

# PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF JAMAICA

PRESENTS THE



## TIME CAPSULE PROJECT

**Pharmacists: Leading  
the Future for Sustainable  
Healthcare**



**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF PSJ CONFERENCES**

**#PSJCONFERENCE2025**

*"Legacy in pharmacy is not measured by the medicines we dispense, but by the trust we build, the knowledge we share, and the lives we quietly shape for generations to come."*



*"Celebrating 40 years of  
Innovation and Impact"*

# INTRODUCTION TO THE TIME CAPSULE PROJECT

As we celebrate the 40th Annual Conference of the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica, we recognize not only the passage of time, but the remarkable journey of a profession rooted in care, knowledge, and trust. This time capsule serves as a tribute to the legacy we've built together: capturing memories, milestones, and the spirit of resilience that has defined our conferences through the decades. It also offers a glimpse into the future we envision: one where pharmacists continue to lead with purpose, innovate with integrity, and uplift the communities they serve. May this capsule stand as both a reflection and a promise: preserved today, to inspire tomorrow.

*Compiled by: Nykole Priestley*



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# MESSAGE FROM PAST PRESIDENT

Dear Future Pharmacist,  
As you embark on this rewarding journey, I envision a future where pharmacy practice is revolutionized by innovation and collaboration. Over the next decade, I anticipate significant advancements in personalized medicine, expanded accessibility to healthcare, and pharmacists assuming pivotal roles in shaping healthcare policies.

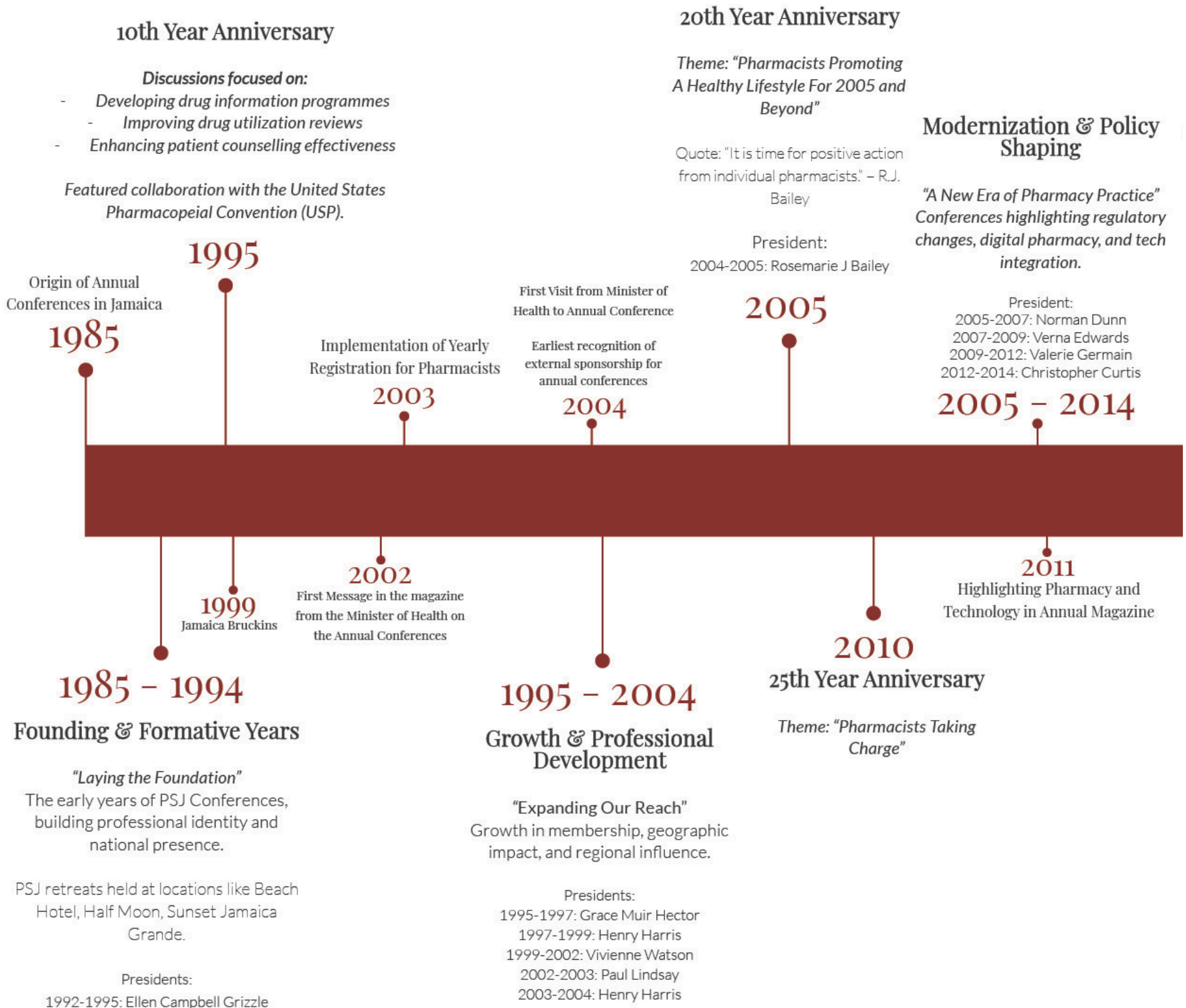
My experiences at the PSJ conference have been truly enriching, offering unparalleled opportunities to connect with peers, glean insights from industry experts, and remain abreast of the latest developments. One of my most cherished memories is encountering fellow pharmacists who share my ardour for enhancing patient care. Also, in a deeply meaningful moment, I was honoured with a Citation from my esteemed colleagues at the Pharmaceutical Society of Jamaica, recognizing my impactful leadership and dedicated service to the profession during the transformative years of 2020 to 2022.

