



EDITORIAL



the Regional Workshop on Setting up and Managing a Small Library recently held at USP Library. She noted that in Fiji, there is almost no funding for libraries under the Ministry of Education which is exactly the same in other Pacific nations. Solomon Islands is no exception.

profession in the Pacific Island countries. We acknowledge the USP Book Centre for its continued sponsorship of 500 copies of the newsletter that is distributed free of charge to individuals, libraries and institutions in the Pacific and broad.

Regional governments do not perceive that libraries are essential components of the education system, and therefore they do not give enough financial support towards the development of libraries as a whole. This trend must change; governments must ensure that libraries are incorporated into their national education strategic plans. National and regional cooperation among stakeholders to provide funding for library scholarships, workshops etc. is most needed. The recent regional school workshop held at USP Library and funded by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions under its Advancement of Librarianship Programme (IFLA/ALP) has set the pace and highlight the need for a collaborative effort between libraries, associations and governments to build and raise the profile of the library

The USP Book Centre, a commercial arm of the University, is an integral part of the University in its role in the acquisition of book and non-book materials in support of the University's curriculum and its network of libraries.

Take a time to read what "Libraries and Information" people have to say.

Libraries are important in the development of a country and its education system. However many governments in the Pacific have yet to realize the importance of having good libraries in schools. There is a lack of recognition in practice by regional governments in terms of providing appropriate funding to better resource and equip school libraries.

USP Acting Vice Chancellor Dr Esther Williams pointed this out and used Fiji as an example in her opening remarks of

Correction

Libraries Pa-C-fika, Vol. 1, no. 1 (March) 2005 leaf 5 read, "Joan Yee is the Vice Chancellor's nominee to the PSC Board". This was incorrect. It should have read, "Joan Yee is a personal member of the PSC Board. In accordance with the USP's Policy any allowances/honorariums earned are paid to the USP."

Contents • Conte

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Editorial | 6. Cont'd - Regional Connections |
| 2. Developments | Reflections |
| 3. Regional Connections | 7. People |
| 4-5 SPECIAL FEATURE:
Pacific Regional Workshop for
Setting Up and Managing a School
Library : 9-13 May 2005, at USPL | 8. Associations
Views • Opinions • Talks
Publications @ USP Book Centre |



Parliament Library Fiji Cataloguing on Athena



Standing (L-R): Rasieli Bau and Fane Buadromo, Library officers, Parliament of Fiji Library making final checks with Geoff Cleave, Systems Manager at USP Library before cataloguing live on Athena.

The Parliament of Fiji Library has started using the Athena library software package for cataloguing the library's collection. Athena, a library automation product has powerful searching capabilities which allow patrons to perform highly advanced, precise searches. The Parliamentary library successfully loaded the Athena software late last year in 2004. Ms Bau the Library's officer-in-charge said that their library has certainly made the right choice in purchasing Athena because it will increase their cataloguing productivity and enable patrons to get the most from the library.

ISBN: from 10 to 13 Digits

The new 13-digit ISBN has been approved and plans are underway to transit to the new format industry-wide on January 1,

2007. Until January 1, 2006 authors have the choice to use a 10 or 13- digit ISBN. The 13 digit ISBN "will consist of a 3- digit prefix that identifies the book Industry (currently 978) followed by the core 9-digit number and the recalculated check digit that validates the internal integrity of whole number."

USP Library Cataloguer Lusiana Ravuvu who is responsible for the ISBN Agency located at the USP Library, explained that the reason for the inception of the 13- digit number structure is in response to the increase in publishing worldwide. For more information click on: http://www.usp.ac.fj/library/services/other_services.htm#ISBNAgency

Virtual Water Learning Centre at USP Lower Campus / by Chris Nelson, PIMRIS Coordinator



Vice Chancellor, Professor Anthony Tarr performed one of his first official duties at the Lower Campus on 19th May 2005 with the signing of a Memorandum of

Understanding between the United Nations University and USP on the International Network on Water, Environment and Health. As part of this agreement, the Marine Studies Programme will now host a UN Water Virtual Learning Centre.

