



SIR ARTHUR LEWIS INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STUDIES

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE  
WEST INDIES



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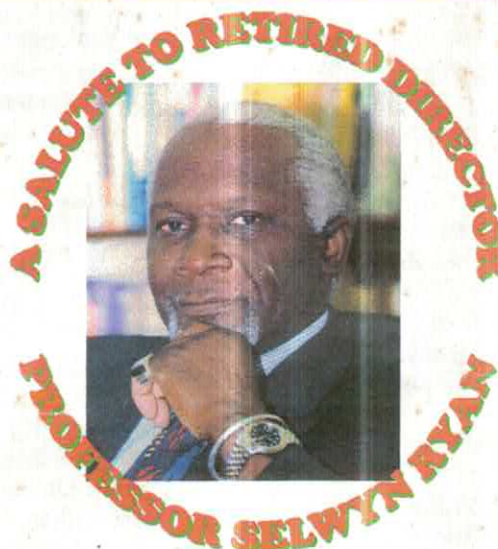
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TRIBUTES IN THIS SPECIAL ISSUE:

- FROM THE UNIVERSITY DIRECTOR
- FROM THE DIRECTOR, MONA
- FROM THE DIRECTOR, TRINIDAD
- FROM COLLEAGUES



### *Editorial Note....*

This Special Issue of the SALISES Voice pays fitting tribute to Professor Selwyn Ryan who recently retired from the University of the West Indies.

Professor Ryan, you continue to serve SALISES and the Caribbean region with dignity and distinction. SALISES Voice applauds your performance over the years and we look forward to a continued relationship for many years to come.

*Sharon Barnes-Wilmot*

### *From the University Director....*

Professor Selwyn Ryan has had a distinguished career as a political scientist and commentator. After graduating from the University of Toronto with a First Class honors degree in History (1960) and from Cornell University with a Ph.D. in Political Science (1965), Selwyn embarked on an academic career as a political scientist covering four universities in Canada (York University); Africa (University of Ghana and Makerere University) and the West Indies (University of the West Indies-UWI). Except for a short break as the Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission in Trinidad and Tobago (1980-86), Selwyn has been associated with the UWI since 1973. He joined the UWI as a Senior Lecturer the Department of Government at the St. Augustine Campus in 1973 and served as Head of the Department between 1974 and 1979.

Selwyn was appointed Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Studies (ISER) in 1987 and was promoted to Professor in 1989. He was the last University Director of the ISER. When the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies (SALISES) was formed in 1999 he served as Director until his 'retirement' in 2003.

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Selwyn is certainly one of the most (if not, the most) prolific writer/editor of books in the history of the University. Between 1972 and 2003 he has produced 23 books, with an accelerated rate of production between 1988 and 2003. In addition, he has produced several articles and commentaries on contemporary Caribbean politics. He is an acknowledged expert in Caribbean politics and Governance issues. Selwyn is well-known in Trinidad and Tobago for his weekly newspaper column and opinion polls. He is also a leading Caribbean pollster.

Selwyn's presence in the Institute has allowed it to maintain its reputation as a centre of excellence for research in the social sciences-economics, political science and sociology. Selwyn's own research output and his encouragement of other staff members to increase their research and publications output have kept the Institute at the frontier of developments in Caribbean social science. As editor of the journal, **Caribbean Dialogue**, Selwyn was able to reach policy makers and the general public who are always thirsty for commentaries and advice on recent public policy issues.

When the Institute began its graduate teaching program, Selwyn naturally led the development of the Governance and Public Policy program along with Professor Neville Duncan. The program has now earned the reputation as a rigorous program in contemporary public policy and governance issues. Selwyn has anchored the program by teaching a course in 'Theories of Governance' which draws on his vast knowledge and practical experience across the world. Indeed he has been asked to make presentations at conferences/seminars and to assist with election observer missions. From all reports, the students in his classes have been enthralled by his keen insights and knowledge.