To my younger self, I would offer the counsel to seize every opportunity for growth, nurture meaningful relationships, and remain steadfast in my values. The future of pharmacy is luminous, and I am eager to witness the profound impact you will make.

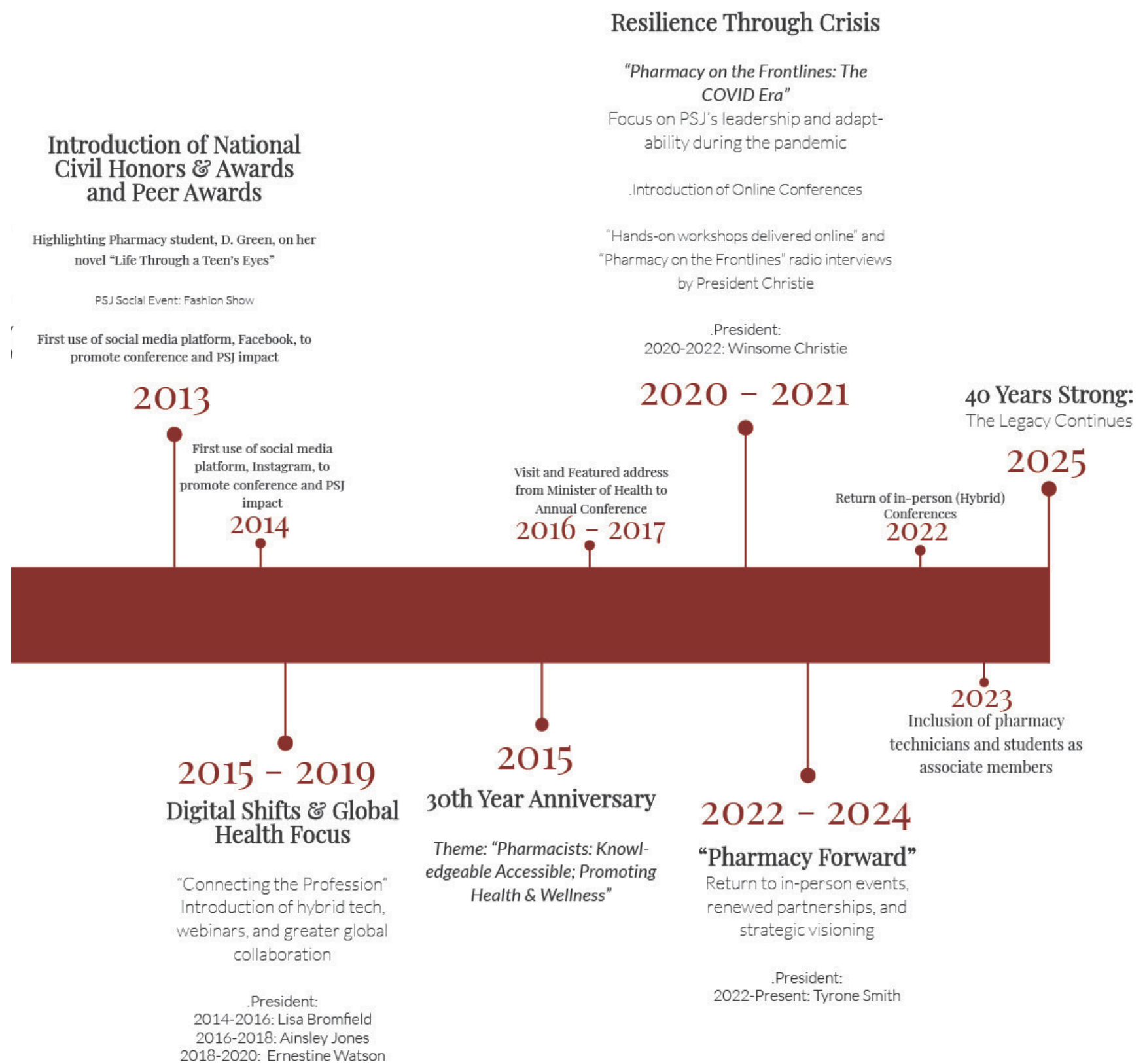
