Administration, Research and Public Service

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

The Office of the President is the lead component for executive management of the institution. It is comprised of the office of the Liaison to the Board of Trustees and the President’s administrative and managerial staff. The President’s Cabinet is comprised of the Provost, the Vice President for Administration and Finance, the Vice President for Institutional Advancement, the Chief Information Officer, the Vice Provost for Research and Public Service, the Vice Provost for Access and Enrollment Services, the Chief of Staff and the Special Assistant to the President and Executive Director for Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment. The President meets with his direct reports bi-monthly to discuss and decide policies and develop strategies for the achievement of institutional priorities.

OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

The Provost is the chief academic officer, the second line officer, the policy staff officer and reports to the President. The Provost is responsible for all matters relating to academic colleges and schools, academic programs, academic policy development, implementation and review, academic and student support services, enrollment management, research policy development, and research and public service. The units that report to the Provost are the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Public Service, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning, the Office of Access and Enrollment Services, the Academic Colleges and Schools, Global and Graduate Education, the Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities, the Honors Program, the Center for Student Success, the Dean of Students and the Office of Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning.

Academic Colleges and Schools
The University’s degree programs are offered through five academic colleges and schools: the School of Business, School of Education, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, School of Nursing, and College of Science and Mathematics. Each is headed by a Dean who reports directly to the Provost.

Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning (CELL)
The UVICELL Center focuses on providing educational opportunities that are in tune with the changing demands of the workplace and prepares individuals for high-demand careers. Students can enhance skills or gain professional expertise through a broad range of innovative programs and a variety of instructional formats.

   Educational services include:

Professional Development
CELL focuses on affording seasoned professionals with the knowledge and skills to pursue a new career, advance in their current career, secure postsecondary certificates or prepare for national certification exams. Programs are conveniently offered in the evenings and on weekends for busy adults.

Workforce Development
CELL plays a vital role in developing a well-trained workforce which is critical in today’s constantly changing workplace. CELL provides occupational skills and an opportunity to increase earning potential for those just starting a career or re-entering the workforce.

Personal Enrichment
CELL provides a variety of learning experiences in an array of subjects designed to improve the overall quality of life. Whether it is to learn a foreign language, make beautiful floral
designs, decorate cakes professionally or even master home computing, the possibilities are endless.

Online Learning
UVICELL recently expanded its program offerings to include the delivery of online learning to its students. These courses and certificate programs are conducted entirely online and include training in high-interest areas such as healthcare, business, computer applications, green/rewable energy, and even offers an online high school diploma.

CELL also offers the business community a full complement of solutions designed to foster growth, increase productivity and enhance effectiveness, including:

Corporate Training
CELL assists in the growth and optimization of businesses by providing targeted and customized training programs. Corporate training programs are designed to improve an organization’s effectiveness, efficiency and productivity in an evolving business climate. Training can be conducted on-site, at the CELL Training Center or at any other location, and is delivered in a format that best meets the needs of the organization.

Consulting and Professional Services
CELL supports businesses in aligning operations with pre-defined strategy and continuously works with the organization to meet changing internal and external industry needs. CELL works with the organizational team to understand the goals and culture of the organization and then develop solutions to help the business grow. Whether it is performance improvement, technical services or conference and event management, CELL offers real world solutions to achieve desired goals.

OSHA Consultation
Employers can learn about potential hazards at their worksites and receive professional advice on establishing and improving their occupational safety and health management systems. The UVICELL Safety in Paradise Consultation Program offers training and education to assist in maintaining compliance with OSHA regulations and ultimately lowers workers’ compensation costs. This confidential consultation is offered at no cost to the employer.