One of only three in the world so far, the Centre will serve as a focus point for academic, research and community activities pertaining to the protection and development of clean, safe water resources for the region.

Master of ceremonies at the Signing was Dr Kifle Kahsai (Coordinator of Earth and Environmental Sciences) and speakers included Professor Tarr, Dr Colin Mayfield (Assistant Director, UNU-INWEH), Dr James Terry (Head of Geography Dept.), Professor Leon Zann (Head of MSP) and Dr Marc Overmars (SOPAC Water Advisor).

KPMG Audit USP Library Operations

Mr Zhum Man Yee of KPMG conducted an audit of the Library's Operations from Monday 16-20 May, 2005. The aim of the audit was to review the effectiveness of the current system of operations in the library.

ademic • Public • Special • School • Libraries • Information Resource Centres • Academic • Public • Special • School • Libraries • Information Resource Centres •

Vol. 1, no.1 (March) 2005
Libraries Pa-C-fika replaces Centre Libraries Update and PIC News

A quarterly newsletter produced by: Centres section and Pacific Collection, USP Library.

Managing Editor
Vilimaina Vakaciwa
Centres Librarian
Tel: (679) 323 2234
Email: vakaciwa_v@usp.ac.fj

Technical Editor
Elizabeth Reade Fong
DUL Customer Services
Tel: (679) 3232363 Email: fong_e@usp.ac.fj

Contributing Writers & Editors
Vilimaina Vakaciwa

Tony Dadalo
Pacific Collection Librarian
Tel: (679) 323 2285 Email: dadalo_t@usp.ac.fj

Desktop Publisher
Lasarusu Donuvakayanuyanu
Graphics, USP Media Centre
Tel: (679) 323 2031 Email: donuvakayanu@usp.ac.fj

Conceptual Designer & Marketing
Vilimaina Vakaciwa

Photography Assistance
Alice Singh
Digitisation, USP Library

Proudly sponsored by USP Book Centre
<http://www.uspbookcentre.com/>

Libraries Pa-C-fika connects the libraries around the Pacific region keeping them abreast of the latest libraries and ICT development and progress in the region and abroad.

Published in both printed and electronic versions.

Printed by Quality Print

Acting USP Vice Chancellor's Challenge For Regional Governments

In the welcoming address to participants at the weeklong Regional Workshop on Setting Up and Managing a Small School Library recently held at USP Library, the Acting Vice Chancellor drew the attention of participants and academics present to the fact that there was no question about how challenging it is to run a good library.

"This is one area which has not developed as quickly as it should have and is quite often neglected, she said."

Dr Williams further added that, "many governments in the Pacific do not give much thought to the importance of a good library." Taking Fiji as an example, she drew attention to the fact that there is almost no funding for libraries under the Ministry of Education and to add to its woes, the Ministry does not have a professional librarian heading the Library Services Department. She concluded saying that,

"This needs to change and the one way of doing this is to include Libraries in the strategic plans of the different governments."

While some institutions have taken a giant leap, others need to be encouraged to include librarians in decision and policy making.

Smart and successful organizations and institutions today include librarians in their corporate line-up.

The Information & Publications Unit - SOPAC

The South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission, more commonly known by its acronym SOPAC, is an intergovernmental, regional organization promoting sustainable development in the region through three key areas:

- Ocean and Islands
- Community Lifelines
- Community Risk

Supporting these programmes are an information technology unit, a library and publication services unit and a technical and field services unit for specific project work.



Ms Dorene Naidu, formerly of the USP Library, shared her views with 'Libraries Pa-C-fika.'

'I joined SOPAC Library from the USP Library in August with the first few months being a learning experience for me in terms of familiarizing myself with the organizations activities and procedures and processes of the Library.'

