



CARBICA News

August 2019



Upcoming Events:

October 31, 2019, Jamaica

"Master Class on Digital Records Management and Information Governance"



A New CARBICA Season Dawns...

In the 1950s, Peter Seeger penned the lyrics of the popular hit, Turn, Turn Turn, with its line "to everything (turn turn turn) there is a season, (turn turn turn) and a time to every purpose under heaven..." In a very real sense, this song describes the life of CARBICA this year. 2019 marked the end of the 2014-2018 Executive Committee, with its memories of successes and challenges, conferences and workshops, from Grenada to St Kitts. We said a sad farewell to Cherri-Ann Beckles, a passionate Archivist, Executive committee member and dear friend. We recalled the disaster recovery efforts and strategized for better preparedness and recovery possibilities and we celebrated at CARBICA XI in Suriname.

This year, we also start a new four-year term with a new Executive and mandate! In this edition of CARBICA News, we share the joys and sadness of the Old Season, and the hopes and expectations of the New. From a new vision for Archives in Jamaica, to a new Archives in Tobago, to profiling the new Executive, to celebrating new Caribbean-educated Archival Graduates! There is a new CARBICA Season turning and we hope you are as excited as we are.

Bless,
Stanley,
Chair, Communications

www.carbica.org

CARBICA News is the Newsletter of the Caribbean Regional Branch of the International Council on Archives. It is published twice a year and distributed to CARBICA members by mail. Communications Committee Editors: Stanley Griffin, Max Scriwanek. Please submit your content to: griffinstanleyh@gmail.com. Layout : Max Scriwanek.

Membership Fees:

Category A: US\$ 150
Category B: US\$ 100

Category C: US\$ 75
Category D: US\$ 30

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About CARBICA:

The mission of the International Council on Archives (ICA) is to promote the preservation and use of archives around the world. In pursuing this mission, ICA works for the protection and enhancement of the memory of the world and to improve communication while respecting cultural diversity. The Caribbean Regional Branch (CARBICA) is responsible for carrying out the policy and programmes of ICA in its region, where these are relevant to CARBICA members.

The 2019-2022 Officers

President: Avril Belfon (Government Archivist Trinidad and Tobago)

Vice President: Max Scriwanek (Government Archivist Curacao)

Secretary: Stanley Griffin (Lecturer, Archival Studies, Department of Library and Information Studies, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica)

Treasurer a.i.: Avril Belfon (Government Archivist Trinidad and Tobago)

À propos de CARBICA

La mission du Conseil international des archives (ICA) est de promouvoir la conservation et l'utilisation des archives dans le monde entier. Dans la poursuite de cette mission, l'ICA s'efforce de protéger et de valoriser la mémoire du monde et d'améliorer la communication tout en respectant la diversité culturelle. La Direction régionale des Caraïbes (CARBICA) est responsable de l'exécution de la politique et des programmes de l'ICA dans sa région, où elles sont pertinentes pour les membres de CARBICA

Les administrateurs de 2019-2022:

Président: Avril Belfon (Government Archivist Trinidad and Tobago)

Vice-Président: Max Scriwanek (Government Archivist Curacao)

Secrétaire: Stanley Griffin (Lecturer, Archival Studies, Department of Library and Information Studies, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica)

Trésorier a.i.: Avril Belfon (Government Archivist Trinidad and Tobago)



Upcoming Events:

October 31, 2019 at the Regional Headquarters Building in Kingston, Jamaica
In collaboration with the University of the West Indies' Department of Library & Information Studies (DLIS), Mona Jamaica Campus, CARBICA will host a "Master Class on Digital Records Management and Information Governance"

Registration fee (USD):

Carbica members: **Non-members:**

Master class	80	100
Symposium	80	100
For the 3 days	150	175





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From our President

My dear colleagues, it is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to address you as the newly elected President of CARBICA.

Firstly, I wish to thank Ms. Rita Tjien Foooh. Our Immediate Past President (2015-2018) for her sterling contribution to the as-

sociation and its members. Her visionary leadership over the past four years has thrust CARBICA into the forefront both regionally and internationally as she advocated for the needs of our members on the international stage. I thank also, the outgoing Executive Council (EC) who served tirelessly and with great resilience during difficult times. Following the challenges of the catastrophic 2017 hurricane season, our members emerged stronger, having committed to the establishment of the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network (CHEN) to support each other in the future. We also lost our fellow council member and close friend Dr. Cherri-Ann Beckles. Her kindness and generosity of spirit will be remembered by all who knew her and will be immortalized by CARBICA through the establishment of the "Dr. Cherri-Ann Beckles New Professional Programme").

We recently held a very successful quadrennial meeting, CARBICA XI: Conference and General Assembly, in collaboration with the Government of Suriname and the International Council on Archives (ICA), from March 25 to 28, 2019 in Suriname. Under the theme 'Archives at Risk: Preserving Carib-

bean Heritage', CARBICA members and other guests discussed three main areas of concern for archives in the region: disaster management, the lack of access to migrated/displaced archives which continue to be stored in the Archives of former colonial powers and the challenges facing archival education and training in the region. Additionally, there was a pre-conference workshop entitled "Digital Records Management" which highlighted the challenges of digital record-keeping and provided guidelines for the appropriate management of digital records

Following the General Assembly and elections, the new EC has held two meetings thus far on April 17, 2019 and June 20, 2019. The newly elected Council faced an immediate challenge as no member was nominated for the post of Treasurer. To ensure the seamless operation of the Association, the EC agreed at its first meeting that Mr. Max Scriwanek, Vice President, will also assume the role of Interim Treasurer. In light of the foregoing, the call for dues will be made by the end of August following the official handover of the Treasury. Please accept my sincere apologies for this delay.

