

# International Journal of Bahamian Studies

Editorial Volume 29, 2023

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The *International Journal of Bahamian Studies* is proud to be part of the backbone of University of the Bahamas' ever-growing research traditions. While *IJBS* has had a long tradition of publishing works by UB and international scholars working in the humanities and social sciences, in the past we have only rarely published natural science research. Accordingly, the editorial team were delighted to have received several high-quality natural science manuscripts this year, a number of them focusing on the aftermath of Hurricane Dorian. In recognition of this development, *IJBS* published the natural science articles as a special issue in October of this year during International Open Access Week.

In addition to our typical launch event in Harry C. Moore Library Auditorium, the editors of the journal also participated in an International Open Access Week event organized by UB Librarian Catharine Archer focusing on open access publishing. At the event, *IJBS* associate editor Virginia Ballance overviewed the history of the journal's switch to an open-access model, and two authors in Volume 29, issue 2 (namely Drs. Anica Bowe and Kristen Welsh) discussed what publishing in an open-access journal—and what publishing in *IJBS* as international scholars with Bahamian connections—means to them.

In the current issue, issue 2, the editorial team are pleased to publish articles on a wide array of topics from Bahamian and international scholars. Particularly noteworthy is the continued collaboration between William Fielding and Virginia Ballance, providing much-needed empirical data looking at sexual abuse in the Bahamas. Remarkably, Fielding and Ballance have contributed three separate original articles on the topic to the current issue, co-authoring with Niambi Hall-Campbell-Dean on one.

As always, this year's issues would not have been possible without the assistance of many people, including but not limited to: Associate Editor Virginia Ballance, the Editorial Board, the reviewers, and the copyeditors. As the journal continues to grow, we hope to continue to publish high-quality manuscripts on a wide range of topics connected to the Bahamas and its people. Hopefully, in the future we will publish multiple issues annually in, perhaps, increasingly-specialized fora.

Sincerely,

Dr. Raymond Oenbring

Managing Editor