Sincerely,  
Dr. Winsome Christie  
BPharm, N.D., MSc., MClinPharm., PhD., FAIHM., BCHN., Rph.



# Timeline of CONFERENCES







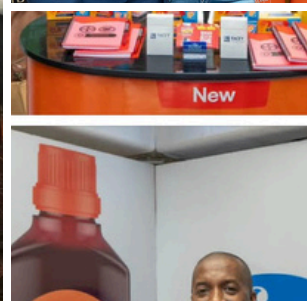
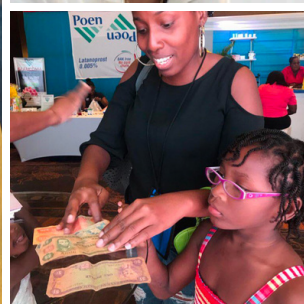
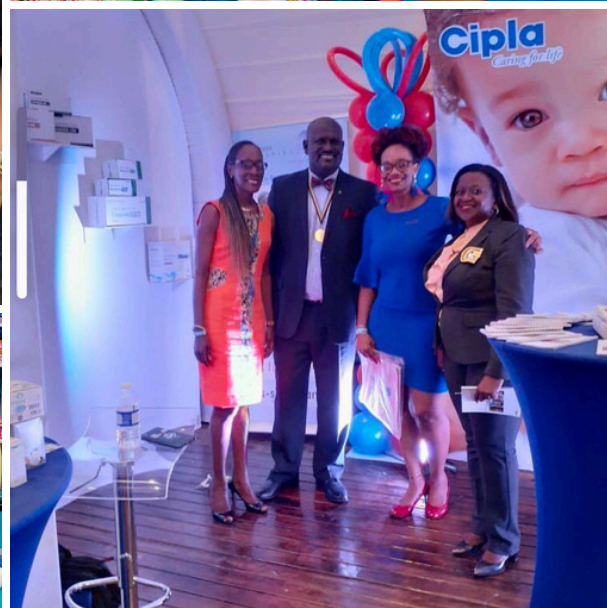
## NOTES:

