

St Clements Education Group E-Magazine

# ANCHOR

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## Editorial

The major task for St Clements Education Group this year has been the developing of its own tutoring material for a number of UK Ofqual programs. Initially it has been using the Online Business School E-Tutoring system to tutor students. One of the challenges of this system has been that the module tutoring topics do not always match the criteria for the ATHE subjects, requiring students to study several modules for one subject and be assessed for a module via several subject assessment assignments. Developing a range of good tutoring material for the various Business Management programs (levels 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7) we offer will be a major priority for 2024.

The main success for 2023 was the building of a new campus for École Supérieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth. The first stage of this has been completed this year. Professor Dr David Iornem, the President of École Supérieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth, has done an excellent job in building this new campus. It has helped make him one of the pioneers of private education in West Africa.

The big challenge for education in 2023 has been IA. These programs can write papers on many subjects and the question is that are such papers plagiarized as they technically have not been written by a third person. Many conferences have been held trying to come up with the answer to AI in academic papers. This debate is likely to continue in 2024.

On the marketing front we have developed the skill to produce videos including those with cartoon style characters. These have been used in selected Facebook markets.

St Clements Education Group has a dual degree arrangement with a number of universities some of which are located in the European Union and listed in the World Higher Education Database (WHED). If you want details of these options please email me for a confidential report on your options based on the SCPU or St Clements University degree you have earned.

I wish all St Clements friends a Happy Christmas and New Year and may we all be prosperous in 2024.



***Dr David Le Cornu***  
*President - St Clements Education Group*

## St Clements University News

### New Open Learning Group

A group of international Open Learning institutions has formed an association with the UNESCO endorsed International Council for Open Distance Education – European and Asian Community. St Clements University – Myanmar College is listed as part of the International Council for Open Distance Education – European and Asian Community group. Dr Kyaw Naing has been the prime person in organising for this to happen.

### Kiribati - Update

SCPU, our Swiss School has decided to offer a range of scholarship programs to staff of the Kiribati Public Service and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The scholarships will be for the Professional Certificate programs:

- Accounting Skills for New Supervisors
- Writing a Business Plan
- Conducting Effective Performance Reviews
- E-Commerce Management
- Building Better Teams
- Closing the Generation Gap in the Workplace
- Stress Management
- Building an Online Business
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Project Management Fundamentals
- The Practical Trainer

The population of the country is 128000. The main higher education institutions in the country are a branch of the South Pacific University and the Kiribati Institute of Technology which is registered as an Australian RTO.

### SSL Certificate News

One of the challenges of having international websites is obtaining SSL certificates for them. This has meant many internet providers will not allow their websites to be viewed without a SSL certificate and with our complicated international ownership these have proved to be difficult to obtain. We believe the problem has now been resolved. **Note:** The need for a SSL certificate has been brought on by Google now requiring them.

### Fourth Dual Degree Agreement

St Clements Education Group also has a limited dual degree agreement with Pegaso International, a private university registered in Malta. Each approved dual degree program has to be supervised by a committee comprising two representatives from St Clements and two representatives from Pegaso International.

### St Clements University - Somalia Update

St Clements University – Somalia was one of the first University's to be approved by the Transitional Federal Government of the Republic of Somalia. In 2013 when the government of Somalia as no longer “Transitional”, a recognition letter was issued by Dr Maryam Qasim Ahmed, Minister of Human Development and Publican Service for the Somali Federal Republic government. Since the creation of the Transitional government and the developing of Somalia's state government, a number of higher education institutions were approved. Over the past several years the Somali Ministry of Education has been accrediting the schools which fulfil their guidelines. The School which we share office facilities with in Somalia has gone through this accreditation process (University of South Somalia) and St Clements has a dual degree arrangement with it. We are monitoring the situation in Somalia to see when and if they will approve online education institutions.

### Alliance between Carayol College and SCPU

Carayol College which previously was Carayol University College was encouraged to change its name after changes occurred to the Ghanaian Higher Education regulations. They have formed an alliance with SCPU to offer a limited range of OFQUAL programs to Ghanaian students.

### Niue Update

All the Facebook followers living in Niue have been sent information regarding applying for a full scholarship to study “Building an Online Business”. This is part of St Clements University – Niue's community service. St Clements University – Niue is recognised by the Niue Ministry of Higher Education and a corporate branch is registered in Niue.

## The Chancellor's Corner

By

**Professor Dr Roderick Andrew Lee Ford**

"British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli (1804 - 1881), who was himself a self-taught litterateur, author, and Tory politician, once said that "[a] University should be a place of light, of liberty, and of learning." Indeed, Disraeli's words of advice exemplify the policy of the world's great universities, including that of St Clements University's.