In spite of this issue, we were able to hit the ground running by continuing some of the initiatives of the previous EC. The CHEN inaugural Steering Committee, which will serve for two (2) years, is being set up to manage the full implementation the Network. Committees have been formed to pursue updates to the Constitution, improve communications with the membership and to broaden the membership base. We invite CARBICAns to get involved with the work of the association by participating or contributing to these committees and other activities. Look out for the call for volunteers which will be placed on the website and via Facebook from time to time. Going forward we intend to pursue sustainable Archival education in the region. This has always been a challenge but in

recent times we have seen the development of regional programmes in Jamaica and Curacao. I see CARBICA playing a significant role in supporting these and other programmes and their students to build the capacity of the profession in the Caribbean. To this end, CARBICA will be showing its support for the Academic Interdisciplinary Symposium on Archives & Records to be held at the UWI Regional Headquarters Building October 29-30, 2019 by collaborating with the University of the West Indies' Department of Library & Information Studies (DLIS), Mona Jamaica Campus to host a "Master Class on Digital Records Management and Information Governance", October 31, 2019. All CARBICAns are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to share knowledge, network with our colleagues and support our new professionals.

The Executive Council is expected to meet in Jamaica to discuss and document the strategic direction for the association 2019 to 2022. This cannot be done without the involvement of all CARBICAns. You are therefore invited to share your ideas for the future of CARBICA by sending e-mails to the President or the Secretary.

Please stay tuned to our website and Facebook page for opportunities to actively participate in your association and to learn more about our activities.

Traditionally, archives have not often received the support necessary from either governments or parent institutions to operate effectively. I believe as CARBICAns we have a responsibility to advocate for and support each other. We are definitely stronger together.

Avril Belfon

President CARBICA- avril.belfon@archives.gov.tt



CARBICA XI-Conference, “Archives at Risk”

Paramaribo, Suriname, March-25-29

Rita Tjien Foooh, immediate past president of CARBICA

Suriname

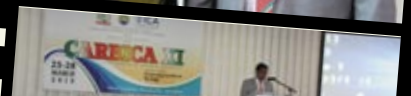
This interview with Rita Tjien Foooh on the CARBICA XI-conference in Suriname, 25-29 March 2019 was published in the Surinamese newspaper “De Boodschap”.

The Caribbean Branch of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA) XI conference ended with the board meeting, at which the members elected a new board. “I now have an advisory role to play. In addition, I have been given the assignment of the new board to further shape the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network (CHEN) and to implement it in 2019”, says Rita Tjien Foooh, who is now immediate past president and former chairman of CARBICA, also National Archivist from Suriname.

The new board (2019-2022) looks like this: Avril Belfon (chairman - Trinidad & Tobago), Max Scriwanek (Curacao vice chairman), Stanley Griffin (Secretary - Jamaica), Vernanda Raymond (member - Dominica), Kevin Montero (member Belize), Halcyon Wiltshire (member Barbados),

Benoit Jullien (member Guadeloupe). The regional archive conference organized in Suriname can be considered a success by the organizers. The four-day conference included the Digital Records Management workshop, a panel discussion on National and International Emergency Response, followed by a discussion on Migrated Archives.

On the last day of the Conference, representatives from various Caribbean archive institutions (Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago, Barbados) and European archive institutions (the Netherlands and England) entered into discussions with each other. This discussion focused on the challenges facing the Caribbean in gaining access to archives held by the former mother country. “It concerns the archives that were formed in the Caribbean during the colonial rule and that were transferred to Europe. This was the first time that archive professionals on “Migrated Archives” have entered into discussions with each other. It has been agreed that within CARBICA the discussion will continue and solutions will be sought for the dilemma,” says the national archivist.



Report on Pre-Conference Workshop Digital Records Management

Kevin Montero - Belize

The public and private sectors in Belize, as in many Caribbean countries, are faced with the overwhelming challenge of effective management of large volumes of accumulated paper records. Often, unrealistic expectations are placed on the purchasing of scanners and the unstructured mass scanning to “manage these records digitally” for the ultimate destruction of the original paper.

A common response to requests for Records Management support is regrettably seen as an expense and not an investment. Therefore, records and information professionals are expected to introduce immediate and practical solutions with limited financial support, resources or specialized tools that can assist in the effective management of paper and digital records.

At the pre-conference workshop of CARBICA XI's Conference and General Assembly, Mr. James Lowry, Lecturer University of Liverpool Centre for Archives Studies, and Ms. Sonia Black, Campus Records Manager, University of the West Indies (UWI), Mona, delivered an informative workshop entitled “Digital Records Management”.

Mr. Lowry introduced the participants to concepts and threats, both human and machine, of digital records while emphasizing the intrinsic value these, together with paper records, hold in all organizations. Electronic Document and Records Management Systems (EDRMS) were covered as these typically attempt to cen-

tralize control of digital records and often perform many of the same tasks as traditional registry systems of paper records. Standards and sources for functional requirements, otherwise referred to as tasks, were shared as essential tools for the review and evaluation of any EDRMS.

These elements, the challenges and application, were reiterated by Ms. Sonia Black through her efforts at UWI when seeking support for the implementation of a platform for the digitization and management of paper and digital records. With limited funds available, Ms. Black was able to exploit an existing software, Banner Xtender Solutions, for the document management functionalities it held. The successful reutilization of this application created an interest from other Departments of the university to likewise embrace and use the records management features of the same software.

A very important aspect and of keen interest to all non-information professionals, is the ability to manage digital records without specialist software. Mr. Lowry was able to share various practical approaches at managing these records through simple methods such as evaluating paper collections for digitization, designing naming conversions, creating classification schemes in shared network drives, etc. Additional ideas were highlighted at file profiling, checksums, and technical registries with the end goal of ensuring the integrity and authenticity of digital records.

In the end, all participants of this workshop were overwhelmingly satisfied with the information garnered as it was not only directed at information professionals but gave practical and immediate solutions to those personnel who are entrusted with recordkeeping responsibilities.



