



University College  
of the Cayman Islands  
**21 – 23 March 2012**



## CALL FOR PAPERS

The University College of the Cayman Islands, in collaboration with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES), the University of the West Indies, Mona, will be staging the 50-50 Conference, 21-23 March 2012. The theme of this conference is *Surveying the Past, Mapping the Future*.

The significance of the 50-50 insignia is that the year 2012 marks 50 years since the end of the West Indies Federation. This milestone is therefore a fitting time for retrospection by the territories that opted for independence, entered into autonomous political arrangements, became integrated into extra-regional states, or remained dependent territories.

It is also an opportunity for collective examination of the future possibilities for, and direction of, territories with varying political arrangements, and of the region as a whole.

With regard to the non-independent territories, while the conference focusses primarily on the British Overseas Territories (BOTs), the non-independent Caribbean (Dutch, French, and U.S.) territories are important participants as they are direct sources of information on functioning of alternative models of constitutional arrangements, such as integration, free association, and independence.

This UCCI conference can therefore serve to begin the process at the institutional level of broadening perspective on the options, other than continued colonial status or independence, available to the BOTs.

### Conference Objectives

#### The objectives of the 50 -50 Conference are to:

1. bring together the main thinkers and political actors from all Overseas Territories (regardless of metropole) and from all the independent territories, to discuss the last fifty years and to consider the next fifty;

2. foster an intellectually rich environment in which to discuss critical and urgent issues related to the divergent paths taken by various societies at the end of the "Federal Experiment".

3. consider trajectories for the next 50 years of development of Caribbean societies.

## 50-50 Opportunity for Reflection, Analysis and Projection

### The Conference will focus on the following questions:

1. How have the independent countries fared in all dimensions of society, compared to the non-independent countries?
2. How did British Overseas Territories (BOTs) relate to the West Indies Federation?
3. What are the comparative experiences of the French integrated departments, Dutch autonomous countries and U.S. dependent territories?
4. What are the advantages and disadvantages of continued dependent status, integration, or autonomy?
5. What are the challenges posed by dependency?
6. What are the pros and cons of independence from Britain from the perspectives of the BOTs?
7. What is the role of international law in the process of the BOTs' self-determination?
8. Do BOTs have sufficient independence in domestic governance?
9. Does the British government fully reflect the views of BOTs in international fora and what are the options and rights at present with regard to the BOTs' direct participation in international organisations?
10. What are the sources of contention between the dependencies and the UK?
11. What can overseas dependent territories not do that they would like to were they independent?
12. What is the current form of Government and its constitutional and ministerial relationships with the Governor and the British Government?
13. How important are issues of migration and multiculturalism to these islands?
14. Is there a relationship between non-independence and cultural emancipation?
15. How viable are the twin pillars of tourism and banking for these islands and what are other possibilities?
16. How viable is the independence option for BOTs?
17. What other options for political equality exist for the BOTs other than independence?

In addition to papers focussed on the above questions, the Conference invites presentations on the following areas as they relate to the overall conference theme:

Government, Parties and Policy  
Public Administration  
Security and Crime  
Economic Policy  
Agriculture  
Manufacturing  
Mining  
Energy  
Social Policy  
Caribbean Integration  
Health  
Education  
Tourism and the Hotel Industry  
Popular Culture  
Literature and the Arts  
Critical Thinkers  
Role of UWI (Including SALISES)  
Role of Medicine  
Gender  
Technology  
Environment

**Deadline for abstracts is 30 December 2011.  
Full papers are due 28 February 2012.**

### Forward abstracts and papers to:

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