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# EDITORIAL

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## LIBRARY SPACES!

In an earlier editorial, reference was made to libraries and learning commons as interactive spaces in a library being one of the current development trends in libraries in higher education. For Pacific libraries, the standards provide justification for appropriate financial allocations for libraries, particularly those in academic institutions that are competing for recognition through accreditation. This is not to say that school and public or community libraries should place any less emphasis on compliance.

The ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education (Approved by the ACRL Board of Directors, October 2011) supports 9 principles relating to library standards, one of which is space. 'Libraries are the intellectual commons where users interact with ideas in both physical and virtual environments to expand learning and facilitate the creation of new knowledge'. The standards then provide 8 performance indicators to guide libraries' responses to the principle of space as follows:

- 'The library creates intuitive navigation that supports self-sufficient use of virtual and physical spaces.
- The library provides safe and secure physical and virtual environments conducive to study and research.
- The library has the IT infrastructure to

provide reliable and robust virtual and physical environments needed for study and research.

- The library uses physical and virtual spaces as intellectual commons, providing access to programs, exhibits, lectures, and more.
- The library designs pedagogical spaces to facilitate collaboration and learning, and the creation of new knowledge.
- The library's physical space features connectivity and up-to-date, adequate, well-maintained equipment and furnishings.
- The library provides clean, inviting, and adequate space, conducive to study and research, with suitable environmental conditions and convenient hours for its services, personnel, resources, and collections.
- The library's physical and virtual spaces are informed by consultation with users.' (ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education. <http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/standardslibraries>]

Are we using any standards as we work in our libraries and are we taking these into consideration as we build, design, renovate our library spaces? If not, these will help.

*Elizabeth Reade Fong*



## UNESCO PERSIST PROJECT LAUNCH SURVEY ON PRESERVATION STRATEGIES AND POLICIES OF MEMBER STATES

Preserving digital content for the future is one of the biggest challenges for libraries, archives and museums. The pace of technological changes quickly renders file formats obsolete, or leaves them inaccessible when the software required to read them, or the operating systems and hardware it runs on, becomes outdated. The need for strategies and solutions is increasingly urgent.

A survey was undertaken in September 2016 as part of the UNESCO PERSIST Project which will provide a valuable overview of the current long term preservation strategies and policies in all Member States of UNESCO. The survey was specifically interested in the involvement and role of governments or national policy makers in formulating their national or federal policies and strategies on the preservation

of digital heritage.

The survey results will help identify governmental needs and trends in national preservation policies. It is anticipated that the results will be made available publicly and Pacific Island nations should be interested in the outcomes.

*For further information contact wilbert@helmus-advies.nl.*

## CARLA HAYDEN, FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMAN & LIBRARIAN TO HEAD LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



Carla Hayden makes history to become the first African American woman to head the Library of Congress, the world's largest library with millions of books, recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps and manuscripts in its collections.

Hayden is also the first professionally trained librarian to hold the congressionally-conferred position in nearly five decades. Her predecessors were largely historians.

On Wednesday, 14 September in Washington D.C. Hayden was sworn-in to take the reins of the illustrious Library

of Congress — the 216-year-old repository harbouring the country's most sacred and revered historical works. "As a descendant of people who were denied the right to read, to now have the opportunity to serve and lead the institution that is the national symbol of knowledge, is a historic moment," Hayden told those gathered at the Library of Congress for the swearing-in ceremony.

Hayden grew up in Queens, New York and her love of books began when her mother helped her check out the book, "Bright April" by Marguerite de Angeli—the story of a young African American girl during the grips of the civil rights movement.

After receiving her masters and doctorate from the University of Chicago, Hayden stayed in the city to serve as the deputy commissioner and chief librarian of the Chicago Public Library in 1991.

In 1993, Hayden headed east to become

the director of the Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore. Last year in 2015, it was in Baltimore ablaze and at the epicentre of a riot following the death of a black man, Hayden made the bold call to throw open the library doors whilst many establishments, schools and even churches shut down for days fearing the violence outside. "We knew the people would count on the library being open," Hayden said in an exclusive interview with NBC News. "There were people waiting to get in, to use the computers, to apply for jobs. There were children that couldn't go to school. There were people that needed to find resources that just needed a place to be and there was this oasis right in the middle of all of that unrest."

