

THE GALEN TIMES

“Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced.”
– Soren Kierkegaard



Hello fellow Eagles,
We present you the last January newsletter as we head into February. These past few days have passed by quickly and we hope everyone has settled into their classes. In this newsletter, there is some fresh and interesting information that you may enjoy. We encourage everyone to take their time reading the pieces from our fellow Eagles and clubs.

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Habits of successful University students

1) **Set Goals**: Every semester, it is important for you to set your goals that you want to accomplish since it helps keep you focused and motivated. Having goals allows you to be more organized.

2) **Manage your time**: It is always important for you to be careful how well you spend your free time when your schedule is empty. For this reason, it is important for you to be aware of where your time goes since time flies by quickly. In addition, manage your studying hours as to not cram all what you learnt in one study session.

3.) **Sleep**: It is best that students get enough sleep so that they are able to function the next day. Getting an amount of zzz's every night will sharpen your focus and improve your working memory. Having enough sleep will allow us to have full energy to be able to focus in class.

4.) **Attend your Class**: Always be on time for each class as you will learn something new each day. Don't forget to ask questions which will help enhance your learning process.

5.) **Take notes**: Taking notes will not only keeps you more engaged during class, but will also help you narrow down what you need to study when exam time rolls around. It's much easier to re-read your notes than to re-read an entire textbook. To add to that, try to refrain from adding too much information which leads to stress and headaches.

6.) **Study**: This one might be obvious, but a little of studying wont hurt anyone as it helps you to understand any topic you may be confused about. Review your material several days ahead of time, in small chunks, and in different manners.

7.) **Manage your study space**: Find a place that will maximize your productivity. Look for places away from the television and other distractions. Its best to have all things required for your study area as to not be getting up all the time. To add to that, having your stuff organized in your study area will limit the distractions since you want to focus on studying.

Journalism Club:

The Public Interest of 'News'



The essence of what constitutes “news,” as practiced today, covers a variety of current and ongoing, past, or future social injustices or public interests. Debatable is the “public interests” and the real “social injustices,” however. From first blush to consumer sensationalism, “Wife of Ashcroft Charged for the Murder of Police Officer,” reads the cover page of your paper. Undoubtedly garnering the attention of mass media and the grapevine. How quickly girlfriends become wives and murder is synonymous with manslaughter when it flatters a headline. I have always found myself rather intrigued with the aftermath; when the headlines abandon the cover page to dance on the tongues of messengers who tell tall tales, when the judge has united gavel and block in closing of the court sitting, and especially when status ‘woman,’ ‘man,’ or ‘child’ fades where ‘prisoner’ is assigned. At the core of ethical journalism are five principles. Principles that should and can guide much more than journalism. But, if journalism bespoke public interest, then the public’s interest should be founded on these principles as well. More specifically, the public’s interest should be founded on these principles as they relate to prisoners, and here is why.

The first principle is truth and accuracy. Would you say the truth of the story ends where the full stop is? And if so, is that accurate? When small chopped pieces of our lives are sold as headlines on Monday’s paper, can it really be both true and accurate? I say, no. Prisoners are beyond the full stop that no one likes to address. The headlines are the rising actions, the court case is the climax, and the court ruling is the falling action. At least where ‘public interest’ is concerned. What of the story where that prisoner is completely rehabilitated and goes on to inspire youths to be different or is really innocent but awaiting trial for years due to an over-worked and under sourced legal system or attempts to reintegrate into society but recidivates due to public disinvitation or was only initially in conflict with the law due

to unaddressed trauma exacerbated by a society that promotes self-sufficiency over therapy?

