

**ACUERDOS BILATERALES/ BILATERAL AGREEMENT/
ACORDOS BILATERAIS/ACCORDS BILATERAUX**

Clasificación:
Classification: 20-2021
Classifacation:
Classificação:

Fecha de Ingreso:
Entry Date: March 4, 2021
Data de Admissão:

Nombre del Acuerdo:
Name of the agreement: Supplementary Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) through the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE) and the University of the West Indies (UWI).

Nom de l'accord:
Nome do Acordo:

Materia:
Subject: The purpose of this Supplementary Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions for the co-sponsorship of up to nineteen (19) scholarships for the year 2020-2021 for a course offered The UWI open campus under PAEC ("OAS-UCI Scholarships").

Sujet:
Materia:

Partes:
Parties involved: GS/ President and University of the West Indies (UWI).
Parties:
Partes:

Referencia:
Reference: University of the West Indies (UWI).
Référence:
Referência:

Fecha de Firma:
Signature Date: September 11, 2020.
Data de Assinatura:

Fecha de Inicio:
Start Date:
Date du commencement:
Data de Início:

Fecha de Terminación:
End Date:
Date de résiliation :
Data de Rescisão :

Lugar de Firma:
Place of Signature: Barbados; Washington, D.C.
Lieu de la signature:
Lugar de assinatura:

Unidad Encargada:
Unit in Charge: Department of Human Development, Education and Employment.
Unité responsable:
Unidade Encarregada:

Persona Encargada:
Person in Charge:
Personne responsable:
Pessoa Encarregada:

Cierre del proceso:
Closure of proceedings:
Clôture des procédures:
Fechamento do processo:

Notas adicionales/Additional notes/Notes supplémentaires/Notas adicionais:

SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN
STATES THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT,
EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT
AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

The Parties to this Supplementary Agreement (“Supplementary Agreement”), the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (“GS/OAS”), a public international organization with headquarters at 1889 F Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, United States, through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (“DHDEE”), represented by Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development, and The University of the West Indies (“UWI”), a regional educational institution established by Royal Charter with Centre headquarters at Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica, and comprised of the Mona Campus situated at Mona in Kingston, Jamaica; the Cave Hill Campus situated at Cave Hill in Barbados; the St. Augustine campus situated in St. Augustine in Trinidad and Tobago, The Five Islands Campus situated in St. John’s in Antigua and Barbuda and an Open Campus which serves seventeen (17) countries within the English Speaking Caribbean inclusive of the four (4) countries noted above through The UWI Open Campus (“UWIOC”), represented for the purposes of this Supplementary Agreement by the Principal of the UWIOC, Dr. Luz Longworth.

CONSIDERING,

That on August 22, 2007, the Parties signed a Cooperation Agreement ("Cooperation Agreement") to strengthen education and human development in the Americas;

That pursuant to Articles III and IV of the Cooperation Agreement, the Parties agreed to implement joint activities under the Organization of American States ("OAS") Scholarship and Training Programs, and that this Supplementary Agreement is signed pursuant to Articles III and IV of that Cooperation Agreement;

That the terms, spirit, and programmatic and juridical framework of the Cooperation Agreement apply to this Supplementary Agreement, unless otherwise specified herein, and the terms and conditions set forth in the Cooperation Agreement are made part of this Supplementary Agreement by reference;

That the Parties share an interest in selecting and supporting outstanding individuals in the Americas to study at the University, through the Partnerships Program for Education and Training (PAEC); and,

That GS/OAS is the central and permanent organ of the OAS and is authorized to carry out relations of cooperation in accordance with Article 112(h) of the OAS Charter and General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 57 (I-O/71),

Have Agreed to enter this Supplementary Agreement, as set forth below:

**ARTICLE I
OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE**

1.1 The purpose of this Supplementary Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions for the co-sponsorship of up to nineteen (19) scholarship(s) for the 2020-2021 academic year, for a course offered by The UWI Open Campus, as described in Article 2.1., under PAEC (“OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship”).