*Source: <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/carla-hayden-be-sworn-first-african-american-woman-head-library-n615116>  
Image ref: Dave Munch/Baltimore Sun / TNS via Getty Images*

## FAMOUS AUTHOR FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS SPEAKS AT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SUVA (ISS) LITERACY WEEK OPENING



Famous author of children's books, Craig Smith made this comment after speaking to the students of International School Suva during the opening of the school's 'Literacy Week'. "The kids here were a lot of fun which is a reflection of the teachers doing their jobs right and making sure they give the kids a great learning environment."

Smith says ISS reached out to him about their 'Literacy Week'

and asked him to come and read to the students. Having wanted to come to Fiji on a holiday this proved opportune. Smith says the students that were present at the reading really knew how to have fun. His plans included a visit to Vanua Levu.

ISS has included character parades, book swaps, door decorating, scavenger hunts and poetry slams in their week long program.

*Source: <http://fjivillage.com/news/Famous-Author-for-Childrens-Books-speaks-at-ISS-Literacy-Week-opening-592krs/>*

## LILBURN RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, 2017

Pacific Islanders with an academic interest in an aspect of music and New Zealand are encouraged to apply for the Lilburn Fellowship whose aim is to encourage scholarly research leading to publication using the resources of the Archive of New Zealand Music and the wider published and unpublished collections of the Alexander Turnbull Library. The Lilburn Research Fellow would also have access to the general collections of the National Library of New Zealand as well as online resources.

The Fellowship is for one year and will commence in early 2017. The Fellow is expected to be based primarily at the National Library in Wellington for the term of tenure. Office space and facilities will be provided. The successful applicant will receive a grant of up to NZD\$70,000. Closing date is 14 October 2016. For further information go to [http://www.douglaslilburn.org/lilburn\\_research\\_fellowship.html](http://www.douglaslilburn.org/lilburn_research_fellowship.html) or contact Keith McEwing; Keith.McEwing@dia.govt.nz; +64 4 470 4483



## EXTERNAL REVIEW OF THE USP LIBRARY

As part of the University of the South Pacific's mission to ensure quality provision of services the Library was reviewed by a team from 25-29 July 2016 made up of Professor Fred Heath, retired Vice Provost and Director of the University of Texas Libraries; Sue Hutley, Director, Library Services at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT), and USP's own Dr. Donald (Bruce) Yeates, Associate Dean Planning & Quality, Faculty of Arts, Law, and Education.

The TOR of the Review were:

- to review the Library in the context of the strategic plan of the University;
- to consider the past and present performance of the Library in terms of its own stated role, objectives, strategies and outcomes, as well as commenting on the appropriateness of its plans for the future.
- to evaluate the roles, structure and functions of the University library in the context of Faculties, Schools, sections, campuses and other groups within the University that they must work with.
- to assess any established relationships with external organisations and professional groups relevant to its work.
- to evaluate whether the University Library profile and staffing skill base can appropriately meet its goals now and into the future.
- to consider Library Services in the light of national, regional and international trends, best practice in the area(s) concerned and any benchmarking activities in which the Library has participated.
- to consider the adequacy of quality assurance mechanisms in place, including an assessment of the effectiveness of the review process and, in particular, that the Senate approved recommendations of

previous reviews were addressed. Consideration will also be given to any other external audits.

In particular the review panel were to:

- Examine broad areas of operation i.e. lending and document supply; information services; information literacy programs; collection development and management; acquisition and cataloguing; planning and management; facilities; IT services; partnerships and other collaborative activities.
- Review the funding mechanism for the collection budget, its adequacy, and the Library's ability to respond to new areas of teaching and research.
  - Review the adequacy of Library buildings and facilities.
  - Review the library IT system and capabilities
- Review the Library's impact on the University's learning environment especially with respect to students.
  - Review the Library's organisational structure and disposition of staffing resources.
  - Review/consider Library support in regional, remote and offshore areas
  - Evaluate the adequacy library services in the region.
- Review the Library's teaching and community engagement responsibilities.