Second principle is independence. To be independent of mind to the degree that we question both sides of an issue intently and to an extent that yields satisfactory answers. Is this something we practice in our daily lives? Do we really substantiate every article of news through varying sources to ensure reliability? Do we question authority about the how's and why's of the case, call organizations in search of further answers to our queries? Third is fairness and impartiality. Examine how quickly one consumes information only to choose a side. Notwithstanding they have not questioned the validity of the information or substantiated the information, but know 'what side' they are on. Fourth is humanity. To be mindful of the impact on others. When the lives of prisoners are concluded at sentencing, are we mindful of that impact? When a diverse group of persons who may only share the status of 'prisoner' are grouped together and casted off as deviant and unbecoming, are we comfortable with this being the measure of our humanity? Last but definitely not least, is accountability. Before reading this letter, have you accepted the full consequence of your actions as listed above or did you just now realized what they are?

In closing, prisoners are important to the public. Prisoners are an actual representation of our country's core principles; what we believe is true and accurate about the things that we claim to know, our idealizations as devised from a supposedly 'independent' mind, what we believe is fair for all and impartial, what we find to be collectively 'humane,' and how we assign accountability to the persons we believe have harmed us. It is my strong belief, that if you wish to know a country and its citizens, visit their cemetery and prison. One will show you how they treat the dead, and the other will show how they treat the mistaken.

Galen Eagle Spotlight:

Aroldo Clarke



We all face challenges in our lives that we have to deal with as time goes by. Regardless of our circumstances, we should always remain focused and determined on achieving our goals. Currently, I am the Human Resources Manager of the Corozal Town Council. Some of my functions include employment, interviews, mentoring, training, and development. Furthermore, the implementation of the Labor Laws of Belize and the Municipal Service Regulations Policy is an important function for me as well. The department is mindful of the rights of the employees and ensures to assist other departments in conflict resolution.

Presently, I am pursuing my bachelor's degree in business administration here at Galen University. I have always had an interest in furthering my knowledge in the Business field since I am also an entrepreneur.

I started this program last year in September 2021. During this time I have focused and tried my best to balance out my family life, career, and school. One of the main reasons I choose to do this online program is because Galen offers the flexibility to take courses in the nighttime. Managing time from work to school must be done as precisely as possible. Being able to complete the required assignments and studying is sometimes challenging and it requires willpower and self-motivation. Even though, I still consider that I need to expand my knowledge more. I believe that enrolling in Galen has had a positive impact on the way I lead my department. It has given me the confidence that I need when engaging with the staff or even with residents of Corozal.

Being able to communicate is essential and beneficial in the workplace. As the department manager, my colleagues expect me to treat everyone with equity and professionalism. Likewise, one of the main goals of the Council is to serve everyone with respect and decorum. It gives me pride when I can assist citizens and they feel comfortable when they have concerns about the town.

During the onset of COVID-19, it was challenging and we had to find ways to adapt to the “new norm”. This pandemic has impacted our economy and has created unemployment in our communities. The Corozal Town Council implemented ways in which we could work from home and have only the essential workers at the office during the lockdown. At first, I was skeptical about enrolling during a pandemic. Nevertheless, I chose to adapt and continue my dream of higher education; it was the best decision since I could use my knowledge to the benefit of my community.

I strongly believe in being consistent in whatever I do. We must decide what can really be beneficial in our lives and how it can benefit our society. I am committed and focused on completing my Bachelor's degree and then move on to pursue a master's degree in business administration or marketing. If God permits, with my determination and commitment, I will be able to achieve higher education in this prestigious institution.

Different Perspectives: Triple murder on Friday

In this section of The Galen Times, we will discuss critical issues, challenges, and events that relate to Belize.

Have a perspective on a current issue? Send your opinions and views to apalma@galen.edu.bz (Economic, Education, Criminal Justice, International Business etc)

