

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF BAHAMIAN STUDIES

President's Message, Volume 28, 2022

It is a pleasure for me, as the second President of University of The Bahamas, to write a few words to welcome and to extend well-wishes to Bahamian, Caribbean, and international scholars.

I am extremely proud that in the 2022/2023 academic year, we are publishing Volume 28 of the *International Journal of the Bahamian Studies*. Congratulations to all University of The Bahamas and international scholars whose papers have been accepted for publication.

Remarkably, research published in this volume has already had an impact on public discourse in The Bahamas. In significant part due to media discussion of Fielding and Ballance's research on violence in long-term relationships in The Bahamas, the Bahamian Government recently met with key community stakeholders in a forum to discuss a Bill to amend the Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Act of 1991, which would establish marital rape as a crime. I am pleased that University of The Bahamas's faculty have willingly taken the lead in public dialogue to inform citizens and residents in The Bahamas about the issue.

The fact that it is informing national discussions demonstrates that the *International Journal of Bahamian Studies* is committed to University of The Bahamas's Mission – that is, “To advance and expand access to higher education, promote academic freedom, drive national development and build character through teaching, learning, research, scholarship, and service.”

As the University continues to expand its course offerings in graduate studies, the institution's research capacity will increase, creating more opportunities for research and publishing for local and international scholars.

I envision important future developments from the *International Journal of Bahamian Studies*

Erik Rolland, Ph.D.

President and CEO, University of The Bahamas