As University Director, I have relied on Selwyn's keen sense of relevance and judgment in conducting the affairs of the Institute. I have always welcomed his advice, suggestions and support for initiatives to advance the work of the Institute. When the annual SALISES conference was started, he assisted greatly with suggestions on how to promote the event drawing on his knowledge of international conferences and regional institutions.

In addition to his love for writing books and articles, Selwyn loves a fete: like a true 'Trini'. He is a very sociable and social person. You can always be assured of a social function will follow any seminar/conference being held at the St. Augustine branch of the Institute. Selwyn has always displayed a youthful enthusiasm and charm that belies his age (after all age is but a number and you are as old as you feel like). Selwyn was always helpful and supportive of initiatives organized by his younger colleagues. He is certainly contemporary in outlook and style- with a diplomatic flair. As a social person, he is well known in the Caribbean- from the 'man-in-the-street to the top policy makers.

On many occasions when asked 'what is my position in the UWI', I would respond 'Selwyn Ryan equivalent in Barbados' and people got it instantly.

Selwyn will continue his work in the Institute as Emeritus Professor. I am sure that he will increase his rate of writing now that he has shed his administrative duties. It has certainly been a great pleasure working and socializing with Selwyn over the past nine years as Director. On behalf of the Institute, I wish him good health, and long life in this new phase of his life.

Seasons Greetings to all staff and I hope that you have a productive New Year.

*Andrew Downes*

### *From the Director, St. Augustine...*

Professor Selwyn Ran has formally retired from the University at the end of this academic year, 2003, and I write to recommend that the distinction of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon him.

Professor Ryan has had a distinguished academic career teaching at York University, University of Ghana, Makerere University in Uganda and The University of the West Indies. His research and publication record is outstanding, being one of the most prolific writers in the University and having published close to fifty articles and twenty books,

By his work, Professor Ryan has left for posterity a remarkable record of contemporary political history of the Caribbean and particularly Trinidad and Tobago, which will prove to be an invaluable source of information and analysis for researchers and policy makers for many years to come. He is, without question, the leading political scientist in the region.

His contribution is far from complete. There is much work yet to be done and he has the knowledge, capacity and enthusiasm to continue his research and publication programme, which will further add to the stock of knowledge on the politics of the region. Having the status of Professor Emeritus would provide him with the position and support infrastructure that would facilitate his continued work.

*Dr. Patrick Watson*

### *From the Director, Mona....*

Professor Selwyn Ryan is highly admired by me for his incredible scholarship and outstanding discipline. He sets targets for doing research, writing books and ensuring their publication. Unlike most of us, he keeps his commitments, to himself, as if they were promises he made to us! What I like especially is that he does not allow the dust to settle on large burning issues then write about them much later. He jumps in very early and applies political science theories in practical but



nevertheless uncompromising ways, in order to interpret, project and advise. In this way he becomes the practical political scientist rather than a historical, after the event, political analyst.

I salute Professor Ryan with all the warmth and joy in my heart for his lifetime of valued achievement. I know fully well that his work has not ended and that as long as he has life and a clear mind he will write more books, and that they will all stand the test of time.

I miss you from the administrative rooms, especially for your rigour and humanity but will continue to appreciate your presence through your publications and still active participation in academic teaching and conferences.

*Neville C. Duncan*

### *And Captured In A Line...*

"Selwyn Ryan is a warm, fun-loving intellectual; prolific writer and unflappable commentator on Caribbean social and political affairs."

*Elsie Le Franc*

### *An Extract from Lloyd Best...*

In the three decades of his career at St Augustine, much of it as Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, Dr Ryan has made a colossal difference not only on account of the standards of scholarly initiative and industry he set with his almost two dozen titles, but also through his tireless but effectively disinterested engagement with public policy, party expression and popular discourse alike. Nobody has doubted that he's had his own party preferences; but he's always done the right thing and never for a moment sought to disguise them, even when disagreement or disenchantment has led him to controversial re-alignment and made the uninitiated wonder, as in the instance of the PNM in 1976 and again with the NAR at about its mid-term. The point is that at no stage was Ryan influenced by any drive to government office. He's all along retained an unequivocal and rare commitment to academic life and work.