- **1999:** Introduction of Jamaica Bruckins, a Talent Show and live Entertainment, to the Annual Conference
- **April 1, 2003:** Policy established by the PSJ requiring pharmacists began undergoing yearly registration
- **2004:** First Visit from the Minister of Health, Hon. John Junior, to the Annual Conference as a Guest Speaker
- **2013:** Introduction of Awards program for pharmacists held during Pharmacy week
  - Highlighting written pharmacy student at the time Denecia Green on the recent publication of her novel "Life Through a Teen's Eyes"
- **2016:** Official visit and featured address from Minister of Health, Christopher Tufton at the Conference
- **2020-2022:** PSJ navigates COVID-19 with hybrid and Zoom-based conferences; "COVID Executive Committee" formed
- **2022:** PSJ begins work toward improved property at 41 Lady Musgrave Rd
- **2024:** Emphasis on data protection act & digital pharmacy compliance

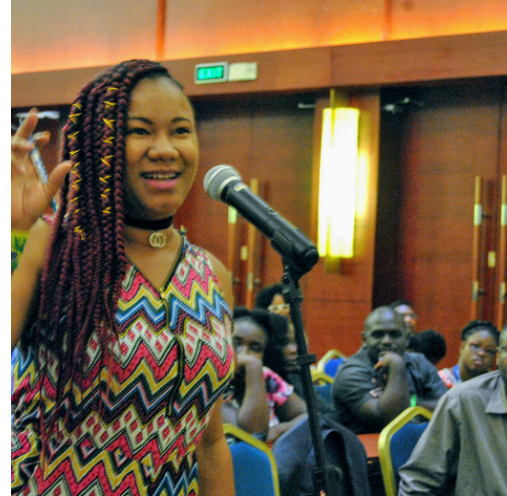












y (from left): Henry Harris, Dr Ellen Campbell  
At right is Ainsley Jones, second vice-president.







Pharmacy students of the University of Technology (left) and Jerome Nugent.



Montego Bay from June 15-17,



Pharmacy students Shanelle Menzies (left) and Shonall smiles at retreat 2012.





















# LEGACY

## ★ HIGHLIGHTS ★

**1999:** George Ivor Corrie

**2000:** Mr Federick Roland Henry

**2002:** Vincent Aguilar Bennett Snr

**2004:** Mr Vernon Washington Robinson

**2005:** Mr Van Gladstone Knight

**2006:** Ena Mae-Knight

**2010:** Dr Ernest Pate

**2011:** Profesor Eon Nigel Harris

**2012:** Hugh Reid

**2013:** Denecia Green & James Moss-Solomon, Beverly Watkis, Edmund Sutherland, Granville Forbes

**2016:** Dr Diane Robertson & Mr Leonard Brown

**2017:** Ms Paula V Llewellyn , Tracia-Gay Kennedy-Dixon, Anne Logan, Franchesca Leslie, Ebany Montequé-Gayle, Dr Ernestine Watson, Roxana Mullings, Chavez Foster, Michelle Isaacs



# LEGACY

## ★ HIGHLIGHTS ★

**2018:** Dr Toyin Tofade, [**Remembrance:** Carmen Aleen Gray, Lester Woolery, Grace Allen-Young, Granville Forbes] [**National Civil Honours:** Dr Michelle Russell, Dr Ellen Campbell-Grizzle, Dr Winsome Christie] [**Peer Awardees:** Ms Venessa Smith, Dr Sean Moncrieffe, Dr Anita Walcott-Mitchell, Mrs Margaret Wilson-Blake, Mrs Keisha Barrett-Clarke, Dr Marcia Williams, Dr Josseth Royal-Morrison] [**The President's Star Award:** Dr Michelle Russell, Mrs Keisha Barrett-Clarke, Mr Tyrone Smith]

**2019:** Tracia-Gay Kennedy-Dixon, Grace Livine Small, Andrea Daly, Chavez Foster, Arlene Thorbourne, Josseth Royal-Morrison, Dr Lisa Bromfield, Mrs Margaret Winsome Wilson-Blake

