The UTT IMPACT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
The Official Newsletter of The University of Trinidad and Tobago
FEBRUARY 2026 edition

UTT congratulates Honorary Doctor and Graduate Machel Montano on Twelfth Road March Win



Machel Montano delivers an impromptu performance after receiving his Honorary Doctorate in Fine Arts at UTT's 2018 Presentation of Graduates.

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) continues to congratulate Machel Montano on his historic achievement of winning his twelfth Road March title at Trinidad and Tobago Carnival 2026, with his offering *Encore*.

In 2018, for his contribution to culture and soca music, Montano was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Arts from UTT. Of this award, he stated that he was absolutely grateful; humbled but proud, for being selected. He added that he felt validated that despite deciding to pause his personal academic journey at A' Level to pursue music - much to his parents' concern - he was now being recognised as a standard bearer, for his musical ability.

Undoubtedly convinced by the talent on display at UTT's 2018 graduation ceremony, and the programmes offered in what can be described as his life's passion, Machel enrolled as a student at the national University. Six years later, he graduated from UTT's Master of Arts in Carnival Studies under the supervision of Professor Hollis Liverpool, O.R.T.T., widely renowned as calypsonian The Mighty Chalkdust.

Machel has long sang the praises of those who came before him, paying homage to the role they played in creating a local musical identity. To this end, he has collaborated with stalwarts from the golden era of soca and calypso, including The Mighty Sparrow, Calypso Rose, David Rudder and Super Blue. He continues to work with his contemporaries while working to showcase the youth, confirming his position as a premier cultural custodian.

Throughout his career which spans over four decades, Machel has garnered a number of accolades which have helped cement him, as the undisputed King of Soca. With seven Soca Monarch titles (five Power, two Groovy), one Calypso Monarch and one Chutney Soca Monarch, his contribution to soca has undoubtedly put not only the genre, but this twin-island republic, on the global stage.

With this Road March title, Machel surpasses Lord Kitchener for the most wins, a title which has stood since 1976. His journey throughout the soca fraternity has yielded continuous reinvention and remarkable growth, propelling him to where the air is rare, a position which he envisioned for himself when he began his career back in 1982.

Commenting on the win, Montano stated, "*I give thanks to The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) for the opportunity to dig deep into the studies of Calypso, Steelband, Mas, and Social Sciences. I hope my choice to pursue my education journey further inspires other artists to follow suit.*

This year's Carnival season (2026) was intense, fierce and successful - endless hours were spent perfecting and executing my craft with the goal of chasing and achieving greatness.

This 12th win makes me proud and makes me reflect on the fact that I could not have attained this feat without the experiences alongside legends like the Lord Kitchener, Mighty Sparrow, Calypso Rose, David Rudder, Super Blue, my UTT Professor the Mighty Chalkdust and many others with whom I interacted as a child since the 1980s.

Thanks to my magnificent team, family, fans and dear Nation who all contributed to this history making moment.

To the youths, please strive toward greatness and remember you are only as good as your last performance, meaning you can always become better!

Peace and love."



Machel Montano during UTT's 2024 Presentation of Graduates, after completing the Master of Arts in Carnival Studies.

For years Machel's music has been the soundtrack to which the Caribbean parties, by which new fans become enamoured, by which Caribbean cultures are sustained. His cultural relevance cannot be downplayed, and his legacy is already intact. Showcasing his pursuit of greatness, Machel's title-winning "Encore" asks the listener to give one more, but we are certain that for his fans and the culture, King Machel unquestionably, has quite a few left to give.

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The UTT IMPACT

THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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UTT congratulates Rikki Jai on Third Place Win at 2026 Calypso Monarch

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) congratulates Dr Samraj Jaimungal *(h.c.)*, also known as Rikki Jai, on securing third place at Dimanche Gras 2026.

In 2023, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts by UTT for his contribution to soca/chutney music.

This achievement enhances his already decorated musical career and the University extends best wishes for his continued success.



UTT mentioned in IChemE Publication

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) has been mentioned in the Institution of Chemical Engineers (IChemE) *The Chemical Engineer* Magazine, for its work in establishing Trinidad and Tobago as a Member Group within the organisation.

In the article appearing in the February 2026 Issue, reference is made to the key role UTT played in 2014, and the work done since then, to support the connections between industry and academia.