Initially in a study undertaken jointly with Jack Harewood and Edward Greene, Ryan was the pioneer of quantitative surveys of political attitudes and opinions. By finding a *Confused Electorate* rather than by realizing that the political sociology was perhaps unique, he quickly ran into trouble with critics but it did not take him long to revise his model so as to place race, religion, class, nationality, etc in something of a new relation. Almost by itself, Ryan's business enterprise SARA went on to endure the teething troubles and to incur the immense professional costs of winning public trust for an altogether new form of information gathering. Now that SARA has for the most part withdrawn, the going for successor pollsters is that much easier.

Of course the burden of Ryan's contribution has come by way of his copious writing. In supplying columns to the Sunday newspapers almost throughout his time, he built himself a platform from which to observe the political landscape, often using his polling data as window. Not even the academic community, let alone the general public, had formed any serious judgment of the ugly choices faced when work had to be undertaken where the basis of scientific research and investigation in social sciences had still to be laid; where campus was not particularly blessed by any long tradition of critical engagement or intellectual life; and where popular rather than "quality" newspapers, books or professional journals served as the channels of dissemination and even as the locus of more rigorous debate.

Inevitably, the same context has engendered much skepticism and doubt over the validity of newspapers as the source for scholars of primary reporting. In the end, when the options are more carefully weighed, Ryan can be seen to have settled on a package that can scarcely not strike as an astute, realistic and amazingly economical method of getting statement out while memory and material are still fresh, for more studied sifting by later historians. Even if there remain risks and dangers, and even if we have not had a perfect account of events or a cogent interpretation of operations in government and politics, the country has without doubt won solid planks for systematic finding out about itself under almost prohibitive conditions.

In 1972, Ryan had made a dramatic start with what has remained his major title. *Race and Nationalism in T&T*, a study that both laid foundations for the post-Independence generation of informed elites and also cast the mould of analysis for post-graduate research thereafter. Over the last quarter of a century, it is hard to find Masters or PhDs theses on T&T that do not take that work as a point of departure. It was not only that it recognized the issues of freedom and of responsibility that Independence put on the front burner; it is also that it threw into relief the part played by the country's extreme cultural and ethnic diversity in complicating the transition.

Later titles such as *The Independence Experience* (1988), *Revolution and Reaction* (1989), *the Disillusioned Electorate* (1989), *Social and Occupational Stratification in Contemporary T&T* (1991), *The Muslimeen Grab For Power* (1991), *The Black Power Revolution 1970* (1995) and *The Jhandi & The Cross* (1999) add up to a spirited attempt to follow the evolution in much the same vein. By any standard, T&T has been gifted with a monumental inheritance on which to draw and I often find myself digging deep. My quarrel is not with the value of these assets as indispensable working tools but with Ryan's strange and continuing failure to incorporate the historical dimension. *Race and Nationalism* does go cursorily back to 1797 but the study somehow does not seize the central feature of a region-wide system the premise of which is a systematic control of popular participation that over time has developed into



a culture, hard to change by any reform of the Constitution as law, however comprehensive.

Spurdle has shown that the transcendental issue in the West Indies has from the start been representation repeatedly stunted or denied altogether in the service of central power and mischievous oligarchy. T&T is famously the limiting case. The Crown Colony order was here honed and entrenched in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century with no concession to the old representative system of the more mature colonies, whatever the formal rationale. The strategic requirement of interpretation can only have been to assess the ways and means by which ingrained habit, established practice and formal arrangements have combined to frustrate effective participation and representation up to this day. This focus is what I find missing from an oeuvre otherwise of immense and compelling virtue.

I also pick bones with Ryan over the direction taken by the ISER in regard to both its regional and extra-disciplinary mandate. Especially with the course of CARICOM in view, I do not feel these are small matters, easily dismissed. There have however been real compensations in the responsibilities for service to public policy that the Institute has accepted and exercised under the auspices of the Centre for Ethnic Studies. With *Caribbean Dialogue*, ISER has also made efforts to promote a wider journal discussion in recognition of the need for the long term mobilization of a college of collaborators, in addition to sustained individual initiative.

