



## CONTENTS

Message from the Editor	1
Message from the President	3
Message from the Program Chair	5
Local Organising Committee	7
Membership	8
CSA Member Highlight	9
New Book	10
Caribbean Scholarship	11
Message from the Language Sub-Editors	13
Spanish	13
French	15
Virgin Island Report	17
Aruba News	20
Graduate Student Representative	21
Caribbean Media	22
Special Announcements	23

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

**Folks, it's a few months away for our annual conference! I hope that the excitement is building!**

### What you can expect inside this issue:

- Details on the draft Program
- Updates from the Local Organizing Committee
- Information about the Conference Hotel
- Message from the President
- CSA Membership updates
- Our New Book Feature
- The CSA Member Highlight
- Features from Our Language Sub-editors
- Call for Papers in our Caribbean Scholarship column



*Meagan Sylvester*



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 CaribbeanStudiesAssociation

 @CaribbeanSAssoc

**Website:** CaribbeanStudiesAssociation.org

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR cont'd

### **CSA Communications - You can find us at:**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CaribbeanStudiesAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/CaribbeanStudiesAssociation)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/caribbean-studies-association](http://www.linkedin.com/company/caribbean-studies-association)

Twitter/X: [x.com/CaribbeanSAssoc](https://x.com/CaribbeanSAssoc)

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Share your feedback at: [newseditor@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](mailto:newseditor@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org)

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Rhoda Arrindell

### **New Year's Message and Conference Update**

Dear CSA Members and Friends,

On behalf of the Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), I extend warm wishes for a peaceful and prosperous New Year. May 2025 bring harmony and inspiration to our lives and communities.

As we prepare for the upcoming CSA annual conference in St. Martin, I am thrilled to share some exciting updates. The Executive Committee, Program Committee, Local Organizing Committee, and many others are working tirelessly to create an unforgettable conference experience.

Our host venue is the Simpson Bay Resort (SBR), which is offering an **early-bird special** on room rates. I encourage you to secure your accommodation early and take advantage of this offer.

This year, CSA is collaborating with the 22<sup>nd</sup> edition of the St. Martin Book Fair (SMBF), a remarkable partnership that extends our usual conference schedule by two days. The event kicks off with a Welcome Reception and Opening Ceremony on **Sunday, June 1**, at SBR. Join us for this special evening, featuring the keynote address by a prominent champion of Reparations.

Throughout the week, we've planned a dynamic lineup of presentations, panel discussions, exhibitions, and thought-provoking plenaries. There will also be tours, school visits, and cultural activities offering opportunities to connect with the St. Martin community and visiting authors from the Book Fair. On **Thursday, June 5**, the St. Martin Book Fair officially opens, complementing CSA's traditional Literary Salon and Authors' Celebration. If you're bringing books to the conference, you're invited to showcase them at the Book Fair throughout the weekend. Authors and creatives can also participate in the **Friday evening Main Book Launch** (first-come, first-served). This literary festival event is open to all CSA members and the public.

The conference concludes on **Saturday, June 7**, with the Awards Ceremony, Dinner, and Dance on Saturday evening, blending CSA and SMBF traditions in true St. Martin style. So, don't forget to pack

your dancing shoes and finest attire for this joyous occasion on "The Friendly Island," where warm smiles and open arms await you.

For more details, visit [caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](http://caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

We look forward to welcoming you to St. Martin for an inspiring and memorable conference.

Warm regards,  
Rhoda Arrindell  
*President CSA 2024-2025*

### **Español**

#### **Mensaje de Año Nuevo y actualización de la conferencia**

Estimados miembros y amigos de la CSA:

En nombre de la Asociación de Estudios del Caribe (CSA), les deseo un Año Nuevo pacífico y próspero. Que el año 2025 traiga armonía e inspiración a nuestras vidas y comunidades.

Mientras nos preparamos para la próxima conferencia anual de la CSA en St. Martin, me complace compartir algunas novedades interesantes. El Comité Ejecutivo, el Comité del Programa, el Comité Organizador Local y muchos otros están trabajando incansablemente para crear una experiencia de conferencia inolvidable.

Nuestro lugar de celebración es el Simpson Bay Resort (SBR), que ofrece una oferta especial por reserva anticipada en las tarifas de las habitaciones. Los aliento a que reserven su alojamiento con anticipación y aprovechen esta oferta.

Este año, la CSA está colaborando con la 22.<sup>a</sup> edición de la Feria del Libro de St. Martin (SMBF), una asociación notable que extiende nuestro programa habitual de conferencias por dos días. El evento comienza con una recepción de bienvenida y una ceremonia de apertura el domingo 1 de junio en SBR. Únase a nosotros en esta velada especial, en la que participará un destacado defensor de las reparaciones.

A lo largo de la semana, hemos planificado una serie dinámica de presentaciones, mesas redondas, exposiciones y plenarios que invitan a la reflexión. También habrá visitas guiadas, visitas a escuelas y actividades culturales que ofrecerán oportunidades para conectarse con la comunidad de St. Martin y los autores invitados de la Feria del Libro. El jueves 5 de junio, se inaugura oficialmente la Feria del

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT cont'd

Libro de St. Martin, que complementa el tradicional Salón Literario y la Celebración de los Autores de la CSA. Si trae libros a la conferencia, está invitado a exhibirlos en la Feria del Libro durante todo el fin de semana. Los autores y creativos también pueden participar en el lanzamiento principal del libro el viernes por la noche (por orden de llegada). Este evento del festival literario está abierto a todos los miembros de la CSA y al público.

La conferencia concluye el sábado 7 de junio con la Ceremonia de entrega de premios, la cena y el baile el sábado por la noche, combinando las tradiciones de la CSA y la SMBF al más puro estilo de St. Martin. Así que no olvides llevar tus zapatos de baile y tu mejor atuendo para esta alegre ocasión en "La Isla Amistosa", donde te esperan sonrisas cálidas y brazos abiertos.

Para más detalles, visita [caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](http://caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

Esperamos darle la bienvenida a St. Martin para una conferencia inspiradora y memorable.

Saludos cordiales,  
Rhoda Arrindell  
*Presidenta de la CSA 2024-2025*

### **Français**

#### **Message du Nouvel An et compte-rendu de la conférence**

Chers membres et amis de la CSA,

Au nom de la Caribbean Studies Association (CSA), je vous adresse mes vœux les plus chaleureux pour une nouvelle année paisible et prospère. Que 2025 apporte harmonie et inspiration à nos vies et à nos communautés.

Alors que nous nous préparons pour la prochaine conférence annuelle de la CSA à Saint-Martin, je suis ravi de partager quelques mises à jour passionnantes. Le comité exécutif, le comité de programme, le comité d'organisation local et bien d'autres travaillent sans relâche pour créer une expérience de conférence inoubliable.

Notre lieu d'accueil est le Simpson Bay Resort (SBR), qui propose une offre spéciale pour les lève-tôt sur les tarifs des chambres. Je vous encourage à réserver votre hébergement tôt et à profiter de cette offre.

Cette année, la CSA collabore avec la 22e édition de la St. Martin Book Fair (SMBF), un partenariat remarquable qui prolonge notre

programme de conférences habituel de deux jours. L'événement débutera par une réception de bienvenue et une cérémonie d'ouverture le dimanche 1er juin au SBR. Rejoignez-nous pour cette soirée spéciale, avec le discours d'ouverture d'un éminent défenseur des réparations.

