

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
TO THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS  
MAY 26, 2014 TO OCTOBER 15, 2014**

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The President's Report for this reporting period is organized into two sections. Part I provides highlights of new and ongoing presidential initiatives and institutional accomplishments since the last report. Part II highlights major accomplishments within the framework of *Pathways to Greatness*, the University's five-year strategic plan.

This framework has been adopted to ensure that all Components and Departments across the University are focused on areas that the University has determined are critical to our future success. I continue to be extremely impressed with the productivity and commitment of our University's students, faculty, staff and administrators.

**PART I: PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

I am honored to share with the Board of Trustees highlights of the University's activities and achievements for the reporting period. This section contains some of the major achievements of the University. These accomplishments speak to the commitment and resilience of our students, faculty, staff and administrators.

**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS:** One of the major achievements during this period has been the accomplishments of our students, recent graduates and faculty. Listed below are a few examples of the activities and achievements of our students.

- Eight students participated in the Washington Center Internship Program in Washington, DC. The students were engaged in unique classroom experiences based on their career interests including Forensic Psychology, Global Markets & International Business Strategies, Strategic Communications, International Business, Research & Writing, and Non-Profit Leadership & Management. They interned at a number of sites around Washington, DC including the Federal Drug Administration, United Planning Organization, the William Kelliber Foundation, and Architecture for Humanity.
- Four UVI Computational Science students enrolled in the "Applications of Parallel Computing" at Berkeley in Spring 2014. One student, **David Paulius**, completed the course and is now pursuing a Ph.D. in Computational Science at the University of South Florida. In this intensive programming course, students designed and implemented three different projects on three of the most powerful parallel computers available for

academia. This course was designed for graduate students and some undergraduates with strong programming background.

- **Desiree Bertrand** was accepted at Medical University of South Carolina to pursue a Ph.D. in Nursing. She is the recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Future of Nursing Scholarship. Ms. Bertrand will continue as an Adjunct Faculty in the School of Nursing while pursuing her Ph.D.
- **Brandon Rhymer** is in his last year at University of Florida and currently applying to graduate programs to pursue a degree in Materials Science and Engineering.
- **Darnel Allen** and **Phil Smith** are currently pursuing Ph.Ds. in Engineering at Stony Brook.
- **Kevin Dixon**, UVI graduate and former SGA President on the Albert A. Sheen Campus, was selected to participate in the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) Fall 2014 Emerging Leaders Program. He was placed in U.S. Congress Senator Dianne Feinstein's Office in Washington, DC.
- The cast of David Edgecombe's "Lady of Parham" was invited and traveled to Dominica to perform at the Annual Creole Festival. Included in the cast were UVI students.
- Two senior nursing students are registered at Case Western Reserve University during the Fall 2014 semester. They will be completing the first semester of their senior years. The students afforded this opportunity are: **Dieudonne Sanon** and **Jerice Lake**. In exchange, two students, **Melissa Fowler** and **Katelyn Lupica**, from Case Western Reserve University enrolled in a senior nursing course, N418 — Nursing Roles in Community Health, as exchange students.
- Over twenty current students from the College of Science and Mathematics participated in research during summer programs on the U.S. mainland, including Boston University, Carnegie Mellon University, Savannah State University, UC San Diego, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, Old Dominion University, Western Michigan University, University of Oregon, University of South Florida, University of Texas, Arlington, US Food and Drug Administration, NASA Godard Space Flight Center, and Brookhaven National Laboratory.
- Twenty-six undergraduate students participated in the UVI Summer Undergraduate Research Experiences (SURE) and Sophomore Summer Research Institute (SSRI) programs supported by NSF HBCU-UP. The students, along with faculty, worked on a variety of research topics on both St. Thomas and St. Croix and presented their results at a summer research symposium held on August 1, 2014. Some of their topics included lionfish invasion, parasite burdens of hair sheep lambs, the extraction, quantification and

toxicity of citral from lemongrass, intimate partner abuse of women in the Virgin Islands and conch locomotion.

- UVI's Golden Key International Honour Society Chapters from the St. Thomas Campus and Albert A. Sheen Campus on St. Croix receive Key Chapter and Gold award recognition. Gold standing is the highest level of chapter involvement and denotes excellence in chapter leadership and member engagement. This significant achievement has historically been earned by only 25% of the Society members. Considered to be one of Golden Key's most prestigious honors, the Key Chapter Award is presented annually to select Golden Key chapters. The Golden Key International Honour Society is the world's largest collegiate honor society recognizing outstanding scholastic academic achievement with more than two million members and 400 chapters across the U.S. and around the world. Of the 84 chapters that earned a Gold status in 2014, only 23 were named a Key Chapter for the 2013-2014 academic year.

**FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS:** Our faculty continues to be very productive in regards to teaching, scholarship and service. Below are some selected examples of publications, presentations, other faculty activities.

**Publications:**

- **Bertrand, Callwood, Lettsome, S., G, Evans, E., Sharps, P., Hussein, Y., Ford, AF,** (2014). "U.S. Virgin Islands Men Talk About Health and Health Concerns," Journal of the Black Nurses Association, 25(1), pp. 33-37.
- **Habtes, Yegin,** "Public Attitudes of Virgin Islanders Towards People with Disabilities," International Journal of Liberal Arts and Social Science, Vol. 2 No. 5 June 2014.
- **Harkins-Pierre, Patricia,** two poems "The Prince of Hubris Speaks of Death" and "About Iraq" were selected by the editor of The Caribbean Writer to be published in the Vol. 28, 2014.
- **Morgan, Nancy** "Assessment Begins with the Eyes: A Data Driven Vision" was published in this quarter of Kappa Delta Pi Record Volume 50 (3).
- **Rossignol, Rosalyn** "Medicine in England in the Plantagenet Age" has been accepted for the Richard II Annual Meeting held in September 2014.
- **Sabri, B. Stockman, K. Campbell, J., Obrien, S., Campbell, D., Callwood, G., Bertrand, D., Sutton, L., Hart-Hyndman, G.** "Factors Associated With Increased Risk for Lethal Violence in Intimate Partner Relationships Among Ethnically Diverse Black Women Violence and Victims" 29 (5).

## Student and Faculty Publication:

- **David Paulius**, D. Torres, F. Illas and **Wayne Archibald** Adatom Transport through  $(\sqrt{3} \times \sqrt{3})\text{-R}30^\circ\text{-CH}_3\text{S}$  self-assembled monolayers on Au(111) from first principles. Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics — Manuscript ID CP-ART-07-2014-003074.R1 (2014).

