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# EDITORIAL

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## CAPACITY BUILDING THROUGH LIBRARY CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE!

Regional library personnel speak often of the need for capacity building and training. One of the most effective ways for capacity building is through conference attendance. Whilst conference attendance often requires funds, another is the writing of conference papers. Does this requirement make us shy away from conference attendance?

In my experience conference participants are always very interested in the Pacific Region as we do not constitute large contingents at library conferences. We need to be heard and conferences raise our visibility on the international scene and once done, the openings are many and

varied, but we need to take the first step which requires planning and commitment. International conference organisers alert the membership and interested persons at least 12 months in advance. We are aware that the IFLA World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) is held in August each year thus we have adequate notice to plan attendance.

Conferences are great learning and networking opportunities that we need to make the most of, for both personal and professional development.

*Elizabeth Reade Fong*

# DEVELOPMENTS

## PAST SAMOAN PAPERS RELEASED ONLINE

The National Library of New Zealand (NLNZ) has recently added a number of Samoan newspapers on their *Papers Past* website. These include Samoa Times and South Seas Gazette, Oct 1877-Aug 1881; Samoa Times and South Sea Advertiser, 1888-1896; Samoa Weekly Herald Nov 1892-1899. The papers have been digitised from microfilm at the State Library of New South Wales and are available for viewing at [paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast](http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/cgi-bin/paperspast).

## BUK BILONG PIKININI - CREATING CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Buk bilong Pikinini (books for children) is an independent not-for-profit organisation based in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, which aims to establish children's libraries and foster a love of reading and learning. In PNG there are few functioning libraries outside the school system and most children do not have access to books at all.

The purpose of Buk bilong Pikinini is to focus on early childhood learning as a key to literacy. Only half of school-age children go to school and the literacy rate in PNG is well under the 50% officially claimed - in some areas as low as 5%. Buk bilong Pikinini aims to bring the books to the children via the creation of small Buk bilong Pikinini libraries in community based localities such as near settlements, clinics and market places. Buk bilong Pikinini collects books from private individuals and publishing houses and seeks to obtain funding for our libraries through various fundraising efforts as well as through corporate sponsorships.

Buk bilong Pikinini was established in 2007 and has so far set up seventeen children's libraries across PNG with many more to come. Buk bilong Pikinini libraries do not only function as normal libraries - they employ trained teacher-librarians who implement a comprehensive early childhood development and literacy programme as well as an awareness programme targeting important health and societal issues.

You can visit all libraries at <http://www.bukbilongpikinini.org/>

## EUROPEAN MP AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE DELEGATION TO THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY VISITS THE USP LIBRARY

On 17 June, 2015 Mr. Javier Nart, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of the Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly who was in Fiji to attend the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly toured of the USP Library, Laucala.

During the tour, he conveyed to Senior Librarian, Ms. Ela Qica, his strong interest in 'Pacific history and climate change in the Pacific as these were important issues that were discussed at the forums he attended and which needed viable strategies.

Being a former journalist, Mr. Nart showed particular interest in the Library's valuable Pacific Collection and was shown the Fiji Times on tapa which he was delighted to view and which he took time to closely read.

He commended the Library on the richness of the Collection and on how well it was organized and maintained. He was also impressed by its neatness and general cleanliness of the Library as a whole.

Mr. Nart was given a package of brochures on the Library's collections and services.

## UNIVERSITY CELEBRATES WORKS OF AUTHORS



*Acting University Librarian,  
Ms Elizabeth Fong during her address at the  
Vice-Chancellor's Forum on Learning and Teaching.*

The University of the South Pacific (USP) celebrated 233 University authors who published their works from August 2014 to 30 July 2015.

This was part of the Vice-Chancellor's Forum on Learning and Teaching held on 9 September 2015 at the Japan-Pacific Multi-Purpose Theatre in Suva.



# DEVELOPMENTS

The works of the authors were published in 294 individual publications. This represented an increase of 20 per cent over the previous year.

In congratulating the authors, Acting University Librarian, Ms Elizabeth Fong said that the celebration affirmed the importance that the University placed on research, publishing and collection development of its library network.

She further highlighted that the increased availability and access to publications on regional and international issues for use by students, academics, researchers and the general public supported the vision and mission of the Library and the University as a whole.

Ms Fong said that the celebration of authors is an important event in the Library's calendar. She added that this addressed Priority Area 1: Learning and Teaching, Priority Area 2: Student Support and Priority Area 3 Research and Internationalisation of USP's Strategic Plan and Strategic Area 2 - Information Resources: Collection Development of the Library's Strategic Plan.

