

NUS 2024

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF SUCCESS

Le Iunivesite Aoao o Samoa

The National University of Samoa

E-NEWSLETTER

APRIL-MAY-JUNE 2024 ISSUE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Message from the VC
- Campus Events
- Faculty Seminars

NEXT ISSUE:

- Hosting the Samoa Youth Fono
- Hosting the UN Sec. General
- NUS Open Day

CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR	2
APRIL 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS	3
NUS and APTC renewed Partnership Agreement to Enhance TVET in Samoa	3
Savaii Information Day 2024	3
Workshop Series on Micro-Credentials for Career Advancement in Samoa	5
Partnership between NUS and Japanese Consortium to Improve Health Science Facilities	6-7
MAY 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS	7
Brigham Young University Provo Donates Health and Medical Supplies for NUS	7
NUS and MNRE signed MOU to Promote Sustainable Development in Samoa	8
NUS hosted the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga at the 4th POPCCC	9
A Stronger Pacific: NUS and SPREP signed MOU to Protect the Environment.....	10
Colours of Creativity: NUS-FOE Hosted Dual Exhibitions	11
MAY 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS	12
NUS took part at Samoa's 62 nd Independence Day	12
NUS-FOBE Launches 'Afa Project' to Celebrate and Preserve Samoa's Cultural Heritage with International Museum Collaborations"	13
Celebrating the International Day of the Seafarers at NUS	14
SEMINARS	15
FOBE: Samoa's Poverty Analysis – Session 2	15
FOHS: How do cultures influence conceptions of a peaceful death: A focus group study among Pacific peoples in New Zealand.	16
FOS: Development of Heat Treatments for two species of Samoan fruit flies (Backtrocera spp., Diptera: Tephritidae)	17
FOBE: Talanoa a Pan-Pacific Research Method	18
FOE: Multiple case study research into teachers' pedagogical enactment of the 2010 Samoa primary schools' Outcomes-based Curriculum.	19
FOHS Seminar Topic: An evaluation of fetal heart monitoring during labour for low-risk women in Samoa (Upolu).	21
FOBE: Compilation of National Accounts estimates in Samoa.....	21
OBE: Beyond Fertility: The Multifaceted Health Implications of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome	22
FOE: Korero and Talanoaga – Current landscapes of educational research in Aotearoa New Zealand.	23
Exciting Programme Accreditation Announcement	24

MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Warm Greetings to You All,

As we reflect on the dynamic months of April to June 2024, I am happy to share with you our collective achievements and the remarkable strides that we have made at the National University of Samoa (NUS). This period has been marked by significant events and milestones that not only enhance the educational landscape within our institution but also resonate with our commitment to community and national development.



Our renewed partnership with the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) signifies a pivotal step forward in strengthening Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Samoa. Through this collaboration, we are determined to address the skills gap in our workforce, ensuring our students are well-equipped for meaningful employment. The workshops on micro-credentials are yet another evidence to our dedication to lifelong learning and professional advancement, empowering individuals to harness their skills for career growth.

We are also excited to share our new projects focused on enhancing our healthcare education, evidenced by our partnership with a Japanese consortium and the generous donation from the Brigham Young University. These contributions will enhance our health science facilities and resources, benefiting our students and the wider community.

Moreover, our commitment to sustainability is reflected in key collaborations with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). Together, we are embracing our role in combating climate change and promoting environmental stewardship—a priority that resonates deeply with our Pacific identity.

As we celebrate our cultural heritage through the FOBE's Afa Project, we reaffirm our continuous efforts to preserving and promoting the rich traditions of Samoa. Our active participation in national events, such as the 62nd Independence Day celebrations, further illustrates the importance of our unity and respect for our national history.

Finally, I want to extend my appreciation to every member of the NUS community for your ongoing support and hard work. As a team, we are making significant progress towards excellence in education, research, and community engagement. As we move forward, let us continue to harness our collective strengths to drive forward the vision of a prosperous and sustainable Samoa.

