



INSIDE TVET

TVET - Key To A WorldClass Workforce

SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHER Adrian Holder is one of a group of educators in the public education system who is undergoing training and assessment in order to become a certified **National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Assessor**.

TVETC, BCC collaborate on assessor training

A trained teacher with nine years experience, he is based at the St. Leonard's Boys School where he teaches Electronics and Electrical Installation.

Holder, who also has ten years experience as a practitioner in Electronics and Electrical Installation, noted that the Assessor training and certification is helping to enhance his skills as an educator/trainer as well as helping to sharpen his skills as a practicing tradesman.

"Before learning to use the occupational standards, I used a syllabus but I find that using the standards helps the assessment and training to be more purposeful.

"As an instructor I am more aware of the needs of the employer as well as what another assessor would be looking for with regards to competence," Holder explained.

This current batch of Assessor candidates is the fourth group of persons to be enrolled in the Assessor training and certification programme which is organised by the Technical and Vocational Education and

Training Council (TVETC) in collaboration with the National Council on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (NCTVET), Jamaica.

For the first time, however, the training of the Assessor Candidates was conducted by the Barbados Community College (BCC).

Nineteen candidates completed the training component of the programme which ran for five weeks and ended on Friday, November 27. They will go on to the next phase of the certification programme, the assessment stage, which is scheduled to be completed by April - May 2010.

Candidates who successfully complete the assessment stage, which includes compiling a portfolio of evidence that demonstrates their competence as Assessors, will be eligible to receive the **National Vocational Qualification of Jamaica (NVQ-J) Level 4 in Assessment**, once the results are verified.

This will qualify them to conduct Assessment, within their specific

occupational area, for both the NVQ programme and its regional equivalent the **Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ)**.

BCC tutor Dr Hamilton Jemmott, who conducted the training together with colleague Dr Antonia Coward, said the areas covered throughout the five weeks included **Introduction to Competence-based Education and Training (CBET), Preparation of Assessment Tools, How to Plan, Conduct and Review Assessments**, simulated Assessment sessions, and **Quality Assurance**.

Dr Jemmott noted: "Tests and exams will still have their place in testing knowledge: the ability to recall, understand, and apply knowledge and analyse situations which all fall under the cognitive domain (but) assessing performance such as what the NVQs and CVQs call for, based on established standards, looks at the application of knowledge in the real work context and the practice of the skills."



SENIOR ACCOUNTANT MICHELLE HAYNES (left) is presented with a gift bag by Dr Collette George for her first placed finish in the desserts category. Looking on is executive directive Trevor King. (GP)

Council staff demonstrate cooking skills

STAFF OF the TVET Council recently demonstrated their cooking skills during the first ever **Independence Staff Cook-Off** held as part of the organisation's independence celebrations on Friday, November 27.

Participants were judged in three categories - a main dish, desserts and drinks - by former home economics instructor and head of the Human Ecology Department, Samuel Jackman Prescod Polytechnic, Gloria Drakes, and former professional bartender Renee Henry.

Entrants all showed flair and creativity in the use of local foods to produce dishes that were both a delight to the palate and pleasing to the eye. However, as chief judge Mrs Drakes noted, there could only be two winners in each category.

In the main dish category, technical officer Paul Puckerin took first place with his pineapple-flavoured **Cassava Pie**, with second place going to assistant accountant Rosline Cumberbatch for her **Yam Pie**.

In the desserts category, senior accountant Michelle Haynes took first place with a delectable **Orange Cake** and tied for second place with a **Carrot Cake**.

The other second place spot went to IT technician Gerard Gill for his **Pumpkin Fritters**.

In the drinks category, general worker Gale Alleyne took first place with an exquisite **Spinach Punch** that the judges described as being very smooth and delicious, it was deemed worthy of winning the overall most original entry title. Second place in the drinks category went to Gill for his **Golden Apple Juice**.



MOST ORIGINAL ENTRY: Gale Alleyne (left) accepting the prize from Dr Collette George for her exquisite tasting Spinach Punch. Looking on is Executive Director Trevor King. (GP)



PRIZE WINNERS in the TVET Council's Independence Staff Cook-Off competition: (from left) senior accountant Michelle Haynes, technical officer Paul Puckerin, assistant accountant Rosline Cumberbatch and general worker Gale Alleyne are joined by Executive Director Trevor King (second from right) as they proudly display their awards. (GP)