

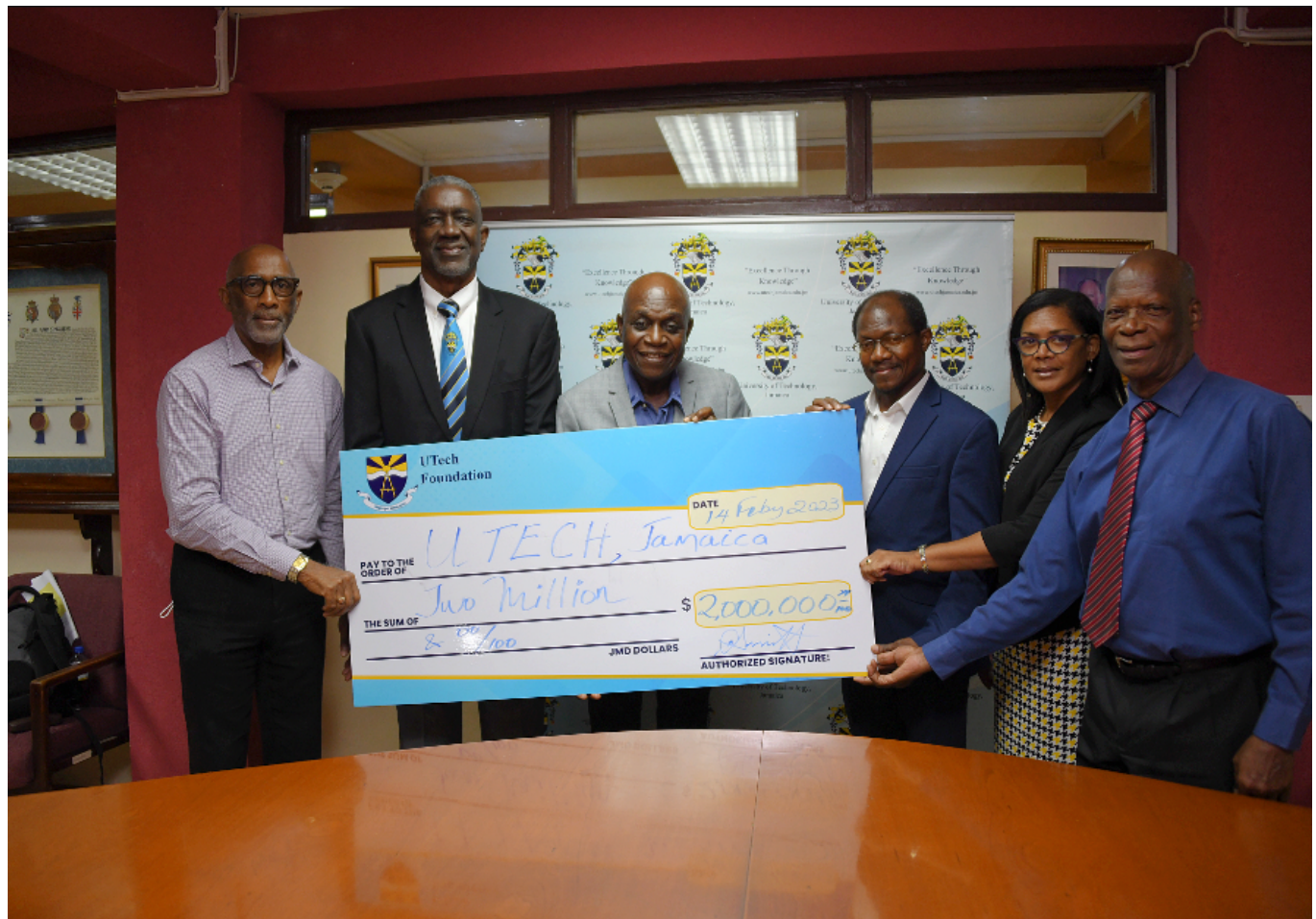
UTech, Jamaica Receives Donation of \$2 Million from UTech Foundation for Signage Restoration Project

UTech, Jamaica Broadcaster <massmailer@utech.edu.jm>

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Professor Colin Gyles, CD (1st right) Acting President, UTech, Jamaica and Miss Marion Brown, Vice President and University Registrar accept a symbolic cheque for \$2 Million from members of the UTech Foundation (from left) Mr. Earl Samuels, Mr. Eric Crawford, (President), Rev. Jim Parkes, and Mr. Noel Smith (right) for the restoration of signage on the University's Papine Campus. The presentation was made at a courtesy call on February 14, 2023 at the Papine Campus.

The UTech Foundation on Tuesday, February 14, 2023, presented a cheque for \$2 million dollars to Acting President, Professor Colin Gyles, CD for a signage restoration project on the UTech, Jamaica Papine Campus.

The presentation was made by Mr. Eric Crawford, President, UTech Foundation during a courtesy call with the Acting President. Mr. Crawford was accompanied by three other members of the UTech Foundation, Mr. Earl Samuels, Mr. Noel Smith (Secretary/Treasurer), and Rev. Jim Parkes.

UTech, Jamaica Chancellor, Dr. Lloyd Carney, who joined the presentation via telephone, commended the Foundation and its members, many of whom are also UTech, Jamaica alumni and prominent figures in the private sector, for their efforts in support of the University over the years. The Chancellor noted that “Your stories are Jamaican success stories, that are reachable and attainable by our children, and we need to figure how we get that message out, as we rebrand UTech as the place where people want to send their children so that they can become success stories in Jamaica. We have so many people from UTech that are so successful, and we need to celebrate you,” the Chancellor noted.

Acting President Professor Gyles, in thanking the Foundation for the donation, noted, “This is not the first project of significance that the Foundation would have sponsored, because over the years they have sponsored scholarships for students, but now they have decided that they want to move beyond scholarships to more tangible infrastructural sponsorship, that will allow the name of the Foundation to be attached to the contribution that they are making for posterity.

“We are most grateful to the Foundation for this gesture, and we believe that there's a lot more on which we will be able to partner, as we have discussed the idea of having a list of projects. The Foundation is very keen on seeing that list so that they can identify other projects that they are willing to support,” Professor Gyles shared.

The project is being coordinated with the UTech, Jamaica Marketing Unit and is expected to be completed within three months. The project will see the replacement of sixty-one (61) signs across the Papine Campus, complete with protective covering to ensure longevity. A site visit was organized with four outdoor signage companies, resulting in all four bidding on the project, which was won by Innovative Signs & Awnings (ISA). This project will serve as a template for future collaboration between the University and the UTech Foundation on the physical development of the campuses.

The UTech Foundation (formerly C.A.S.T Foundation) was founded in 1988 by a group of persons from the Private Sector who appreciated the contribution of the institution to the development of Jamaica's trained professionals who then formed the critical leadership in many of the industrial and commercial enterprises operating in Jamaica. Since then, the Foundation has consistently awarded scholarships to UTech, Jamaica students and provided bursaries to faculty members to pursue graduate-level qualifications overseas.

***Corporate Communications Unit
Advancement Division
University of Technology, Jamaica***

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