



Humilavekian

The Official Newsletter of the University of Goroka, Volume 1, ISSUE 20-21, Jan/Feb 2010

Early Childhood Launched Successfully for 2010

On Friday 26th February 2010 the Honourable Dame Carol Kidu, Minister for Community Development, officially launched the University of Goroka's new program in Early Childhood Education.

In her speech on the day, Dame Kidu stated that she was "very passionate about early childhood". She commended UOG on their break through course that focuses on the most valuable resource of PNG (small children). Dame Kidu also advised the gathering that the curriculum for the course needed to be flexible with a wholistic approach, as early childhood care and practices were a community concern. She stated she was very excited about the program and thankful that it was giving another career pathway to students. Dame Kidu closed her speech by giving the highest congratulations to UOG and encouraging all *Ita Eboda* (Motu for "all of us can do it together").

Two special guests from the University of New England were also present for the occasion: Professor Margaret Simms and Dr Rhonda



Dame Carol Kidu, Dr Onagi, Professor Simms and Dr Forrest unveiling the signboard for the Early Childhood Education Centre as part of the Faculty of Education.

Forrest. Both visitors were very supportive of and excited by the new program and also gave valuable advice and specialist knowledge to the gathering.

Vice Chancellor of the University of Goroka Dr Gairo Onagi remarked that "a child is the only known substance from which a responsible adult is made" (Thomas Lickona) and UOG has a responsibility to train young people to help shape children

into better adults. Dr Onagi announced that UOG is the first university in PNG offering training for teachers in early childhood education. He also announced that funding has been granted for two lecturers to teach the Early Childhood program at UOG. Dr Onagi also thanked Dame Kidu, Professor Simms and Dr Forrest for their continuing support and advice to UOG and the new program.

Dean of the Faculty of Education Dr Kapa Kelep-Malpo stated that the most crucial time in a child's life is from conception to 8 years old. Dr Kelep-Malpo said she was happy for UOG to join others to promote and cater for this special age group through support from the government and UNE.

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Welcome Message for 2010

Welcome to 2010! It's great to be back for another year. This year will be just as challenging and rewarding as the last. A special welcome to our students, staff members, new and overseas students and new staff members to UOG. It's great to see so many new faces around campus.

This year will see some exciting things happen at the University of Goroka.

Infrastructure plows on ahead this year with the continuation of the new dormitory and music buildings on campus. We look forward to the finished products.

The Biennial Pacific History Conference will be hosted by UOG in September this year, and we look forward to attending such a high profile international event. Preparations are currently underway for the conference.

Other developments for the year include the establishment of the full University Council; the commencement of the Early Childhood program; Guidance and Counselling course, Tourism and Hospitality course, Distance and Flexible Learning course, the Komuniti Tok Piksa project and the graduation of the class of 2009. We also look forward to other new developments as they emerge throughout the year.

Best wishes to all staff and students for a rewarding and successful year of study at UOG.



Early Childhood Launched Successfully for 2010

(continued from front page)

The launching was witnessed by a number of special guests including representatives from NGOs, elementary school teachers and trainers, UOG staff and the first intake of students for the program.

The one year diploma program is a positive step forward for the Education Faculty at UOG, and is testament to the recognition and importance of education at the elementary level. The program commences this year, with hopes of expansion for the future.

The program concluded with the unveiling of the Early Childhood Education Centre signboard for the Faculty by Dame Carol Kidu, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Simms and Dr Forrest.



Dr Forrest, Dr Onagi, Professor Simms, Associate Professor Mel, Dame Carol Kidu, Dr Kelep-Malpo and Dr Tagis at the gathering.

Our congratulations to all involved with the Early Childhood program.

NEWS

The Late Rex Matang ... “a humble academic”

The University of Goroka was deeply saddened this month by having to farewell long-serving staff member Rex Matang. Mr Matang passed away on Monday 18th January 2010, at his home on campus. The news was a terrible shock to his family, friends and fellow colleagues.

Mr Matang was preparing to travel to Australia to submit his PhD thesis for examination.