The week began with a Workshop provided for library staff by Professor Fred Heath and Ms. Sue Hutley, in which staff were encouraged to post their thoughts anonymously on sticky notes on how the library can improve services and outreach in the areas of research and teaching at the university. Many good ideas came up during this brainstorming session including mobile reference services, a chalkboard for students to utilize to make

suggestions and post their thoughts, at-risk student referrals, more digital literacy classes, and investigating the use of more social media sites.

The reviewers met with the Vice Chancellor and President of USP, toured the Laucala campus (upper and lower), and met with faculty deans and heads of schools to get their input on library services. On day three, the reviewers met with all groups of library staff including the University and Deputy University Librarians, librarians, library assistants, and cleaners and clerical staff. An extensive Library Self Review had been completed before the Committee began work on campus and so the reviewers had been briefed, but the time with the library staff and reviewers allowed for more questions with staff to continue to understand the work environment and efforts of the USP library staff.

The reviewers met with postgraduate and undergraduate students, university-wide course coordinators, and Library Advisory Committee members. Time was also given for satellite sessions with the Alafua and Emalus Campus staff in the Region.

Research and teaching were the two areas highly emphasized by the review committee and how the library can continue supporting the strategic research and teaching goals of the university and all its campuses. The reviewers are expected to finalize their report by end September 2016.

The Reviewers' were also able to enjoy the 2016 USP Open Day opening ceremonies and performances before traveling to the Solomon Islands Campus to meet with staff there.

*Jamie Bloss and Elizabeth Reade Fong*



## WORKSHOP ON PACIFIC DIGITAL ARCHIVES

A workshop to promote and encourage high quality research using primary Pacific and ICT resources was held at The USP on Thursday 25 August 2016.

The workshop was initiated by the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (PAMBU) in collaboration with the USP Library and the Department of History (FALE). The Bureau was established in 1968 at the Australian National University. USP became the first major university in the Pacific Islands to join the Bureau in 2015. USP students and staff can now access the Bureau's significant and world class digital archive collections of primary sources to support their studies.

The workshop was very special as it brought together information professionals and cultural institution representatives (librarians, archivists and museum staff), students, and academics (from ANU and USP History Department and OCAC). Topics covered included the PAMBU collections and how USP students and staff can access them, an overview of the Pacific-related courses that USP students are studying and researching and the Pacific resources they are using in the USP Library, discussions on the kinds of archives and subjects that USP students and staff would like the Bureau to focus on digitizing in the future, and the archival resources held by other organisations such as the Fiji National Archives, Fiji Museum, Pacific Theological College, and the Methodist Church. International institutions that hold Pacific Island resources were also promoted including the Australian National University Pacific Research Archives and Library, the National Library of Australia, the National Library of New Zealand and the University of Hawaii collections. A very successful practical session, with students

and staff working alongside each other, was also held.

The workshop has resulted in a sustainable and long-term collaborative relationship between USP Library, Faculty members at The USP and the Bureau. Although these relationships have existed for many years, the Bureau's new digital platform and lower pricing structure for Pacific Island university members has meant that the relationship between The USP and the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau is now formal and the Bureau's collections are now accessible to all USP students wherever they are in the Pacific.

The University Librarian, on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor & President, formally signed the agreement between The USP and PAMBU at the end of the workshop.

*Joan Yee, University Librarian, USP*

## FIJI SCHOOLS CELEBRATE NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

The Library Week theme for this year's celebration from 5-12 September was Unlimited Possibilities at Your Library. The week was coordinated by National Library Services of Fiji of the Ministry of Education with Labasa in the Northern division of Fiji chosen as the main centre for the celebration.

Minister for Education, Heritage and Arts, Dr. Mahendra Reddy in his opening address in Labasa re-emphasised the importance of libraries in education development of people both young and old.



"Libraries, since the birth of education, through ancient times, have continued to enlighten humans and today it holds the pole position as a centre of information, knowledge and discovery," he said.

"Reading will enable the students to gain additional knowledge and to be better equipped to tackle some of the social ills that plague our societies. The theme of this year's NLW portrays the many

opportunities libraries can offer if they are properly utilised. Reddy urges all young and old, to make good use of libraries in their schools and communities to ensure that the Government's vision of developing knowledge based society is achieved.

