



e-NUS News

The National University of Samoa's Monthly
Newsletter

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A message from Vice Chancellor



Talofa again to one
and all!

The second semester
started with earnest
on the 13th July and my
hearty welcome to
new staff and students
– welcome to our NUS

family.

We also welcome all our staff and students from the first semester who have made NUS a great place to work and study. Education, to me at least, is more than a qualification. Education is about opportunities and an environment that enhances continuous learning that shapes thinking and behaviour for a gainful place in a changing society. For the last two month, we have been creating those opportunities by supporting students through exams, explaining results and then enrolments all the while engaging the student leadership in positive public messaging on such programmes as “hand washing saves lives”. We have continued to link to our many connections stakeholders for support as well as celebrating the completion of programmes and mergers. It is the spirit of identifying the ability, self-confidence and the desire to go on learning for the rest of our lives and to cope with new emerging and challenging situations.

We are firmly committed to excel in education and research and being fully aware of emerging challenges. Our leadership and staff value professionalism, respect, adaptability, efficiency, integrity and kindness. Our programmes and policies are guided by the response and feedback from our students, parents and stakeholders without a compromise of educational principles and processes that define quality standards.

It will be remiss of me not to mention the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Uncertainty is the new normal therefore our disaster recovery plan, strategic and corporate plans need to be continuously updated with various scenarios. We will need to be adaptable and innovative to deliver more through the increasing use of web technology with shrinking resources.

Personally, I would like to thank all of you for celebrating with me my Queens Birthday Award – the Officer of the NZ Order of Merit. It was for service to our Pacific communities and Health – the service was only made possible by the team work of so many individuals and groups I was privileged to work with both in NZ and in the Pacific.

Manuia faiva alofilima o lo o feagai ai le mamalu o le auaigaluega.

Faamanuia mai le Atua I le Iunivesite Aoao o Samoa.

PacTvet Faculty of Science Cert 1 & 2 Climate Change & Sustainable Energy Prizegiving



This is the first time the NUS has offered these two programs funded under the PacTVET Project

or EUPTVETP on SECC. This European Union funded project, which is jointly implemented by the USP and the Pacific Community, which enabled NUS to develop and deliver both programs. Despite the challenges posed by COVID 19, this program progressed and completed regardless the SOE. Students were bravely participated in a crash course on Moodle to enable themselves to continue their studies on the new platform.

A great achievement to have completed Certificate 1 in Climate Change & Disaster Risk Management & Certificate 2 in Sustainable Energy. There is confidence to realize that the knowledge and skills gained from these programs will contribute positively not only to the student's professional development but also the development of Samoa. Twenty eight (28) students graduated from these programs.



British Ambassador Visits



His Excellency David Ward visited to discuss programmes at NUS and how the British embassy could assist with scholarships and scientific networks with British Institutions.

NUS News Student Program



This working attachment is vital for our students to have a sense of expertise, the knowledge and skills they acquire in their studies are relevant to and can be applied in the work environment. More specifically, the objectives of this working attachment and internship program are to enable MJ students;

1. To have a greater exposure to broadcasting work in specific and gain understanding of how news report knowledge and technical skills are applied in the industry.
2. To learn about the world of NUS TV & Radio broadcasting work thus developing a greater awareness of the work environment and work ethics.

Upon completion of the work attachment and internship program, each student produced a news report for the TV Current Affairs show, a reflection about their work experience in the broadcasting field and shared their experience on NUS social networks.

In addition, another target could be offered an opportunity to students to work at the NUS broadcasting unit in the future.



NUS-APTC Partnership

NUS APTC Partnership Health Check Process workshop was conducted over two days to support the leadership of both institutions develop a deeper understanding of roles and functions to address the needs of the NUS and APTC in the TVET area. The insight from the sessions will inform the partnership and ensure ongoing sustainable alliance for both entities.

Carpentry & Joinery (Apprenticeship)

The Samoa Certificate Level II in Carpentry and Joinery is a fully accredited program by SQA and is offered as a one-year full time program. It is under the Construction Department of the Faculty of Technical Education and is catered for students who have completed college as well as those who are in vocational institutions who are willing to pursue the Level II certificate.

The program is aimed at preparing students to enter and work in the construction/joinery industry. Moreover, it provides a good opportunity for students to progress into a high-level pathway for their careers.

There are seventeen students currently enrolled this semester and are undertaking the seven courses offered for first semester. These courses are; Communication, First Aid, Computer Studies, Construction Materials, Timber Joint 1, Occupational Health and Safety, Hand & Power Tools.

Second semester, students will be enrolled in five courses, Construction Drawing, Joinery 2, Construction Planning, Concrete Technology 1, and they will have an opportunity for a work-based experience.

Upon completion of the Level II Certificate, students can choose to work in whichever industry they prefer and if they are keen to pursue further studies, they can return to enroll through the MCIL Apprenticeship Scheme which is also provided through 5-8pm evening classes in the Apprenticeship trades program.

