

## Speaker Profile:

# Professor Brian Copeland

Chairman | NESC Technical Institute



### Keynote Topic

*'Higher Education Quality and Workforce Development in the Caribbean'*

### Panel Discussion Topic

*'Delivering Quality, Relevant and Cost-Effective Higher Education: Challenges and Opportunities for Small Island Developing States'*

Emeritus Professor Brian Copeland is the Chairman of NESC Technical Institute in Trinidad and Tobago and the immediate past Pro Vice-Chancellor and Campus Principal of The University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, Trinidad. He is a recognised higher education leader, academic and innovator. He has a vast résumé of academic achievements and research in electrical and computer engineering.

Professor Copeland also coordinated The UWI's Steelpan Initiatives Project, which resulted in the development and patenting of the G-Pan, a re-engineered version of the traditional steelpan; and the Percussive Harmonic instrument (P.H.I.), an electronic form of the traditional steelpan. He is Convener of the Steelpan Research Centre at the UWI, a former Member of the Board of Directors at The Caribbean Industrial Research Institute (CARIRI) and former Chairman of the National Training Agency of Trinidad and Tobago.

Professor Copeland is a recipient of Trinidad and Tobago's highest award, the Order of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (2008), as well as a joint recipient of the Chaconia Medal Gold for his work on the development of the G-Pan.