

**Jamaica**

**(659)**

**UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme**

**Progress report**

**Period of activity: September 2005 – March 2006**

**UNESCO-Commonwealth Regional Chair in Education and HIV/AIDS**

**Report established by: David Plummer, UNESCO Chairholder**

## **I. Activities**

### **1. Education/ Training/ Research**

#### *Education*

- Education Masters in Education (Health Promotion)

Duration: 2 years

Target groups: students

Geographic coverage: regional

#### *Research*

Obligation and Taboo: the pressures of Modern Manhood in the Caribbean

This project is a qualitative study that explores the meanings associated with manhood in the Caribbean and how those meanings impact on

Duration: 1 year (plus 1 year extension)

Participants: Caribbean men from Guyana, Trinidad, St Kitts

Outcomes for gender theory in relation to boy's education, health risks and crime

Caribbean Masculinities (this is a development of the above project)

This project is an expansion of the above project to other parts of the region.

Duration: 1 year

Participants: Caribbean men from Jamaica, the eastern Caribbean

Outcomes for gender theory in relation to boy's education, HIV risks and crime

Caribbean Anti Violence Project ([\\_ HYPERLINK "http://www.CaribbeanAVP.org" \\_www.CaribbeanAVP.org\\_](http://www.CaribbeanAVP.org))

This project involved setting up an online reporting form for incident reports to build a database of harassment, stigma and discrimination related to sexuality, gender and HIV

Outcomes. The database will be used to educate citizens, to inform policy and law reform, to develop better services and for human rights research

Ongoing

Participants: Men and women from English-speaking Caribbean countries.

### **2. Publication and multimedia materials**

PLUMMER D. (Chapter for forthcoming book. Accepted 2007). Is education becoming taboo for Caribbean boys? Morrissey M (ed.). HIV and Education in the Caribbean. Ian Randle Publishing.

PLUMMER D. & McLean A. (Chapter for forthcoming book. Accepted 2007). The corrosive role of HIV-related stigma and discrimination on civil society in the Caribbean. Morrissey M (ed.). HIV and Education in the Caribbean. Ian Randle Publishing.

PLUMMER D. (Chapter for forthcoming book. Accepted 2007). HIV in Caribbean Schools. Morrissey M (ed.). HIV and Education in the Caribbean. Ian Randle Publishing.

Khan A, PLUMMER D, Hussain R, Minichiello V. (2007). Sexual risk assessment in general practice: evidence from a New South Wales survey. *Sexual Health*, 4: 1-8

Maple M, PLUMMER D, Edwards H, Minichiello, V. (2007). The effects of preparedness for suicide following the death of a young adult child. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, 37 (2): 127-134.

PLUMMER D, McCann P. (Accepted March 2007). Girls' Germs – sexuality, gender, health and metaphors of contagion. *Health Sociology Review*

Ridge D, PLUMMER D, Peasley D. (2006). Remaking the masculine self and coping in the liminal world of the gay 'scene'. *Culture, Health and Sexuality*, 8(6): 1-14.

Khan A, Hussain R, PLUMMER D, Minichiello V. (2006). Willingness to offer chlamydia testing in general practice in New South Wales. *Australian & New Zealand Journal of Public Health*, 30(3): 226-230

Minichiello V, PLUMMER D (2006). Sexuality and Health: contributions from Sociology. *Health Sociology Review* 15(3):245-247.

PLUMMER D. (2006). A plague within a plague: how HIV-related stigma takes its toll on all of us. In: Commonwealth of Nations, The Commonwealth Health Ministers' Yearbook, Henley Media Group, London (Accepted)

PLUMMER D. (2006). Setting the scene for effective counselling: a practical guide to developing a genuinely inclusive practice. In: Pelling N, Bowers R, Armstrong P (eds.), *The Practice of Counselling*, Thomson Nelson Publishing, Melbourne (ISBN: 0-17-012978-0)

PLUMMER D, Irwin L. (2006). Grassroots activities, national initiatives and HIV prevention: What explains Australia's dramatic early success in controlling the HIV epidemic? *International Journal of STI & AIDS*, 17(12): 787-793.

PLUMMER D (2006). Sportophobia: why do many men fear sport? *Journal of Sport & Social Issues*. 30(2): 122-137.

PLUMMER D. (2007). Homophobia, heterosexism and beyond. In: International Encyclopaedia of Men and Masculinities, Flood M, Gardiner JK, Pease B, Pringle K (eds.) Routledge, London. (Accepted)

Kolmet M, Marino R, PLUMMER D (2006). Anglo-Australian Male Blue-Collar Workers Discuss Gender and Health Issues. *International Journal of Men's Health*. 5(1): 81-91.

Bowers R, PLUMMER D, McCann P, McConaghy C, Irwin L (2006) How We Manage Sexual and Gender Diversity in the Public Health System: A Research Report. New South Wales Health Department (NSCCAHS), Sydney. (ISBN: 0734739028)

## **II. Impact**

**Educational outcomes:** The major thrust was to establish a graduate programme in health promotion with a special emphasis on HIV in Caribbean educational settings. The Masters Programme was established and the first residential programme has been conducted and evaluated well (see appendix). Numerous additional short courses and seminars have been conducted (see appendix).

**Research outcomes:** The principal areas of research interest are stigma, gender, prevention in relation to HIV. Two research projects are underway examining these areas through the lens of Caribbean masculinities. The research is ongoing. Seminars and papers have already flowed from that research. More publications will follow. Doctoral and masters level students have been recruited.

**Service outcomes:** Technical expertise and advice has been provided to the university and various Caribbean communities. High level advice has been given at the UNESCO, UNAIDS and Commonwealth levels. Regional advice has been given via CARICOM and related bodies and through the regional NGO's. National advice has been given to government bodies. For full details see the attached activity and achievement list.

The post has 18 months to run. It is envisioned that the Masters programme in education (Health Promotion) will be sustainable. Funds come from course fees, government subsidies, scholarships and foreign students.

## **III. Forthcoming activities**

A full work plan was developed at the start of this project. A further 18 month of the post is required to consolidate and expand the achievements to date. The Masters programme in education (Health Promotion) will be sustainable. It will be funded through course fees, government subsidies, scholarships and foreign students. The course has a very large potential student base.

**Teaching:** The Masters Programme will continue to be developed, taught and evaluated for a full cycle.

**Research:** The projects on Caribbean masculinities and the Caribbean Anti Violence Project will continue to be expanded.

Service: Service to governments, the community and the university will continue to be sought and volunteered as opportunities arise.

#### **IV. Development prospects**

The Masters in Education Degree has the capacity to be self-sustainable. There is a very large potential student pool, including students beyond the Caribbean region. The University of Texas is keen to form a collaborative relationship. The course is largely self funded, however support in the form of scholarships from UN agencies and international donors will be required for the initial years. The programme generates sufficient income to employ a Senior Lecturer to coordinate the course. The university is currently exploring the possibility of permanent funding for the chair. Ideally, the long term goal should be to establish a Caribbean Centre for Health Promotion hosted by the University of the West Indies which has the Masters in Education (Health Promotion) as its flagship course.