Tout au long de la semaine, nous avons prévu une programmation dynamique de présentations, de tables rondes, d'expositions et de plénières stimulantes. Il y aura également des visites guidées, des visites scolaires et des activités culturelles offrant des opportunités de se connecter avec la communauté de Saint-Martin et les auteurs invités de la Foire du livre. Le jeudi 5 juin, la Foire du livre de Saint-Martin ouvrira officiellement, complétant le traditionnel Salon littéraire et la Fête des auteurs de la CSA. Si vous apportez des livres à la conférence, vous êtes invité à les présenter à la Foire du livre tout au long du week-end. Les auteurs et les créatifs peuvent également participer au lancement principal du livre le vendredi soir (premier arrivé, premier servi). Cet événement de festival littéraire est ouvert à tous les membres de la CSA et au public.

La conférence se termine le samedi 7 juin par la cérémonie de remise des prix, le dîner et la danse le samedi soir, mélangeant les traditions de la CSA et de la SMBF dans le plus pur style de Saint-Martin. Alors n'oubliez pas d'emporter vos chaussures de danse et vos plus beaux vêtements pour cette joyeuse occasion sur « The Friendly Island », où des sourires chaleureux et des bras ouverts vous attendent.

Pour plus de détails, visitez [caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](http://caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

Nous avons hâte de vous accueillir à Saint-Martin pour une conférence inspirante et mémorable.

Cordialement,  
Rhoda Arrindell  
*Président de l'ASC 2024-2025*

# MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR



Meagan Sylvester

## Draft List of Conference Activities

Day	Time	Event
<b>Sunday</b>		Registration
<b>1-Jun</b>	7:30 a.m.	<b>Welcome Reception and Opening Ceremony</b>
<b>Monday</b>	8:30 a.m.	Registration
<b>2-Jun</b>	9:00 a.m.	Presentations A1-A6
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	11:00 a.m.	Presentations B1- B6
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	2:00 p.m.	Presentations C1-C6
	3:30 p.m.	<b>Plenary: Resistance--Confronting Contemporary Colonialism (working title)</b>
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Dinner on The Strip</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	8:30 a.m.	Registration
<b>3-Jun</b>	9:00 a.m.	Presentations A1-A6
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	11:00 a.m.	Presentations B1- B6
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	2:00 p.m.	Presentations C1-C6
	3:30 p.m.	<b>Plenary: Reproduction--The Works of Lasana Sekou</b>
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Literary Salon</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:30 a.m.	Registration
<b>4-Jun</b>	8:00 a.m.	Graduate Student Breakfast
	9:00 a.m.	Presentations A1-A6
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	11:00 a.m.	Presentations B1- B6
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	2:00 p.m.	Presentations C1-C6
	3:30 p.m.	<b>Plenary: Resilience--Caribbean Migration (working title)...</b>
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Culture Night</b>

## MESSAGE FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR cont'd

Day	Time	Event
<b>Thursday</b>	8:30 a.m.	Registration
<b>5-Jun</b>	9:00 a.m.	Presentations A1-A6
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	11:00 a.m.	Presentations B1- B6
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	2:00 p.m.	Presentations C1-C6
	3:30 p.m.	Plenary: Rehabilitation--Youth Voices on Reparations (working title) ...
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Authors' Celebration</b>
<b>Friday</b>	8:30 a.m.	Registration
<b>6-Jun</b>	9:00 a.m.	Presentations A1-A6
	10:30 a.m.	Coffee Break
	11:00 a.m.	Presentations B1- B6
	12:30 p.m.	Lunch Break
	2:00 p.m.	Presentations C1-C6
	3:30 p.m.	Plenary: Reparations---(title to be confirmed)
	7:00 p.m.	<b>Book launch event by St. Martin Book Fair</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	9:00 a.m.	Book Fair Workshops at USM
<b>7-Jun</b>	7:30 p.m.	<b>Gala Dinner, Awards Ceremony, and Dance</b>

# LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

## Words of Welcome and Hotel Information



Some of the LOC members (l-r): Aishira Cicilia, Patricia Arrindell, Delroy Pierre, Yadira Boston, and Joy Arnell

On behalf of the people of St. Martin, we extend a warm welcome to you, our CSA guests, to our beautiful island paradise. We are excited to host you from June 1 – 8, and we invite you to stay tuned each month for essential tidbits about our island home.

One of the interesting facts about St. Martin is that the nickname “the friendly island” was coined by a visitor because of the friendliness of the people. This St. Martin hospitality has been among the many reasons visitors give for coming back to our island regularly.

As a visitor, you will have an array of places to stay, but we recommend as a first choice our host venue, the Simpson Bay Resort, which is offering the early-bird special below. These specials are especially attractive to those of you looking to minimize costs by sharing a room.

To make your booking, email [csaconference@simpsonbayresort.com](mailto:csaconference@simpsonbayresort.com) using the source code: CSA Conference 2025.

Another recommendation, which is located just down the road from the conference venue, is the Baker’s Suites Boutique Hotel, which provides the following nightly rates:

- Standard Suite: \$83.33 + \$16.67 taxes
- Junior Suite: \$83.33 + \$16.67 taxes
  - Extra bed fee: \$15.00
- Sunset Suite: \$100.00 + \$20.00 taxes
- Ocean View Deluxe Suite: \$116.67 + \$23.33 taxes
- Deluxe Double Bed Ocean View Suite: \$108.33 + \$21.67 taxes

All suites have full kitchen, and a non-refundable deposit equivalent to one night’s stay is required to secure your reservation. To reserve your space, contact Alexia Best, Operating Manager, at [reservations@bakerssuites.com](mailto:reservations@bakerssuites.com) or call 1-721-544-0095.

The dedicated link is: <https://hotels.cloudbeds.com/reservation/TnOgRI#promo=CSA2025>.

Finally, we express our gratitude to the CSA Executive Committee, Program Committee, and authors and presenters for choosing our island for your 49th conference. We look forward to meeting all of you in person. In the meantime, should you have any queries about your stay on our island, feel free to contact the Local Organizing Committee chair, Joy Arnell, via email at [joyarnell45@gmail.com](mailto:joyarnell45@gmail.com).

Warmly,  
Local Organizing Committee

SIMPSON BAY RESORT MARINA & SPA - ST. MAARTEN				
Caribbean Study Association				
June 1st to 8th 2025				
PROPERTY	ROOM TYPE	MAX OCCUPANCY	NIGHTLY RATE	Total Nights
VSB	Junior suite / oceanview	2	\$176.85	\$1,237.95
VSB	1 bedrm suite / ocean view	4	\$219.47	\$1,536.28
VSB	2 bedrms villa /ocean view	6	\$360.53	\$2,523.71
SBR	Studio 2 / resort view	2	\$118.53	\$829.68
SBR	Studio 4 / resort view	4	\$143.29	\$1,003.06
SBR	1 bedroom / resort view	4	\$158.87	\$1,112.09
SBR	1 bedroom Marina/ ocean view	4	\$175.98	\$1,231.88
SBR	1 bedroom /Beach front	4	\$209.58	\$1,467.03
****rates included all taxes and fees*** room only				

# MEMBERSHIP



*Donna Hope*



*Maya Freeman*

**THE CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION - ESTABLISHED IN 1974  
IS ACTIVELY SEEKING MEMBERS!  
MEMBERSHIP OPEN NOW!**



Join the CARIBBEAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION for connections in the academy and beyond! CSA members have access to wide-ranging expertise and abundant international educational opportunities within its international community of Caribbeanists.

