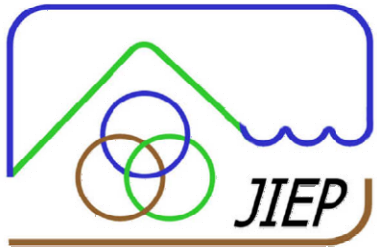


Photo credit: Karen McIntyre

APRIL 2012

# the environmental professional quarterly

JAMAICA INSTITUTE OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## Volume 2, Issue No. 2

Welcome to the April 2012 issue of the JIEP's Quarterly Newsletter—*The Environmental Professional Quarterly (EPQ)*. It is the intention that this newsletter will keep persons informed of the JIEP's activities and the environmental profession in Jamaica.

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## Rio + 20: The Future We Want

The sprint is on toward June 20-22, 2012 when Rio de Janeiro, Brazil will host over 130 heads of state and several thousand delegates representing thousands of business CEOs, parliamentarians, mayors, NGO leaders, academics, senior UN officials, journalists and representatives from miscellaneous groups attending the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (UNCSD). Delegates will attend the main conference and several side events, discussing the several issues related to the main themes as well as the web of sustainable development issues. Negotiations have been proceeding toward the Outcome Document entitled *The Future We Want*.

### JIEP MISSION STATEMENT

*To maintain high standards of professionalism among our members in order to improve the environmental management capacity and practices in Jamaica.*

Twenty years ago, in 1992, the landmark United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) was held in Rio de Janeiro. Commonly referred to as the *Earth Summit* or *Rio*, the conference was attended by the largest gathering of heads of state in history, as well as thousands of delegates representing governments, NGOs and UN organisations. Among the several areas of deliberation was the general recognition of the interlocking crises of development, energy and ecological degradation. Outcomes of

the conference included an agreement on a comprehensive global blueprint for sustainable development called *Agenda 21*; the *Rio Declaration on Environment and Development*, and the Rio Conventions: *the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change*, the *Convention on Biological Diversity*, and the *Convention on Combating Desertification*. It is significant to note that the first of 27 principles in the Rio Declaration stated "Human beings are at the centre of concerns for sustainable development. They are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature".

The twenty year journey has been marked by a number of regional and global events, all in the interest of furthering the outcomes of Rio. In 1994, the first ever conference to focus on the needs of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was convened in Barbados and the *Barbados Plan of Action (BPoA)* was agreed. The *Millennium Summit* in 2000 produced the *Millennium Development Goals (MDGS)*, which sought to focus attention on poverty eradication through a series of eight goals and eighteen targets. The *World Summit on Sustainable Development* held in 2002, (Rio + 10) led

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to the *Johannesburg Plan of Action* which emphasised attention to water and sanitation, energy, health, agriculture, biodiversity, and governance. In 2005, the *Mauritius Strategy* emanated from the conference which revisited progress on the implementation of the BPoA. One week later (also in 2005) the *World Conference on Disaster Reduction* produced the *Hyogo Framework for Action*, a ten year plan to build the resilience of nations and communities to disasters. Several thematic meetings have been convened regionally and globally and in just under fifty days the major conference will attempt to garner new insights and agreements on the way forward.

The objective of Earth Summit 2012 is to: secure renewed political commitment to sustainable development; to assess progress towards internationally agreed goals on sustainable development; and to address new and emerging challenges. Deliberations of the Summit will revolve around two main themes:

- a green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication; and
- the institutional framework for sustainable development

The Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) for the Summit conducted a review of progress over twenty years measuring changes in each of the three pillars of sustainable development. The review took account of development, environment, climate change, millennium development goals, poverty, global economic crises, food security, and energy. Trends identified are mixed. Progress has occurred on the economic front and in the amelioration of poverty in some regions, but there are inequalities in that dividends have been unequally shared within, as well as between countries. Many countries are still not on track for achieving key Millennium Development Goals and overall, most of the environmental indicators have continued to deteriorate.

