

# *CFBC HISTORY*

The Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College is an innovative training institution conceived to foster the development of responsible, self-sufficient citizens by delivering a range of academic, technical, vocational and professional courses and programmes that reflect the high values and standards which prepare students to make lifelong contributions to their communities.

Established in 1988 with Mrs. Dulcie Richardson as its first Principal, the then College of Further Education was mandated to consolidate and augment the opportunities for tertiary level education. The College came into existence with the amalgamation of three previously existing institutions: The Teachers' College established in 1967, the Technical College organized in 1971, and the School of Nursing inaugurated in 1966. The total enrolment in 1988 was approximately 150 students. This number did not include students from the Adult and Continuing Education classes.

The former Teachers' College became the Division of Teacher Education; the Technical College gave way to the Division of Technical and Vocational Education and Management Studies; and the School of Nursing became the Division of Health Sciences. The Division of Arts, Science and General Studies replaced the traditional sixth form, and a new Division of Adult and Continuing Education was added.

The name of the College was changed in 1998 in honour of the individual who was at the forefront of the planning stages of the institution. The late Clarence Fitzroy Bryant, who was then Minister of Education, Health and Social Affairs, put forward a proposal in 1978 for several educational initiatives among which was the establishment of a tertiary level institution to offer first year university courses and to provide the middle management and paraprofessional skills needed for economic and social development in St Kitts and Nevis. He argued for the cost effectiveness and the utility of establishing one postsecondary institution, bringing together teacher training, first year university courses, training for nurses, in-service courses for civil servants, and found support for his ideas in many quarters including the University of the West Indies.

September 1998 saw the beginning of the first year university programme at the College. The University of the West Indies Level 1 programme was franchised. Twenty-three students entered the programme that year and pursued courses delivered from three UWI faculties, Education and the Humanities, Science and Technology and Social Sciences. This move brought economic benefits to parents and students, and much prestige to the College.

In 2000, the College replaced the Cambridge Advanced Level, General Certificate in Education with the Caribbean Advanced Proficiency Examinations. That same year the government made available the National Technical and Vocational Education Training Scholarship that is awarded to the top qualifying student in technical education certification. It afforded the awardee the

financial support to pursue studies at the Bachelor's Degree level. The College also issued, for the first time, Associate Degree certification, which was earned by students who pursued the programme in General Nursing Education.

Subsequent affiliation and articulation arrangements with other tertiary institutions and professional organisations such as the University of Technology, Jamaica, Barbados Community College, Caribbean Tourism Association, the Pan-American Health Organisation and the University of the Virgin Islands have augmented the academic recognition for the institution and strengthened its foundation for institutional accreditation.

Today, the College maintains two campuses and three ancillary facilities. They are the campus at Burdon Street which houses the administrative offices, the Divisions of Arts, Science and General Studies, Teacher Education and Health Sciences and the Nathaniel-John Hospitality Centre; the campus at Horsford Road which is home to the Division of Technical and Vocational Education and Management Studies; the Annex which houses classrooms and workshops, and the Art Studio on Infirmary Road; and the Clinical Nursing Skills Laboratory on Lockhart Street.