[Join CSA today](#) for access to regular events, call for abstracts, submissions to the newsletter, and access to the CSA Conference 2025 in Saint Martin.

**Membership Rates before January 31, 2025**

**UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE STUDENTS – \$75/YEAR**

**CARIBBEAN RESIDENTS – \$110/YEAR**

**NON-CARIBBEAN RESIDENTS – \$195/YEAR**

**ELDERS (RETIRED ONLY) – \$75/YEAR**

**\*\*\*SAVE THE DATES & GET YOUR PASSPORTS READY\*\*\***

**ANNUAL CSA CONFERENCE, JUNE 1-7, 2025 IN SAINT MARTIN**

For information email: [freemansociology@gmail.com](mailto:freemansociology@gmail.com) re [Membership](#)  
MAYA I. FREEMAN and DONNA P. HOPE

CSA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS  
<https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/executive-council-2024-2026>

## CSA MEMBER HIGHLIGHT

### Dr. Delroy Pierre

Dr. Delroy Pierre is an educational and organizational change scholar who holds a Ph.D. in Creative Leadership for Innovation and Change from the University of the Virgin Islands. He has worked as an educator at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels; as a primary school principal and as a mathematics coach. His work experience in education includes teaching stints in Dominica, St. Thomas, St. Maarten, Panama and the United Arab Emirates. Currently, as an educator and researcher at Creative Leadership and Innovation Management Bureau (CLIMB) in St. Maarten, he is engaged in a wide variety of educational research and educational activities.



### Research Area and Approach

His primary research interest lies in educational leadership and change, with a specific focus on equity and social justice within educational systems. Educational systems in the Caribbean are navigating unprecedented periods of social and technological transformation. Consequently, educational leaders must adeptly guide their teams towards enhanced learning and adaptability while ensuring that educational practices are equitable and inclusive. Dr. Pierre believes that as Caribbean schools strive to increase equity within their educational processes, complexity can be effectively managed through participatory approaches, sensemaking and creativity. Such an approach can lead to the creation of unique Caribbean education systems built through the authentic engagement of education practitioners in their unique contexts.

### Current and Past Research

In line with his focus on equity, he has carried out research leading to the finalization of the St. Maarten Special Needs and Inclusive Education Policy. In another study, *Restricting change? leadership influence on participatory action research during educational change at a school in Sint Maarten*, he shows that school leadership is an important factor in creating the conditions for successful school transformation using PAR.

In his most recent work, *Decolonizing Education through Sensemaking in Educational Change*, he argues that for educational change to be truly emancipatory, it must be decolonized, ensuring that the voices of those most impacted are given the greatest value. This can be achieved through participatory and critical methodologies that empower indigenous and local educational change leaders, enabling them to examine their mental frameworks and actively confront embedded colonial values and approaches.

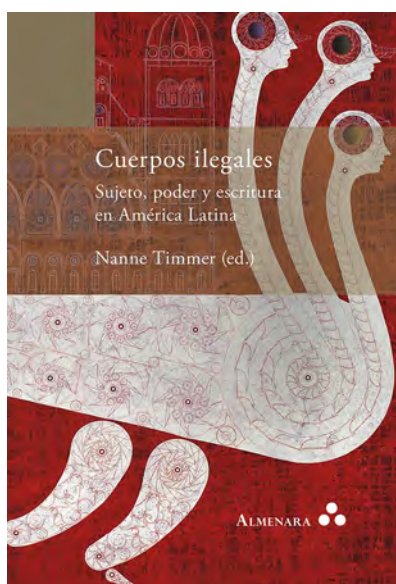
Dr. Pierre continues to work on an educational change model that incorporates sensemaking and creativity within a professional learning community framework. The hope is that such a model will allow education change leaders to increase the probability of successful change by leveraging follower creativity and contextual factors – especially those in the Caribbean.

### Recent Publications

Pierre, D. (2024). Restricting change? leadership influence on participatory action research during educational change at a school in Sint Maarten. *International Journal of Research in Humanities and Social Studies*, 11(1), 70–80. <https://doi.org/10.22259/2394-6296.1101004>

Pierre, D. (2024). Decolonizing education through sensemaking in educational change. In S. S. Scatolini (Ed.), *Towards fairer geo-spiritual ecosystems: Decolonial education, language, and spirituality* (pp. 89–109). Cambridge Scholars Publishing. [https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=f40EQAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PA89&dq=delroy+pierre&ots=3Z2Ys5\\_1aB&sig=4c0554m0IMlzyH\\_s0m--LBnibQ](https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=f40EQAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PA89&dq=delroy+pierre&ots=3Z2Ys5_1aB&sig=4c0554m0IMlzyH_s0m--LBnibQ)

## NEW BOOK



### **Cuerpos ilegales. Sujeto, poder y escritura en América Latina**

Timmer, Nanne (ed.) (2018): *Cuerpos ilegales. Sujeto, poder y escritura en América Latina*. Leiden: Almenara [ISBN 978-94-92260-22-2 | tapa blanda | 332 páginas | 48.00 USD]

La corporalidad, íntimamente ligada a la noción del espacio, al difuso borde que conecta, entrecruza y fusiona un adentro y un afuera, se entiende aquí como un espacio en el que están en juego la persona, la vida o lo propio: una máquina de guerra que, en su lucha por una forma de vida, redefine territorios políticos. El cuerpo como límite, llevado al límite y en el límite en su contacto con la ley, permite también pensar los márgenes fluctuantes entre ser y tener un cuerpo, entre vida desnuda y vida política, el individuo y la comunidad, en una cartografía diversa de la expresión cultural y artística latinoamericana.

Gabriel Inzaurrealde · Benjamin Loy · Natalia Aguilar Vásquez · Adriana Churampi · Alia Trabucco Zerán · Susana Scramim · María José Sabo · Ángeles Mateo del Pino · Luciana Irene Sastre · Piet Devos · Lizabel Mónica · Daniela Martín Hidalgo · Nanne Timmer

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# CARIBBEAN SCHOLARSHIP

## Journal of the University College of the Cayman Islands (JUCCI)

**THEME: AI and Education with Special Reference to the Caribbean**

### Call for Papers

The Editorial Board of the Journal of the University College of the Cayman Islands is seeking paper submissions on the theme: **AI and Education with Special Reference to the Caribbean**. This Special Issue of the Journal aims to bring together scholars, policy-makers, and practitioners, technologists, educators, to examine artificial intelligence and the educational enterprise, with special reference to the Caribbean.

### Overview and Context

#### AI and Education with Special Reference to the Caribbean

**Overview:** The rapid advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming industries across the globe, and education is no exception. In the Caribbean, where educational systems are often facing unique challenges and opportunities, AI has the potential to revolutionize teaching, learning, and administration. From personalized learning and virtual classrooms to predictive analytics and automation of administrative tasks, AI technologies offer exciting possibilities to enhance the educational experience.

