**Activity** **Report**

Workshop ‘TALANOA PASIFIKA’

***Background***

The USP HRAA is an alumni association formed by graduates of the Leadership, Governance and Human Rights Diploma Program under the Governance department of the school of law and social sciences, USP. Established in 2019, the executives drafted a constitution with consultation from association advisors Dr. Natasha Khan and Anare Tuitoga from department of Governance, School of law and Social Science and other alumni members.

The association believes that students are our future leaders and that our association will be the platform committed to building capacity of regional students through awareness raising, human rights education and training which are essential in this regard to empower these future leaders with the ability to create mechanisms for genuine and meaningful engagement in policy and decision making to allow for inclusivity down to community level when they return to their respective countries.

Partnerships are critical to USP HRAA’s work in building the knowledge skills and networks of likeminded people to empower next generational leaders in promoting good governance, leadership and human rights issues in their various pacific communities.

***Summary***

One of our working partners, PIANGO (Pacific Island Association of Non-Government Organizations) organized a ‘TALANOA PASIFIKA’ workshop in collaboration with the USP Human Rights Alumni Association. The purpose of the workshop was to empower students from different Pacific island countries through discussions of Pacific issues pertaining to climate change, governance, deep sea mining, child protection, leadership, sexual harassment, human

rights, self-determination, nuclear testing and a few others. The workshop provided a common platform for USP HRAA and PIANGO to work collaboratively in supporting the active participation of its young leaders to amplify their voices on regional priorities and shape them to be proactive future pacific leaders.

The workshop was an interactive session whereby students were provided a safe space to talk about issues that they felt were of national concern in their respective countries. The workshop concluded with some of the participants sharing their thoughts on how these issues could be best tackled.

***Activity information***

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| **Activity Title** | ‘TALANOA PASIFIKA’ Workshop for University of the South Pacific Students |
| **Date** | 28th October, 2020 |
| **Total cost** | N/A |
| **Reporting period** | October, 2020 |
| **Participants**  **# Females**  **# Males**  **Total** | Participants were mainly students from the University of the South Pacific representing different Pacific countries and different programs.  Total of 30 participants  16 males  14 females |
| **Objective** | * Create a physical space of engagement for youths to have a dialogue on regional issues. * Ensure a sustainable network of young regional leaders * Invest in the Next Generational Leadership concept on regional thematic issues |
| **Challenge** | The challenge faced was the task of roping in students to participate at such short notice. Having been given 1 day to invite students and ensuring that students represent different pacific countries, and gender balance was no easy task.  This challenge was handled by using main contacts of the different student associations of regional countries that exist at the university to invite their students over to the workshop which was happening the following day.  The outcome was overwhelming whereby students who confirmed their attendance through email turned out in numbers. |
| **Feedback** | Some of the common feedback shared by participants:   * A very enriching and eye opening learning experience, something much different from the classroom context at USP * Half day was too short to unpack issues |

***Recommended follow up actions for USP HRAA:***

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| ***What/Task*** | ***Why*** | ***Who*** | ***Deadline*** |
| Follow up with PIANGO on the next ‘TALANOA PASIFIKA’ workshop. | To assess the impact of the ‘Talanoa’ workshop, how effective it was and what is the way forward. | Asilika | November 2020 |

***Progress report preparation***

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| **Prepared by** | Asilika Masikolikoli |
| **Others involved or consulted** | None |
| **Date of report** | 31/10/ 2020 |

**Signed Position Date**

AM President USP HRAA 30/10/20