Report of the New Professional at CARBICA XI Archives at Risk: Preserving Caribbean Heritage

Glendalin William, new Professional Program

(Bachelor Archives and Recordsmanagement
Intercontinental University of the Caribbean)
Curacao

During the “CARBICA XI Conference & General Assembly” in Suriname, from 25 to 28 March 2019, we were given the opportunity to brainstorm on various aspects related to the preservation of our Caribbean Heritage. Given the history of the Caribbean, the participants in the conference were both from the Caribbean and Europe. Caribbean Archives contain a lot of documents from their colonial past, which is mainly characterized by the large-scale trade in African slaves. This aspect led to many discussions and point of views, especially on the last day of the conference. It concerned issues such as the interpretation of history, the legitimate ownership of archival documents in accordance with the principle of provenance, the need for more thorough investigation in the Caribbean and the pursuit of more certification in the field of archiving in the Caribbean. In short, points that certainly deserve the necessary attention and that must certainly remain negotiable. Because despite the physical distance and the social and cultural diversity between Europe and the



Glendaling William (left) from the Archives School Curacao, new professional at the CARBICA XI Conference and Workshops.

Caribbean, the colonial past remains a shared heritage that must inform the coming generations of both continents.

Fortunately the main theme, "Archives at Risk: Preserving Caribbean Heritage", was well covered during the conference. The congress started with a pre-conference workshop focused on "Digital Records Management". This was certainly a valuable start, since information is called the oil of the 21st century (Trebilcock, 2015, p. 9). As archivists, we still think mainly "in paper", but nevertheless we must realize that the digital era is a fact. The number of digital records is increasing and if we want to safeguard our historical heritage, looking away- or ignoring digital developments is not an option. The E-depot is entering as a repository for digital archive documents and within this E-depot the quality standard of the archive documents must be guaranteed in accordance with ISO-15489 in order to guarantee accessibility to the information.

International cooperation, - support and - exchange are becoming increasingly important in the preservation of historical - and cultural heritage. The main reason for this is the increasingly risks that today's archivist has to deal with. In addition to the rise of digital archiving and preservation of digital records within the technological revolution, these risks also includes aspects such as climate change, war and conflicts. As a result, the effort of international organizations such as ICCROM (International Center for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property) and CARBICA-CHEN (Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network) is becoming more important. Because even though the ICCROM was founded in 1956, securing "cultural heritage" is not yet officially part of the international aid offered in case of a disaster or conflict.

So for that the ICCROM is constantly seeking ways to safeguard our international heritage. This mainly concerns protection of culture, promotion of culture and promotion of diversity. To achieve this, they can provide manuals, training, assistance and "Method Kits" in case of a disaster or conflict. Since 2018 the cultural heritage of the Caribbean is additionally covered by the CHEN.

We can surely look back on a successful CARBICA XI Conference. The information obtained can certainly be used in favor of the cultural heritage of the Caribbean. For a long time, heritage preservation seemed to be a national or regional issue, but nowadays makes way for the realization that international cooperation in this area is more a requirement. Besides that the current archivist must realize that preserving heritage is more than just protecting and restoring. All the more reason to work together and support each other. However, it must concern real cooperation in which aspects such as diversity, origin principle, interpretation of data are respected. Only then worldwide effort to preserve historical and cultural heritage can be accomplished, because every nation can identify with it and in the end this will benefit the development of each nation and also the world.

References

Trebilcock, B. (2015). Gartner's supply chain conference focuses on value of data. News & Trends. Jun2015. p. 9.



“Worthy of Note”: My Thoughts on CARBICA XI

Cheryl Sylvester, Grenada



CARBICA XI Conference and General Assembly took place during March 25-28, 2019 in Suriname. At the conclusion, it could be considered well organized and well executed Conference.

Starting with the Pre-conference Workshop, participants were treated to an excellent delivery by two experts in the field of digital recordkeeping. What I really found interesting was the personal experiences they brought into the whole mix.

Another aspect of the Conference that really impress was the support provided by the various Government Officials to the conference. Their attendance was not limited to just putting an obligatory appearance on the first day but their continued presence on succeeding days were indicative of their interest not just in the proceedings but in the support for and survival of archives in Suriname. The number of local persons participating in the conference was quite worthy of note. Coming from an environment where persons are indifferent to archives, it was refreshing to witness the enthusiastic way in which they participated and embraced the sessions.

There were five Plenary Sessions addressing topics of concern to all persons working in archives in the Caribbean Region. From the first session “Roundtable on national/international emergency response” to the final “Panel discussion on approaches to archival education”, the Conference attendees were exposed to not only what is happening on the international scene but to what is taking place right here in our region. And, what is more, our own regional/local experts made significant contributions to all sessions.

The introduction of the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network (CARBICA-CHEN) was one of the highlights of the Conference. It is an effort that must be applauded, and Max Scriwanek did a fantastic job taking us along that journey from the inception of the idea until became a reality. Indeed, CARBICA has every reason to be proud of its accomplishment.

Of course, it was not just all work. The Welcome Reception and Closing Ceremony were well appreciated and what fun we all had during the Plantation Tour.

CARBICA’s Organising Committee must be congratulated for organising and hosting a very interesting, educational and well-balanced Conference and General Assembly. And with the election of a new Executive Committee, its members are eagerly looking forward to new and exciting programmes.



Karla Hayward, Avril Belfon, Max Scriwanek, Sharon Alexander-Gooding, Rita Tjien Foooh, Sonia Black and Cheryl Sylvester (on a tour to the "rust & Werk" Plantation).



Members of the outgoing Executive Council: Cheryl Sylvester, Stanley Griffin, Avril Belfon, Rita Tjien Foooh, Max Scriwanek, Karla Hayward at the CARBICA XI-conference



Glendalin William (Curaçao, new professional), Avril Belfon (Trinidad and Tobago, president CARBICA), Cheryl Sylvester (Grenada, CARBICA EC-member till 2019)

CARBICA XI Extremely Useful!



Carol Francis, Programme Manager, Public Broadcasting Commission of Jamaica, UWI MA Candidate, Archives & Records Management Studies

The Caribbean Archives Association (CARBICA) in collaboration with the Government of Suriname and The International Council on Archives (ICA) hosted the XI: Conference & General Assembly at the Hotel Torarica, Paramaribo, Suriname. The theme of the three-day conference which brought together participants from across the Caribbean, South America and Europe was Archives at Risk: Preserving Caribbean Heritage. Other areas of focus included the migration of and repatriation of archives, digital records management, digitization, and approaches to archival education. Threats to Archives including the Caribbean's tropical environment was also placed under the microscope along with opportunities facing Archivists in the Caribbean.