CLICK HERE to view the full article.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT UTT



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 2026

Saturday 7 5:00 p.m. **UTT Campus at NAPA**	**The Elders Before Us: The Geoffrey Holder Story**
Friday 20 1:00 p.m. **UTT Campus at NAPA**	**Jazz Artists on the Greens Worshop**
Sunday 22 5:00 p.m. **UTT Campus at NAPA**	**The Elders Before Us: A conversation with Master Artist David Boothman**
March 21 to 27 **UTT Chaguramas Campus**	**IMarEST Reaccreditation of UTT Chaguaramas Campus**
Wednesday 25 10:00 a.m. **UTT Campus at NAPA**	**APA Open Day**
March 25, April 1 and April 22	**Personal Development Workshops**
Friday 27 9:00 a.m. **UTT San Fernando Campus**	**UTT Students' Sports Day 2026**
Saturday 28 2:00 p.m. **UTT Campus at NAPA**	**APA Roundtable Discussion: Voices of the islands - Women Leading Caribbean Music Today**

UTT Staff Take Leadership Roles in National Paralympic Movement

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) is proud to announce that three of its staff members have been elected to executive leadership positions within the Trinidad and Tobago Paralympic Committee (TTPC), reaffirming the University's strong commitment to sport, inclusion, and national development.

Mr Micky Ruben has been elected President of the TTPC, marking a significant milestone in his continued service to sport and athlete development in Trinidad and Tobago. Joining him on the executive are Mrs Rhonda Clarke-Goden, who has been elected General Secretary, and Ms Aleena Edwards, who will serve as Vice President.

Their selection reflects the confidence placed in their leadership, professionalism, and dedication to advancing opportunities for athletes with disabilities. Through their new roles, they will work to strengthen



Mr Micky Reuben

governance, expand participation, and enhance pathways for paralympic athletes at both national and international levels.

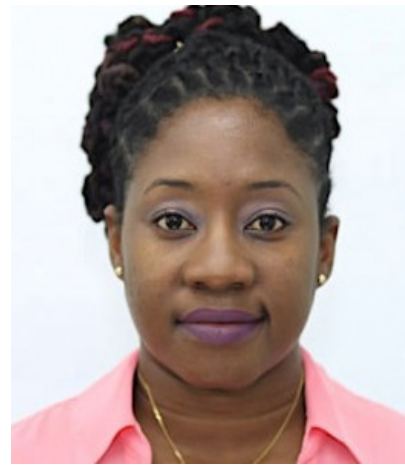
UTT's strong representation on the TTPC executive underscores the University's broader commitment to holistic development, diversity, and social inclusion. By supporting staff who contribute to national sporting bodies, UTT continues to



Mrs Rhonda Clarke-Gooden

demonstrate its role as a leader in fostering equitable access to sport and promoting positive social change.

Mr Ruben, Mrs Clarke-Goden, and Ms Edwards exemplify UTT's values of service, excellence, and inclusivity. Their leadership within the paralympic movement not only elevates the profile of adaptive sport in Trinidad and Tobago but



Ms Aleena Edwards

also inspires students and staff alike to engage in meaningful community and national development initiatives.

The University congratulates all three on their appointments and looks forward to the positive impact of their work in strengthening the paralympic movement and advancing inclusive sport nationwide.

Shanecia Delpesche Advances at National Classified Women A Division Tournament

UTT Table Tennis student-athlete Shanecia Delpesche delivered a commendable performance at the National Classified Women A Division Tournament, held at the National Racquet Centre in Tacarigua on February 7, 2026.

Competing in Group 3, Delpesche advanced to the knockout stage after finishing second in her group. Her only setback in group play came against Elizabeth Rajah, going down 3-0, but she responded strongly with a solid 3-1 victory over Arlene Joseph to secure her place in the quarterfinals.

In the quarterfinal stage, Delpesche continued her impressive run with a confident 3-1 win over Lyllana Boodhan, showcasing her resilience and tactical awareness under pressure. Her campaign came to an end in the semifinals, where she was defeated 3-0 by Jordan Thong, who went on to be crowned the 2026 National Classified Women A



Shanecia Delpesche

Division Champion.

Delpesche's performance reflects her continued growth and competitiveness at the national level and highlights the strong representation of UTT student-athletes in top-tier domestic competition.

Timmy Moolchan Makes Waves in Marine Sciences

Timmy Moolchan, born in San Juan, Trinidad and now residing in the United States, always aspired to study Marine Biology. As a graduate of UTT's Bachelor of Applied Science in Coastal and Ocean Sciences, his goal was to demonstrate that graduates from Trinidad and Tobago are more than capable of excelling internationally and pursuing their dreams at the highest level.

Immediately after completing the programme, Timmy secured a position as a U.S. government contractor in the Pacific Northwest, working as a Fisheries Observer in Alaska, where he spent months at sea identifying species, conducting genetic sampling, and collecting fisheries data. This role also allowed him to meet people from around the world, travel along the Pacific Coast, and gain valuable expertise.

Today, he is based in Southwest Florida as an Environmental Consultant/Compliance Manager, where he conducts environmental impact inspections, prepares and



Timmy Moolchan

verify permits, and advises clients on environmental compliance.