As the active centre of such endeavours, Dr Ryan does stand out as an exceptional figure, more than mere scholar and academic. We owe him a great debt for a Herculean effort. Personally, I owe him a lot more for the graciousness and the magnanimity he displayed in activating the resources of his entire staff to organize a festschrift conference in my honour and for the zeal with which they proceeded to have the resulting book published at a surprisingly early date. I speak from my heart when I say that accolades for a stellar performance are truly well deserved.

### *From John La Guerre...*

I first saw and met Selwyn Ryan in 1972 just after I had joined the staff of what was then the Division of Social Sciences at the St Augustine Campus. What struck me was that although he was short, he tended to walk at high speed as if he was driven by some unseen force. He was also intellectually restless and after he became Head of the Department of Government he tried to involve members of staff in research activity of one kind or another. He had come to Political Science through History and his early article on Afro-Indian rivalries in the soon-to-be defunct Trinidad and Tobago Index was a

pioneering effort that virtually set the agenda for much of the research on Trinidad's politics.

Selwyn loved to write and soon became a contributor to a local newspaper. His articles were well received and could be held responsible for his appointment as Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission. Selwyn could not have been happy in a non-academic environment and it was not surprising that he returned to academia soon after.

Selwyn is not given to a retiring disposition and I am confident that he will always be curious and ever ready to engage in debate or analysis. He is one of the few people with whom one could differ without any attendant risks.

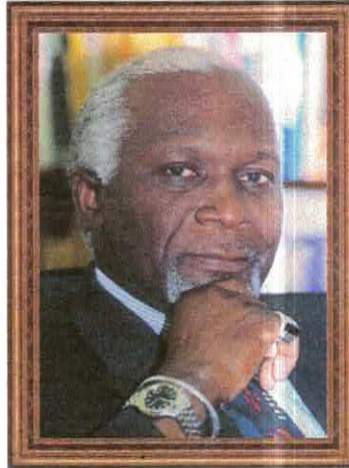
What I remember most, though, was that Selwyn could laugh without being cynical, was keen to encourage academic effort, not one to waffle or deceive and a firm believer in the norms, behaviour and standards on which academic life should be based.

When he became Co-Director of the Centre of Ethnic Studies in 1992, and despite the nature of our mandate, we were able to conduct our business with consensus and camaraderie. As examiners we we had few disagreements because we shared so many assumptions and values. One hopes that these values would endure.

### *From Godfrey St. Bernard...*

Some time in the early to mid 1970s, I became aware of Selwyn Ryan, the public personality. At the time, I was a student attending Trinity College in Moka, Trinidad and was encouraged to consult national documents to learn more about exemplars in our young nation. One of the documents that I had reviewed was the **"Who is Who in Trinidad and Tobago"**, a compendium of celebrity profiles of prominent citizens. Needless to say, the profile of Selwyn Ryan was featured suggesting that he was already a noteworthy character in the eyes of the public. By the late 1970s, between 1977 and 1980, his name again came to the fore. At that time, I was already an undergraduate student of the UWI, St. Augustine Campus and would observe his name placed above the door to his office. Though I had not met him formerly, I would hear my friends who read Political Science making references to him. Even then, I could not have put a face to the name as I was busy focusing on Mathematics and to a lesser extent, Economics. It was not until 1986 that I formally met this awesome figure.

In 1986, I had already graduated with my undergraduate degree and kept a "toe" in the university based upon the advice of Karl Theodore. During that period, I was a Statistics tutor attempting to demystify elementary statistics for a number of undergraduate students including Jan, Selwyn Ryan's wife. During the year, Jan's grasp of statistics improved tremendously and in