**2021:** [**National Awardees:** Mr Stafford Haughton, Jean Maude Blanche McKenzie, Dr Radcliffe Goulbourne]

**2022:** [**Peer Awardees:** Dr Rose Victory Evans, Mr Mishcha Christie, Dr Lisa Bromfield, Mrs Yvonne Amair, Mr Okeeno McLeod, Dr Marcia Williams, Mr Stafford Haughton, Mrs Juliet Kossally-Chang, Dr Delmore Tyrell, Gabriella Williams, Glendon Lewis, Christal Campbell-Wright, RA Williams Distributors Ltd], [**National Awardees:** Dr Princess Thomas-Osbourne, Mrs Gloria Gibbs]



# QUOTES

## FROM THE PAST

**2002**

*“Pharmacists play within the community through service and education at a local level, “... Strong communities build strong nations”*

*Denecia Green (2013) from “Life Through a Teen’s Eyes  
“Life is like a disco, no matter how the music changes. Just keep dancing”*

**Dr. Michelle Russell [2017]**

*“We want to make sure that when you come into our pharmacy—whether it is in government or private—you can speak to us on how to prevent [illness] and how to treat them. That is our mandate. That is what PSJ is all about—getting the best health outcome for the population.”*

**Conference Coverage Summary [2017]**

*“Pharmacists are the ongoing caretakers of the patients... they are the game-changers in healthcare.”*



# QUOTES

## FROM THE PAST

*Industry Rep (Lascelles Distributor) [2017]*

*“Health care should not be just a prescription on a piece of paper. It must be accessible, affordable, and real for every Jamaican.”*

*Dr. Trevor Tulloch (Speaker) [2017]*

*“As a pharmacist, I am the repository of a lot of information that can assist my patients on a daily basis. I must equip myself to ensure that the information I pass on is of such high standard it cannot be questioned.”*

*Business Access TV Host [2017]*

*“Pharmacists play a central role in the management of patients. The better we equip them, the healthier our country becomes.”*

*Dr. Winsome Christie [2022]*

*“Complex times call for complex leadership. This 93-year-old ship had to become a plane.”*



# QUOTES

## FROM THE PAST

*Rosemarie J. Bailey, President, PSJ [2005]*

*"This occasion marks another milestone in the journey of our pharmacy profession. We should evaluate our current status and explore our horizons for the future."*

*"As pharmacists, we are aware that most of the diseases manifested today are lifestyle diseases—and we definitely have a role in promoting a healthy lifestyle."*

*"A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. This organization has tremendous potential to surge forward if each member recognizes their responsibility and becomes more active in the society."*

*"The society will grow in professional strength, organizational strength, and will impact our clients, our community, our nation—and by extension our region—with healthcare from our pharmacists second to none."*

*"It is time for positive action from individual pharmacists."*



# QUOTES

## FROM THE PAST

*Dr. Winsome Beverly Christie [2022]*

*“We empowered the profession and the nation, helping to navigate the pandemic while redefining what it means to be a pharmacist in Jamaica.”*

*“Lifelong learning is the key. It’s not just four years of school — we evolve with the science to stay relevant and impactful.”*

*“Pharmacists are not just dispensers — we are counselors, educators, advocates, and essential players in public health.”*

*“We are building a society where healthcare is more than a prescription — it is a conversation, a partnership, a legacy.”*



# NOTES FROM DR WILSON BLAKE

## ***“Dear Future Pharmacist...”***

*“We ourselves... if we don’t put ourselves there and regard ourselves, then we will be treated how we regard ourselves.”*

*“You just do your best... try to make life better for other people.”*

*“We have to be very careful and diplomatic in our practice... it’s not a competition... we are a team.”*

## ***“In the next 10 years, I hope we see...”***

*“I would love to see the pharmacist recognized and incorporated within the whole healthcare team... I want to see pharmacists doing vaccinations.”*

*“It would be good if pharmacists would be more cohesive.”*

*“More people with doctorates may lead to more respect or recognition for pharmacists.”*

## ***"What makes PSJ conferences special to you?"***

*“One of the things from retreat is the social aspect... you’d go somewhere and see all these younger people you’ve never met.”*