The ultimate test of sustainable development is the convergence among the three trajectories of economic growth, social improvement and environmental protection. Overall, the record over the past twenty years fails to meet the test. The most promising trend is improved convergence between economic and social dimensions. However, most indicators of environmental improvement have not demonstrated appreciable convergence with those of economic and social progress. Interestingly, growth in the framework for environment is greater than other pillars, but there is increased divergence especially with respect to the built environment. Several factors have been identified, and the UNCSO seeks to further dialogue and action to remedy the shortcomings.

Seven critical issues have been highlighted within the major themes and for the many sessions of the UNCSO: Jobs, Energy, Sustainable Cities, Food Security and Sustainable Agriculture, Clean Accessible Water, Oceans and Disaster Risk Reduction and Building Resilience.

In summary, Earth Summit 2012 seeks to re-energize the aspirations of two decades ago when environment and development were brought together under the rubric of sustainable development at the World Conference in Rio. A sea change in sensitivity has taken place globally; awareness has increased nationally; but the radical steps required to mainstream a truly integrated approach to development policy and implementation continues to elude our decision-makers in the public, private, and civil sectors in Jamaica as in many other countries. Changing climate has heightened the environmental dialogue, and efforts to build climate resilience are gaining momentum in the international arena of development assistance. Natural hazards pummel physical, biological and social assets, and challenge economic gains. Energy security is a key environmental consideration, but cost and access are the overriding concerns. The wealth of ecosystems continues to be sacrificed on the altar of expedience as the "quality of life" declines for many in our societies.

**Can we find the nexus between the sustainable development paradigm of Rio 1992 and today's realities? Can we design, construct and sustain an institutional framework to shape a green economy toward poverty eradication? What role can we play as environmental professionals and global citizens?**

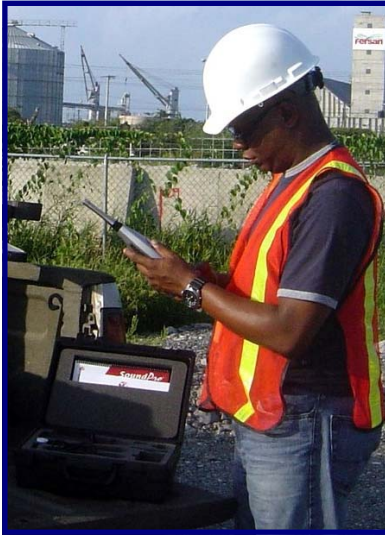


***Eleanor Jones, Vice President***

## JIEP Spotlight Mr. Carlton Campbell

Carlton Campbell is an Environmental Scientist and a CIEC Council-certified Indoor Environmental Consultant, with over fifteen years experience in the field. For the last twelve years, he has been the owner and Managing Director for C.L. Environmental Company Ltd., which provides a range of environmental management services through a team of multidisciplinary scientists and consultants. Services include environmental impact assessments, environmental monitoring, occupational health and safety, noise and indoor air quality assessments.

Carlton's love for the sciences began at Munro College where he was also avidly involved in sports. He continued his studies at the University of the West Indies where he achieved a B.Sc. in Geography and Zoology in 1992. He later went on to receive an M.Phil in



Marine Water Quality in 2000 and is currently pursuing a Ph.D in Environmental Biology.

His passion for sports also continued at UWI where he was Sports Chairman for the Guild of Undergraduates and played on the hockey, track and field and football teams. While at UWI he also received the U.W.I Sportsman of Excellence and Outstanding Student Lion Award for Chancellor Hall.

Before working as a consultant, Carlton received valuable experience working for the Department of Life Sciences, and as an Inspector of Mines, Ministry of Public Utilities, Mining and Energy. He was also a Project Officer at Environmental Solutions Ltd. In the past, he has been a council member of the JIEP, president of Munro College Old Boys Hockey Club, executive member of the Munro College Old Boys Association and member of the Jamaica Hockey Federation.

