

# INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF BAHAMIAN STUDIES

## Welcome Message from President Rodney D. Smith<sup>1</sup>

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Congratulations on the publication of Volume 23 of the *International Journal of Bahamian Studies*. It is an honour to contribute these words for the 2017 volume.

This year's publication marks two milestones: it is the first year that the *International Journal of Bahamian Studies* is being published under the auspices of the University of The Bahamas and this year marks 10 years of uninterrupted publication of a research journal by the College/University of The Bahamas. These are achievements of which we are indeed proud as they underline the existence of a robust research environment at University of The Bahamas. This environment will continue to grow from strength to strength as the University expands the number of programmes it offers as well as its research capacity.

In addition to publishing articles in our institutional research journal, within the past two years over 20 of our professors have had articles published or accepted for publication in a wide variety of scholarly, peer-reviewed journals in many disciplines, including the *Bulletin de la Société d'histoire de la Guadeloupe*; *Literature Compass*; *Journal of West Indian Literature*; *Latin American Journal of Physics Education*; *JAWSS: Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science*; *Journal of the American Institute for Conservation*; *Journal of Applied Mathematics*; and *West Indian Journal of Medicine*. This demonstrates not only our commitment to research, but the high level of research being done by faculty at UB.

In addition, in the past year, University of The Bahamas published a book of 16 academic papers written by our faculty entitled *Violence in The Bahamas* and the University Press of Florida published Dr. Chris Curry's monograph based on his doctoral thesis, *Freedom and Resistance: Contested Boundaries*. All these achievements help raise the research bar and demonstrate the capabilities of our faculty.

We would like to thank Virginia Ballance for her work as Managing Editor of the IJBS for the past 10 years, for launching the journal into the online world, and for her success in producing a high quality annual research journal focusing on Bahamian Studies. The popularity of the journal is evidenced by the number of times papers have been downloaded; several over 10,000 times. A warm welcome is extended to the new Managing Editor, Dr. Raymond Oenbring from English Studies. I look forward to many exciting developments as he continues to build upon the journal's firm foundation.

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<sup>1</sup> **APA reference:** Smith, R. D. (2017). Welcome message from President Rodney D. Smith. *International Journal of Bahamian Studies*, 23, iii. <http://doi.org/10.15362/ijbs.v23i0.293>