Affiliations
• IACET: UVICELL is an authorized provider of the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). As an authorized provider, CELL grants IACET accredited Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The IACET CEU is internationally recognized as a measure of quality in continuing education and training.
• AMA: UVICELL has also partnered with the American Management Association (AMA) to offer a wide spectrum of management training, backed by AMA’s more than 80 years of management education experience. CELL is the authorized AMA provider in a number of Caribbean regions to include: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Maarten/St. Martin and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Testing Center Capabilities
UVICELL serves as the official test site for a number of professional certifications and organizations to include:
• The Performance Assessment Network, Inc. (PAN) which facilitates the delivery of testing services for organizations such as the Transportation Safety Administration (TSA) and the
• U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).
• The National Association of Legal Assistants
• Healthcare Professional Certifications including Hemodialysis Technician and Home Health Aide
• The National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED)
• The Association of Boards of Certification (ABC)
• Prometric provides comprehensive testing and assessment services to include the GRE, PRAXIS, Real Estate, GED exams, Human Resource Certification and much more. For a complete listing of exams offered, visit www.prometric.com
• Kryterion online testing services for the technology and education industries in collaboration with their affiliated associations and organizations.
Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence In Developmental Disabilities
The Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD) was established in October 1994 and is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities and the U.S. Department of Education, Office of National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research. The VIUCEDD mission is to enhance the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and their families and to provide them with tools necessary for independence, productivity and full inclusion into community life.

VIUCEDD’s goals are:
• To demonstrate and promote exemplary approaches in clinical, educational and community settings.
• To provide technical assistance.
• To disseminate information related to the implementation of best practices.
• To ensure the participation of persons with disabilities and their families in the design and implementation of all VIUCEDD activities.
• To coordinate, implement and supervise support services for the families with children with disabilities that promote their independence, self advocacy and integration in the community.
• To provide training on the laws that protects the rights of persons with disabilities and their families and sensitivity towards persons with disabilities.

Global and Graduate Education
Global initiatives are realized through collaboration with the academic colleges and schools, the Dean of Students, and institutions of higher education regionally, nationally, and internationally. Global initiatives encompass development, coordination, and monitoring of study abroad and special student and faculty exchange programs through affiliations, memoranda of understanding, and memoranda of agreements.

The graduate programs at the University of the Virgin Islands were developed to meet specific needs in the Territory and beyond. While each of the programs has its own mission, the overall aim of all the areas of graduate study is to provide a high-quality education for students to meet their professional and technical training needs. Information on degree programs is available in the Graduate Bulletin and at www.uvi.edu.

Committee on Learning Assessment for Student Success (CLASS)
CLASS’s charge is to facilitate, monitor and support the development and implementation of student learning outcomes assessment plans for UVI academic colleges and schools and for general education. CLASS’s long-term goal is to spearhead UVI’s transformation into a ‘culture of evidence’ and a learner-centered institution committed to student success.

Honors Program
The UVI Honors Program seeks to produce exceptional scholars and citizens by providing participants with enriched intellectual, leadership and outreach experiences designed to cultivate thoughtful, deliberative, articulate, ethically grounded, globally connected and actively contributing members of society. For details on the program, see p. 66 of this catalog.

RESEARCH AND PUBLIC SERVICE
The University of the Virgin Islands addresses two of the major elements of its Mission, Research and Public Service, through the strategic efforts of the units in the Research and Public Service Areas collectively, the Agricultural Experiment Station (AES), the Center for Marine and Environmental Studies (CMES), the Cooperative Extension Service (CES), the Eastern Caribbean Center (ECC), the Research Publications Unit (The Caribbean Writer), the Virgin Isl-
lands Small Business Development Center (VI SBDC), Virgin Islands Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (VI-EPSCoR), and the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) are principally responsible for defining and solving problems through research and providing quality services that address needs identified by the community.

**Agricultural Experiment Station (AES)**  
The Agricultural Experiment Station is one of the two units that carry out the Land-Grant functions of the University. AES, which is located on St. Croix, conducts basic and applied research to meet the needs of local and regional Caribbean, as well as international, agricultural communities. These needs are in the areas of increasing production, improving efficiency of tropical plants and livestock, developing new enterprises, preserving and propagating endangered plant species, and protecting the natural resource base. The Station’s scientists are actively involved in projects in agronomy, animal science, aquaculture, biotechnology, agroforestry, and horticulture. Results of research projects are disseminated in scientific journals, research bulletins, fact sheets, farmers’ bulletins, seminars and workshops.

