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PACIFIC PRESENCE AT IFLA 2010

That the 76th IFLA General Conference and Council will be held in Australia in 2010, some 22 years since the last one was held in this part of the world (Sydney, 1988) is great news for Pacific libraries and library personnel. What exactly does this mean for Pacific libraries and library personnel? It is a great opportunity for Pacific library personnel to bring to the attention and to share with the international library and information community issues that affect and impact on the development and sustainability of Pacific libraries.

How can we make this happen? It can only happen if we begin planning now so that we present a strong and united voice on our developments to date and the challenges that face us in terms of scholarships for training of paraprofessionals and professionals, freedom of information, copyright, library association sustainability, collection development through appropriate donations, ICT strategies, information literacy for lifelong learning, to name a few. In doing this we must be sure that our presentations are linked to The Pacific Plan that guides Pacific Island developments.

To be heard means hard work. For a united approach a regional brainstorming consultation between library personnel via videoconference could be a starting point. We should to alert our employers now of our interest in attending IFLA 2010 so that our organizations budgets for 2010 will reflect this. Where sponsorship may not be forthcoming early notice will assist with obtaining external assistance.

We must involve ourselves both as presenters, active participants and good listeners at IFLA 2010. This requires us to write and speak publicly about issues and to take the opportunity to propose, where possible, appropriate and realistic solutions that best address these issues in the Pacific context. In order to do this we must keep a lookout for the themes and draft programs of IFLA 2010 as soon as they are released and to identify relevant sessions that we wish to participate in. In line with this are deadlines of various kinds submission and we must comply with these. To work in Pacific time could mean being left out!

Regional organizations such as PIFS, SPC, USP and PRIDE and national library associations such as the Fiji Library Association are in very good positions to seek assistance. However, this can only happen if we communicate with each other. Support for Pacific attendance at IFLA 2010 was given by the Pacific History Association Conference held at the USP from 8-12 December, 2008 as a statement emanating from the libraries, museums and archives session.

Let us all aim to do all that is necessary to bring Pacific library issues to the attention of the world library community at the IFLA General Conference and Council in Brisbane in August 2010. We must ensure that our attendance results in positive outcomes for our libraries and that IFLA 2010 is not just a sojourn for Pacific Island library personnel.

Elizabeth C. Reade Fong



CONFERENCES, TRAINING, WORKSHOPS

PACIFIC HISTORY ASSOCIATION BIENNIAL CONFERENCE, USP, 8-12 DECEMBER 2008. LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES AND MUSEUMS IN OCEANIA, RESOURCE FOR PACIFIC HISTORY, RECOGNITION AND ACCESS

On Thursday 11th December, as part of the Pacific History Association's Biennial Conference held at the University of the South Pacific, librarians, archivists and museum personnel gathered to share information on developments and issues relating to resource access. The session was coordinated by Ewan Maidment and Elizabeth Reade Fong.

Presenters to the session were Libby Cass (PRIDE), Paul Stuehrenberg (Yale Divinity Library), Robert Appel (Contract Archivist Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea), Karina Taylor (Australian National University), Meredith Batten (National Library of Australia) Diane Woods (Turnbull Library), Elizabeth Reade Fong (USP), Eleanor Kleiber (SPC Noumea) Monica Rothlisberger (Divine Word University, PNG) Bishop Terry Brown (Solomon Islands) and Ewan Maidment (PAMBU).

Topics covered related to IFAP (Information for ALL in the Pacific) which reconfirmed the amount of work that Pacific librarians have to do; the valuable information held by churches that needs to be accessible and protected; the preservation of organizational memory; the urgent acquisition of Pacific materials printed in small runs; access via entities such as the Pacific web archive (www.n.gov.au/collection/pacificwebarchive/collections.html); development of digital collections in libraries and archives such as the National Digital Heritage Archive www.natlib.govt.nz/ndha (Turnbull), library developments, issues in archival administration and sustainability.

It was clear from discussions that opportunities provided for the sharing of developments in libraries, museums and archives are useful and valuable.

Also discussed was Pacific participation and attendance at the 2010 IFLA General Conference and Council in Brisbane in 2010. It was recognized that for the Pacific to benefit from this that Pacific librarians must be involved in the conference and issues

raised at the international level for maximum impact. The outcome of the session was the following statement:

The session was unanimous that presentations should be made available to a wider audience and it was agreed that presenters submit papers to the organizers of the session by 31 January 2009 for publishing on the web.

