UTT
THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Our NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

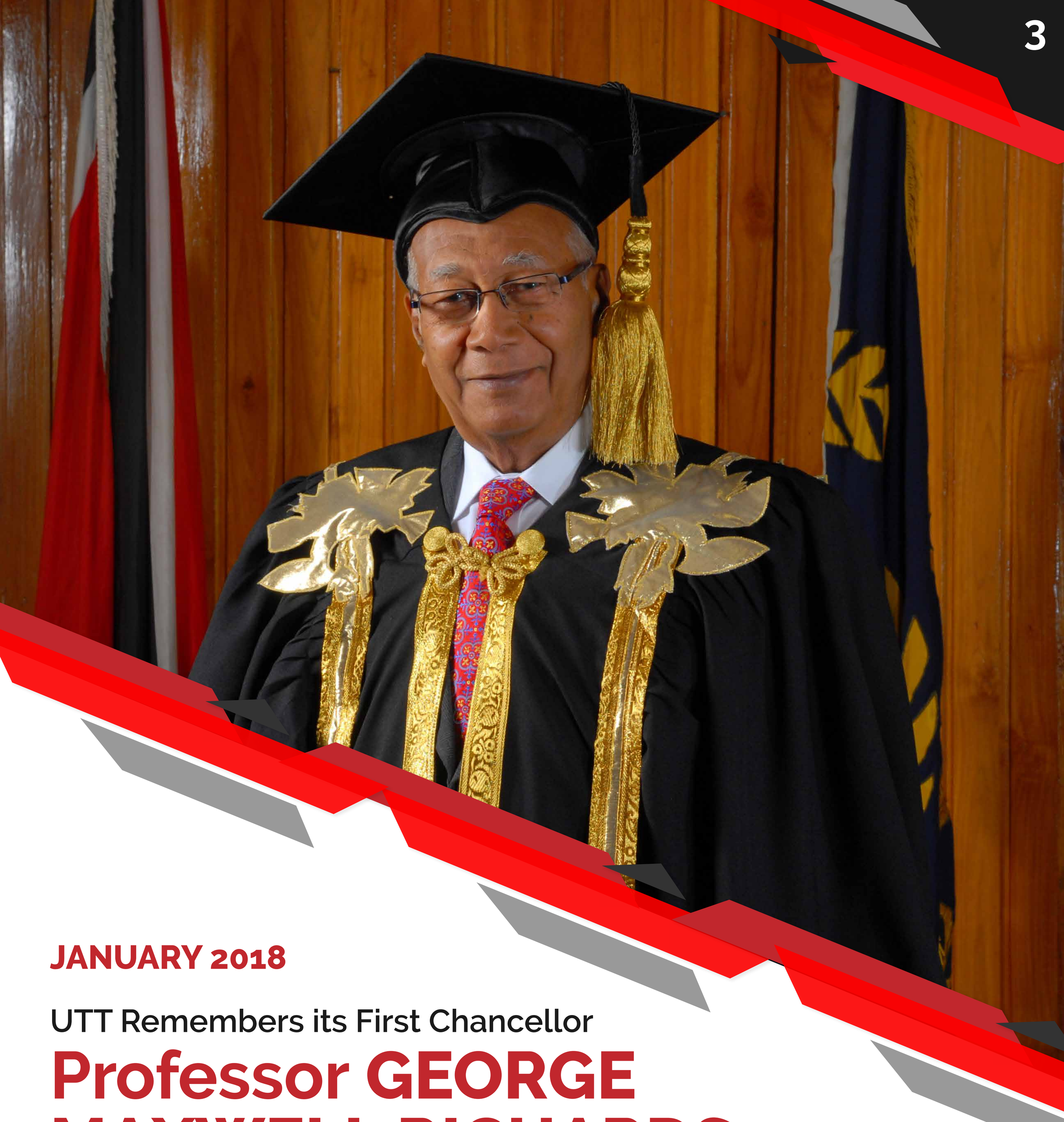
2018
IN REVIEW

2018...

The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) had much to celebrate as we bade farewell to 2018. We embarked on several strategic initiatives, which included the hosting of the University's Inaugural Research Symposium and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with an international telecommunications giant. These activities, amongst many, have served to improve UTT's academic standing and ensure the provision of quality tertiary education.

Join us as we reflect on our outstanding achievements of faculty and students in all spheres as the University continues to position itself as the premier tertiary education institution both locally and internationally.

We also remember our first Chancellor. Professor George Maxwell Richards and welcome our first female Chancellor, Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, ORTT, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.



JANUARY 2018

UTT Remembers its First Chancellor

Professor GEORGE MAXWELL RICHARDS

The University remembered its First Chancellor, Professor George Maxwell Richards, T.C., CMT, Ph.D., upon his passing. As Chancellor, Professor Richards presided over eight (8) Graduation ceremonies from 2005-2012, which saw approximately 7,000 UTT students become graduates of the national University. Professor Richards' pastoral, scholarly and ceremonial duties as Chancellor reflected his life-long commitment to academia.



FEBRUARY 2018

UTT jumps ahead in

WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKING

In February 2018, the University made an almost 500 leap upwards in the World University Ranking. As a ranked institution of higher education, UTT's core activities such as teaching, research and knowledge transfer were critically assessed using several performance metrics. Thereafter, UTT continued its steady rise, moving ahead with an additional leap of 500 places. Today, the University now stands in the top 22% of universities worldwide.

FEBRUARY 2018

O'Meara Campus

OPEN DAY

The University held its first Open Day for 2018 at its UTT O'Meara Campus. This event saw more than 300 Forms 5 and 6 secondary school students engage with academic staff of the various programmes. They were also given a tour of the Campus and UTT's state-of-the-art laboratories. In addition to the exchange of programme information, this interactive session also sets the tone for student life at UTT. Students were also treated to a display of fashion, a musical performance and food samples prepared by UTT students of the Agriculture programme.

FEBRUARY 2018

Launch of

PERSONAL TUTOR PROGRAMME

In an effort to address student retention and the academic success of students, the University launched the pilot project of the Personal Tutor Programme at its UTT O'Meara Campus. With successful reviews supported by promising data, this student-centered initiative was fully implemented in September 2018 and has been achieving great success amongst the student population.