"Today, however, in the wake of crisis and war in the Ukraine and Israel, universities around the world-- including the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard University, Stanford University, New York University, and several others-- face the challenge of censoring students and faculty members from engaging in freedom of speech, thought, and expression regarding these global conflicts. Such censorship should be discouraged, because it limits freedom of thought and inquiry, upon which all true universities must be founded.

"Moreover, education (i.e., free inquiry and thought) has been an international human right since 1948. Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: 'Everyone has the right to education.

Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages.... Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit.... Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.'

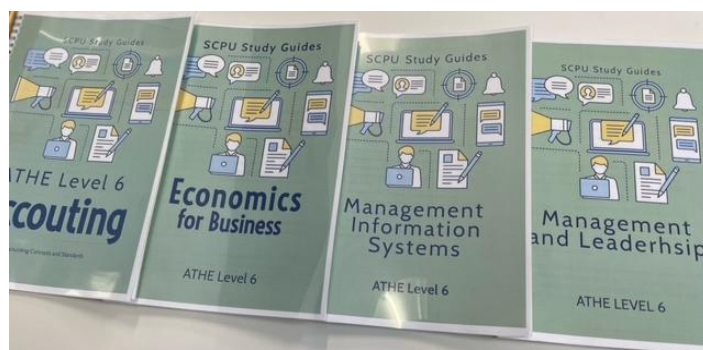
"Lest we forget, there was a time, particularly during the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period, when free inquiry and expression in universities was brutally suppressed. Then, it was believed that education should only be made available to the privileged few (aristocrats and the clergy), and carefully monitored and limited to promote only particular religious or political viewpoints!

"But over the past 50 years-- thanks to institutions such as St Clements University-- university education and professional training has been made accessible to a broad sector of persons from all around the world, regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, color, or socioeconomic status. This is an amazing achievement! And it should be zealously protected through guaranteeing to students and faculty the fundamental right of freedom of thought, conscience, and expression of their ideas."

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## SCPU Study Guides

SCPU is developing study guides for all the Business Management subjects in the ATHE Diplomas 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7. These guides cover the core information in subject areas. Students using these guides should be equipped to complete the assessment assignments for the various subjects. Each assessment has four tasks to complete to enable them to determine their knowledge.





## **Other Universities News**

### **Massey University New Zealand Plans Major Singapore Campus**

Massey University is planning to build a “major face-to-face campus” in Singapore. In an email sent to staff last week, the university said it was “in the final stages of progressing a joint venture agreement in Singapore” The University described Singapore as “a market of strategic significance for Massey” and “an opportunity to diversify revenue sources”. Vice Chancellor Jan Thomas said the plan to build Singapore as a “major face to face campus” was one of “four big shifts” required for the university to be financially sustainable, Massive reported.”Massey has been delivering education in Singapore for around 20 years. This joint venture will provide further opportunities to expand in different disciplinary areas and further enhance our reputation as a global university. The University currently offers an honours degree in food technology through the Singapore Institute of Technology, and a master’s degree in analytics through Singapore’s PSB Academy.

### **De Montfort University’s New Timetable**

De Montfort University in Leicester is among those experimenting with new timetables to enable students to take on more paid employment. It teaches undergraduate students by introducing “block teaching” instead of studying four modules at a time, students study one module for seven weeks, allowing our students to focus on each topic in depth and receive faster feedback. The simpler timetable allows our students a better work/life balance. Internal surveys showed students were 10% happier with the block teaching timetable and 93% in favour of studying one module at a time. The new timetables to be introduced across the university from this autumn will also help commuter students living locally as they will only need to travel to the campus several times a week rather than four or five times for an hour’s lecture. First year students in undergraduate courses will e schedule to have no more than three days a week of lectures and seminars, enabling them to balance study, part time work and other commitments. We changed our timetables to help them balance part time work, studying and other commitments.

### **The University of Buckingham**

It is the oldest of Britain’s independent Universities. In February 1976 the University College of Buckingham was formally opened by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher. In 1983 it became a registered charity. In 2020 it had grown to 3300 students from more than 70 countries. Buckingham pioneered the two year degree abolishing the traditional long vacation and saving students valuable time to earn a degree.

