



dateline: UVI

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New Semester, New Structure, New Attitude

Besides the fresh coats of paint and newly waxed floors, the University of the Virgin Islands looks pretty much the same. But that's just on the outside. UVI underwent an academic restructuring during the Spring 2005 semester and more changes are looming. The restructuring included re-defining the provost's component, the elimination of the campus chancellors' positions, the creation of campus executive administrator positions, and drafting of the 2012 strategic plan.



Dr. Al Hassan I. Musah

"We've achieved a lot of things over the past year, and we have done it in the midst of our challenges," UVI President Dr. LaVerne Ragster told UVI employees at the Fall 2005 University Convocation on August 17. "We're going to be talking about being more student-centered and focused," she said.

The Provost's Office, which will have offices on both St. Thomas and St. Croix, provides academic leadership for the institution, with academic program chairs and all academic support units reporting to the Provost. The Humanities and Social Sciences divisions have been consolidated to form one division – Humanities and Social Sciences. There is one division chairperson, rather than a chair on each campus. In June 2005 Dr. Al Hassan I. Musah was appointed provost, replacing Dr. Gwen-Marie Moolenaar, who retired.



John A. D'Orazio

The campus executive administrator oversees student affairs, business and facilities operations, and security. In July, John A. D'Orazio was appointed campus executive administrator for the University's St. Thomas campus. While the national search for a campus executive administrator for the St. Croix campus continues, Dr. Deborah C. Fontaine, who previously served as Special Assistant to the President, will serve as St. Croix's acting campus executive administrator.

A restructuring of the President's Office is also at hand. Dr. Ragster said auditors who recently audited the President's Office recommended that she create a chief of staff position. Elyzabeth Holford will serve as the President's chief of staff until Dr. Fontaine is able to serve in that capacity.

Dr. Ragster said that as the University moves ahead, everyone should be focused on collaboration, accountability and responsiveness. The next major University initiative is a self-study, in preparation for the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation site visit in 2007.

"Please be proud and happy to be part of an institution that specializes in futures," Dr. Ragster said at the close of convocation.

Al Jarreau to Open Reichhold Season

Take some jazz, a little salsa, a base of quelbe, a sprinkle of reggae and a dash of R&B. Mix it all up with some dance and you've got another stellar lineup of performances from the University of the Virgin Islands' Reichhold Center for the Arts. The Reichhold Center's 2005-2006 season lineup features acts like The O'Jays, which has never before performed in the Virgin Islands, to returnee Tito Nieves.

Reichhold's Interim Co-Director Pamela Sanes said the season's selections reflect the diversity of the community. "We like people to let us know who they want us to bring," Sanes said. "We may not bring the same artists, but someone comparable in that genre."

For information about the new season call the Reichhold Center at 693-1559.

Reichhold 2005-2006 Season Line-up

Al Jarreau – Jazz – Oct. 1, 2005
Tito Nieves – Salsa – Nov. 11, 2005 STX, Nov. 12, 2005 STT
Joe Sample – Jazz – Jan. 14, 2006
A Musical Journey into Quelbe – Folk – Feb. 4, 2006
The O'Jays – Contemporary – Feb. 18, 2006
Glen Washington w/guest Pressure – Reggae – March 25, 2006
Parson Dance Company – Dance – May 20, 2006

Events Calendar

Aug. 26	Softball Game	STT
Aug. 26	CMES Grant Workshop	STT
Sept. 2-3	Volleyball Tournament	STT
Sept. 3-4	Relay for Life	STX
Sept. 6	Labor Day - UVI Closed	

Celebrities Tee Off for UVI

Richard Roundtree couldn't wait. Neither could Tanya Roberts. And they didn't. While most of the other celebrities visiting tranquil St. Croix for the Celebrity Golf Classic were out soaking in some sun and sea, Roundtree, the original Shaft, and Roberts, an original on TV's Charlie's Angels, made it over to the Carambola Golf Club a few days in advance of the actual game play. And Roberts actually *walked* the course – all 18 holes!

Roundtree and Roberts were among the two dozen actors, athletes and models on St. Croix for the first annual Celebrity Golf Classic hosted by the Foundation for the University of the Virgin Islands this summer. With blue skies above and lush vegetation all around, the celebrities took to the course for a scramble match as captains of four-person teams.

Roberts' practice paid off and her team took first gross – quite an accomplishment, considering that the team headed by PGA Tour Qualifier Tim O'Neal took third place. And while Tim Walton, formerly of the Philadelphia Eagles, reminded everyone that first and foremost he is a football player, he fared pretty well, leading his team to the second place title. Former NBA All-Star Gus Williams won the 'closest to the pin' award.



Top left, Keyaron Fox of the NFL's Kansas City Chiefs demonstrates a play at the Celebrity Golf Tournament Football Clinic. Top right, PGA Tour Qualifier Tim O'Neal, far right, speaks at the Golf Clinic. Bottom, the original Shaft Richard Roundtree, practices his swing at the tournament.



where Lt. Governor Vargrave Richards welcomed the group. Then it was off to a private party hosted by Lee Rohn, one of the territory's prominent attorneys at her waterfront home. On Friday there were youth football and golf clinics followed by a fashion show. Later that night the celebrities partied shoulder-to-shoulder with the locals at 2 + 2 Nightclub. The official golf play was on Saturday.

The celebrities ended their last night in America's Caribbean at the Divi Carina Bay Casino. Besides Miami Dolphins Defensive Tackle Kevin Vickerson, who had to leave early because of a death in his family, all had a great time and said they are looking forward to next year's event.

(For more photos from the tournament visit www.uvi.edu)

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