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PACIFIC REPRESENTATION ON INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL LIBRARY GROUPS

The development of libraries in our Region is associated with many factors, one of which is the outcomes as a result of Pacific representation on international and regional library committees and networks.

Immediately coming to mind is the IFLA Regional Section for Asia and Oceania (RSAO) whose primary focus is on the development of libraries in our Region and unless we are represented on such Committees we stand to lose out.

The main objectives of the Section are to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and the library profession within the five sub-regions of Asia and Oceania: West Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The Section works in cooperation with the other Regional Sections and all of IFLA's Sections and Core Activities, especially the Action for Development through Libraries Programme.

The RSAO has had Pacific representation in the persons of Donita Simmons, Elizabeth Reade Fong, Elizabeth Cass with Dr. Esther Williams, Sin Joan Yee, Jayshree Mamtora and Lusiana Ravuvu being members of other IFLA sections/committees. All are long-standing members of the Fiji Library Association.

During these periods of representation the benefits to our region were notable. These included

library collection development, capacity building through training workshops and attachments for Pacific librarians and paraprofessionals.

Two examples of the benefits are an IT Regional workshop that followed the FLA Convention in 1999 which included a session on strengthening library associations in the Region with funding from the ALP through RSAO. The second a Regional Workshop was held for School Library personnel at the USP which took place in 2005. The output of this workshop was a publication compiled by Paula Jones titled Subject Index for Small School Libraries in the Pacific which continues to be sought after today.

The networks formed are an invaluable source of information to opportunities for collaboration and assistance. It is vital that Pacific professionals and paraprofessionals show an interest in being involved in these Committees by offering our services to these organizations. Like any other, it requires commitment and time but given the benefits to our people and the contacts that I continue to value and use today, I, for one will say that it has been and continues to be worth my time. So keep a look out for calls for nominations with the aim of making an impact on Pacific libraries.

*Elizabeth C. Reade Fong
Fong_e@usp.ac.fj*



REGIONAL CONNECTION

ALAFUA CAMPUS LIBRARY RENOVATION

In February 2011, prior to the start of Semester I, the Alafua Library underwent renovations funded from the University's capital expenditure allocation. The renovations resulted in a redesigned counter and a Reference Desk which is now a part of the new counter design.

The computer desks were moved and remodelled to provide space for 10 computers (the library originally housed 5). Computer CPU's are also now housed under the desk to provide more desktop space for students to work.

A Library Catalogue OPAC Machine was made available allowing customers to search for materials held in the library, themselves. The reading areas were rearranged following the removal of an interior partition that provided more open space and a group study area made available at the back of the library. More power

points were installed to allow use of laptops and a wireless router was set up to provide a strong connection for wireless internet.

The library collection was rearranged for improved layout and flow, with shelving moved during the process and library work room space reorganised and the layout of staff desks and work stations improved.

Feedback on the renovations has been very positive with staff and students enjoying the newly provided space and utilising private and group study spaces. More people are using their own laptops, relieving pressure on student PCs. The OPAC machine is in constant use with people searching for resources within the library and several class groups have utilised the library space and DVD viewing facilities to view educational DVDs.



NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA



Ms Schwirtlich

Over the years, many Pacific libraries and library personnel have had the good fortune of working with and/or visiting the National Library of Australia.

Following in the footsteps of former National Librarians, Ms Anne-Marie Schwirtlich was recently appointed the Director-General of the National Library of Australia.

When announcing the appointment of Ms Schwirtlich, The Hon. Simon Crean MP Minister for Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government, Minister for

the Arts said 'The role of the National Library as a leader in the online cultural environment has never been more important,'

'Ms. Schwirtlich has the right credentials to lead this key national institution at an important time in its history as we fully embrace the digital age.'

Ms Schwirtlich comes to the National Library in Canberra after eight years as Chief Executive Officer at the State Library of Victoria.