## Presentations:

- **Bloch, Judith, DeGain, Danielle** "Peer-Led Team Learning: Past, Present and Future...Island Style!" Summer Peer-Led Team Learning (PLTL) Institute at The City College of New York (CCNY), New York City, July 2014.
- **Castillo, Bernard F. II**; Pinckney, J.; Greenfield, D.; Long, R.; Tomas, C.; Benitez-Nelson, C.; Lane, C.; Reale-Munroe, K.; Taylor, M.; Hillis-Starr, Z. and Goldstein, D. "Nutrient Concentrations in Mangrove Lagoon, St. Croix, USVI – Ecological Characterization of Mangrove Lagoon, St. Croix, USVI" Salt River Bay Mangrove Lagoon Bioluminescence Project Symposium 2014, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.
- **Cooper, Vincent** gave poetry readings of a new manuscript in progress at the 2014 Mayapple Writers' Retreat in Woodstock, New York for mid-career creative writers and teachers of creative writing at the university level.
- **Cooper, Vincent** and **Harkins-Pierre, Patricia** have been accepted as Co-Chairs of a panel on Caribbean Nobel Prize winner, Derek Walcott, at the 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Caribbean Literature being sponsored by the University of Curacao, November 5-7, 2014. They will each present at the event. Dr. Cooper's paper is titled "Walcott's Discourse on the Role of the Arts" and Dr. Harkins-Pierre's paper is titled "The Problem of Evil In the Work of Derek Walcott."
- **Davis-Kahina, Chenzira** made a presentation entitled, "Ay Ay: Diasporan Indigenous Afrakan Heritage in the Caribbean", New Media Panel Presentation for "Traditional Medicine, Indigenous Practices and Nutrition" at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Conference, Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.
- **Habtes, Yegin** "Eritrea Taking Care of its Disabled Fighters: An Eritrean Case" at the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) held in Mérida, México in May 2014.
- **Hill, John** and **Arthurton, Migdalia** "It's SIOP: Make it Comprehensible for Your Students" was accepted for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual PRITESOL Convention in San Juan, Puerto Rico on November 14-15, 2014. The convention's theme is "No One Left Behind: Integrating Multicultural Perspectives in the English Classroom."
- **McKayle, Camille** and **Stolz, Robert**, "Peer Led Team Learning in Foundation Mathematics for College Students: A University Approach," MAA Mathfest, Portland, OR August 2014.

- Blackmon, Angelicque; **McKayle, Camille** and **Stolz, Robert**, “*Mathematical Success at the Foundations Level*,” 2014 APLU HBCU Student Success Summit, Atlanta, GA June 2014.
- **Platenberg, R.J.** “*Bd. in a hot climate: detection of the amphibian chytrid fungus in the US Virgin Islands*.” Joint Meeting of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Chattanooga, TN August 2014. (oral presentation)
- **Solomon, Hosanna** delivered the Keynote Address entitled, “*Global Problem and Efforts of Water, Energy and Agriculture Mainly in the Horn of Africa*,” and presented a paper entitled, “*Danakil-Depression and Red Sea Solution to the Ecological, Political and Economical Challenges Among Nile River Basin Countries*,” at the International Conference on Agricultural, Ecological and Medical Sciences (AEMS-2014) Conference in London, England.
- **Turner, Teresa, Romano, Sandra** Stavros Michailidis, and Creative Problem Solving Workshop Participants. “*Designing Intervention: A Creative Problem Solving Approach at the University of the Virgin Islands*” at the 6th Conference on Understanding Interventions that Broaden Participation in Research Careers, Baltimore, MD May 2014.
- **Young-Wright, Lorna C.** “*Communities Under Siege: The Construction of a Pedagogy of Peace in the Perpetual Time of War*,” at the International Peace Research Conference in Istanbul, Turkey.

### **Papers Submitted:**

- **Nicholls, Robert**, “*The British Invasion Revisited: 1960’s Beat Groups as Cultural Conduits*” to *Moving Worlds: A Journal of Transcultural Writings* School of English, University of Leeds, UK.

### **Proposals Funded:**

- The Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD) received continued funding for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year of the five-year funding cycle at \$535,215.
- The Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD), in partnership with Gladys Abraham Elementary School and E. Benjamin Oliver Elementary School was funded for five years at \$125,000 per school per year.
- **Dr. Wayne Archibald** served as Senior Investigator on the proposal awarded to Columbia University by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for \$19 million over six years. UVI was awarded \$200,000, which will be used primarily for undergraduate research.

- Department of Energy Sunshot Solar Outreach partnership initiative grant was recently approved for the Caribbean Green Technology Center to offer individual assistance to local policy makers. This assistance may take the form of program or policy analysis, research support, review of draft documents or legislation, market analysis, or assistance in designing a new solar incentive program. The first workshop is planned for October. **Dr. Wayne Archibald** serves as the Principal Investigator.
- A proposal written by **Dr. Renata Platenberg** entitled "Monitor and Collect Data on Frog/Bat Populations" was awarded \$6,700 under the 2014 Judith A. Towle Environmental Studies Grant Award by the Community Foundation of the Virgin Islands. The project will allow the purchase of field data collection equipment to be used in the U.S. and British Virgin Islands to study bats and frogs.
- Etelman Observatory was awarded an \$8,000 donation from Atlas Tracking Solutions to support student education and research activities at the Observatory.
- Proposal submitted by **Dr. Valerie Combie** to the National Writing Project for the Supporting Effective Educator Grant (SEED) Grant approved in the amount of \$20,000. The expected outcome will guide Teacher Consultants from the VI Writing Project's Summer Institute in conducting 30 hours of professional development at Juanita Gardine Elementary School to enhance teachers' abilities to help students improve their writing.

### **Proposals Submitted:**

- **Dr. Wayne Archibald** is Principal Investigator on the grant submitted to Department of Defense: Electric Power Grid Security Control Center at the University of the Virgin Islands for Research and Education on the Next Generation Survivable Electric Energy Systems (SEES). The amount requested is \$500,000.
- **Dr. Wayne Archibald** is the Co-Principal Investigator on the Solar Energy Deployment Strategies for Enhancing the Power System Resilience (Illinois) and Economics (Virgin Islands). The proposal was submitted to the Department of Energy in collaboration with the University of Illinois requesting \$500,000 over three years.
- **Dr. Robert Nicholls** is the Principal Investigator on a proposal for a Digital Music Archive of Caribbean Music submitted to the National Endowment of Humanities (NEH), with Judith Rogers and Alex Randall.
- **Dr. Chenzira Davis-Kahina** initiated Programs & Planning with VI Studies Director, Dr. Angel Smith of Tortola, for implementation of an MOU between UVI and H. Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC).