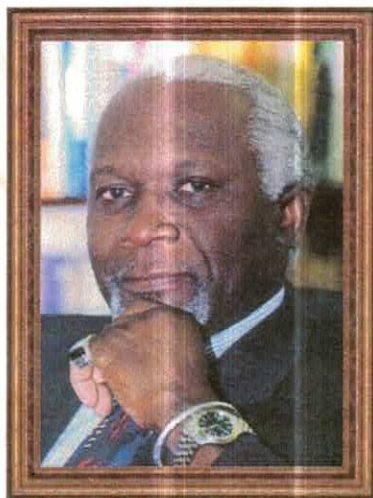
early 1987, she introduced me to her super "intellectual" husband when I met them during a Panorama Semi-Final in the Queens Park Savanna. That then was my formal introduction to the eminent professor. Since then, I am not sure that he remembered the event. We wore T-Shirts supporting our respective steel bands (Ryan – Catelli All Stars and St. Bernard – Phase II Pan Groove) and enjoyed Vat 19 or something like it. Subsequently, I spent six years in Canada and would occasionally read the Ryan Column in the Express whenever Floydie (my Trini brethren in Toronto) would send them to me.

While completing my Ph. D at the University of Western Ontario in Canada, the position of Research Fellow in the Institute of Social and Economic Research was advertised and I applied. On enquiring, I discovered that the eminent Professor Ryan was the man at the helm. At this point, it occurred to me that I could actually be working alongside the mater blaster, the Viv Richards in Caribbean academia. Such a prospect became a reality in 1993 and until today, despite his retirement, I can state, in no uncertain terms that he has left an indelible impression in my mind with regard to the culture of academia. He has been a tremendous source of support in the pursuit of academic advancement whether with respect to the delivery of publishable works, participation in academic conferences, workshops and skills training. His appetite for scholarship is an admirable quality that ought to be emulated by younger scholars. So prolific was he that his younger ISER colleagues appeared to be complacent despite their conscientious efforts to engage scholarship in their respective domains. Professor Ryan has blazed the trail during his stint at the Institute and has built a legacy that places his younger colleagues and successors under scrutiny since they will be expected to build upon it.

In my view, Selwyn Ryan is not only an academic par excellence. He is a West Indian and "Trini to the Bone" popularizing popular culture. He has been an ardent participant in Trinidad Carnival and as long as I have known him, he has demonstrated his love for "pan" and "mas". Whether it is Panorama (Prelims or Finals) or Carnival Monday or Tuesday, the "Prof" as he is fondly addressed by his younger SALISES colleagues, exudes the quintessential "Trini" spirit – a penchant for fun in the midst of enterprise, his enterprise being one that strives to tickle and stimulate the intellect. I cannot vouch for "Prof" as a cricket enthusiast though I can recall moments when he exhibited the passion that characterizes the West Indian spirit and associated with the travails of West Indies cricket. Keep on blazing the trail senior comrade.

Without a doubt, I can vouch for his skill as a cricketer in the field of academia. He has had a long and distinguished career playing countless innings. In some innings, he has played glorious shots scoring fours, sixes and centuries, and like aged wine, has been

frequently doing so on the verge of his retirement. He has also played the risky shots, sometimes dropped at "long off" and at other times caught in the slips or comprehensively bowled. These characteristic features constitute the hallmark of the consummate academic that is reflected in his intellectual and just as much, in his journalistic activities. He has truly been the West Indian skipper who leads by example and despite retirement, possesses the form to continue delivering prolific innings. In retirement, the "Prof" will continue to be prolific making much more than guest appearances. In my view, we will continue to witness this soldier's appearance in "All Star Teams" that thread upon the academic turf in specialist events that entertain inquisitive minds searching for deep intellectual discourse. The process has already begun.



In closing, I wish to publicly express the pleasure that I feel as a result of my association with the "Prof" during his stewardship as Director of SALISES in UWI, St. Augustine and anticipate that his mentorship will persist as long as he continues to be intellectually alive and keep a "toe", not only in academic circles but also in public

spheres. I also wish to express my sincerest gratitude for the support that he has given to me in a variety of ways since my assumption of duties in the Institute. Finally, I would like to wish him an abundance of health, wealth, prosperity and leisure in his retirement.