Ms Fong explained that many of the publications by the authors were uniquely "Pacific" and housed in the library's Pacific Collection and helped raise the research profile of the University. "We appreciate that the publications also contribute to the Library's capacity for worldwide distinction in areas of Pacific Collection, Pacific Island Marine Resources Information System (PIMRIS) collection and Oceania Sport Information Centre (OSIC) collection," she added.

Source: <http://www.usp.ac.fj/news/story.php?id=1912>

## BRIEF ENCOUNTERS: LITERATURE AND BEYOND



by Professor Satendra Handan

Professor Satendra Nandan, a former Professor of Literature at the USP and Professor Emeritus in English and Commonwealth Studies at Canberra University launched his new book, *Brief Encounters: Literature and Beyond*, in Germany on July 27 at an international literary conference. As an internationally acclaimed writer, six of Professor Nandan's books were selected last year by the Free Press for distribution to libraries in the US universities.

## MAUI AND SINA BY HELEN TAU'AU FILISI



New Zealand born Samoan, Helen Tau'au Filisi, launched the first of five plays that she has written, at Māngere Town Centre Library on Friday 31 July.

The play, "Maui & Sina," is based on well-known Maori & Pacific mythological figures that have been brought to life for new generations to enjoy. In this play that spans oral tradition, it follows the origins of Papa, Rangi and their children as they travel to new lands and the challenges they face along the journey.

Helen has been a teacher at Tangaroa College, and then she went on to the Auckland College of Education where she was the specialist Pacific educational facilitator. She has also worked for Auckland University and was a lecturer at AUT University in Manukau where she taught the "Introduction to early childhood education" programme.

Currently she is working at Te Wānanga o Aotearoa as a student support and degree learning advisor.

## THE UNITED NATIONS, IFLA AND THE REGION

In August 2015 after more than three years of negotiations and intense involvement from many stakeholders, including IFLA, the Member States of the United Nations agreed to the final version of the post-2015 Development Agenda, now known as *Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*.

The 2030 Agenda succeeds the Millennium Development Goals and is a framework of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a total of 179 Targets spanning economic, environmental and social development.

By early October 2015, IFLA will develop a booklet about the role of libraries and the 2030 Agenda.

This booklet will (i) Raise the profile of the contribution libraries make across the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs; (ii) Support capacity building of libraries and library associations in their advocacy to include libraries, access to information, ICT and culture in national development plans.

# DEVELOPMENTS

The format of the booklet will include (i) An overview of the 2030 Agenda and each of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals; (ii) Examples, impact and pictures of library programmes and services that contribute to specified targets; (iii) Suggestions for policymakers on what libraries can contribute in meeting the Goals.

Call for examples IFLA is calling for examples to be added to the libraries and the 2030 Agenda booklet to ensure that the booklet represents the scope of the library and information services profession in all regions, library types and at all levels.

Please share your examples with us! The deadline for contributions is 14 September 2015 and a form is available at: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QgLOmdVRrkKyexPhh0--KD3cnzmfT0Z2Ax0JB7ep6\\_s/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QgLOmdVRrkKyexPhh0--KD3cnzmfT0Z2Ax0JB7ep6_s/viewform)

More information about the types of examples we are seeking and the guidelines for submission are on the form. Further links, and a link to the slides presented at the WLIC in Cape Town during session 103 on Libraries and the SDGs are available at: <http://www.ifla.org/node/9830>

## REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

### LAUCALA LIBRARY VISIT BY THE 22<sup>ND</sup> USP CHANCELLOR

The Library at Laucala hosted the 22<sup>nd</sup> USP Chancellor, His Excellency, Womtelo Rev. Baldwin Lonsdale to a tour of the Library and its collections on Thursday 3 September, 2015 accompanied by the Acting University Librarian, Ms Reade Fong and Senior Librarian, Librarian, Customer Services, Ms Qica.

This was the Chancellor's first visit to the Library and he was impressed with the study environment and resources and especially that of the Pacific Collection which supports research/ assignments undertaken by students from the Region who have access to national information. As a graduate of St John's College, Auckland, NZ he agreed to send the Library a copy of his theses on his return to Vanuatu.