Wishing you all a fruitful and inspiring season ahead.
Fa'afetai tele lava,

Professor Tuifuisa'a Patila Amosa
NUS Vice-Chancellor & President

APRIL 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS

NUS and APTC renewed Partnership Agreement to Enhance TVET in Samoa

Friday 12th April 2024



The National University of Samoa (NUS) and the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC) renewed our partnership agreement to enhance Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in Samoa. The signing ceremony, attended by government officials and key stakeholders, underscored the importance of education and training in driving the growth and development of Samoa. The collaboration between NUS and

APTC seeks to improve learning outcomes, employability for students, and strengthen the TVET sector in Samoa. By working together on various initiatives, both institutions ensure that TVET programs remain relevant and responsive to industry needs. This partnership is considered essential in equipping citizens with the necessary skills to contribute to the nation's growth and economic advancement.

Savaii Information Day 2024

Tuesday 16th April 2024

The National University of Samoa proudly hosted the **Information Day 2024**, an important event aimed at Year 12 and Year 13 students planning to enter colleges in Savaii. This gathering served as an invaluable platform for disseminating crucial

information regarding entry requirements for various educational pathways, including Preliminary Programs, Foundation Programmes, and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) courses.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our sponsors: SSAB and NBS for the giveaway prizes as well as the Ministry of Education and Culture (MEC) and the college principals for allowing student participation in this significant event. Their support underscores the importance of providing prospective students with the information they need as they prepare for their final examinations and plan for university entry next year.



Workshop Series on Micro-Credentials for Career Advancement in Samoa

Wednesday 17th & Friday 19th April 2024

The NUS - Oloamanu Centre for Professional Development and Continuing Education (OCPDCE) conducted awareness workshops on micro-credentials for both internal staff and external stakeholders.

The workshops aimed to empower professionals with knowledge and skills needed to utilize micro-credentials for career advancement.

During the workshops, our NUS Vice-Chancellor highlighted the numerous benefits of micro-credentials and their role in recognizing skills and knowledge gained through focused learning experiences.

The sessions also engaged on the role of micro-credentials in supporting continuous learning and workforce development, a crucial aspect of addressing skills gaps in the workforce and support professional development in Samoa.

As the first country in the region to develop a Micro-Credential Framework, Samoa is a strong advocate for micro-credentials.

However, the key challenges remain, including the need for more discussions with employers and the Public Service Commission to provide financial incentives for employees to take up micro-credentials for improved performance.



Partnership between NUS and Japanese Consortium to Improve Health Science Facilities

Friday 22nd April 2024

A major consulting agreement was signed between NUS and a Consortium of Japanese companies to improve the Faculty of Health Science facilities.

The agreement, which has received financial support from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), will involve a range of services, including design preparation, construction supervision, and equipment procurement.

The project aims to enhance healthcare education in Samoa and will feature a

library space designed to accommodate the growing student population.

The signing ceremony marked a milestone in the partnership between Samoa and Japan in education and infrastructure development, demonstrating the commitment to collaboration and mutual growth.

Professor Tuifuisa'a expressed her excitement about the partnership, praising its potential to have a profoundly positive impact on both the university and the local community.



MAY 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS

Brigham Young University Provo Donates Health and Medical Supplies for NUS

Friday 3rd May 2024

The National University of Samoa received a generous donation of Health and Medical supplies from Brigham Young University Provo, facilitated through a research project led by President John S. K Kauwe.

The donation was formally presented by Elder Denny Faalogo, representing BYU Provo and the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter-Day Saints, reflecting their commitment to love thy neighbor.

Deputy Vice Chancellor Peseta Dr Desmond Lee Hang thanked the donor for their valuable donation, which will significantly

benefit students in medical, nursing, and health professional programs at NUS.

The comprehensive package included a range of essential supplies such as lab coats, PPEs, gauzes, wheelchairs, and more, with an estimated value of SAT\$45,000.



