



## **Elegant Hotels creating more opportunities in tourism industry**

Loop News Created : 25 February 2018 [Barbados News](#)



Students of the Barbados Community College's Hospitality Institute taking time to enjoy a friendly game of pool on the last day of their internship programme at Elegant Hotels while Tutor Lynette Francis-Thornhill (right) and Elegant's Cindy Miller (left) look on.

There continues to be great interest in the hotel industry.

More local students got the opportunity to explore their career options in the tourism industry, thanks to the Elegant Hotels Group and its Internship Programme.

The students of the Barbados Community College's (BCC) Hospitality Institute recently completed their mandatory internships across the Elegant properties including Colony Club, Turtle Beach, Crystal Cove, Tamarind, The House, Waves Hotel and Spa and Crystal Cove. Human Resources Director, Ian Gooding-Edghill, explained that each year the Group hosts a number of students from secondary and tertiary institutions: "The programme is part of our continued efforts to introduce as many young Barbadians as possible to the tourism industry. It is geared towards introducing the students to the world of work and the various careers available for them to choose from within the industry, particularly in the hotel and restaurant sectors. "They get the opportunity to work in a number of our departments including Human Resources, House Keeping, Security and Food and Beverage/Kitchen, so that they then have a better idea of the careers they want to pursue after completing their studies."

Tutor at BCC, Lynette Francis-Thornhill, explained that this aspect of the course is extremely important for the students. She said, "The internship programme is very necessary for their development. It helps us with the grooming of the future employees of the industry and we thank Elegant for working with us in this area. Many of our students have found employment within the Elegant Group and at other properties as a result of this training."

One of the students, Ashley Fenty, who was posted at Turtle Beach, explained that the internship was eye opening for her: "It was not what I expected. It was educational but it was also fun. The staff members were extremely helpful and made sure that we were a part of the team and got hands on experience."

Christal Haynes said her experience at Crystal Cove helped her with determining the area she wants to start her career in: "The internship was a lot of hard work but I really enjoyed it. I definitely enjoyed interacting with the guests and want to start in the Front-Office when I complete my studies."