### *From Dr. Rhoda Reddock...*

In paying tribute to Selwyn, there could be a number of starting points. I could begin when he joined the staff of the ISER as director in 1987 and I was employed there as research fellow, or I could begin where he agreed to house the fledgling offices of the Centre for Gender and Development Studies in 1994 when I took up my position as the first head, one of two members of staff and the only academic member of staff of a programme which had no official allocation of space.

I could also start by noting the continued support and friendship of ISER/SALISES under his leadership to the St. Augustine unit of the CGDS which characterised the entire period of our first ten years, including the period when we had to once again seek refuge at the ISER when fire partially destroyed our offices.

But then there is also Selwyn the Caribbean Studies Association(CSA) member, past president and regular CSA participant and attendee. Everyone who attends the CSA conferences knows how much people develop special friendships and connections, where colleagues who never have time to speak or even see each other on the very same campuses finally get an opportunity to



meet in a relaxed atmosphere, share the others' research findings, plan collective projects and simply hang out and get to know each other better. So over the past 17 years, I have been privileged to know and work with Selwyn Ryan in varying capacities.

But in addition to these aspects, Selwyn Ryan has had a distinguished academic career. His classic 1972 publication - *Race and Nationalism in Trinidad and Tobago* continues to be the starting point for many contemporary research on this country. His academic career which began as a teaching assistant at Cornell University in 1961, continued with positions including Assistant Lecturer at UWI St. Augustine, Assistant Professor, York University, Toronto, Senior Lecturer, Makerere University, Uganda, Head Dept of Government, UWI, St. Augustine with his final position as Director, ISER/SALISES at UWI, St. Augustine.

If for nothing else, Selwyn Ryan will be remembered as a prolific writer. He consistently produced a weekly column for the *Sunday Express* for approximately 17 years, after earlier stints with the *Sunday Guardian* between 1972 and 1976 and the *Sunday Express* 1976-1980. But in addition he has written or co-edited as many as 20 books in addition to numerous articles and commissioned technical reports.

His opinion polls, especially his election poll, have placed him at the centre of public attention in Trinidad and Tobago especially at election time. There were times when he got it right and times when he got it wrong. His ability, at least outwardly, to confront controversy and public criticism serves him well as a public figure, giving the impression that much of this simply 'runs off his back' including the satirical comments of calypsonians, as he has sometimes been the subject of their compositions. He reflects the truth of the working class Trinidadian adage - "You can't play mas and 'fraid powder" meaning if you join in the fray you have to take what comes with it. He is therefore able to give as much as he gets in the public discourse and debate which often results from his weekly columns as well as publications, and public opinion polls.

For this life long intellectual, retirement will be simply a new phase. His writing will certainly continue as long as he is able to think and hold a pen (or use a keyboard). As Professor Emeritus, it is hoped that younger scholars will continue to benefit from his counsel and camaraderie as much as from his intellect.

### *From Ann Marie Bissessar...*

My memory of Professor Ryan goes back to the days when I was a student. He was one of the few lecturers who was willing to set up an impromptu appointment to speak to students. At these interviews he never appeared to be bored but rather expressed a keen interest in the subject area. He was an able and very supportive lecturer.

When I became a member of staff, Professor Ryan still displayed his interest in my work. He was never condescending and became one of my very few mentors within the University Community. There are many things that I appreciate: his support, his advice, and the material which he was always willing to share. Above all I am deeply grateful and honoured to be co-editor of one of his books.

Professor Ryan will always be remembered fondly by me and others like me as a great mentor and lecturer. He will always remain as a role model for new academics. I owe a huge debt to this man - as a lecturer, a mentor and more recently as a colleague.

### *From Anselm Francis...*

Although Professor Ryan spent most of his academic life on the St. Augustine Campus of The University of the West Indies, it is a fair comment that he functioned as an international scholar. He taught at universities on both sides of the Atlantic and his reputation extends to all the continents. As a prolific writer he has a wider readership as evidenced by the frequency with which his name appears in the footnotes of well-known academic journals.

