



dateline:UVI

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Celebrating Artistic Expression with the Humanities Festival

Melvin Claxton returned to where it all started.

On April 4, the Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter presented, "Investigative Reporting and the Rigors of Obtaining Information Here and on the Mainland," at the University of the Virgin Islands.

His lecture was part of the week-long Humanities Festival April 2-7. Held on the St. Thomas campus, the lecture was video-conferenced to the St. Croix campus.

Claxton said the key to reporting is being inquisitive. "You always have to question," he said. "I think that's what got me in trouble in school," he joked, "but it got me a good education," said Claxton who attended UVI from 1981-85.

Investigative reporting, he said, "is getting to the heart of the story, exposing something someone wants to keep hidden." He writes about issues that will have a lasting impact,



Pulitzer Prize winner and former UVI student Melvin Claxton is greeted by UVI Professor Dr. Teresa Hodge after his lecture.

such as those in his series, "Virgin Islands Crime; Who's to Blame," which won The V.I. Daily News the Pulitzer Prize for public service in 1995. Claxton said that some of his stories should be revisited and followed up by the local media because years later many of the same problems remain unsolved.

Claxton, a senior investigative reporter at The Detroit News and former reporter at the Chicago Tribune, has won many other journalism awards.

"We (journalists) have tremendous power and with that power comes great

responsibility," Claxton said.

On the St. Thomas campus the Humanities Festival included other lectures, a debate, poetry readings, a literary conference, a journalism conference, a picnic, an award ceremony and a musical recital.

On the St. Croix campus activities included roundtable discussions and an award ceremony.

Businesses Paired with Future Employees at Career Day

Career Exploration Day on April 10 on the St. Croix campus paired dozens of prospective employees with possible employers. Sponsored by the Counseling and Placement Office, the all-day career fair included workshops, a film series, one-on-one discussions and was highlighted with the launch of the CareerWay.com website.

The interactive website guides students through career choices and recommends fields that best suit each student's needs. Through a school-to-work initiative grant, the Counseling and Placement Office purchased the license for the site, waiving the fee that would normally be charged to each student for the career mapping service.

Nila Sinha, a CareerWay.com consultant, was a guest presenter at one of the workshops. Sinha, who holds a master's degree in industrial/organizational psychology, focuses on the development of career and leadership tools.

Counseling and Placement Supervisor Miriam Osborne-Elliott, who organized Career Exploration Day, was pleased with the turnout of representatives in the public and private

sectors. There were more than 20 organizations in attendance, with more than 30 individual representatives attending. She was equally pleased with the students. "Students had pre-prepared resumes and distributed them to on-site presenters," she said.

Osborne-Elliott said the fair is an opportunity for employers to recruit workers, volunteers and interns, and for students to speak one-on-one with future employers.

Career Day continued on Page 2

Events Calendar

April 26	UVI closed - Carnival recess
May 11-12 May 19-20	Starfest 8 at the Reichhold Center for the Arts, St. Thomas
May 18, 19	Commencement - St. Thomas, St. Croix Campuses

Career Day

“Part of the students’ reason for coming to college is to obtain gainful employment in the future,” Osborne-Elliott said. “Part of the mission at the Counseling and Placement Office is to provide on-going career development opportunities to all students.”

Participants included the following:

- Channel 8
- HOVENSA
- U.S. Marshalls
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Labor Department
- Immigration and Naturalization
- Local attorneys
- Juan Luis Hospital
- P.C. Paradise
- Divi Carina Bay Casino

UVI Offers New Degree Program

A joint venture between the University of the Virgin Islands and HOVENSA has resulted in a new Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degree in Process Technology. The degree is aimed at developing a workforce for HOVENSA and training locals for technology-related careers. It is the first degree proposed under the umbrella of the A.A.S., which was approved by the UVI Board of Trustees in October 2001.

On March 28, UVI President Orville Kean, UVI President-Elect Dr. LaVerne Ragster and HOVENSA President and Chief Operating Officer Rene Sagebien commemorated the momentous signing of the memorandum of understanding.

“This degree program allows us to put new members of the community to work in ways that we had not been able to before,” said Dr. Kean.

HOVENSA will supply laboratory space and equipment and will support the salary of the process technology faculty for two years.

Courses toward the degree begin in the Fall on the St. Croix campus with specialty courses in Introduction to Process Technology, Instrumentation I and Basic Electricity Theory. Each course is three credits and students will be expected to complete 62 credits over a two-year period to obtain the A.A.S. degree. Registration is August 14-19.

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The University's Annual Service Awards were held on March 18, in The Theater of the Melvin Evans Center on the St. Croix campus and on March 19 in the Sports and Fitness Center on the St. Thomas campus. Russell Richardson, left, hails the audience after receiving an award for his 35 years of service on the St. Thomas Campus. Dr. Erica Waters, right, is congratulated by UVI President Dr. Orville Kean for her 25 years of service on the St. Croix campus. At the ceremonies Stevie Henry was named "Employee of the Year" on the St. Thomas campus and Quilin Mars on St. Croix, respectively.

May is Tom Joyner Foundation Month @ UVI!

Contribute to the "Caps for Cash" campaign! Save the bottle caps from Coca-Cola products and drop them off at either campus of the University or a collection bin near you. For each bin of caps collected, Coca-Cola will donate \$1,000 in scholarship money to UVI. Coca-Cola products include: Coke, Minute Maid, Fruitopia, PowerAde, Sprite, Nestea and Dasani Water.

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