The XI CARBICA conference and the general assembly was extremely useful. Participants discussed a raft of challenges associated with preserving and maintaining

archival records and were given intimate details of the operations of archives across the Caribbean. The increasing need to use technology in a changing archival environment was another recurring theme. Attempts were also made to put in place a roadmap of how to manage records efficiently and cost-effectively despite the challenges identified.

At the preconference Workshop, facilitators Sonia Black and James Lowry gave a clear and concise overview of records, the importance of record management processes, necessary technological upgrades and the training needed to support record management operations. The Workshop on Community Archives: Capturing & Preserving Community Memory was an eye-opening and extremely informative session. Dr. Stanley Griffin and Aparna Tandon outlined the importance of community archives. While he also spoke of the gaps in community history, Aparna discussed the accompanying rigours of capturing and preserving community memory. Of great interest was the round table discussion on the complex challenge of the archives secretly removed from former British colonies referred to as the "migrated archives." The discussion resulted in several issues being raised and questions posed to the panellists. The questions posed included who are the rightful owners of the migrated ar-

chives; how can Caribbean countries access the records and if copies are to be made who will bear the cost?

The University of the West Indies (UWI) Master of Arts in Archives and Records Management (ARCM) was lauded for its role in increasing access to archival knowledge and education in the region using a digital or online environment to provide archival training. The Master's in ARCM program offers more than increased access to archival knowledge. The ARCM program offers networking opportunities, archival cooperation, and partnerships between the students drawn from across the region.

All in all The CARBICA XI: Conference & General Assembly which featured intensive workshops, round table discussions, panellists of the highest calibre was a great success. It was extremely beneficial as it allowed for the sharing of ideas, expertise, networking opportunities and the possibility of future collaborations. One milestone on the roadmap created is being implemented in my office. Steps are being taken to do oral recordings in a bid to preserve elements of Jamaica's Community Memory.

The CARBICA XI organized tours showed Suriname's astonishing nature



“Hi there ...”

Introducing new Boardmembers 2019-2022



“Sharing information on the profession or collections, especially to young persons, gives me an added boost and inspires me to keep going”

Name: Avril Belfon

CARBICA EC Position: President

Substantive Position: Government Archivist, National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

I hope to make a positive contribution to the growth of the profession in the region and to be a strong advocate for CARBICANs on the international stage.

Personal Interests:

Early on in my career I had a great interest in the management of personal papers. The idea of delving into the life of an individual through his or her records fascinated me for some time. Increasingly however, I find myself enjoying outreach activities. Sharing information on the profession or collections, especially to young persons, gives me an added boost and inspires me to keep going.



“Every connection starts with compassion...”

Name: Max Scriwanek, MA

CARBICA EC Position: Vice President

Substantive Position: Director of the National Archives Curaçao, President of the National Committee of Blue Shield Curaçao

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

In an island region as the Caribbean it is important maintain and strengthen relations between institutions and individuals concerned with the custody, organization and administration of archives. I hope to help strengthen cooperation and communication and foster involvement between all professionals by keeping us well informed and encourage the expansion of the great initiatives CARBICA took in recent years, especially by means of new media and promotion of ICA standards.

Personal Interests:

I love walking in nature and being touched by the beauty of it, traveling is a soothing activity for me and I find reading philosophical topics is a useful way to spend my time. Every connection starts with compassion...



“Bonjour...”

Présentation des nouveaux membres du conseil 2019-2022



“I enjoy reading, music-making, spontaneous road trips, liming with good conversation and strong cups of tea...”

Name: Stanley H. Griffin, PhD

CARBICA EC Position: Secretary, Chair of Communications Committee

Substantive Position: Lecturer, Archival Studies, Department of Library and Information Studies, University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, Jamaica

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

I hope to play my part in developing a robust regional space for Caribbean Archives and Records Management professionals and institutions. CARBICA has the potential to serve as the main source and resource for nurturing practitioners and improving archival services throughout the region. I hope to ensure the objectives of the Executive Committee are appropriately documented and communicated to the membership. In so doing, the membership will increase and CARBICA will be duly recognized as the main voice for the care and protection of the region's documentary heritage.

Personal Interests:

In addition to my academic research interests in culture, migration and archival studies, I enjoy reading, music-making, spontaneous road trips, liming with good conversation and strong cups of tea...



“My CLP Colleagues described me as ‘the glue’ that held them together”

Name: Vernanda Raymond

CARBICA EC Position: Floor Member

Substantive Position: Chief Librarian, Dominica Library and Information Service

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

As the present administrator of the Archives Service in Dominica serving as a Floor Member of CARBICA will provide an avenue for the National Archives Unit to participate more fully in the affairs of CARBICA and in its efforts geared towards strengthening relations between institutions and individuals concerned with custody, organisation and administration of archives and records within our region. It is my aim to fully participate in the working plans of actions; assist in the improvement of regional networks; use my skills in effort to increase awareness and regional activism for the preservation of our Caribbean documentary heritage and to support CARBICA and the ICA in efforts to improve professional and institutional standards, and consistency within Caribbean Archives.

Personal Interests:

In May 2015 I ended a stint as Clerk of Parliament and returned to what I considered my first professional love ‘the information service’ as Head of Division. I look forward to advancing services and staff of the Dominica Library and Information Service and facilitate improvement in regional information professional networks.

My CLP Colleagues described me as ‘the glue’ that held them together. On reflection I concur.

I love family (blood, extended, adopted and professional). I focus on team effort, the integrated approach and always strive to provide support so that individuals that I interact with and lead can reach their fullest potential.

I like exploring opportunities, appreciate diversity and the richness that different lenses contributes to further development. As a strong believer of community I serve as a first aider, chair of my local community Disaster Management Team and also as a certified shelter manager trainer.



“Hola....”

Presentación de nuevos miembros de la Junta 2019-2022



“Develop longstanding friendships to create and grow a stronger and united CARBICA”

Name: Kevin Bryan Montero

CARBICA EC Position: Floor Member

Substantive Position: Deputy Director, Belize Archives and Records Service

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

As a floor member of the Executive Council, it is my intention to not only support the council's platform and vision for the next four years, but to participate, learn and become as active as possible in the region. It is my Department's, and my, desire to bring the Belize Archives and Records Service closer to our fellow CARBICA's through working partnerships, exchange of experiences and ideas, and especially to develop longstanding friendships to create and grow a stronger and united CARBICA.