LEADERS FOR PACIFIC LIBRARIES: Building Digital Library Collections with Greenstone – Training for Residents of the U.S.-affiliated Pacific currently working in a library, archive, or museum.

The training funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) and administered by Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL) will be held May 4-22, 2009, on the national campus of the College of Micronesia (COM), in Palikir, Pohnpei State, Federated States of Micronesia (FSM).

One week will be devoted to training on the software, and two additional weeks will be spent building a "Pacific Digital Library (PDL)." The PDL will be an ongoing collaborative project of the participating institutions from throughout the US-affiliated Pacific islands region.

In this hands-on workshop, participants will learn how to build a variety of different kinds of digital library collections using Greenstone digital library software, a comprehensive, open-source system for constructing, presenting, and maintaining information collections. Collections will be built from HTML documents; Word, PDF and PostScript documents; images in various formats; MP3 and MIDI audio; MARC records; and more. For each collection, various different full-text search indexes and metadata-based browsers will be created. Support for the Dublin Core, OAI, and METS standards will also be discussed. The training will be led by Dr Ian H. Witten, Professor of Computer Science at the University of Waikato in New Zealand where he directs the New Zealand Digital Library research project. The deadline for

applications is February 13, 2009. For details of eligibility criteria and the application package contact:

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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES – SCHAFFER GRANT

The Foreign, Comparative and International Law Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (FCIL) is now accepting applications for the 2009 FCIL Schaffer Grant.

The FCIL Schaffer Grant for the July 25-28, 2009 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC provides a waiver of the AALL Annual Meeting full registration fee and a grant of a minimum \$2,000 to assist with accommodations and travel costs.

Applicants must be law librarians, or other professionals working in the legal information field, currently employed in countries other than the United States with significant responsibility for the organization, preservation, or provision of legal information. The application deadline is March 1, 2009. The Grant Committee will not consider late or incomplete applications.

Law librarians working in the Pacific are encouraged to apply.

Details regarding the FCIL Schaffer Grant, as well as the application form, can be found at <http://aallnet.org/sis/fcilsis/grantsnewsite.html>

For further information and responses to questions about the 2009 FCIL Schaffer Grant contact: Rob Britt, 2009 FCIL Schaffer Grant Committee Member rrbritt@u.washington.edu

DEVELOPMENTS

MOTHER HELPING CHILDREN TO READ

Mrs. Talica Koroi, housewife, mother and teacher shares quality time helping classes 1 & 2 teachers and children of Suva Primary School with their weekly reading sessions. Talica holds a BA in English Language and History from USP and a BED in ESL and Psychology from Deakin University, Australia.

Talica is a great reader and lover of books and has developed the same interest and love for reading in her children from an early age. The reading program for class 1 at Suva Primary School started in the second term of 2007 with around 42 children under the charge of the class teacher, Mrs Kumar and a helper. With a class that big, Talica was concerned about the amount of attention that could effectively be given to each student.

“I offered my help initially to see that Teuila my daughter learns to read. With a class that big I was a bit concerned that being the youngest in class she might be left behind as she was 5 years old when she started school”



Talica’s involvement in class reading program began in Samoa where her family lived for 5 years whilst her children attended Vaiala Beach School before returning to Fiji in early 2007.

“I started when my two older children who are now in classes 4 and 5 respectively started school. I noticed that my presence in the class motivated the children, including my own, to take greater interest in their work and the tasks that they were given to do.” It is encouraging to see that schools in the Pacific are enabling qualified parents to participate in curriculum support based learning and teaching on a voluntary basis.

F\$25,000 AUSTRALIAN GRANT TO FIJI SCHOOLS

Four schools in Fiji will benefit from an ongoing commitment towards education by Australian funding grant totaling a little over F\$25,000. One school each from Vatukoula, Ba, Lautoka and Tailevu respectively are set to benefit from the funding.

A statement from the Australian High Commission in Suva said that the Direct Aid Programme aims to reduce poverty and achieve sustainable development by addressing humanitarian issues and that the funding will provide assistance for small scale development projects with a particular focus on addressing the developmental needs of disadvantaged groups.

“In Vatukoula, a grant of \$8,700 to the Vatukoula Convent School will be used to purchase much needed school books as many of the students are children of miners who are unemployed following the closure of the Vatukoula gold mine in December 2006.” The Qerelevu Hindu School in Ba will also use its grant of \$6,700 to purchase library books. Children from the school have to travel almost 25 kilometres to the nearest public library.