**ARTICLE II
THE PROGRAM**

2.1 The UWI shall facilitate the placement of no more than nineteen (19) OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients from the OAS English-speaking Caribbean Member States, who register in the following certificate course:

Program Name	In-Person / Distance	Credit Hours	Expected Time to Completion (including Summer attendance)
Early Childhood Development and Family Studies certificate course (The Course).	Online (with a face to face practical component for the Practicum 1 course)	30 (10 courses worth 3 credits each)	Summer 2021 OR At the end of semester 1 (Dec 2021) Academic Year 2021-2022

2.2 The Course shall be accessed online as offered through the University’s online platforms.

2.3 On successful completion of the Course, each OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient shall receive a certificate from the UWI and shall join the ranks of the University’s alumni.

**ARTICLE III
THE SCHOLARSHIP**

3.1 The total cost of the Course is USD 3,600, however the UWI shall make a contribution by a waiver of 15% towards the course cost (equivalent to 540 USD), for each Scholarship Recipient. The discount provided by the UWI represents an in-kind contribution. The GS/OAS will contribute the remaining amount of up to USD 3,060, as indicated in Article IV.

3.2 The OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship benefits described above are subject to the availability of funds by the GS/OAS.

3.3 The OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients will be responsible to the UWI for payment of any remaining fees.

3.4 Neither the UWI nor GS/OAS shall provide funds to the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients for the following expenses, which shall be the sole and exclusive responsibility of the Scholarship Recipients:

- a. Remaining University fees, include but may not be limited to:
 - i. ID Card - \$5.00
 - ii. Guild Fees: \$20.00; and
 - iii. Technology Fee:\$70.00
- b. Application fees,
- c. Books and study materials, and
- d. Any additional costs not included in the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship.

3.5 In announcing the availability of the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship, the Parties shall clearly inform all potential applicants that the expenses listed in Article 3.4 above are the sole and exclusive responsibility of the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient.

3.6 In addition, Scholarship Recipients will be informed that the GS/OAS is not responsible for the safety and security of OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients at any time.

**ARTICLE IV
THE GS/OAS CONTRIBUTION**

4.1 The total amount paid by GS/OAS under this Supplementary Agreement for the scholarship recipients will not exceed Three Thousand and Sixty United States Dollars (USD 3,060.00) per OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient, and for all of the recipients combined shall not exceed a total of USD 58,140 (“GS/OAS Contribution”).

4.2 To initiate the process for receiving the total above payment, the UWI shall submit the corresponding electronic invoice, for a one-time payment, no later than October 1, 2020 to Yurismay Flores at yflores@oas.org and Nichole Duncan at nduncan@oas.org.

4.3 Payment by the GS/OAS Contribution shall be made within sixty (60) days of receipt of the invoice by GS/OAS.

4.4 The UWI shall reimburse GS/OAS the full amount of any portion of the GS/OAS Contribution relating to any OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient who terminates their participation in the Course at any time prior to the full completion of the course and completion of appropriate course assessments, absent compelling and unforeseeable reasons. Reimbursements shall be made to the GS/OAS immediately after students refund to the UWI in accordance with Article 3.2 of Annex 1.

4.5 Upon receipt of an invoice, the GS/OAS, through its Inter-American Teacher Education Network, will provide USD \$1,720 to the UWI for the integration of a STEM module into the Course numbered ECFS 1006/1007 as described in Appendix I.

ARTICLE V SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION AND FOLLOW-UP

5.1 DHDEE and the UWI shall together select the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients in accordance with the criteria and recruitment and selection process to which they have agreed and as outlined in the Scholarship announcement.

5.2 The UWI shall promptly inform DHDEE of the following:

- 5.2.1 If any of the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients abandons the Course;
- 5.2.2 Each OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient's academic progress (the UWI shall inform the DHDEE at the end of each Semester.);
- 5.2.3 When the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients have successfully completed the Course; and
- 5.2.4 Each OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient's evaluation reports of the Course.

5.3 The UWIOC shall warrant that the OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients shall be obligated through their agreement with UWI to agree and adhere to the Scholarship Recipient's Obligations, as set forth in the Acceptance Form attached hereto as Annex I to this Supplementary Agreement.