NUS and MNRE signed MOU to Promote Sustainable Development in Samoa

Tuesday, 7th May 2024



The National University of Samoa (NUS) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MNRE) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to

strengthen our partnership in research, development, and training. The MOU outlines cooperation in areas such as botanical studies, climate change, disaster management, and biodiversity, with the goal of enhancing sustainable development practices and environmental conservation in Samoa. The partnership includes the exchange of researchers, joint research projects, technical assistance, and sponsorship of conferences on topics of mutual interest. The two parties aim to improve the quality of life for all Samoans through sustainable resource management practices

Hon. Prime Minister of Samoa opened the 4th POPCCC

Tuesday 21st May 2024

The Prime Minister of Samoa, Hon. Fiame Dr. Naomi Mata'afa, opened the 4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (POPCCC), emphasizing that Pacific communities are already heavily impacted by climate change. The conference, held from May 20-23 in Apia Samoa, co-hosted by NUS, SPREP and Victoria University of Wellington focused on discussing concrete actions for the Pacific region to address climate change and build resilience. The theme "Our Ocean, Our Home: Climate Resilience for a Blue Pacific" underlined the region's unique vulnerabilities



to climate change, including rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and extreme weather events. The conference brought together experts from various fields to share knowledge, innovate solutions, and advocate for global climate action.



NUS hosted the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga at the 4th POPCCC

Thursday 23rd May 2024

NUS welcomed the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Tonga, Hon. Hu'akavemeiliku Siaosi Sovaleni, on campus for the first time. As the keynote speaker at the 4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (POPCCC) on Thursday 23rd May 2024, Hon. Sovaleni called for transformative climate finance to help Pacific countries mitigate the impacts of climate change. He asserted that funding should be scalable, contextual, flexible, predictable, innovative, and demand driven. The Prime Minister made this call at the 4th POPCCC in Apia, Samoa, which

brought together experts from the private, public, and civil society sectors. He stressed the urgent need for unprecedented levels of financial investment to address climate change and urged developed nations to fulfill their pledges under the Paris Agreement and increase their contributions to the Green Climate Fund and regional initiatives. Furthermore, he encouraged private investors to prioritize sustainable projects in the region and called for accountability among governments, institutions, and individuals to achieve the ambitious goals outlined in the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific.



A Stronger Pacific: NUS and SPREP signed MOU to Protect the Environment

Thursday 23rd May 2024

The National University of Samoa (NUS) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) marked a significant milestone by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at the closing ceremony of the 4th Pacific Ocean Pacific Climate Change Conference (POPCCC). The partnership aims to strengthen environmental cooperation in the Pacific region by promoting collaboration on addressing climate change, biodiversity conservation, waste management, and natural resource management. Through this agreement, both organizations will work together to build capacity, conduct research, and share knowledge to drive environmental change and improve the

well-being of Pacific communities. This MOU represents a major step forward in collaborative efforts to tackle pressing environmental challenges, demonstrating the commitment of NUS and SPREP to protecting the region's environment.



Colours of Creativity: NUS-FOE Hosted Dual Exhibitions

Wednesday 29th May 2024

The NUS-Faculty of Education (FOE) hosted two concurrent exhibitions at the NUS Foyer. The first exhibition, "Connecting the Dots Across the Curriculum: Expressive Arts Exhibition," displayed the talents of visual art students from various programs, featuring a

diverse range of artwork, performances, and music. The evening was filled with stunning artwork, inspiring performances, and amazing music by students from across different faculties.



The second exhibition, titled "The Voices of Color," featured the work of artist Richard Mau, who explored the connection between color, music, and human experience through abstract expressionism. This exhibition aimed to evoke emotions and transport viewers to another world. Led by Senior Lecturer Matatumua Leua Latai, the event brought



together the community to appreciate Richard's unique style and work.