The library is the Institution's focal point for information provision. Its role is to acquire information to support projects undertaken by the Secretariat and to disseminate and make accessible, information resulting from work undertaken by the Secretariat. Its clients are Secretariat staff, staff of the geology departments in the member countries, consultants, researchers with related interests and other users of this kind of

information in the Pacific region.'

The Library offers current awareness, interloan and reference services and acquisitions (including gifts).

Dorene said 'I am looking forward to the PIMRIS Steering Committee Meeting, which is held every two years. This will be the first time that I will be attending such a meeting and I am especially keen to establish contact with Steering Committee members and finding out how the other small libraries are running their success stories and their problems. This meeting will also be an opportunity to network and to discuss issues affecting fisheries and marine environment libraries and information resource centers in the region.'

She also said 'Another important event in the Library's calendar is the Annual Session of the SOPAC Secretariat. The Library will be buzzing with activity geared towards providing all the relevant publications and documentation for this very important event which includes a bibliography of publications produced by SOPAC.'

Solomon Islands National Library on the Road to Recovery

The Solomon Islands National Library Service has begun its journey to recovery after it suffered the effects of the 2000-2003 ethnic crises in the Solomon Islands. According to its Acting Director, Eddie Marahare, the National Library which holds the prestigious Solomon Islands Collection of roughly 10,000 printed items was in a sorrowful state after the crisis.

Mr. Marahare reported that during the crisis the entire building was damaged and vandalized by criminals who either destroyed or stole the little office equipment they had, which included, four

Continued on page 6

PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOP FOR SETTING UP AND MANAGING A SCHOOL LIBRARY : 9-13 MAY 2005 : AT USP LIBRARY

SPECIAL FEATURE

by Vilimaina Vakaciwa



A regional workshop recently held at the USP Library set the groundwork for eighteen regional participants to learn and obtain the appropriate skills and knowledge in the setting up and managing of a small school library. The participants included library officers, assistants, trained teachers from Fiji, Nauru, Samoa, Tonga and one librarian from Vanuatu. All are enrolled in one of the Library Training Programmes.

The workshop was funded by the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions, Advancement of Librarianship Programme (IFLA/ALP) and coordinated by Ms Elizabeth Fong (IFLA RSCAO rep.) and taught by Ms Paula Jones and Ms Liviana Tabalala of the Library Training Programme.

THE TRAINER



The keenness and interest of the participants was clearly evident, even in the cataloguing sessions that are admittedly a "dry" area for many, especially trainees, but never-the-less an important one.

The experienced trainers matched library theory and practice resulting in a very exciting week for the participants.

The camera doing its usual snap shots saw students glued and clued to assigned activities ranging from book repair to puppetry and story telling. It was an interesting interactive learning experience for all.

THE TRAINEES



Participants openly expressed their views and experiences of the one week workshop. The overall feedback from them was that it encouraged and empowered them in their paraprofessional development. The training had instilled in them greater confidence to manage and direct the development of their respective libraries. Six participants were selected to respond to the five areas addressed by Libraries Pa-C-fika. These areas include: Aspects of the training that participants find interesting; What learning outcome they had achieved; What changes participants will introduce in their respective libraries; how the learned skills and knowledge be applied to improve quality library service and; their career prospects in the next five years.

Among the participants is a young USP graduate teacher from Solomon Islands, one of two male participants in the workshop. He was happy to share his thoughts as were the others approached by Libraries Pa-C-fika.



Avis Mamau, USP Graduate - Teacher & Library Officer at Pirupiru Community High School, Ulawa Island, Makira Province.

Avis commented that the content was interesting and relevant to the operations of a school library. He added that the presenters are very good; they employed different methods to deliver content and activities which made the whole learning interesting and fulfilling. And above all the workshop addressed the library as a major component in the education system and learning curriculum at schools across the region.

Planning the library set up, cataloguing, processing, making signs and displays are essential library activities which he learned. These are activities which he would need to apply appropriately in the local library setting.

