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FIRE AND SAFETY

When was the last time a fire drill was held at your library? When was the last time fire hoses and fire extinguishers were checked? Does your library even have a fire extinguisher? Does your library have an emergency plan and procedures? Are health and safety issues even on the agenda of your library? Librarians and library personnel are often heard speaking about the value of the collections and services provided by a library. In the same breath, talk is heard of maintenance and preservation but much less about the active protection of the collection and library workers from disasters.

Disaster preparedness workshops have been held but these have been few and far between. Experience shows that there is a resurgence and focus on emergencies in-country after a disaster occurs.

Recently the University held training in fire drills and first aid for its staff that was attended by 5 library staff. The University complies with the Fiji Health and Safety Act (1997) and in compliance with this the Main Library has emergency plans and procedures in place; an OHS news board ; fire wardens on all levels including fire hoses and extinguishers. Despite these the team from the training assigned to assess the Library's preparedness noted areas aspects that needed attention. These included the need for exit notices, alerts by cleaners working in locations, fire extinguishers that had not been checked for some time. Of course with traffic of over 5,000 users per day at the height of semester and its collections worth over F\$10m, this elicited an immediate response from management.

Many Pacific libraries, archives and museums are located in wooden buildings that are fire hazards in themselves. A working fire extinguisher used by a trained staff member could save the history of a nation and the lives of library workers.

I hope that this editorial will encourage those libraries that are conscientious and trying to implement OHS in their libraries to be more vigilant and those who have only been thinking about the issues to do something concrete.

Elizabeth C. Reade Fong



REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

LAUTOKA CAMPUS LIBRARY

The University of the South Pacific Lautoka Campus is located in the heart of Lautoka City.

Library facilities that were recently upgraded include refurbishment of reading tables and counter top display racks and inclusion of a notice board, a new shelf, repainting and new carpet.

The facelift has helped to create an environment more conducive to learning. Positive responses have been received from library users concerning the services provided to them. The Campus hopes to maintain and further develop in these areas.

Lautoka Campus also has two mini libraries in the West at the Rakiraki Centre and Sigatoka Centre. The administration and development of the centers is handled by the Lautoka Campus Management Team.

Sadly, during the floods in March 2012 some books at the Sigatoka Centre got wet and had to be discarded.



Books soaked in water

USP OPEN DAY 2012

Solomon Islands

The Solomon Islands Campus had a very successful Open Day on Friday 24 August 2012 when it showcased its collection to the many secondary school students who were taken on tours of the Library and shown videos of past open days at the Laucala Campus.



Samoa

Open Day for USP Alafua Campus was held on August 10th 2012 and saw many more students visit than in previous years. In the Library, staff welcomed 742 visitors and showed an introductory DVD before inviting people to look around and view the displays and resources available.



...Alafua Library



Staff of SI Campus Library, L-R: John, Roselyn, Tina & Tony. (Absent – Betty)



REGIONAL CONNECTIONS

Songbird Sings

In the evening during the cultural performances Alafua Library's very own Songbird took to the stage and treated the audience to her wonderful voice. Betty Marie Pinati, Senior Library Assistant, began singing in a church worship team at the age of 13. On Open Day she sang with Mr Michael Tamaniyaiyaro, son of one of the lecturing staff, who also invited her to sing backing vocals for his Samoan Song on TV1's Samoa Star Search, Samoa's answer to American Idol! Betty was joined for Open Day by her two sisters Mircalewonder and Luuga Pinati.



Betty pictured in Black and Pink dress

Fiji

Laucala Campus Library Wins Open Day Shield; DHL Acknowledged

The Library was awarded the 2012 Open Day Shield for Best Support section at Laucala.

This year, the Library showcased its collection in select subject areas of the three USP Faculties, namely, the Faculty of Arts, Law & Education (FALE), Faculty of Business & Economics (FBE) and the Faculty of Science & Technology and the Environment (FSTE). Artistic and creative skills and talents in staff were demonstrated in their faculty displays which aimed to convey to the public the vital role of a library's collections and services in University learning and teaching and at the same time encouraging secondary students to consider tertiary education at the USP.

As in the past, support from DHL which is responsible for ensuring the speedy door-to-door delivery of library acquisitions processed by the Regional Libraries section for Campus and Centre libraries, was seen in the jaba (women) and shirts worn by the staff. The Library acknowledges DHL's professionalism in its services and for its support for Open Day for over a decade.

USP Laucala Library staff pose in their jaba and shirts during the USP Open Day celebration held on Friday 10 August, 2012.



PEOPLE



JULIE REYNOLDS

Ms. Julie Reynolds joined the University on 2 July 2012 as the Law Librarian located at the Emalus Campus Library. She has a BA from the University of Rochester, NY; an MA from the University of Texas, is a Juris Doctore, University of Texas School of Law, Austin Texas and has an MLIS, Catholic University of America, Washington DC,. She has experience as a librarian and a lawyer having worked as a research librarian and as a writer/editor. She spent a week at Laucala on her way to Emalus Campus as part of her orientation.