*“You get to interact with reps in a more relaxed setting... learn about new products.”*

*“We used to carry the children... families got to know one another.”*



# NOTES FROM DR WILSON BLAKE (C'TND)

## **"What was your favourite PSJ conference memory?"**

*"We used to go to Jamaica Grand every year... My children knew about the hammocks and water sports more than I did, because we spent all our time in the conference room."*

*"1997 – I received the Public Sector Pharmacist of the Year award. That was a proud moment."*

*"We had booth competitions — one year Bayer won because they were welcoming to everyone."*

*"I used to try and get sponsorship for pharmacists and technicians, whether I was going or not."*

## **"What do you think the future of pharmacy looks like?"**

*"Now that we have clinical pharmacy doctorates... maybe more respect will come to the profession."*

*"We need to have co-curricular subjects with other healthcare professionals... build teamwork early."*

*"You have to know more than just counting pills — epidemiology, nutrition, impact of illness on the family..."*

## **"What advice would you give to your younger self?"**

*"Make a different choice... You have to do so much."*

*"We didn't know how difficult pharmacy was... but we stuck it out."*

*"We didn't have entrepreneurs like now... it was mostly government jobs back then."*



# NOTES FROM DR WINSOME CHRISTIE

## **“Dear Future Pharmacist...”**

*"PSJ will continue to empower us to lead with knowledge, compassion and innovation."*

*"The camaraderie, the collaboration, and the shared commitment to excellence have shaped not only my journey, but the entire pharmacy landscape in Jamaica."*

## **“In the next 10 years, I hope we see...”**

*"As we look forward to the future under the theme, 'Pharmacists Leading the Future for Sustainable Healthcare,' I am confident that PSJ will continue to empower..."*

## **"What makes PSJ conferences special to you?"**

*"The PSJ conferences have served as a vital platform for professional growth, education, and unity within the pharmacy profession."*

*"Every event has left me inspired... from hosting the AGM and opening the event to participating in the conferences."*

*"Engaging hands-on workshops were provided for attendees with practical skills critical for success in modern pharmacy practice."*

## **"What was your favourite PSJ conference memory?"**

*"During the pandemic, we hosted one conference, 2021, entirely on Zoom, and 2022 was a hybrid event."*

*"In 2022, I had the privilege to participate in radio interviews, highlighting the profession of pharmacy and the conference."*



# NOTES FROM DR ELLEN GRIZZLE

## **“Dear Future Pharmacist...”**

*"Our mission was to strengthen the dignity of our profession through advancement of education, advocacy for pharmacists' role in society, and public service... that mission must continue."*

*"We must ensure pharmacists are seen and practice in a way that upholds patient interest — that is our only interest in the practice."*

*"Don't avoid controversial ideas. Embrace difference — strength is in diversity."*

## **“In the next 10 years, I hope we see...”**

*"We need to improve the diversity of presentations in continuing education. The formulaic patterns currently endorsed stifle innovation."*

*"We must be like Cuba — they started with very little, but innovated and now have generics, biopharmaceuticals, and an entire industry."*

*"We should encourage productive ideas, not just presentations that promote imported products."*

## **“What makes PSJ conferences special to you?”**

*"The retreat was primarily an ideas forum — a space for discussion, innovation, and pharmacist-centred engagement."*

*"Pharmacists were kings and queens of the national retreat. It was their event, and for the weekend, they were catered to."*

*"It was a time when many ideas were discussed, real progress was made, and pharmacists were celebrated."*



# NOTES FROM DR ELLEN GRIZZLE (C'TND)

## **"What was your favourite PSJ conference memory?"**

*"The first national retreat in western Jamaica in 1989 — full of energy, unity, and grassroots innovation."*

*"Lasco was our first and only exhibitor. It felt like we were pioneering something big."*

*"I remember a Caribbean conference where 55 of us in grey jackets travelled together. Some brought their babies in arms. It was something to behold."*