### PROFESSOR BRIJ LAL, FORMER USP STAFF, APPOINTED MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF AUSTRALIA



Professor Brij Lal, from ANU's School of Culture, History and Language in the College of Asia and the Pacific, has been appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM). He has been honoured for his lifelong contribution in the field of Pacific History and Culture.

### USP OPEN DAY 2015 - LAUCALA CAMPUS LIBRARY READING FOR LEISURE @ THE LIBRARY

For Open Day 2015 the Technical Services team at the University Library, Laucala Campus wanted to promote the fiction options available at the Library, in particular the recently remodeled Leisure Reading collection formerly known as the Paperback Collection. Located in a designated zone with comfy seating and plenty of natural light on Level B, registered users are welcome to relax with a book or to check it out and take it home.

The USP Library has a broad range of genres available, including contemporary fiction, biography, crime, fantasy, science fiction, humor and romance in both hardback and paperback for loan and

# REGIONAL CONNECTIONS



may also be found in the LC classification section 'P' – Languages and Literature of the General collection on Level B.

To promote the Leisure Reading collection, the Open Day display highlighted the role leisure reading has in nurturing our imaginations, stimulating our minds and enhancing our literacy skills.

Users are welcome to suggest titles for addition to the collection and these may be emailed to [acqlib@usp.sc.fj](mailto:acqlib@usp.sc.fj).

*Suzi Rollings, Librarian, Cataloguing*

## USP ALAFUA OPEN DAY - STUDENTS INSPIRED BY LIBRARY DISPLAYS

Secondary school students, comprising mainly 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> formers from 18 secondary schools around Upolu Island (Samoa) toured the library during the USP Open Day held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2015. This was viewed as an excellent opportunity for students to learn about library support services for University learning.



The Alafua Library showcased displays on *Shaping Your Future* (USP Open Day theme), *Samoan Authors & Writers* and *Samoan Women Leaders*. A quiz based on the three displays was part of the entertainment programme in the afternoon. Apart from the creative appeal of the library displays, students were enlightened by the message portrayed in each display with a number learning about relatives who they never knew were authors, writers or leaders.

A career booth was located outside the library to market USP certificate and diploma courses in library and information studies that received a positive response from students keen to know more about the library profession and courses offered.

The one day celebration is an excellent way of inspiring students and enriching what they heard and read about during the Open Day.

*Vilimaina Vakaciwa, Relieving Librarian, Alafua  
(July-August 2015)*

## SAMOA OPPOSITION SAYS NEWSPAPER OFFERS DIFFERENT VIEW



*Tautua Samoa Party leaders hold up the Tautua Samoa Party newspaper*



# REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

The Samoa opposition says the desire for an alternative news source drove the launch of their first newspaper.

The Tautua Samoa Party's free monthly newspaper 'Tautua Lelei' had an initial run of 2,000 with the first edition now being distributed around the country.

The Opposition Leader, Palusalua Fa'apo II, says having their own newspaper means they will be free to express their views.

*"This newspaper will get the message to the people at the back, because at the meantime we are restricted through the media and also the other newspaper in Samoa."*

It is the first time an Opposition Party in Samoa has started its own paper and Palusalua Fa'apo II says the newspaper will be an integral part of their election campaign for next year.

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/281552/samoa-opposition-says-newspaper-offers-different-view>

## CONFERENCE

### SIXTEENTH CONFERENCE OF THE PACIFIC REGIONAL BRANCH OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON ARCHIVES, 7-10TH SEPTEMBER 2015, NEW ZEALAND

PARBICA's Sixteenth Biennial Conference was in Auckland, New Zealand from 7 to 10 September 2015.

PARBICA 16 provided an opportunity for the archivists and records managers of the Pacific Islands region, Australia and New Zealand to renew professional contacts and share experiences with others who often work in isolation. PARBICA is home to many Pacific Island communities and several institutions with a shared interest in Pacific Island records and archives.

## PEOPLE

### MOCE MADA, USP



*Lara Seven Phillips, Pacific Collection Librarian, USP*

When I first visited Fiji in 2009 on my honeymoon, I had no idea that we'd be coming back to live here just three years later. But six months after that wonderful holiday, budget cuts suddenly ended my job (and the jobs of 25% of the staff at my library), and I spent over two

years looking for work in my home of Seattle, Washington (USA). The recession hit public service workers in our state hard; many librarians had recently been laid off, and budget problems meant

that most public and university libraries had no new job openings. So I started looking for jobs outside of Seattle.