She began her career in the Australian Public Service in 1978, including posts at the Australian War Memorial and the National Archives of Australia. It was while she was at the Archives in 1998 that she was seconded to the National Library for six months. Ms. Schwirtlich assumed the position in March.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE OF FIJI 2011 EVENTS

The National Library Services of Fiji has planned events planned for 2011 with the aim of encouraging reading and the use of libraries by the general population. These include

- World Book Day Celebration 3 March 2011 – refer Ronald Gatty address.
- National Library Week (NLW), 16 – 23 July 2011 with the theme Creating Your Own Story @ Your Library. The launch will take place at Savusavu Public Library (Vanua Levu) and the closing at the Western Regional Library (Lautoka). Schools will celebrate the National Library Week in their schools.
- Young Writers Award. The competition will be publicized through the schools. Prizes for the winning stories will be presented during the launch of the National Library Week.
- World Literacy Day, 8 September 2011. The objective of the day is to promote reading and literacy to create a well informed Fiji. Fiji citizens will be encouraged to read a book each of their own interest on that day.

FIJI WORLD BOOK DAY- RONALD GATTY CALLS ON CHILDREN TO READ MORE

Dr. Ronald Gatty, local author and renowned grower of spices was chief guest at the Fiji World Book celebrations on 3 March 2011. According to those present his address was inspiring especially for young people.

He said 'that reading was more constructive for children's futures' and 'even more fun is to get into a library. Make it a part of your life' was his advice.

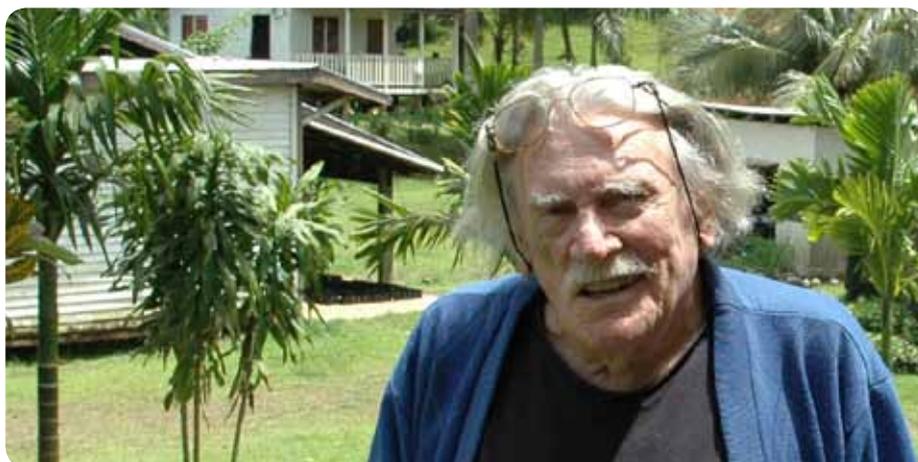
He told those present that reading can make one wealthy.'... you can understand about making investments cautiously and properly' citing his own example.

'This is what I did and I became quite wealthy by doing that. But it takes motivation from the person to make books part of their life' he said.

He talked about the way in which libraries help individuals begin to know themselves. He said 'Reading and getting into the libraries also helps you find out who you are. A child growing up doesn't really know who he is. If you look around the library and find out what books interest you, you are finding out who you are and what your interests are, what you enjoy and what you can build on.'

In his concluding remarks he said 'I think it (visiting the library) very fruitful so I'm encouraging children to get into the library. Our libraries are vacant most of the time. Children are hanging out with each other playing sports but what I am saying is that reading and learning helps make you a better person.'

[Source: Fiji Sun 4 March 2011:4]



PACIFIC SPECIALIST APPOINTED TO UH LIBRARY



Eleanor Kleiber is currently the librarian and archivist at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), which serves a staff of 350 in five Pacific Island locations.

She will join the Hawaiian and Pacific Collections section of the University of Hawaii

Library on April 22, 2011 as the library's newest Pacific-specialist librarian.

