



Department of Economics
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
AT MONA, JAMAICA

FACULTY OF
SOCIAL SCIENCES

WECON

WEST INDIES ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

MARCH 7-8, 2024

UWI REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
KINGSTON 7, JAMAICA, WEST INDIES



DAY 1: MARCH 7, 2024

Opening Ceremony

March 7, 2024, 8:00 AM – 9:40 AM
UWI REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
Eon Nigel Harris Council Room

Welcome and Opening Remarks: 8:25 AM - 8:40 AM

PATRICE WHITELY

Head, Department of Economics, The UWI Mona

Introduction of Keynote Speaker

ANNA-KAYE WALTERS

Msc Economics Student, The UWI Mona



First Keynote Address: 8:40 AM - 9:40 AM

AHMED MUSHFIQ MOBARAK

Jerome Kasoff '54 Professor of Management and Economics
Yale University

“Internal Migration in Developing Countries”

Break: 9:40 AM - 10:00 AM

Panel 1: Monetary & Finance (10:00 AM - 11:30AM)

Chair: **Jevon Henry**, Economics Department, UWI Mona

Ahmad Tijani: "Identifying Excessive Credit Growth Characteristics in Jamaica"

Cappriece Clarke and Carey- Anne Williams: "Is Exchange Rate Pass-Through to Prices in Jamaica Nonlinear?"

Shenelle Guscott: "Central Bank Independence and Banking Crises: Individuals versus Mandates"

Nicholas Davis: "Beyond Funding: Building Ecosystems for MSME Growth"

Panel 2: Health & Trade (11:30 AM - 12:40 PM)

Chair: **Flavien Moreau**, International Monetary Fund

Bephyer Parey, Luisito Bertinelli, Clotilde Mahé, Nekeisha Spencer, Eric Strobl: "Working to Become Sane: Moral Management in late 19th and early 20th Century English Caribbean Lunatic Asylums"

Gary Lyn, Russell Hillberry, Anton Yang: "Structural Estimation of the Gravity Model of Trade: Scale Economies and Supply-Chain Linkages"

Nilanjan Banik, Anurag Banerjee and Pranjal Chandrakar: "Political Economy of Sanitation in India"

Lunch Break: 12:40 PM - 1:40 PM

Sterling Asset Management (1:40 PM -2:00 PM) "3 Investing Misconceptions Pre and Post Retirement" Dwayne Neil

Panel 3: Environment & Labour (2:00 PM - 3:30 PM)

Chair: **Linda Bailey-McWeeney**, Model Analytics Group, Citigroup

Dena Spence: "Formal versus Informal Employment in Jamaica: A Transition Analysis"

Lynsey Ward, Nathan Rolle, Sharon Branch and Allan Wright: "Estimating the Impact of A Climatic Shock on Credit Supply and the Probability of Default in The Bahamas"

Nekeisha Spencer: In the Heat of the Hour: A High-frequency Analysis of Weather and Crime

Tavoy Reid and Gregory Givens: "Consumption Multipliers in a Shirking Model with Entry and Exit"

BOOK LAUNCH DeLisle Worrell (4:00 PM)

Development and Stabilization in Small Open Economies Theories and Evidence from Caribbean Experience

END OF DAY 1



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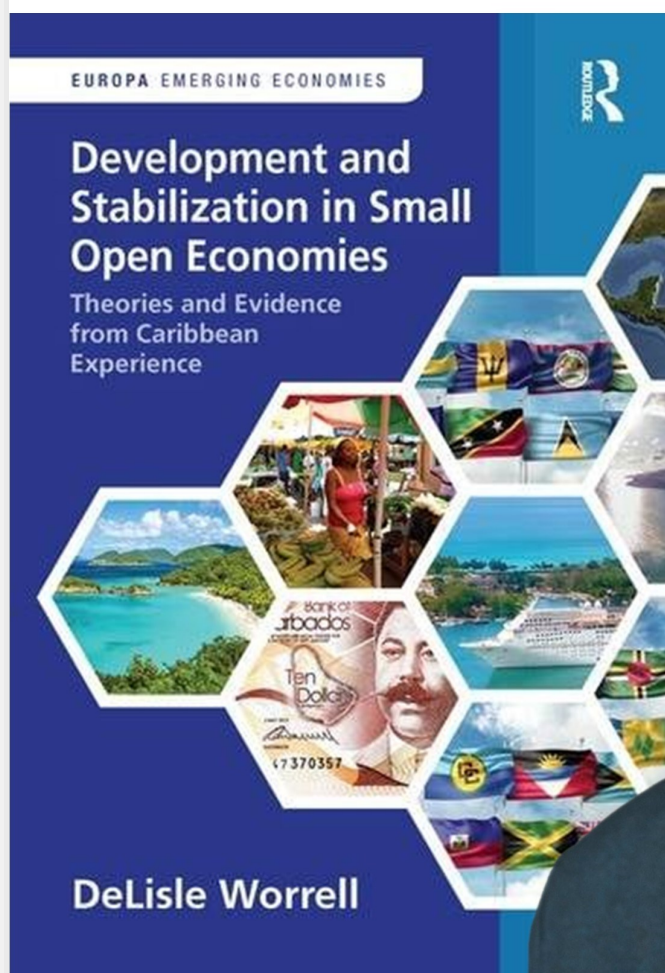
Book Launch

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UWI REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS
KINGSTON, JAMAICA, W.I.



