

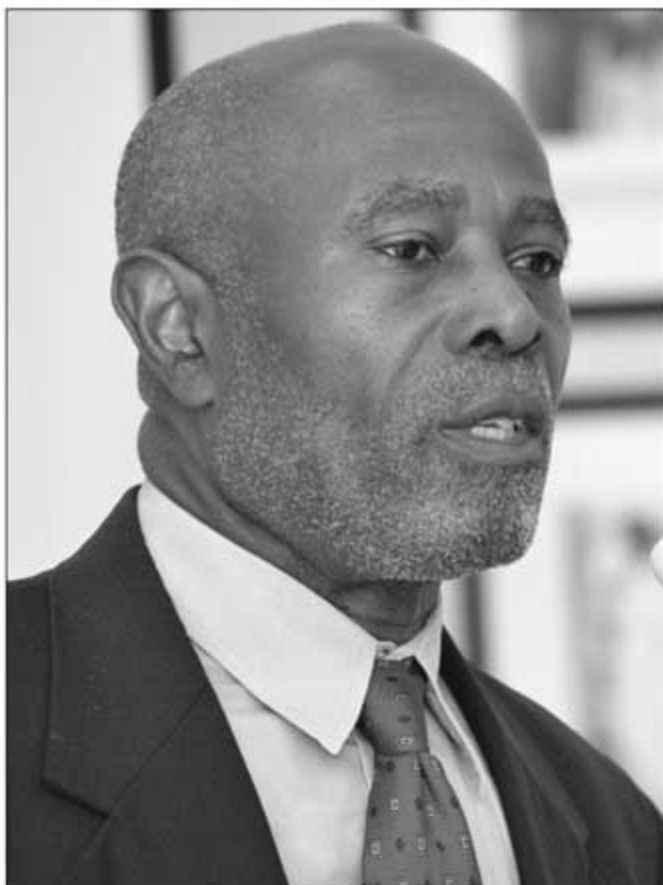


**SPISE scholars Liam Neath and Kyla King demonstrates during their electronics project presentations. During the electronic presentations, students sought to describe the intended function of their systems while demonstrating their operations.**



**ABOVE: As part of their intensive four-week training, students were provided with a holistic learning experience encompassing Humanities as well as the Sciences. Here, students Liam Neath presents his PowerPoint presentation on the native tribe of the Caribbean known as the Kalinas, while team-mates Yavniel Yatali and Kayla King look on.**

**LEFT: Interim Executive Director of the Caribbean Science Foundation, Prof Cardinal Warde delivering welcoming remarks at the 2012 Student Programme for Innovation in Science and Engineering (SPISE) Student Project presentations.**



# SPISE a hit

## Project presentations lauded

By Jenna Marshall

**LAST Friday the inaugural Student Programme for Innovation in Science and Engineering (SPISE) came to an end as students hosted their very first project presentations.**

The presentations, which included submissions on Humanities, Robotics, and Electronics, took place at the 3Ws Oval, University of the West Indies, Cave Hill campus where the students demonstrated their knowledge gained during their intensive four-week training programme.

The ten astute and industrious scholars, ranging from six Caribbean islands, were sponsored by various regional organisations. The scholar participants included MIT Sea Grant Programme scholar Zachary Gurdon-Cobham of Barbados; Central Bank of Barbados scholar Reaiah Harris; Williams Industries scholar, Kayla King of Barbados; Belize Telemedia Ltd. scholar, Issue Milian of Belize; Scotiabank scholar Liam Neath of Jamaica; Light and Power Holdings scholar, Ravindra Mangar of St. Lucia; St. Lucia Electricity Services Ltd. scholar, Kesan Samuel of St. Lucia; Caribbean Development Bank scholar, Tishoneth Jeffers of Nevis; Neal and Massy scholar Sorayah Jitta of Trinidad; and National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Ltd. scholar, Yavniel Yatali also of Trinidad and Tobago.

Interim Executive Director of the Caribbean Science Foundation – the

governing body of the SPISE programme, Prof. Cardinal Warde expressed his satisfaction with the inaugural event and praised the role of the sponsors who funded the approximate US\$6 000 tuition fee per student.

The CSF executive informed that the SPISE programme will look to solidify the summer programme as an annual event and was confident that the requisite number of sponsors would come on board for its expanded 2013 programme, adding that he was very hopeful for the initial ten sponsors to return for next year.

He said, “We could not have done it without the sponsorship, including the sponsorship of the University of the West Indies who made this possible. I have no doubt that we will get twenty [sponsors] as the ten turned out to be easier to find than I had anticipated, starting with Scotiabank. Once we explained to them what we were trying to achieve, many of them [sponsors] liked it. I am so far very pleased with the sponsorship.”

He further noted that, “Now, people know the programme and the students themselves are going to be ambassadors to it. I therefore believe we should have no trouble getting the word out to get the additional sponsors.”

During the past four weeks, the students were exposed to the Chinese language, Mandarin, and Humanities in the form of the one-Caribbean concept. They also gained knowledge on the basic principles of electronic circuits as well as were exposed to the study of biochemistry, calculus, and robotics.