MAY 2024 CAMPUS EVENTS

NUS took part at Samoa's 62nd Independence Day

Monday 6th June 2024

The National University of Samoa joined the celebration of Samoa's 62nd Independence Day on June 6th, 2024.

On this special occasion, the university proudly participated in the Annual Independence Day March, which is a grand celebration that marks the country's independence from New Zealand in 1962.

The university's involvement in the march is a beacon of our commitment to being an integral part of the Samoan community and our dedication to promoting national unity and triumph. We continue to demonstrate our respect for the Samoa's history and culture, as well as our enthusiasm for being part of this special celebration that brings together Samoans from all walks of life.



NUS-FOBE Launches 'Afa Project' to Celebrate and Preserve Samoa's Cultural Heritage with International Museum Collaborations"

Wednesday 12th June 2024

The NUS - Faculty of Business and Entrepreneurship (FOBE) launched its "Afa (Sinnet) Project" with the aim of promoting and preserving Samoa's rich cultural heritage. The launch took place on Wednesday, 12th June 2024, at the Visions Restaurant. Following the launch, the two department heads, Aliimalemanu Dr. Bernadette Samau Sila and Muliagatele Sesilia Lauano, embarked on a trip to Europe from June 14th to donate four sinnet garments to four museums: the Übersee-Museum Bremen in Germany, the Wereld Museum in the Netherlands, the National Museum of World Culture in Sweden, and

the Museum Five Continents in Germany. The Afa Project's primary objectives are to promote and preserve cultural heritage, encourage research, and foster local and international collaboration opportunities. The project was made possible through funding from the European Social Fund (ESF) provided by the National University of Samoa. The team acknowledged the exceptional talents of weavers Falenaoti Juliana Joy Tuiletufuga and her daughter Sala Tuiletufuga Ulu, as well as the valuable support from FOBE Aiga and other staff members.



Celebrating the International Day of the Seafarers at NUS

Tuesday 25th June 2024

The National University of Samoa's School of Maritime Training celebrated the International Day of the Seafarers, honouring the hard work and dedication of seafarers worldwide. The event featured speeches from government officials, including Afioga Niuava Eti Malolo, Associate Minister for the Ministry of Works, Transport, and Infrastructure, and Susuga Cedrela Tamati, Principal Labour Inspector from the Ministry of Commerce and Labour. Afioga Fagaloa Leti Setto Roy Tufuga, CEO of Samoa Law Reform, also shared an

insightful overview of the key priorities of the maritime association and reminded the significant maritime legislations now in place to protect the welfare of our seafarers. In addition, the event acknowledged the tireless efforts of Afioga Leitufiaoaatua Fatu Lafoai, Head of School, and his staff in training future Samoan seafarers. The celebration aimed to recognize the importance of prioritizing the health, safety, and well-being of seafarers worldwide, indicating their vital role in global trade and commerce.



SEMINARS

APRIL 2024 SEMINARS

FOS Seminar: Investigating of local consumer's attitudes, habits and preferences on sheep meat in Samoa.

Wednesday 10th April 2024

Ms. Tusitala Lemuelu presented her research on the attitudes, habits, and preferences of Samoan consumers towards sheep meat amidst the country's heavy reliance on imported products, which are linked to rising non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Since the introduction of sheep farming in Samoa in 2004, the local sheep population has gradually increased yet imports still dominate the market. Conducted through face-to-face interviews on Savaii and Upolu islands, the study found a strong preference among consumers for lean, locally sourced sheep meat, particularly for special occasions, with price acting as a significant determinant of purchasing decisions. Supermarkets are preferred due to their convenience and



reliability. However, the high cost of living has further influenced sheep meat pricing. To enhance the market for local sheep meat, she recommended workshops to educate consumers about its benefits, as many associate it with being healthier due to its natural and local attributes, despite some concerns about the quality. Her study also suggests further research into sensory evaluations and cooking methods to improve the appeal of locally produced sheep meat.