National Library Week (NLW) was celebrated by schools and libraries in the central, western and northern divisions of Fiji. These included The Hilton Special School students who dressed up as their favourite characters with Ms World Fiji 2015 contestant, Ms. Sukanika Qaqa and her family organising sports, skits, dramas, face painting and other activities for the students as part of the celebrations.

At Levuka, students of Levuka Public School ended the week's celebration with a march along the main street of the old capital to the Levuka Community Centre for the closing ceremony.

Sources: *Fiji Sun Online*, <http://fjijisun.com.fj/tag/library-week/>; *Fiji Govt online portal* <http://www.fiji.gov.fj/Media-Center/Press-Releases/LIBRARY-WEEK-CELEBRATION.aspx>

## CONNECTING WITH PACIFIC COMMUNITIES (IN NZ) BY ENGAGING WITH CHILDREN



To find out how librarians in NZ are connecting with Pacific Islanders by engaging with children visit <http://www.lianza.org.nz/sites/default/files/Library%20Life%20448%20August.pdf> which describes how Fiona Kerr, the Youth Librarian at Waitaki District Libraries in Oamaru with a small population (approx. 20,000) with limited space and staff, is providing collections and programmes for 0-18 year olds as well as parents and teachers.

The Library worked closely with the Tongan community which performed during Tongan language Week in 2014. Five schools and the Friendly Island Play Centre performed shows and activities

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that included story-telling, dancing and singing, reading and writing in the Tongan vernacular.

The district has a number of Pacific communities, including Tongan, Samoan, Fijian and Tuvaluan communities which are growing rapidly

## USP OPEN DAY 2016: LAUCALA CAMPUS LIBRARY

This year USP Open Day was held on the 29th July and the library created 4 large displays for students to view during the library tours.

Reader Services combined with OSIC, Regional Libraries and Digitization to create a display based on the theme “Who Dares Wins”. This display portrayed the upcoming 2016 Olympics in Rio and the Fiji Olympic team using photos, an Olympic torch and brightly painted display partitions. A hanging mobile featuring the Olympic rings, superheroes and gold medals was made to portray the nation’s hope that the team would come back with Fiji’s first Olympic medal. Another part of their display featured the theme “From Collections to Connections – Live, Learn and Lead”. This display portrayed the current trend of libraries moving from print collections to digital, the use of mobile technology and the services available in the USP library such as IRS, social media, electronic resources etc.

Technical Services made a stairway of books to create a display with the theme “Stairway to knowledge”, to illustrate the steps students take to gain their university degree and show the accumulated knowledge they gained using libraries. There was a graduation gown and cap featured at the top of the stairs which portrayed the final attainment at USP- graduation. The second part of their display featured a bookcase made with boxes into the shape of a head which represented the knowledge gained from reading for study, leisure or research all held in our minds to reflect the theme “Knowledge is Power”. Technical services also used backdrops made of cloth that included concepts students encounter while studying and a kaleidoscope of subjects, sports and languages at USP which shape our future and encourages lifelong learning.



PIMRIS had a photo booth with large bright bula frames which was very popular with the students who enjoyed using them to take photos with their friends and our library tour guides. PIMRIS display boards featured information on Blue tangs which is the type of fish that the character Dory from the new animated movie “Finding Dory” was. They also displayed information on famous ocean explorer’s who sailed the Pacific Ocean and discovered the different Pacific Islands and featured posters of marine invertebrate’s of the Pacific and common food fish of Fiji. They also displayed some of books available from the PIMRIS library. Their display reflected the role of the PIMRIS library and the type of information they provided for students and staff.

The Pacific Collection’s display was themed “Celebrating UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Pacific”. Their display featured photographs and information on the twelve heritage sites found in the Pacific Region. These photographs and information were framed with masi patterned material and hung with bright ribbons to create a bright wall of information. Also included in their display was a photo booth framed with the same masi material and it also featured photos and information on Levuka, Fiji’s old colonial capital which is now a heritage site. This photo booth was also popular with students during the library tours. The Pacific Collections role in preserving information about the Pacific is similar to the commitment of UNESCO in preserving these heritage sites and displayed in the glass cabinet was some of the old and rare books kept in the Pacific Collection that were published in the 1700’s and 1800’s.

