
13th Annual Shirley Playfair Lecture:

**The Prospects for Competition in the Electricity Sector:
from generation to distribution**



**Introduction of Keynote Speaker
– PROFESSOR EVAN DUGGAN**

Ann-Marie Grant
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Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon. Thank you for being here, at the thirteenth lecture in the Shirley Playfair Lecture Series. We are pleased to welcome and to introduce to you our very special guest speaker, Professor Evan ‘Bunny’ Duggan.

Professor Duggan is the Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences at the Mona Campus of the University of the West Indies; and is the Head of the University’s Think Tank on energy. The Think Tank has published several articles on electricity supply in Jamaica; and has written on how competition on the distribution side of the energy value chain can lead to a reduction in the price of electricity. He is the Government’s representative on the Board of Directors of the Jamaica Public Service Company Limited; and is also an advisor to the Government on energy issues.

Professor Duggan obtained his Ph.D. and MBA degrees from the Georgia State University with concentrations in Decision Sciences and Computer Information Systems. His research interests include the management of information systems with particular reference to quality and delivery methodologies. He has published extensively in this area; and was included in the Marquis *Who’s Who in Science and Engineering* in 2005-2006.

Professor Duggan’s career at the University began in 2006 when he joined the Mona School of Business as Professor of Management Information Systems. He was appointed Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies in the Faculty of Social Sciences in 2007 and then Executive Director of the Mona School of Business in August 2008. He has taught management information systems and decision sciences courses in several institutions in the United States of

America and at the UWI to students at the masters and doctoral levels. He is a faculty mentor for the US-based KPMG Information Systems Doctoral Students Association and was the Chairman of the Doctoral Students Affairs Committee for the International Decision Sciences Institute in 2006 to 2007. Before venturing on an academic career he worked for 25 year with Alcan Jamaica Company (now Windalco).

We are all aware of the ways in which information technologies have spurred product innovation and revolutionized the delivery of goods and services. We know that technology has facilitated the introduction of competition in industries once considered to be “natural monopolies”. The recent Court decision on the exclusivity of the distribution of electricity in Jamaica paves the way for the removal of the legal barrier to entry into the market; but what of the technical barriers? Professor Duggan’s unique position as an expert in management information systems and decision sciences makes him the ideal speaker for today. He will be sharing with us his expert opinion by shedding light on the technical aspects of promoting competition at the different levels in the supply chain of electricity in Jamaica – from generation to distribution.

Ladies and Gentlemen, get your note pads and pens ready; and please help me welcome, Professor Duggan.