## **Britain’s New Upstart Universities**

A handful of new institutions are set on upending higher education. James Dyson, a designer of whizzy home appliances, has long complained that Britain pumps out too few Engineers. A few years ago he set out to mint graduates of his own. A mini university he created at the Dyson company’s glassy research facility now has about 160 youngsters enrolled, all of them in engineering degrees. They spend two days a week in lessons and the rest working on real products, for which they earn a salary. They pay no fees and incur no loans. In the past it was almost impossible for such outfits to hand out degrees unless they first formed a partnership with an existing institution. Now upstarts may apply to operate independently from day one. So far seven new bodies have received “degree granting powers, though they are not yet supposed to use the term “university”.

### **Honolulu University of Arts, Science and Humanities**

This institution was established in California as Golden State University and moved to Hawaii in February 1987 and offers a range of Bachelor, Master and Doctorate degrees. It is probably the oldest non – traditional Universities offering private degrees in the United States. When the state government of Hawaii decided to close down private degree issuing institutions in that state, it was one of two which survived the shutdown. It has endorsements from Neil Abercrombie, former Governor of Hawaii, Jeremy Hams, former Mayor of Honolulu and David Akaka, US Senator for Hawaii 1990 – 2013. In the early 1990’s Dr Le Cornu visited their Administration Office.

### **Universities Squeeze Timetables So Students Can Earn More**

Some Universities are experimenting with clock teaching and compacting lectures and tutorials over two or three days, while others are offering courses where teaching is done in either the morning or afternoons so that students can get regular part time paid employment on set days or time each week. Earning while learning is nothing new, at least not in the United Kingdom, but some higher education experts are worried by the normalisation and active facilitation of students working.

## Associate Degree Matriculation Recipients - The Gambia

Concentrating on people working in the Hotel industry SCPU is teaching a number of people to develop their management knowledge.

The following students were formally matriculated into the Associate degree program in October;

- Oman Bowaro
- Faye Sahara
- Fatou Ndow
- Hali Ntie
- Ndey Senghore
- Karamo Jammeh

These students are largely working in The Gambian Hotel industry.

This program was organized by Dr Yayha Muhammed Bah, a local Gambian Solicitor, who was also responsible for recruiting these students. Dr Bah is a member of the St Clements International Advisory Board.

A special thanks goes to him for all his efforts and hard work on this program.





## Professional Organisations News

### **Institute of Commercial and Institutional Accountants**

This Canadian professional body is designed to recognise the knowledge and skills of “in house” Accountants. It has two membership levels – Associate and Accredited. *Associate* members should have completed a one year full time course in Accounting and Bookkeeping. The *Accredited* member is expected to be a Bachelor graduate and to have been working as an “in house” Accountant for **3+ years**. The Institute of Commercial and Institutional Accountants was the first professional body for Accountant, to recognise St Clements University Bachelor of Business Administration for accredited membership status. They will accept membership from in house Accountants in most countries.

### **Institute of Professional Financial Managers**

This was the first UK professional body to recognise St Clements University degrees for professional membership. The IPFM has over 10,000 registered members in over 40 countries. I have reciprocal links with bodies in Australia, Belgium, Canada, Ghana, India, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, the United Kingdom and USA. One of the member qualifications is Certified Professional Financial Manager. As well as having a recognised degree in a financial field, the person completes a 3 stage Certification program to gain the award.

The three papers are:

- Financial Management and Analysis (5000 words)
- Corporate Finance (7500 words)
- Options, Futures and Other Derivatives(10,000-words)

### **Faculty of Professional Business and Technical Management**

This body is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> or Ruby year in 2023. Thus it is 40 years since Professor Dr. Herbert (Bert) Manners established it. It was initially just the Professional Business and Technical Management, but several years ago it changed itself into a Faculty. Professor Dr. Johan Potgieter is the President of the Faculty.

## **New Chartered Institute of Management Accountants**

This body was formed in 1919 (104 years ago). It was initially called The Institute of Cost and Management Accountants. It is a UK chartered body with 11,500 members. CIMA is recognised as a professional Accounting body for various statutory purposes by the UK and various overseas governments. In 2012 CIMA and the American Institute of Certified Accountants created the CGMA designation (Chartered Global Management Accountants). The CGMA is the most widely held Management Accounting designation in the world with over 150,000 designates. In 2017 members of the CIMA and American Institute of Certified Accountants formed the Association of International Professional Accountants.

### **International Bar Association**

Membership of the International Bar Association is open to all members of the legal profession, including Attorneys, Counsellors, Solicitors, Barristers, Advocates, members of the Judiciary, Full time Professors and Students of Law. It has two levels of membership:

**Full IBA membership** – This is designed for private practitioners in international legal practices – Cost £310 per year.

**General IBA membership** – This for others who practice International Law but are not private practitioners – Cost £165 per year.