### Other Faculty Activities:

- **Dr. Nancy Morgan** attended and participated in the International Reading Association Conference held in New Orleans, LA from May 10-12, 2014 under the theme was “*Reading... the Teachable Moment.*”
- **Dr. Steven Hendrix** and **Dr. Beulah Lateef** attended the Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) Conference in Texas from June 26-30, 2014 under the theme “*Teaching Excellence.*”
- **Drs. Denis Griffith, Steven Hendrix, Linda Thomas** and **Magdalene Tobias** attended the Association for Teacher Educators (ATE) conference from August 1- 6, 2014.
- **Karen Cooper** and **Kathy Sheats** attended the National Teaching Institute and Critical Care Exposition (NTI) conference sponsored by the American Association of Critical Care Nurses held in Denver, CO in May 2014.
- **Janzie Allmacher**, representing the Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure, attended the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Discipline Case Management Conference in Park City, UT, June 4-6, 2014.
- **Janzie Allmacher** was reappointed to the NCLEX Item Review Subcommittee of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) in July 2014. This Subcommittee reviews the national nursing licensure exam (NCLEX) for both Registered Nurses and Practical Nurses. The subcommittee is charged with responsibility to ensure the currency and validity of questions and to determine whether test content is at an appropriate level for entry into nursing practice.
- On August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, **Janzie Allmacher** earned recertification as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) from American Nurses Credentialing Center.
- **Janzie Allmacher**, represented the Virgin Islands Board of Nurse Licensure August 12-15, 2014 at the NCSBN Annual Meeting “*Revolutionizing the Now – to Design the Future,*” in Chicago, IL. Topics presented included reports from various NCSBN committees, discussion regarding issues in nursing regulation and a most interesting educational offering on simulation learning.
- On May 1<sup>st</sup>, the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences celebrated the opening of the St. Croix home of WUVI.
- **Dr. Chenzira Davis-Kahina** hosted a VI African Heritage Week/African Liberation Month Forum/Literary Roundtable in partnership with University of Puerto Rico-Rio Piedras professor Dr. Dannabang Kuwabong and California State University Northridge tenured professor Dr. David L. Horne.

- **Dr. Chenzira Davis-Kahina** hosted a Native American & Caribbean Indigenous Heritage Lecture with keynote by Dr. Edgar Heap of Birds, professor at University of Oklahoma.
- **Dr. Chenzira Davis-Kahina** hosted an event in collaboration with VI Legislature for Annual VI African Heritage Week & African Liberation Day official program in Capitol Building/Ottley Legislative Hall on St. Thomas, VI.
- **Dr. Rocio Delgado** coordinated the Academic Assessment Workshop as faculty development activity for faculty members within EHMLA (English, Humanities, Modern Languages and Philosophy).
- **Dr. Leroy Trotman** organized and performed in a brass quintet for students in a Summer Program conducted at the New Hernhutt Moravian Church.
- **Dr. Chenzira Davis-Kahina** moderated and hosted the UVI's Bridge Academy and University Bound students presentations by Dr. Fenda Blyden Akiwumi
- **Dr. Valerie Combie** served as Director of the VI Writing Project's Summer Institute on both campuses; certificates earned are accepted by the Board of Education as supporting documentation towards teacher certification. Each teacher received the title of Teacher Consultant and is trained to teach other teachers how to improve their teaching of writing.
- **Dr. Leroy Trotman** conducted and performed a series of Instrumental & Vocal Concerts in Ephraim, Wisconsin. They included performances as a trombone soloist.
- CLASS opened an official Art Studio on the Albert A. Sheen Campus, under the leadership of Cynthia Hatfied, Art Instructor.
- **Dr. Simon B. Jones-Hendrickson** attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Anguilla Lit Fest on Anguilla, B.W.I.
- **Atty. Nandi Sekou** travelled to Athens, Greece in the capacity as the Chair and Discussant of a group of students at the John Jay College 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Criminal Justice Conference.
- **Dr. Violeta Donovan** continued to strengthen her command of French by participating in 5-week intensive French courses at the Université Laval in Québec.
- **Dr. Gabriel Ogunmokun** from the School of Business and **Dr. Robert Nicholls** from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences were promoted to the rank of full Professor.
- The University welcomed the following full-time Faculty members for the Fall 2014 academic year:
  - **Dr. Lori Buckley**, Professor of Biology
  - **Dr. Edwin Cruz-Rivera**, Visiting Associate Professor of Biology
  - **Dr. Yakini Brandy**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry and UVI alumna

- **Dr. Antonio Brathwaite**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry
  - **Ms. Chasda Clendinen**, Instructor of Mathematics — graduate of UVI with a BS in Mathematics and a Master's degree from the MMAT program
  - **Ms. Danielle DeGain**, Visiting Instructor of Mathematics
  - **Dr. Bertrum Foster**, Assistant Professor of Mathematics — UVI alumni
  - **Dr. Andrew Gard**, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
  - **Dr. Valerie Michelle Wilhite**, Assistant Professor of Modern Languages (French and Spanish)
  - **Dr. Ellen Foster**, Associate Professor English
  - **Dr. Carrie Coaplen**, Assistant Professor English
  - **Dr. Jessica Adams**, Assistant Professor English
- **Dr. Beverley Lansiquot** joined the University as the Dean of the School of Nursing. Dr. Lansiquot received a Doctorate in Nursing Practice from Case Western Reserve University in Ohio with a specialization in clinical leadership. Dr. Lansiquot is a graduate of the University, then College of the Virgin Islands, having received her Associate degree in Nursing from the St. Thomas Campus.

## SIGNIFICANT INSTITUTIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

### Enrollment Achievements

This Fall we experienced a slight decrease in overall enrollment of 0.8%, but a dramatic increase in Freshmen enrollment of 14% overall, and an astonishing 38% increase on the Albert A. Sheen Campus. This is the result of a number of new initiatives developed by the entire University and translated into a Comprehensive Recruitment Plan. The Plan was coordinated and implemented by Access and Enrollment Services and has been instrumental in guiding the recruitment efforts of the University.

This Fall UVI attracted some of the Territory's top students including the St. Croix Central High School valedictorian **Ryan Shaw** and salutatorian **Lizbeth Carrasquillo** who both had already applied and been accepted to schools on the mainland before visiting our Albert A. Sheen Campus. In addition to Shaw and Carrasquillo, eleven (11) other of the Territory's valedictorians and salutations enrolled at UVI this Fall.