**Center for Marine and Environmental Studies (CMES)**  
The Center for Marine and Environmental Studies addresses environmental problems unique to tropical island communities and advances knowledge and learning in coastal marine systems through research, education and outreach programs. Based in the McLean Marine Science Center on St. Thomas, CMES collaborates with local organizations, other universities and governmental agencies to assess and monitor marine ecosystems and identify methods of conserving fisheries and marine and coastal areas that provide support for sustainable natural resource management. The Virgin Islands Marine Advisory Service (VIMAS), a part of the national Sea Grant Program, collaborates with public and private-sector institutions to disseminate information on St. Thomas, St. Croix and St. John. The Virgin Islands Environmental Resource Station (VIERS), located on St. John and managed by Clean Islands International, provides unique learning opportunities through environmental education and research programs and activities. CMES provides opportunities for UVI students to participate in active research projects and gain experience in a variety of field and laboratory techniques. The CMES facilities on St. Thomas and St. John provide easy access to a variety of tropical marine environments and include a fleet of research vessels, sea tables and aquaria, research instrumentation as well as training and support for air and nitrox scuba diving.

**Cooperative Extension Service (CES)**  
The Cooperative Extension Service is the second unit that carries out Land-Grant functions. Through the federal network of the Land Grant University System, the Cooperative Extension Service is empowered as an agency for public education and information dissemination responding to the needs of the community. Its mission is to be a dynamic, flexible organization dedicated to delivering research-based educational programs and information that addresses critical issues affecting families, individuals and the communities of the U.S. Virgin Islands. CES carries out programs in agriculture and natural resources, 4-H, family and consumer science and communications, in the districts of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John. The agriculture and natural resource programs strive to meet the changing needs of the territory and offer technical assistance, training and advice to farmers, home gardeners, youth groups, government and nongovernment agencies and residents of the territory in the areas of environmental horticulture, livestock, natural resources and environmental management. The 4-H family and consumer sciences programs provide information in life-coping skills and encourage families to use all available resources to improve their quality of life. Areas of emphasis of the program include the Expanded Foods and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP), which is designed to assist limited resource families in acquiring the knowledge, skills and attitudes in improving diets and nutritional well-being; youth programs such as the Children, Youth and Families at Risk (CYFAR); and the annual
4-H Summer Academy that provides information and educational programs to enhance the youth of the territory. The communications unit is responsible for promotion. Publications, such as Native Recipes, Virgin Islands Holiday Cooking, Heart of the Pumpkin, and Traditional and Medicinal Plants of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John, come from this unit. Additionally, the communications unit has collaborated with other UVI departments in the publishing of Island Peak to Coral Reef - A Field Guide to Plant and Marine Communities of the Virgin Islands and Remarkable Big Trees in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Eastern Caribbean Center (ECC)
The Eastern Caribbean Center is an outreach division that anticipates the social, economic and environmental needs of the Virgin Islands and the region, and conducts research programs to address those needs. It also facilitates collaboration in research among local, national and regional institutions and organizations toward fulfilling the mission of the University and improving the quality of life for people within these areas. The ECC social research unit compiles and analyzes social and economic data, and also supports and extends the work of the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The survey research unit designs and carries out scientific sample household and telephone surveys. The Conservation Data Center (CDC) utilizes geographical information system (GIS) technology to compile, analyze and disseminate socio-economic and natural resource data to promote sound conservation and development decisions. The CDC is also dedicated to instruction on the effective and efficient use of GIS in the public and private sectors. ECC also publishes Caribbean Perspectives, a cutting-edge annual magazine that speaks to the leadership throughout the Caribbean.

Office of Sponsored Programs and Title III (OSP)
The Office of Sponsored Programs and Title III (OSP) is the university unit responsible for liaison with funding agencies that sponsor research and other activities at UVI. OSP assists faculty and staff with proposals and with grants implementation and management. OSP can help design projects and develop proposals in order to improve the likelihood of success and can help to identify funding agencies that are interested in supporting UVI projects. OSP offers workshops from time to time on seeking sponsorship, writing proposals and managing grants. Advice and assistance are also available on a case-by-case basis. OSP also manages the U.S. Department of Education Title III Part B Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities grant program, under the direction of the President.

