



UCC Alumni Association NEWSLETTER



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Future Initiative of the UCCAA

- ✓ Sponsorship Award
- ✓ Mentorship
- ✓ One-on-one module assistance
- ✓ Community Outreach Programme



We are UCC - United, Connected and Committed

Meet the UCCAA Executive Body 2022 - 2024



Nicola Martin
President



Kayann Morgan
Vice President



Georgia McKenzie-Nolan
Administrator



Jonathan Johnson
Technical Support



Juneika Canegan
Technical Support



Nigel Robinson
Executive



Donovan Cunningham
Executive



Camille Sibbles-Samuels
Executive



Ian Gowans
Executive

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UCC President's Message

Dr. Haldane Davies

Dear Alumni,

I am honored to have the opportunity to extend warm greetings to each of you on behalf of the Board, faculty, staff, and students of your alma mater University of the Commonwealth Caribbean (UCC).

Thank you for selecting UCC as your institution of choice to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees. We truly appreciate the time that you spent in learning more about your career through lectures, readings, research, discussions, and examinations, among others. Indeed, we are glad that you persisted to the end and are now part of the more than 50,000 alumni who called UCC home.

As president, I am proud of each one of you and the progress that you have made in your careers. I also look forward to your participation in the governance of the University by some day having an alumni representative serving on the UCC Board of Directors together with faculty and student representatives. Moreover, as alumni around the world stay in contact with their alma mater, I strongly encourage you to stay connected to UCC through service, engagement, and sharing of your resources, experiences and expertise to help us build an even stronger, entrepreneurial, and innovative institution. Your participation in developing the UCC 2023-2028 vision and strategic plan together with your annual contributions to the UCC Ignite Community Impact Fund would demonstrate evidence of your commitment to and engagement with the University and our collective desire to ensure that no deserving student or community member is left behind in their pursuit of higher/tertiary education.

I look forward to hosting a Town Hall meeting with alumni in the very near future and sharing about the many accomplishments of the past and opportunities that lie ahead of us. UCC is making great strides because of you and with your help even greater accomplishments will be achieved.

Thank you for being a UCC alumni. I am proud of you.

Haldane Davies, Ph.D.

President

University of the Commonwealth Caribbean

Kingston, Jamaica



President's Message

Miss Nicola Martin

Dear Alumni,

On behalf of the UCC Alumni Association, I welcome you to our community!

One of our goals is to preserve a mutually beneficial enduring relationship among alumnus and with the University. As your representatives, we are constantly seeking meaningful ways to embrace your needs and unite our efforts.

I urge you to become an active alumnus and share in the exciting activities and opportunities the alumni association has to offer. There are a variety of ways you can show appreciation and play a part in the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean Alumni Association (UCCAA) continued success, this includes:

1. Participation and re-engage with the UCC family,
2. Attending alumni, virtual and on-campus events,
3. Staying connected to each other and the University,
4. Volunteering your time, experience and gifts to help the UCC students.

Get involved with the UCC Alumni Association to find out about upcoming alumni activities, on-campus events, voluntary opportunities, and much more.

Nicola Martin
President
UCC Alumni Association



Vice President's Message

Miss Kayann Morgan

Dear Alumni,

It's a matter of immense pride and honour for an institution when scholars spread their wings and fly to new horizons. You, our alumni, are invaluable possessions who have helped to raise UCC's banner high.

Hence, for continued growth, we existing members of the alumni association are imploring all those who have advanced to join hands with us as we aim to form an unbreakable bond. It doesn't matter if you're a recent or old graduate, or living overseas, let us all bask in the memories (even the bad ones, as they helped to mould us), while using what we've garnered here to help build those who come after us.

By becoming a part of the alumni, you gain access to discounts, you help raise funds for outreach activities, assist the current student body with scholarships to further their education among other benefit.

With that said, take up the mantle and be apart of something great. Be the change. Best wishes for 2023.