MARCH 2018

UTT Signs MoU with Huawei

SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE

Huawei, one of the world's largest information and communication technology (ICT) solution providers, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University to collaborate on the Seeds for the Future Programme. Signatories to the MoU were Sarim Al-Zubaidy, President, UTT, and Mr. Zhaobo, General Manager of Huawei Technologies (T&T) Limited. The programme affords top ICT students, at university level, the opportunity to travel to China for a two-week period of study and cultural exchange at Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen, China.



MARCH 2018

APA Vocal Studio Excels at

2018 MUSIC FESTIVAL

Students from APA's Vocal Studio participated in this year's Music Festival held from February 18th to March 18th, 2018. A staple event on the arts and culture itinerary of Trinidad and Tobago, UTT's APA Vocal Studio once again showcased their talent and vocal prowess as they copped first place in a number of categories and several championship awards.

MARCH 2018

San Fernando Campus

OPEN DAY

The University held its second Open Day for 2018 at UTT San Fernando Campus. On this occasion, over 400 secondary school students of Forms 5 and 6 and members of the public visited the University to learn more about UTT's diverse programme offering, interacting with members of faculty, staff and students.

APRIL 2018

UTT collaborates with AMCHAM T&T for

NATIONAL YOUTH PRODUCTIVITY FORUM

Since 2010, the University has collaborated with the American Chamber of Commerce of Trinidad and Tobago (AMCHAM T&T) to host the National Youth Productivity Forum. This initiative provides secondary school students with the space to engage in research and meaningful discourse on issues of national importance. This year's theme focused on "Health is Your Wealth…Towards a More Productive T&T". At the Finals and Closing Ceremony, Professor Kenneth S. Julien (Emeritus) T.C., Chairman of the Board of Governors, UTT, applauded the efforts of the students and urged them to be agents of change to ensure a more productive society. Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, was also in attendance, and delivered Remarks.

APRIL 2018

Forging Ahead with

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION

On April 5th, 2018, the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago (ACTT) presented the Certificate of Continuing Institutional Accreditation to The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT). At this ceremony, the Certificate was officially presented to UTT after receiving Continuing Institutional Accreditation for the maximum period of seven (7) years in December 2017. This accreditation status assures all stakeholders that the University continues to deliver tertiary education with international acclaim.



APRIL 2018

UTT Revolutionises the

GAMING AND ANIMATION INDUSTRY

UTT, the only institution in the English-speaking Caribbean to formally offer Animation and Gaming training at the Undergraduate level, announced a first-of-its-kind public-private partnership that is intended to assist qualified students and graduates entering the rising global Information Technology-enabled Services (ITeS) industry.

These initiatives are being funded via a Loan Contract to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), through the Ministry of Planning and Development in the context of the Global Services Promotion Programme. The objective of the programme is to advance the country's position as a preferred source for ITeS.



APRIL 2018

UTT meets with Ghanaian University Representatives

FORGING NEW RELATIONSHIPS

A visiting delegation from the Takoradi Technical University (TTU) Ghana, met with Members of UTT's Board of Governors, management as well as senior academic staff of UTT's Engineering Programmes. Discussions were focused on Ghana's intent to explore potential cooperation between the two universities for the development of human resources and technical capabilities for Ghana's new oil and gas industry. The visiting team was also given a tour of UTT's state-of-the-art laboratories at the UTT Point Lisas Campus.

RESEARCH IN ACTION

Research and development continue to form the core of the University's operations and we have embarked on a rigorous research agenda that seeks to provide solutions to the challenges of today's society.

This year, UTT established three (3) Research Centres:

- The **CARIBBEAN CENTRE OF EXPERTISE IN AVIATION SAFETY (CCEAS)**, which will pioneer new methods for integrating research into the design and operation of the piloting system, and for the design and operation of aircrafts.
- The **CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH CENTRE (CSRC)**, which will promote research and technology in the areas of cybercrime forensics, protection of critical infrastructure and social protection in digital spaces throughout Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean region.
- The **CENTRE OF EXPERTISE IN FOOD SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY (CEFSS)** is intended to advance education and training in the agriculture sector. The high food importation phenomenon, while not unique to Trinidad and Tobago, is a national front-burner issue and UTT intends to engage with relevant stakeholders to highlight and to provide the requisite research, needed to investigate and to mitigate this pressing challenge.



Dr. MARCUS RAMDWAR, Assistant Professor – Agriculture, was awarded a research grant in the amount of US $25,700.00 from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS), an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture based on his project proposal "Safeguarding Caribbean Food Security from the Threat of the Giant African Snail". This proposal was submitted to the Greater Caribbean Safeguarding Initiative (GCSI) Cross Functional Working Group (CFWG) and seeks to provide further research into the threat of our local food security posed by the Giant African Snail.

RESEARCH IN ACTION



The University filed its first application for an international patent, which was based on the research of **Dr. VARMA RAMBARAN**, Assistant Professor, Biomedical Engineering. Dr. Rambaran's research involves the reduction of blood glucose levels, without the use of insulin, in organisms with Type II Diabetes.



UTT recently submitted an application for its second patent with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for a novel system and method for deriving personalised cardiovascular disease risk assessments in Trinidad and Tobago. In an attempt to predict a person's risk of experiencing a cardiovascular disease within the local context, **Dr. AMALIA HOSEIN**, UTT's first Ph.D. graduate in Biomedical Engineering and her team developed a novel system and method specifically for Trinidad and Tobago.