ARTICLE VI
COORDINATION AND NOTIFICATIONS

6.1 The GS/OAS area with responsibility for coordinating GS/OAS activities under this Supplementary Agreement is DHDEE, and the Coordinator is Jesus Schucry Giacoman Zapata. Notification and Communications shall be forwarded to the Coordinator at the following address, and e-mail:

Jesus Schucry Giacoman Zapata
Director
Department of Human Development, Education and Employment
General Secretariat of the Organization of American States
1889 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America
Tel.: (1-202) 370-9771
Email: scholarships@oas.org or JGiacoman@oas.org

6.2 The Office of The Pro-Vice Chancellor & Principal is responsible for coordinating the UWI's activities and responsibilities under this Supplementary Agreement. The Coordinator is Dr. Luz Longsworth, Pro-Vice Chancellor & Principal. Notification and Communications shall be forwarded to the Coordinator at the following address, and e-mail:

Dr. Luz Longsworth
Pro-Vice Chancellor & Principal
Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor and Principal
The University of the West Indies Open Campus
Cave Hill, St Michael, Barbados
Telephone: 246-417-4022
Email: luz.longsworth@open.uwi.edu

6.3 All communications and legal notices pertaining to this Supplementary Agreement will be validly made only when they are sent by post or electronic mail addressed to the Coordinators whose names are set out in articles 6.1 and 6.2, above. When the communications and notifications are transmitted by electronic mail, they shall be valid when they are sent directly from the electronic address of the Coordinator of one of the Parties to the electronic address of the Coordinator of the other.

6.4 Either Party may change the responsible dependency, the designated Coordinator, the address, telephone or electronic mail indicated by notifying the other Party in writing.

ARTICLE VII GENERAL PROVISIONS

7.1 Nothing in this Supplementary Agreement constitutes an express or implied waiver of the privileges and immunities of the OAS, the GS/OAS, their personnel, and their assets, in accordance with the OAS Charter, any other relevant agreements, applicable national law, or the general principles and practices of international law.

7.2 Any dispute or complaint that may arise between the parties concerning the interpretation of this Supplementary Agreement or any related agreement shall be based on Article VIII of the Cooperation Agreement.

7.3 Neither Party shall be liable for an OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient's debt or financial obligations to the other.

7.4 This Supplementary Agreement shall enter into force as of the date of signature by the authorized representatives of the Parties and shall remain in force until December 31, 2021, subject to Article 7.7 below.

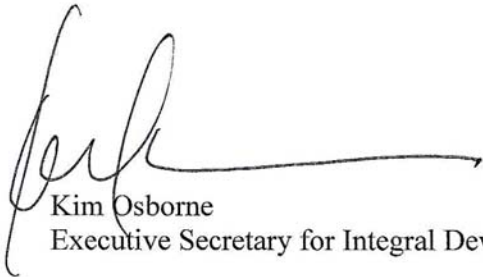
7.5 The Parties may modify this Supplementary Agreement by way of writing signed by the duly authorized representatives of both, dated, and attached hereto.

7.6 This Supplementary Agreement may be amended depending on the availability of funds of the Parties.

7.7 This Supplementary Agreement may be terminated by written agreement signed by the Parties, or may be terminated unilaterally by either Party without cause upon no less than 30 days' prior written notice to the other, however, if terminated unilaterally, this Supplementary Agreement shall remain in force until the termination date stated in Article 7.3 above with respect to all OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipients who as of the date the notice is given, have already been officially notified of their selection as an OAS-UWI PAEC Scholarship Recipient for the undergraduate programs in a given academic year.

SIGNED by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties in duplicate originals at the place and on the date indicated below:

**For the General Secretariat of the
Organization of American States**



Kim Osborne
Executive Secretary for Integral Development

Place: Washington, D.C.