Reflecting on his journey, he credits UTT's Marine Sciences programme for providing a strong academic foundation and resilience needed to succeed. The programme not only expanded his knowledge but also prepared him for the mental and physical challenges of the field. Timmy remains extremely proud to be a graduate of The University of Trinidad and Tobago.

Flying the UTT Flag High

Janalee Evana Douglas: The Community Conservationist

Growing up in the rural fishing community of Toco, the sea was not just a backdrop for Janalee Evana Douglas' life, it was a living classroom. Her academic journey began with an Associate and Bachelor of Science in Environmental Management, ultimately leading her to pursue a Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management at The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT).



Janalee Evana Douglas

Her thesis on mapping Toco's coral habitat became the foundation for her later work, including a Coral Reef Habitat Mapping project funded by SPAW RAC and Green Fund.

Professionally, Janalee's career has woven together research, community capacity building, and offshore environmental monitoring. As Technical Coordinator for Capacity Building at Future Fishers, she managed impactful projects such as Safety at Sea, Outboard Engine Repair, and First Aid/CPR, all offered free to fishermen to improve their livelihoods and safety. Transitioning to Technical Coordinator for Research, she gained hands-on experience with innovative tools, including participatory UAS training with CANARI, and later applied those techniques directly to coral reef mapping.

Janalee has also served as a Protected Species Observer and Passive Acoustic Monitoring Operator, a role that takes her offshore on rotations ranging from four to six weeks, and occasionally longer. Additionally, she operates Ridge to Reef, an emerging environmental consultancy dedicated to advancing projects that balance conservation, community engagement and the sustainable use of coastal and marine resources.

Tyeisha Griffith Awarded TT WoLF Most Valuable Player

UTT Patriots Women's Football student-athlete Tyeisha Griffith was named the Trinidad and Tobago Women's League Football (TT WoLF) Most Valuable Player for her outstanding performance in the 2025 season. The announcement was made at the official launch of the League's 2026 season, held at the Ato Boldon Stadium, Couva.



Tyeisha Griffith

The Patriots' striker also captured the "Most Goals" award after finishing the season with an impressive twenty-nine (29) goals. She was highlighted throughout the season for her significant contributions to UTT Patriots' success.

Griffith recorded a season-best performance, scoring nine (9) goals in UTT's 16-0 victory over Athletic International Academy. She later netted six (6) of the team's seven (7) goals in a 7-1 win against Trincity Nationals. Earlier in the season, she registered a hat-trick during UTT's 5-0 triumph over Pioneers Girls FC.

The University congratulates Tyeisha Griffith on her achievements and looks forward to UTT Patriots Women's Football team's continued success.

Aimee Boisselle: From Classroom to Research

Aimee Boisselle, a graduate of the Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Coastal and Ocean Management at UTT, and the first valedictorian to emerge from the Marine Sciences. Aimee's academic excellence, leadership, and dedication to marine conservation have set a new benchmark for aspiring scientists within the programme.



Aimee Boisselle

She currently serves as a Research Assistant at UTT's Marine Sciences Unit while pursuing research-based postgraduate studies with a focus on Marine Megafauna and Acoustic Monitoring. Aimee has also volunteered with several local, regional, and international NGOs to build a strong foundation in marine megafauna conservation, most notably with the Turtle Village Trust (TVT), the Caribbean Cetacean Society (CCS), and the AQUASIS Manatee Rehabilitation Center in Brazil.

With an adventurous spirit and a deep determination to positively impact the Caribbean's marine environment, Aimee embodies what it means to be a UTT student and the opportunities the University can unlock. Her advice to future students? "Go after your passions with confidence, knowing you are never too small or unworthy to do something great."

Meaghan Olton: Creating a Haven in Honduras

Born and raised in the vibrant multicultural landscape of Trinidad and Tobago, Meaghan Olton's passion for the ocean was ignited by the waters that surrounded her island home.



Meaghan Olton

Driven by her love for the sea, Meaghan pursued a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Coast and Ocean Sciences at The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). Throughout her academic journey, she immersed herself in the study of marine biology, ecology, and conservation, determined to make a meaningful impact in safeguarding the world's oceans. Drawing from her experiences working with non-profit groups with focus on marine turtles and their nesting sites back in Trinidad and Tobago, she developed a deep understanding of the interconnectedness between marine species and their habitats, as well as the people living in surrounding communities.

Beyond her role as a researcher and conservationist, Meaghan is deeply committed to mentoring the next generation of marine scientists, particularly aspiring women from underrepresented backgrounds. She believes in the power of education and mentorship to inspire positive change and is dedicated to fostering diversity and inclusivity within the field of marine conservation. Driven by her unwavering passion for the ocean and a desire to protect its wonders for future generations, Meaghan continues to lead by example, leaving a lasting legacy of conservation and stewardship in the waters of Utila, Honduras and beyond.