An academic and specialist in Ethnomathematics, Mr Matang was recognised as an international educator and scholar on the subject. He was very active in his field and helped to found and run single-handedly the Glen Lean Ethnomathematics Centre (GLEC) in 2005, based at the University of Goroka. The GLEC is the only one of its kind in Papua New Guinea and the world.

Mr. Matang's work as a researcher was foundational in relation to bridging the gap between the PNG Heritage and Western Knowledge and Education. In the context of the reform and reactions his research has shown that Papua New Guineans with their viewpoints, do have ways to provide wisdom and knowledge to offer to the world. He was a leading scholar both in PNG and internationally in Ethnomathematics. Researchers, Academics and Papua New Guineans have lost a leading light in this area of knowledge. The space left with his passing will be very hard to fill and we will miss him.



Rex Asaka Sanangkeoc Matang

Tributes for the Late Rex Matang

Tributes from within the country and overseas were received for the late Rex Matang.

All attributed to Mr Matang's wealth of knowledge and dedication to Ethnomathematics.

“His work was recognized by famous professors from Brazil, Africa, the Americas, England and Australia. He was invited to chair numerous international committees on ethnomathematics because of his good research, teaching and his well developed arguments for vernacular education and mathematics that built on the culture of the students. It is very important to maintain the logic and mathematical way of knowing of PNG cultures embedded in their languages”. - Dr Kay Owens, Charles Sturt University, Australia.

“The University has indeed lost one of its senior lecturers and leading scholars in the field of ethnomathematics and I believe he may have been the only Papua New Guinean in this field of study, and it is a big loss not only to the University but to the nation as a whole”. - Hon Michael Ogio CMG, CBE, Minister for Higher Education, Research, Science & Technology.

NEWS

Academic Year Commences for 2010

A total of up to 800 new students from pre-service, in-service, postgraduate and overseas were officially welcomed to the University of Goroka today by the Vice Chancellor and other staff of the university.

As part of the orientation program, held before other universities in the country, students were warmly welcomed to the campus with the launching of a week long program of registration, course selection and other activities. The program commenced with a minute's silence in honour of recently departed staff member the late Rex Matang, followed by an opening prayer in which the year of study was dedicated to the Almighty Lord. The National Anthem, National pledge and the UOG pledge were also part of the program opening.

After formally introducing staff to the new students Vice Chancellor Dr Gairo Onagi stated in his welcome speech that the university stands on a balance of spiritual and academic life.

Students were told that this should be their guide to life at UOG, and that support and the necessary skills to survive would be provided to them by the relevant staff. Dr Onagi also highlighted the fact that UOG is no longer just a teacher's college, but offers other courses for study. Students were also reminded of their obligations whilst attending UOG as they are part of the university community. Dr Onagi also called on students to respect one another and to take responsibility for their actions, as they were representing their families, tribes, clans and provinces whilst at the university. Students were also reminded of the university's Zero Tolerance policy to drugs and alcohol on campus. The purpose of the HIV/AIDS policy of UOG was also introduced to the students. Dr Onagi completed his message by telling the students that he looked forward to a "happy and prosperous year where we can work together".


Staff of the university were then introduced to the students by their respective faculties and departments, along with explanations of their various roles on campus. A short speech was then given by the SRC vice president to welcome all students and staff to UOG for the 2010 academic year.

The program concluded with some comic entertainment which asked the students to focus on their studies and relayed the following message in the local Gahuku language: *Motaka Okane – out of so many you are here! Tru Ave!*




The University of Goroka supports the global fight against the HIV/AIDS virus.

The Mark Solon Auditorium (MSA) University of Goroka




Book Now!

for conferences, seminars, workshops, meetings, plays and many other gatherings.




INTERIOR

View from front



View from back



Total of 456 seats arranged in three rows.

Stage is equipped with: lectern & in-built microphone, Internet connection, stage curtains, screen, permanent laptop, PA System, digital projector & stage lighting.

Other facilities include: kitchen, toilets, telephone, conference room, tutorial rooms, outdoor lounge & electronic studio.

Call Sila on 531 1 780/ 702 for further information & bookings

Research Corner

As requested by a staff member, this is the new Research Corner of *Humilavekian* for 2010.