### New Student Convocation and President's State of the University Address

This Fall academic semester signalled a new tradition for Orientation that included a New Student Convocation. This was a formal activity that underscored for new students the beginning of a new phase in their lives — different from high school and uniquely UVI. The New Student Convocation included administrators and faculty in attendance in academic regalia and a pinning ceremony for new students. The New Student Convocation was followed

by the President's annual convocation address now entitled the President's State of the University Address and the Provost's Academic Address to Faculty.

### **UVI Selected to Play Leadership Role in National Accreditation Standards**

The University of the Virgin Islands was selected by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) to participate in a Collaborative Implementation Project. The MSCHE invited a small cohort of institutions scheduled for self-study visits during 2016-2017 to voluntarily participate in the project. Each invited institution was selected based on a combination of factors, including: (i) has been accredited for at least 10 years; (ii) has a history of success in the peer review process; and (iii) has had no significant follow-up requests from the Commission in the last five years. UVI will work closely with MSCHE and play a leadership role in shaping the accreditation standards, helping to prepare for full implementation by all member institutions. The revised standards emphasize institutional assessment, assessment of student learning and support innovation as an essential part of continuous institutional improvement.

### **Funding for Medical School Facilities**

The University was able to secure local government funding for the construction of the facilities associated with the proposed medical school. In order to secure this funding, it was necessary to engage the Governor, the Legislature and the public to inform them of the benefits of the medical school and the proposed location of the facilities. I am especially thankful to the Board for its leadership, transparency and thoughtfulness as we progressed through the decision making process. The Beck Group/Springline Architectural firms have been secured to design the facilities (classroom building and simulation center) and oversee the construction process.

### **Estate Sorgenfri — Largest Gift of Land in UVI History**

We were very fortunate and blessed to receive a gift of 65 acres of land on St. Thomas from the Van Beverhoudt and Millin families. This is the largest gift of land in the history of the University. The land contains 13 acres of ocean front property, which can be used by our Marine Science program for research in Hendricks Bay. UVI students are already using the area to research sea fans in Hendricks Bay and catadromous species in the fresh-water guts. This gift of land has great historical significance for the family, the Territory and the University. With this gift, UVI can now claim that it is the only University in the world with two beaches, one on the Caribbean Sea and now the other on the Atlantic Ocean.

### **VI-EPSCoR Receives \$20 Million NSF Grant**

The University was awarded a highly competitive Research Infrastructure Improvement (RII) Track-1 grant award of \$20 million from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). This grant will have a significant impact

on the development of research, technology and economic development in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The U.S. Virgin Islands is one of six jurisdictions nation-wide to receive this grant which will bolster science and engineering academic research. It will also support fundamental research, science and engineering education, and workforce development. The award will be distributed over five years, with \$4 million each year. These resources will be used to create a dynamic research strategy for the University and the Territory that will be transformative and engage key stakeholders throughout the Virgin Islands.

### **Competency-Based Learning Academic Credits**

As a result of Bill No. 30-0020 passed by the 30<sup>th</sup> Legislature, UVI was successful in signing an agreement with Learning Counts to address credit for prior learning. Through this agreement, Learning Counts will provide a course in portfolio preparation, to be offered as a three credit UVI course, which will help students to identify potential credits, and prepare a portfolio outlining how they have addressed the learning objectives in order to receive credit for prior learning experiences. Prior learning may have occurred in many settings, including employment and service in the military. We believe that this program will attract more students, especially adults who have earned experiences in the workplace that will translate into academic credits. We are also exploring the feasibility of offering competency-based degree programs in the not-too-distant future.

### **New Minors Offered**

Two new minors have been added within the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Students are now able to pursue Minors in Sociology and Fine Arts this Fall.

### **Alumni Contribution**

For the third year in a row, our alumni have allowed the University to make history in regards to the percentage of alumni who contribute to the University. For fiscal year 2014, approximately 52.49% of our alumni contributed to UVI.

### **Soccer Field Inaugural Celebration**

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, we unveiled our LAI intercollegiate association league-approved soccer field on the Albert A. Sheen Campus on St. Croix, with a celebration for Hispanic Heritage month and a major victory over Polytechnica University of Puerto Rico with a score of 2-0. The soccer match also marked the first time a LAI game of any sport was played on the St. Croix campus. We also introduced our new full-time soccer coach and physical education professor, Dr. David Santesteban. We are also in the process of hiring a full-time basketball coach on St. Thomas.

## **Classroom Renovation and Enhancements**

Over the summer, we continued our pattern of enhancing and improving the technology in various classrooms across both campuses. There were 10 classrooms renovated this summer. In addition, we have added an art and music classroom to the St. Croix campus. After fifty years, there is now an attractive sidewalk along Palm Drive on the Albert A. Sheen Campus and an attractive walkway from West Hall to the upper campus academic building on the St. Thomas Campus. The fountain in front of the Great House is operational again, and we have named it the *Fountain of Greatness*.



## **Career Advancement Policy**

The Career Advancement Policy approved by the Board in June is being implemented and institutionalized. Various individuals in numerous departments and units have been promoted or received salary increases. The Human Resources Department has developed forms and processes to facilitate these activities. A comprehensive training for managers and employees will be conducted this Fall.

## **Office of the President and President's Cabinet Reorganization**

In order to create more efficiency in resources and position the President for future initiatives, the Chief of Staff and Executive Assistant to the President were eliminated and a new position of Director of Presidential Operations was created and filled by Ms. Una Dyer. Two new Vice President positions were created, including the Vice President for Business Development and Innovation and the Vice President for Information Services and Institutional Assessment. Dr. Haldane Davies and Ms. Tina Koopmans were promoted to these positions, respectively. On the Albert A. Sheen Campus, Ms. Nereida Washington, Director of Campus Operations and Mr. Stephan Moore, Dean of Students, were made official members of Cabinet.

### **UVI Distinguished Professorship in International Relations and Diplomacy**

UVI collaborated with Governor John P. de Jongh, Jr. and Senate President Malone on the establishment of a Professorship in International Relations and Diplomacy that would permit the University to develop expertise in an area that is critically important to the development of our students, and enshrines the legacy and work of the Honorable Ambassador Terence A. Todman. Ambassador Todman was a highly accomplished and remarkable individual — one of the United States most senior and respected Ambassadors who advanced to the highest diplomatic rank of Career Ambassador over his unprecedented 40-year career in the Foreign Service and the Diplomatic Corps. of the United States of America. Through Act No. 7647 (Bill No. 30-0450), the Government of the Virgin Islands appropriated \$100,000 to UVI for a Professorship in International Relations and Diplomacy. We believe that this Professorship will have a significant impact on the Territory and honor an individual who merits special recognition for a career of extraordinary achievement and distinction. Our hope is that this Professorship would eventually lead to a degree program in International Relations and Diplomacy so that future Virgin Islanders will be equipped to follow in the footsteps of Ambassador Todman.