FOBE: Samoa's Poverty Analysis – Session 2

Thursday 11th April 2024

Papaliitele Fasavalu Benjamin Sila, the ACEO of the Social Statistics Division at the Samoa Bureau of Statistics, addressed the bureau's vital role as mandated by the 2015 Statistics Act. The bureau is tasked with collecting and

analyzing data on various socio-economic indicators, including the Population and Housing Census, Agriculture Census, and the Household Income and Expenditure Survey. The

presentation specifically focused on statistical analyses of poverty in Samoa, utilising data from the 2018 HIES to inform evidence-based policymaking. It reiterated the need to understand both monetary and non-monetary aspects of poverty, identifying vulnerable populations to ensure their inclusion and improving overall social well-being.



FOHS: How do cultures influence conceptions of a peaceful death: A focus group study among Pacific peoples in New Zealand.

Wednesday 17th April 2024



Dr. Tosin Popoola from the University of Newcastle explored the profound impact of culture on conceptions of a peaceful death among Pacific peoples in New Zealand. His research reveals a rich tapestry of death

rituals, promoting community involvement and emotional continuity that contrasts sharply with Western norms. The study highlights unique mourning practices within cultures such as Samoan and Tongan, which

enhance familial bonds and collective grieving. Furthermore, Popoola identifies cultural beliefs as potential barriers to accessing palliative care, underscoring the necessity for healthcare providers to embrace culturally responsive practices. Utilizing focus group methodologies, the research

illustrates the importance of understanding communal values and beliefs to enhance end-of-life care. Overall, the findings advocate for a deeper engagement with the cultural narratives of Pacific peoples to ensure respectful and effective healthcare solutions.

FOS: Development of Heat Treatments for two species of Samoan fruit flies (*Bactrocera* spp., Diptera: Tephritidae)

Wednesday 24th April 2024

Faalelei Tunupopo from the Ministry of Agriculture presented at the FOS Seminar Series on the development of heat treatments for two economically significant species of Samoan fruit flies, *Bactrocera kirki* and *Bactrocera xanthodes*.

These fruit flies pose a significant threat to various fruits such as papaya, breadfruit, eggplants, and guava, impacting export opportunities for Samoan agricultural products.

The seminar concentrated on research using a high-temperature forced-air (HTFA) treatment to eliminate these pests by heating infested fruits to core temperatures of 40°C, 42°C, 44°C, and 46°C. Results showed that no pupae of *B. xanthodes* emerged from fruits treated at 42°C and above. Although *B. kirki* pupae were still present after treatment at

44°C, they were not viable after exposure to 46°C. The HTFA protocol previously established for other Pacific fruit flies was confirmed to be effective without modifications for these specific species and fruits. Nevertheless, the potential for less intense HTFA treatments may be explored to further enhance fruit quality while managing pest infestations.