Many commentators outside of academia in an uncomplimentary manner refer to the university as an ivory tower but scholars like Professor Ryan have contributed enormously to bridging the divide between the university and the rest of the community. His research is not confined to esoteric topics but one senses the tremendous effort on his part to engage the public at large thereby helping to have public opinion informed and enlightened. One may say that his university is one without walls and for this reason he qualifies as an intellectual activist.

As an academic he showed himself to be an exemplar. His record of publication is highly commendable; the quality of his research is rich; equally important, he worked to create on the campus an environment conducive to scholarly pursuits. As Director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research, later renamed the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies, he organized several conferences which generated debate on the Caribbean polity and the nature of its society.

One would be entering dangerous waters in attempting to determine the area of political science in which Professor Ryan's contribution is greatest but caution will be thrown to the wind and psephology will be selected as the area in which his research has had is greatest impact, at any rate, in Trinidad and Tobago. Every politician waits with bated breath to hear Ryan's pronouncement on impending elections. Of course, he draws the ire of the political aspirant who does not



consider it favourable to his cause but his calm disposition enables him to bear it with equanimity.

Some academics appear to wear their title on their sleeve, so preoccupied are they with the next publication or lecture but Professor Ryan is different. He always finds time to discuss with his colleagues, the issues of the day, and not infrequently, 'to have a laugh.' As Chairman of the Public Utilities Commission he gave distinguished service to the country and demonstrated that his talents extended beyond the borders of academia.

Finally, in any computation of academic excellence the name Selwyn Ryan would rank high. He is an academic of note, an internationally recognized scholar and a respected intellectual with a social conscience. For this reason, the University has deservedly conferred on him the title of Professor Emeritus and is facilitating the conduct of his valuable research.

I wish him the very best in his years of retirement.

### *From Pat Sampson*

*All the world's a stage,  
And all the men and women merely players:  
They have their exits and their entrances,  
And one man in his time plays many parts,  
His acts being of seven ages.*

*(As You Like It by William Shakespeare)*

When Professor Ryan joined the Institute in 1987 he was at the fifth age, which is described thus:

*And then the justice,  
In fair round belly with good capon lined,  
With eyes severe and beard of formal cut,  
Full of wise saws and modern instances;  
And so he plays his part.*

We cannot comment on the Prof's "fair round belly" or state that it is "with good capon lined". However, Professor Ryan, like Shakespeare, has always been aware of the importance of knowing what is taking place in his world and commenting on it. And, like a sage, his views and opinions have been sought by international journalists, educators, politicians, even the ordinary man in the street.

We have witnessed the many roles Professor Ryan performed over the years - political scientist, social commentator, pollster, columnist, and director being among the more prominent ones. Sometimes, he performed all these roles simultaneously. But what was significant was that they were all performed with equanimity and humaness, he never allowed any role to consume him and that is truly commendable. We were

fortunate to have him, as the Director of the Institute, such an easy-going person who gave us enough room to take our jobs to the levels we chose. I must say that we have all taken pride in our jobs and have used the opportunity to produce quality work - whether it be a typed letter, or a report on a study, or the organization of an event. In today's business jargon, this is described as *empowerment* and *quality assurance*, the goals of all organizations. Professor Ryan has never used those words but by his actions that was what he has done and achieved. And, while we worked and produced, we did so in an environment that has been akin to a family. As in all families, there were good times and not so good times but the not so good times became better times for us because they provided opportunities for learning, and developing and enriching our relationships. We have enjoyed our time working with Professor Ryan and were sad when the time came for him to exit this stage. Fortunately, his role in the play continues so there is no real farewell.

### *From the Ancillary Staff...*

I have known Prof. Ryan for many years and he has not changed. He is a very calm, humble and approachable person. He never fails to make you feel welcome and at ease.

I don't know if he has any bad ways - I have never heard of any. If he comes to the kitchen for his hot beverage and it is not ready, he has no problem making it himself.

Prof. Ryan is a wonderful person. We will certainly miss him.

