



THE UNIVERSITY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Office of the President

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Ms. Ira Mathur
President
Media Association of Trinidad and Tobago
mattexecutive@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Mathur,

Reference is made to your email of January 25, 2022 where you expressed concerns regarding the composition of the panel for the recently held webinar “Managing the Democracy of Media and Information Dissemination”. I wish to advise that the panel discussion was expertly moderated by the experienced Ms. Franka Philip and as such, UTT is not of the view that there was any gender discrimination in practice or intent.

One of the salient points of discussion at the webinar however, centered around the lack of technical expertise in local journalists and the possibility of journalists acquiring specialized, technical jargon and knowhow in order to be more effective in their reporting. Whilst we appreciate that journalists are not expected to become subject matter experts, familiarity with terms used in various fields may prove useful.

In this regard, I am writing to enquire of MATT whether your association and members would be interested in attending some introductory webinars or lectures on technical issues. A case in point would be the challenges being faced at the highway extension at Mosquito Creek and the Covid-19 pandemic. As the national university, UTT would like to offer its *pro bono* assistance in equipping local journalists with the tools to better understand and therefore explain the issues at hand and related technical terms.

We look forward to your favourable response to this proposal as we seek to partner in future projects and events of national value.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Prakash Persad
President