FOBE: Talanoa a Pan-Pacific Research Method

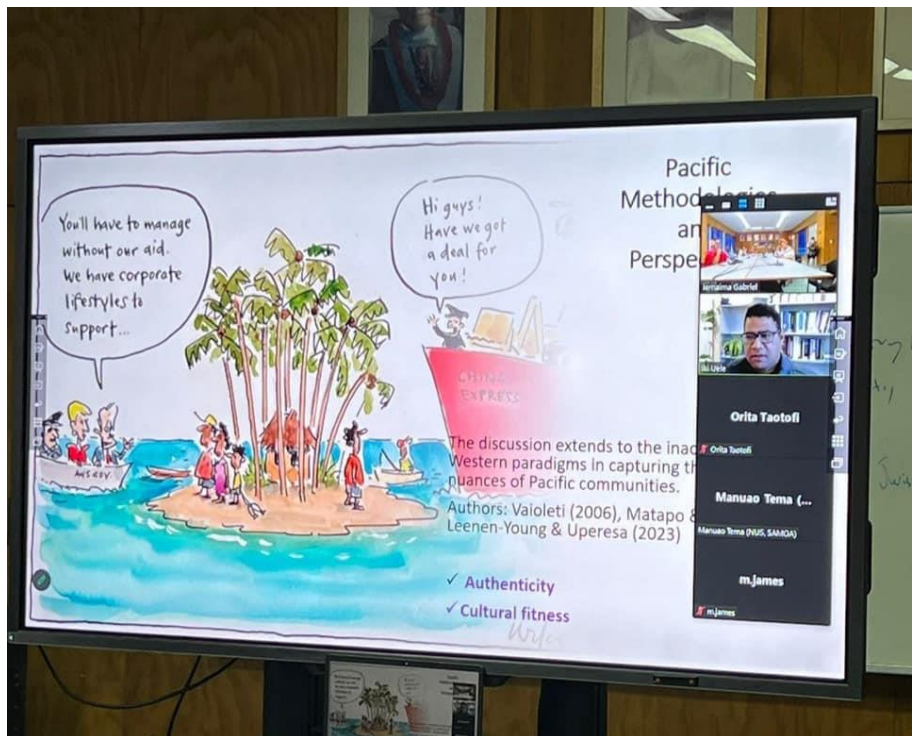
Thursday 25th April 2024

Dr. Iki Mafi Uele from the University of Otago presented on the importance of integrating Pacific Indigenous methodologies into accounting research. Dr. Uele emphasized that this approach prioritizes authenticity, cultural sensitivity, and ethical considerations by incorporating Indigenous worldviews and knowledge systems. The concept of talanoa, which is rooted in Pacific cultures, is central to this research framework as it promotes understanding, collaboration, and co-construction of knowledge within communities.

The seminar introduced the Talanoa Zoom structure, demonstrating its adaptability in modern contexts, particularly in virtual communication. This framework serves as a comprehensive approach to examine accounting practices in the Pan Pacific region, amplifying Indigenous perspectives and challenging dominant narratives in the field.

Specifically, the 4F Talanoa Zoom Framework was utilized to analyze financial discussions within Tonga's government ministries, revealing meaningful insights into the dynamics and cultural significance of talanoa sessions.

Dr. Uele's findings provide valuable insights into cross-cultural communication among Pacific Island communities, while also acknowledging the need for further research into diverse organizational contexts and the relationship between talanoa communication and financial decision-making.

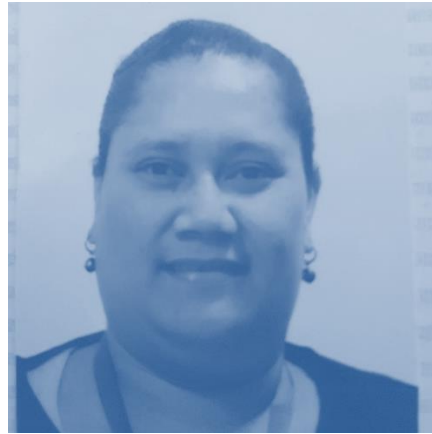


FOE: Multiple case study research into teachers' pedagogical enactment of the 2010 Samoa primary schools' Outcomes-based Curriculum.

Friday 26th April 2024

Felila Saufoi discussed a multiple case study examining teachers' pedagogical enactment of the outcomes-based curriculum (OBC) introduced in Samoa's primary schools in 2010, with implementation commencing in 2013. Despite the anticipated benefits of the OBC, schools have encountered significant challenges that have hindered its effective deployment. The study analyses the three primary schools—School A, School B, and School C—focusing on their individual progress and the obstacles they face in realising the curriculum's intended outcomes. Each school has recognised

potential advantages from the OBC but continues to grapple with unique constraints as they strive to ensure students achieve the specified learning outcomes in knowledge, skills, and values.