Kayann Morgan
Vice President
UCC Alumni Association

UCC IGNITE Community Impact Fund



The UCC ignite is an initiative of the President of University of the Commonwealth Caribbean Dr. Haldane Davies, it is geared towards supporting UCC's stakeholders in extenuating circumstances. A soft launch of the UCC Ignite Community Impact fund was executed on Friday, December 2, 2022. The official launch will take place in the Spring 2023 semester.

UCC IGNITE invites you to consider touching the lives of meritorious and motivated but disadvantaged students at UCC, by making an acknowledged contribution of any practicable amount, that could make an unforgettable difference to the life of an aspiring and yearning young person at this University.



ucc.edu.jm/ucc-foundation/donate

U C C C A R E S

UCCAA Christmas Projects

- ◆ Salvation Army Hanbury Children Home
- ◆ Hope Valley Experimental School
- ◆ Mustard Seed Community - Gift of Hope



Christmas 2022 Initiative / Community Outreach Update

The UCC Alumni Association (UCCAA) on December 14, 2022, was able to visit Hope Valley Experimental School and grant Fifty-four student gifts, Christmas treat of Ice cream, cake, etc., along with six teachers, this was possible to the kind generosity of the President of the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean Dr. Davies, the Department of Student Services, alumni members and the students of the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean.

The UCCAA along with students and staff of the UCC Mandeville Regional Campus on December 20, 2022, also visited the residence at the Salvation Army Hanbury Home for Children and Mustard Seed Communities - Gift of Hope in Mandeville.

This would not have been possible without the input of you, the alumni and the students at the University of the Commonwealth Caribbean (UCC).

We are looking forward to the continuous growth of the community Outreach programme and the possibility of having outreach programmes in all the regions that the university of the Commonwealth Caribbean operates, for this to be possible it requires all hands on deck by getting involved.





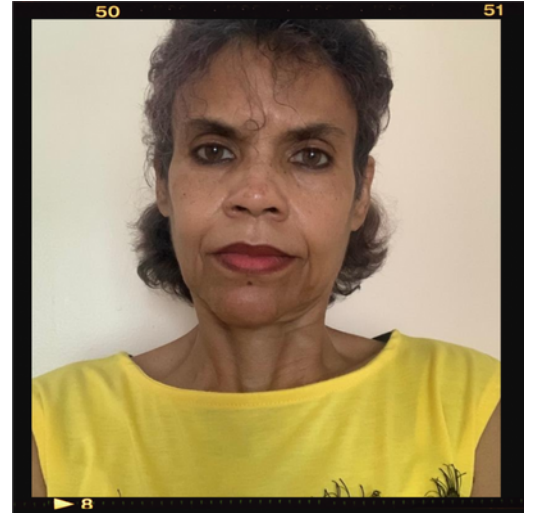
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UCCAA Featured

UCC Alumni

Lurline Halliman

BSc. in Human Resource Management



“I am a trained administrative professional with over 20 years’ experience working with top-tier managers in the public and private sectors. I possess a Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Resource Management (magna cum laude), an Associate Degree in Business Administration, (Credit) a Certified Professional Secretary (CPS) Certificate and a Diploma in Secretarial Studies. Additionally, I have certification in seven subjects at the CXC/GCE level and a First-Class pass in English Language from Pitman Examinations Institute, London.

I have received several educational awards, including two Excellence Awards from two educational institutions and two Dean’s List of Excellence Scholarship Awards from University College of the Caribbean.

Professionally, I possess high-level competence in assisting top-level management to achieve organisational goals and objectives. I am resourceful at streamlining processes and systems, which has resulted in increased efficiency at a departmental level in several organisations. Some of my chief characteristics include being organized, meticulous, committed, focused and enthusiastic. I place emphasis on excellence in all I do.

What is a professional highlight of your current/past?

While this may not seem significant, the professional highlight of my career has been the expressed high value that many of my employers, former and present, have placed on the standard of my work and hence the contribution I have been able to make to the effective operations of the organisations in which I have worked.

