

**Name: Cynthia Garbutt**

**Program of Study: 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Psychology Major**

After prayerful consideration, I submit my application for candidacy in the office of President of the United Student Movement. My intention is based solely on the recognition of my competencies, experience, leadership skills, and genuine concern I have for the student populous here at NCU. I am motivated by the opportunities for student growth present at this institution and by the weaknesses many of them face that I believe can be adequately addressed under my leadership.

My leadership experience spans approximately 10 years with me being involved directly in Youth Leadership in the SDA Church. I am an invested Master Guide and served as Deputy Director of the Adventurer Club in my local congregation. I have been employed as assistant to the Executive Secretary/Youth Director in the Belize Union. I served as Young Adults' (Collegiate) Sabbath School Class Teacher, and Head Sabbath School Superintendent, and Assistant AY Leader.

I currently hold the office of President of the International Students' Association at NCU. I work as an Online Application Recruitment Administrator in the Office of Recruitment. In this capacity, I am actively involved in reaching out into the communities of the SDA churches, seeking out the youth, and encouraging them to apply to NCU. I work closely with the freshmen ensuring their smooth transition into university life.

## **Manifesto**

For the 2017-2018 Academic Year. It is my vision that the following projects be realized under the USM regime:

### **Food Pantry-**

It is my intention if elected to serve as USM president to solicit basic food items and personal effects from overseas Jamaican and International communities to assist needy students on campus. This would be an ongoing project through consistent depositing and shipment of such items.

### **Educational Assistance to Returning Students-**

Provided from the USM budget, funds would be earmarked specifically for returning students who display financial need.

The University has made a sum of JA \$5 million available for scholarships for new and returning students under a need/merit based system. This award is not publicly advertised.

Infrastructure in classrooms

### **Government Subvention Grants to NCU Students-**

In the recent consultation with representatives from the Ministry of Education, the issue of Government subvention given only to UWI/UTECH was brought to the table and notes were made of it. The suggestion of ways in which NCU students could benefit from this subvention was promised to be looked into and further explored.

It is my intention to push this issue with fervency with all stakeholders including NCU administration in all fairness to the student body.

### **Security – Police Patrol**

It is of utmost importance the security of students on campus and off campus. With the spate of robberies that arose around the holiday season last December, it was of paramount concern to me personally firstly as an International student, and secondly as an off-campus resident. Ideally, having an out-post in the vicinity of the campus, however, if this cannot be possible, having routine police patrols in “hot spot” areas surrounding the campus is expected to lower the risk of criminal aggression against students and/or residents in these areas.

### **Shuttle Bus Service Extension-**

It is the intention of the next USM Regime to continue to work with the Department of Student Services to roll out an extension of the Shuttle bus service to include routes in the neighborhoods surrounding NCU campus. These communities include, but are not limited to:

*Cedar Grove District*

*Avondale*

*Cedar Gardens*

*Housen Hights*

*CollegeView*

The Shuttle Bus Service would be designed to be a self-sustaining venture with minimal input from USM or Student Services. Students who utilize this service will be expected to subsidize the costs of the transportation.

### **E-book database-**

With the minority of students having access to textbooks on campus, or having the resources to purchase books, or the non-availability of books at the bookstore, it is my

vision to compile an E-book database to be available to students at a cost for membership access. This offsets the loss that may be incurred by the bookstore, while providing much needed resources to students who are unable to procure them otherwise, whether it is by lack of funds, or lack of books.

### **Extension Campuses Involvement-**

The United Student Movement is the governing body of all students of NCU, including those enrolled at the 3 extension campuses around the island. It is my vision that these students' involvement be incited and that their presence is felt on Main Campus and vice versa. The extension campuses have expressed to the Office of Recruitment that college spirit is lacking at these sites, and morale and enrolment are low. It is incumbent on the new regime to impact these campuses and not only churches and high schools.

### **Accessories for Nursing Students**

The nurses at NCU pay the highest tuition fees per year. They are required to do 3 semesters inclusive of summers, they are required to pay additional lab fees, and buy their own accessories and equipment. It is unfortunate that more is not done to assist the nurses with their enormous costs. My vision is to be able to import the nursing accessories such as watches, penlights, scissors, pulse oximeters, etc. and offer these at low to no cost to as many as possible in order to help to alleviate the costs to them.