Bartlette is UVI’s Longest-Serving Employee

Inez Bartlette has been employed at the University of the Virgin Islands since the fledgling institution was just six years old. This year the purchasing technician set a record, becoming the longest-serving employee in the history of UVI for her 40 years of service to the University.

To say that Bartlette has grown with the University is an understatement. Bartlette began her career at UVI as a student worker when she was just a teenager. Her first full-time employment was as a clerk typist in the Accounting Department.

“Thank you guys for loving me, caring for me – even those who don’t like me that much, it doesn’t really matter – I gave UVI 40 years,” Bartlette said in emotion-filled remarks. Bartlette has served under all of UVI’s five presidents and said she is pleased with the institution’s growth. “As I leave the University I would like to see us return to the days of camaraderie, the days where we had everyone looking out for each other,” she said. “It’s not the St. Thomas campus. It’s not the St. Croix campus. It’s a UVI family,” she said.

Bartlette was honored with other employees and retirees at UVI’s Annual Service Awards. Ceremonies were held on April

Joneisa Smith is Crowned Miss UVI

Junior marketing major Joneisa Smith was crowned Miss UVI in the University’s 30th Annual Ambassadorial Pageant on Saturday, April 3, at the Reichhold Center for the Arts. Smith, a St. Thomas campus student, also won the evening’s Miss Popularity, Best Talent, Best Business Wear/Interview and Best Ambassadorial Presentation categories.

Indira Turney received the Miss Intellect award, while Royette Carriere took the Best Evening Wear award. Turney and Carriere are St. Croix campus students. The contestants performed in five categories and participated in pre-pageant interviews.

The pageant’s theme was “Collective Aspirations ... Colossal Achievements.” It was sponsored by the Queen’s Committee of the Student Government Association on the St. Thomas campus.
Ambrose Wins Student Award

St. Thomas campus student Derron Ambrose has impressed his supervisor Dr. Donald Drost so much that Dr. Drost believes Ambrose can teach introductory science courses. Ambrose, a Science 100 peer instructor in the College of Science and Mathematics, won the St. Thomas campus Student Employee of the Year award at the Student Employee Appreciation Awards ceremony held on April 15.

“All I can say is about two weeks ago I said to Derron, ‘you’re doing such a good job, how about you teach this course next semester,’” Dr. Drost said after Ambrose was announced winner. “Thank you for making me look good,” he added. Students were judged on reliability, initiative, quality of work, disposition and contribution to employer.

Service Awards Continued

13, on the St. Croix campus and April 16, on the St. Thomas campus. UVI recognizes employees in five-year intervals for their service.

Other long-time employees who were honored on the St. Thomas campus include Purchasing Specialist Valderie Abramsen, Director of the Eastern Caribbean Center Dr. Frank Mills and Nursing Professor Dr. Maxine Nunez for 35 years of service each. Mathematics Professor Dr. Ram Prakash Gupta, Accounting Technician Janice Henley and Access and Enrollment Program Assistant Barbara T odman were honored for 30 years of service each.

On the St. Croix campus long-time employees include Economics Professor Dr. Simon B. Jones-Hendrickson and Computer Science and Mathematics Professor Dr. Alan Lewit, who were honored for 30 years of service each.

As usual a highlight of the ceremonies was the announcement of the Employee of the Year award. On the St. Croix campus Jose Herrera was named Employee of the Year. Herrera is an agricultural aide in the Agricultural Experimental Station. On the St. Thomas campus Cheryl Mingo was named Employee of the Year. Mingo is a program specialist in Access and Enrollment Office. She was also honored for 20 years of service.

Vincent Samuel, UVI’s vice president for Administration and Finance, said honorees should feel proud of their milestones. “This is an extraordinary place,” he said of UVI. “This is truly a place where dreams are made.”