He felt that one way to apply the knowledge he gained from the workshop is through advocacy by being proactive and creating dialogue with the school administration and teaching staff so that they understand the importance of establishing an effective library service for the school. Avis concluded, "If God permits, I would like to see myself working as a teacher librarian with the right qualification - it is a choice I have to make."



Winnie Tsitsi has the USP Certificate in Basic Library Skills & Information Studies and is the Library Officer at Aiwo Primary School.

Winnie found the content of the workshop interesting and very enlightening. Automation, circulation and cataloguing are areas which she found particularly useful.

She believes that it is important to put into place clear procedures in cataloguing and circulation to help library users easily find the books they need. Winnie further commented that having good books in the library would not mean anything if there is no proper system of organizing and classifying library resources. These are two essential library operations that she would like doing in her school library.

Winnie is adamant about reviewing the cataloguing procedures and weeding, streamlining and reorganizing the physical collection in her Library. In addition she plans to dialogue with corporate bodies for financial assistance to build the Library collection.

The workshop has encouraged her to pursue a professional library studies degree to become a trained teacher librarian in the same school. Winnie believes that one has to work hard to earn the right library skill to create the right environment that will enrich the capacity for children's learning in school.



To be or not to be a trained librarian is the choice of every individual

The worst and poorest education is learning without a library

Continued from page 3

newly acquired computers and a photocopier.

A year after the Honiara City's only public run library which is situated in the same area, was renovated in 2003 with funding from AusAid, the government stepped in to fund a full facelift of the National Library. According to the Acting Director, a donation of books was also received from the National Library of Australia. The facelift has seen the return to normal library services for the public and students.

At the moment, Mr. Marahare pointed out that the National Library has seating space for only thirty users which is a problem given the large number of users wishing to use the Library on a daily basis. However, he assures the public and library users that there are plans for the construction of a new two-story national library building that will cost around SI\$4 million that will include Internet access.

Vanuatu National Library

A talk by Ms Anne Naupa on "The role of our National Library in a changing environment" to celebrate International Museum Day was given in the newly established Vanuatu National Library on Wednesday 18 May 2005 which is housed in the National Museum and Cultural Centre. Her presentation covered a number of important issues including:

- A brief history of the national library;
- Its role as a preserver and conservator of information and knowledge with the mission of establishing, maintaining and developing a truly national heritage collection in all three official languages (English, French & Bislama);
- Its role as a repository of information and reference;



- Its role of establishing a digitized national network; and
- Its role as a study and research center and educational tool for assisting users to access and use reference and other resources for their education benefit.

Ms Naupa reported that the talk drew a lot of interest from people from all walks of life and that there was lively discussion after the presentation on the status and future of libraries generally.

Following Ms Naupa's talk, the General Manager of Telecom Vanuatu Limited offered free Internet services to the library during opening hours. Wonderful indeed!

Empowering Information Professionals: A Training Program on Information and Communication Technology

The Japanese Fund in Trust (JFIT) Experts Workshop on The Evaluation and Development of ICTLIP (Information Communication Technologies for Library Information Professionals) was held in Hochiminh City Vietnam from 12-14 April, 2005.

Elizabeth Fong, Acting University Librarian attended the workshop, that was funded by UNESCO, to discuss the outcomes of the evaluation and future development of a training package in ICT for Library and Information professionals that had been trialed in Indonesia, Sri Lanka and

Vietnam. The meeting was hosted by the National Center for Scientific and Technological Information (NACESTI) of Vietnam and included information experts from Australia, Canada, India, Thailand, United Kingdom, the USP for the Pacific region, Vietnam and UNESCO.

The discussions resulted in nine recommendations relating to the acceptance of the Evaluation Report, language translations of the ICTLIP modules, target group, awareness and promotion, sustainability of the programme and copyright. The final recommendation sought a change of title from ICTLIP to 'Empowering Information Professionals: A Training Program on Information and Communication Technology'.

The recommendations are being actioned by UNESCO and it is hoped that the revised

package will be available in early 2006.

