



THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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**For Immediate Release**

### **New Director of the Institute for International Relations**

**The UWI Regional Headquarters Jamaica. 16 September 2016.** Professor Jessica Byron has been appointed Director of the Institute for International Relations (IIR), at The UWI St Augustine Campus with effect from August 1, 2016.

She holds a PhD in Political Science (International Relations) from the University of Geneva, Switzerland (1990), a postgraduate diploma International Relations from The UWI, St Augustine Campus (1979) and a BA in French and Spanish (First Class Hons) from The UWI Cave Hill Campus (1978).

Prior to her appointment at IIR, Professor Byron, an international relations specialist, was a Professorial Fellow for one year at The UWI Mona Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES). She is also the former Head of the Department of Government, The University of the West Indies, Mona, Jamaica from 2010 to 2013 and a former UWI Coordinator of a tripartite BSc/MSc programme in Politics and International Cooperation involving The UWI, Universite Antilles-Guyane and the University of Bordeaux IV.

Coupled with her new role, she currently serves as Visiting Lecturer in the graduate programme on International and Comparative Politics at the Universite Antilles-Guyane and is a member of the CLACSO Working Group on Crisis, Response and Alternatives in the Caribbean. Her research interests include Caribbean and Latin American regionalism and small states/societies in the global political economy. She was the Caribbean convenor on the Executive Committee of a research and advocacy programme "Building Global Democracy" ([www.bgd.org](http://www.bgd.org)) based at the University of Warwick 2008 - 2012.

Professor Byron has written over 50 refereed research based/scholarly publications including book chapters, journal articles, technical reports and book reviews and short monographs.