REGIONAL CONNECTION

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC: 1968-2008

The University of the South Pacific celebrated 40 years of tertiary education in the Pacific with year long activities that included displays, public lectures, publications, art, dance and theatre offerings which culminated in a dinner to acknowledge staff who had served the University for 20 years or more. Staff received a medal specially designed for the occasion. The second longest serving staff member at the University is library staff member Tomu Eneriko, Supervisor of Library Cleaners who joined the University Library in April 1969 (39 years and 7 months).



Judith Titoko, Lusiana Ravuvu, Vilimaina Vakaciwa, Korovou Pareti, Maciu Bulai and Livai Soli.

Dr. Esther Williams, Deputy Vice-Chancellor has also served the University for over 30 years with many of these as University Librarian.,

The Laucala Campus Library celebrated the ruby anniversary during the University’s Open Day on 17th October with a

Other library staff recognized for their long service were Sin Joan Yee, Elizabeth C. Reade Fong, Taufu Domona, Isei Kacilala, Basant Swann, Sabita Gandhi,

display of photographs and publications of the University in the foyer of the Main Library.



Regional campus libraries participated in the University Open Day with exciting and vibrant displays with over 10,000 visitors enjoying what was on offer.

REGIONAL CONNECTION



*Alafua Campus Library Display
USP Open Day 2008*

ONLINE ACCESS TO THE TONGA CAMPUS LIBRARY COLLECTION

The USP Tonga Campus is the first of the USP's smaller campuses to have its collection accessible via an online catalogue. With the implementation of Athena the retrospective conversion process began. However, for a number of reasons the process has been slow.

One of the priorities of the Libraries strategic plan 2006-2010 was to accelerate online access to the campus library collections. A submission was made to the ROC/Taiwan

for funding that enabled professional staff to visit campuses to work on retrospective conversion.

Elizabeth Fong worked with Library Officer, Losaline Taufu'i from the 29th October-17th November 2008 using the Z Search facility to locate records for downloading. The retrospective conversion also provided an opportunity to weed the Tonga collection that was long overdue. The collection is accessible at:

Visits to five other campus libraries in the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Niue and Tuvalu will be completed by February 2009.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Fiji Law Reports: Volume I & II

Code: ISBN-9789823520506
Price: \$100.00
Author: Justice Thomas V. Hickie, Puisne judge Marie Chan, Legal Practitioner
Country: Fiji
Date Published: 2008
Publisher: Institute of Justice and Applied Legal Studies, USP
Pages: 501
Hardback: Yes
Index: Yes



On a hill overlooking the ocean at a University of the South Pacific campus in Suva, Fiji, three roofs bend and curve into each other over an open space. Within this 'haven of idealists', this 'human reserve', as Ratu Joni Madraiwiwi describes it in his introduction to this book, dancers and musicians as well as artists of the Red Wave Collective explore the interface of traditional and contemporary forms of creativity. Red Wave author Katherine Higgins spent time working and talking with artists from Red Wave Collective, and with its inspirational founder and muse, Epli Hau' ofa. Woven among the work, thought and stories of thirteen members of the collective whose works illuminate this volume, is a quiet and thoughtful exploration of the role and nature of contemporary art in the Pacific. But mostly, there is the art.

Media & Development; Issues & Challenges in the Pacific Islands

Code: ISBN-9789823010311
Price: \$15.00

Author: Shailendra Singh & Biman Prasad
Country: Fiji Islands
Date Published: 2008
Publisher: Fiji Institute of Applied Studies & Pacific Media Centre
Pages: 326
Paperback: Yes



This Book contains a collection of research articles & essays by scholars, journalists, educators & other experts

working in a range of development areas. The text also looks at the strengths & weaknesses of media coverage & offers recommendations for improvement. The concept of development journalism is explored, with contributions from experienced journalists & researchers in Asia Pacific. The aim is to refresh the media awareness of its key role in development so that journalists & other media professionals can contribute to natural & regional process in tangible and meaningful ways.

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www.uspbookcentre.com

PEOPLE



Suzi Rollings resigned from the USP Library in November 2008 following two terms of work from October 2005-August 2007 and November 2007-November 2008 in readers services and serials respectively. Suzi now works as a Liaison Librarian at Charles Darwin University.

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