Nathene Logie: Securing the Marine Environment

Nathene Logie's pursuit of the Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Coastal and Ocean Management programme at The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) provided a strong foundation that ignited her lasting dedication to marine conservation. The programme's unique strength lay in its balance of critical scientific theory with practical application.

Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, she developed valuable skills ranging from field sampling techniques and GIS mapping to effective presentation and teamwork. Learning directly from knowledgeable, active researchers tackling real-world issues offered Nathene an inspiring blueprint for her own career path.

She went on to serve as a Sea Turtle Coordinator at the St. Eustatius National Parks Foundation (STENAPA), Dutch Caribbean, where her responsibilities included beach patrols, nest excavations, and data collection. This opportunity arose through her UTT network, and the role drew heavily on the ecological knowledge, environmental expertise, and interpersonal skills she honed during the programme.

Nathene remains deeply grateful for the education she received and is confident that the programme equips students with a versatile and robust skill set applicable across many environmental fields. At the same time, she cautions prospective students that a career in marine conservation requires immense passion and perseverance, particularly within the Trinidad and Tobago context. Success often depends on creating opportunities and being strategic about gaining experience early on.



Nathene Logie

COME OUT AND SUPPORT OUR TEAMS!



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPORT

NETBALL

Sunday 1 March, 2026	**UTT vs PNYC** (2:50 p.m.) **UTT vs Def Force** (5:40 p.m.)
Saturday 7 March, 2026	**UTT vs Police** (4:00 p.m.)
Sunday 8 March, 2026	**UTT vs Reboot** (4:15 p.m.)
Sunday 15 March, 2026	**UTT vs Def Force** (5:30 p.m.)

CRICKET

Sunday 1 March, 2026 UTT ECIAF Campus	**UTT vs AKCA** (12:00 noon)
7 and 8 March, 2026 UTT ECIAF Campus	**UTT vs EDSS** (12:00 noon)
14 and 15 March, 2026 Curepe	**UTT vs Curepe** (12:00 noon)
Sunday 22 March, 2026 Fulham	**UTT vs Fulham** (12:00 noon)
28 and 29 March, 2026 UTT ECIAF Campus	**UTT vs Bamboo** (12:00 noon)

FOOTBALL

Saturday 7 March, 2026 UTT O'Meara Sporting Facility	**UTT Tier 2 vs T&T Police FC** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 14 March, 2026 Queen's Park Oval	**UTT Tier 2 vs QPCC FC** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 21 March, 2026 UTT O'Meara Sporting Facility	**UTT Tier 2 vs Malabar Youngstars** (4:00 p.m.)
Saturday 28 March, 2026 Defence Force Reserves Ground	**UTT Tier 2 vs Palo Seco Union Hall Utd** (4:00 p.m.)

UTT and Accreditation

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

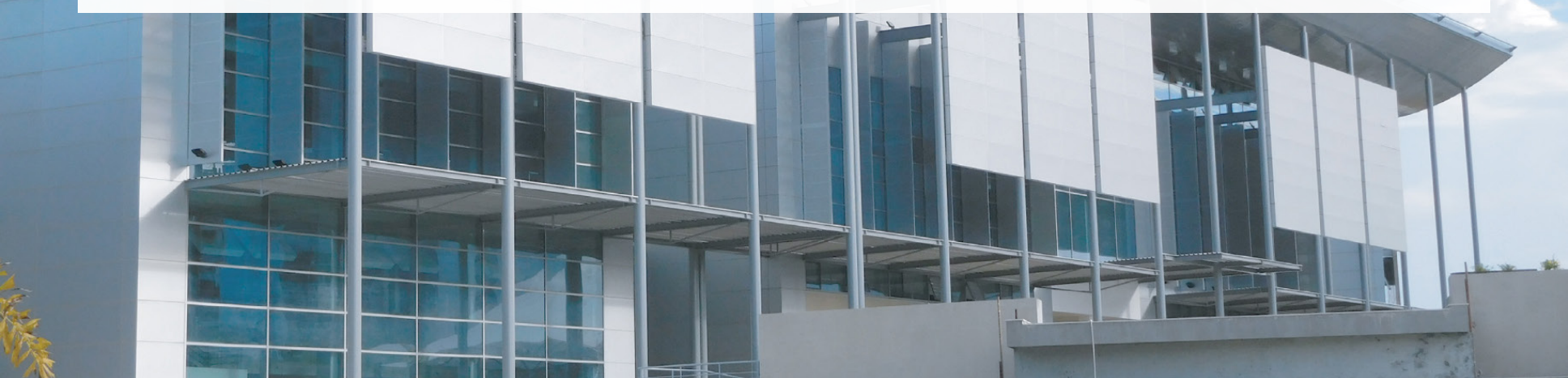
- National Engineering Technician Diploma in Chemical Engineering
- Bachelor of Applied Science in Process Engineering
- Master of Engineering in Process Engineering

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 Signs MOU with CZITT to Boost Research and Commercialisation

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Carbon Zero Institute of Trinidad and Tobago (CZITT) to establish a framework for collaboration in areas of mutual interest related to education, research, innovation and technological development.