At the SPC Library in New Caledonia Eleanor has been responsible for collection management, research support, the library management system, designing the layout of the new library in Suva and Fiji, integrating specialized collections, and developing and implementing archival and records management policies and solutions.

Eleanor received her B.A. in History and a B.A. in Peace and Justice Studies from Wellesley College, and her MLIS and Master's in Archival Studies (MAS) from the University of British Columbia. The SPC Librarian position was advertised internationally.

BETTY-MARIE PINATI. SENIOR LIBRARY ASSISTANT, USP ALAFUA CAMPUS

Betty-Marie Pinati was recently appointed Senior Library Assistant at the USP Samoa Alafua Campus. She replaces Silia Ulugia who migrated to New Zealand.

This is a promotion for Betty who joined the Library at USP Alafua as a Library Assistant in 2008.

Prior to this she worked with the Nelson Memorial Public Library in Apia, Samoa.

Betty strives to offer a friendly library service and is pleased to help all staff and students of USP locate the information they require for their study and research.

SAM TUA KAIMA RIP

Sam Tua Kaima, well know librarian, archivist and historian passed away in Papua New Guinea on 31 December 2010. Sam received his MA in Pacific Islands Studies in 1989, as well as a Master of Library and Information Studies.



At the University of Papua New Guinea he taught archives and records management in the Department of Library and Information Studies. More recently he was a records management consultant.

He was a prominent and engaging presence at the CPIS, and in Papua New Guinea he was a tireless, valued researcher, teacher, and advocate on behalf of keeping comprehensive records and archives.

A comprehensive obituary by Ewan Maidment and Dr. Brij Lal appeared in the 2010/4–2011/1 issue of Panorama, the quarterly newsletter of the Pacific Regional Branch International Council on Archives.



FARMERS-ATUA DISTRICT LIBRARY, SAMOA

The Farmers-Atua District Library was officially opened on 9 October 2010 by the Prime Minister of Samoa, Hon. Tuilaepa Sa'ilele Malielegaoi.

The Library is dedicated to the memory of those who lost their lives in the tsunami that tragically struck Samoa on 29 September 2009.

Staff and customers of Farmers Trading Co. Ltd (NZ) contributed a total of NZ \$265,385. This was matched dollar for dollar by the firm and a total of NZ \$530,770 was raised for the tsunami appeal in Samoa.

In consultation with the Samoan Government, it was decided that the funds should be used for a tangible project that would benefit as many people as possible in the area affected by the tsunami. It was decided that a library would be the most appropriate project.

Ms Galumalemana Nuufou Petaia, CEO of the Ministry of Education, said that the



Library would “open up a whole new world regarding reading materials, movies, CDs, etc. that children have never encountered before at their doorstep, given (the) distance therefore limited access to Apia Nelson Memorial... All this we hope will be a new frontier ... (for) these children and motivate them to read and learn.”

The grounds of the Lepa-Lotafaga College were selected as the site for the Library which is the first district library outside of Apia. It will service 13 primary schools and 2 secondary schools in the Aleipata and Lepa-Lotafaga districts, including all Aleipata primary schools, Lepa/Lotofaga

and Falealili Colleges.

The management is considering opening the Library to the community after school hours and during school holidays.

The project also covered the cost of a bus (Farmers-Atua District Library bus) to help transport children during school hours/library periods to the Library. Computers, accessories and books were also provided. These were handed over to the Library on 25 February 2011. In addition, the Samoan Government provided some funds and resources in kind, including 2 Library staff members and a driver and utility costs. While the library has received further funds and resources from Government, the CEO stated that there is still a lot of space for more resources and would welcome any contributions.

Joan Yee (University Librarian) and Agnes Kotoisuva (USP HR Manager) were taken on a tour of this beautiful new Library by Ruby Va'a (Acting Campus Director-Alafua) when they were in Samoa in October last year.

IFLA ASIA AND OCEANIA SECTION NEWSLETTER

Pacific libraries and librarians are encouraged to read the IFLA Asia and Oceania Section Newsletter Issue 22:2, December 10 is now available at <http://www.ifla.org/files/asia-and-oceania/newsletters/december-2010.pdf>

The newsletter provides interesting and valuable information on library developments and challenges in the Asia Pacific region from which we can learn much.