UNESCO Flagged Freedom of Expression in Cyberspace

Ms Joan Yee, USP Deputy Librarian (Technical Services) was part of a team of 5 information specialists from Pacific Island countries who attended the Freedom of Expression in Cyberspace Internship : Developing Knowledge Societies in the Pacific in New Zealand from 15-21 May.

The Project was co-sponsored by UNESCO's Regional Office in New Delhi (with the Pacific UNESCO Office in Samoa) and the New Zealand National Commission for UNESCO.

Appointment



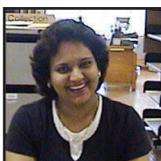
Cherie Fonmoa-Kean joined USP Library in February as the Deputy Librarians' Secretary. Cherie worked at SSED prior to her current appointment.

Davina Chand, Library Assistant, joined USP Library in April after working in the Food & Nutrition Department library of the Ministry of Health.



Chandra Kali Singh, Library Assistant, joined USP library in January. Previously she was a Library Assistant at FIT Library.

Rajni Singh, Library Assistant joined Library in April. She was at FIT Library before joining USP.



Niranjila Kumar joined USP Library in January as Part-time Junior Library Assistant at the Reader Services section.

Mr Yadav Narayan joined the USP Library as Analyst Programmer for a fixed term of one year from June 13, 2005. Yadav is a USP graduate and formerly worked at Telecom Fiji.



Achievement



Four junior USP Library staff graduated at the April 22nd graduation ceremony.

Amora Tavis, Library Attendant and Mereoni

Rakikau, Part time Junior Library Assistant graduated with the USP Certificate in Basic Skills in Library/Information Studies (CBLIS) while Chandra Kali Singh and Davina Chand, library assistants graduated with the USP Diploma in Library/Information Studies (DLIS).

Training/ Attachment

Emaline Tupou from the Tonga Ministry of Fisheries was on attachment with the PIMRIS Library from May 23rd to June 3rd 2005.

Leaving

Mahesh Sutaria left in mid-May after serving USP Library as Analyst Programmer since 2001.

Ana Jese left USP Library in mid-May to join the Fiji School of Nursing Library. Prior to her departure Ana had served for 15 years as a clerk typist and later as a Library Assistant.

Subashni Lal left USP PIMRIS library for FIT library after serving as Part-time Junior Library Assistant for 5 years.



Nirmala Gounder was determined to juggle between studies and responsibilities as wife, mother and career. In the end, she got her prize for hard work.

The Fiji Institute of Technology Library Manager was conferred with the Degree in Master of Applied Science (Library and Information Management) from Charles Sturt University, Australia in April 2005, which she undertook by distance mode.

Ms Gounder began her career as a teacher in 1976 in Sangam High School, Labasa and later served as librarian. She joined the Fiji Institute of Technology in 1978 as a library assistant and was transferred to Library Services of Fiji in 1998 from where she pursued the Diploma in Library/Information Studies. On completion of the Diploma in 1991 she joined USP Library as a library assistant and later was promoted to Senior Library Assistant. Whilst at USP she completed her Bachelors degree majoring in Management/Public Administration and Literature/Language.

She moved on to the Fiji School of Medicine

as Deputy Librarian in 1998 where she obtained her Graduate Diploma in Library Science and embarked on the Masters programme. In 2003 Mrs Gounder was appointed as FIT Library Manager from where she went on to complete her Masters in Applied Science (Library and Information Studies) degree in June 2004.

with faith in ourselves and God if we hang on in there long enough and aspire to reach the top we eventually will despite all odds

Ms Gounder has come a long way in her career path first, as a teacher, then a library paraprofessional and now as a trained librarian who is hoping to introduce changes for the betterment of the FIT Library. She believes that, "with faith in ourselves and God if we hang on in there long enough and aspire to reach the top we eventually will despite all odds".

Juggling Struggles Ends Well / by Vilimaina Vakaciwa

Blessed are those who are determined to go through "thick and thin" of life as they shall reap what they duly deserve.