This editorial board of the journal invites researchers, educators, technologists, policymakers, and industry professionals to submit papers on the theme **“AI and Education with Special Reference to the Caribbean.”** The aim is to explore how AI is reshaping education in the region, the challenges that Caribbean countries face in integrating AI into education systems, and the potential benefits and risks associated with this transformation.

**Journal Themes:** We invite papers that explore AI in education from various perspectives, with particular focus on the Caribbean context. Topics may include but are not limited to:

#### 1. AI-Powered Learning Technologies:

- Personalized learning systems and adaptive learning platforms.
- Intelligent tutoring systems and their impact on student outcomes.
- Virtual classrooms and AI-driven educational tools.
- AI in creating inclusive education for students with diverse learning needs.

#### 2. The Role of AI in Teacher Support and Professional Development:

- AI-assisted tools for teacher training, development, and feedback.
- Automation of administrative tasks to improve teacher productivity.
- Ethical considerations in using AI for teacher performance evaluation.
- AI as a resource for enhancing collaborative teaching and learning.

#### 3. AI and Curriculum Design:

- The use of AI to inform curriculum development and course design.
- AI in creating and evaluating educational content, including textbooks, e-learning modules, and assessments.
- Incorporating AI and STEM education into K-12 and higher education curricula in the Caribbean.
- The role of AI in enhancing vocational and technical education.

#### 4. AI and Educational Equity in the Caribbean:

- How AI can help address educational disparities in the Caribbean region.
- Ensuring equal access to AI-powered educational tools for students from various socio-economic backgrounds.
- The digital divide and its impact on AI integration in Caribbean education systems.
- Policy recommendations to ensure inclusive AI education practices in the region.

#### 5. AI and Educational Policy:

- Government policies and frameworks for AI adoption in education.
- Ethical considerations and regulatory guidelines for AI use in educational settings.
- The role of regional cooperation in AI policy development for the Caribbean.
- Addressing privacy, data security, and transparency in AI applications within education.

# CARIBBEAN SCHOLARSHIP cont'd

## 6. AI and the Future of Education in the Caribbean:

- Long-term implications of AI integration for Caribbean educational systems.
- The potential of AI to foster lifelong learning and continuous education in the Caribbean workforce.
- Preparing future generations of students for careers in AI and other emerging technologies.
- The role of AI in addressing specific challenges in Caribbean education, such as teacher shortages or geographic isolation.

## 7. Case Studies and Best Practices in the Caribbean:

- Examples of successful AI implementations in Caribbean schools, universities, and educational institutions.
- Partnerships between local governments, educational institutions, and tech companies in the Caribbean.
- Challenges and lessons learned from early AI adoption in Caribbean education.

### Important Dates

- **Abstract Submission Deadline: March 30, 2025**
- **Notification of Acceptance: April 15, 2025**
- **Full Paper Submission Deadline: August 20, 2025**

### Aims and Scope

The Journal of the University College of the Cayman Islands (JUCCI) seeks to create a voice for the faculty, staff, and students of the University College of the Cayman Islands, as well as the wider community, in such a way as to express and catalyze the views, emotions, and values that represent and strengthen the environment. It is our aim to reinforce and reflect the images that represent the society, its roots, and its relationships with the wider Caribbean and the world. This is done in ways that encourage excellence in research, analysis, creativity, and discourse.

JUCCI will be a multidisciplinary journal covering a broad spectrum of topics and perspectives. Being eclectic in nature, the journal will publish ambitious works that reflect a wide range of critical and analytical approaches. Under the supervision of an editorial board, manuscripts of exceptional academic merit on a variety of subjects are published.

### Guidelines for Contributors

Contributions are welcomed from all areas of scholarship. Manuscripts are expected to be original works able to withstand intensive peer review. Topics may fall within any theme of scholarship, including education, fine arts, humanities, medicine, science, social

sciences, international relations, politics, history, and public policy. As the journal serves multidisciplinary interests, any manuscript submitted for publication should be of potential appeal not only to specialists but also to readers whose principal interests do not coincide directly with the subject addressed in the paper.

Authors, rather than the editor or the University College of the Cayman Islands, bear responsibility for accuracy and opinions set forth in articles published in JUCCI. Careful observation of the requirements set out below will reduce the time needed for processing manuscripts and thereby contribute to earlier publication.

### Format of manuscripts

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced and delivered in both hard copy and electronic formats. The hard copy may be presented in PDF format and illustrations embedded, but the electronic copy should be in a common word processing program (Microsoft Word preferred) with illustrations on separate sheets (see below).

Parts of Manuscript All submissions must have a title page, an abstract, and a complete and accurate bibliography based on APA guidelines. All parts of the manuscript should be double-spaced.

### Abstracts should be submitted to: Editors:

Dr. Genève Phillip-Durham – [gdurham@ucci.edu.ky](mailto:gdurham@ucci.edu.ky)  
Dr. Jonathan Bratt- [jbratt@ucci.edu.ky](mailto:jbratt@ucci.edu.ky)

## MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS



Gabriela Quijano

### **Español**

Durante la reciente toma de posesión de Jennifer González como gobernadora del Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico, varias organizaciones se congregaron en San Juan bajo el lema “La naturaleza tiene quien la defienda”. El 2 de enero, mientras González juramentaba como primera mandataria del país, la fuerza de choque fue movilizad

para obstaculizar una protesta que buscaba alertar sobre las políticas ambientales del “nuevo” gobierno y denunciar proyectos de desarrollo existentes o futuros en zonas de conservación y áreas de alto potencial agrícola. La protesta evidenció que este momento de transición política está marcado por importantes críticas y disidencia, al tiempo que refleja las prioridades de las comunidades en lucha.

En Puerto Rico, como en toda la región del Caribe, los efectos del cambio climático son cada vez más severos. Durante la temporada de huracanes, que se extiende de junio a noviembre cada año, los ciclones traen lluvias intensas y vientos más destructivos, dejando tras de sí una estela de destrucción cada vez mayor. Al mismo tiempo, la erosión costera avanza debido al aumento del nivel del mar, la deforestación y los eventos climáticos extremos, poniendo en riesgo zonas residenciales y comunidades históricas. El aumento de las temperaturas y, en particular, las olas de calor frecuentes y de gran magnitud generan crisis de salud y sobrecargan la infraestructura energética.

Así, los sectores de lucha en Puerto Rico se movilizaron desde el segundo día del año, exigiendo nuevas retóricas y relaciones entre la vida humana, no-humana y las entidades no-vivientes que cohabitan el archipiélago. La consigna “la naturaleza tiene quien la defienda” evoca una concepción digna e integral del ambiente, desafiando perspectivas antropocéntricas y euro-modernas que subordinan y mercantilizan lo no-humano. Pero, ante esto, el nuevo gobierno se hizo sentir a través de la “mano dura” del Estado, dejando claro que se avecina una lucha tan urgente como intensa.