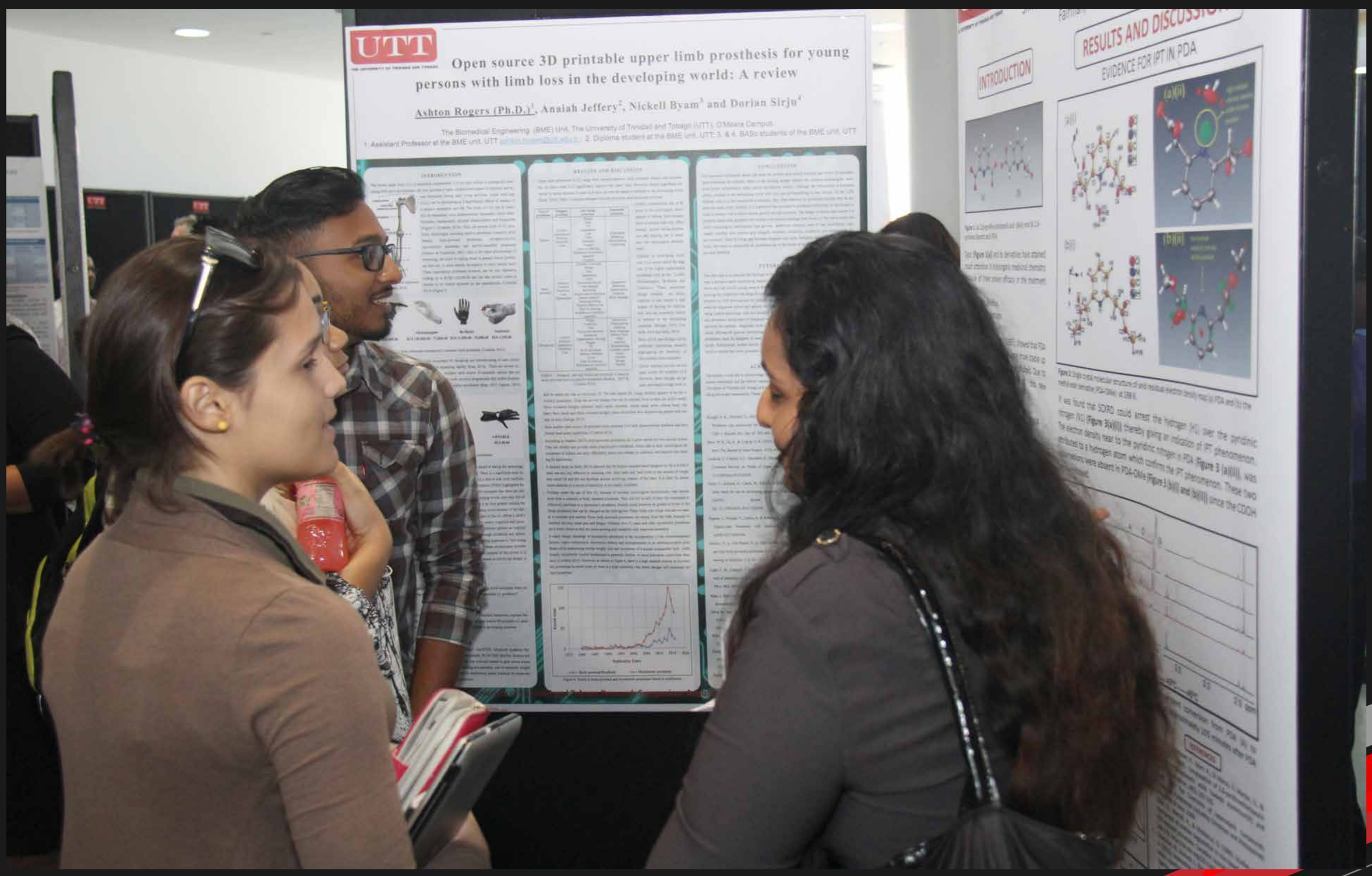


In 2015, the University was awarded a grant by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries in the amount of TT$4.5 million to conduct research into issues facing Trinidad and Tobago's energy industry. Through its Engineering Programmes, a team of researchers led by **Dr. DONNIE BOODLAL**, Assistant Professor- Process Engineering presented the findings of the first project "A Techno-economic Analysis of Carbon Management in Trinidad and Tobago through coupled Enhanced Oil Recovery and Geological Storage", which examined the declining oil production and increased carbon dioxide emission levels in the country's energy sector. The team addressed these two issues in a sustainable manner by investigating how the emissions can be used to increase oil production.

UTT'S INAUGURAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

The University of Trinidad and Tobago hosted its Inaugural Research Symposium at UTT Campus at NAPA. Under the theme, "UTT's Role in Research, New Knowledge and Wealth Creation in Trinidad and Tobago", the University showcased the important research that is currently being spearheaded by faculty and students. Research in areas such as Food Security, Green Society: Energy, Sustainability and Environment, Industrial Upgrading, Healthy Citizens, 21st Century Infrastructure, Creative Industries Development, Global Skills Cultivation and Entrepreneurship, are all being pursued by UTT researchers who continuously engage with the needs of the people of Trinidad and Tobago, providing solutions to some of society's pressing challenges.







MAY 2018

UTT's students excel in China

SEEDS FOR THE FUTURE

Select students of UTT's Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) in Computer Engineering programme travelled to Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen, China, to participate in the "Seeds for the Future" programme. This innovative programme affords top tertiary-level students the opportunity to travel to China for a two-week period of study and cultural exchange. UTT students Shivanna Samrath, Lorrenzo Francis, Richard-Michael Mohammed, Ricardo Smith, and Cassandra Bascombe represented themselves and the University well during this informative trip.



MAY 2018

UTT and Atlantic partner for

AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS TRAINING

UTT in collaboration with Atlantic LNG Company of Trinidad and Tobago hosted the Graduation Ceremony for the eighth cycle of the National Agricultural Business Training Programme at UTT Chaguanas Campus. This year, twenty-seven (27) persons graduated from the Programme, which focused on financial planning and computer technology for agriculture entrepreneurs.

Professor Kenneth S. Julien (Emeritus) T.C., Chairman of UTT's Board of Governors, spoke of the business of agriculture within a national context while congratulating the graduands. Senator Avinash Singh, Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries, who delivered the Feature Address, echoed these sentiments.



Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Chancellor of UTT, is greeted by Professor Kenneth S. Julien (Emeritus), T.C., Chairman, Board of Governors UTT upon her arrival at UTT Chaguaramas Campus.

