

B/N Douglas Daphne

UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES
Department of Library Studies

PRESS RELEASE

PROFESSOR DAPHNE DOUGLAS RECEIVES COMMANDER OF DISTINCTION (C.D.)

On Monday the 19th of October, ¹⁹⁹² Professor Daphne Douglas of the University of the West Indies was invested as a Member of the Order of Merit in the Rank of Commander by the Governor General.

She is Head of the Department of Library Studies, the regional school for the education and training of information specialists. As Professor, she holds the Chair in Library Studies. She was educated professionally at the Eastern Caribbean Library School, Trinidad, Leeds School of Librarianship, England, the Danish School of Librarianship, the University of Pittsburgh School of Library and Information Science and the University of Western Ontario School of Library and Information Science.

Her qualifications are Associate of The Library Association (A.L.A), Fellow of The Library Association (F.L.A.), Master of Library Science (M.L.S.). She was a foundation member of the staff of the Department, having been appointed Lecturer in 1971, Senior Lecturer in 1979 and Professor in 1984. She has been head of the Department since 1976, with a two year break in 1980-1982. Previous service was with the Jamaica Civil Service, working at the old Treasury, the Colonial Secretariat and the Forest Department. Following this, she worked in the Jamaica Library Service, the public library service, as Cataloguer and later Principal Librarian in the Headquarters and also in St. James.

Professor Douglas has been involved on the local, national and international scenes, lecturing on a variety of occasions, presenting papers at conferences and seminars and participating in advisory and expert work. This latter has taken her to Gabon, France, Cuba, Finland and Senegal among the most recent visits. She serves on the National Archives Committee and on the Board of Management of the National Library of Jamaica. She has been very active in the work of the Jamaica National Council on Libraries, Archives and Documentary Services, serving as Vice-Chairman until recently when it changed its composition. She still serves on a number of committees.

She has been very involved in the Association of Caribbean University, Research and Informational Libraries (ACURIL), having attended annual conferences and contributed papers regularly since 1976 and having served on the Executive Council for six years. She was President for 1984. She has also been an active member of the Jamaica Library Association, serving as Secretary in the early years and as President in 1977. She has sat on numerous committees and chaired many of them. At the present time, she serves as a judge and participates in training for the National Inter-Secondary Schools Debate.

Departmentally, she has been largely responsible for its development over the twenty-one years of its existence. She pioneered the Masters in Library Studies programme and has been instrumental in the incorporation of automation in libraries and audio-visual information work courses. She has been responsible for the installation of a 7-station Computer network totally funded by projects and is teaching the subject in the formal curricula. She has many publications to her credit, some produced as a result of contracts.