Personal Interests:

My favorite hobby is traveling to new destinations and reading. I enjoy a wide genre of books in fiction, biographies and more recently books related to recent developments and trends in electronic records management and digital preservation.

We will introduce in the next issue:

- Halcyon Wiltshire (Barbados)
- Benoit Jullien (Guadeloupe)



“Establish and promote the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network in the region”

Name: Rita Tjien Foooh

CARBICA EC Position: Immediate Past President

Substantive Position: Director National Archives Suriname

Your hopes for the 4 yr period:

Promoting the archival profession and standards in the region by collaborating with universities, heritage institutions and other relevant organisation. Also to establish and promote the Caribbean Heritage Emergency Network in the region.

Personal Interests:

Reading, hiking and travelling.



In Memoriam: EC member Cherri-Ann Beckles (1977-2019)

**By Sharon Alexander-Gooding,
The UWI, Cave Hill Campus**

Dr. Cherri-Ann Beckles, a Barbados National Development Scholar, was a member of the University Archives and Records Management senior team, which I head as University Archivist (Ag.) and Campus Records Manager. She joined the team in 2004 and during this period she excelled as an Archivist “extraordinaire” and was a stellar example of an information professional who spanned the archival spheres in data protection, digital asset management, archival arrangement and description, training and unique exhibitions to name a few. Dr. Beckles (Cherri) also presented numerous papers locally, regionally and internationally and served at the executive levels in the Caribbean Archives Association (CARBICA) and the International Council of Archives’ Section on universities and research institutions (ICA SUV).

I first met Cherri in 1998 as a student in a records management course that I carried out on behalf of Barbados government. Cherri was then on the staff of the BDA and she was the outstanding student of the group. I encouraged her to do the Master’s programme in Heritage Studies which she completed with a major research paper on Light Houses of Barbados for which she was awarded an A. Just last year she concluded a proposal to the govern-



Dr. Cherri-Ann Beckles

ment to repurpose the Ragged Point Lighthouse at East Point into a Museum that would serve to preserve the area's historic heritage and generate income for Barbados.

She was the recipient of a Barbados National Development Scholarship with which she furthered her studies in Archives and Records Management at the University College London and in 2014 she was awarded a PhD degree with a focus on Information Rights from the University of Dundee, Scotland. This is the only PhD in Information Rights of which I am aware.

Some notable achievements by Cherri include her input into the White Paper on Archives in Barbados and her excellent Barbados Development Plan proposal, which was commissioned by the Archives Advisory Committee. So too, she conceptualised numerous community workshops and projects within the local and regional community and was the Chair of the Campus' Digital Asset Management project. It was always a pleasure for students of the records management programme to do her archives classes and many have sent tributes speaking to her beautiful welcoming smile that put them at ease and her passionate engagement on the care of records.

I've also had numerous letters from a wide "spectrum" of persons near and afar who interacted with Cherri and there is a common thread through all those messages; that Cherri was one of the nicest, purist persons that one could meet, an inspiration with a keen spirit and powerful intellect, they also noted her courage and positivity in the face of her challenges, her beautiful personality and her selflessness to family, staff, friends and the profession to name a few.

On a personal note, Cherri was my colleague, friend, confidante, supporter, travel companion and coconsultant.

I nurtured her over the past 14 years and envisioned her as my able successor when I retire. I loved her like my own daughter; some people referred to her as my "clone" for we often said things or wrote the same messages at the same time and then we would laugh about it.

She will forever be remembered and revered in The University of the West Indies as the Principal stated "she leaves a hole in the heart of the Campus". The University of Dundee, Scotland to which she was affiliated as a mentor and graduate thesis supervisor has sent special condolences. The local, regional and international Archives, Museum and Library communities mourn her passing. Bill Maher former Chair of the ICA SUV said that "working with Cherri was one of the brightest spots in his service to the ICA" and as Alan Bell – Archivist & Compliance officer at the University of Dundee has aptly summed it up "the world is now smaller and duller without Cherri."

The President, on behalf of the ACH, has extended condolences to Cherri-Ann's family, friends and colleagues. She is remembered fondly for her hard work to ensure that the West Indies Federal Archive Centre (WIFAC) was the official repository for the ACH archive. Cherri-Ann was quite visible at the ACH@50 in Barbados in June 2018 where she Chaired the panel on Digital History.

The EC of CARBICA decided at the closing meeting of CARBICA XI in Suriname to rename our New Professional Programme to the "**Dr. Cherri-Ann Beckles New Professional Programme**" to honor our beloved EC member.



The Modern National Archives of Jamaica

Kimberly Blackwin - Jamaica



The development of a modern archive is the approach to be taken for the 21st century for Jamaica. Designing an archive in 21st century in Jamaica involves acting rigorously on policies to pursue acquiring locations capable of housing a national archive. The new National Archives will be a multimodal space enabled to provide regional and international researchers with the technology needed to fulfill research needs. This will be the hallmark in the development and recognition of the value of archives and records in Jamaica. Development of a digital technological archive should be an aspect of the Integrated Information and Communication Technologies ethos of the Public Sector and Transformation Modernisation Programme (PSTMP) in Jamaica.

The archival space envisioned for the modern archives in Jamaica will be technologically innovative and will result in the transformation of the traditional archives

in Jamaica. The new National Archives is intended to be an archive with interactive technology, e-commerce, online interaction and associated technologies that model the ideal archives in the 21st century. The country's archives should be upgraded to the type of archives located in countries like USA, Britain and China. The new National Archives of Jamaica will now become equals with international archives in the advancement of communication, research and learning technologies. The national archive is envisioned to change the professional arena of archives and records management in Jamaica introducing modern archival technologies to a nation where national development goals are the objective. The contribution to expansion and development of professional archival education will be significant as the visualized National Archives of Jamaica will now be able to provide training opportunities for individuals seeking professional certification in the areas of Archives and Records Management disseminated through face to face or online training programmes. The National Archives will also garner an increased interest from schools since technology has been integrated in the curriculum of our students, it will be an ideal place for students to tour. It is expected that usability and accessibility will be international facilitating cross-language information retrieval which is a stamp of global Information Communication Technological advancement. The anticipated modern archive is expected to improve employee morale and increase already established standards of commitment to excellent service delivery.