Through this collaboration, students and faculty will benefit from enhanced experiential learning opportunities, including internships, applied research and project-based training. The agreement fosters support in advancing Trinidad and Tobago's innovation and digital infrastructure, while strengthening linkages between academia and industry. The MoU also creates pathways for joint research initiatives, knowledge exchange and responsible commercialisation of developed technologies.



Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.), UTT (right) and Mr Donald Baldeosingh, President, ENMAN Group and Founder, CZITT (left), at the recent signing ceremony.

At the signing Professor Rean Maharaj, Acting President, UTT stated, "UTT carries a responsibility that goes beyond the delivery of academic programmes. We are here to support national development - to build capacity, to drive innovation, and to ensure that our country is prepared for the future." Mr Donald Baldeosingh, President, ENMAN Group and Founder CZITT, expressed his excitement for the partnership, emphasising the importance of building strategic relationships grounded in shared goals of research, sustainability and innovation.

Together, both UTT and CZITT reaffirmed their commitment to advancing initiatives that will strengthen Trinidad and Tobago's sustainability agenda and technological advancement.

UTT Receives Academic Donation from Halliburton

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) recently received a significant donation from the global engineering services company, Halliburton, reinforcing the strong partnership between students, academia and industry.

Through its University Grant Programme, Halliburton donated academic licences for the Landmark Technology Holding Incorporation's Petroleum Engineering Software Suite to UTT's Energy Systems Engineering Unit. Access to this advanced digital suite will significantly enhance the university's teaching and research capabilities by providing students with hands-on experience using industry-standard tools widely utilised across the global energy sector.

Speaking at the recognition event for this donation, Ricardo Alvares, Landmark Country Manager, Halliburton noted that the company is committed to building a partnership not only with the University, but with the next generation of professionals.



Professor Selwyn Cudjoe, O.R.T.T, Executive Chairman, Board of Governors, UTT (far right); Professor Rean Maharaj, Acting President UTT (second from left); Ricardo Alvares, Landmark Country Manager, Halliburton (centre); Shivanand Pancham, Business Development Manager, Caribbean Region, Halliburton (far left); Celia Garcia-James, Account Manager, Halliburton (second from right).

Also addressing the audience was Professor Selwyn R. Cudjoe O.R.T.T., Chairman of the Board of Governors, UTT. Professor Cudjoe commended Halliburton on the donation, adding that it will ensure, "our students have access to the tools, knowledge and experiences they will need to contribute meaningfully to our country and to the world."

Professor Rean Maharaj, Acting President, UTT, echoed this sentiment, emphasing UTT's commitment to fostering innovation, and preparing its students to meet the evolving needs of industry and society. He noted that partnerships such as that between UTT and Halliburton enable the national University "to deliver on its mandate by providing students with access to real-world tools, practical experience, and meaningful opportunities to contribute to national development."

UTT expresses its sincere appreciation to Halliburton for this generous contribution and for its continued support in advancing Trinidad and Tobago's strategic development goals.

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SCAN ME



Professor Selwyn Cudjoe, O.R.T.T., Executive Chairman, UTT (front row, left), Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.) UTT (front row, right), Professor Donnie Boodlal, Vice President, Research, Academic and Student Affairs, UTT (back row, second from left), and Professor David Alexander, Professor, Energy Systems Engineering, UTT, with officials from Heritage Petroleum.



Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.), UTT (right) with Mr Kerry Rampersad, CEO (Ag.), Heritage Petroleum.

UTT and Heritage Petroleum Sign MOU to Boost Research, Innovation and Skills

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) and Heritage Petroleum Company Limited (Heritage) and have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to strengthen collaboration in research and development, innovation and human capital development in support of Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector.

The five-year MOU establishes a framework for cooperation in applied research, innovation and entrepreneurship, and STEM-focused outreach. Through the partnership, both institutions will combine academic expertise and industry experience to develop practical, technology-driven solutions that improve operational efficiency, safety, sustainability and emissions reduction across the petroleum value chain.

Priority areas under the MOU include artificial intelligence, data science, predictive maintenance, robotics, among others. These initiatives are intended to build local technical capability, expand applied research outputs and support the development of home-grown innovations aligned with national priorities.