When I told friends I'd applied for a job in Fiji, they would remark that it seemed so far away, to which I replied that if I was going to have to move for a job anyway, I might as well go big! Truthfully, I did not expect to get an interview; surely a job in Fiji would attract many applicants? I had been to Nadi town and Lautoka during my holiday, so I had some idea of what to expect of "the real Fiji" beyond the beach resorts. I mentioned this in my application letter, and I'm guessing this was almost as important as my 18 years of library experience in getting an offer to work at USP library.

Living and working in Suva still took a lot of adjustment, though. I expected a tropical climate, but was surprised that the library's windows had no screens and that there would be a constant battle with moths, mosquitoes and mildew. I quickly learned to wear mozzie repellent every day and to always carry an umbrella with me, even if the sun was shining. I learned that the call number for books on library science starts with "Zed" and not "Zee". I

adjusted my American spellings to Commonwealth ones and started using expressions like “isa” and “set”. There was so much to absorb, but my co-workers were gracious and patient with me, living up to the reputation of Fiji as a friendly and welcoming place.

In the past three years, I worked in both Reader Services and the Pacific Collection. I loved the opportunity to learn more about the Pacific region by helping students with their questions at the info desk or by cataloguing materials from the backlog in PAC (our library jargon for the Pacific Collection). I made it my mission to try to free up shelf space in PAC, as many shelves were at capacity. Materials are added to PAC weekly, but it cannot be weeded to make space, since it is an archival and comprehensive collection. With the help of staff throughout the library, especially those rostered evenings and weekends, we were able to first re-organise the reprints section and discard duplicate items, and then pare down the “Stack PAC” collection of duplicate items to the mandated level of two extra copies of monographs, two copies of USP serials, and one copy of a periodical issue. After more than a year of slow but steady work, we freed up over 30 shelves in PAC and started a shifting project so that the collection has room to grow for the next few years.

Besides being personally satisfying, working in Fiji opened the door to a great professional opportunity last year: presenting at the annual American Library Association Conference. I had never even attended the conference before, but figured there would be interest in a “how to” talk on working internationally. The presentation was well-attended, and I got several follow-up emails from eager librarians asking me not only about working abroad, but specifically about working at USP. Now that my contract is almost finished and my position has been advertised, I can't help but wonder if the next international librarian hired at USP will be someone who either attended that presentation or found the accompanying website.

I did not renew my contract because of family reasons that require my return to the US, but in many ways I wish I was staying. So many impressive projects are happening at USP library, and I am a little sad that I will not be around to see them completed. I have enjoyed the chance to get to know the people and country of Fiji so much better than I did on that short holiday six years ago, and I hope the next foreign librarians hired at USP have the same great experience that I did.

## OBITUARY

### PROFESSOR GARY GORMAN RIP



It is with great sadness that the Asia and Pacific section of IFLA announced the passing of Prof. Gary Gorman on Wednesday 19 August 2015 at the age of 70 at Hutt Hospital in New Zealand.

Professor Gorman or ‘Gary’ to friends and colleagues was known to many professionals in the Asia Pacific region and especially in New Zealand, Australia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Cambodia and the USP Library in Fiji where in 2014 he led the team that reviewed the Library.

Dan Dorner, his great friend and colleague wrote the following message to colleagues and presented the eulogy at Gary’s funeral that showed the life of an interesting man.

‘As those of you who were associated with him know, Gary was deeply involved in IFLA activities, in particular in the Asia and Oceania Section and the ALP programme. He served on the Regional Standing Committee of Asia and Oceania in many capacities including member, secretary, chair, and corresponding member. Gary was instrumental in establishing and running a number of activities and programmes for the Asia and Oceania Section through the ALP programme which enormously helped in heightening the standards of both the LIS profession and professionals in the region.

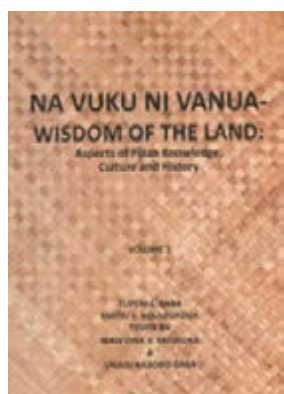
Gary served as Professor of Information Management at Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand and later Professor of Information Science at the University of Malaya, Malaysia. He was the editor-in-chief of Online Information Review (Emerald) and served in editorial teams of a number of international journals. He has authored dozen of books and more than 300 articles. At the time of his demise he was currently working on a third edition of Qualitative Research for the Information Professional (London: Facet).