A newly established National Archives of Jamaica will change the landscape of documentary heritage and reintroduce an interest in Jamaica's history and its continued preservation. A redesign of archival space in Jamaica will contribute to awareness of the roles and responsibilities of Jamaica Archives and Records Department to the public as a new space will bring attention from the public. This new space will also integrate technology assistance for services provided as reaching international users through the use of technology is important to scholarly communication.

Preserving cultural memory preserves the collective memory of a nation that has experienced a history of cultural diversity over the last five hundred plus years since being first recognized in documentary histories. The dream for Jamaica vision 2030 is for Jamaica to have a redesigned technological innovative archival space which will impact current service delivery and contribution to preservation of Jamaica's cultural and historical memory.



The Importance of Archives in Jamaica

Kimberly Blackwin - Jamaica

Ms Kimberly Blackwin, Assistant Archivist, Jamaica Archives, shares her thoughts on the Archives in Jamaica in response to the newly implemented RIM Policy for the Government of Jamaica

The role of Archives in the cultural and heritage context in Jamaica has not attained much prominence in written discourses. The value and significance of archives to history has also not been recognized widely by the public in Jamaica. The collections at Jamaica Archives and Records Department represent the memories of Jamaican peoples which are forever written in time as these records have been preserved for years. It is of paramount importance that Jamaicans are made aware of the indispensable worth of archives in a modern society.

The Jamaica Archives & Records Department consists of three units with separate functions. These are the Archives Unit, Audio-Visual Unit and Government Records Center. The Archives Unit houses Jamaica's documentary historical records. The employees here should be considered vanguards of history as they work to ensure the preservation of Jamaica's historical records. The records at this location date to 1655 and represent a wide majority of the collective memory of a nation that has experienced a history of cultural diversity which shaped the national identity of a people to become strong and resilient.

The collections at the Archives Unit are vast. Four of these collections have been added to the UNESCO, World Memory Register. These are 1). Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 which is shared collectively with Bahamas, Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St Kitts, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom 2).The Silver Men of Panama 3). The Indentured Immigrants Collection and 4) The West India Committee Collection. The public is encouraged to visit this location and take a walk in history with viewing the collections of Jamaica's documentary heritage located here.

The Audio-Visual Unit became custodians of the Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation Collection when it became disbanded in 1997. The Government Records Center is mandated with the task of providing professional and technical advice in the area of records management to government entities. The successful implementation of Government of Jamaica (GoJ) Records and Information Management (RIM) Policy is now the forefront of this mandate. This is an output of the Records and Information Management Programme which is a component of the Integrated Information and Communication Technologies ethos of the Public Sector Transformation and Modernisation Programme (PSTMP).

The Vision of the GoJ RIM Policy is for: "An integrated, standardised and secure RIM system which facilitates access to Government information and archival material; preserves and leverages Jamaica's historical, information and cultural assets; as well as enables efficient service delivery, enhanced decision making and overall attainment of national development goals."

The introduction of the RIM Policy is expected to effectively introduce a records management programme to ensure increased success in the continued preservation of Jamaica's documentary heritage. The developments in the RIM Policy are expected to cover three overarching areas which are:

Policy Outcome 1: Accessible, efficient and effective service delivery that facilitates the citizenry; data sharing across MDAs; ease of doing business (local and international); research and attraction of investment.

Policy Outcome 2: Increased transparency and accountability through the creation, processing, maintenance, use and disposition of records in conformity with local policies and standards and international good practice.

Policy Outcome 3: Preserved national and cultural identity, leveraged cultural assets, informed citizenry and the overall attainment of national developmental goals.

"The Archives record decisions, actions and memories. Archives are a unique and irreplaceable heritage passed from one generation to another. Archives are authoritative sources of information underpinning accountable and transparent administrative actions. They play an essential role in the development of societies by safeguarding and contributing to individual and national memory. Open access to archives enriches our knowledge of human society, promotes democracy, protects citizens' rights and enhances the quality of life"¹.

1. Universal Declaration on Archives, adopted at the General Assembly of the International Council on Archives, Oslo, September 2010



Giving Future Caribbean Archivists and Records Managers a Taste of the Field

Mark-Jeffery Deans, M.A, B.A., Dip. Ed.

Jamaica

The Department of Library and Information Studies, at The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, in Jamaica has a robust internship programme as part of our undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The internship is designed to expose both undergraduate and graduate students to the fundamentals of the profession and to facilitate the application of the theoretical underpinnings taught in the classroom to the day-day operational processes of the workforce. Since 2015, the Department expanded its programming to include the education of archivists and records managers. The tradition of a fieldwork experience, also referred to as internship, is a core component in the Master of Arts in Archives and Records Management programme of study.

The Internship programme, which lasts for six (6) weeks, is expected to be completed by students during the period between their two years of study, which customarily happens in the summer period.



Mark-Jeffery Deans is the Librarian and Fieldwork Coordinator for the Department of Library and information studies, UWI Mona.

An internship could be arranged to take place outside of the summer period if necessary. If students are currently working in an archival institution, they are only required to do two weeks of internship.

Postgraduate students in the Master of Arts in Archive and Records Management (MA-ARCM) programme must have completed all five (5) courses offered in the first year of their studies in order to be eligible for internship. Supervised internship in approved archives and records management units is therefore a requirement for all students enrolled in the MA-ARCM Programme and students' award of a degree is dependent on its successful completion.

Over the years, the Department has enjoyed successful mutually beneficial relationships with a number of host archives and records units and many of our students' have made significant contributions to them. These organizations represent a wide cross section of local, regional and international professional bodies. Some partnered local organizations include the Supreme Court of Jamaica, Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ), the Port Authority of Jamaica, the Jamaica Archives and Records Management Department (JARD) and the University Archives of The UWI.