Mientras reflexiono sobre el estado actual de la crisis ambiental en Puerto Rico, no puedo evitar pensar en cómo esta situación se agrava

por el deterioro acelerado de la infraestructura pública. Como es bien sabido, el sistema de energía eléctrica colapsa con frecuencia, dejando a miles sin servicio y en una constante situación de vulnerabilidad. El apagón masivo más reciente ocurrió el 31 de diciembre, dejando al 90 % de la población dependiente del sistema eléctrico en la oscuridad. Además, las lluvias del pasado año, incluso cuando no fueron producto de eventos extremos, evidenciaron el precario estado del sistema de alcantarillado, que incrementa el riesgo de inundaciones. Sin duda, la llamada crisis ambiental es, en realidad, una crisis de visión, función y ética política. Hace tiempo que debemos dejar de concebir el ambiente como algo externo y exigir que las políticas públicas asuman con seriedad las perspectivas y lecciones de las onto-epistemologías no occidentales. Aquí no solo está en juego la dignidad y calidad de vida humana, sino la existencia y permanencia de nuestro mundo.

### **English**

During the recent inauguration of Jennifer González as governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, several organizations gathered in San Juan under the slogan “Nature has her defenders.” On January 2, while González was sworn in as the country’s head of government, riot police were deployed to obstruct a protest aimed at raising awareness about the environmental policies of the “new” administration and denouncing existing or upcoming development projects in conservation areas and regions with high agricultural potential. The protest revealed that this political transition is marked by significant criticism and dissent, while also reflecting the priorities of resisting communities.

In Puerto Rico, as in the entire Caribbean region, the effects of climate change are becoming increasingly severe. During hurricane season, which lasts from June to November each year, cyclones bring intense rains and stronger winds, leaving an ever-deepening trail of destruction in their wake. At the same time, coastal erosion continues due to rising sea levels, deforestation, and extreme weather events, endangering residential areas and historic communities. Rising temperatures, particularly frequent and intense heat waves, trigger health crises and place added pressure on the energy infrastructure.

Thus, sectors of resistance in Puerto Rico mobilized as early as the second day of the year, demanding new narratives and relationships between human life, non-human life, and non-living entities that share the archipelago. The slogan “nature has her defenders” evokes a dignified and holistic conception of the environment, challenging anthropocentric and Euro-modern perspectives that

## MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

subordinate and commodify the non-human world. Yet, in response, the new administration made its stance clear through the State's "heavy-handed" approach, signaling that an urgent and relentless struggle lies ahead.

As I reflect on the current state of the environmental crisis in Puerto Rico, I cannot help but think about how this situation is further exacerbated by the accelerated deterioration of public infrastructure. As is well known, the electrical grid collapses frequently, leaving thousands without power and in a constant state of vulnerability. The most recent massive blackout occurred on December 31, plunging 90% of the population dependent on the electrical system into darkness. Moreover, the rainfall throughout last year, even when unrelated to extreme weather events, exposed the precarious state of the sewage system, increasing the risk of flooding. Without a doubt, the so-called environmental crisis is, in reality, a crisis of vision, governance, and political ethics. It is long past time to move beyond conceiving the environment as something external and to demand that public policies seriously incorporate the perspectives and lessons of non-Western onto-epistemologies. What is at stake here is not only human dignity and quality of life but the very existence and survival of our world.

## MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd



Julien Merion

### **Français** **LE CYCLONE CHIDO A MAYOTTE CATASTROPHE CLIMATIQUE ET POLITIQUE**

Le 14 décembre 2024, le cyclone Chido a traversé l'île de Mayotte dans l'Océan indien, avec des vents de plus de 200 km/h laissant un bilan catastrophique. Une grande partie des maisons, faites en tôle et en bois, a été détruite et le nombre de victimes reste à ce jour indéterminé. Officiellement, on parle de 39 morts et 4 260 blessés. Pour de nombreux observateurs, ce chiffre est très en deçà de la réalité car les autorités n'ont aucune connaissance exacte de cette population qui vit dans des zones insalubres. L'île, étant donné sa position géographique, est rarement sur le passage des cyclones et ne possède pas une vraie culture du risque cyclonique. Nombreux sont ceux qui attribuent cette intensité subite au changement climatique. Comme l'a souligné l'AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island State), les petits territoires insulaires sont de plus en plus confrontés à des phénomènes météorologiques intenses comme ce fut le cas avec Beryl en juillet 2024 dans les Grenadines.



La récente réunion en mai 2024 à Antigua and Barbuda des PIED, sous l'égide de l'ONU a mis l'accent sur la vulnérabilité de ces petits territoires insulaires. La question posée par le cyclone Chido est simple. Quelles sont les moyens matériels, financiers et humains pour préserver ces petits territoires ?

A Mayotte la catastrophe est aussi politique. L'Etat français et les autorités locales n'ont pas été en mesure d'apporter les solutions adaptées pour prévenir le risque et pour gérer ensuite la catastrophe. Pour rappel, lors de l'Indépendance des Comores en 1975, la France procède à la partition de l'archipel en conservant une des îles, Mayotte, pour ses intérêts stratégiques dans l'Océan indien. Cette partition a été dénoncée par l'ONU. 14 résolutions ont été adoptées entre 1976 et 1994 réclamant la restitution de Mayotte aux Comores.

En 2011 Mayotte est érigée en département français avec une promesse d'égalité sociale et de mise en place d'infrastructures modernes. La réalité est tout autre. Plus pauvre département de France. 77% de la population vit sous le seuil de pauvreté. Les immigrés en provenance des Comores et d'Afrique constitue aujourd'hui 40% de la population estimée à 321 000 habitants.

Face à cette catastrophe, les réponses de l'Etat français ont été hésitantes. Le monde entier a assisté à ce spectacle de désolation, d'une population trop souvent laissée à elle-même et devenue l'objet de toutes les surenchères politiques. Cet épisode exprime une nouvelle fois l'échec flagrant des politiques coloniales d'aujourd'hui comme d'hier.

Pour autant, un vaste mouvement de solidarité de la société civile s'est enclenché pour venir en aide aux victimes. Sur place, des enseignants, des soignants, des citoyens se sont engagés pour éviter le pire. En Guadeloupe, une initiative a été prise par le CO.RE.CA en partenariat avec le Lycée des Lumières. Lors d'une réunion en visioconférence avec le proviseur guadeloupéen de ce Lycée, un projet d'aides aux enfants pour leur offrir des vêtements et du matériel scolaire a été arrêté (versement de fond et cagnotte en ligne).



# MESSAGE FROM THE LANGUAGE SUB-EDITORS cont'd

## **English**

### **CYCLONE CHIDO IN MAYOTTE CLIMATE AND POLITICAL DISASTER**

On December 14, 2024, Cyclone Chido crossed the island of Mayotte in the Indian Ocean, with winds of more than 200 km/h leaving a catastrophic toll. A large part of the houses, made of sheet metal and wood, were destroyed and the number of victims remains undetermined to this day. Officially, there are 39 dead and 4,260 injured. For many observers, this figure is far below reality because the authorities have no exact knowledge of this population who lives in unsanitary areas. The island, given its geographical position, is rarely in the path of cyclones and does not have a real culture of cyclone risk. Many people attribute this sudden intensity to climate change. As underlined by AOSIS (Alliance of Small Island States), small island territories are increasingly confronted with intense meteorological phenomena as was the case with Beryl in July 2024 in the Grenadines.

The recent meeting in May 2024 in Antigua and Barbuda of the SIDS, under the aegis of the UN, highlighted the vulnerability of these small island territories. The question raised by Cyclone Chido is simple. What are the material, financial and human resources to preserve these small territories?