Why did you study at UCC?

At the time I was considering a university at which to study, UCC became my choice for two reasons. The first reason was that I had studied at the Institute of Management and Production before it was merged with another institution to become University College of the Caribbean and the second reason was that it was conveniently located.

Share one favourite UCC memory/experience?

My favourite UCC experience that has become a cherished memory was a skit performed as a group project for a course lectured by Dr Donna Hope. If my memory is correct, that course was Introduction to Philosophy. I was the group leader and for the most part, I wrote the skit and assigned the parts to group members. The setting for the skit was a UCC class. I played the role of Dr Hope as the lecturer and the other group members played the role of students. Prior to presenting the project in class, I practised Dr Hope's voice and mannerisms to the best of my ability. The skit was hilarious and got the highest grade.

How has your education at UCC influenced or helped you in your life or career?

My education at UCC has afforded me the privilege of obtaining jobs for which a bachelor's degree was required. Furthermore, it engenders a great degree of pride to have a degree under my belt.

Give us one fun/important pet-peeve?

My most important pet peeve is sharing space with someone who is sloppy.

Talk us through your proudest professional or personal accomplishments after graduating from UCC

My proudest personal accomplishment since graduating from UCC is the establishment of a shop on Spoonflower, an on-demand, digital-printing marketplace to which I upload designs that I create and sell them on textiles and home-décor products, including wallpapers. I have been on Spoonflower since 2021.

**Want to be featured
in our next
Newsletter?**

Email uccalumnioffice@ucc.edu.jm

UCCAA Featured

Business Partners

DaVision Designz

Bring the vision to life

Brand Owner / CEO

David Smith

Interview with David Smith



In What year did you begin your studies at UCC?

I began my studies at UCC in 2016.

What degree program were you registered in?

I studied for a BSc. in Business Administration majoring in ISM.

Give a brief overview of your current business:

Our business is an online based street-wear clothing store for both male and female called Davision Designz and will officially be in operation for 2 years by Feb 15, 2023.

To what extent did your studies at UCC motivate you to start your own business?

Through my studies at UCC I learned how open the market is and through my IT studies learned how to build that market online. Given the natural business culture at UCC It wasn't difficult to become more business minded which allowed me to start putting the necessary steps in place to begin my entrepreneurial journey.

What is the most satisfying experience about owning your own business?

The most satisfying thing about being a business owner is engaging and meeting more like minded individuals who believe in your vision.

What are the top five (5) challenges faced in starting /operating your business?

The five challenges faced since starting the business are:

1. Attracting customers
2. Revenue to start and maintain the business
3. Ineffective Marketing
4. Retaining customers
5. Financial management

How did you mitigate these challenges?

The way I began to mitigate these challenges was through setting down a clear business plan while researching the market to lay out clear goals and objectives.

What are your top tips for other UCC alumni who want to start their own business?

If you're interested in starting a business it's always best to do your research first, the internet is a free learning platform.

Secondly, ensure that you have a source of funding to manage all your business needs.

Starting and maintaining a business is a journey you will learn as you go, so don't over think it, just start. It's not as complicated as it looks. Lastly, don't be afraid of failure learn from it and keep pushing through.

UCCAA Business Partners

Totally Male Club Spa & Salon

6 Windsor Ave, Kingston

Tel: (876) 946-2454

totallymalespa.com

Discount - 10%

Jamaica Turbo Repair Services

94 Hope Road, Unit 1 , Kingston 6

Tel: (876) 622-6299

jamaicaturbo.com

Discount - 10%

DaVision Designz

Online Stone

[instagram.com/davisiondesignz](https://www.instagram.com/davisiondesignz)

Discount - 10%

Be You(tiful) Creation

Online Store

[instagram.com/be.youtiful.creations](https://www.instagram.com/be.youtiful.creations)

Discount - 5%