

## **Welcoming Message From Conference Committee**

The seeds from which CAS has sprouted were sown in October 1987 and after eight months of gestation the organisation was born in May 1988. When we were assigned the task of putting together the program for the CAS 16th Conference and General Meeting, we therefore felt that in the organisation's 21st year of existence, something special was needed. CAS needed to make an impact: It could not limit its attention to the scientists and academics, and it could not be just another 'talk shop' Instead there needed to be some decisive action and the academy needed to direct its focus to the region and the needs of the region's people as a whole.

The four-tier program which runs from October 9th to 13th is intended to do that. The organisation dedicates its workshop for Primary School Science Teachers (October 9-10, 2008) to the people, particularly the youth of the region. It dedicates the panel discussion, 'what every man and woman ought to know about cancer' to the people of Grenada. The academy dedicates its conference 'Science and Technology: Vehicles for Sustainable Economic Development in the Caribbean' to the region's scientists and researchers. Finally, the academy is particularly pleased to be the host of a 'Meeting of the Heads of Regional Universities'; this we dedicate to the entire region.

We hope that the planned activities will achieve their objective and will contribute towards the short and long term social and economic development of the region. We hope that those attending the various components of the program will have fruitful deliberations and that visitors to Grenada will enjoy their stay in this beautiful spice isle.

***Professor Emeritus Winston Mellowes***  
*Chair, Steering Committee*  
*Conference and Teachers Workshop*

***Dr. Trevor Alleyne***  
*Chair, Conference Committee and*  
*Proceedings Editor (Non-Scientific)*