*By Jade Moore, Library Assistant USP Library*

## MARIANAS VARIETY NEWSPAPER DIGITISED

The Marianas Variety digital collection is a coordinated effort between the Northern

Marianas Humanities Council, Stu Dawrs from UHM Pacific Collection, and Kathleen Luschek and Daniel Ishimitsu from UHM Library’s Desktop Network Services, the 1972-1999 issues of the Marianas Variety are now arranged and available online here: <https://evols.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10524/48717>.

These digital versions of the Marianas Variety were produced via two separate projects. Issues from 1972 through 1986 were scanned from hard-copy newspapers via a project funded by the University of Hawaii-Manoa Library. This work was completed in 2016. Issues from 1987 through 1999 were digitized from microfilm via an earlier project funded by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council. Not all issues or pages of the newspaper were available for digitizing; in cases where issues/pages are known to be missing, this information has been included in the holdings information for individual volumes (i.e. publication years) of the paper. This missing-issue information is currently only available for the years 1987-1999.

All copyright is retained by the Marianas Variety. These digital images have been created and placed online with permission of the publisher. All further reproductions are prohibited without permission of the Marianas Variety.

*Source: <https://evols.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/handle/10524/48717>*

## FIJI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HOST EVENING: 5 JULY 2016: MRS MEREANI VAKASISIKAKALA OF THE UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK

A total of 31 FLA members from school, special, academic libraries were present at the Pasifika Auditorium on Tuesday 5 July, 2016 to hear Mrs Vakasisikakala, Acting Chief Librarian, Dag Hammarskjold Library and former USP Librarian present on the topic : ‘UN Dag Hammarskjold Library..... from collections to connections’.

In essence Mereani highlighted how the UN Library had to re-think the way they had worked over the years to better manage as well as serve the clientele of their collections using the available technology. They looked at this in light

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of decreasing and reduced resources; changes in information seeking habits of users and in UN publishing formats from print to online, the decrease in physical space, increase in partnership and outreach activities, restructuring their human resource base and the need to demonstrate value and impact of their work.

Users are now in the Google age and the use of mobile technologies 'exploded' with time. The use of social media a robust website and widgets, dedicated emails and telephone technology to manage flexible work arrangements were considerations for their work.

The UN in noting these changes moved to online publishing. The ODS was launched in 1993, the UN iLibrary launched 2016 and the UN Digital Library currently being implemented and to be launched end of 2016.

The outreach and partnership activities include users in permanent missions, UN Offices and departments, professional associations and depository libraries, UN System libraries.

They also reorganised their workforce into flexible work teams to accommodate the changes. The library employed a flatter structure, working groups and teams across units established, multi-skilling encouraged and flexible work arrangements /work-life balance.

To demonstrate value and impact, the library had to build its reputation on being timely and accurate. This was made possible through creation of quick impact guides and information packages, setting enquiry/client service standards, ensuring seamless user-friendly online forms, targeted and customised training and culture of evaluation and feedback.

The evening ended with a number of questions from the floor and refreshments served for everyone to enjoy whilst sharing and building professional networks.

## FIJI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION HOST EVENING: 27TH JULY, 2016: PROFESSOR FRED HEATH & MS. SUE HUTLEY

A total of 50 FLA members and friends of libraries and archives were at the Fiji National Archives to hear the presentations of Professor Heath retired Vice Provost and Director of the University of Texas Libraries and Sue Hutley, Director, Library Services at the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) as part of an FLA Host Evening.

Prof. Heath began with a presentation on the University of Texas Library; the collections and special projects undertaken over the years that made information accessible to many user types. He

highlighted how digitization projects were established which enabled communities to have access to information and images which otherwise would not have been possible and how through technologies and the social media, collections became available from communities to the globe.