Staff and Postgraduate Students: please feel free to submit any research articles to: gunnk@uog.ac.pg



The University of Goroka
is proud to host the
19th Biennial Pacific History Conference
12th - 16th September 2010

*'Pacific at the Crossroads: Reflecting the Past, Adjusting the Present
& Directing the Future'*

Themes: History & Learning of Pacific History, Cultural Heritage in the Pacific; Health & Well-being in Pacific Societies, History of Mining & Resource Development in the Pacific, Global Issues & History's Influence for the Future

Registration Fees: PHA Members K100
Non PHA Members K200
Students K50
History Student Groups K10/head

For further information or to submit an abstract (max. 150 words by May 31st 2010) please contact:

Mr Bomai Witne - Executive Officer
Ph: 675 5311 895 Fax: 675 532 2620
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NEWS

Oral Language Preservation Workshop Held at UOG

On Monday 8th February 2010, a 3 day workshop on the preservation of indigenous linguistic heritage via Basic Oral Language Documentation (BOLD) was opened at the University of Goroka.

The workshop is an exciting step forward from the study of the Alekano language offered to students by the Language and Literature department of UOG. The University of Goroka is participating in the workshop as part of the BOLD project.

Visiting academic and facilitator Associate Professor Steven Bird, from the University of Melbourne, was at UOG to conduct the workshop voluntarily to students and staff from the Language and Literature Department of the University. Day one involved demonstration on

the use of a digital voice recorder, 32 of which were donated by Associate Professor Bird to the Language and Literature department through the generosity of Olympus electronics. Participants also had practical lessons on how to use the recorders, and practised on each other the new techniques learnt. The workshop was also attended by representatives of the Alekano Gako' Otitive (Alekano language revitalisation group) and three volunteers from the Summer Institute of Linguistics (SIL).

Vice Chancellor of the University of Goroka Dr Gairo Onagi officially opened the workshop by stating that: "language is very important to us as it is life."

Dr Onagi thanked Associate Professor Bird for his

interest in coming to UOG and welcomed him to the campus and methodology to record and preserve languages. Dr Onagi challenged the workshop participants to learn more about their culture via language technology and innovation. He ended by telling participants that "this is the salvation to dying languages".

Associate Professor Bird stated that language preservation was at a very exciting moment as it has a lot of new technological solutions appropriate to capture languages before they became extinct. He was glad to see the university's support for languages and culture, and was appreciative to help the University of Goroka achieve its vision of language promotion and the study and preservation of Melanesian culture.

The workshop continued until Wednesday 10th February 2010. For more information on the BOLD project and the workshop visit <http://boldpng.info/>

Participants reported that they enjoyed learning the basics of the language recording and documentation process. For many it was an exciting learning experience.

We look forward to more developments in the study and preservation of indigenous Papua New Guinean languages at UOG.



Associate Professor Bird with Dr Onagi, Head of Language and Literature Department Ms Anne-Marie Wanamp and UOG staff and students who participated in the workshop.



Associate Professor Bird with workshop participants Mrs Monica Pusal and Mr Moses Pei.

HUMILAVEKIAN NOTICE BOARD

TOK SAVE	TOKSAVE	TOKSAVE
<p>Dear All,</p> <p>Please be advised there will be a Continued Professional Education (CPE) course conducted in Goroka.</p> <p>The details are:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Topic: Basic Accounting Date: 11th & 12th March 2010 Venue: Goroka Lodge Conference Room Cost: K550 (members) K660 (non-members) for the 2 days</p> <p>The course is open to non-members who wish to participate.</p> <p>Due date for registration is 26th February 2010.</p> <p>Please contact Mr Yuwak Tau for registration forms or further information.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hubert H Humphrey Fellowship Program</u></p> <p>The US Embassy Port Moresby invites applicants for the Hubert H Humphrey Fellowship Program 2011-2012 from resident nationals of Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and the Solomon Islands. One of the primary objectives of the fellowship is to foster mutually lasting and productive ties between Americans and their professional counterparts.</p> <p>These prestigious non-degree fellowships are offered to mid-career professionals who have a proven track record of leadership, public service commitment and the capacity to take full advantage of a self-defined program of independent graduate-level learning at a leading US university for up to 12 months after the academic segment of the program.</p> <p>The Humphrey Fellowship provides for international travel, travel within the US as required, tuition and fees, books, a monthly stipend, limited funds for professional development activities such as attendance at conferences, field trips and professional affiliations.</p>	<p>Eligible field of study are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications/Journalism • Economic Development/Finance & Banking • Educational Administration, Planning & Policy • HIV/AIDS Policy & Prevention • Human Rights • Natural Resources/Environmental Policy/Climate Change • Public Health Policy & Management • Public Policy Analysis & Public Administration • Trafficking in Persons (Policy & Prevention) <p>Basic Eligibility Criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An undergraduate (first university) degree • Minimum of 6 years substantial professional experience • Limited or no prior experience of the United States • Demonstrated leadership qualities • A record of public service in the community • Strong written & spoken English skills. <p>Application deadline is 30th April 2010 To request an application form or for queries send correspondence marked "Humphrey Fellowship Program" to: Email: pngembassy@state.gov or Fax: (675) 321 1593 Phone: (675) 321 1455 ext 2128</p>