In Mayotte, the disaster is also political. The French State and local authorities were not able to provide the appropriate solutions to prevent the risk and then manage the disaster. As a reminder, when the Comoros gained independence in 1975, France partitioned the archipelago, retaining one of the islands, Mayotte, for its strategic interests in the Indian Ocean. This partition was denounced by the UN. 14 resolutions were adopted between 1976 and 1994 demanding the restitution of Mayotte to the Comoros.

In 2011 Mayotte was established as a French department with a promise of social equality and the establishment of modern infrastructure. The reality is quite different. The poorest department in France. 77% of the population lives below the poverty line. Immigrants from the Comoros and Africa now make up 40% of the population, estimated at 321,000 inhabitants.

Faced with this catastrophe, the responses of the French State have been hesitant. The whole world has witnessed this spectacle of desolation, of a population too often left to itself and become the object of all political one-upmanship. This episode once again expresses the flagrant failure of colonial policies today as well as yes-

terday. However, a vast movement of solidarity from civil society has been launched to help the victims. On site, teachers, caregivers, and citizens have committed to avoiding the worst. In Guadeloupe, an initiative was taken by the CO.RE.CA in partnership with the Lycée des Lumières.

During a videoconference meeting with the Guadeloupean principal of this Lycée, a project to help children by providing them with clothes and school supplies was decided (fund transfer and online kitty).

# VIRGIN ISLAND REPORT



ChenziRa Davis Kahina

In the Virgin Islands, Old Year 2024 closed with a culmination of activities surrounding the Annual Crucian Christmas Festival Season with a great cultural, culinary, musical, heritage and an eclectic blend of creative celebratory arts, exhibitions, food fairs, royal pageantry, family reunions, concerts and more complementary to seasonal activities throughout the entire Caribbean and globally.

<https://www.visitusvi.com/events/crucian-christmas-festival/> The 31<sup>st</sup> of December marked the observance of the birth of an Outstanding Virgin Islander of continental Afrakan roots, lineage and heritage – Dr. Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes). Research and publications of Dr. Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes) - born December 31<sup>st</sup>. 1918 and transitioned March 19<sup>th</sup>. 2015 at 96 years



- are exceptional pioneering educational, historical, and sociopolitical foundations for contemporary Afrakan, Caribbean and World Civilization Studies. With proactive research, activism and support from the VI, Caribbean Americas and globally, in 2012 the Virgin Islands Legislature enacted a resolution to honor Dr. Jochannan that is celebrated and in alignment with the United Nations International Decade for People of African Descent 2015-2024 theme of "Recognition, Justice and Development"

<https://youtu.be/duz0qofCJYQ?si=tpDaHvQSYveZRq6h>  
[https://youtu.be/FYJcm\\_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-Rqhw](https://youtu.be/FYJcm_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-Rqhw)

Ambassadorial and communitarian representatives in the Virgin Islands with long-term membership and supportive resources within CSA, continue to cooperatively engage with efforts, programs and cultural heritage education initiatives spearheaded and organized by the United Nations (UN), African Union (AU) and AU ECOSOC, Caribbean Pan African Network (CPAN) and CARICOM

Reparations Commission (CRC), the Permanent Forum for People of African Descent within the United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (PPAD) <https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent>, and other global entities. These exchanges, programs and engagement are in alignment with the Second International Decade for People of African Descent 2025 to 2034 expanding the first decade's theme of "Recognition, Justice and Development".

<https://youtu.be/JRZCRV9qhVvk?si=TZBPAg52hMfZCkbA>  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent>

Another end of year highlight included exceptional and honorable recognition to long-time CSA member and conference presenter Dr. Carlyle G. Corbin, a seasoned ambassador, international affairs consultant, lecturer and more at the United Nations Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) by Virgin Islands (UK) Special Envoy Hon. Benito Wheatley. Hon. Dr. Corbin provided international governance and ambassadorial services under 5 Virgin Islands (US) executive administrations and continues to consult and advise multiple UN entities alongside other small islands and overseas territories globally.

<https://youtu.be/wwD3Sf6adXs?si=CfpWwfxT2bqA8IcH>

Congratulations to the Society of Virgin Islands Historians for an informative and successful Annual Meeting and Lecture hosted at the University of the Virgin Islands Albert Sheen Campus on St. Croix on January 18, 2025. The keynote lecture entitled "Sovereign Narratives of Afrafuturist Maroon Legacy of St. Croix and Caribbean Spaces" was delivered by CSA past president Dr. Chenzira Davis Kahina who also serves as a vice president of SVIH. <https://vihistorians.net/>



As preparations for another successful conference for CSA2025 St. Martin, may our scholars, graduate students, seasoned leaders, and wider community of Caribbeanists support research and #actionabledeliverables to sustain Caribbean Studies programs that

## VIRGIN ISLAND REPORT cont'd

strengthen our communities. May our work be more inclusive and make visible the “big mistakes” happening to our Caribbean people of Afrakan descent in Costa Rica. Research and presentations forthcoming complementary to the documentary El Gran Error- Documental Caso Kekoldi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei09SfLubHI> Share your comments, inquiries and Afrafuturist work.

Remain inspired!

### Español

En las Islas Vírgenes, el Año Antiguo 2024 cerró con la culminación de las actividades relacionadas con la temporada del Festival Anual de Navidad Cruciana con un gran patrimonio cultural, culinario, musical y una mezcla ecléctica de artes creativas de celebración, exposiciones, ferias gastronómicas, pompa real y reuniones familiares, conciertos y más actividades complementarias a las de temporada en todo el Caribe y a nivel mundial. <https://www.visitusvi.com/events/crucian-christmas-festival/> El 31 de diciembre se celebró el nacimiento de un destacado isleño virgen de raíces, linaje y herencia continental de Afrakan: el Dr. Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes). Investigaciones y publicaciones del Dr. Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes), nacido el 31 de diciembre. 1918 y transición el 19 de marzo. 2015 a los 96 años- son fundamentos educativos, históricos y sociopolíticos pioneros excepcionales para los estudios contemporáneos de la civilización africana, caribeña y mundial. Con investigación proactiva, activismo y apoyo del VI, el Caribe americano y a nivel mundial, en 2012 la Legislatura de las Islas Vírgenes promulgó una resolución para honrar al Dr. Jochannan que se celebra y está alineada con el Decenio Internacional de las Naciones Unidas para los Afrodescendientes 2015-2024. tema de “Reconocimiento, Justicia y Desarrollo”

<https://youtu.be/duz0qofCJYQ?si=tpDaHvQSYveZRq6h>

[https://youtu.be/FYJcm\\_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-Rqhw](https://youtu.be/FYJcm_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-Rqhw)

Los representantes comunitarios y de embajadores en las Islas Vírgenes con membresía a largo plazo y recursos de apoyo dentro de CSA, continúan participando cooperativamente en esfuerzos, programas e iniciativas de educación sobre el patrimonio cultural encabezados y organizados por las Naciones Unidas (ONU), la Unión Africana (UA) y la UA. ECOSOC, Red Panafricana del Caribe (CPAN) y Comisión de Reparaciones de CARICOM (CRC), el Foro Permanente para los Afrodescendientes dentro de la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas (PFPAD) <https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent> y otras entidades globales. Estos intercambios, programas y com-

promisos están alineados con el Segundo Decenio Internacional de los Afrodescendientes 2025 a 2034, ampliando el tema de la primera década de “Reconocimiento, Justicia y Desarrollo”.

