

Address by the
President of the Jamaica Bankers Association
At the opening ceremony of the
Jamaica Institute of Financial Services & Mona School of Business
Professional Development Programme held, February 8 – 10, 2012, entitled
“Executive Leadership Practices for the New Era of Financial Services”

Today’s fast pace and ever changing world demands that leaders constantly upgrade and sharpen their understanding and skills in order to be on the cutting edge of their given discipline. With the very fierce competition in the financial sector, the survival of any business will require more than average success. One of the best ways to accomplish this is with an educated workforce that keeps current with new developments in technology, economic changes and innovation. Financial services providers must therefore keep abreast of government regulatory requirements, international trends, and the demands of a savvy marketplace. Leaders who will be forward thinkers, are those who are willing and ready to adapt to, and embrace change.

The current era of financial services presents itself against the backdrop of a market place that is ever increasing in sophistication. In this regard, we must respond to their needs and ensure that we adopt practices that hold our customers at the centre of our operations.

It is interesting to note that this course has been specially developed based on specific research carried out on the Caribbean financial services industry as well as with international best practices. The JBA endorses programmes of this nature as we believe that sound financial education is critical to the development of strong sustainable businesses and ultimately a strong economy.

The Mona School of Business and the Jamaica Institute of Financial Services are to be commended for the formulation of this custom built Executive programme which is being offered for the first time.

It is my hope that the knowledge gained from this workshop will be applied throughout the various participating organisations and, consequently, lead to sound business decisions.

Bruce Bowen
President, Jamaica Bankers Association
CEO & President, Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Ltd.