It is a great loss indeed to all of us who have had contact with him and he will be greatly missed.

We, the Asia and Oceania Section offer our condolences to his family and friends and join with the LIS community around the world in mourning his loss.’

Colleagues are invited to send their condolences to the Asia and Oceania Section’s [facebook](#) page.

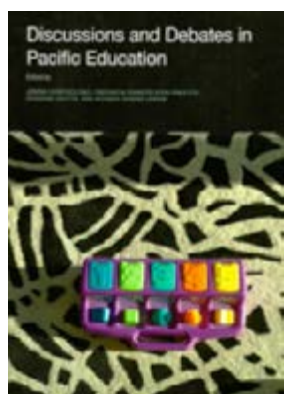
# RECENT PUBLICATIONS



## NA VUKU NI VANUA- WISDOM OF THE LAND

/ Tupeni L. Baba...[et.al]. Fiji : Native Academy Publishers, Institute of Indigenous Studies & Fijian Teachers Association Education House, 2013. ISBN: 9789829113023 330p.USD20.00

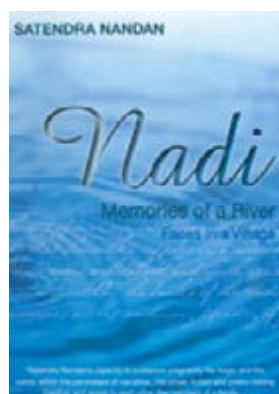
Wisdom of the Land is about the iTaukei culture and traditions, stories, legends, histories, cultural knowledge, and measures we can use to protect our culture, heritage and language.



## DISCUSSIONS AND DEBATES IN PACIFIC EDUCATION

/ Jeremy Dorovolomo...[at.al.]. IL, USA : Coomon Ground Publishing, 2014. ISBN: 9781612295343 184 p. USD40.00

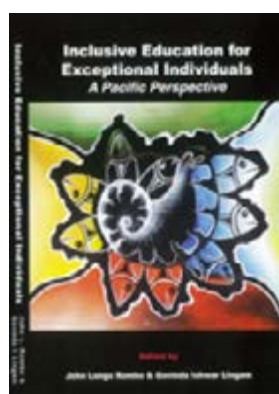
This book is a collection of papers presented on the School of Education Seminar Series of the University of the South Pacific. It is a bricolage of discussions, conversations and debates. Discussions and Debates in Pacific Education is designed to illuminate various educational issues that may often be overlooked in the Pacific Islands, such as art education, the importance of recess, the value of after-school programs for students. Attrition in higher education, and critical need for improved school libraries, to name a few. The book is divided into educational issues in K-12 schools and higher education and its environment. This book will be of interest to a variety of readers, including postgraduate students, teacher educators, and policy makers.



## NADI: FACES IN A VILLAGE: MEMORIES OF A RIVER

/ Satendra Nandan. Fiji : Oceania Printer Limited, 2014. ISBN: 9780992498900 180 p.USD7.50

Nadi: Memories of a River is a unique composition of art of memory in prose and poetry. Satendra Nandan creates a vivid world of lyrical beauty and personal remembrances that shine like ripples in a river on a moonlit night. It's really about growing up in a village in Fiji after the Second World war: a childhood and youth remembered on the island of Viti Levu in the village of Votualevu next to Nadi international airport. On the banks of the Nadi two worlds meet in the river's flow - 'nadi' in Hindi means a river - Satendra weaves an extraordinary tapestry of Fijian life with deeply personal and warmly affectionate recollections of a vanished world of his girit grandparents, family and neighbours across the river in a koro. Faces in a Village was Satendra's first collection of poems printed in Fiji in 1976.



## INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL INDIVIDUALS: A PACIFIC PERSPECTIVE

/ John Longo Rombo & Govinda Ishwar Lingam. Suva, Fiji: USP Press, 2015. ISBN: 9789820109353 266 p.USD10.00

This book is a welcome contribution to the growing body of international literature on inclusive education. Featuring a diverse range of accomplished scholars from the Pacific region, the text illustrates how various communities develop educational practices to create inclusive experiences for children and youth. As such, this text holds a universal appeal for educators interested in creating and sustaining accessible classrooms for all.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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LIBRARIES PA-C-FIKA REPLACES CENTRE LIBRARIES UPDATE AND PIC NEWS.

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER PRODUCED BY REGIONAL LIBRARIES AND PACIFIC

COLLECTION, USP LIBRARY

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