Let us look at the triple murder that occurred on Friday, January 21, 2022. On Friday morning, Winston Tanga James, a well-known gang figure was shot in the throat. Several hours later, Leslie Gillett was killed inside his business establishment in Burrell Boom. Interestingly, two of his employees were killed in November of last year by gunmen linked to Winston Tanga James. Notably, Gillett was the target and not his employees so this time the gunmen came to finish the job. But, if Gillett knew that he was the target, why didn't he confess to the police who is after his life? What can the police do to protect victims like Gillett in these cases? Also, this was the second murder scene at the same establishment and there could be witnesses who saw the gunmen. With that said, do witnesses mistrust the police and if yes, what can the police department do to earn the trust of the public? Currently, the police department is tackling these scenarios by doing more community policing-officers visit the locals to build a relationship with the neighborhood. Is community policing the right approach or should the police take another course of action? Tying the murders, we can see that there is a link between Tanga and Gillett's assassination, so what can the police do to find the criminals responsible for both crimes? Should the police invest more in intelligence gathering and how will that strategy assist the investigators to bring justice for the families of the deceased men? Unfortunately, a third murder occurred on Friday night when a gunman approached Virgil Coburn in the Belama Phase one area and killed him on the spot. Regrettably, these murders continue to happen as if criminals don't care about the consequences if they get caught. So, does the police department need more police recruits to catch these alleged criminals before or after the act or does the department need more trained prosecutors to convict these individuals?

Response by Galen Eagle: **Alexander Flowers**, a Criminal Justice perspective

The analysis of criminal activity in any country is of utmost importance. For self, community, and especially the entire country. The first problem, in my opinion, of observing crime statistics is that people oftentimes intend to find a culprit instead of reason and understanding. The second problem is that there is no straightforward answer to the phenomena of crime. Speaking precisely to the act of murder, we must abandon the socialized concepts of mistakes being directly linked to the permanency of one's self. To put it frankly, when considering matters relating to society and its systems, enter with an open mind. With this said, let us consider the three-fold system of criminal acts. There is the act itself, which will involve a greater degree of observation to understand the intricacies leading up to the act. What motivated the perpetrator to murder Mr. James? Did he even pre-meditated to kill Mr. James? Also, the act was committed publicly, did the perpetrator intend to assume the level of risk associated with murdering Mr. James in public? Can this speak to his degree of motivation towards committing this act, much so that he disregarded the possibility of being identified by a witness? Secondly, there is the police investigation aspect into the criminal act. Just as I have posed these questions, our police officers must now investigate the happenings of this homicide. Not only must they investigate, but they must manage the publicity surrounding the case. Is the public aware and invested in the case? Are the victims of these murders publicly known? These areas will factor into their investigative process. Now, returning to the fact that the homicide was committed publicly and there is the possibility that the perpetrator(s) is feared, how do we expect the police to subvert this weakness in the investigative process. Similarly, Belize is a small country with intimately connected communities, can one really expect a high degree of anonymity? If not, then there is the legal route. Knowingly withholding key evidence in a criminal case may result in a prison sentence, but is it reasonable to lock someone up because they fear for their life? Another perspective, what if they don't fear the repercussions, they simply have a distaste for the police department because of their violent or abusive history. Should these persons honor their duty to report over their personal indifference? Even in extreme cases of police brutality? The third is the court system. Currently, cases that go to the courts are heard solely by the presiding judge. Using what limited information the investigation yielded, prosecutors must present a compelling case, beyond a reasonable doubt, of why they are sure of an alleged perpetrator's guilt.

Now, circling back to the case of Mr. James and Mr. Gillette, we can use these lenses to analyze the actual issue and challenge of the legal and criminal justice system in Belize.