The editors' welcome articles on Pacific libraries and personnel and comments on issues in the Newsletter should be sent to Keat Fong (keatfong@nlb.gov.sg) or (Petrina_ANG@nlb.gov.sg).

RECOGNITION OF IFLA ASIA AND OCEANIA SECTION MEMBERS

The contributions of Premila Gamage (Sri Lanka), Dr. Daniel Dorner (New Zealand) and Dr. Shawky Salem (Egypt) to the Asia Oceania section of IFLA have been recognized. Premila Gamage was awarded Honorary Fellowship of Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) 2010.

Dr. Daniel Dorner, Chair of IFLA Section for Asia and Oceania (RSCAO) on the award of the LIANZA Fellowship, the highest professional award within the New Zealand library and information profession, for his distinguished service to the library profession, both in New Zealand and in the Asia and Oceania region. A number of USP Library professionals were taught by Dr. Dorner.

Dr Shawky Salem is well known and has been a strong supporter of Pacific libraries through the AO Section and

is an inspiration to the profession in the Middle East and to the many that have worked with him and been taught and mentored by him. He was awarded the Jason Farradane Award (UKEIG – CILIP) in Milan in 2010

UKeiG (UK einformation Group), is a Special Interest Group of CILIP (the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals) – UK, registered for outstanding contribution to the information profession in (i) raising the profile of the information profession within an organization or field of endeavour in a way which has become an exemplar to others (ii) raising the awareness of the value of information in the workplace (iii) demonstrating excellence in education and teaching in information science (iv) a major contribution to the theory and practice of information science or information management.

CONFERENCES WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

RETREAT FOR LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS AT THE USP

USP Library professionals from Alafua, Emalus, Laucala and the Solomon Islands discussed the outline of the Library's strategic plan for 2011-2012 at a retreat held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Sigatoka, Fiji from 26-27 November, 2010.

Also present were the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Administration and Regional Campuses, Dr Esther Williams, former University Librarian and Associate Deans of the Faculties of Arts and Law (Dr. Donald Yeates) and Business and Economics (Dr Kesaia Seniloli) and a member of the USP Federal Association of Students (Netautava Rokotuibau). The retreat was an opportunity to discuss and reflect on issues relating to library developments that would form the structure of the Library's Strategic Plan for

the period 2011-2012 in synchronization with the current University Strategic Plan 2010-2012.

The retreat began with an overview by the University Librarian Sin Joan Yee (yee_s@usp.ac.fj) of current international and regional library developments which set the scene for ensuing discussions that covered benchmarking and standards, services and collections, the impact and challenges of technology; challenges in providing equitable services across all libraries and very importantly the view of the faculties and student union of the Library in its role in supporting teaching and learning.

The professionals returned from the retreat refreshed for the task of completing the Library's Strategic Plan.



Librarians at the Retreat



L-R : Gyaneshwar Narayan, Analyst Programmer, Library ; Tony Dadalo, Librarian Solomon Islands Campus; Ela Qica, Librarian Digitization & Systems



L -R (clockwise): Vilimaina Vakaciwa, Librarian Regional Campuses; Margaret Austrai-Kailo, Librarian Emalus Campus Vanuatu & Kathy Moore, USP IP and Copyright Officer



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CONFERENCES WORKSHOPS & TRAINING

PIALA 2010

The 20th anniversary of the Pacific Islands Association of Libraries, Archives and Museums (PIALA) was held from 15-19 November, 2010 in Chuuk.

The theme of the Conference was 'Libraries, Archives & Museums: Helping to create futures: Building on Culture, Knowledge, and Information through Collaboration and Resource Sharing'.

The opening ceremony featured a keynote speech from Mr. Joachim Peter, the Director of the College of Micronesia, Chuuk Campus, and a welcome from the Governor of Chuuk, who made a surprise announcement of a charter promising recognition and support to the libraries and librarians.

