



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
OPEN CAMPUS

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

The UWI Open Campus Academy of Sport (OCAS) and Cricket West Indies (CWI) Host Outreach Initiative for Girls and Women in Sport

The UWI Open Campus, Academy of Sport, Jamaica. June 22, 2018— The University of the West Indies (UWI) Open Campus Academy of Sport (OCAS) and Cricket West Indies (CWI) hosted a group of teenage girls from the SOS Children’s Village in Stony Hill, Jamaica, on Sunday, June 17, 2018.

The event was held, during the West Indies Women’s Cricket Tournament being held in Jamaica. Cricketers from the participating teams, namely Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana, Barbados and the Windward and Leeward Islands, interacted with the girls, shared their backgrounds and experiences in the sport, and discussed the skills needed to make it at the professional level.

The event was one of several proposed partnerships between the Faculty of Sport and the CWI, and the first undertaken through The UWI OCAS. Similar events will be scheduled during the upcoming CWI Women’s Championship. This initiative builds on the CWI’s objective to increase girls’ and women’s involvement in cricket. “With less than one hundred and fifty (150) days to go before the 2018 ICC Women’s T20, these are some of the initiatives the organization will engage in as a part of its legacy programmes,” stated Ms. Carole Beckford, Marketing and Communications Manager, CWI. “Our players and officials are committed to ensuring that our young women (and men) understand the pathways to becoming a professional athlete,” she further stated.

This was the first in a series of events planned by the OCAS to highlight and focus on girls and women in sport, as well as to create awareness of the avenues available to pursue a career in sport. Sports Activity Development Officer, OCAS, Ms. Dayna Smith said, “we are pleased that the CWI has joined us in this initiative and are enthusiastic about working together to promote and advance girls and women in sport throughout the region.” “This is one of many programmes of cooperation between the Faculty of Sport and CWI added Dr. Akshai Mansingh, Dean of the Faculty of Sport. “Other announcements will follow in short order. Being a cross-campus faculty, we are able to provide for sports needs across the region.”

National Director, SOS Children’s Villages, Jamaica, Mrs. Nadine Williams remarked, “SOS Children’s Village Jamaica welcomes the opportunity to have our children exposed and sensitized to the game of cricket, one of the most popular sports in the Caribbean, and to be given the chance to interact with these cricketers. While we strive for our children to achieve academically, we are aware that a well-

rounded child is one who is also exposed to extra-curricular activities, especially in the areas of sports and the arts. Our girls are very talented, and will utilize opportunities like these to explore their areas of interest to achieve awesome results. We look forward to this relationship, which will not only elevate their interest in the game, but also serve as a possible career choice. The discipline of the game, will also help to develop and mold them into strong and well-rounded women.”

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Event Photos:



Ms. Tanya Plummer, Manager of the Jamaica Female cricket team (in yellow) encouraging the young ladies to remember that they could do anything they set their mind to.



Jamaica female cricketer (in yellow) assisting one of the girls from the SOS Children's Village.



Ms. Dayna Smith, Sports Activity Development Officer, OCAS,(in orange) leading an activity to demonstrate to the the young ladies the skills and habits needed to be successful in whatever profession or sport they choose.



A young lady from the SOS Children's village writing her post to complete the sentence "Girl, you are..."

About The Open Campus Academy of Sport

The Faculty of Sport is comprised of four (4) academies, three of which are in the landed campuses: The UWI Cave Hill (Barbados), The UWI Mona (Jamaica) and The UWI St. Augustine (Trinidad and Tobago), and the Open Campus Academy of Sport (OCAS), which supports a distributed environment through Sites in seventeen (17) Caribbean countries.

The Open Campus Academy of Sport was launched on 1st August 2017 as one of four academies in the new UWI Faculty of Sport. Each of the campus academies is undertaking course programming, outreach education, and sports events and activities in the countries in which they are located. OCAS is serving the 17 UWI contributing countries through the Open Campus Country Sites.

For information or inquiries on The UWI Faculty of Sport, visit www.uwi.edu/sport

About The UWI

For the past 70 years The University of the West Indies (The UWI) has provided service and leadership to the Caribbean region. In 2018, The UWI celebrates its evolution from 1948 as a university college in Jamaica with 33 medical students to an internationally respected regional university with near 50,000 students. Today, The UWI is the largest, most longstanding higher education provider in the Commonwealth Caribbean, with four campuses in Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and an Open Campus. The UWI has faculty and students from more than 40 countries and collaborative links with 160 universities globally; it offers undergraduate and postgraduate degree options in Food & Agriculture, Engineering, Humanities & Education, Law, Medical Sciences, Science & Technology, Social Sciences and Sport. Its seven priority focal areas are linked closely to the priorities identified by CARICOM and take into account such over-arching areas of concern to the region as environmental issues, health and wellness, gender equity and the critical importance of innovation. The UWI has been a pivotal force in every aspect of Caribbean development; residing at the centre of all efforts to improve the well-being of our people. As the regional institution commemorates its 70th anniversary milestone, it will celebrate its students, faculty, administrators, alumni, governments, and partners in the public and private sector. The anniversary commemoration will focus on reflection as well as projection for the future with an emphasis on social justice and the economic transformation of the region. Website: www.uwi.edu and www.uwi.edu/70. *(Please note that the proper name of the university is The University of the West Indies, inclusive of the "The", hence The UWI.)*