Joining the International Bar Association enables members to network together, attend free webinars and conferences on International Law at a discount rate. Members are encouraged to write articles, speak at IBA conferences and attend conferences to develop their international law knowledge. It is based in Chancery House, 52-64 Chancery Lane, London.

### **Institute of Manufacturing**

The Institute of Manufacturing, as part of its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary, is offering its professional members the opportunity to study a dual Universidad a Distancia de Madrid (UDIMA) – Master of Science in Advanced Manufacturing Engineering and Management and SCPU – Master of Science in Industrial Engineering. As well as announcing this dual program, it is planning to start sending out a monthly newsletter to keep people in Manufacturing updated on what is happening.



# Open Letter to All Nigerian and other West African Alumni

## St Clements University



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Turks & Caicos Islands - British West Indies



IPFM



IMS



I.MANF



FBTMM



St Clements University Nigerian Graduates

To: West African Alumni

From: Dr. David Le Cornu

Dear Alumni,

Re: Ecole Superieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth.

Ecole Superieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth is currently completing Stage I of its new Campus building. It has been operating (licensed) by the Benin Ministry of Education for nearly 10 years and the new Campus building on the Lagos side of Cotonou will raise the profile of this University College throughout West Africa.

As a St Clements University Alumni any support you could give the new Campus would be very much appreciated. St Clements University would like to provide computers for the students starting at this new Campus in 2024.

Those Alumni who can help will be made “Patron Fellows” and be encouraged to attend official Graduation Events with the status of Honorary Staff members.

Having the international University you graduated from with an impressive Campus less than 20 kilometres from Nigeria, will help the recognition of your award.

Your help in building up this institution’s reputation as a first class Higher Education institution will help both our reputations.

Dr. David Le Cornu

Chancellor

Ecole Superieure Universitaire St Clements and Commonwealth

**For information on this Fellowship please visit: <https://stclements.edu/PF.html>**

## Two Types of Ofqual Approved Courses

Ofqual is the United Kingdom Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation. It was initially designed to regulate non-university qualifications issued by various English and Welsh based professional bodies. Professional education in Northern Ireland and Scotland have their own equivalent to Ofqual regulatory bodies.

When St Clements first had affiliated schools in London Ofqual was unsuccessfully trying to encourage Professional bodies to regulate their courses with it and for the first 10 years had very limited success. This was because the major Professional bodies were chartered by the Privy Council. They were as autonomous as chartered universities when it came to giving out awards.

Some of the Professional bodies which taught generic management diplomas started to set them in a format that encouraged other bodies to teach while they monitor the teaching and issued the qualification for them.

One such body was the Association of Tourism and Hospitality Executives which taught Tourism and Hospitality programs and once it developed the skills to get these courses approved went on to offer generic management qualifications. As they operated under the title of ATHE they made

this stand for Awards for Training and Higher Education, the same body as the Association of Tourism and Hospitality Executives.

As more and more Professional bodies started integrating their programs in Ofqual qualification by using these specialised bodies it became obvious St Clements needed to go down this route to maximise recognition in the UK. Initially it became a satellite centre via the Online Business School and two years ago became an Ofqual campus in its own right. One of the more entrepreneurial Ofqual bodies it started endorsing programs which their centre taught but had not been formally approved as regulated Ofqual qualification. Over time other Ofqual regulatory bodies started offering this approval and they became known as Bespoke programs.

Thus there are now two levels of Ofqual approved programs; **Regulated** programs by which the curriculum is set by Ofqual and Ofqual promotes and issues the qualification and **Bespoke** programs which the Ofqual management maintains the program and endorses it. In practical terms this is an integral program accreditation process. ATHE does offer this service.

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## Personnel News

### **Vale – Dr George Leung**

Academic Board member – Dr George Leung – has recently passed award. He completed most of his education in the United Kingdom and lectured at a number of London private colleges. He was appointed Course Director for the St Clements University Bachelor of Retail Management, jointly appointed by St Clements University and the Society of Sales and Marketing.

### **Chancellor's Change of Name**

Chancellor Ford has legally added the name of his Grandfather to his “middle” name. He is now Professor Dr Roderick **Andrew Lee** Ford. His name has been changed on our website.

### **New International Advisory Board Member – Professor Dr Mamla Bansal**

Professor Dr Mamla Bansal has agreed to join the St Clements International Advisory Board. Professor Dr Bansal is a Professional in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at the Shobhit Institute of Engineering and Technology. SIET is a NAAC accredited institution deemed to be a University. She will work with Dr Atul Sharma to develop and teach Computing and IT programs for SCPU and St Clements University.