*Ms Pam*

### *Funny Bones...*

An Irishman and a Jew were in a pub watching TV late one night when the eleven o'clock news came on. The first sensational story was of a berserk woman poised on a window ledge seven storeys up. "I'll bet you a hundred dollars she won't jump," said the Irishman to the Jew. "You got a deal," said the Jew, sticking his hand out a few moments later when the woman plunged to a gory death. The Irishman sadly forked over the money and ordered another drink, only to look up in astonishment as the other fellow tugged on his sleeve and tried to hand the hundred dollars back. "It's all yours," the Irishman protested. "You won the bet fair and square."

"Nah," said the Jew, "I saw it all happen on the six o'clock news."

"I saw it happen on the six o'clock news, too," said the Irishman, "but I never thought she'd do it again at eleven."

*Contributed*



## PASTELLES from Trinidad

1 lb minced beef  
1 bunch chive & thyme  
Hot pepper to taste  
2 cloves garlic  
Portuguese thyme  
1 tsp black pepper  
Salt to taste  
1 tsp. Worcester sauce  
3 tbsp. Capers  
2 tbsp. Chopped olives  
½ cup raisins

### CRUST

2 cups cornmeal  
3 cups tepid water  
4 tbsp. Corn oil or  
¼ lb margarine

1 ¼ tsp. salt

### Method

1. Season beef with chive, thyme, garlic, hot pepper, black pepper and salt.
2. Cook well, then add Worcester sauce, ketchup, capers, olives and raisins.
3. Adjust salt and pepper to taste.
4. Mix cornmeal, tepid water, salt and oil to make soft balls.
5. Using a pastelle press or hands, press balls of corn on prepared banana leaf.\* Put 1 tbsp. or more of meat mixture and fold neatly. Tie.
6. Place in steamer or colander and steam for one (1) hour.

Wipe leaves, singe, cut in 12" squares, then wipe again with clean cloth, or one can use aluminium foil instead of leaves)

## CHICKEN SATAY from the Far East

### Ingredients

4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts  
2 teaspoons light brown sugar

### For the marinade

1 teaspoon cumin seeds  
1 teaspoon fennel seeds  
1½ teaspoons coriander seeds  
6 small onions, chopped  
1 garlic clove, crushed  
1 lemongrass stalk, root trimmed  
3 macadamia nuts or 6 cashew nuts  
½ teaspoon ground turmeric

### For the peanut sauce

4 small onions, sliced  
2 garlic cloves, crushed  
½ inch cube shrimp paste (blachan)  
6 cashew nuts or almonds  
2 lemongrass stalks, trimmed, lower 2 inches sliced  
3 tablespoons sunflower oil  
1-2 teaspoons chili powder  
1¾ cups canned coconut milk  
4-5 tablespoons tamarind water or 2 tablespoons tamarind concentrate mixed with 3 tablespoons water  
1 tablespoon soft brown sugar  
½ cup crunchy peanut butter

### Method

1 Cut the chicken into thin strips, sprinkle with the sugar and set aside.

2 Make the marinade. Dry fry the spices, then grind them to a powder. Put the onions in a mortar or a food processor and add the garlic. Roughly chop the lower 2 inches of the lemongrass and add it to the mortar or processor with the nuts, ground spices and turmeric. Grind to a paste and place in a bowl.

### Cook's Tip

*Soaking the bamboo skewers for about 30 minutes in a large bowl of warm water before use ensures that they won't scorch when placed under the broiler.*

3 Add the chicken pieces and stir well until coated. Cover loosely with plastic wrap and leave to marinate for at least 4 hours.

4 Prepare the sauce. Pound or process the shallots or onions with the garlic and shrimp paste (blachan). Add the nuts and the lower parts of the lemon grass stalks. Process to a fine puree. Heat the oil in a wok and fry the puree for 2-3 minutes. Add the chili powder and cook for 2 minutes more.

5 Stir in the coconut milk and bring to a boil slowly. Reduce the heat, stir in the tamarind water, brown sugar and peanut butter and cook over low heat until fairly thick. Keep warm. Prepare the barbeque or preheat the broiler.

6 Thread the chicken on to 16 bamboo skewers. Barbeque or broil for about 5 minutes or until golden and tender, brushing with oil occasionally. Serve with the hot peanut sauce.