Acting Chief Executive Officer of Heritage, Kerry Rampersad, said the partnership represents a strategic investment in people and national capability. "This collaboration with UTT allows research and innovation to move from theory into real-world applications. It strengthens local expertise while helping to prepare the next generation of engineers and technologists for the evolving energy sector," Rampersad said.

The MOU also prioritises human capital development by providing UTT students and researchers with exposure to real-world industry challenges, access to mentorship and opportunities to participate in applied research projects with direct national relevance.

Professor Selwyn Cudjoe, O.R.T.T., Executive Chairman of the Board of Governors, UTT, said this MOU aligns closely with the University's mandate, stating that, "Partnering with Heritage enables UTT's students and researchers to engage meaningfully with industry, while ensuring that innovation, skills development and entrepreneurship remain central to Trinidad and Tobago's development agenda".

Also present at the signing was Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag), UTT, who thanked Heritage and UTT for forging this alliance and noted that the University looks forward to the realisation of the mutual benefits arising from this collaboration.

Implementation will be guided by a Joint Advisory Committee, comprising representatives from both institutions, to identify priority projects, oversee execution and ensure measurable outcomes for the benefit of both organisations and the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

UTT-NUCOR Collaboration Strengthens Industry Capability Through Applied Technical Training

UTT Outreach and Industry Relations Unit successfully delivered the first in a series of customised Hydraulics and Pneumatics training engagements in collaboration with NUCOR Nu-Iron Unlimited. Built on a theory-to-practice approach, the programme connected academic expertise with real-world industrial application, guiding participants from foundational safety and system principles to advanced circuit design and analysis.

This collaboration underscores the strength of industry - academic partnerships in developing workforce capability, enhancing operational resilience, and supporting national industrial growth. At UTT Outreach, we continue to work alongside industry to deliver applied learning that strengthens technical capability and workforce readiness.



Dr Aneil Ramkhalawan (far left) and Dr Jorrel Bisnath (far right), both Assistant Professors, Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship, UTT, with participants of the inaugural NUCOR Hydraulics and Pneumatics Training at UTT Point Lisas Campus.

UTT Hosts 2025 Excellence in Teaching and Research Awards

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) recently hosted its Excellence in Teaching Awards (EiTA) and its Excellence in Research Awards (EiRA) ceremony at UTT Tamana Campus.

Now in its third cycle, the Excellence in Teaching Awards recognise the outstanding contributions of educators who foster high-quality learning environments and demonstrate sustained commitment to student success. It also serves as a tribute to academic excellence, acknowledging faculty whose teaching practices reflect proven merit, innovation, and dedication to educational quality.

Nominees for the University's seventeen teaching programme areas were selected by students, faculty and staff over a two-month period. Monica Boodhan, Senior Instructor, Foundation Courses, was declared the Institutional Level Winner. She joins 2023 winner Aaron Ameerali, Senior Instructor, Mechanical Engineering, Manufacturing and Entrepreneurship Unit, (MME), and 2021 winner Nancy Hererra, Associate Professor in Practice, The Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) on this prestigious list of academics.

Similar to the EiTA, the Excellence in Research Awards honor sustained research quality, impact, and scholarly leadership, reflecting the University's commitment to the advancement of knowledge, innovation, and meaningful societal contribution, alongside excellence in teaching.

Faculty were nominated for the inaugural Excellence in Research Awards in the following categories: Instructor Level, Early Career Researcher, and Senior Researcher, with Dr Reia Guppy, Associate Professor, Centre for Maritime and Ocean Studies – Maritime Studies, and Professor David Alexander of the Energy Systems Engineering Unit sharing top honours.

Through initiatives such as this, the University continues to prioritise and celebrate outstanding teaching and research achievements. UTT congratulates all winners and commends their dedication to making the national University a beacon of academic excellence.



Senator Professor the Honourable Prakash Persad, (Emeritus), Minister of Tertiary Education and Skills Training (front row, centre), Dr Colwick Wilson, President, University of the Southern Caribbean (front row, fourth from left), Professor Selwyn Cudjoe, O.R.T.T., Executive Chairman, Board of Governors, UTT (back row, fourth from right), Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.), UTT (back row, third from right), Professor Donnie Boodlal, Vice President, Research, Academic and Student Affairs, UTT (front row, third from left), and Dr Solange Kelly, Assistant Vice President, Undergraduate Studies, UTT (back row, second from left) with recipients of UTT's 2025 Excellence in Teaching Awards.



Professor Rean Maharaj, President (Ag.), UTT (left) with Ms Monica Boodhan, Institutional Level Winner of UTT's 2025 Excellence in Teaching Awards, and Mr Aaron Ameerali, 2023 Institution Level Winner.