<https://youtu.be/JRZCRV9qhVk?si=TZBPAg52hMfZCkba>

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent>

Otro punto destacado de fin de año incluyó un reconocimiento excepcional y honorable al Dr. Carlyle G. Corbin, miembro de la CSA desde hace mucho tiempo y presentador de conferencias, un experimentado embajador, consultor de asuntos internacionales, conferencista y más en el Comité de Desarrollo y Cooperación del Caribe de las Naciones Unidas (CDCC) por Enviado Especial de las Islas Vírgenes (Reino Unido), Excmo. Benito Wheatley. Honorable. El Dr. Corbin brindó servicios de embajada y gobernanza internacional bajo cinco administraciones ejecutivas de las Islas Vírgenes (EE. UU.) y continúa consultando y asesorando a múltiples entidades de la ONU junto con otras islas pequeñas y territorios de ultramar a nivel mundial. <https://youtu.be/wwD3Sf6adXs?si=CfpWwfxT2bqA8lch>

Felicitaciones a la Sociedad de Historiadores de las Islas Vírgenes por una reunión y conferencia anual informativa y exitosa celebrada en la Universidad Albert de las Islas Vírgenes. Sheen Campus en St. Croix el 18 de enero de 2025. La conferencia magistral titulada “Narrativas soberanas del legado afrafuturista cimarrón de Santa Cruz y los espacios caribeños” fue pronunciada por la ex presidenta de CSA, la Dra. Chenzira Davis Kahina, quien también se desempeña como vicepresidenta de SVIH. <https://vihistorians.net/>

Como preparativos para otra conferencia exitosa para CSA2025 St. Martin, que nuestros académicos, estudiantes graduados, líderes experimentados y una comunidad más amplia de caribeños apoyen la investigación y #actionabledeliverables para sostener los programas de estudios caribeños que fortalezcan a nuestras comunidades. Que nuestro trabajo sea más inclusivo y visibilice los “grandes errores” que le están sucediendo a nuestro pueblo caribeño de ascendencia afrakan en Costa Rica. Próximas investigaciones y presentaciones complementarias al documental El Gran Error- Documental Caso Kekoldi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei09SfLubHI> Comparte tus comentarios, consultas y trabajos afrafuturistas.

¡Manténgase inspirado!

# VIRGIN ISLAND REPORT cont'd

## Français

Dans les Îles Vierges, l'année 2024 s'est terminée par un point culminant d'activités entourant la saison annuelle du festival de Noël du Crucian avec un grand patrimoine culturel, culinaire, musical et un mélange éclectique d'arts festifs créatifs, d'expositions, de foires alimentaires, d'apparat royal et de réunions de famille, concerts et plus complémentaires aux activités saisonnières dans toute la Caraïbe et dans le monde. <https://www.visitusvi.com/events/crucian-christmas-festival/> Le 31 décembre a marqué la célébration de la naissance d'un insulaire vierge exceptionnel aux racines, lignées et héritages continentaux afrikans - Dr Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes) . Recherches et publications du Dr Yosef ben Jochannan (Johannes) - né le 31 décembre. 1918 et transition le 19 mars. 2015 à 96 ans - constituent des fondements éducatifs, historiques et sociopolitiques pionniers exceptionnels pour les études contemporaines afrikanes, caribéennes et sur la civilisation mondiale. Grâce à des recherches proactives, à l'activisme et au soutien de l'IV, des Amériques des Caraïbes et du monde entier, la législature des îles Vierges a adopté en 2012 une résolution pour honorer le Dr Jochannan qui est célébrée et conforme à la Décennie internationale des Nations Unies pour les personnes d'ascendance africaine 2015-2024. thème de « Reconnaissance, Justice et Développement » <https://youtu.be/duz0qofCJYQ?si=tpDaHvQSYveZRq6h>  
[https://youtu.be/FYJCM\\_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-RqhW](https://youtu.be/FYJCM_gdD9I?si=XB-PtpYo07p-RqhW)

Les représentants des ambassadeurs et des communautés des îles Vierges, membres de longue date et ressources de soutien au sein du CSA, continuent de s'engager en coopération dans les efforts, les programmes et les initiatives d'éducation au patrimoine culturel dirigés et organisés par les Nations Unies (ONU), l'Union africaine (UA) et l'UA. ECOSOC, Réseau panafricain des Caraïbes (CPAN) et Commission des réparations de la CARICOM (CRC), l'Instance permanente pour les personnes d'ascendance africaine au sein du Haut-Commissariat des Nations Unies aux droits de l'homme (PFPAD) <https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent>, et d'autres entités mondiales. Ces échanges, programmes et engagements s'inscrivent dans la continuité de la deuxième Décennie internationale des personnes d'ascendance africaine (2025 à 2034), élargissant le thème de la première décennie « Reconnaissance, justice et développement ». <https://youtu.be/JRZCRV9qhV?si=TZBPAg52hMfZCkba>  
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/decade-people-african-descent>

Un autre moment fort de la fin de l'année a été la reconnaissance exceptionnelle et honorable du Dr Carlyle G. Corbin, membre de

longue date de l'ASC et présentateur de la conférence, ambassadeur chevronné, consultant en affaires internationales, conférencier et plus encore au Comité de développement et de coopération des Nations Unies pour les Caraïbes (CDCC) par Îles Vierges (Royaume-Uni), Envoyé spécial, Hon. Benito Wheatley. L'hon. Le Dr Corbin a fourni des services de gouvernance internationale et d'ambassadeur sous cinq administrations exécutives des îles Vierges (États-Unis) et continue de consulter et de conseiller plusieurs entités des Nations Unies aux côtés d'autres petites îles et territoires d'outre-mer dans le monde.

<https://youtu.be/wwD3Sf6adXs?si=CfpWwfxT2bqA8IcH>

Félicitations à la Société des historiens des îles Vierges pour une réunion annuelle et une conférence informative et réussie organisées à l'Université des Îles Vierges Albert. Campus Sheen à Sainte-Croix le 18 janvier 2025. La conférence principale intitulée « Récits souverains de l'héritage afrafuturiste marron de Sainte-Croix et des espaces caribéens » a été prononcée par l'ancienne présidente de la CSA, le Dr Chenzira Davis Kahina, qui est également vice-présidente du SVIH. <https://vihistorians.net/>

Dans le cadre des préparatifs d'une autre conférence réussie pour CSA2025 St. Martin, puissent nos universitaires, étudiants diplômés, dirigeants chevronnés et la communauté plus large des caribéens soutenir la recherche et les livrables #actionables pour soutenir les programmes d'études caribéennes qui renforcent nos communautés. Puisse notre travail être plus inclusif et rendre visibles les « grosses erreurs » commises par notre peuple caribéen d'origine afrikane au Costa Rica. Recherches et présentations à venir complémentaires au documentaire El Gran Error - Documental Caso Kekoldi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ei09SflubHI>  
Partagez vos commentaires, demandes de renseignements et travaux afrafuturistes.

Restez inspiré !

# ARUBA NEWS

## History of Carnival: from origins to influences

Carnival's origins can be traced back to ancient Roman pagan festivals, such as Saturnalia and Lupercalia, which were marked by feasting, drinking, and wild revelry. In the Middle Ages, the Catholic Church incorporated these festivities into its calendar, as a way to prepare for the somber Lenten season. Over time, Carnival evolved into a major cultural event, characterized by colorful parades, elaborate costumes, lively music, and dancing. The Caribbean Carnival, in particular, has a distinct style that incorporates African and indigenous influences, and is celebrated throughout the region with great enthusiasm and energy.