FLA Strategic Targets for New Direction

The Fiji Library Association Council and its Biennial Convention Sub Committee have been discussing the programme and agenda issues for the coming Biennial Convention which is marked for 1st and 2nd July 2005 at the Forum Secretariat.

The Biennial Convention this year will be slightly different from those of the past. This year's convention will focus on formulating strategic directions for FLA. It is hoped that all FLA members will make an effort to attend and actively involve in reviewing the current profile of FLA and finding the best way forward for the library and information profession and its people in Fiji.

SPC Agreed to Host FLA Listserv

President of the Fiji Library Association & USP PRIDE Information Specialist, Elizabeth Cass, thanked the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) for hosting the FLA Listserv established by SPC librarian, Christina Tuitubou.

The initiative was taken by the FLA Council in response to a request tabled at the 2004 AGM to increase and improve communication amongst members.

The President commented, "that this listserv will be the first of many steps taken by the FLA Council to respond to our members needs." She further added, that "the aim of the listserv is to improve networking and communication amongst FLA members. To provide a vehicle for information sharing and discussion on issues relating the Fiji Library Association and issues facing libraries in Fiji generally.

Librarians Break Through the Corporate Wall / by Vilimaina Vakaciwa

It is evident in this day and age of the growing demand for skilled library and information specialists in all segments of our society. The typical stereotyped label of bun, glasses and frills is now an old fashioned cliché hence not befitting today's fast moving ICT era.

Undeniably the functions and roles of library people are swiftly turning from traditional to open and dynamic platforms of operation. The diverse scope of the

library profession can no longer be brushed aside or ignored by Institutions whose survival and growth are dependant on accurate and effective information.

Librarians' involvement in non library fields of a social, economic and political nature clearly reflects the strengths and values of their information knowledge based skills and expertise. These skills are the heart and art of the profession as they contribute to the societal fabric of social, economic and political development.

VIEWS • OPINIONS • TALKS

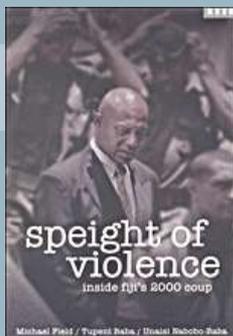
On a light note...Chit Chat @ TREETOPS / by Coffee Drinker

Just as much as one needs to adjust to the winds and waves of social change, so is there the need to accept change in the roles and functions of libraries and its people.

A stranger finds immediate comfort and even a stray dog quickly tamed by the amicable surroundings so often painted by the free expression of talks, the exciting exchange of words and gestures during coffee breaks. Such is the common scene at the USP Treetop. What do they talk about? hmm you may wonder. Name it! Just about anything and everything

in a span of 15 minutes - the usual tea break.

Sitting there like a James Bond spy with my invisible antennas in the air recording the "messages" coming from a table opposite mine. In their different styles of attire, professional their outlook and with a common streak they all share...they can talk! It is amazing the range of subjects discussed within a short period of time. From politics, housing loans, daughters and sons, depression, inflation, religion, food, retirement to bathing and driving the dogs. No wonder they are librarians! They live to tell their stories and of course they know their rights to freely express what they think, know and believe in!



Code: ISBN-0790010178
Price: \$30.00
Author: Michael Field, Tupeni Baba, Unaisi Nabobo-Baba
Country: Fiji
Date Published: 2005

Publisher: Reed Publishing (NZ) Ltd
288 pages; paperback.

kept by Deputy Prime Minister Tupeni Baba during his 56 days in captivity tell of Speight's behaviour, the condition inside parliament, and the beating of Chaudhry; and Red Cross letters between Tupeni and his partner Unaisi Nabobo-Baba reveal the distress and deprivations suffered by the hostages families. Veteran Pacific reporter Michael Field, who covered the coup and the treason trials which followed, reports the barricade, court and media dramas and offers a powerful analysis of what it all meant.

This book offers an insiders view of what happened. Extracts from a secret diary