JUNE 2018

MTCC Caribbean hosts

SUB-REGIONAL WORKSHOP

UTT, host institution of the Maritime Technology Cooperation Centre for the Caribbean (MTCC Caribbean), hosted a Sub-Regional Workshop at its Chaguaramas Campus. The third of its kind in the Caribbean, this workshop was designed to build the capacities of organisations to undertake activities that are set to reduce the adverse impact of climate change. The workshop also focused on data collection and promoted the uptake of low carbon technologies and operations in the maritime sector. The MTCC Caribbean is partnering with a number of key local and regional stakeholders for the implementation of this project.



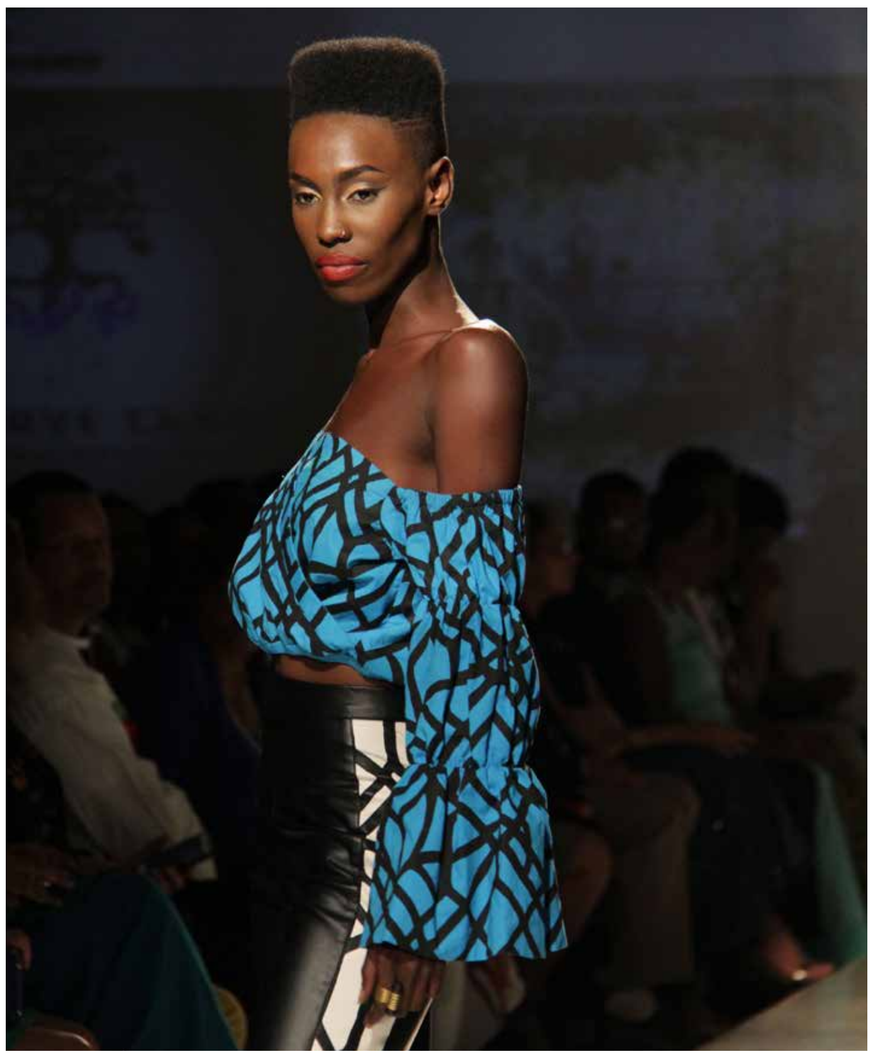
JUNE 2018

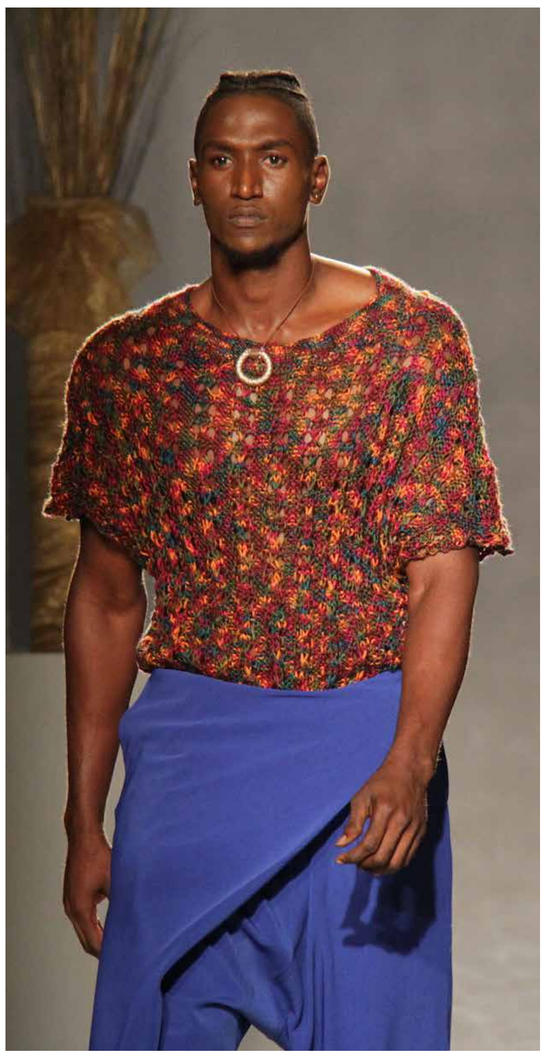
Daniel Clarke cops Top Prize at

UTT FASHION WEEK 2018

As the curtains descended on this year's edition of UTT Fashion Week, hosted by UTT's Caribbean Academy of Fashion and Design (CAFD), Bachelor of Fine Arts student, Daniel Clarke emerged as the winner of the coveted CAFD Student of the Year award at PARALLAX. According to Clarke, his collection *APATHY* is the validation of black lives, black culture and black skin through the scope of the Americas and the various nuances, stereotypes and criticisms that are faced.

