

Top Student Academic Researcher

Copped by: Student of Western Hospitality Institute



(Trudy centered by Peterson [holding trophy] and Jhodia, surrounded by other WHI students)

At the recently concluded University of Technology & the University of Delaware – USA International Business and Tourism annual conference held at the Hilton Rose Hall for the second consecutive year since the inception of the Students Research Colloquium, a WHI student won the top research proposal award.

The young St. Lucian, Trudy Agustin is an enrolled student at Western Hospitality Institute Bachelors of Science degree in Hospitality Management. Trudy Agustin is the 2012 winner of this prestigious award, and she followed our very own Latoya Morgan who copped the same award in 2011. The very brilliant but nervous Trudy whose topic was “Exploring the Possibilities of St. Lucia becoming a Pink Tourism Destination” was extremely conscious that been in a homophobic Jamaican society presenting such topic that may not go down well with the persons in attendance. However, when she was announced the winner; her winning was well validated by the thunderous applause from her audience. The other WHI students whose papers were accepted to the conference included the WHI Haitian student, Petersen Decius who presented on “The Exploitation of Jamaican Children within the Tourism industry of Montego Bay as sex slaves” and our WHI Jamaican student Jhodia Gordon who presented on; “Identifying & Developing Strategies to Enhance & Sustain Heritage Tourism in Jamaica” were also exultant with their proposals.

The very moderate topic to last year's winner from WHI whose topic was 'Human/Tourist Factors that have Contributed to the Depletion of Montego Bay's Coral Reef' was also a topic that was well received by those persons attending the presentation. In the very same year, WHI had seven students whose papers were accepted to the conference and in the year 2012 we had three students who submitted papers and the papers were accepted to the conference where WHI Trudy Augustin was announced the winner with her 'Pink Tourism' topic.

As seen in the photo it is mandatory that all our BSc students attend selected academic conferences throughout their course of study at the institution. The students are also required to submit papers to conferences. Our research lecturers are a blend of international reputable well published professors and our local WHI lecturers.

WHI students' performances at external competitions like these shows that we are comparable and have exceeded the public's expectation, traversing areas of academics where most dare to travel. This experience serves to boost our students' and learning experience; it also hit to the very core of the basis on which education was developed on experience and exposure, the mere fact that the students are able to share and learn with other college students.

WHI has embarked on a fantastic collaboration with the MEL Nathan College, which is officially owned and operated by International University of the Caribbean (IUC). This relationship with the MEL Nathan College serves to enhance and boost the institution's leverage in areas that are least served in the field of Hospitality & Tourism Education. WHI association with the MEL Nathan College can only enhance the rich legacy of both institutions. Both institutions are now located on the same campus alongside the College of Leadership & Theological Development and this will allow WHI in continuing to provide the service in Hospitality & Tourism education. For further information, please visit our website at www.westernhospitalityinstitute.com.jm

Where Service in Hospitality & Tourism Education is our #1 Priority (953 – 0810)