



Norman Girvan (1941 – 9 April 2014)



**SOUTH
CENTRE**



Norman P. Girvan (1941-2014)

An Appreciation

The Board and Staff of the South Centre, Geneva, Switzerland and the Permanent Mission of Jamaica to the UN and its Specialized Agencies in Geneva remember and celebrate the life, contributions and achievements of this Gentle, Caribbean Giant—A Towering Intellectual and an Exemplary International Public Servant

At the South Conference, '2015 and the South: Preparing for a Year of Uncertainty and International Summits'

Room VIII. Palais des Nations, Geneva 12 March 2015, 9:30 – 18.00

Remembering Our Gentle Caribbean Giant

An engaged academic

An economist with a difference— ‘a towering intellect who felt that scholarship ought not to be an end in itself. It was to be employed in bringing practical value to people’.

‘As a Caribbean man Norman was an integrationist and a sovereignist’

Career highlights

- ❖ Over eleven books, seven edited volumes and 108 articles and book chapters
- ❖ Professor Emeritus of the University of the West Indies (UWI)
- ❖ Awarded an honorary doctorate in economic sciences Universidad de la Habana
- ❖ The second Secretary General of the Association of Caribbean States
- ❖ Director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies
- ❖ Member of the Board of the South Centre
- ❖ Visiting consultant to the South Centre
- ❖ Founding Member website: 1804caribvoices: Pan-Caribbean voices for Integration and Social Justice

- ❖ **Founding member of CRIES (Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales), a Latin American and Caribbean network of 70 NGOs and university research centers**

- ❖ **A frequent contributor to CounterPunch**

- ❖ The Personal representative of the UN SG Ban Ki-moon on the border issue between Guyana and Venezuela

- ❖ Senior Research Fellow at the United Nations African Institute for Development and Planning in Dakar

- ❖ Regional Coordinator of the Caribbean Technology Policy Studies Project of the University of the West Indies/University of Guyana

- ❖ Chief Technical Director of the National Planning Agency of the Government of Jamaica

- ❖ Visiting Fellow:
 - University of Chile
 - McGill University,
 - Northwestern University
 - Sussex University
 - Yale University

*I subscribe to the view that true sovereignty begins with independent and critical thought...this must remain the goal for those who have been subjected to centuries of colonization and metropolitan imposition of one kind or another'. **Norman P. Girvan***



Norman Girvan

Passion, Respect, Public commitment and Collective engagement
the foundation stones of Norman Girvan's life and stand

A life Well lived

*In service to Country, the Caribbean Community of States and the
achievement of Sustainable development in Africa, Asia, Latin
America and the Caribbean*



the passing of Professor Norman Girvan has left “a legacy of excellence and accomplishment that should serve to inspire others”.... Jamaica, and the entire Caribbean, will remember “his sterling contribution to regional development and sound academic research, particularly in the area of Caribbean economic development

...Prof Girvan served his country and region with distinction and earned respect and admiration for his passion and commitment to nation building and sustainable regional advancement. He has left a legacy of excellence on which to continue to build our regional institutions and promote cooperation.”

– **Jamaica’s Prime Minister Portia Simpson Miller**



“Girvan was one of the most distinguished Caribbean scholars of his time,” – The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon



“Those whose death is in the cause of life we cannot say that they die. At the moment of their parting for them it is forbidden to cry”.— Ali Primera (Venezuelan Poet)

The power of philosophy, floats thru my head

light like a feather...

Heavy as lead

Light like a feather

Heavy as lead

The time has come, I want you...

To straighten out my tomorrow

I want you to straighten out my tomorrow

Bob Marley, Misty Morning

Kaya, Island Records, 1978.*

Prof, A Luta Continua!

*First used in this context by Dr. Brian Meeks, The Power of Philosophy Tribute to Norman Girvan, 9th SALISES annual conference; 'Re-inventing the Political Economy Tradition in the Caribbean' UWI April 2014.