Date: 9/8/20

For the University of the West Indies



Dr. Luz Longworth
Pro-Vice Chancellor & Principal
Open Campus

Place: Barbados

Date: September 11, 2020

ANNEX I

**THE OAS-THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES SCHOLARSHIP
ACCEPTANCE FORM**

**OAS PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND
EMPLOYMENT**

Scholarship Recipient	
Name <i>(as it appears in passport)</i>	
Country of citizenship	
Passport number	
Country of issue	
Address	
Telephone	
Email address	
Emergency contact	
Emergency contact's telephone	
Program of Study	
Name	Early Childhood Development and Family Studies certificate course
Academic Institution	
Dates	
Country of Study / Modality	Online

I, [REDACTED] (hereinafter “Scholarship Recipient”), hereby accept the scholarship offered by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (hereinafter “GS/OAS”) and The University of the West Indies (hereinafter “UWI” or “University”), for the Course detailed above (hereinafter the “Scholarship”), and agree to the terms and conditions set forth below:

1. BENEFITS:

1.1. The Scholarship Recipient:

Shall receive the scholarship amount of USD 3,060.00. The full amount of the tuition shall be \$3600. The remaining portion of their tuition owed (USD 540) shall be given as a contribution by the UWI in the form of a 15% waiver of the full fee.

2. SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT'S OBLIGATIONS:

2.1 The Scholarship Recipient is responsible for any and all additional costs not included in Article 1.1 above, including, but not limited to:

- a) Remaining University fees, including:
 - i. ID Card - \$5.00
 - ii. Guild Fees: \$20.00; and
 - iii. Technology Fee:\$70.00
- b) Application fees,
- c) Books and study materials, and
- d) Any additional costs not included in the OAS-UWI Scholarship.

2.2 Scholarship Recipient is responsible for obtaining from other sources the financial resources necessary to cover the costs not covered by the Scholarship.

2.3 Neither GS/OAS nor UWI shall be responsible or liable, directly or indirectly, in any way for Scholarship Recipient's debt or financial obligations to the other party or to any third parties.

2.4 Scholarship Recipient is required to complete the Course according to the full-time duration standards of the University.

2.5 This Scholarship is subject to the compliance of Scholarship Recipient with all academic requirements of the Course established by the University and all other obligations set forth in this Scholarship Acceptance Form.

2.6 Scholarship Recipient authorizes the GS/OAS to access any information regarding his/her education, including, but not limited to: academic grades, grading records, test results, disciplinary records, letters of academic good standing, applications for admission, and any other reports and/or records pertaining to Scholarship Recipient's education in the possession of the University. The Scholarship Recipient authorizes the GS/OAS to share this information with third parties that may provide the Scholarship Recipient additional funds for this Program of Study through another scholarship in association with the GS/OAS.

2.7 Scholarship Recipient shall participate in any orientation session required by GS/OAS and/or The UWI.

- 2.8 Upon registration for the Course, each OAS-UWI Scholarship Recipient shall take part in a minimum 15-week "STEM Community of Practice," an approximately weekly gathering of scholarship recipients with Teacher Fellows of the Inter-American Teacher Education Network (ITEN) who have been trained in STEM integration in early childhood. In total, this community of practice will include approximately 10-15 synchronous virtual gatherings, as well as online discussions and peer coaching to support curriculum coursework, for a total of 30 hours maximum. Upon successful completion of the STEM Community of Practice, OAS-UWI Scholarship Recipients will receive a certificate from ITEN.
- 2.9 Scholarship Recipient agrees to comply with UWI's policies on participant conduct and to refrain from participating in activities or improper behavior that might be inconsistent with the conduct expected of a Scholarship Recipient. The UWI has discretion to determine whether a Scholarship Recipient's conduct fails to meet the standards expected.
- 2.10 Scholarship Recipient shall participate in the evaluation of the effectiveness of the PAEC when contacted to do so by the GS/OAS.
- 2.11 Scholarship Recipient certifies that:
- a) He/she is not an employee, consultant, intern, or a relative of an employee, consultant, or intern of the GS/OAS, nor does he/she have any other business or labor relationship with the GS/OAS, the Organization of American States (OAS), or UWI.
 - b) He/she is not on trial in a criminal court of any jurisdiction; further, Scholarship Recipient warrants that he/she has never been convicted of any serious crime in any jurisdiction, including but not limited to any crime involving dishonesty, fraud, or theft. Scholarship Recipient shall immediately notify the GS/OAS in the event that a criminal charge is filed against Scholarship Recipient during his/her participation in the Program of Study. Failure to notify GS/OAS in such instances shall be considered a breach of the terms of the Scholarship.
- 2.12 Upon signature of this Scholarship Acceptance Form, Scholarship Recipient shall:
- a) Provide to the GS/OAS and/or University any requested documentation.
 - b) Inform the GS/OAS in writing upon arrival at UWI, if attending an on-site Program of Study or show proof of registration, if attending an online Program of Study.
 - c) Return this Scholarship Acceptance Form signed within five (5) days.
 - d) Immediately notify the GS/OAS and UWI of any changes in the Scholarship Recipient's status regarding this Article 2.