Meeting in Chuuk, Federated States of Micronesia, the Conference brought together upwards of 100 participants from the mainland USA, Hawaii, Guam, the CNMI, all member states of the FSM as well as the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Fiji, Palau and the Philippines.

Spread over four days, with a post-conference workshop on leadership, the conference was neatly divided between resources & access and hands on programs for field librarians.

Resource Sharing

Understanding and finding U.S. government documents was the topic a presentation by Denise Rosenblatt, a Reference Librarian from the University of the South Pacific. Beginning with an overview of how U.S. laws are made, the presentation examined legislation, hearings and investigative reports and touched on topics as diverse as the Guam Base Build-up, recognition of a sovereign government for Native Hawaiians and a survey of Pacific Island countries and Higher Education in the US.



The development of medical libraries throughout the region was highlighted in several presentations by Julio Dizon of the WHO office in Manila. He shared the 'Blue Trunk Library which puts diagnostic and instructional manuals in the hands of far flung medical personnel throughout the Western Pacific.

How to find the best medical information for free was introduced by Sharon Dennis from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine using MedlinePlus. For the US affiliated libraries, articles from the National Library of Medicine are available at no charge, as was described by Arlene Cohen, of the Ayuda Foundation in Guam.

Collaboration

Capturing rare and unique gray literature (not formally published) in small libraries, the Pacific Digital Library pilot project is funded by the Institute for Museums and Library Services and administered by PREL.

The range of materials includes newspapers, high school yearbooks, student reports, and reprints from magazines and journals. In 2009 Pacific Island librarians received three weeks of training in scanning and metadata. They then returned to their respective sites to process the unique materials in their collection in the Greenstone interface. The keyword and title searchable compilation is available at <http://pacificdigitallibrary.org>.

A farther ranging digital collection was introduced by Dore Minotodani of University of Hawaii. In this project, UH is digitizing runs of small Hawaiian newspapers for inclusion in the US Library of Congress' Chronicling America Project. Almost complete, the technical details of its search and retrieval functions were later described in detail by Martha Chantiny, the project coordinator.

Teaching and Learning

Hands on teaching dominated the second section of the conference as three types of cataloguing instruction; Dewey Decimal, copy and medical were presented. Chuukese librarians joined with PREL staff from Honolulu and Paul Drake from Guam, to lead short courses in creating library teaching displays, managing volunteers and leadership.

Community Service

One highlight of the conference let the participants get their hands dirty and put their words into action in community service projects. Visiting librarians started their mornings with Read-A-Louds in local schools and then hit the boxes to clean, dust, unpack and sort books in libraries and resource rooms at the work places of the Chuukese library staff.

It gave those from the larger communities a firsthand sight at the challenges and opportunities facing isolated libraries. In the photo, librarians from Kosrae and Yap lend a hand at Mechtiw Elementary School



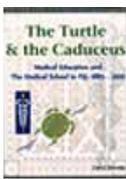
RECENT PUBLICATIONS



BEYOND PARADISE RIGHTS OF PASSAGE

Satendra Nandan. Suva, Fiji : Pacific Writers Forum, USP 2010 ISBN: 9823660220 ; ISBN-13: 978-9823660226 225 p. USD44.99

“Each can be read as a rite of Passage. Satendra Nandan calls them ‘Rights of Passage’. Beyond paradise is a rich and perceptive harvest of memories- personal, political, professional and poetic. It may enrich your reading and inspire you to write your own unique journeys into life...”



THE TURTLE & THE CADUCEUS MEDICAL EDUCATION AND THE MEDICAL SCHOOL IN FIJI 1185-2010

David Brewster. Suva, Fiji : USP, 2010 ISBN: 9789823010397 332 p. USD15.00

“The Turtle and The Caduceus is the history of the regional medical school in Fiji which was founded in 1885. Rather than just an institutional history, it deals with the influence of developments in Western medical education (The Caduceus) upon the traditional Pacific Culture (The Turtle). It also recounts the story of how political and health developments, such as a measles epidemic, colonialism, philanthropy, migration and military coups, have affected the medical school...”



