



A Shell Trinidad and Tobago Initiative

In partnership with



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **“Shell Trinidad and Tobago Limited Launches A Digitalization Academy”**



**Standing from L-R: Mr. Rondell Frank** - Shell Programme Consultant, **Ms. Kelli-Marie Patel** – Shell’s Corporate Communications Advisor, **Dr. The Honourable, Nyan Gadsby-Dolly** – Minister of Education, **Senator, The Honourable Hassel Bacchus** – Minister of Digital Transformation, **Ms. Sharon Baboolal** – Member of the Board of Governors, (NIHERST) and **Mrs. Marleen Lord-Lewis** – President, (NIHERST). **Sitting are Student Participants** in the Shell STREAM Programme.

**Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.** “Efforts are ongoing at the Ministry of Education to digitalize all processes, including textbooks, teaching methods and all examination components”. said the Minister of Education, **Dr. Nyan Gadsby-Dolly** while launching the Shell Digitalization

Academy at the HYATT Regency. Facilitated by The National Institute of Higher Education, Research Science and Technology, (NIHERST), the launch took place on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2022.

Digital innovation plays an important role to the Shell team, by adding value through increased productivity, lower capital and decreased operating costs. The Shell Digitalization Academy ensures that as a company, Shell is providing learning opportunities for students who understand the value of innovation, invention and technopreneurship. With the inclusion of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, Shell has created a blended approach to ignite a spark in our student population to embrace a journey of powering progress into action.

Shell has a long history of investments in Corporate Social Responsibility in Trinidad and Tobago; what the Digitalization Academy represents is Shell's commitment as a corporate citizen to ensure that the evolution of innovation and technology are available to the leaders of tomorrow. Students attending the Digitalization Academy will have an opportunity to learn about Artificial Intelligence, Virtual and Augmented Reality from leading experts in the digital industry at one of the two convenient locations: the UTT Pt. Lisas Campus and the UTT John S. Donaldson Campus.

At the media launch for the academy, Minister Gadsby-Dolly, delivered the feature address where it was stated that, "moving the country's education processes from analog to digital is imperative as the current filing systems for teachers, administrators and students is a lot.

Also in attendance was Minister of Digital Transformation, Senator, the Honourable Hassel Bacchus who expressed that, "The key to effective and sustainable Digital Transformation is to build a critical mass of young, innovative and entrepreneurial professionals who will lead the Digital Transformation Revolution."

Minister Bacchus shared that, "The philosophy behind STREAM Education is a perfect match with the ubiquitous and holistic nature of the Digital Transformation process." He further stated that Shell's milestone launch is an achievement that should signal the critical need to support the transformation of the country's digitalization process.

Speaking at the media launch, Shell's Corporate Communications Advisor, Ms. Kelli-Marie Patel shared that, "**Through initiatives like the Shell Digitalization Academy**, we hope to

harness technological innovation and ingenuity in our future generations – to develop and nurture digital literacy and skills to empower them to find new ways of creating value for our society”.

The Digitalization Academy would be implemented via a partnership arrangement between Shell Trinidad and Tobago Limited and NIHERST as part of the wider Shell STREAM programme. (STREAM - Science, Technology, Research, Engineering, Arts, & Math.)

NIHERST Board of Governor, Ms. Sharon Baboolal emphasized that “today represents a significant milestone as we unveil the Shell Digitalization Academy; a programme designed to empower our young citizens as the generation that will champion future technologies.”

Shell STREAM Programme Consultant, Mr. Rondell Frank advised all in attendance that, “This academy is mirrored after Shell’s digitalization business model with a narrow scope that will not only spark their innate curiosity in digital technologies, but influence continuous learning well after the initial point of contact”.

**END//**