Norman P. Girvan, (1941 – 9 April 2014)

Education

Norman Girvan attended [Calabar High School](#) in [Kingston, Jamaica](#), and in 1959 entered the [University College of the West Indies](#),^[2] where he received his Bachelor's degree in Economics. He earned his PhD in Economics from the [London School of Economics](#), UK. He was fluent in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).^[4]

Research and publications]

He was Professorial Research Fellow at the UWI Graduate Institute of International Relations at the [University of the West Indies](#) in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago.^[8] He was formerly the Secretary General of the [Association of Caribbean States](#), Professor of Development Studies and Director of the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute of Social and Economic Studies at the University of the West Indies, and head of the National Planning Agency of the Government of Jamaica.

Professor Girvan has done research and published on foreign investment and multinational corporations, the mining industry, technology, the IMF and external debt, social development, Caribbean integration, and economic thought.

Professor Girvan also served on the Steering Committee of the [Critical Development Studies Network](#), based at the [Academic Unit in Development Studies, Autonomous University of Zacatecas](#), Mexico.

Books and monographs[[edit](#)]

- *The Caribbean Bauxite Industry*. Institute of Social and Economic Research (ISER), University of the West Indies (UWI), 1967, pp. 45.
- "Multinational Corporations and Dependent Underdevelopment in Mineral-Export Economies", New Haven: Economic Growth Center, Yale University, Center Paper No. 182, 1970; also in *Social and Economic Studies*, 19, 4 (December 1970), pp. 490–526.
- *Foreign Capital and Economic Underdevelopment in Jamaica*. ISER/UWI, 1971, pp. 282.
- *Copper in Chile: A Study in Conflict between Corporate and National Economy*. ISER/UWI, 1972, pp. 86.
- *Corporate Imperialism, Conflict and Expropriation: Essays in Transnational Corporations and Economic Nationalism in the Third World*. New York; Myron E. Sharpe, 1976; and Monthly Review Press, 1978. pp. 241.

- (With R. Bernal and W. Hughes) "The IMF and the Third World: The Case of Jamaica". Uppsala: Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, 1980, pp. 42. Also in *Development Dialogue*, 1980, 2; and in Spanish in *Cuadernos Economico Trimestrales*, No. 3, (December 1980), Havana; and extracts reprinted in Yash Ghai, Robin Luckam, and Francis Snyder (eds), *The Political Economy of Law: A Third World Reader*. Delhi: Oxford University Press, 1987.
- *Technology Policies for Small Developing Economies: A Study of the Caribbean*. ISER/UWI, 1983, pp. 224.
- (With Kurt Hoffman) *Managing International Technology Transfer: A Strategic Approach for Developing Countries*. Ottawa: IDRC MR259e; April 1990, pp. 311.
- (With E. Rodriguez et al.). *The Debt Problem of Small Peripheral Economies: Case Studies of the Caribbean and Central America*. Kingston: Association of Caribbean Economists in collaboration with Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, 1990. (Also published in *Caribbean Studies*, 24, 1-2; January-June 1991.)
- "Societies at Risk? The Caribbean and Global Change". Paris: UNESCO, Management of Social Transformation (MOST) Discussion Paper No. 17, 1997. (Summary published in *Boletín de Economía*, April–June 1998, San Juan: Unidad de Investigaciones Económicas, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras.)
- *Aspects of the Political Economy of Race in the Caribbean and the Americas*, Institute of the Black World, Atlanta, GA, 1975.