UTT Celebrates as Kwamé Ryan, Former Performing Arts Director, Wins Grammy

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) congratulates Kwamé Ryan on his recent achievement at the 68th Annual Grammy Awards, held in Los Angeles, California.

As Music Director of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra, Ryan took home the award for Best Opera Recording for *Heggie: Intelligence*, recorded with the Houston Grand Opera.

Ryan, who joined UTT in September 2013, is the former Director of The Academy for the Performing Arts (APA).

Professor Selwyn Cudjoe, O.R.T.T., Executive Chairman of the Board of Governors, UTT congratulated Ryan on his win, adding that his achievement increases the visibility of black music conductors, a feat which should not be diminished.

UTT is proud of Mr Ryan's historic win, and wishes him many continued successes in his musical endeavours.



Kwamé Ryan (left), Blanton Alspaugh, Janai Brugger and J'Nai Bridges accept the Best Opera Recording award for Heggie: Intelligence *during the 68th Grammy Awards. Photo: The Recording Academy*

MTCC Caribbean Advances Maritime Decarbonisation Through Regional and National Workshops

The Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre for the Caribbean (MTCC Caribbean), hosted by The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) recently concluded two high-impact workshops aimed at accelerating maritime decarbonisation efforts across the Caribbean region. These engagements included:

a Regional Roundtable held in Trinidad and Tobago in collaboration with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the GreenVoyage 2050 Programme; and

A National Workshop hosted in St Kitts and Nevis under the IMO–EU GMN Phase II Project, in collaboration with the St Christopher Air & Sea Ports Authority (SCASPA) and the Maritime Affairs Department of St Kitts.

The Regional Roundtable, held on 29 and 30 January 2026, titled *Unlocking Maritime Decarbonisation in the Caribbean*, brought together maritime administrations, port authorities, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), and maritime and energy technical experts to explore practical pathways towards regional maritime decarbonisation.

The two-day roundtable was convened under the IMO's GreenVoyage2050 Programme, in collaboration with the GMN Phase II Project and MTCC Caribbean. The event saw over forty participants representing fourteen countries. Dialogues included discussions on the alignment of Caribbean development priorities with the 2023 IMO GHG Strategy, alternative fuels and energy pathways, identified investment and financing needs, and regional policy imperatives for cross-sector action to decarbonise shipping.

The Regional Roundtable participants were also invited to tour the Green Pioneer, an ammonia-powered demonstration vessel, showcasing the alternative fuel technology in operation. The visit provided participants with an example of emerging solutions for maritime energy transition and reinforced the importance of demonstration projects in building confidence, capacity, and regional ambition.

Building on the regional dialogue, the National Workshop in St Kitts and Nevis, held on February 4 and 5, 2026, focused on translating global and regional commitments into country-level action. The workshop, titled *Progressing Maritime Decarbonisation in St Kitts and Nevis*, convened with over forty participants from key national institutions including national ministries, port authorities, maritime administrators, utilities, and private sector stakeholders to assess the status of maritime decarbonisation on a national scale and to identify priority actions aligned with national climate and development goals.



The National Workshop also addressed cross-cutting themes critical to successful implementation, including access to climate finance, public–private partnerships, workforce development, and gender inclusion in maritime decarbonisation. Stakeholders engaged in interactive sessions to identify financing pathways, map institutional roles, and propose actionable steps to advance inclusive and bankable decarbonisation initiatives in St Kitts and Nevis.

A major milestone of the National Workshop was the installation of anemometers at two proposed wind turbine installation sites, to collect wind speed and direction data. The data will largely inform of the feasibility and power generation potential of each site, supporting emissions reduction, energy resilience, and long-term sustainability. This pilot project forms part of MTCC Caribbean's pilot project deliverables under the GMN Phase II Project.