Ms. Hutley then spoke on the trends and challenges that academic libraries are facing today and this being a global trend, offered ways in which libraries can manage in the midst of reducing finances. The QUT Library services, collections and the changes and new initiatives established were then shared. The libraries of today should be user focussed, where services provided drew the users to the library space. It should also be a space that enhanced creativity and flexibility. She then talked about the importance of planning a career and using technologies to 'create a better online you'. A brief overview and information sharing session was held regarding the Blue Shield Australia and Blue Shield Pasifika.

Those present were then invited to share over refreshments and a time of networking with both Professor Heath and Ms. Hutley.



# CONFERENCES

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY PIALA ANNUAL CONFERENCE: CALL FOR PAPERS

Pacific Island librarians are encouraged to attend the PIALA Conference, hosted by the Yap State Library on the theme: *With the Paddle From our Past, We Navigate Together Into the Future* from November 21-25, 2016. Call for Paper Proposals are open with a deadline for Submission of October 15, 2016. For more information, visit:

<http://piala-pacific.wixsite.com/piala-pacific>

## THE KAREN PEACOCK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP!

Many Pacific Librarians remember Karen Peacock (1948-2010) who was a devoted Librarian who made an immense contribution to libraries. Karen was professor emeritus and retired curator of the Pacific Collection, Hamilton Library, University of Hawai'i at Manoa where her career with the UH Library spanned more than thirty years.

The Karen Peacock award which closed

on 30 September, 2016 includes a plane ticket to attend the 2016 Hawaii Library Association (HLA) conference on November 11-12, 2016 in Hilo, Hawaii with registration fees waived.

Part of the application required the completion of an Application Form and proof of current PIALA membership and a statement no longer than 1 page describing how the applicant would share the knowledge and resources learned at the conference with other PIALA members.

Visit website: <http://piala-pacific.wixsite.com/piala-pacific>

## INTERVIEW: An interview with Mrs Mereani Vakasisikakala, Acting Chief Librarian , UN Library, New York



**LibPac:** Thank you Mereani for your time and willingness to share your ideas and knowledge with members of the Fiji Libraries Association (FLA) through your presentation at the FLA Host Evening on the topic “from Collections to Connections”. Can you please elaborate on this?

**Mereani:** Libraries have to rethink the way they are doing business and serving clients in this digital age. Information seekers are more likely to use google as their main source of information before using library resources. My presentation argues that instead of the status quo of concentrating efforts on collecting material and making them accessible in the physical space, libraries need to refocus and be where our users are, that is, online. Connect with one’s users in multiple ways, through social media, use of FAQs and ASK a Librarian platform, chat, text, etc. to allow users to get in touch with you and get the information they need without having to set foot in your physical space. Set a standard for response time and stick to it. At Dag Hammarskjold Library (DHL) we have set the response time for our core clients to within 20 mins. When they send us a request, they are guaranteed a reply within 20mins, even if it is not the whole answer to their question, they will get a response. Review your acquisitions policy, move from “just-in-case to just-in-time” acquisitions. Explore options for online content, eBooks, e-resources in addition to print and make this easily accessible to your users. Be responsive!

**LibPac:** Do you think the power of Google and emerging digital technologies have weakened the role of libraries as information providers?

**Mereani:** Technology should not be viewed as a competitor but as a facilitator of our work. We need to adapt and use the opportunities presented by google and digital technology in general to enhance our services and outreach to our users. In this Internet era, users are comfortable with their ability to find information online. The convenience offered by the 24/7 google places a lot on Libraries to meet users expectation to get the information when they need it. Having your content discoverable and available out there 24/7 maybe the way to go and a lot of libraries have moved towards this trend. Emerging technologies in the area of linked data provides a great opportunity for libraries to have their data out there linked and shared across platforms and databases.

**LibPac:** What pragmatic measures libraries and information service institutions alike take to embrace today’s rapidly changing global digital age?

**Mereani:** Over the years, we have seen the changing landscape of our users’ information seeking habits and we have tried to accommodate such changes as best we can. I have highlighted above some of the measures libraries are taking to meet their users’ needs. Instantaneous and real-time information is the norm and having the ability to be there when your users want information is the challenge. Creating online resources that is available 24/7 and searchable in google is helpful. Having a presence on social media is also very common now with libraries as an outreach tool to users and as a way that users can connect with their libraries. Working with vendors to negotiate a license agreement that will allow users to access subscription databases from their desktop wherever

they may be logged in from contributes to helping libraries keep their reputation as a trusted source for information.