UTT **FASHION WEEK 2018**



















JULY 2018

UTT hosts

FOOD AND RESEARCH EXHIBITION

The University held its annual Food and Research Showcase at UTT's O'Meara Campus hosted exclusively by students of the Food Science and Technology Programme. This year's theme, *Local to Global: Advancing Food Security One Food Step at a Time*, encouraged students to showcase their innovativeness and creativity through the development of new food products, utilising locally produced fruits and vegetables.

JULY 2018

UTT and STORK prepare
INDUSTRY READY GRADUATES

UTT hosted the fourth cycle of the Technical Skills Accelerator Programme (TSAP) at UTT Chaguanas Campus. Sarim Al-Zubaidy, President, UTT, emphasised that through initiatives with industry, graduates will undoubtedly be at a clear advantage having received work-ready practical experience, which serves to complement their academic studies. Thirty-four (34) students of UTT's Engineering Programmes successfully completed this year's installation of TSAP.

JULY 2018

UTT Deputy Chairman and President visit
UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA

Professor Clement Imbert, Deputy Chairman, UTT's Board of Governors and Sarim Al-Zubaidy, President, UTT were among a team of distinguished panelists of academics at the University of Guyana's Fifth Conversation on Law and Society. Under the theme, *Some Economic and Educational Imperatives of the Oil Business*, Sarim Al-Zubaidy and Professor Imbert advised the audience that investing oil revenues into education would assist in fuelling Guyana's economic growth.



AUGUST 2018

UTT appoints new Chancellor

Her Excellency PAULA-MAE WEEKES

Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, accepted an invitation to be the University's third Chancellor. The acceptance of this position by Her Excellency continues the tradition of having the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago hold the position of Chancellor of UTT. President Weekes' appointment as Chancellor follows that of Former President, Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona, ORTT, SC, who served in that capacity from 2013.

UTT STUDENTS IN ACTION

Over the past year, UTT students have excelled in all spheres, proudly representing the University's interest both locally and abroad. UTT applauds and celebrates the successes of all our students as we continue to provide the necessary support and commitment, to ensure positive results.



NARISHKA RAMPERSAD, a graduate of UTT's M.Sc. in Reservoir Engineering, was selected from a field of 130 participants to attend a Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Summer School Programme in Norway. The aim of this programme is to reduce greenhouse emissions in the recovery of oil. The reduction of the carbon footprint of the oil and gas industry is crucial to our quality of life.



Shanice Gervais

Academy for the Performing Arts (APA) students **SHANICE GERVAIS** and **ARIEL THOMAS** were awarded the Dai Ailian scholarship to attend the prestigious Beijing Dance Academy in Beijing, China.



Ariel Thomas



APA student **SHERROD REID** was also awarded a scholarship to attend the Summer Intensive programme of the Joffrey Ballet in New York.

UTT STUDENTS IN ACTION



Timothy Derry

TIMOTHY DERRY and **MANCINI MAHADEO** proudly represented the University at the 2018 International University Sport Federation's (FISU) World Volunteer Leadership Conference. Timothy Derry, who graduated in 2017 with the Executive Masters in Sport Management and who placed first among 110 participants from over 90 nations, was invited to be a mentor at this year's Conference. Current third-year Bachelor in Sport Studies student at UTT, Mancini, joined Timothy this year as UTT's representative.



Mancini Mahadeo



YEN'K MURRAY began taking a keen interest in fashion from a very young age, pursued her dreams at The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) and graduated with a Diploma in Fashion Design from UTT's Caribbean Academy of Fashion and Design (CAFD).

Earlier this year, Yen'k was selected the winner of the Undergraduate Fashion Styling and Communication Competition at the Istituto Europeo di Design (IED) in Florence, Italy, where she hopes to expand her knowledge in fashion styling and communication.



RONDEL HUNTE secured four (4) gold medals at this year's IPF World Classic Powerlifting Championships in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Rondel, who is currently completing a Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) in Computer Engineering at UTT Point Lisas Campus, emerged the winner in his division from a field of 15 competitors. He also holds the title of Junior World Record in a number of categories.

UTT STUDENTS IN ACTION



GIANLUC ROBINSON, a recent graduate of UTT's Bachelor of Science in Coast and Ocean Sciences programme, delivered a presentation based on his abstract at the Poster Session at the 71st Gulf and Caribbean Fisheries Institute Conference held at the San Andres Convention Centre in Columbia. This follows Gianluc's presentation at the 148th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in Atlantic City, New Jersey.



STEPHEN BASSANO, a graduate of UTT's Caribbean Academy of Fashion and Design (CAFD) is decidedly on a mission, as he vies for the coveted prize of $2.5 million in cash and prizes on the season finale of the Caribbean-based fashion reality television show *Mission Catwalk*. Bassano is the only male contestant and the only Trinidad and Tobago national among the top three (3) finalists.



Stacy Charles

STACY CHARLES and **T'JAI SCOTT** completed the rigorous Cadet Internship Programme. This programme, hosted in collaboration with UTT's Centre for Maritime and Ocean Studies (CMOS) and Nautical Ventures LLC / Edison Chouest Offshore, consists of a post-graduate Certificate and one (1) year of accumulated sea time aboard a Chouest vessel.