Recently published articles]

- "[Towards a Single Development Vision and the Role of the Single Economy](#)" (in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat and the Task Force on the CSME). Approved by the 28th CARICOM Heads of Government Conference, July 2007.
- "[Power Imbalances and Development Knowledge](#)". Paper prepared for North-South Institute Project in Reform of the International Development Architecture, September 2007.
- "[Home Grown Solutions and Ownership](#)". Prepared for OECD Development Forum, Workshop on Ownership in Practice, Paris, 27 September 2007.
- "Learning to Integrate: The Experience of Monitoring the CARICOM Single Market and Economy", in De Lombaerde, Philippe; Antoni Estevadeordal and Kati Suominen (eds), *Governing Regional Integration for Development: Monitoring Experiences, Methods and Prospects*. Ashgate: 2008. Chapter 3, pp. 31–56.
- *Cooperation in the Greater Caribbean: The Role of the Association of Caribbean States*. Kingston: Ian Randle Publications, 2006; pp. 214.
- "Lessons from the struggle for a new International Technology Order", in Henry Veltmeyer (ed.), *Development in an Era of Neoliberal Globalization* (Ashgate, 2013).
- "Extractive imperialism in historical perspective", in Henry Veltmeyer (ed.), *Extractive Imperialism in the Americas*, Leiden: Brill (forthcoming 2014).

Source: Wikipedia

Professor Girvan's Selected Press Coverage

International Press

[Norman Girvan on Barack Obama](#)

BBC Caribbean, November 6, 2008

[Africa: The Committed Intellectual - Reviving And Restoring the National Project](#)

AllAfrica.com, May 29, 2008

[Despite I.M.F. Aid, Jamaica Still Lags; Mired in Stagnation](#)

New York Times, October 9, 1976

Local & Regional Press

[Jamaican Intellectual Bestowed Honoris Causa Degree in Havana](#)

ACN - Cuban News Agency, Dec 2, 2008

[Obama ran: Our children can fly](#)

Antigua Sun, November 10, 2008

[Planning for the good life](#)

Stabroek News, May 4, 2008

['EPA harmful' - Academics lobby for renegotiation of trade deal](#)

The Jamaican Gleaner, March 5, 2008

[In the Diaspora](#)

Stabroek News, April 14, 2008

[CARICOM's divide on EPA](#)

Jamaican Observer, February 10, 2008

[Are we unprepared CSME?](#)

The Jamaican Observer, April 25, 2004

[Economic Partnership Agreements and Asymmetrical Neoliberal Integration: A Caribbean Tale](#) 2/11/2103

[Statement on the Guyana-Venezuela Border Controversy](#) 21/10/2013

[Constructing The Greater Caribbean \(SALISES Keynote Address\)](#) 7/10/2013

[Comment on the CCJ decision in the Shanique Myrie Case](#) 4/10/2013

[Killing of a Revolution: Grenada—A Review](#) 1/10/2013

[Reinventing the Caricom Single Market and Economy](#) 28/09/2013

[Maduro-Ramotar Joint Declaration August 31 2013](#) 1/09/2013

[Saul Landau and the Democratic Socialist project in Jamaica](#) 1/09/2013

[El Caribe: Dependencia \(Norman Girvan\) at the Havana Book Fair](#) 5/03/2013

[Integration for true independence: Book Review, Tania Garcia](#) 13/06/2013

[Versión en Español](#)

[Breaking with Eurocentric Approaches: Book Review, Silvio Baró](#) 13/06/2013

[Comentario Silvio Baró \(Español\)](#)

[English versions of essays in El Caribe](#) **18/06/2013**

[Social and Solidarity Economy: real alternative to neoliberal development or just another intellectual fashion? A Note](#) **24/05/2013**

[Caribbean Plantation Economies in Historical Perspective](#) **6/05/2013**

[Underachieving T&T: Review of Terrence Farrell's book:](#) **4/05/2013**

[Does Caribbean economic integration have a future? \(Video\)](#) **13/04/2013**

[The Political Economy of Race in the Caribbean and the Americas](#) **7/04/2013**

[La economía política de la raza en el Caribe y las Américas](#)

[Aid Dependency and the 'Begging Bowl'](#) **31/03/2013**

[Debating Cuba-Caribbean \(with Esteban Morales\)](#) **24/03/2013**