**LibPac:** Considering social, economic and geo-political indicators and implications in the Pacific region, what are feasible pathways forward for libraries and information service institutions?

**Mereani:** ITU recently released the ICT Facts and Figures 2016 which states that 95% (7 billion) of the world’s population live in an area that is covered by cellular-mobile networks while there is still more than half of the world’s population who have no access to the internet. For the Asia Pacific region, 58.1% of the population have no internet access. I believe the biggest challenge in the South Pacific region is getting the needed support from our governing bodies to make necessary investment in libraries and the digital infrastructure needed that would allow our users to function and seek information effectively in this digital age. Certain communities in our region are better connected than many others and using the already well-established networks in place, libraries may wish to explore ways they can form consortiums and partnerships to allow sharing of costs and expertise.

**LibPac:** Thank you once again Mereani for giving us time from your leave days whilst in Suva to meet and talk with your former colleagues at USP library and members of the Fiji Library Association (FLA). We are indeed grateful and have gained immensely from your presentations to USP Library and FLA. All the best.

*Vilimaina Vakaciwa, Librarian, Regional, USP*



## OBITUARY | Ms. Phoebe Mills

The Methodist Church in Fiji was informed of the death on Thursday, 1 September, 2016 of Phoebe Mills who recently celebrated her 102nd birthday. Records show that she came to Fiji from the Methodist Church in Queensland in 1938 and worked as a teacher until her retirement. She continued to live in Fiji with her sisters Rev. Mary Mills and Miss Betsy Mills, both of whom died while they were in Fiji. Mary Mills worked as a Librarian at the USP Library in its early days and is still fondly remembered by those who worked with her. For many years the three sisters were members of the Butt St. Church where Phoebe was an organist. The Sisters’ contribution to education, libraries and women will be long remembered.

*Source: <https://www.facebook.com/Wesley-City-Mission-Church-1379458362296018/>*

## OBITUARY...continued

### PETER GOSSAGE: MĀORI LEGENDS STORYTELLER

Detail from Peter Gossage's front cover for *How Maui Defied the Goddess of Death*. Peter Gossage, author and illustrator responsible for helping popularise Māori tales in schools and homes died at the age of 69 on 30 July leaving behind a legacy

of more than 20 children's books based on Māori mythology, including *How Maui Slowed the Sun* and *Pania of the Reef*. He had created books since the 1970's and a hardback copy featuring eight of his titles is due to be released this year.

Source: <http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/309988/maori-legends-storyteller-peter-gossage-dies>

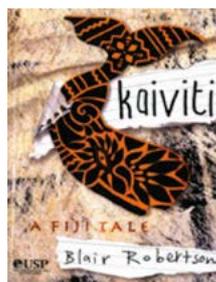


## RECENT PUBLICATIONS



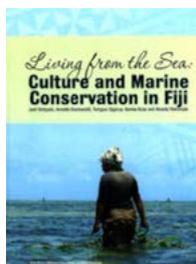
**TE IKA O TUVALU MO TOKELAU = FISHES OF TUVALU AND TOKELAU/**  
Randy Thaman. Suva, Fiji:  
USP Press, 2016 ISBN:  
9789820009523 112 p.  
F\$35.00

“This book is a beautiful compilation of finfish names and associated information on the most important fishes from the neighbouring Polynesian atoll nations of Tuvalu and Tokelau – nations that share many cultural traits, including their boating, navigation and fishing traditions, their languages and knowledge of and dependence on fish, fishing and Pacific Ocean. The book is richly illustrated with some 170 colour photographs of fishes, fishers and the atoll environment. The book is produced in collaboration with co-authors who are master fishermen from Tuvalu and Tokelau and was jointly published and funded by the USP Press and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea.”



**KAIVITI: A FIJIAN TALE / BLAIR ROBERTSON.**  
Suva, Fiji: USP Press, 2015 ISBN:  
9789820109469; 378 p. F\$20.00

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