MAY 2024 SEMINARS

FOS: Evaluating the Efficacy of Feral Pig Traps in Savaii: Case Study in Sapapalii & Satupa'itea

Wednesday 8th May 2024

Faumuina Siusiuosalafai Papalii Oloigogo explained that Feral pigs (*sus scrofa*) are an increasing threat to agriculture and ecological communities globally.

Although ground rooting is their most readily observable sign, feral pigs typically remain highly cryptic and their abundance and impacts are difficult to quantify. Few studies,



however, have been undertaken to identify

and measure the types of impacts they are having, including their severity, extent and location. A case study has been undertaken to comprehensively explore the effectiveness of feral pig traps been invented in mitigating the impacts of feral pigs' population in

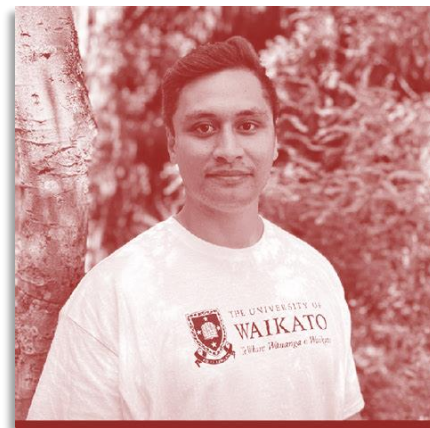
Sapapalii and Satupaitea. The findings provide valuable insights into the nuanced dynamics of pest control, stressing the importance of considering environmental factors and proper monitoring.

FOE: Energy-efficiency, Carbon Audits and best practices towards a sustainable future.

Friday 17th May 2024

In his seminar, Fogamomi Nicc Moeono spoke on the ongoing global transition from traditional energy sources to alternative solutions, particularly since the 1970s oil crisis. He pointed out that small islands, like Samoa, typically face unique challenges due to their reliance on fossil fuels and the fluctuations of the global market. This situation necessitates a move towards more reliable, sustainable, and affordable clean energy options.

Moeono commended Samoa's ambitious goals in renewable energy, yet argued that the emphasis must also include energy efficiency, which is often overlooked. He posed a critical question: "Where does energy efficiency fit in Samoa's energy



transition, and what can we do about it?" The presentation aimed to address this inquiry and explore practical strategies for enhancing energy efficiency within the context of Samoa's energy landscape.

The seminar provided valuable insights and discussions on how implementing energy efficiency can play a crucial role in achieving a sustainable future for Samoa.

FOHS Seminar Topic: An evaluation of fetal heart monitoring during labour for low-risk women in Samoa (Upolu).

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

Mele Tofaeono, a registered nurse, midwife and senior lecturer at NUS, conducted a research on fetal heart monitoring during labour for low-risk women in Samoa (Upolu). She underlined the importance monitoring for the well-being of both mother and baby, Tofaeono discussed the two main methods: intermittent auscultation (IA) and Cardiotocography (CTG). A study conducted across three hospitals revealed significant challenges, including inadequate documentation of IA and unequal access to monitoring equipment, highlighting the need for better integration of these practices into clinical settings. Interviews with midwives



contributed insights into their knowledge and available resources. Notably, this research marks the first assessment of intrapartum fetal heart monitoring in the Pacific Islands, paving the way for improved midwifery practices and better maternal and neonatal health outcomes in Samoa and the wider Pacific region.

FOBE: Compilation of National Accounts estimates in Samoa

Thursday 9th May 2024

Oloapu Tanielu Tagimaiala Isara, the ACEO of Finance Statistics, elaborated on the role of the Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS) under the Statistics Act 2015. He reaffirmed that SBS is the principal authority in Samoa for the collection, analysis, and publication of official statistics, as well as for coordinating statistical operations across the nation. As the coordinator of the National Statistical

System, SBS ensures all statistical outputs adhere to



international best practices. A key mandated function is the compilation and dissemination of leading indicators to evaluate Samoa's economic performance,

with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) serving as the official measure of economic growth. GDP is compiled using the production approach, which calculates the total value of goods and services produced in Samoa after deducting the costs incurred in the

production process, also referred to as the value-added approach. The presentation detailed the compilation process for calculating GDP through this production methodology.