## Environment in the News

EARTH DAY PICTURES: TEN MOST THREATENED FORESTS

[http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2012/04/pictures/120420-forests-threatened-environment-earth-day/#/most-threatened-forests-earth-day-amazon\\_51884\\_600x450.jpg](http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2012/04/pictures/120420-forests-threatened-environment-earth-day/#/most-threatened-forests-earth-day-amazon_51884_600x450.jpg)

ISLAND ROUTES SPONSORED EARTH DAY HIKE A SUCCESS

<http://www.jamaicaobserver.com/latestnews/Island-Routes--Earth-Day-hike-a-success>

EARTH DAY NETWORK ACHIEVES ONE BILLION ACTS OF GREEN

<http://www.ens-newswire.com/ens/apr2012/2012-04-23-02.html>

LIVING OCEANS FOUNDATION BEGINS CORAL REEF RESEARCH IN PEDRO BANK JAMAICA

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/03/09/idUS221246+09-Mar-2012+PRN20120309>

WINDALCO TO THE RESCUE

<http://news.mongabay.com/2012/0430-hance-skinks-caribbean.html#ixzz1tc9qTO25>

SKINK BIODIVERSITY JUMPS 650% IN THE CARIBBEAN

<http://jamaica-gleaner.com/gleaner/20120425/lead/lead8.html>

***“Humankind has not woven the web of life. We are but one thread within it. Whatever we do to the web, we do to ourselves. All things are bound together. All things connect.***

**CHIEF SEATTLE**

## Getting to know the JIEP

### Payment Options

The JIEP has instituted a portal for the online payment of membership dues, application fees and ad-hoc payments. Information on these and other payment options are available at:

<http://www.jiep.org/drupal/content/e-payments>

## Dear JIEP When are the Closed Seasons in Jamaica?

A Closed Season is a form of wildlife management tool used towards the management of certain game or fish. It is a period of time when the hunting and or capture of a particular species is contrary to law and is therefore an illegal act and is punishable by law. Closed Seasons are usually designed to protect a species during a sensitive period such as their breeding season or when they are vulnerable. Other types of hunting season restrictions may be used in conjunction with Closed Season. For example, Limited Entry, where a quota is set and eligible hunters (or fishers) must go through an application and approval process. Further, the capture may be restricted to age, sex, class or size. The period of time for a closed season may either be a set date or a relative date which is determined each year.



Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*)  
Photo Credit: Michelle McNaught

For the Jamaican setting, Closed Seasons are important fisheries management tools that are employed by the Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for the sustainable management of two major capture fisheries: Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*) and Spiny Lobsters (*Panulirus argus* and *Panulirus guttatus*). Queen Conch and Spiny Lobster fisheries closed seasons are employed during their breeding seasons. The Queen Conch Closed Season is declared and gazetted each year by the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and employs Limited Entry. It is against the law for conch to be landed or purchased during the closed season. The Spiny Lobsters closed season is April 1 to June 30 each year. It is illegal to catch, buy or sell lobsters during this period and it is illegal to capture berried and or undersized (under 8.9 cm carapace length) lobsters year round. April 1 to April 21 is a provisional period to the closed season in which spiny lobsters proprietors are allowed to

sell their spiny lobsters in storage if the quantity in storage is declared by March 31 to Fisheries Division of the same year. The fishing industry is governed by two main pieces of legislation: The Fishing Industry Act, 1975, and The Fishing Industry Regulations, 1976. A few other regulations have been established over the years to address the growing concerns regarding the capture and stock of the aforementioned species. Further, the Queen Conch is protected under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), to which Jamaica is a signatory, as such, sustainable management of the species and conservation of the stock is mandatory to maintain its international trade.

The National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA) has a similar management tool, where year round it is illegal to hunt all naturally occurring birds except four species of doves and pigeons from the Columbidae Family only during the Open Season which is determined each year and is usually for six weeks during the months of August and September. These birds are the White-crowned Pigeon; White-winged Dove; Zenaida Dove and Mourning Dove. There is a bag limit of twenty birds per bag per shooting session with no more than fifteen White-crowned Pigeons. A shooting session is from dawn to 9 a.m. or 2:30 p.m. to dusk. Shooting sessions typically are only on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays) and there is a maximum of three shooting session per weekend. NEPA's Game Bird Hunting Season is empowered under the Wild Life Protection Act, 1945.