Research Publications Unit
The Caribbean Writer is the primary publication of the Research Publications Unit at UVI. An international literary journal, The Caribbean Writer publishes exceptional works by established and emerging writers from the greater Caribbean region and beyond. The journal premiered in 1987, and includes poetry, prose, personal narrative, book reviews and special sections, often tributes to Caribbean writers and/or intellectuals. The main goal of the journal is to develop and foster new writers and to continue to serve as an outlet for new writings in the Caribbean. In addition to publishing The Caribbean Writer, the Research Publications Unit has also published two anthologies, Contemporary Drama of the Caribbean, edited by Erika J. Waters and David Edgecombe, and Seasoning for the Mortar: Virgin Islanders Writing in The Caribbean Writer Volumes 1-15, edited by Marvin E. Williams. The editorial board of the refereed journal, consists of UVI College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences faculty. The Advisory Editorial Board comprised of an acclaimed international group of established Caribbean writers, including Nobel Laureate Derek Walcott, et al. The website, www.TheCaribbeanWriter.org, has become a global resource for Caribbean literature.

Virgin Islands Small Business Development Center (VI SBDC)
The VI Small Business Development Center (VI SBDC) is a partnership program between the U.S. Small Business Administration and the University of the Virgin Islands. Its mission is to assist emerging and existing small businesses through high quality professional
counseling and training, contributing to the economic growth of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its vision is to be the premier provider of small business services. The VI SBDC provides small business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs practical assistance to grow and prosper in an ever-changing economy. Since its establishment in 1985, the VI SBDC has played a vital role in the development of local businesses and the reduction of failure among existing businesses. Business Counseling Services are free and confidential. The VI SBDC is part of a close network of public and private business organizations committed to fostering the economic stability and growth of small businesses in the territory.

Virgin Islands Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (VI-EPSCoR)
The Virgin Islands Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (VI-EPSCoR) promotes the development and use of science and technology in the territory to help the local community develop creative solutions to educational and environmental challenges and to improve the quality of life for its members. VI-EPSCoR is working to increase the Virgin Islands’ access to and development of new knowledge, products, services, partnerships and a skilled workforce for the 21st century and beyond. It supports research on locally relevant topics including the health of coral reef ecosystems, fisheries management and coastal ocean systems. VI-EPSCoR funds are also used to strengthen the territory’s education in the areas of science, mathematics and technology, and VI-EPSCoR aims to provide students with opportunities to engage in hands-on and feet-wet learning in marine science. VI-EPSCoR is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation, funding from the government of the Virgin Islands and by generous donations from members of the Virgin Islands community. The program is hosted by the University of the Virgin Islands on behalf of the people of the Virgin Islands.

Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI)
The Water Resources Research Institute conducts research throughout the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its meteorological observatory, which provides real-time weather data that can be accessed through the Internet and a water quality laboratory on the St. Thomas Campus serve as resources for the Virgin Islands community. Current WRRI research includes investigating ways to reduce non-point source pollution to the critical nearshore marine environment of the islands. This includes identifying methods of erosion control, development of methods for coastal water quality assessments and finding innovative ways to treat domestic wastewater as alternatives to traditional septic tank systems. Other WRRI activities include dissemination of information promoting conservation of the islands’ water resources and providing environmental research training experiences for students and others.

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING

The Office of Institutional Research and Planning (IRP) gathers data on the University and provides information useful for making strategic decisions. IRP produces an annual Institutional Data Summary which contains the latest statistics on enrollment, student and faculty characteristics, University income and expenditures, and related topics. For some topics, historical data are provided to establish trends. Brief reports are sometimes issued on topics of general interest, or in response to special requests of other university units.

IRP keeps abreast of events and trends in the Virgin Islands, the Caribbean region and beyond to note factors which might impact the future of the University. The results are made available to persons planning for the future of the University. IRP provides annual reports to the National Center for Education Statistics and the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, and participates in surveys conducted by other external agencies. Linkage to other universities is maintained through the Internet and by membership in the Association for Institutional Research.