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The University of the West Indies (UWI) School for Graduate Studies and Research presented the inaugural lecture of The Most Hon. Edward Seaga, Distinguished Fellow, held at the Mona Visitor's Lodge and Conference Centre, Mona Campus, last Thursday. Picture shows Mr. Seaga (centre) with his sister Jean Anderson and Vice Chancellor Emeritus, Professor Rex Nettleford.

# Eddie the teacher

**Daviot Kelly**  
Staff Reporter

**T**HE MONA Visitor's Lodge did not possess enough seats for all those who came to hear the 'one don'.

Edward Seaga, not unknown to giving speeches and lectures, gave his first one as a Distinguished Fellow at the University of the West Indies on Thursday May 11. Like any good schoolteacher he started his lesson on time (which for him was 5:55 p.m.). He spoke for nearly an hour and ten minutes but the time went by quickly as the audience was riveted by the man and his lecture.

Mr. Seaga spoke on the topic 'The Folk Roots of Jamaican Cultural Identity'. He spoke of

the struggles of children as they matured into adulthood. He looked at the continuing problems faced by students trying to get an education and he lamented that the state of the unsettled Jamaican household started from the days of slavery.

## JAMAICA'S INFLUENCE

On more positive notes, he marvelled at Jamaica's influence on the world in areas such as music. He also had to 'big up' the women for heading many families.

All the time he spoke, the words flowed from his mouth; the air and confidence of someone who knew what he was taking about. He drew on his years of experience and exuded information on Jamaican history. He

used up the plethora of words in his vernacular. His rib-tickling wit had the audience chuckling at various points in the lecture. In fact, I'm sure some forgot this was supposed to be a lecture, as they are always considered boring, dull affairs.

After it was over, the only just response to the lecture was a standing ovation and it was duly given.

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