Other Closed Season conditions apply for the aforementioned. It is therefore important to contact the appropriate governing body or check the local press for details. Please note that it is illegal to fish or hunt without an appropriate permit and or licence issued by the Government of Jamaica. For further information, please contact the Fisheries Division (876 923 8811, [http://www.moa.gov.jm/Fisheries/closed\\_season.php](http://www.moa.gov.jm/Fisheries/closed_season.php)) or The National Environment and Planning Agency (876 754 7540, <http://www.nepa.gov.jm/index.asp>).



Spiny Lobster (*Panulirus argus*)  
Photo Credit Anna-Cherice Ebanks

## Past Events



### LAUNCH OF "ONE DAY ON EARTH" FILM

Palace Cineplex, April 22, 2012

The final "One Day on Earth" 11.11.11 (November 11, 2011) film was launched in Jamaica on Earth Day (April 22, 2012) through the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Environmental Foundation of Jamaica (EFJ). Interestingly, Jamaica had footage that was selected for about 4 different segments in the 11.11.11 worldwide documentary film. This media event is actually the second film created since the project's inception in September 2008, the first of its kind taking place on 10.10.10 (October 10th, 2012) and hopes of many more to come in the future.

The goal of "One Day on Earth" is to create an open sharable archive and documentary film of the world in which many thousands of international participants simultaneously film over a 24-hour period. Through its social network, the "One Day on Earth" team hope "to enlighten, teach and benefit humanity through global collaboration and inspired media creation" and "seek to find a deeper understanding of life on this planet".

Home page: <http://www.onedayonearth.org/>

Video Archive: <http://archive.onedayonearth.org/index.php/videos>

## Upcoming Events

### JIEP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**MAY** *International Day for Biological Diversity (May 22)*

**JUNE** **JIEP AGM (June 26)**

*United Nations World Environment Day (June 5)*

*Environmental Awareness Week (June 5 - 12)*

*World Oceans Day (June 8)*

**JULY** **JIEP Quarterly Newsletter (Volume 2, Issue No. 3)**

save the date

**JIEP AGM**

**JUNE 26, 2012**

*Venue and time will be communicated closer to the time.*

**Lobster Closed Season**  
*April 1 - June 30*

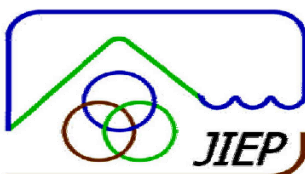
## Member's Corner

Let us welcome our newest member:

**MR. CAMILO TRENCH**

**Editor's Note** *This is the second EPQ newsletter for the year 2012 We look forward to receiving your comments and any contributions for content (jiepsec@gmail.com).*

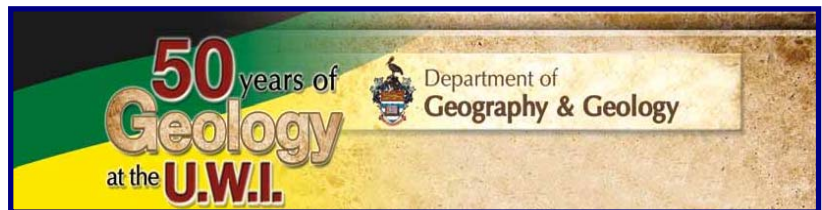
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## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF GEOLOGY AT UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES (U.W.I.), MONA CAMPUS

May 17-19, 2012



In 1961, the new Department of Geology was set up in one of the old buildings that had been part of Gibraltar Camp during World War II and had then become the nucleus of the University College of the West Indies in 1947. Academic staff arrived on the scene in mid-1961 and teaching of the first student intake started that October. This year the department celebrates its 50th Anniversary and much has changed.

Join us at our **50th Anniversary Reunion** between May 17 and 19, 2012. Come see what we have achieved over the years, share reminiscences and provide your input in planning the way ahead for the remainder of the 21st Century.

The Geology 50th Anniversary Committee invites you, the geology alumni, past staffers and friends of the department, to participate in the events occurring on the Mona Campus. Visit [demo.monagis.com/geology50/](http://demo.monagis.com/geology50/) to register and view the planned reunion activities.