FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Bria A. Smith
Communications and Public Relations Manager
Department of Communications, Public Relations, and Marketing
(284) 852-7143
basmith@hlscc.edu.vg

HLSCC AND ESHS WELCOME UNIVERSITIES FROM US, UK AND CARIBBEAN FOR 2026 COLLEGE FAIR

Monday, 2 February – H. Lavity Stoutt Community College (HLSCC), in partnership with Elmore Stoutt High School (ESHS), will host the 2nd Annual HLSCC x ESHS College Fair, returning with an expanded two-day format that promises even greater access to tertiary and postgraduate opportunities.

The fair will take place on Wednesday, 4 February, 2026, at the HLSCC Atrium from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m., and continue on Thursday, 5 February, 2026, at the Multipurpose Sports Complex from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

This year's event features an impressive roster of regional and international institutions, giving high-school students, young adults, working professionals, and lifelong learners a direct pathway to advancing their education. Institutions confirmed to attend include Life University, Florida Memorial University, the University of the Virgin Islands, Tuskegee University, Virginia State University, St. Geroge's University (Grenada), The University of the West Indies (UWI), Richmond American University London (UK), the New Model Institute for Technology & Engineering (NMITE), and Missouri Southern State University, among others.

Designed for the entire community, the College Fair provides access to programmes ranging from associate degrees to doctoral studies, including fully online options and flexible, work-compatible pathways. Attendees will have opportunities to speak with admissions teams, learn about academic programmes, various institutions, and explore financial aid, scholarships, and transfer options.

MORE

According to Ms. Amy Gordon, Guidance Counsellor at ESHS, the College Fair is a pivotal experience for students in their final years of high school.

"For our senior students, this fair comes at a crucial point in their academic journey," Ms. Gordon explained. "It allows them to move beyond brochures and websites and have real conversations with admissions representatives who can help them clarify their goals, understand application requirements, and make informed decisions about their next steps. Exposure to so many institutions in one space helps students feel empowered, confident, and excited about the future ahead."

Registrar for HLSCC, Mrs. Janice Dawson also emphasised the transformative impact of exposure to global academic networks.

"Higher education changes lives – and in turn, it strengthens communities," the Registrar said. "By connecting residents of the Virgin Islands to universities across the region and around the world, we are supporting long-term personal growth, economic development, and sustainable professional advancement. When people see what's possible, they begin to envision a future they may never have considered."

Now in its second year, the HLSCC x ESHS College Fair reflects a shared commitment to equity, opportunity, and lifelong learning. It is open to students, parents, educators, professionals, and anyone interested in higher education, reaffirming that academic growth is not limited by age, stage or background.

Admission is free, and attendees are encouraged to bring questions, a notebook or device, and – if applicable— a resume or summary of achievements to support meaningful conversations with representatives.

###

PHOTO CAPTION:

1. Official poster for the College Fair. **(Design credit: RayAndre Depeza/HLSCC)**