T'Jai Scott

UTT STUDENTS IN ACTION

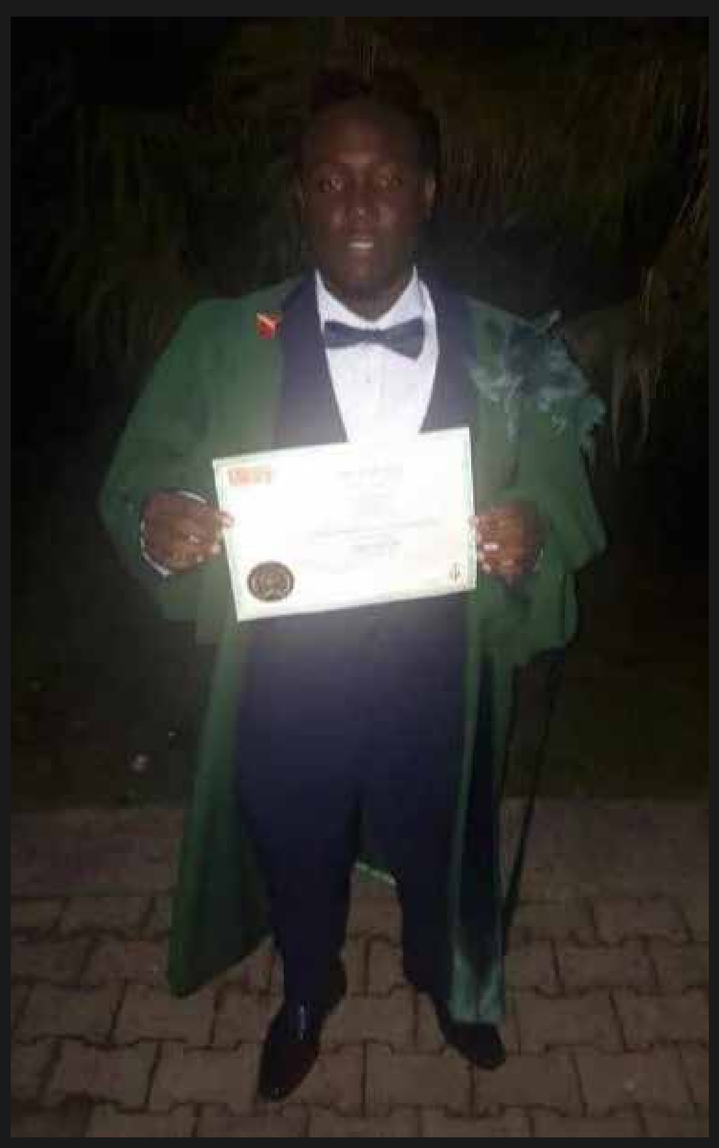


Janelle Yearwood

JANELLE YEARWOOD and **CHERISE JACK** of UTT's Institute of Criminology and Public Safety (ICPS) have been awarded scholarships to study abroad at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), through the Emerging Leaders in the Americas Programme (ELAP) funded by the Government of Canada and CARICOM.



Cherise Jack



When former Carapichaima East Secondary School footballer **AKINEE HARRY** was arrested in 2014, he thought his life was over. Through hard work and determination, however, Akinee graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science in Criminology and Public Safety from UTT.

Akinee described the pursuit of his degree as challenging and a journey of self-discovery. He did, however, persevere and plans to further his studies in Criminology.

He is now being invited to several schools and correctional facilities to give motivational speeches, encouraging young people who are faced with difficulties to never limit themselves.

SETEMBER 2018

UTT moves from Scarborough to

UTT CAMPUS AT THTI

UTT Tobago Campus relocated to the Tobago Hospitality and Tourism Institute (THTI) at Blenheim Mt. St. George, Tobago and is now referred to as UTT Campus at THTI. At the beginning of the academic year 2018-2019, UTT registered its first cohort of students for the Diploma in Agriculture in Tobago.

OCTOBER 2018

UTT's Maritime and Ocean Studies programmes receive

SPECIALISED ACCREDITATION

Of its many significant achievements this year, the University received specialised accreditation from the Institute of Marine Engineering, Science & Technology (IMarEST). The following programmes offered by UTT's Centre for Maritime and Ocean Studies (CMOS) were accredited for the maximum period of five (5) years:

- **Bachelor of Applied Science (B.A.Sc.) in Coast and Ocean Sciences** *from 2016*
- **Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) in Coastal and Ocean Management** *from 2018*
- **Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) Nautical Science/ Maritime Operations** *from 2016*
- **Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Integrated Coastal and Ocean Management** *from 2016*
- **Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Operational Maritime Management** *from 2016*



OCTOBER 2018

UTT's Academy of Sport receives

NLCB GRANT

The University's Academy of Sports received a grant in the amount of TT $75,000.00 from the National Lotteries Control Board (NLCB). This grant will be used to ignite the 2018/2019 Academy of Sports' Revenue Generation Initiative (AOS-RGI). The proceeds from the AOS-RGI will be used to enhance the students' learning experience, as two of the first establishments of this initiative will be the fully functional, state-of-the-art Exercise Physiology Lab and Biomechanics Lab.



OCTOBER 2018

UTT Celebrates

WORLD FOOD DAY 2018

The University celebrated World Food Day 2018 at the UTT O'Meara Campus. The celebrations were spearheaded by UTT's Biosciences, Agriculture and Food Technologies (BAFT) programmes under the theme, *A Tertiary Institution's Role Toward a Zero Hunger World by 2030*.

Senator the Honourable Clarence Rambharat, Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries delivered the Feature Address and challenged the BAFT students to adopt an innovative approach to the use of technology in agriculture, as the sustainability of this sector requires persons who are knowledgeable and fully understand the principles of entrepreneurship. As part of the day's celebrations, the faculty and staff of UTT's BAFT programmes hosted a Panel Discussion with a diverse cross-section of stakeholders of the agriculture industry.



