core cybersecurity concepts via theory and practical exercises.

Skills taught at this event aligned with those taught at UTT's Centre for



Information and Communication Technology, highlighting the need for linking academic instruction with practical experience.

At the launch for the event held at UTT Point Lisas Campus, Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.), UTT echoed this sentiment, stating "we

must strengthen the connection between our academic programmes, cybersecurity education, specialised training, professional certification and industry experience, creating clear pathways into employment, entrepreneurship and further study", adding that this is necessary to

remain relevant to the needs of industry, government and the wider society.

UTT is proud to play a part in this initiative which advances the national cybersecurity agenda and strengthens cyber resilience.



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THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO





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

** Not GATE approved

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- 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:

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- Instrumentation Engineering
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Petroleum Engineering
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- Process Engineering

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- Master of Education in Educational Technology
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- **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.