



The Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago

## **PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT**

(Office of the Chief Personnel Officer)

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# **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **CPO engages in strategic partnership with UWI for staff development initiatives**

**June 14 2024:** Earlier today, the Chief Personnel Officer Commander Dr. Daryl Dindial met with Professor Rose-Marie Belle Antoine, the Principal of the University of the West Indies (UWI), to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for training opportunities for on-the-job trainees (OJTs) undergraduates at the Personnel Department.

UWI offered four (4) sessions of online lectures of the course, **Leading Innovation in the Digital Economy** from the **UWI's Strategic Leadership and Innovation MSc Programme** to eight graduate OJTs **at no cost to the State**. The OJTs are assigned to the Personnel Department from the **Ministry of Labour**. Dr. Dindial acknowledged the kind gesture of the Principal of UWI and the staff of the Faculty of Social Sciences for creating the opportunity to engage the PD's OJTs. The OJTs were afforded training and information on further professional development to potentially broaden their own career aspirations.

Under the terms of the **MoA**, the **Personnel Department & the UWI** committed to training OJTs assigned to the **Personnel Department**, allowing them to gain practical insights and hands-on experience in various facets of strategic and operational activities, which will enhance their academic knowledge and practical skills.

According to Dr. Dindial, the CPO's office also collaborated with the **UWI's Business Development Unit (BDU)** and trained over 100 staff in specialised areas, in various programmes. Dr. Dindial stated, the UWI's BDU is agile and capable of understanding training needs, conducting analysis and developing key interventions to address competency and knowledge gaps.

**Dr. Dindial** also acknowledged the **Government of Trinidad and Tobago** for its invaluable support in advancing staff development initiatives through a **Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP)** project that provided funding and resources to build capacity within the Personnel Department. Those investments have been strategically aligned with the Department's overarching goals and objectives, aiming to empower employees to excel in their roles and contribute effectively to the organisation's success that is in service to the wider Public Sector. He further stated the importance of continued partnership and investment in human capital development for the sustainable advancement of Trinidad and Tobago's workforce and economy.

**Dr. Dindial** thanked the UWI for their kind gesture and wished the OJTs the best in their future endeavours.

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