Regional organizations include Cayman Islands National Archives, Barbados Department of Archives, Tobago Archives, UWI St Augustine Records Management Office, National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago, the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago,

the National Archives of Suriname, The National Archives Authority of St Lucia and the West Indies Federal Archives Centre. International organizations include Museums and Archives in Broward County, Florida and Brooklyn, New York.

Our MA-ARCM students continue to make strides regionally and internationally. We feature just two: In 2018 Demar Ludford, was highlighted by the Brooklyn Public Library's in their blog titled Processing Found Material: The Martha Gayle Collection, for his stalwart contribution in the archival processing of The Martha Gayle Papers. Martha Adina Gayle, a Jamaican from the Parish of St. Elizabeth, became a naturalized citizen of the United States in 1947 and subsequently became a successful real estate business woman in New York, where she eventually died. Antonia Charlemagne-Marshall presented a poster on "The John Robert Lee Papers and Its Contribution to St. Lucian Memory and Identity", at the 2019 meeting of the Society of American Archivists. A prominent collector and researcher of St Lucia, Mr Lee amassed an incredible treasure trove of materials that were donated to the national archives. She processed his Papers during her internship at the National Archives Authority of St Lucia.

This year we have great expectations of our students and we anticipate the continued support of all our host archives and records units.



The Tobago Archives Reopens!!

Liselle Isaac

Archives Manager, Tobago

The Tobago Archives reopened its doors to the general public on Wednesday June 26th, 2019. A small ceremony was held by the Tobago Library Services to mark the occasion.

The feature address was delivered by Dr. Rita Pemberton, historian and former Head of the Department of History, University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus and past President of the Association of Caribbean Historians. Other speakers included Mr Reginald Dumas, Former Head of the Public Services of Trinidad and Tobago, Ms Cheryl-Ann Solomon, Administrator of the Division of Education, Innovation and Energy, Tobago House of Assembly; Ms Avril Belfon, Government Archivist, National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago and President of the Caribbean Branch of the International Council on Archives (CARBICA); and Ms Nichelle Denoon, Librarian III, Tobago Library Services. Specially invited guests were given a tour of the Archives after the opening ceremony.

The Archives' reopening is significant to Tobagonians as research on Tobago's past can now be facilitated in Tobago, bring an end to the era when persons doing historical research on Tobago had to travel outside of island or remain without access. The Archives, which is currently under the supervision of the Tobago Library Services, was closed in 1997, following an earthquake which destroyed the old Scarborough Library where the records were housed. The archives were taken to several storage locations across the island then finally



Cutting the ribbon, left to right Ms Nichelle Denoon, Ms Liselle Isaac, Ms Avril Belfon and Ms Cheryl-Ann Solomon.

to Charlotteville Branch Library on the eastern end of the island for safe-keeping and the damaged records were sent to the National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago in Port of Spain, Trinidad for restoration and safe-keeping.

The Scarborough Library was rebuilt and reopened in 2015, with a designated space for the Tobago Archives. Two rooms were formally allocated to the Archives- a small reading room and a storage room. After formal recommendations from the current Government Archivist, Ms. Avril Belfon, the rooms have been suitably outfitted for archival work and storage. A small processing room was also made available. In June 2017, an Archivist, Ms. Liselle Isaac, was reassigned to head the Tobago Archives. In May 2019, restored and digitized records were returned to Tobago after extensive restoration works and digitization were completed by staff of the National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago.

Situated on the second floor of the Scarborough Library Facility, Scarborough, Tobago, the Tobago Archives is responsible for the acquisition,



Specially invited guests viewing the archival exhibition



Front Row -Left to Right: Ms Heather Gray, Ms Gabrielle Fernandes, Dr Rita Pemberton, Ms Avril Belfon, Ms Nichelle Denoon and Ms Cherryl-Ann Solomon.

long-term preservation and the provision of public access to the historic records of the island of Tobago. Our collection contains over 7000 items and documents dating back to the 1700s. The records available in the Archives include slave registers; colonial records related to the establishment of Tobago – colonial churches, villages and plantation estates; Minutes of the House of Assembly; Minutes of the Legislative Council; Laws; Tobago court records; census, colonial correspondences, Tobago Gazettes; newspapers and digitized records of maps, photographs, personal papers and numerous other documents of historical importance. Researchers also now has access to more than 2.5 gigabytes of digitized records.

The Archives currently provides two main services: Reference and Outreach. It is opened to serve various groups of users such as researchers, students, scholars, and the general community. We aim to raise the awareness of the existence of the Archives and to foster a greater appreciation of Tobago's history and documentary heritage.

The Archives is open from Monday to Friday from 8: 30 to 4:00pm. Appointments are advised prior to visits. The Tobago Archives can be contacted at 868-639-2256 ext. 1205/1220 or via email: tobagoarchives.tls@gmail.com.



Ms Liselle Isaac, Archives Manager, gives guests and the media a tour of Archives



Professor Bastian's new book examines colonialism from an archival

"This story was originally published by Simmons University."

Can you tell us a bit about your book?

Decolonizing the Caribbean Record, An Archives Reader, was initially envisioned as a text for the Masters of Archival Science (MAS) degree at the University of the West Indies (UWI) in Jamaica. In 2014, I was part of a UNESCO-funded team designing MAS curriculum in the UWI Department of Library Studies (I am also a graduate of the University of the West Indies with a Master of Philosophy in Caribbean Literature).

The team focused on designing a curriculum that was sensitive to the cultural heritage of the Caribbean as well as to the archival concerns of small former colonial islands in tropical climates. One huge issue was the lack of relevant readings that spoke to these concerns. So three of us decided to create a text. My co-editors, Stanley Griffin and John Aarons, both archivists and educators at UWI, and I have been working on this book for the past four years. The book, over 800 pages, includes 40 original essays, the majority by Caribbean authors— not only archivists, but historians, anthropologists, museum curators and humanists. The essays cover a wide range of topics including reparations, music, oral tradition, performance, tropical preservation, genealogy, monuments, archival history, as well as essays from the



Professor Bastian

ivist's perspective

Caribbean diaspora. Although it was initially designed to support the MAS program, we feel that this Reader is widely applicable to post-colonial communities generally, and should be of interest to scholars and students of the Caribbean in addition to archivists.