LARA PHILLIPS

Ms. Lara Phillips joined the USP Library as a Librarian on 1 September, 2012. Lara has a BA [Art/History] and an MLIS from Louisiana State University, Baton Ridge. In the last decade she has worked in technical services; adult, reference and audio-visual services. Lara will be a part of the Reader Services Team.

AUSTRALIAN LAW LIBRARIANS ASSOCIATION AWARD TO THE USP LIBRARY

The USP Library was the successful applicant for the Australian Law Librarians Association award of AUD\$1500 that was the outcome of a submission by recently appointed USP Law Librarian, Julie Reynolds based at the Emalus Campus, Port Vila, Vanuatu.

Lisa Sylvester, National President ALLA informed Julie on 18 September of the success of the USP application stating that the award is provided by the ALLA for the 'expansion of the law collection at Laucala, placing emphasis on purchasing reference works and recent treatises in the areas offered by USP. Subject areas needing enhancement include environmental law, health law, equity, and company law.'

The Library acknowledges the gift of the ALLA.

LIBRARY HONOURS USP AUTHORS

The annual cocktail for USP Authors' hosted by the Library at Laucala in recognition of USP academics whose works had been published since the 2011 event, was held on 10 September at the Japan Pacific ICT Centre following the Vice-Chancellor's 2012 Forum.

127 publications of 96 authors were on display and included monographs, chapters from books, journal articles, grey literature, and conference proceedings.

The Chief Guest for the event was Professor Elizabeth Holland who joined the University in February 2012 as the Professor for Climate Change under the EU-Global Climate Change Alliance project.

Professor Holland is a Leopold Fellow and co-recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. She also served on the Third and Fourth Working Groups of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Professor Holland received her MSc and PhD from Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado. Her science focuses on using models and observations to understand how Earth Systems work.

In her address she spoke about her involvement with her students here at the USP and making an impact on the ground in terms of climate change in the countries of the Pacific region.

Professor Holland's address was followed by 5 minute presentations by Professor David Harrison (FBE), Dr. Michael Gregory (FSTE& Planning and Quality office) and Cresantia

Koya-Vaka'uta (FALE) whose published works were on display.

The formal program concluded with Library professional staff introductions and a cocktail that was enjoyed by all.



DIGITAL LIBRARY PROJECT, USP LIBRARY, ALAFUA

The library at the University of the South Pacific in Alafua, Samoa is currently working on a digitization project to make available important documents and research held in the library.

This project came about for several reasons. Firstly, much of the student research into Agricultural subjects for the Pacific region, held in the library, is not available for access anywhere else. To make this information available internationally and to the region will open up important information on topics for Pacific Agriculture that are unique. Information will also be available 24/7 to other USP students studying agriculture throughout the Pacific Islands. Currently the only access to this information is by visiting the library in Alafua personally. Secondly the project will provide a way of preserving valuable data from deterioration and loss.

The types of data to be digitized and held in the Alafua Digital Library are 3rd year students Agricultural research projects, mini research projects completed by the Students International Training (SIT) programme hosted by USP and editions of journals published by USP Alafua such as the Alafua Agricultural Bulletin, JOSPA (Journal of South Pacific Agriculture) and SPAN (South Pacific Agricultural News).

The equipment available to undergo this project was initially very basic. Plans were to use a simple desktop Multi Function Device to scan hard copy data page by page. The library however recently received a new Ricoh photocopier with document feeder and scanning capabilities. This device significantly speeds up the digitisation process as loose leaf pages can be scanned using the document feeder in a matter of seconds. Items for digitization have been removed from their bindings to allow scanning and rebound at completion.

DEVELOPMENTS

Files are created in PDF format at 300dpi and transfer directly from the photocopier to a folder on the desktop of the PC. Files are currently stored on the local PC, backed up to an external hard drive and named with the Author's name and the Project shelf number which is assigned by the library.

So far digitization has been completed for the Agricultural and SIT projects and library staff are about to begin working on older editions of Journals. It is hoped once this initial digitization project has been completed, the library will be able to collect documents in the future in digital format ready to go straight into the library.

The next step will be to build the digital library itself. It is planned to use the Greenstone Digital Library software installed on a server as USP technical staff are familiar with this software and can offer support. The PDF files will be moved to the server and library staff will learn the skills needed to create the library, including assigning metadata. It is also our intention to enter URL links into our library catalogue so the digital documents can be accessed from a catalogue search. Before the digital library goes live library staff will be ensuring copyright clearance and necessary permissions to make this information available have been cleared with the authors.

PASIFIKA KOHA

On 10 September the first full day Pasifika Koha workshop was held at the University of the South Pacific.