## **"What do you think the future of pharmacy looks like?"**

*"We are currently immersed in introducing medical cannabis as a true pharmaceutical in the Caribbean, and training pharmacists accordingly."*

*"Pharmacy should not be tethered to medicine. We must maintain our independence and continue advocating for our own identity."*

*"The world is changing. We must evolve beyond traditional education and allow room for innovative and even controversial ideas."*

## **"What advice would you give to your younger self?"**

*"Hold on to the principle that pharmacy is your profession — always think of it that way, no matter your other roles."*

*"Don't wait for a clean slate — build on legacy, honour those who came before, and continue the work with reverence and purpose."*



# VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

***“In the next 10 years, I hope we see...”***

*"I hope to see Pharmacy Technicians included in the pharmacy programme, e.g CE and other seminars that involve patient care, improve patient outcomes, reduce errors. Technicians work alongside pharmacists so it's only fair for them to be updated as well."*

***“Expansion of Clinical pharmacy roles”***

*“Greater recognition and utilization of pharmacists as a part of the healthcare team in hospitals and clinics”*

- Why: Pharmacists can help improve patient outcomes, reduce medication errors and optimize therapies.*
- How: Advocate for more clinical pharmacist posts in both public and private hospitals with clear job descriptions and funding*

***“Digital Health Integration”***

*Adopting electronic prescribing digital (especially for senior citizens) patient records, and pharmacy management systems*

- Why: Enhances efficiency, safety, and continuity of care*
- How: Push for national e-prescribing infrastructure and provide training to pharmacists on digital tools.*

*Let the profession have more recognition, just as how they recognize nurses and doctors during Covid.*



# VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY (CTND)

***“In the next 10 years, I hope we see...”***

*“I hope to see more sponsor highlights and maybe a software application where information from the conference can be shared and accessed in real time.”*

*“To fully embrace Jamaica, making healthcare fully patient-centred and faster.”*

*“PSJ being able to offer similar seminars to not just pharmacists but to all those who work in pharmacies that interact with patients to ensure that those individuals are empowered and equipped with knowledge to assist in a wholesome way. “*

*“Respect for legacy”*

*“Standards in practice”*

*“Valuing public and private sector pharmacists equally.”*

*“We want to make sure that when you come into our pharmacy... you can speak to us on how to prevent [disease] and how to treat them. That is our mandate.”*

*“We want a society that can access healthcare... not just a prescription on a piece of paper but [one where] you can actually get the drugs.”*



# VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY (CTND)

***“What makes PSJ Conference special to you?”***

*“Outside of the opportunity to earn CE points, PSJ conferences offer an opportunity to interact with other pharmacists and pharmacy professionals. It gives a sense of camaraderie among us.”*

*“Interaction with customers”*

*“Seeing other exhibitions”*

*“The opportunity it provides for continued education and networking with people across the profession”*

*“Because of the opportunity that is afforded to us to meet and get reacquainted with some people that you might have not seen for sometime.”*

*“It also allows for you to share / remind persons of the products and services that you offer”*

*“It takes almost a year to put this together... the topics and choosing speakers.”*

*“We as pharmacists feel very passionately about [non-communicable diseases]... that is what PSJ is all about—getting the best health outcome for the population.”*



# VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY (CTND)

**“What was your favourite PSJ conference memory?”**

*“When Mrs Donna Marie Thomas, chief pharmacist of KPH, sang at the last pharmacy retreat”*

**What advice would you give to your younger self?**

*“Its okay not to know everything as yet. Stay curious, ask questions, connect with experienced persons for guidance, and trust that you are going to grow into this.”*

**“Dear Future Pharmacists”:**

*“You want pharmacists to recognize that they are also the main persons as it relates to drug therapy and drug therapy management.”*

**“What does the future of pharmacy look like?”**

*“Pharmacists play a central role in the management of patients... especially with chronic non-communicable diseases.”*

*“If the patient comes to you and there’s a problem with the drug therapy, you should be able to do a work-up... and make recommendations to physicians.”*





#PSJCONFERENCE2025

*Compiled by: Nykole Priestley*