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Professor Vijay Naraynsingh Honoured Internationally

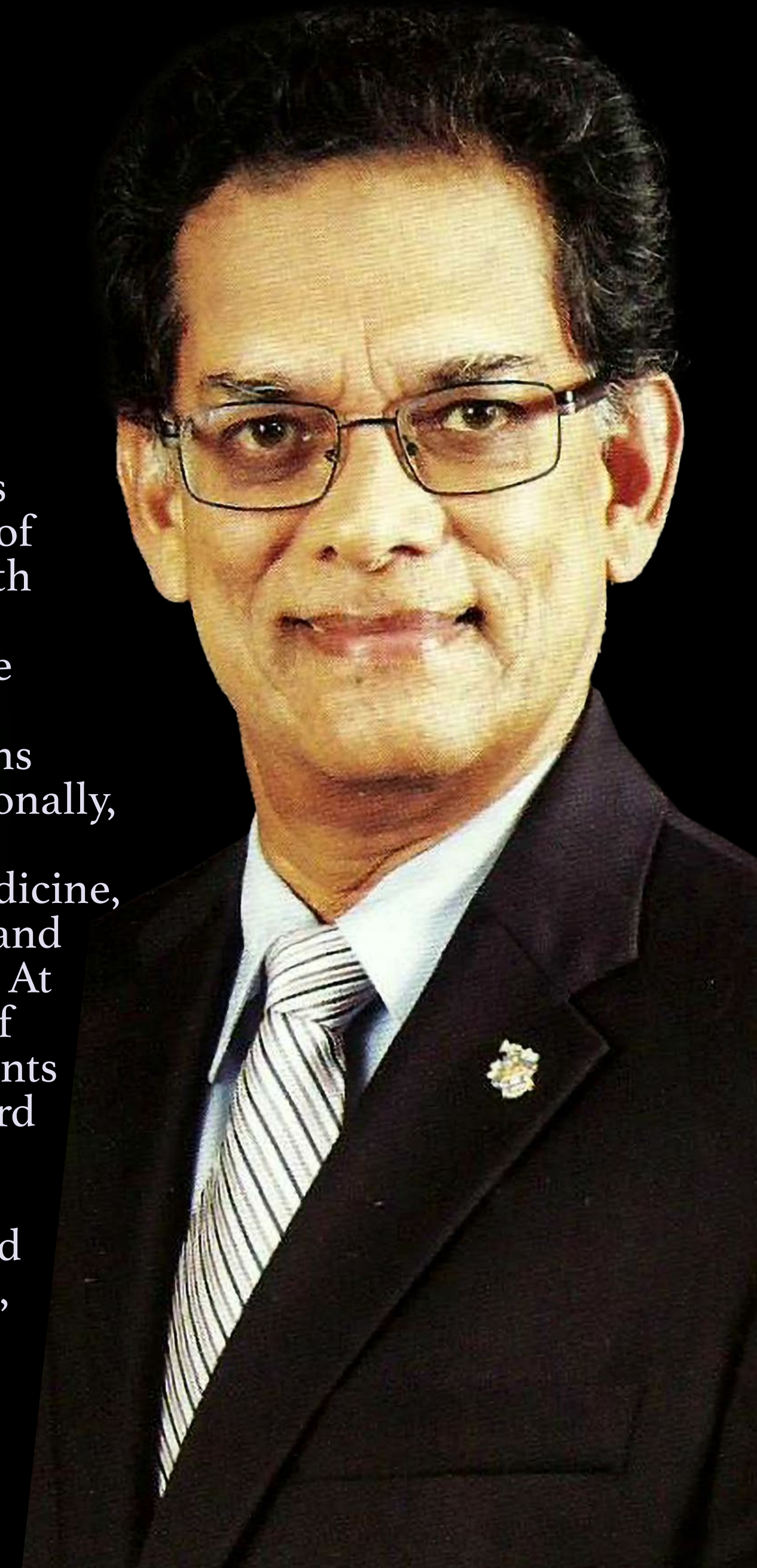
For the first time in UWI's history, one of its graduates has been given the highest award of Honourary Fellowship by the two largest surgical bodies in the world. Professor Naraynsingh was awarded Honourary Fellowships by The American College of Surgeons (Oct 2019) and The Association of Surgeons of India in December 2021.

As the recent citation read: 'For us... we only associated the West Indies with highly talented cricketers, but it is thanks to this gentleman that we stand in awe and privilege to know of the excellence in Surgery there'

Of additional significance for us at the UWI, is that this was achieved while remaining at our University for four decades as teacher, examiner, researcher, and mentor to generations of our students.

Following graduation with medals and distinctions in Anatomy and Surgery, Professor Naraynsingh has had a distinguished career that led to Fellowships in several international colleges, Reader in Surgery, Personal Chair and Departmental Chair at the UWI. He has served as President of the Society of Surgeons of Trinidad & Tobago and of of the

Caribbean College of Surgeons and was Scientific Secretary of the Caribbean Health Research Council for 13 years. He is the recipient of awards from 40 organisations internationally, regionally, and locally for his contributions to medicine, community service and humanitarian work. At age 42, he was one of the youngest recipients of the National Award (The Chaconia Gold) for service to Medicine to Trinidad and Tobago. In 2003, he was the first Caribbean Surgeon to be granted the



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Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons (FRCS England) without examination. In 1991, he was chosen by Medicins Sans Frontieres (Nobel Laureate) to be one of five surgeons worldwide to sit on an international expert panel on colon trauma surgery (Brussels, Belgium). He was chosen as the surgeon to the Pope when John Paul II visited Trinidad and Tobago in 1985.

Internationally, Professor Naraynsingh has been a pioneer in the design of fourteen new operations, never done before. These procedures have all been recorded in the international surgical literature:

Professor Naraynsingh is an educator, community leader, mentor, scholar,

author and surgeon. He has taught and administered programs at The UWI for more than 38 years and started the postgraduate Surgical Specialties and Sub-specialties in Trinidad and Tobago. He is well known for his work ethic, professionalism, leadership and is passionate about teaching and improving the quality of instruction; his contributions to Surgery

in the West Indies are superlative. He had revised the surgery curriculum and changed the structure of the final MBBS examination. He also developed the first YouTube video library for teaching surgery to UWI's under- and post-graduates. Professor Naraynsingh's evidence of excellence in supervision is demonstrated by his mentoring over 80 colleagues on their first

scientific publication and training over 22 successful specialist surgeons; these are employed at the highest level at home and abroad. Professor Naraynsingh is one of our University's most published academics. He has authored eight (8) book chapters on surgery and over 340 indexed articles in peer-reviewed journals. Also, he has delivered presentations on over 170 scientific platforms and published more than 150 abstracts.

He has been granted the Vice-Chancellor's award for Excellence in Research (2011), UWI Research Award for the most outstanding researcher (2012), the Cariscience Award for the most outstanding Caribbean Researcher (2015) and the National Health Research Conference Award (2021).