The free workshop was offered to library staff currently using or interested in installing Koha. Koha is a free open source library management system, already in use by a number of libraries around the Pacific, including: Solomon Islands Parliamentary library; Solomon Islands College of Higher Education; Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency, Solomon Islands; Institute of Public Administration and Management, Solomon Islands; Nelson Memorial Library, Samoa, Institute of Business Studies, Papua New Guinea; Vanuatu Institute of Technology; University of the South Pacific (L/IS programme) and SPC-SOPAC.

The workshop had forty-three participants in two streams. The first was for Koha users, the second for IT staff. Most people

were from Fiji, but we also had participants from the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu and one speaker: Irma Birchall from Calyx travelled to Fiji from Australia. Skype calls were also made to two international Koha experts.

The IT stream installed two versions of Koha using Debian and Ubuntu, brainstormed a problem with an installation in Tuvalu, and in the afternoon chatted by Skype with Chris Cormack, a significant Koha developer in New Zealand and Edmund Balnaves from ProSentient in Australia.

The Koha users stream heard a series of presentations on different Koha modules: Patrons, Circulation, Cataloguing, OPAC, Serials, Acquisitions etc. In the afternoon participants also listened to Irma Birchall from Calyx on customizing Koha for different libraries, and found out more about the necessary details required when reporting a technical problem.

There is already some interest in running this workshop again in a couple of years – perhaps in Fiji, or elsewhere in the Pacific. We are also developing a new forum for Pacific Koha users, to deal with questions over the day to day functionality of Koha. Please contact pamela.bidwell@usp.ac.fj if you would like to join this forum.

ROC TAIWAN FUNDS FOR USP LIBRARY

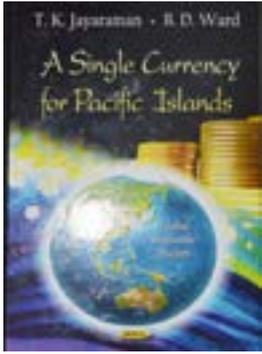
This year Taiwan announced around US\$500,000 worth of assistance through 7 CROP agencies for the year 2012-2013. USP received US\$80,000 covering three projects, two of which are Library based. The two Library projects are (i) Digitization of the Pacific Music Archives for Preservation Purposes (USP Library)-US\$ 30,000; and (ii) Improving Access to Pacific Islands Marine Literature and Strengthening the Capacity of National Fisheries/Marine Sector Libraries and Information Centres (USP Library)- US\$20,000;

The two projects are regional in nature and respond to preservation and access and a capacity building needs.

The Library acknowledges the assistance of The ROC Taiwan.



RECENT PUBLICATIONS



A SINGLE CURRENCY FOR PACIFIC ISLANDS / T.K. Jayaraman. New York : Nova Science Publisher, 2012. ISBN: 9781621004301 175 p. US\$70

“Regional integration has been the goal of Pacific Islands Forum, an intergovernmental organization, ever since its inception in 1971. The Forum comprises the 14 Pacific island countries and the region’s two advanced countries, Australia and New Zealand. The birth of a common currency, the euro in 1999 in Europe inspired the leaders to renew their efforts towards creating a single economic space for the region. A common currency for the region was proposed by the Australian Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. This book examines the feasibility of a common currency from various angles including the well known optimum currency area criteria point of view.”



HARVESTING IDEAS / Kabini Sanga and Joanna Kidman (eds.) Suva, Fiji : USP Press, [2012?] ISBN: 9780475123749 240 p. \$25.00

“An anthology of contemporary thinking and research concerning education in the Pacific region. Contributors come from a diverse range of academic backgrounds and experience and offer insightful analysis and solutions to many of the issues facing educators at all level in the Pacific context.”



HIDDEN TREASURES / Vilsoni Hereniko and Karen Steveson. Suva, Fiji : USP Press, {2012?} ISBN 9789820108912 200 p. US\$30.00

“A lush art book featuring a selection of works held in the Oceania Gallery. Professionally photographed and printed on high quality art paper to provide a true colour and texture representation of the selected works. This

book is a fine edition for anyone interested in Pacific art, either as a reference source or a coffee table book for the casual browser. Elegantly designed and laid out to highlight the artists’ work with background and analysis by leading scholars on the subject.”



NEW FLAGS FLYING : PACIFIC LEADERSHIP / Ian Johnstone and Michael Powles. [S.l : sn, 2012] ISBN: 9781775500131 200 p. \$30.00

“From 1960 to 1990, islands across the Pacific gained independence or selfgovernment. In the years following this, Ian Johnstone and Michael Powles interviewed the Pacific people in key leadership positions in the lead-up to and achievement of independence, many of whom became well-known in the Pacific and more widely. This book presents a nation-by-nation history of this change from being colonial subjects to citizens of Pacific nations from the point of view of the leaders involved. Accompanied by maps, photographs and background information about the Pacific nations, the book explores the leaders’ views on independence and the process of gaining it. The accompanying CD contains excerpts from the interviews.”

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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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