UVI@USM - Laying the Foundation for Greatness

UVI is continuing its efforts at the University of St. Martin, which started fall 2015, with the enrollment of a 25 student cohort in Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Arts in Education programs. UVI@USM brings faculty and/or academic administrative staff to St. Maarten and the USM campus weekly to support the students and to recruit new students for the upcoming semester. Recently, the voice of Dr. Stephen Reames, Dean of the School of Business, was heard on the Lady Grace Radio Show in a recruitment campaign extoling the virtues of UVI@USM and inviting new enrollees.

Like the other UVI campuses, students enrolled through UVI@USM need sound reliable student support and academic technology support services. This includes library and network access services, verifications of enrollment, registration and advisement, and access to bursar processes for UVI. The availability of professional librarians and service desk support staff is non-existent on the USM campus. Bi-weekly visits of the UVI Director of Libraries, who functions as the academic administrator and advocate for UVI@USM, seeks to change that. This on-campus presence has led to the opening of access in the USM Library to the UVI EBSCO database subscriptions. This event was followed by the recent delivery of two, “Research Anyone?” workshops in collaboration with EBSCOhost. Additionally, regular on-campus appointments are held to respond to student service inquiries and academic support needs.
**STANDARD III: DESIGN & DELIVERY OF THE**

**STUDENT LEARNING**

An institution provides students with learning experiences that are characterized by rigor and coherence at all program, certificate, and degree levels, regardless of instructional modality. All learning experiences, regardless of modality, program pace/schedule, level, and setting are consistent with higher education expectations.

**CHAIRPERSON**

Dr. Metts is a Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship at the University of the Virgin Islands having joined the University in spring 2009. He is an entrepreneur, certified public accountant, professor, author, and sea captain. As an entrepreneur he started several businesses in such diverse fields as manufacturing, accounting and consulting, mechanical contracting, intellectual property, and commercial real estate. After semi-retiring from business he started a second career teaching in the Purdue University system and eventually moved on to the University of the Virgin Islands where he has served in various capacities as Director of Entrepreneurship Education, Chair of Management and Marketing and Chair of Information Systems and Decision Sciences. He currently serves as Chair of Professional Studies and is Director of Entrepreneurship Experiential Programs.

**CHARGE**

The Design and Delivery of the Student Learning Experience Subcommittee will analyze and report out on the Academic Quality and Excellence area of focus within the strategic plan. Data should support how the faculty and curriculum combine to provide world-class educational opportunities to University students. It is imperative that this subcommittee coordinate its work with Standards IV and V to develop overall insight into the development and success of UVI students. This subcommittee will be led by Dr. Glenn A. Metts.

Anyone is welcomed to join and assist. Just call Glenn Metts at (340) 693-1303.
Greetings!

I want to say “Thank You” to all Co-Chairs for submitting the first draft of your Sub Committee reports. We are now at the point where we will be receiving feedback from members of the IEAAB on the current draft.

Once feedback has been received and you begin fine-tuning your first draft, please keep in mind the formatting guidelines with respect to elements such as spacing, the use of acronyms, and the use of tables and figures.

From a substantive perspective, please keep in mind the need to be analytic in the presentation of data. Additionally, an important point raised in the IEAAB meeting is that any document referenced in the body of your report needs to be available as an exhibit for the overall report.

Finally, although I shared the overarching goal in the development of the University’s Self-Study Report, I want to reiterate that goal. Simply put, our goal is to develop a high quality report that embodies the following:

- A crisp, active voice;
- Consistency of style and voice;
- Consistency of information across reports, with respect to how the University – to include its students, staff, programs and services – is characterized; and,
- Cohesiveness, clarity, and focus.

I look forward to reading your revised reports!

Dr. Noreen Michael, Editor
On January 21 and 22, 2016, the University of the Virgin Islands officially opened an Innovation Center on each of their campuses. Each center occupies a room in the library of their respective campuses. The events on both the St. Thomas Campus and the Albert A. Sheen Campus were well attended with enthusiastic visitors. These centers and the equipment in them, were made possible by the generous donation of two RT Park companies: 13D Research and Hidalgo.

Innovative solutions occur when people with different perspectives actively and collaboratively engage in solving a problem. Innovation requires three elements, according to the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU): Talent, Process, and a Place. The Place is particularly important today as our increasing use and dependence on electronic devices reduces opportunities for live, dynamic interactions.
First and foremost, UVI’s Innovation Centers are intended to create a space for creative collisions.

The Innovation Centers’ flexible, collaboration-oriented space will accelerate the progress of teams through every phase of innovation process. The creative collisions that are enabled by these spaces will leverage a variety of technologies. That technology will range from low-tech (white boards, markers, sticky-notes, for ideation and synthesis) to very high-tech (3D printers that enable rapid prototyping and user feedback). The space and the tools contained within it will allow our student innovators to think with their hands as well as their minds. In doing so they will envision a new and different future for themselves and the world.

~Dr. Tim Faley
In addition to administrative and teaching roles, UVI@USM also seeks to impact local public services through outreach to St. Maarten/St. Martin Governmental operations, in support of community projects. One such project is the “How Healthy is St. Maarten/St. Martin” study being conducted through interviews with residents throughout the island. This initiative, led by Dr. Haldane Davies - Vice President for Business Development & Innovation, is the first analysis of its kind for the island. Results will inform future health-related planning and funding proposals.

Continued growth both of student body and outreach projects is anticipated over the next year.
Discussions between President Hall and Commissioner Dawn Henry of The Department of Planning and Natural Resources (DPNR) led to UVI being offered the joint use of the Cruz Bay, St. John DPNR office for both agencies. This will provide space for UVI classes and meetings, while allowing DPNR inspectors and the public to connect to the St. Thomas headquarters when UVI videoconference (VC) equipment is not in use. Three VC systems will be available in the new location, making it possible for three (3) classes or meetings to be simultaneously held, connecting to the St. Thomas or Albert A. Sheen, St. Croix campuses.

In order to accommodate both organizations, some construction was needed. DPNR planned to build-out part of the porch in order to accommodate three (3) additional permit officers. The bathroom will be upgraded for ADA compliance. UVI added an air conditioner to one of the rooms which will house VC equipment, tiled the porch and replaced the sliding glass door, in addition to other minor upgrades.

Following are pictures of the work in progress, taken February 4th, 2016.

Please contact the St. John Academic Center at 693-1460 or send an email to stjac@myuvi.net with your Spring classes request.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.
Accreditation Town Hall Meeting

WHEN: Thursday, March 17, 2016
WHERE: ACC 1st Floor Conference Room (STT)
        EVC 401 (STX)
TIME: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
TOPICS: Accreditation Process / Timeline
        Seven Standards Presentations
        Presentation of Draft I Self Study Report

Join us on the journey to reaffirmation of accreditation!

⇒ Freshmen open your orientation packets, and get involved!
⇒ Returning students, look around campus at posters and flyers, UVI homepage online, and get involved!
⇒ Staff, faculty, and students join the various Self Study Sub-Committees, and get involved! They are as follows:
  Standard I:  Mission & Goals
  Standard II: Ethics & Integrity
  Standard III: Design & Delivery of the Student Learning Experience
  Standard IV: Support of the Student Experience
  Standard V: Educational Effectiveness Assessment
  Standard VI: Planning Resources & Institutional Improvement
  Standard VII: Governance, Leadership, & Administration
⇒ Tell a friend, and tell a friend to tell another
  friend, and get the VI community involved!

Email: greatnessbydesign@uvi.edu, for all inquiries and information to get involved!