3. DECLINATION OF THE SCHOLARSHIP AND SUSPENSION OF THE PROGRAM OF STUDY

- 3.1 Scholarship Recipient may not fail to start the Program of Study or drop-out of the Program of Study after receiving the Scholarship funds, absent compelling and unforeseeable reasons, and shall give written notice and submit supporting proof to the DHDEE of such reasons immediately upon them being foreseen by, or becoming known to, the Scholarship Recipient. Whether a reason is sufficiently compelling shall be left to the discretion of GS/OAS.
- 3.2 In the event that GS/OAS concludes that no compelling reasons were present, Scholarship Recipient shall directly reimburse UWI for the funds received. Failure to do so will result in the Scholarship Recipient being barred from any future consideration for OAS or UWI scholarships, and shall constitute grounds for the GS/OAS to pursue legal action pursuant to Article 8.1.

4. NOTICE

- 4.1 All communications and notifications under this Scholarship Acceptance Form will be validly made when sent from/to the mailing address or electronic mail provided by the Scholarship Recipient in this Acceptance Form.
- 4.2 Scholarship Recipient is responsible for informing the GS/OAS and UWI of any change in address, telephone, electronic mail, or emergency contact information indicated in this Acceptance Form.

5. RESPONSIBILITY:

- 5.1 GS/OAS, UWI, their officers, employees, and/or agents are not liable for any injury, death, or loss to person or property sustained by the Scholarship Recipient while participating in or arising out of any travel or activity conducted by or under the auspices of the Scholarship. In addition, GS/OAS, UWI, their officers, employees, and/or agents are not responsible for the Scholarship Recipient's health, safety, or security at any time.

6. SCHOLARSHIP TERMINATION AND REPAYMENT

- 6.1 At any time, the GS/OAS and/or UWI may terminate this Scholarship and claim repayment of any amount of the Scholarship that has already been paid, plus any additional costs incurred by GS/OAS and/or UWI in collecting the amount owed, including but not limited to attorney's fees and court costs.
- 6.2 Cause for termination may include, but is not limited to:
 - a) Failure to comply with the laws of the country where the Course is held, with the exception of minor vehicular offenses;

- b) Failure to comply with the applicable rules and procedures of the Course and the regulations of the University;
- c) Interruption or modification of the Course or part of it without prior written approval by the GS/OAS and University; or
- d) Failure to start and/or dropping-out of the Course after having received the Scholarship funds without compelling reason and proof thereof.

6.3 In the event that Scholarship Recipient fails to comply promptly with any repayment obligations, Scholarship Recipient authorizes GS/OAS and/or UWI to report the amount of those unsatisfied obligations and related information to any credit reporting company or credit bureau, regardless of his/her location or country.

7. GS/OAS PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES:

7.1 Nothing in this Scholarship Acceptance Form shall constitute a waiver, express or implied, of the privileges and immunities of the OAS, the GS/OAS, its assets, officers, employees, and/or agents in accordance with the Charter of the OAS, relevant agreements, applicable national law, or the general principles and practices of international law.