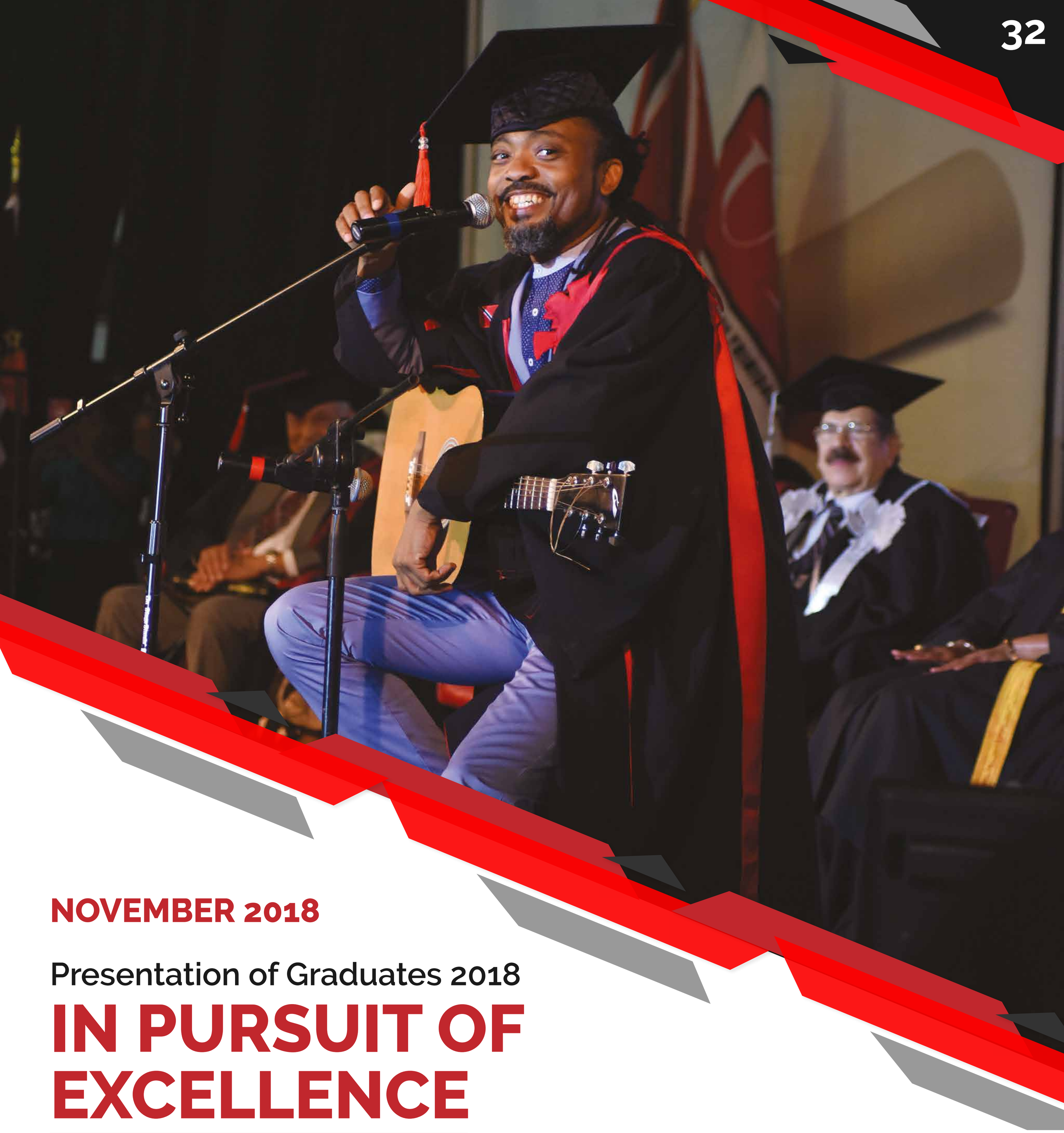
OCTOBER 2018

UTT and The Energy Chamber host

ENERGY STORAGE SYMPOSIUM

The Energy Chamber of Trinidad and Tobago, in collaboration with UTT presented another edition of the Energy Seminar Series - *Energy Storage for Variable Renewable Energy*.

This symposium focused on energy storage for Variable Renewable Energy (VRE). The presenters provided information and discussed topics on Lithium-ion and Aluminium based battery storage technologies, sizing and implementation of Energy storage systems for VRE and local and regional case studies of energy storage systems.



NOVEMBER 2018

Presentation of Graduates 2018

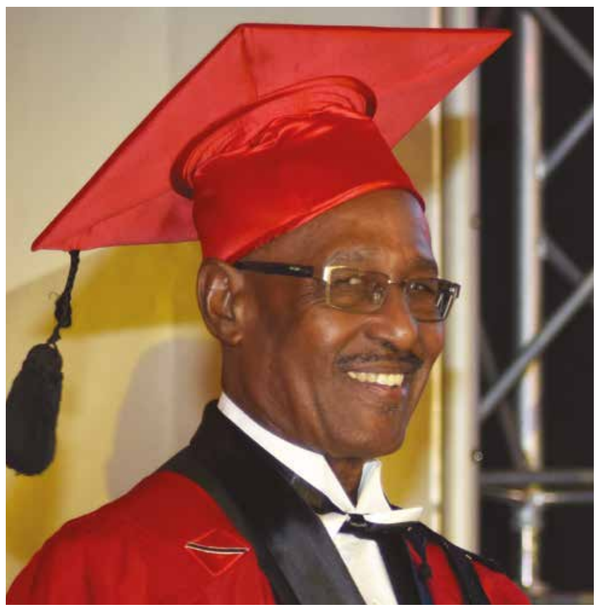
IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE

UTT held its annual 2018 Presentation of Graduates at the Graduation Pavilion, UTT O'Meara Campus.

On this auspicious occasion, over seventeen hundred (1,700) graduates received Degrees in diverse programme areas, inclusive of Performing Arts, Engineering, Sport, Criminology and Public Safety and Marine Sciences. The University also awarded two (2) Master of Philosophy and seven (7) Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in areas that are aligned to the developmental pillars of Trinidad and Tobago.

PRESENTATION of GRADUATES 2018

The Graduation Ceremonies were presided over by Her Excellency Paula-Mae Weekes, ORTT, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. This year the University also recognised luminaries in the fields of Education, Culture, Fine Arts, Science and Sports. The five (5) outstanding awardees are as follows:



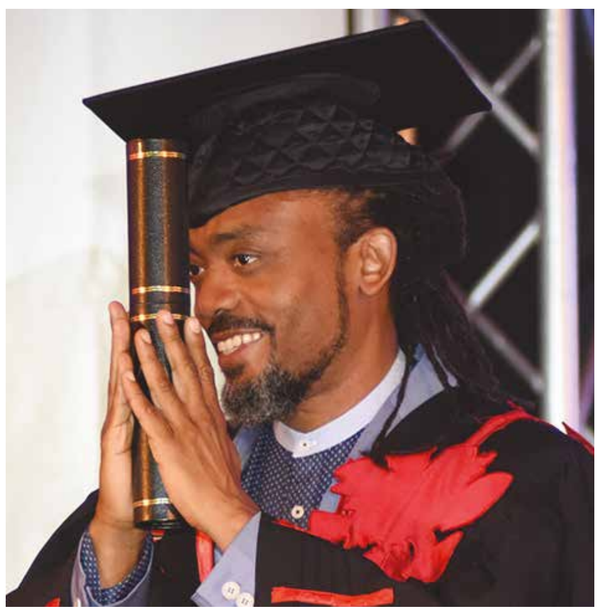
Mr. ROY AUGUSTUS
Honorary Distinguished Fellow