Let's start with the act of murder. The legal definition of murder maintains a pre-meditated element, which speaks to motivation. I have already asked why the perpetrator would want to kill Mr. James or Mr. Gillette respectively, now let us consider what were the alternative routes. Assuming there was a legal implication for the dispute between these individuals, why were they not confident that the authorities could address this issue? Did the criminal past of Mr. James precede him at the police station? Additionally, would the police department have been able to address the issue, are they trained for such purpose, are civilians confident in the training of police officers? Furthermore, if legal resolve was sought, is the law comprehensive enough to address the harms caused by each party and adequately address them? You see, there are so many questions that are relative to the facts of legal matters and criminal acts. Important to notice, there is always a question in address to the system of legal administration. This is where crime is prevented and addressed. In my opinion, the reason we are observing many instances of murder, which are indeed varied, is at the heart of these incidents which are the systems the country have adapted to prevent and address crime. We must ask more questions even now. Whose crime prevention and address strategies are these? Where did we adapt them from, England? Are we ready to acknowledge that there may be a link between the social violence of honoring a system that oppressed and disenfranchised the very people it was created for and the crimes we are observing today? Crime in Belize is an issue that has no easy answer on how to address it. What may seem like an easy open and shut case of a street-corner drug dealer is actually the result of systemic inequality that pushes young boys for acceptance in gangs due to fatherlessness and the lack of opportunities due to ruthless nepotism, clientism, and favoritism of the political party of the day. This is one of many realities. How to prevent and address these harms, you ask? **ASK QUESTIONS! DO NOT EVER STOP ASKING QUESTIONS!** Questions require answers, answers require truth. And where truth cannot be willingly and shamelessly offered, dig deeper. This is how we address crime in our country, we must work collectively to understand the systems we have obeyed and start question whether they really work for us or against us. After we have done that, the work begins.

Different Perspectives: The Economy Today

Today, we will be discussing the controversy between the Port of Belize Limited (PBL) and the stevedores, members of the Christian Workers Union (CWU). Both parties, the PBL and CWU, are at odds over which candidate will fill the post of general foreman. Prior to their disagreement over the position, of general foreman, the Port of Belize Limited and CWU have had major disputes in the past over an alleged breach of a Collective Bargaining Agreement. Unfortunately, tensions continue to rise and the stevedores have launched industrial action, which means that all the products that we import will not be unloaded from containers and the products that we export will not be loaded into the cargo ships. In other words, the shipping process has been interrupted and there will be scarcity of products for consumption in the market. As the stevedores continue to take industrial action, the companies that depend on imported products to reach their establishment will incur losses due to spoilage. Also, as supply continues to fall short while the demand is high, the market price of products will increase which will signal an increase in inflation. Will the startup businesses manage to survive in this time of crisis? Importantly, the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) reported that Belize had already seen a 5.7% inflation rate- the highest inflation rate in over a decade. So, what will be the effect on crime, cost of living and business investments? Shifting gears to exports, the companies on our end will not receive the materials needed to create the final product for export. In that case, the companies in Belize will earn less foreign exchange or even worse, they will not earn any money if they do not deliver the products. Overall, the controversy is affecting cost of living, foreign exchange earnings and the survival of many businesses which is a recipe for economic recession. With all that said, what can the policy makers do to solve this problem and if nothing is done, what will happen to our economy if the stevedores continue to take industrial action?

Response by Galen Eagles: **Shevonne Crawford & Janina Choj**, an Economic perspective

The stevedores have had enough, and it is now time for the Government of Belize to intervene. According to the stevedores in a recent interview, after years of suffering and more recently not only the rejection of their choices to be foremen, but also major disputes in the past over an alleged breach of a Collective Bargaining Agreement, the stevedores have decided they won't put up with more. To backtrack a bit, the stevedores started taking industrial action when the sugar boats were removed and taken to the Port of Big Creek. When this happened, a memorandum was written stating that they will be compensated for such a move. This compensation package has not been issued. With the removal of the sugar boats, the stevedores' earnings have dropped from between 20%-40%. They believe that for such a big reduction in their earnings, they should be compensated as they were promised.

Recently, as a compromise, the port has instructed that they reduce the workers so those who stay can work more and earn more. That will be the only compensation they are allowed to get. Infuriated with these terms, they are now striking. If they had agreed to the terms, there would be many unemployed. Therefore, that situation would then lead to those very unemployed persons not being able to meet their needs and wants thus, not contributing to economic growth.