8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:

8.1 If a dispute arises between the Scholarship Recipient and the GS/OAS, it shall be settled by direct negotiations between them. If a solution satisfactory to the Scholarship Recipient and the GS/OAS cannot be reached, then the Scholarship Recipient and the GS/OAS shall submit their differences to arbitration pursuant to the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (“UNCITRAL”) currently in effect. The place of arbitration shall be Washington, D.C., U.S.A. The language in the proceedings shall be English, unless the Scholarship Recipient and the GS/OAS agree otherwise. The three arbitrators or, as the case may be, the one arbitrator shall decide the dispute as *amiable compositeur* or *ex aequo et bono*. The arbitrator’s decision shall be final, binding and not subject to appeal. The law applicable to the arbitration proceedings and to this Acceptance Form shall be the law of the District of Columbia, USA.

9. SCHOLARSHIP AGREEMENT AND DEADLINE OF ACCEPTANCE:

9.1 This Scholarship Acceptance Form constitutes the entire Scholarship Agreement between GS/OAS, the University, and the Scholarship Recipient, and no later oral or written agreements shall be deemed valid unless reduced to writing and signed by the Scholarship Recipient and the GS/OAS. Any understanding or agreement that is not included in this Acceptance Form shall be of no force or effect.

9.2 The Scholarship offer must be accepted, within five (5) days of the date of its receipt, by way of the return of this Acceptance Form, completed and signed, via e-mail to the following address scholarships@oas.org .

Name of the Scholarship Recipient:

Signature of the Scholarship Recipient:

Date of Signature:

APPENDIX I

Integration of STEM module into the Course numbered ECFS 1006/1007

APAD's Response to the OAS ECCE Proposal

Proposal # 2 is the best fit for the integration of the STEM content across two courses ECFS1006 Curriculum Development & Assessment & ECFS1007 Practicum 1.

OAS Proposal 2:

Distribute STEM content across two courses:

[ECFS1006 - Curriculum Development & Assessment](#)

Unit 2. Quality early childhood care and education environment

Attention to the physical space (classroom furniture to facilitate STEM inquiry)

Unit 4: The Learning Centre: Design and Organization

Use of everyday and heritage resources for teaching STEM

Unit 6/7. Themes and Projects & Developing and Assessing Activity Plans

Developing a STEM-based project

APAD's Recommendation- Distribution of Stem Content across ECFS1007- Practicum 1:

Topic 7

Putting Observation and Reflection into Practice: The Physical Environment

Learning Activity

Discuss the following with your colleagues in the Discussion Forum on the Learning Exchange:

1. The procedures that are used in the design of the learning centres in your setting *to promote STEM inquiry and awareness by the children*
2. The importance of these routines for young children.

Reflection

Observe and record your reflections on the following in your online journal:

1. How early years practitioners manage the physical organization of the *STEM* classroom space/physical environment *to promote children's social skills that favour inquiry.*
2. The structure of the indoor floor plan, the placement of learning centres and the procedures that are used in the design of the learning centres *to promote STEM components and its elements.*
3. The different types of materials used in each learning centre *to promote STEM components and its elements.*

4. The materials and equipment used in designing an outdoor playground and the different types of surfaces that can be used to ensure children's safety.

Teaching Portfolio Item

As part of your teaching portfolio:

1. Create a floor plan to support your observation of how early years practitioners manage the physical organization of learning centres in the classroom space/physical environment to promote STEM components and its elements.
2. Tag some of the key issues related to facilitating the STEM approach in early childhood programmes in need of action research.
3. Start a list of STEM topics you would want to use to create practical activities that are suited to your physical environment.

Topic 8

Putting Observation and Reflection into Practice: Classroom Management

Learning Activity

Discuss the following with your colleagues in the Discussion Forum on the Learning Exchange:

1. The classroom management strategies you observed that you would use in your (STEM approach) classroom and those you would not.
2. The reasons for your choices.