### **Miss UVI Elisa Thomas Makes History**

Miss UVI Elisa Thomas made history in September when she won the title of Miss National Black College Alumni (NBCA) Hall of Fame – becoming the first Miss UVI to win that crown. As Miss NBCA, Elisa will serve as a national representative and advocate of HBCUs, and will receive an academic scholarship and other prizes. The NBCA competition is sponsored by the NBCA Hall of Fame organization, which is dedicated to the growth and development of HBCUs through scholarships, internships, training and technical assistance, alumni recognition, and programs to encourage humanitarian involvement. When we consider the number of HBCUs and the important role they have played in the past and will continue to play in the future, this honor takes on an even greater significance. Elisa's accomplishment is a compelling reminder that UVI prepares our students to take on and lead the world.

### **UVI and the National Park Service Sign Historic MOU**

Under the leadership of Virgin Islands & Caribbean Cultural Center Director, Dr. Chenzira Kahina-Davis, the University of the Virgin Islands and the National Park Service (NPS), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on August 26<sup>th</sup> demonstrating future cooperation between the NPS and the University. The MOU establishes and formalizes cooperation for fundraising, collaborative research projects, professional development opportunities and resource sharing for programs associated with cultural and natural sciences resources in the U.S. Virgin Islands, and in particular on St. Croix.

### **Arizona State University and Government of the Virgin Islands Sign MOU**

UVI entered into a MOU with Arizona State University (ASU) and the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands through the Department of Property & Procurement on behalf of the VI Energy Office, VI Waste Management Authority (VIWMA), and the VI Water & Power Authority (WAPA). ASU Global Institute of Sustainability has agreed to support (i) VIWMA in the

development of an integrated solid waste management plan, (ii) WAPA in the development of smart grid technologies and (iii) UVI in applied research ventures and a joint academic degree program offering.

### **V.I. Certified Public Manager (CPM) Graduation**

The Virgin Islands Certified Public Manager (VI-CPM) program in late August graduated its initial cohort of over 40 managers and supervisors of the VI Government in both the St. Croix and St. Thomas/St. John Districts. The accreditation process began in December 2013 and after a lengthy review, the National Certified Public Manager Consortium unanimously voted in favor of the VI-CPM program's full accreditation. The first of its kind in any U.S. Territory, VI-CPM is a nationally-accredited certificate program in management development. The Virgin Islands Certified Public Manager Program is a management development certificate program specifically for managers in federal, state, and local government and non-profit organizations. The program prepares participants for the challenges and unique demands of the public management profession.

### **UVI Website Garner's National Recognition**

The UVI website received the 2014 Lightning Bolt Award from Cascade Server. Cascade Server is a leader in web content management systems for higher education institutions, medical schools, healthcare and technology organizations and government agencies. The Cascade Server Lightning Bolt Award is given to organizations that are able to expedite the development of a quality website. In addition to the development timetable, criteria such as the complexity of the site and the volume of content that was part of the migration process were considered. Led by Webmaster Moneca Pinkett-Williams and the Public Relations Department, the entire 3,000 page <http://www.uvi.edu> website was migrated to Cascade Server in four (4) months. The migration included 10 audience based gateway landing pages, homepage, alternate homepage, customized responsive Cascade Server calendar, fully responsive design, 600 employee profiles and much more.

## **PRESIDENTIAL APPRECIATION AWARD**

After two consecutive years of declining enrollments this Fall, we experienced a reversal of that process, especially in regards to Freshmen enrollment. This achievement is attributable to numerous individuals and activities. However, the unit that is primarily responsible for recruiting and admitting students deserves our recognition and thanks for reversing this unfortunate trend and putting us back on the path towards growth. Therefore, the Presidential Appreciation Award is presented to Dr. Nicole Gibbs, Vice Provost of Access and Enrollment Services, and all the members of the Access and Enrollment Services component.

## **PART II: PATHWAYS TO GREATNESS INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **AREA OF FOCUS #1: ACADEMIC QUALITY AND EXCELLENCE**

- UVI's Information Technology Services (ITS) sought proposals for the provision and installation of underground conduit systems and fiber optic cabling on the Albert A. Sheen Campus. This will provide on campus fiber connectivity that will upgrade and increase network access speeds to and from existing and new buildings. Upgrading the on campus fiber will also allow the research community to take advantage of high speed Internet and Internet2 services as well as increase access speeds to both hosted and on site research applications. The major benefit of the installation of fiber optic cabling will allow the University to expand existing network capabilities between existing campus buildings.

The Albert A. Sheen Campus' fiber optic network has substantially increased. Underground conduit systems, fiber optic cabling and the construction of additional manholes as fiber meet-me-points were successfully installed. Two, twelve strand armored fiber optic cabling has been installed in nine building locations. This equates to approximately twenty-three thousand feet of fiber optic cabling ran through the campus. Additionally, ten new man holes were constructed around the campus and twenty-two new 2RU fiber cabinets installed in data centers.

- The UVI Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning (CELL) Center completed its application for reaccreditation by the International Association of Continuing Education and Training. The application has been reviewed and approved. A site visit is scheduled for early October.

### **AREA OF FOCUS #2: STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND SUCCESS**

- The Albert A. Sheen Campus Operations Office collaborated with the Residence Hall Department to host a Hispanic Outreach Program entitled "Preparing for the Next Generation of Hispanic Leaders" on June 25, 2014 in the NWW Great Hall. Hispanic and of-Hispanic descent high school students and high school graduates attended the informational session about higher education and opportunities available at UVI. The Schools/Colleges and departments shared information regarding their programs as a panel of Hispanic students shared their inspirational experiences with the participants. The networking session also provided a venue to congratulate and recognize the salutatorian of Central High, who is a Hispanic. The event culminated with a movie outdoors on the green. Traditional Hispanic hors d'oeuvres were served.
- ID Works, a new software, was acquired for the student identification process. This software was integrated into the existing software that is being used for meal cards. ID Works is equipped with scalable functions, including the ability to import images. A test

portal community was also created, which students have uploaded their photos to print on their Student IDs. Thereafter, this process was presented to and approved by the Orientation Planning Committee. A plan for next steps is being developed.

