

Civil Engineering Education at the University of the West Indies: An International Perspective

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Abstract : Civil Engineering education, at undergraduate and graduate levels, commenced at the University of the West Indies (UWI) in 1961, in collaboration with Imperial College in London. From its inception, it has concentrated on natural hazard resistant design of structures, given the occurrence of earthquakes, hurricanes and volcanic eruption in the Commonwealth Caribbean Islands. Against this background, a number of international students, from Botswana, Canada, Germany, India, Nigeria and South Africa, have studied Civil Engineering at UWI over the years. This paper outlines the author's experience in teaching Fluid Mechanics and Engineering design to the said students, and in so doing highlights their strengths and weaknesses.

Keywords : Caribbean, civil engineering, education, natural hazards

Conference Title : ICCCE 2017 : International Conference on Civil and Construction Engineering

Conference Location : Cape Town, South Africa

Conference Dates : November 02-03, 2017