How is this book related to your teaching and research?

My core research has always focused on cultural and community expressions, specifically the dynamic relationships between communities and the records they create, whatever form those records may take — oral and performative as well as textual and digital. For me, this book is an articulation of that dynamic relationship. In my teaching I try to convey to my students the validity of the wide variety of records beyond traditional notions, and the importance of records and archives as tools of social justice and cultural expression.

How did your professional background lead you to this topic of archives in the Caribbean?

Before coming to Simmons, my entire professional life as a librarian and archivist was spent in the U.S. Virgin Islands, a territory of the United States and a former colony of Denmark. Complete engagement in the place where I lived was a critical element of my work in the public libraries and later as Territorial Director. I continue to be deeply involved both through research as well as personally with the Caribbean.

Beyond the Caribbean, how vital is decolonization in archives today?

I would say that decolonization is essentially all about social justice.

Decolonization in all aspects of life is critical for former colonial countries but is often difficult to achieve. Records and archives are vital tools in helping communities and nations understand their own history, coalesce around their own cultural heritage and construct a common identity. Colonialism was (is still) worldwide and all former colonies face these challenges.

What advice do you have for future archivists?

The archival world is changing rapidly, not only because of technology, but also through changing social perspectives. The formerly accepted master narratives are being challenged and new ways of thinking about archives and records are emerging. Archivists need to be flexible, willing to continually learn new things, but also be willing to question and challenge traditional theory and practice and not be afraid to experiment.

The book, "Decolonizing the Caribbean Record: An Archives Reader" will be launched at the UWI Mona Campus, as part of the Department of Library and Information Studies' 1st Symposium on Archives and Records on Tuesday 29 October 2019 at 6pm.



Intangible Cultural Heritage within the Urban Context of Kingston,

**David Brown, Director, Policy and Research
National Cultural and Creative Industries Council
(NCCIC)
Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment & Sport,
Jamaica**

Cities are important core areas of global development. Half of the World population lives in urban areas, and most economic activities occur in cities. Many cities across the world, however, experience a plethora of social problems such as persistent marginalization, spatial segregation, urban violence, urban sprawl, fragmented support systems which all underscore the need for more sustainable models of development.

Over the past few years, however, UNESCO has been leading the initiative to develop new strategies for integrating culture and creativity in urban contexts. The recently launched project 'Intangible heritage and creativity for sustainable cities' aims to promote the role of culture in sustainable urban development, and more specifically, address the role that living heritage and creativity can play in building sustainable cities.

Kingston, Jamaica, already a UNESCO designated Creative City of Music (2015) was selected by UNESCO for a pilot

project which examines Intangible Heritage and Creativity for Sustainable Cities with three main aims:

- * Identify and better understand the key issues related to intangible heritage safeguarding in urban contexts;
- * develop appropriate inventory methodologies and materials for urban contexts, and
- * formulate possible recommendations for policy makers and practitioners.

Accordingly, a workshop was staged in the Kingston community of Trench Town from March 11-16, 2019 titled Community-based Inventorying of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) in the Urban Context of Kingston, Jamaica. The workshop had participants drawn from three urban sectors, Port Royal, August Town and Trench Town; representing three distinct bearer communities that will, in the end, be enabled to inventory specific elements in their communities. A total of 24 participants were involved in the workshop.

The program consisted of (1) interactive presentations on community-based inventorying (CBI), based on contextualized versions of the standard UNESCO CBI training material (2) methodological training sessions, (3) community assessments of Intangible Cultural Heritage inventorying status and (4) inventorying practicum and debriefing. Most activities (presentations, trainings, assessments) were held

Jamaica

The Hon. Olivia 'Babsy' Grange MP, CD, Minister of Culture, joins with UNESCO ICH commissioners, staff, facilitators and participants during the wrap up session. Image credit: Ministry of Culture



at the Trench Town Multipurpose Centre in St. Andrew. Inventorying practicum was conducted both at the Jamaica Music Institute's Studio (JaMIN recording studio) located at the Trench Town Multipurpose Centre, and in the community in Port Royal.

The workshop also created a space in which Rastafarians, Revivalists and members of the community of Port Royal could interact and learn more about each of their distinct cultural practices. This created greater appreciation for the differing cultural practices and belief systems and facilitated mutual respect for them. A wrap-up meeting for the project was held with participants in July, 2019. Projects like these are shaping the new cultural and documentary heritage of the Caribbean. Caribbean Archivists should be mindful of these ICH initiatives and participate whenever possible.





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An Academic Interdisciplinary Symposium on Archives & Records

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OCTOBER 29-30, 2019

Including the Launch of the Book, "Decolonizing the Caribbean Record: An Archives Reader"



SYMPOSIUM THEMES TO BE EXPLORED

- Innovative ways of encouraging the acceptance of records management in government entities and private sector companies
- Changes in the legislative and policy frameworks for Records and Archives which take into account new developments in recordkeeping
- Case studies of ways in which Archival institutions have deliberately adopted new strategies to acquire 'non-traditional' archival materials
- Methodologies of establishing community based archives and the role of national archival institutions in these initiatives
- Archival collections on Caribbean issues, cultural expressions, communities in the Diaspora
- Challenges of acquiring and organizing social media records and private archives
- Ways in which artistic and cultural expressions are being used as repositories of memory
- Examples of ways in which ecclesiastical, literary and cultural institutions manage and provide access to their materials, particularly those in non-traditional formats.
- Historical interpretations and use of records, especially in non-traditional formats
- Ways in which the experiences of the marginalized voices in the society can be reflected in the holdings of Archives

CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract Proposals are invited under the listed themes

Please include the following:

- ✓ Paper title
- ✓ Name of speaker(s)
- ✓ Job title and institution
- ✓ 250-300-word abstract with bibliography of at least two items
- ✓ Short biography of speaker(s)
- ✓ Proposals should be submitted to the Department of Library and Information Studies (DLIS) at dlistadmin@uwimona.edu.jm by 19 July 2019.
- ✓ Acceptance of proposal by July 31, 2019

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