- UVI has developed Memoranda of Understanding with the Virgin Islands Department of Education around the topic of dual credit. One is specific to the Hospitality curriculum currently being taught in the high school, and the other is a more general MOU that will lead to dual credit offerings to be piloted in Spring 2015. This addresses a Bill passed in the 30th Legislature of the Virgin Islands regarding dual credit (Bill No. 30-0011).
- There were two new summer programs hosted on the UVI campus for 2014: (i) Sports, Parks and Recreation, in collaboration with UVI, launched a summer sports camp that included soccer and golf; (ii) Auburn University launched a pre-freshman international experience.
- A number of programs continue to be held during the summer, some of which are described below:
  - UVI/VI Department of Education Junior University Summer Program. Approximately 100 junior high school boys participated; 50 on each campus.
  - Math Behind the Science Summer Program
  - Summer Sophomore Research Institute
  - Summer Undergraduate Research Experience
  - Summer Bridge Program
  - UVI Summer Music Camp
- Tennis, weightlifting and table tennis will be added to the inter-collegiate competitive sports in 2014-2015, with the aim of attracting more students and providing a wider range of sporting activities for student engagement. Efforts to promote the University through athletic competition in the U.S. mainland and the Caribbean continue and will be enhanced by the inclusion of these new sporting activities to the roster.
- The University of the Virgin Islands Substance Abuse Prevention project staff was invited to participate in a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grantee Meeting in Gaithersburg, MD from June 12-13, 2014. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of SAMHSA's role and to orient grantees and their community partners on SAMHSA expectations.
- UVI Dean of Students Office was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to implement substance abuse and HIV prevention service and programs on campus and in the community.
- UVI has signed two agreements in the past year in pursuit of increasing the number of international exchange opportunities for students: one with the University of New York in Prague; and the other with the University of Copenhagen. In Fall 2014, a student from the University of New York in Prague will be attending UVI under the recent agreement.

During the 2014 Spring semester, one UVI student studied at Xavier University of Louisiana. Also during that period, one student from Xavier University and one student from Mexico studied at UVI.

- The Institutional Advancement Development Office secured funding through a local foundation to establish an anti-violence assistantship fund which will provide funding for two students to support the UVI Anti-Violence Initiative. This gift will provide the selected students with a bi-weekly stipend for developing and administering campus and community-wide anti-violence projects.

### **AREA OF FOCUS #3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND GLOBALIZATION**

- Voting machine demonstrations for persons with disabilities, seniors and the general public were held on UVI's campuses on St. Thomas, on June 3, and on St. Croix, on June 9. Demonstrations were conducted by the V.I. Board of Elections and hosted by the Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD). The purpose was to ensure the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in the voting process. A combined total of forty-four (44) people attended.
- The Virgin Islands University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (VIUCEDD) sponsored an eight week Art Class this summer from July 12-August 30 on St. Croix. The class was comprised of eight (8) students with disabilities. Students were exposed to art as a recreational/creative activity and classes enabled them to work cooperatively in a group setting.
- The Department of Computer and Computational Sciences offered a five-week summer program for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who were interested in entering the next round of the Cyber Patriot competition in Fall 2014. This program introduced basic Cyber Security concepts and hands-on requirements for the competition. Nine students had the opportunity to learn basic system security concepts on Windows and Linux platforms. Students also applied game programming in the context of cyber security. Speakers from academia, industries and Sandia National Laboratories presented at the camp and discussed various issues related to cyber security with high school students as well as undergraduate students and faculty. This program is funded with the support of a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy and Sandia National Laboratories. Drs. Lewit and Boumedine are Co-Principal Investigators for this project.
- In June and July, Dr. Celil Ekici led an interdisciplinary collaborative effort as a part of UVI's NSF-NOYCE grant. Two one-week UVITeach workshops were held on both St. Thomas and St. Croix with the participation of UVI Professors Dr. Steven Greenstein, Dr. Nancy Morgan, Dr. Michelle Peterson, Dr. Marc Boumedine, Dr. Rita Howard, Dr. Judith Bloch and Ms. Danielle DeGain, as well as VI Department of Education STEM Director, Karissa Poszywak, and two other Master Teachers from the national UTeach program. During the workshops, STEM teachers on both islands participated in Inquiry

Based Teaching and Learning STEP 1 & 2 training as a part of the program development effort to mentor UVITeach students for upcoming courses. In the second workshop, participants included UVI students as potential UVITeach students in addition to the STEM teachers participating in the first week. The second workshop also had collaboration with Junior University students from middle schools in order for our participating teachers to learn to model Inquiry Based STEM teaching practices while observing in action.

- The Etelman Observatory welcomed more than 300 visitors to interact with Observatory educators and view the night sky during three public observing events this summer.
- The Caribbean Green Technology Center (CGTC) hosted a workshop on sustainability and sustainable development for school teachers in the Virgin Islands from June 23-July 2, 2014. The workshop was part of the National Science Foundation (NSF) funded grant on Coastal Areas Climate Change Education (CACCE) and Partnership for International Research and Education (PIRE), a collaborative effort, which included the University of South Florida (USF) and the CGTC's Director, Dr. Wayne Archibald, and Ms. Chinet Bernier, Program Specialist at the CGTC, who coordinated the activities. Fenda A. Akiwumi, Associate Professor in the School of Geosciences at USF and Dr. Mel Morris Educational Programs Administrator at Brookhaven National Laboratory in Upton, New York, facilitated the workshop which was a combination of lecture, lab work, and field activities. Participants were primarily, junior high and high school science teachers from both public and private schools.
- UVI's Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning (CELL) Center has offered a number of courses and programs in recent months. Two programs are specifically targeting the Allied Health profession; the Dialysis Technician Program and the Certified Medical Assistants Program. Both programs were highly successful and addressed issues facing the Territory. The Dialysis Technician Program was specifically designed to provide highly trained technicians for a new Dialysis Center in St. Thomas. Sixteen students were enrolled in the program. Over 95% of them were either dislocated unemployed or underemployed clients of the Department of Labor. The new Dialysis Center provided the instructor and the clinical training site. Some of the participants have already received job offers. UVI CELL is now collaborating with Department of Labor and the Dialysis Center to implement an "On the Job" training program which has been dormant in the Territory for over seven years. The second program, Certified Medical Assistants, which was first offered in St. Croix to address the release of over 20 Certified Nurse's Aides, was conducted in St. Thomas during this period. The participants are currently doing clinical work at the Schneider Regional Medical Center.
- Twenty-one students participated in the Mathematics Behind the Science (MBS) summer bridge program, a six-week residential program designed to enhance the mathematics preparedness of college-bound students who are interested in pursuing careers in science, mathematics, engineering, technology, or medicine. Specifically, it prepares students to enter the introductory calculus course and provide a foundation for success in their first

year of college. The program is made possible through support from the NSF HBCU-UP grant and generous donations from the community.