Reflection

Observe and record your reflections on the following in your online journal: How the classroom environment is organized and executes:

1. Teacher's style
2. Interaction with children
3. Positive reinforcement
4. Engagement of children with special needs STEM inquiry & awareness
5. Engagement of diverse learners STEM approach (observation & assessment strategies)
6. Handling disruptions
7. The structure/or different components of the activity plan; from the introduction to the closure. *How were STEM activities introduced and implemented?*
8. The type of instructional strategies early years practitioners use with the different age groups STEM components and its elements
9. The transition strategies to move from one activity to the next used by early years practitioners.
10. The structure of the morning circle and end of day routines.
11. How the early years practitioner manages the classroom i.e. pacing of lessons, monitoring of students, structure of lessons and general routines and procedures STEM environment & layout and STEM inquiry, awareness
12. How early years practitioners manage the routines of the daily schedule.

13. How early years practitioners interact with the children, their parents and fellow colleagues.

Teaching Portfolio Item

As part of your teaching portfolio:

1. Write an observation report on the various classroom management strategies used by the early years practitioner in your setting *to facilitate STEM components and its elements*.
2. Tag some of the key issues related to classroom management *and the facilitation of STEM components and its elements* in need of action research.
3. Start a list of topics you want to follow on classroom management *and the integration of STEM components*.
4. *Explain how you would use STEM related activities in three learning centres found in the EC classroom?*

Topic 9

Putting Observation and Reflection into Practice: Conceptual Constructs

Learning Activity

Discuss the following with your colleagues in the Discussion Forum on the Learning Exchange:

1. The elements of behaviourism, cognitivism and constructivism which you are applying in your classroom practice and the theoretical construct or combination of constructs which are yielding the most favourable results in terms of student development *with special emphasis on the STEM approach in the early childhood context*.
2. Ways in which the philosophies and principles of Early Childhood pioneers are influencing your classroom practice. Discuss successes as well as challenges encountered citing practical examples from your early childhood teaching and learning environment.

Reflection

Observe and record your reflections on the following in your online journal:

“Conscientious pedagogical reflection is necessary to produce a complete, well developed teaching philosophy. The absence of pedagogical reflection can result in daily instruction that fails to reflect an instructor’s teaching philosophy or instructional belief system accurately. In particular, an underdeveloped teaching philosophy may translate into a teaching style full of inconsistencies, characterized by poorly coordinated and designed instruction” (Titus & Gremler, 2010). In ECFS 1001 History and Philosophy of Early Childhood Development, you began to develop a teaching philosophy statement for Early Childhood Care and Development. With this philosophy in hand, examine the alignment between your expressed beliefs in your teaching philosophy statement and the teaching practices that are actually occurring in your Early Childhood classroom *include your views on the integration of STEM in the early childhood curriculum*.

1. Reflect on this and examine the extent to which choices about classroom activities, projects, assessments as well as your role in the classroom and group dynamics / interactions are consistent with the elements of your teaching philosophy.
2. At the end of the Practicum, revise your teaching philosophy, if necessary.

Teaching Portfolio Item

As part of your teaching portfolio:

1. Develop a blog (an online multimedia poster) which captures the philosophies, theories and principles of early childhood practitioners and theorists which are actually influencing your *STEM* classroom practice.
2. A Teacher's Charter outlining your commitment to your young students. This charter should draw on your teaching philosophy and should be a condensed description that highlights the key components of your personal philosophy with emphasis on the implications of your philosophy for your young students. The Charter should be a one-page document listing at least 5 commitment statements outlining how you intend to provide quality educational experiences to your young students which promote holistic child development. Revising your teaching philosophy into a Teacher's Charter is an ideal way of ensuring that your theory-driven proclamations about teaching manifest into tangible effective classroom practice.
3. Tag some of the key issues related to conceptual constructs *which seeks to the integration of STEM components and its elements* in need of action research.
4. Start a list of topics you want to follow on conceptual constructs.

Implications for integrating STEM content in the ECFS1006 & ECFS1007 courses and by extension the Cert.ECDFS programme:

1. All students must have the basic Math skills and competencies at the minimum level of a passing grade at Math CXC level.
2. For the mature students accepted into the Cert.ECDFS programme without the minimum Math requirement, a suggestion is being made for the IYMS course be a pre-requisite for the ECFS1006 course. (*At present IYMS is a pre-requisite for the ECFS2009 course which is a part of the BEd.ECDFS programme*)