

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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Dear Editor / Head of Department

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### **NIHERST and APETT collaborate to initiate STI transformation projects**

The National Institute of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology (NIHERST) and the Association of Professional Engineers of Trinidad and Tobago (APETT) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) which will see joint collaboration to address engineering-specific societal pain points currently being faced by communities and advance the national agenda for enabling Science Technology and Innovation (STI) in the society

An in-person ceremony was held at the NIHERST Head Office at Education Towers in Port of Spain, between the parties represented by Mrs. Marleen Lord- Lewis-NIHERST, President, and Dr. Chris Maharaj- APETT, President.

Mrs. Lord-Lewis stated, "NIHERST is keen to collaborate with APETT to enable advancements in STI. This partnership will certainly allow our citizens to experience STEM as a tangible benefit through engineering technology solutions that address day-to-day issues within the community."

Standing in agreement, Dr. Maharaj shared, "Such strategic partnerships will indeed serve to improve the quality of life of our people".

The first in a number of activities geared toward resolving engineering-specific societal pain points is the launch of a public education series, in August 2022. The series will discuss engineering challenges such as road maintenance, flooding and renewable energy, to name a few. Members of the public, government, academia and the business community will be invited to participate in this stakeholder session.

With this collaboration, NIHERST is reinforcing its mission to stimulate sustainable national capability and capacity in Science, Technology, Innovation, and Technopreneurship through insightful research and relevant programmes.

## **About NIHERST**

NIHERST is a statutory body established in 1984 to promote science, technology and higher education in Trinidad and Tobago consistent with national development goals. The Institute is an agency under the Ministry of Education. Its current work focuses on the development of a more diversified, knowledge-driven economy, based on the ingenuity of our people and their ability to create, adapt and use science and technology for wealth generation and national development. Many of its programmes aim to strengthen the innovative, creative and entrepreneurial capabilities of the general population. NIHERST is also engaged in research, such as in foresight and innovation, to support economic diversification; promoting innovation and the commercialisation of technology in priority sectors; and building global partnerships.

## **About APETT**

APETT was established to promote the highest standards of professional practice and stimulates awareness of technology and the role of the engineer in society.



Left to Right: Dr. Chris Maharaj- APETT, President & Mrs. Marleen Lord- Lewis-NIHERST, President



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