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Ms. Lelia Julie Martin: A Gem at the CFBC from 1996-2024

William Shakespeare, in his play As You Like It said, "All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances, and one man (woman) in his (her) time plays many parts, his (her) acts being seven ages."

This quote from the literary genius Shakespeare fittingly sums up the dedicated and selfless service rendered by Ms. Lelia Julie Martin, who has played many parts in the discipline of education and the performing arts.

Ms. Martin made her entrance at the Clarence Fitzroy Bryant College in 1996 as a senior lecturer and one of the first lecturers on staff in the Department of Arts, Science and General Studies (ASGS) teaching Modern French across the divisions. She exited the CFBC stage on August 31, 2024.

Colleagues describe Ms. Martin as an organized person who pays attention to the smallest of detail, a conscientious individual, a team player, and a guide and mentor to her students who as a result have produced commendable examination results for French. She has always gone above and beyond the call of duty to serve, volunteering her time and resourcefulness on committees such as the Leeward Islands Debating Competition (LIDC) Organizing Committee and the CFBC Commencement Committee.

Her unwavering dedication to the CFBC's motto "Always Striving for Excellence" was exemplified not only in the lecturing of French but in the well-choregraphed dance performances at Commencement ceremonies and other events, which she directed as the staff sponsor for the CFBC Dance Ensemble.

Her passion and vision for the Arts saw her being instrumental in lobbying for the introduction of the CAPE Performing Arts course at the CFBC.

Ms. Martin was always willing to assist in any project to help the CFBC grow and flourish, demonstrating her unflinching commitment to the institution. On her own, she started and managed CFBC Corner, a publication on social media showcasing news, photo highlights of activities and events and pertinent information about the college that made the institution visible and attractive.

Ms. Martin began her teaching career at the Cayon High School. She also taught at the St. Theresa's Convent High School and then moved on to the Basseterre High School. She graduated from the University of the West Indies with a Bachelor of Arts in French and Spanish with honours in 1983.

Ms. Martin has left a rich legacy at the CFBC that is treasured. Her sterling contributions will always be valued. We wish Ms. Martin all the best in her future endeavours. Until then we say *au revoir et prends soin de toi*.