4 pm

March 7, 2024

The UWI Regional HQ

876.977.1188

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<https://www.mona.uwi.edu/economics/>

DAY 2: MARCH 8, 2024

Opening Remarks: 8:50 AM - 9:00 AM

NADINE MCCLOUD

Conference Chair
Department of Economics
UWI Mona

Introduction of Second Keynote Speaker

CHRISAN JUNIOR

BSc Economics Student, The UWI Mona



Second Keynote Address: 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

ERIC STROBL

Professor of Climate and Environmental Economics
University of Bern

“The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility: A Fool’s Gold?”

Break: 10:00 AM -10:15 AM

Panel 4: Growth & Development (10:15 AM - 11:25 AM)

Chair: **Nilanjan Banik**, Mahindra University, India

Cleveland Tomlinson: "Tax Policy and Economic Resilience in the Caribbean: Navigating Fiscal Challenges and Opportunities in the Post-COVID Era"

Gianna Conliffe, Sharon Branch, LaShawn Edwards and Allan Wright: "The Competitiveness of Small Open Caribbean-Based Economies: An Analysis of The Real Effectiveness Exchange Rate"

Othandrea Downes: "Analysis of Taxation and Economic Growth: Evidence from Jamaica"

Panel 5: Welfare (11:25 AM - 12:35 PM)

Chair: **Nekeisha Spencer**, Economics Department, UWI Mona

Flavien Moreau, Sophia Chen, Ryu Matsuura and Joana Pereira: "Harnessing Satellite Data to Improve Social Assistance Targeting in the Eastern Caribbean"

Matthew McKetty: "Tourism and Household Welfare: Evidence from Jamaica"

George-Levi Gayle: "Life-Cycle Fertility, Human Capital, and Family Policies :A discrete-Continuous Choice Framework "

BERNAL & BREWSTER EVENT (6:00 PM)

END OF CONFERENCE



SYGNUS





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Bernal & Brewster

Join us as we celebrate the lives and works of
Ambassadors Richard Bernal and Havelock Brewster.



Scan to RSVP
or email us.

@ 6 pm

March 8, 2024

The UWI Regional HQ

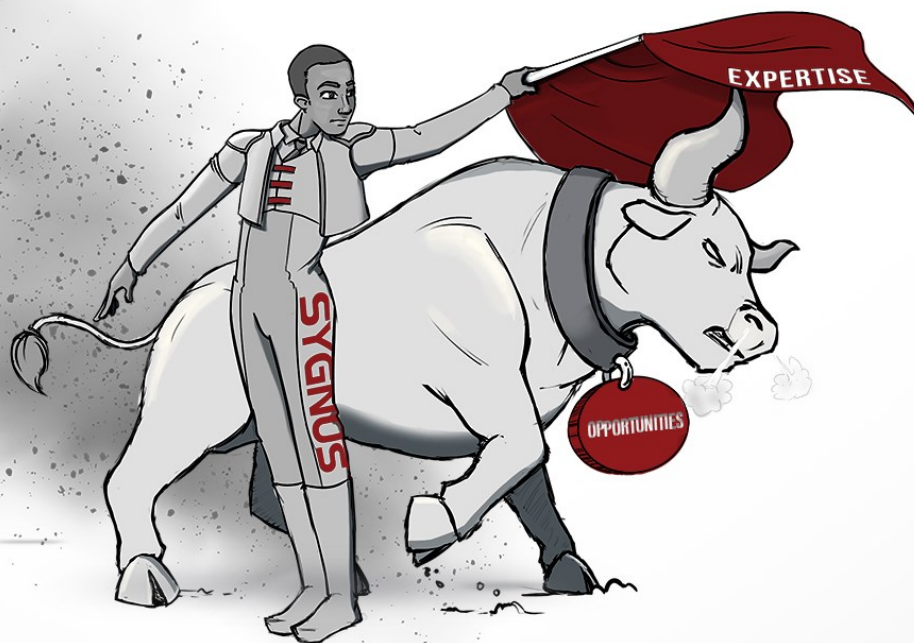
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Department of Economics

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