- Reichhold Center for the Arts Season Arts 2013-2014 Seasons Arts in Education Initiative conducted 7 residencies that served over 1600 students ranging from elementary to high school. The 2014-15 Season was launched on August 28th to over 415 guests at the St. Thomas/St. John Business After Hours Reichhold Center Season Launch.

The 2014-15 Season includes the following artists: Pressure & Tessanne Chin, Natalie Cole, Babyface, Kirk Franklin, Spencer's Theatre of Illusion, Dzul Dance Company and Freddy Jackson and Jeffery Osborne. The new Reichhold Center website was launched at this event as well. Site design has been updated to a modern look and feel. Accessing the site is easier and we have integrated social media.

- Austin Advertising was hired by UVI to conduct a brand and market study to acquire the perceptions, attitudes and behaviors of stakeholders in six target groups: prospective students, parents (of prospective and current students), current students, alumni, employees, and the general public. The study included both qualitative and quantitative research. Austin Advertising closed out the final aspects of the research on August 5, 2014. Outcomes of the research will be used to create a strategy to increase the market reach of UVI locally and regionally with a specific focus on increasing student enrollment and retention.
- In an effort to assist with recruitment and retention, UVI's Webmaster created an Academic Advising Matrix on the University's website. The matrix lists all degree program offerings with links, if content is available, to program descriptions, contact information, course sequences, graduation requirements, assessment, career options and course offerings schedules.

#### **AREA OF FOCUS # 4: MODERN AND SAFE UNIVERSITY ENVIRONMENT**

- Within the reporting period, six classrooms located in the Upper Academic area were addressed, School of Nursing (N-214, N-201), School of Education (T-211) and the School of Business (B-102, B-103, B-205). The scope of work for the spaces included ceiling refinishing and repairs, furring out walls, painting, installation of mahogany baseboard and chair rails, infrastructure upgrade (electrical and data), and installation of LED lighting and videoconference equipment.

In addition to the outlined scope, Room B-103 was redesigned; reclaiming closet space in the rear of the room, which now has sufficient space to accommodate forty students. This filled a great need for the Upper Academic area, thereby enlarging the room for the scheduling of larger classes for the School of Business and other Schools/Colleges.

- Four rooms on the Albert A. Sheen Campus, EVC207, EVC405, EVC408 and EVC505,

were renovated by Physical Plant during the Summer 2014. The rooms were painted with accent walls matching new HON classroom furniture. Other modifications included the replacement of ceiling and floor tiles, along with the purchase of new blinds. The facilities showcase the University's high standard of creating modern and appealing instructional spaces.

- Funds were allocated to replace videoconference equipment in the Administration and Conference Center Building on the St. Thomas Campus and the Great Hall on the Albert A. Sheen Campus.
- The initial phase of installing air-conditioning control systems for ten buildings on the Albert A. Sheen Campus was completed. This project was funded by a grant received from the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) under the U.S. Department of Interior – Office of Insular Affairs. Each building on campus was equipped with an automatic control system for the air handlers in the respective facility including routes and hubs so that the temperature control system could be accessed remotely. The electronic on-line access provides the capability to schedule occupied and unoccupied temperatures, thus resulting in efficient energy management of air-conditioning units on campus.
- The St. Thomas Campus Directional Signage project addresses the upgrade and replacement of all road signage on campus, as well as new signs for all facilities. A number of design options for this project were explored. The chosen design emulates the University's colors, while showcasing our seal, logo and tag line. The sign panels are aluminum with raised lettering. They are being mounted on a pedestal base anchored to a concrete pad. Other features are reflective finishes to glow at night with light, and the ability to add or remove wording/panels as necessary. The final phase of the project was completed August 2014 and all signage was successfully installed by the contractor.



- The Ralph M. Paiewonsky Library parking lot project addressed the excavation and removal of fill from the northern corner of the lot to attain more useable space, improvement of the surface conditions and area lighting of this widely used parking lot. In collaboration with the V.I. Port Authority, the reclaimed asphalt from the Cyril E.

King Airport runway repair project was donated to the campus and installed on the surface of the lot. In addition, LED area lighting was installed to improve the quality of lighting and security of the area. New concrete wheel stops were installed for the separation and identification of the now 98 parking spaces.

- The Brewers Beach Sewage Lift station which services the Reichhold Center for the Arts and the John Brewers Beach restrooms facility was compromised due to equipment failure. This project addressed the replacement of the pumps and controls for the operation of the system. The system now consists of two pumps which alternate automatically in addition to a visual and sound alarm which would indicate any system failures. The project also included the purchase and installation of a Bilco aluminum access system for the safe and secured covering of the waste holding and pumping tanks.
- The St. Thomas Campus accomplished two independent goals in the upper campus academic nucleus for pedestrian access and ADA Parking. The pedestrian access provides a concrete walkway from the upper campus main pedestrian entrance to the newly constructed West Hall Dormitory, through a series of sidewalks and stairs, where students created a path on the grass. The plans included relocating the ADA parking spaces to a nearly flat, front location, with direct access from the main campus pedestrian entrance, as well as appropriate striping for the ADA shuttle bus stop. The project also incorporates voids in the walkway for new concrete solid surface areas which would accommodate the future Buy-a-Brick Campaign by the Institutional Advancement Component.
- A Facility Priority Needs Assessment of the Reichhold Center for the Arts was previously conducted. This comprehensive assessment was used as a catalyst to secure funding to address the critical and deferred needs of the facility. The three major areas focused on were Water Intrusion, Life-cycle Replacement and ADA Compliance. Following this outlined approach, the University secured funding to address the facility's critical needs. While focusing on the three areas of approach, it was also important to ensure that the safety, security and regulatory, public interface and support of the University's programs were also being addressed within the outlined goals. The University has made strides towards addressing the Water Intrusion and Safety of the facility, addressing the Cistern Rehabilitation Project, the Roof and Siding Assessment, ADA Accessibility, and Major Electrical infrastructure upgrades. The other critical deferred needs of the facility will be developed into a comprehensive program for future consideration.
- The Reichhold Center for the Arts exterior sign project addresses the upgrade and replacement of the existing road signage at the entrance and exit of the facility. The design of the signs is similar to the new signage which was replaced throughout the campus. The design which was chosen emulates the University's colors, while showcasing the seal, logo and tag line. In addition, the chosen style allows for the posting and promotion of performances and shows. The sign panels are aluminum with raised lettering. They have been mounted on a pedestal base anchored to a concrete pad. Other

features are reflective finishes to glow at night with light, and the ability to add or remove wording/panels as necessary.

