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BBC World Questions Team Engages University of Guyana Students on Journalism and Global Media

Students at the University of Guyana were given a rare opportunity to learn from international media professionals when representatives from the BBC World Service visited the Turkeyen Campus to discuss journalism, public debate, and the role of global media.



Journalist and broadcaster Jonny Dymond and program producer Helen Towner from BBC World Questions participated in the debate, which took place at the Education Lecture Theatre on Monday, March 9 from 16:00 to 17:15.

The evolution of communication and how multinational broadcasting organizations adjust to the shifting media landscape were both covered in this session. Towner described how the BBC has changed over the years, transitioning from traditional radio broadcasting to a multimedia organization that today reaches audiences worldwide through digital channels.

The BBC's funding was a major topic of contention. The speakers clarified that the organization uses a variety of financial sources to sustain worldwide broadcasting through the BBC World Service, including licence payments in the UK and other international financing structures.

Additionally, Dymond discussed what he considered to be the three most crucial concepts for reporters: reading, doubting, and listening. He claims that in order to



comprehend issues, journalists need to read widely, pay close attention to their sources, and use a healthy amount of skepticism when assessing material.

Students attending the session actively participated in the discussion, asking questions about journalism careers, media independence, and the global influence of the BBC.

A student inquired about the speakers' recommendations for aspiring journalists. In response, Dymond urged young journalists to maintain their curiosity, cultivate solid research techniques, and concentrate on establishing their credibility through truthful and impartial reporting.

Another question raised concerns about possible political influence on BBC programmes such as BBC World Questions. The speakers emphasised that editorial independence and impartiality are core values of the BBC and that maintaining balance in panel discussions is essential to the programme's credibility.

Students also inquired about the BBC World Questions panel debates' wider implications.

Towner clarified that the program's goal is to establish a forum for free discussion, enabling people to ask experts and leaders about significant social, political, and economic issues impacting their communities.

Through these discussions, the programme seeks to encourage democratic dialogue and ensure that diverse perspectives are heard.

For many students, the event offered valuable insight into how international media organisations operate and the responsibilities journalists carry in informing the public. The session also highlighted the importance of critical thinking, ethical reporting, and open dialogue in modern journalism.

The visit by the BBC team provided an educational experience for aspiring journalists at the University of Guyana and demonstrated how global media platforms can contribute to public discussion and civic engagement.