

NDM congratulates Professor Nettleford

THE National Democratic Movement (NDM) has expressed "heartiest congratulations" to Professor Rex Nettleford, the first UWI graduate to be appointed to the high office of Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies (UWI).

"However," said Hyacinth Bennett, NDM spokesperson on education, "Vice Chancellor, Rex Nettleford has assumed the leadership of UWI at a most critical stage when not only is there much to be consolidated but there is also much that is ripe for reform and development.

"As Sir Alistair himself has suggested that there is much to be done to move the UWI forward, Vice Chancellor Nettleford's own leadership of and vision for UWI will, no doubt, present opportunities for him to shepherd the necessary changes to this august institution albeit through a possibly complicated terrain."

In a statement, she said, "Without a doubt, the UWI faces global challenges of the: information age, adequate resources, a new social paradigm, as



*Professor Rex
Nettleford* ■



*Hyacinth
Bennett* ■

well as the need for a new type of workforce but unquestionably, Professor Nettleford possesses the kind of moral leadership and unity of purpose knowing fully well that history has only a few moments when what is done or not done will affect the future in decisive ways.

"As we face the new millennium, the UWI, under the leadership of Professor Nettleford, will be challenged to work more closely with the workplace, industry, the community and, of course, other levels of the education system and hopefully, address, in a more meaningful manner, community, national and regional development needs.

"As Vice Chancellor Nettleford leads the UWI, I am confident that the way forward will certainly gain momentum and while there are indeed, areas worthy of retention and even transfer to the new millennium, I am also confident that any part of the education heirloom at the UWI that may be nothing more than excess baggage for the journey into the 21st Century, will be unloaded swiftly as a "quiet revolution" redefines the role of UWI."