### How and when did Carnival start in Aruba?

The roots of Aruba's Carnival date back to 1954, when the first small street festivals were organized. It wasn't until 1955 that various clubs and districts came together for the first public Carnival on the island. This also featured the first official Carnival queen.

The debut of steel and brass bands soon followed, and by 1957, the traditional Grand Parades had become a mainstay of the festival.

In 1966, Stichting Arubaanse Carnaval was founded, marking the official start of the Carnival season every year on November 11th at 11:11 a.m. Each year, the Carnival season officially begins at this precise moment. Ever since 1981, Tivoli has produced the Lighting Parade, a twinkling nighttime extravaganza.

Besides the Lighting Parade, thousands of participants and spectators enjoy Children's Parades, the Jouvert Morning Pajama Party, the Grand Carnival Parade in San Nicolas, and the exciting finale - the Grand Carnival Parade in Oranjestad. The midnight burning of King Momo, a life-size effigy, signals the end of the Aruba Carnival season on Shrove Tuesday, the day just before Ash Wednesday. This tradition symbolizes the burning of the Spirit of Carnival, who will rise again when the next season - and a whole new round of partying - begins.

### When is Carnival in Aruba?

If you want to experience a colorful celebration unlike any other, visit the island during Aruba Carnival season and experience the bright spirits of our local community first hand.

So, how long does Carnival last? The season officially starts in November, but the best Carnival dates are in January and February (with most events, celebrations and parades). We'll promise it's one of the best things to do in Aruba. Once you see the creative costumes and hear the catchy music, you will instantly understand why this is the happiest island on earth.

Source: [www.Aruba.com](http://www.Aruba.com)



# MESSAGE FROM THE GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE



Maya Freeman

**HAPPY NEW YEAR 2025!  
HAPPY GRADUATION TO  
ALL SPRING 2025 CSA  
UNDERGRADUATE/  
GRADUATE STUDENTS AND  
SCHOLARS!**

**MANY ARE GRADUATING  
WITH THEIR BACHELOR'S/  
MASTER'S IN SPRING  
2025, THEN GOING INTO  
GRADUATE PROGRAMS –  
LET US CELEBRATE YOU!**

**\*\*SAVE THE DATE FOR CSA CONFERENCE AND CSA 2025 GRADUATE STUDENT BREAKFAST - WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

CSA is growing and improving as we prepare for its 51st Anniversary in 2025 on the beautiful island of St. Martin/St. Maarten.

CSA is committed to fostering relationships with supportive discourse and active advice on how best to conduct research specifically on the Caribbean or how to navigate graduate school as a Caribbeanist.

CSA Undergraduate/Graduate Student Members are encouraged to actively engage in as many celebratory and commemorative programs as possible during this historic year and beyond.

We want CSA newcomers/graduate students to build a relationship with someone in academia, who they can go to ask questions or clarify during and after the conference.



## **KEY DATES:**

**CSA ACADEMIC CONFERENCE JUNE 1-6, 2025 – ST. MARTIN/ST. MAARTEN**

**CSA GSMP CSA Conference Day 2 on Tuesday, June 3, 2025**, facilitated by Dr. Dwaine Plaza [CSA Treasurer and Professor at the University of Oregon]. CSA GSMP established face-to-face opportunities among CSA faculty and scholars (seasoned CSA members) with graduate student members of CSA (individuals working on Masters or Doctoral Degrees) at institutions from around the world. A central intention of the CSA GSMP was to encourage continued post-conference communication among mentors and mentees.

If you are interested in learning more about the CSA, send an email with your name, your email, the current institution you are attending for bachelor's/master's/doctoral studies, and contact info:

MAYA I. FREEMAN, GRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE EMAIL: [freemansociology@gmail.com](mailto:freemansociology@gmail.com) or [gradstudentrep@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](mailto:gradstudentrep@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org)

CSA Graduate Student Members, what exciting news do you have to share about your graduate student experiences?

As your CSA Graduate Student Representative, I welcome your reflections, suggestions, and innovative ideas for keeping CSA relevant for our graduate student members now and in the future. Our multitude of intergenerational perspectives are all part of the African diaspora and its people.

Don't hesitate to contact me with any suggestions or comments, I would love to hear from you!

Best wishes,  
Maya I. Freeman, GSR 2023-2025



**CTMG AROUND THE WORLD  
NEW YEAR, NEW HORIZONS  
SAVE THESE DATES FOR OUR 2025 events**



Get ready for an exciting year ahead as we gear up to share all the details about our 2nd annual [Cross Continental Forum \(CCF\) in Barbados](#), celebrate the **20th anniversary of [CaribbeanTales International Film Festival \(CTFF\)](#)**, honour the legacy of the [Windrush Generation](#) in the UK, and bring you highly anticipated events like **The [Hon. Dr. Jean Augustine Birthday Charity Fundraiser](#)**, **[The Big Pitch at TIFF](#)** and **[CineFAM!](#)** Plus, explore diverse Caribbean stories anytime on our [CaribbeanTales-TV VOD](#) platform, now in partnership with Tempo! [CTMG](#) and [TEMPO Networks](#) have teamed up to provide the biggest library of Caribbean content in the world.

Wherever you are in the world, join us in making 2025 a memorable year at CTMG.

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

- [History of Photography Journal Special Issue on the Caribbean](#)
- [Language in Caribbean Migrations](#)
- [Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions Conference 2025](#)
- [Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars' 17th Biennial Conference](#)
- [Journal of the University College of the Cayman Islands \(JUCCI\)](#)
- [Segunda llamada: CONVOCATORIA XXIV CONGRESO DE LA AMEC, 9, 10 y 11 DE ABRIL, 2025](#)

## **JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

- [The John Galliher Postdoctoral Fellowship in Peace Studies and Black Studies](#)
- [Tenure-Track Position in English, Western University, Canada](#)
- [Director, African & African American Studies Program](#)

## **SEMINARS, EVENTS AND CONFERENCES**

- [Black Diversities Virtual Seminar](#)
- [2025 Annual Caribbean Studies Association \(CSA\) Conference](#)

### **CSA MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions, [membership payments](#) that are sent via regular mail are not being delivered or received in a timely manner. The safest, fastest and most efficient payment mode at this time is online, using the CSA payment portal.

#### **WIRE TRANSFER**

If you prefer doing a wire transfer, [click here](#) for the transfer details.

#### **ONLINE PAYMENTS**

[Click here](#) to make an online payment with a debit or credit card using PayPal.

#### **IN-PERSON**

For persons residing in T&T, the TTD equivalent can be made at the UWI Bursary, St. Augustine, to account number 18087-1851-5405-1. Please also email a copy of the payment receipt to [secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org](mailto:secretariat@caribbeanstudiesassociation.org).

» [CLICK HERE](#) for more details about CSA Membership

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS cont'd

### Caribbean Studies Association (CSA) Online Store - Now Open

Get your paraphernalia today and show your support for CSA!

The proceeds from the sales go to support the CSA Conference Travel Grants and other initiatives to support the annual conference.

[ [CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE ONLINE STORE](#) ]