Furthermore, while the stevedores are on strike, companies are already experiencing a loss because they cannot receive their imports to provide to customers and they cannot export to meet the demand in the international market. Some companies who are exporting internationally, will not be able to meet their exportation times and may be replaced by substitutes in the international market which would result in an even greater loss than domestically. Suppliers who have deliveries that need to be sent out to make agreements for on-time deliveries; therefore, if the delivery time is not met, there are penalties and costs incurred by the supplier for breaching the agreement. If prolonged, businesses can lose market share resulting in less foreign currency coming into the country if businesses cannot get their products to their destinations; losing foreign currency would be tremendous to the economy. As a result of this inconvenience, many may want to move their shopping to Big Creek, where it will be more costly but to them, it will be more reliable and there is where the stevedores will once again be affected. There will be less unloading and loading for them resulting in another reduction in their earnings.

Currently, the private sector is affected because they are not getting their imports; therefore, at some point, it may result in consumers flocking to contraband goods. This results in taxes not being paid to businesses and a reduction in demand for normal goods. Overall, if the industrial actions continue, the economy will reap an increase in prices, a decrease for normal goods, an increase in demand for contraband substitutes, a decrease in foreign exchange, and a decrease in international competitiveness. As said by the president of the CWU, “No worker would accept the conditions being asked for by the Port, and those who are affected must put themselves in the stevedores’ shoes.”

So, what will it take to come to an agreement and resume activities at the Port of Belize?

In our view, this could all be avoided, if protection and security are provided to the stevedores. The stevedores may feel in this situation as if they are being treated as dispensable and not treated with the respect that their significant profession requires. These stevedores are considered essential workers and if they are not working then the economy comes to a halt in many sectors. In addition, it can also be avoided if the compensation package which was in the memorandum is provided. The amount that is being requested could be reduced if the Port sees it as too great of a number. If the Port and the CWU cannot agree among themselves, then a third-party mediation must occur. Time invested in mediation is much less chaotic than experiencing economic inflation and an inevitable recession. This issue does have a domino effect in our economy so every effect should be taken into consideration by the port or the minister of Public Service because of the severity of the situation and the possible catastrophic consequences to the economy.

Tutoring Schedule

Galen University

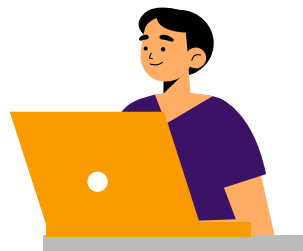


Spring Tutoring Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
English Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	English Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.	English Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	English Office Hours: 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p. m	English Office Hours: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p. m	Financial Acc. / Intermediate Acc. 1 / Managerial Acc. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p. m	English Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p. m
Education Courses Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	Education Courses Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	Education Courses Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	Education Courses Office Hours: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p. m	Math Office Hours: 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p. m	Math Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p. m	Financial Acc. / Intermediate Acc. 1 / Managerial Acc. Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p. m
	Spanish Office Hours: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p. m		Spanish Office Hours: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p. m	Spanish Office Hours: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p. m		Spanish Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p. m ----- Math Office Hours: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Book your session through the Galen website at www.galen.edu.bz

Go to: Student Life > Resources> Tutoring



Important Dates



22 January	Last day to 'DROP' a class without financial penalty	After 23 January, you will be charged for the courses that you leave
24 January	Withdrawal period starts	<p>The first day to withdraw from a class with a 'W' (withdrew) with a financial penalty.</p> <p>The withdrawal form must be completed. It is available on the Galen University website: https://galen.edu.bz/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/GALEN-Withdrawal-Form.pdf</p> <p>Fill out the withdrawal form and obtain all required signatures (student, advisor, and lecturer(s) before submitting it to the following email addresses: finance@galen.edu.bz and records@galen.edu.bz</p>
29 January	Last day to submit graduation applications for the July 2022 commencement exercises	<p>The graduation application date has been extended to this date. Any graduation application received after this date will be deferred to July 2023. Completed forms must be sent to graduationapp@galen.edu.bz and finance@galen.edu.bz</p> <p>This is your last notice concerning your graduation application for the July 2022 commencement exercises.</p>
Other	Academic Policies	The academic policies are posted on the Galen University website at https://galen.edu.bz/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Galen-University-Academic-Policies.pdf . Please familiarize yourself with them. If any clarification is needed, please contact your advisor, dean, or the deputy registrar.