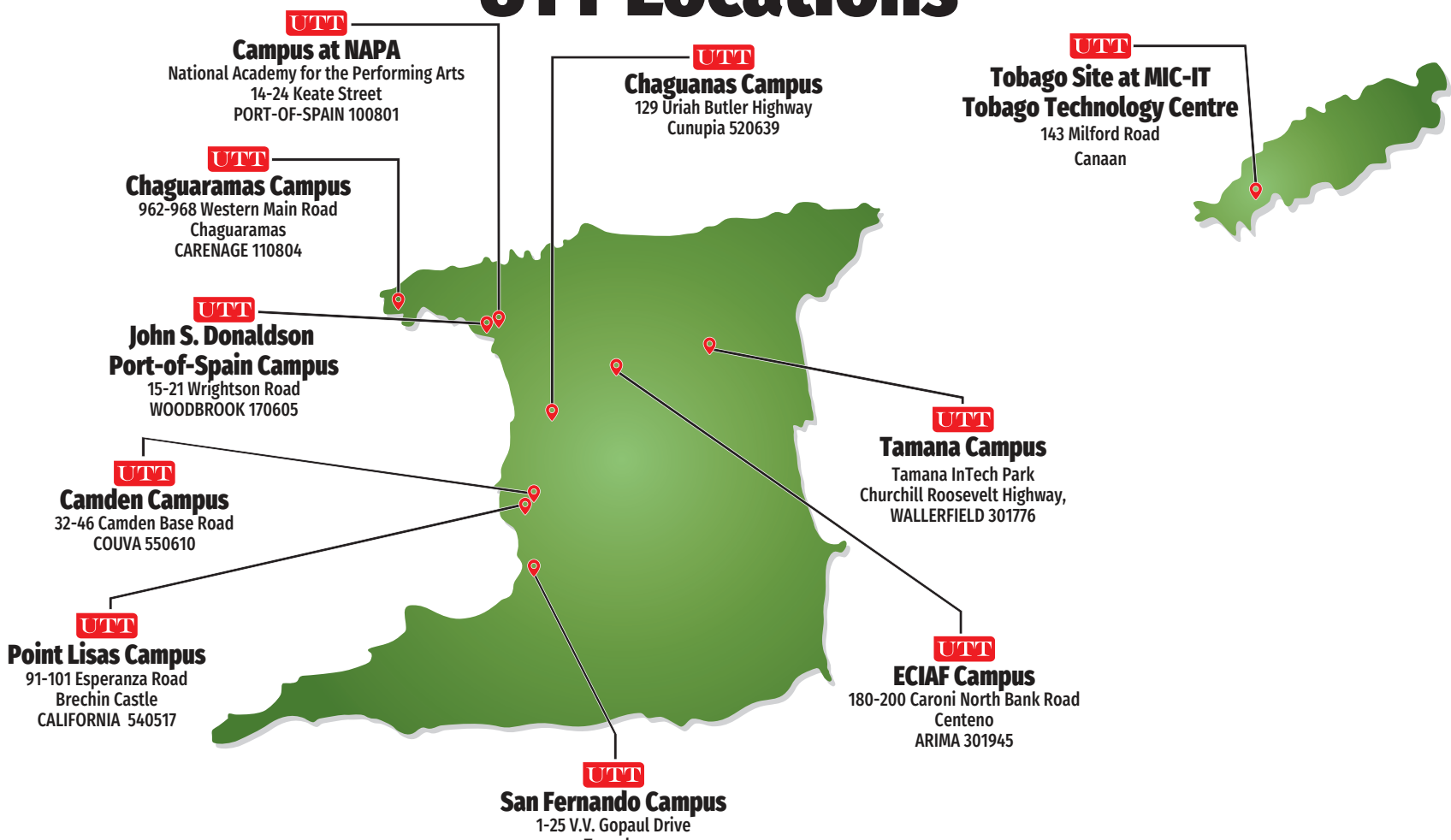
Together, these workshops underscore MTCC Caribbean's continued commitment to supporting Caribbean States in bridging the gap between policy and practice. Through technical cooperation, capacity building, and pilot demonstrations, MTCC Caribbean continues to play a central role promoting the development of a sustainable and inclusive maritime sector in the Caribbean region and empowering maritime excellence.

COMING TO MEET YOU!

STUDENT RECRUITMENT VISITS

Tuesday 3 March, 2026	Rio Claro East Secondary School Barrackpore East Secondary School
Wednesday 4 March, 2026	Union Claxton Bay Secondary School San Juan South Secondary School Waterloo Secondary School
Thursday 5 March, 2026	Carapichaima West Secondary School
Monday 9 March, 2026	Coryal Secondary School
Friday 13 March, 2026	NESC Career Jump-Start, Point Lisas
Tuesday 24 March, 2026	UTT Point Lisas Campus Tour with ASJA Girls' College Ministry of Culture and Community Development at Toco Regional Complex
Wednesday 25 March, 2026	APA Open Day, UTT Campus at NAPA
Thursday 26 March, 2026	Parvati Hindu College

UTT Locations



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- Certificate in Security and Public Safety
- Diploma in Respiratory Therapy
- Diploma in Security and Public Safety
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- BFA in Digital Media Arts
- Bachelor of Education
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education
- M.Ed. in Educational Technology
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- Master of Philosophy (M. Phil.)
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

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- 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*

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- 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
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- Security and Public Safety
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- Visual Communications Design

** *Not GATE approved*

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

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

* *Pending GATE approval*
† *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
- Master of Science in Cybersecurity
- 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 Kinesiology
- Master of Science in Innovative Design and Entrepreneurship
- Master of Science in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management
- Master of Science in Operational Maritime Management

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

** *Not GATE approved*

SCAN ME

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