Lecturers- Alfred Burgess, Guliano Bryce and Asofitu Lafaitale



Online Graduation



NUS held its second online graduation on the 25th June in keeping with the State of Emergency rules to avoid large gatherings.

Top students with awards were however accorded a small ceremony to collect their awards. A similar ceremony was held at the School of Medicine to celebrate with staff from the Ministry of Health.

Top students with awards were:

Valina Leota – BCom (Economics)
 Sonya Lagisi – BCom (Management)
 Tifaimoana Tofilau-BCom (Commercial Law)
 Lusia T Solinuu – BCom (Marketing)
 Faaiva Tolupeni – BCom (Accounting)
 Charlotte T Johnston MBBS (Medicine)
 Margaret F Iumalo -(MBBS)
 Aiuli S Betham – BNursing (Nursing)
 Shelvi Christian Su'a – Dip Sustainable Agriculture

Note: Not all top students received awards

Semester 1 Results out



Results of the Semester 1 exams were released on the 6th July. Waiting for exam results is a feeling, which is difficult to express, believe it, we all get it. The sickly feeling of dread, nerves and fear as results looms. Like every other person out there waiting for these exams results even the most diligent they still have the 'results day stress'. Nevertheless, that did not stop the students seen lined up to see their results at the Taputoi Building Foyer notice board. A day to celebrate said some and a day to improve was forecasted by some. Success comes from great effort and especially doing the best you can. Sounds of laughter and giggling were heard all morning, was an indication of great achievement by many students.

Corporate Plan 2021-2024 Consultation Sheraton Hotel



Corporate planning is necessary for success especially in a State Owned Enterprise such as the NUS. It is important that we deliver on key performance indicators aligned to a workplan and budget. A whole day of discussion and consultation on the new Corporate Plan 2021-2024 was supported by the Vice Chancellor and his Senior Management which was facilitated by Mrs. Cheri Robinson Moors (APTC Country

Manager) and coordinated by the Director of GPP and Team. The senior management team discussed the plan, suggested changes and identified risks for the NUS new deliverables for the next 3 years. The success of any plan depends largely on the focus, understanding and discipline inherent in a thorough and viable planning process. Another consultation for the CP2021-2024 will be conducted before the end of the year.

Game Day



A game Day for staff was held during the break and it was a hilarious and an anticipated fun day for all the participants is evidence on these beautiful smiles and poses. A large number of staff members took part and everyone seemed to have a fantastic time. A variety of games were played from tug of war, netball and an eating competition. Water and sandwiches with fruits were given out for all participants. Amongst the four main colours of the day from the top to last (Red, Blue, Green & Yellow). The Game Day as advised by VC Aiono Professor Ekeroma shall be organised every few months so all members can have a break from work, exercise and network.



Semester 2 Enrolment



The semester 2 enrolment was in the first week of July. There was much anticipation and thorough planning by the Deans, staff and management meant the week went smoothly without a glitch. Enrolment online was also introduced which reduced congestion. It was also identified that there were more students enrolled in this semester than last semester, which shows that NUS students that took courses before and prioritised their families and children schooling have now returned to continue their studies. This is an indication that continuous advertising and encouragement given out through our NUS radio and media outlets are encouraging our people to return to school. Always bearing in mind that learning doesn't is lifelong and higher education can restart at any age.



All Staff Meeting



A respectful and cordial relationship between staff is very important and the key to this is clear communication. VC Professor Ekeroma spoke of professional values and the need to engage in the strategy and corporate planning of the University. The NUS new staff members were introduced by their respective Deans and Directors and were welcomed by all.

Merge of SSS Maritime and NUS Maritime Schools



The merge between the Samoa Shipping Services School of Maritime and the NUS Maritime School was held on the 10th July. The purpose of the merge is to gain efficiencies, saves costs and maintain standards. The Maritime School promotes and sustains a market for maritime graduates, and intend to maintain a product and/or services that meets or exceeds all business and industry standards.

The Minister of NUS the Hon Loau Solamalemalo Keneti Sio and the Minister of Samoa Shipping the Hon Papaliitele Niko Lee Hang signed the merge agreement.



The NUS Facebook page has more than 9,000 followers and the new Linked In page now has more than 200 members. The large number aids connectedness with students and staff. Messenger through Facebook is the commonest way students communicate with and for support. Students can also [email helpdesk@nus.edu.ws](mailto:helpdesk@nus.edu.ws)

Staff Appointment and Re-Appointments

Penina Su'a Ioka has been appointed as the Lecturer Grade 3 English for Faculty of Education.

Phylosophy Tiupita has been appointed as the Security for School of Medicine at Motootua.

Leitu Levi has been appointed as the TL Groundsman for Property Management

Linked IN, Facebook and Website



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

This monthly NUS e-Newsletter is to improve communication with staff, students, stakeholders and our communities. Please email short articles to m.skelton-keil@nus.edu.ws