QUIRKY FACTS

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The world's largest amphibian is the giant salamander. 2. Women blink nearly twice as much as men 3. The hardness of ice is similar to that of concrete. 4. Mosquitoes have 47 teeth. 5. Ants never sleep. 6. Singapore has only one train station. 7. The human brain is approximately 80% water. 8. Canada is an Indian 	<p>word meaning "Big Village".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Buttermilk does not contain any butter. 10. Cleopatra married two of her brothers. 11. The word "set" has more definitions than any other word in the English language. 12. In Sweden there is a ski-thru McDonald's. 13. All the swans in England are property of the Queen. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Almonds are a member of the peach family. 15. All species of beetles are edible. 16. Austria was the first country to use post-cards. 17. Avocados are poisonous to birds. 18. Dolphins sleep with one eye open. 19. Fingernails grow nearly 4 times faster than toenails. 20. A violin contains about 70 separate pieces of wood. 21. Early Romans used porcupine quills as toothpicks. 22. Yams have 10 times more vitamin C than sweet potatoes. 23. Americans eat about 18 billion hot dogs a year. 24. The Atlantic Ocean is saltier than the Pacific Ocean. 25. Pinocchio is Italian for "pine head". <p style="text-align: right;">source: http://www.funnyfacts.com</p>
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Puns for the Educated Mind

Three men were out riding in a car: a hardware technician, a systems analyst and a programmer. The systems analyst is driving and when they come to a steep hill he finds that the brakes have failed and the car is accelerating out of control.

So the driver slams on the emergency brake, downshifts the gears, and rubs the wheels' rims against the curb. He finally wrestles the car to a stop. The three climb out and assess the situation.

Hardware tech: "Let's try and fix it. I'll crawl under the car and take a look".

Systems analyst: "No. I think we should get someone qualified to fix it - a specialist in brakes".

Programmer: "Why don't we just get back in and see if it happens again".

1. The roundest knight at King Arthur's table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.
2. A rubber band pistol was confiscated from algebra class because it was a weapon of math disruption.
3. Two silk worms had a race. They ended up in a tie.
4. The short fortune-teller who escaped from prison was a small medium at large.
5. A backward poet writes inverse.
6. The butcher backed into the meat grinder and got a little behind in his work.
7. A dog gave birth to puppies near the road and was cited for littering.
8. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
9. A hole has been found in the nudist camp wall. The police are looking into it.
10. Atheism is a non-prophet organization.
11. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit me.
12. A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
13. No matter how much you push the envelope it'll still be stationery.
14. A grenade thrown into a kitchen in France would result in Lino-leum Blownapart.

Sources: www.jokeswarehouse.com
www.lotsofjokes.com

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WHAT ARE YOUR PARENTS GOING TO SAY MAN?!



"On the Internet, nobody knows you're a dog."



Humilavekian is published monthly/bimonthly by the Office of the Vice Chancellor

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Humilavekian was officially launched by the Vice Chancellor Dr. Gairo Onagi on the 25th of March 2008, in conjunction with the UOG Day celebrations.

Contributions can be made within two weeks prior to the publishing date.

Compiled By: Kate Gunn (PR & Marketing Officer)

Printed By: University of Goroka Printery