- On the Albert A. Sheen Campus, the eight modifications needed to correct physical access barriers by September 30, 2014 as were noted on the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan (SETP) report were all completed. The modifications included the installation of three public (courtesy) phones at the requisite height, installation of grab bars in two restrooms locations, the striping and signage of two handicap accessible spaces, and adding a slope to an accessible route.
- A four (4) foot wide concrete sidewalk was completed on August 8, 2014. The sidewalk is approximately 1,523 linear feet from Queen Mary Highway to the Delta M. Jackson Dorsch Complex, with sidewalk cuts graded to tie into the driveway at the Research Technology Park, at the Veteran's Memorial Walkway and by the Administrative Suites, thus providing a continuous accessible sidewalk to the Albert A. Sheen Campus along the western side of Palm Drive. This sidewalk will facilitate the safety of pedestrian traffic to and from classes held in the RT Park, also reducing vehicular movement between buildings which is in accordance with best practices for energy and environment designs.
- Buildings B, C and D on the western side of the Albert A. Sheen Campus received a uniform paint job during the Summer 2014. The buildings which include the offices of the Caribbean Writer, University Bound and Cooperative Extension Services, were painted in Government House gold to match Building A Great House, thereby enhancing the appearance of the facilities and creating a uniform outdoor appearance of the entire area.
- A total of twenty-two solar street lights in parking lots and areas on the Albert A. Sheen Campus were repaired this summer. The cost of the materials and supplies needed for the repairs were approximately \$25,000 from the original supplier of the light fixtures. This project is an ongoing effort to monitor and enhance the outdoor lighting as well as address the overall safety concerns of the campus community.
- The solar water heater system servicing the University's kitchen on the Albert A. Sheen Campus was replaced to ensure continued compliance of health code regulations of hot water supply. The system was installed on the roof top of the kitchen in July 2014.
- The Grounds Department completed all preparations for the inspection by the Liga Athletica Interamericana (LAI) evaluation team in July 2014 of the outdoor athletic facilities on the Albert A. Sheen Campus. Preparations for the tennis courts inspection included repairing the perimeter fence, power washing the courts and removing nearby brush. Preparation for the soccer field inspection included maintenance of the field, treatment for ants, marking the fields, installing bleachers and goal posts and construction of the players' benches. The performance soccer field and the tennis courts were both approved by the LAI officials to host UVI home games during Fall 2014.

- The acoustic panels required to sound proof the new music room on the Albert A. Sheen Campus, T-100, were selected and purchased. The installation of the acoustic panels on the walls and on the ceiling will complete the sound proofing of the room as recommended by the architect. The renovations of the facility to create a high sound absorption level also included the installation of double drywall, which was completed previously.
- The Office of Environmental Health and Safety was instrumental in organizing several electronic waste drives during the reporting period May – August 2014, and additional items were collected with specific disposal guidelines. A final drive will be announced in order to assure enough electronic waste has been collected to fill a 40 foot container for removal and recycling. Various used but functional electronic items have been provided for reuse by UVI employees. This practice eliminated the immediate need to purchase new items, reduced the amount of waste that had to be recycled, and provided a service to UVI employees.

Technical guidance was provided concerning proper disposal of fluorescent lamps and ballasts. A Best Management Practice (BMP) document was developed for use as an official UVI guidance document.

- A Chemical Hygiene Plan was presented to the President's Cabinet and was approved for use as an official UVI guidance document. Roll out of the plan will begin immediately. The document evolved from a general guidance document to one that addresses a great deal of specific procedural protocol that was not formally provided previously at UVI. The formal adoption of the new Chemical Hygiene Plan reduces the risk of possible OSHA penalties for not having a fully functional Chemical Hygiene Plan in place.
- Executive Dashboards for Admissions and Enrollment have been developed and implemented for Cabinet and the Deans. These dashboards are built in ARGOS and represent a significant shift in the way data is used at UVI. Work will continue on this project until the key performance indicators (KPIs), UVI Fact Book and other relevant dashboards are created. Data clean-up is significant, which will be moved to next fiscal year, due to lack of human resources.
- Infrastructure improvement plans are on the way for the Sports and Fitness Center to include replacement of the general arena floor and the portable wooden floor.

## **AREA OF FOCUS #5: ORGANIZATIONAL AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

- The Human Resources Department staff, led by Ms. Jacquiel Fredericks (Project Manager), completed the upgrade process for the new version of PeopleAdmin. It is anticipated that testing followed by implementation will occur in the next quarter.

- On August 20, 2014, the University of the Virgin Islands officially enrolled in the Tuition Exchange program. The Tuition Exchange program consists of 627 private and nine (9) public institutions. Dependent children of UVI employees would have access to the program beginning Fall 2015. Tuition Exchange provides competitive scholarship awards to dependent children to colleges and universities that currently offer a Tuition Exchange program. Dependent children may apply to any of the colleges or universities in the consortium. If accepted, the college or university agrees to accept the student at the same tuition remission rate as the home institution. More details about the program will be announced in January of 2015.

## **AREA OF FOCUS #6: FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND GROWTH**

- The FY2014 Financials and A-133 Single Audit are in the planning phase with auditors from Ernst and Young, LLP and UVI's Controller. The full audit work is expected to begin November-December 2014.
- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) processed the University's allotment reduction of \$250,209.18. Therefore, our revised Fiscal Year 2014 allotment ceiling level is \$29,804,947.09.
- On Friday, August 15, 2014, UVI defended its Fiscal Year 2015 Proposed Operating Budget before the 30th Legislature.
- The University raised \$1,029,361.87 during the quarter (between May 9 – September 29) from alumni, corporations and foundations. These donors designated their support to a number of key areas including the Unrestricted Fund, the Reichhold Center for the Arts, Scholarships, the Athletic Department and the Foundation for the University of the Virgin Islands.
- The Development Committee of the Board Chairman, Rev. Dr. Wesley Williams, hosted a donor cultivation event at the Washington, DC University Club on May 22, 2014. Chairman Williams invited several of his personal acquaintances to learn more about the University and meet with President David Hall and Interim VP Mitchell Neaves. The major talking point for the evening was the establishment of the UVI School of Medicine. Forty individuals attended the reception in Washington, DC.