THE IMPACT OF PICTA ON ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO INDUSTRIES IN FORUM ISLAND COUNTRIES

Wadan Lal Narsey. Suva, Fiji : USP, 2010 ISBN: 9789820108554 114 p. USD10.00

“Regional integration has been a “buzz word” for Pacific Island Countries (PIC’s) for more than a decade, with many agreements signed, such as the most recent and comprehensive one, The Pacific Island Countries Trade Agreement (PICTA). It has been expected that PICTA will increase the effective market for all PIC producers so that companies can experience greater competition, with the most efficient being able to expand production and achieve economies of scale, thereby benefiting all consumers.”



SONGS OF THE JAHAJIN

Dr Mohit Prasad. Suva, Fiji : Tatau Oceania Imprints, 2010 ISBN: 9789829121011 84 p. USD15.00

“Dr. Mohit Prasad’s Songs of the Jahajin sings a people in a way that is at once modern in its form and ancient in account of the genesis of a people - Piya Chatterjee’s contention that this itself is an epic cycle.”



PELE'S TSUNAMI

Cathie Koa Dunsford New Zealand : Global Dialogues Press, 2010 ISBN-10: 0958245398 ISBN-13: 978-0958245395 p. 216 USD20.00

“Koana has organised a Talkstory, Mo’olelo Festival [“to let the spirit fly between people”] with indigenous storytellers from around the globe meeting in Hawai’i. The theme of the Festival is the story that celebrates past wisdom but also preview the effects of climate change on island nations of the Pacific. But they are challenged by US climate change deniers living on Maui. Who will survive Pele’s



IN THE EYE OF THE STORM

Jai Ram Reddy and the Politics of Postcolonial Fiji / Brij V Lal. A.C.T. : ANU E Press, 2010. ISBN: 9781921666520 USD50.00

“To read this evocative book is to be thrust into a Fiji that has, for the moment, been snuffed out by military might: a Fiji of political parties, parliamentary politics, elections, manifestoes, campaigns, democratic defense of interests, party maneuvers, and constitutional protection of rights and freedoms.

It is a comprehensive and eloquent re-telling of the story of Fiji politics from independence in 1970 to 1999 through the perspective of Fiji’s greatest living statesman, Jai Ram Reddy, by one of the world’s most distinguished scholars of its history and politics. Jai Ram Reddy was the most significant Indo-Fijian leader of postcolonial Fiji until his departure from the political stage in 1999, just as AD Patel had been the greatest leader of the Indo-Fijian community in colonial Fiji until his death in 1969.

Both men from different historical eras, political

contexts and experience of politics, espoused a vision for Fiji which failed to materialize in their own time, but which now stands vindicated.”

GENDER, RITUAL AND SOCIAL FORMATION IN WEST PAPUA: A CONFIGURATIONAL ANALYSIS COMPARING KAMORO AND ASMAT

by Jan Pouwer.

Honolulu, Hawaii : Hawaii University Press, 2010 paper , ISBN 978-90-6718-325-3, \$44.00

“This study, based on a lifelong involvement with New Guinea, compares the culture of the Kamoro with that of their eastern neighbors, the Asmat, both living on the south coast of West Papua, Indonesia. The comparison, showing substantial differences as well as striking similarities, contributes to a deeper understanding of both cultures.”

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A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY REGIONAL LIBRARIES AND PACIFIC COLLECTION, USP LIBRARY

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MANAGING EDITOR ELIZABETH READE FONG, DUL CUSTOMER SERVICES TELEPHONE (679) 323 2363 EMAIL fong_e@usp.ac.fj
ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR/ WRITER VILMAINA VAKACIWA LIBRARIAN, REGIONAL LIBRARIES TELEPHONE (679) 323 2234 EMAIL vakaciwa_v@usp.ac.fj
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