OBE: Beyond Fertility: The Multifaceted Health Implications of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome

Thursday 23rd May 2024



Courtney Manthey, a biological anthropologist from the University of Colorado focused on Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS), a prevalent endocrine disorder affecting 4-20% of women globally.

PCOS is characterized by the presence of multiple cysts on the ovaries, elevated levels of androgens such as testosterone, and irregular or absent ovulation. Manthey featured the heritable nature of PCOS, which tends to run in families, despite its negative implications for fertility. Additionally, her

research indicated that girls diagnosed with PCOS typically experience menarche, or their first menstrual period, approximately one year earlier than those without the condition. Remarkably, she also discussed evidence Manthey's findings aim to broaden the understanding of PCOS by exploring its

suggesting that PCOS may offer a protective effect on bone health by enhancing bone mineral density, potentially lowering the risk of fractures among affected individuals.

diverse health impacts on girls and women beyond fertility concerns.

JUNE 2024 SEMINAR

FOE: Korero and Talanoaga – Current landscapes of educational research in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Friday 28th June 2024

Professor Georgina Tuari Stewart and Professor Nesta Devine from Auckland University of Technology articulated the New Zealand Association for Research in Education (NZARE) and its initiatives, including annual conferences, special interest groups, and its partnership with Springer Publishing for the New Zealand Journal of Educational Studies (NZJES).

Professor Stewart, as the Māori co-President of NZARE, highlighted the journal's growth,

noting a significant increase in full-text downloads from 30,499 in 2018 to 157,031 in 2023, and their commitment to publishing research from Māori and Pacific scholars.

Additionally, she discussed the Eke Tangaroa programme, which supports Māori and Pacific early career academics in advancing their research careers through mentorship in writing, promotion applications, and securing research grants.



Exciting Programme Accreditation Announcement

We are also delighted to share that the university has successfully accredited ten programmes through the Samoa Qualifications Authority (SQA) from July 2023 - June 2024. This achievement reflects our commitment to delivering quality education and training.

The accredited programmes include:

- **Postgraduate Diploma in Commerce**
- **Bachelor of Commerce (Secondary Teaching)**
- **Bachelor of Science**
- **Bachelor of Science (Secondary Teaching)**

Additionally accredited, for those keen on hands-on skills are several apprenticeship programmes:

- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Automotive Engineering**
- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Carpentry**
- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Electrical Engineering**
- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Fitting and Machining**
- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Refrigeration and Air Conditioning**
- **Samoa Apprenticeship Certificate IV in Welding**

These accreditations not only enhance our educational offerings but also ensure that our learners are well prepared for exciting careers ahead. Therefore, we are proud to continue empowering our learners for a successful future!!

Help us stay
CONNECTED
with you!

Visit our website for more updates

<https://www.nus.edu.ws>

This NUS e-Newsletter is designed to strengthen communication among our staff, students, stakeholders, and the wider community. We invite you to share your insights, achievements, and updates by submitting NUS related short articles to Leilani Smith on l.smith@nus.edu.ws or call on +685 20072 ext 283. Your contributions are invaluable in fostering a collaborative and engaging **environment for all**. **Thank you for being a part of our community!**



1984

NUS Social Media Growth & Student Support Update

In the past year, the National University of Samoa (NUS) has experienced remarkable growth in its social media presence, with our Facebook community surpassing 20,000 members. This dynamic platform strengthens connections among students and staff, fostering engagement and collaboration.

Our enhanced online presence also provides an essential communication channel. The Messenger app has become the go-to tool for students seeking assistance from our University Support Online Team, ensuring swift and effective support.

For inquiries, students can also reach us at helpdesk@nus.edu.ws. We remain committed to enriching the NUS experience and supporting our vibrant community.