

# RESEARCH & CONSULTANCY



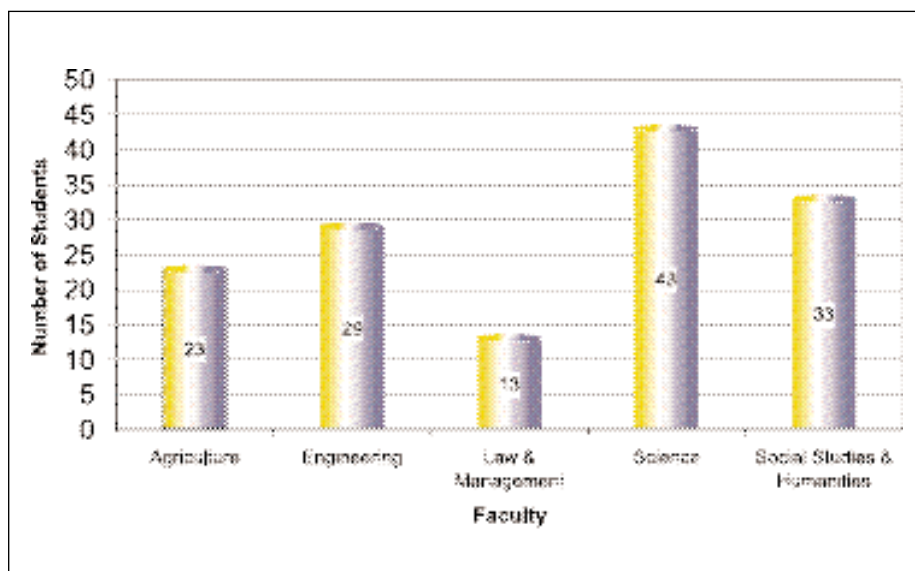
**Prof. V Hookoomsing**  
*Pro-Vice-Chancellor*  
Research & Consultancy

## MPHIL/PHD RESEARCH

Research continues to play an important role at the University. During the year 2002/2003, 4 PhD research projects (1 from the Faculty of Engineering and 3 from the Faculty of Science) and 2 MPhil research projects (1 from the Faculty of Science and 1 from the Faculty of Social Studies and Humanities) were successfully completed.

As at 31 July 2003, 41 academic staff and 100 private students, a total of 141, were registered for postgraduate research studies. This figure represents an approximate increase of 16 % in the number of registrations as compared to the previous year.

Figure 1: Faculty-wise Distribution of students registered for an MPhil or a PhD degree



During the period under review, a total of 31 (19 Part-Time and 12 Full-Time) new registrations for MPhil/PhD were processed.

The Tertiary Education Commission offered 13 postgraduate scholarships and 12 postgraduate bursaries tenable at the University of Mauritius for the academic year 2002/2003.

## RESEARCH PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE UNIVERSITY

The office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research & Consultancy) aims at encouraging academic staff to undertake research in order to enhance the research culture at the University.

The University of Mauritius Research Grants Scheme is intended to provide financial support to UoM researchers to conceive and develop innovative and high quality projects in line with the UoM mission as defined in its Strategic Plan (1999 – 2004). Research grants support the direct costs of carrying out the research, including funding for research support staff

There are 3 types of research grants: Non-Thematic Research, Thematic Research and Core Strategic Research.

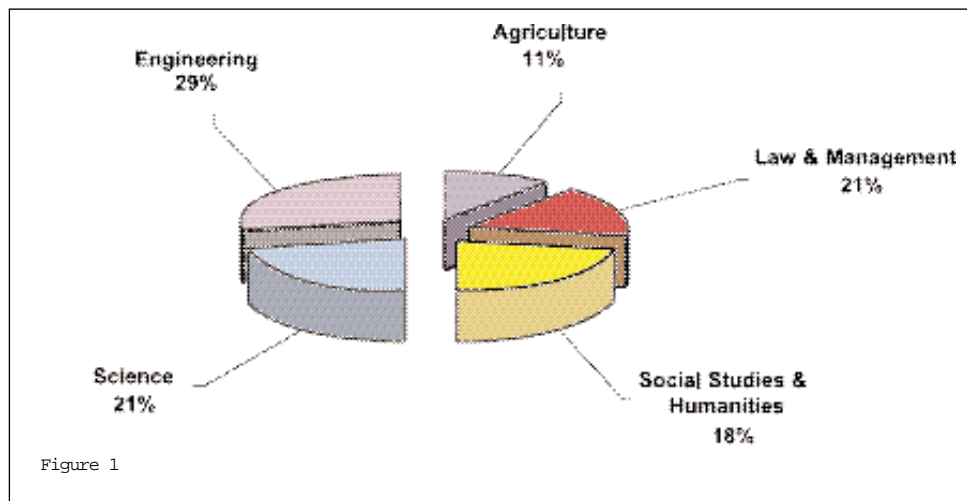
During the year 2002/2003, 9 staff research projects were completed and 13 were ongoing under the grants scheme.

## CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE SCHEME

The University provides a scheme which offers partial financial support to academic staff participating in conferences and seminars overseas. The scheme was revised in June 2003 in order to include participation in workshops

During the year 2002/2003, 28 academic staff benefited from the scheme. The distribution of academic staff by Faculty who were funded under the scheme is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Conferences, seminars and workshops attended by academic staff



## ACADEMIC STAFF DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (ASD)

The Academic Staff Development (ASD) scheme provides funding to academic staff who are registered for an MPhil/PhD programme to go for short attachments abroad to carry out further research.

A total of 7 academic staff (4 from the Faculty of Law & Management, 1 from the Faculty of Engineering and 2 from the Faculty of Social Studies & Humanities) benefited from the scheme during the period under review.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS RESEARCH JOURNAL

The University of Mauritius Research Journal was first published in 1999. Nine volumes for Science & Technology and 4 volumes for Law, Management and Social Sciences have been published up to now. The Research Journals have also been posted on the University of Mauritius Website and are therefore accessible both locally and internationally.

Volume 9 for Science and Technology was published during the year under review and comprise 12 internationally refereed papers in the fields of Engineering, Agriculture, Biological Sciences, Chemistry, Mathematics and Medical Sciences.

Volume 4 for Law, Management and Social Sciences published during the year under review, comprises 7 internationally refereed papers in the fields of Economics, Law, Management and Education.

## ORGANISATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

The University of Mauritius hosted the Doctoriales de l'Océan Indien organised jointly by l'Université de la Réunion, l'Institut de la Francophonie pour l'Entrepreneuriat (IFE) and the University of Mauritius from 23 to 29 March 2003.

The Doctoriales consisted of a one-week programme of meetings, seminars and workshops meant to prepare the doctorants to work in groups for the design and elaboration of professional projects with the support of people from the world of work and industry.

The Doctoriales 2003 was attended by some seventy-five students: fifty from l'Université de la Réunion, fifteen from the University of Mauritius and ten from l'Université d'Antananarivo.

## MISSISSIPPI CONSORTIUM FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (MCID)      HOWARD UNIVERSITY (HU)      UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS PARTNERSHIP


The project aims at improving the quality of and access to information technology, and establishing sustainable linkages between the partners. Under the partnership, funds for the setting up of a computer laboratory with 70 personal computers were released by MCID.

In March 2003, the University of Mauritius participated at the Annual Conference held in Washington and presented a progress report on the partnership.

## CONFERENCES/MEETINGS ATTENDED AND VISITS UNDERTAKEN

Professor Hookoomsing, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research & Consultancy):

- (i) Proceeded to Rodrigues to present the MCID/UoM partnership to the Rodriguan authorities and to discuss the possibility of re-activating the University of Mauritius antenne universitaire, from 15 to 17 August 2002.
- (ii) Represented the University of Mauritius at the Francophone meeting hosted by the University of Limoges, from 30 September to 9 October 2002.
- (iii) Visited the University of Halle, Germany in connection with the launching of the link agreement with the University of Mauritius, from 13 to 15 February 2003.
- (iv) Visited the University of Paris I, in view of finalising the first exchange programme under the link agreement with the University of Paris I, on 17 February 2003.
- (v) Attended the Annual Meeting of the EDDI Partnership Project Directors in Washington, USA, from 6 to 14 March 2003.

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- (vi) Visited Georgetown University, Jackson State University and other institutions which are members of the MCID-UoM partnership in USA, from 6 to 14 March 2003.
  - (vii) Visited Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts et des Industries Textiles (ENSAIT), France in view of developing collaboration with the Department of Textile Technology, UoM, between 1 to 2 June 2003.
  - (viii) Participated in the Assises de la Recherche dans l'Océan Indien , Réunion, from 3 to 5 June 2003.