Mr. ALVIN CORNEAL
Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters



Mr. LEO MARTIN
Honorary Doctor of Science



Mr. MACHEL MONTANO
Honorary Doctor of Arts



Ms. EINTOU PEARL SPRINGER
Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts

The Valedictorians for this year's Graduates of Presentation Ceremonies were:



Ms. CECILE LE BLANC
Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) with specialisation in Special Needs and Primary Education



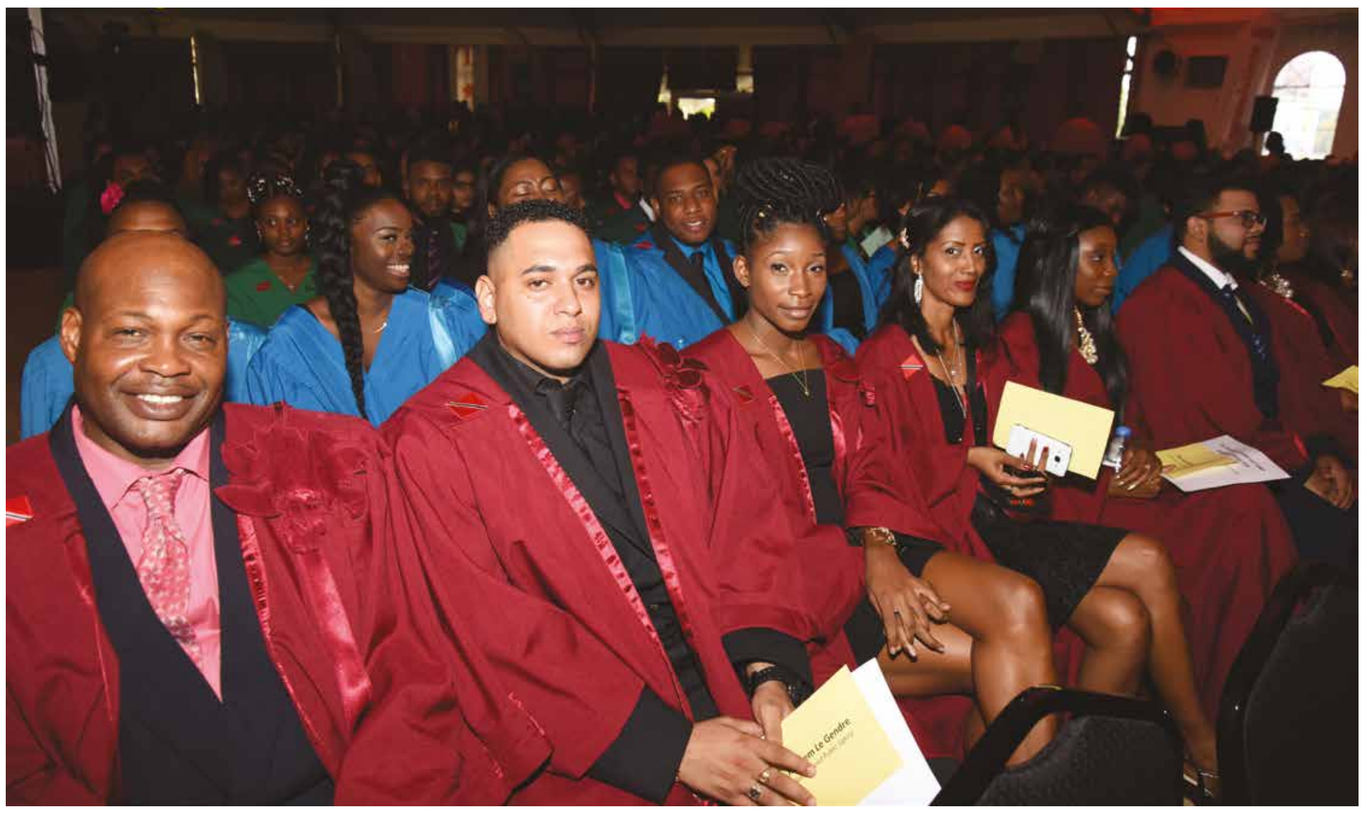
Mr. KELLEE RODRÍGUEZ
Master of Engineering (M. Eng.) in Petroleum Engineering

Snapshots of the **PRESENTATION** of **GRADUATES 2018**













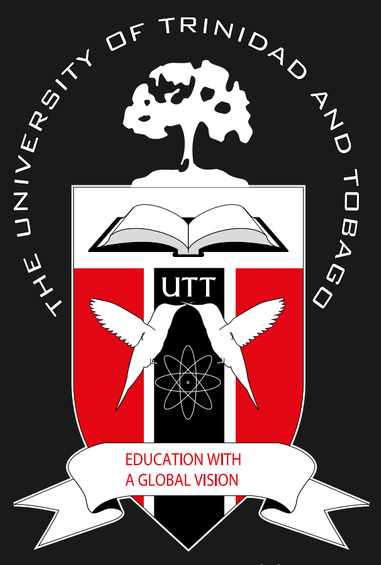
NOVEMBER 2018

UTT's Entrepreneurs Excel in

SHELL LiveWIRE PROGRAMME

Entrepreneurs Nikita Legall and Simon Neptune of UTT's Business Accelerator/ Incubator - uSTART excelled in the Shell LiveWIRE Programme, which supports growth stage start-ups in underdeveloped economic sectors. Nikita, Managing Director of Tropical Hives Ltd. placed second overall and Simon, Founder of Neptune Blue Energy, earned a spot in the finals.

The selected entrepreneurs participated in four (4) months of training designed to provide technical focus, develop their businesses and leadership skills and manage resources. Among other benefits, they also had access to monthly Masterclasses led by local entrepreneur icons, a global community of Shell LiveWIRE alumni and an opportunity to exhibit and pitch their products/services to a panel of investors.



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