



## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**Technical Assistance  
for  
the Proposed School of Sciences**

## **1. SERVICES REQUIRED**

The Solomon Islands National University seeks the expertise of an accomplished academic with quality academic administration experience to carry out a number of specific activities related to the creation of a School of Sciences at the University. This engagement is for a period of 3 months.

## **2. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE**

Since becoming a University in 2013, SINU has grown considerably in many areas. There are 5 schools of the University at present, namely:

- 2.0 School of Education & Humanities
- 2.1 School of Business & Management
- 2.2 School of Nursing & Allied Health Services
- 2.3 School of Technology and Marine Studies
- 2.4 School of Natural Resources

Sciences cut across at least 4 of the 5 schools. The University now wishes to examine the prospect of the creation of a School of Sciences, which will bring together all the science offerings under one administrative leadership. This unit shall to service all the Science needs of the other schools. For clarity, the following subjects are included in our reference to science: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Computing.

## **3. PURPOSE**

This TA is aimed at achieving the following outcomes:

- 3.0 The expert shall assess the efficacy of the present administrative and organisational arrangements for the offering of science education, particularly for the secondary teacher training programmes.
- 3.1 The expert shall examine and/or cause to be examined, the contents of all the science units in the secondary teacher training programmes at the University, and advise the University on the sufficiency of science offerings for the secondary teacher training programmes, through specific examination of the curriculum, delivery and/or assessment of the science units. The expert shall advise the University of gaps, if any, in these offerings, and advice on how best to rationalize science teacher education programmes.
- 3.2 The expert shall examine all the Mathematics units offered across the University and advise on the desirability of bringing all the Maths units under a single administrative leadership, for servicing all Maths needs of various programmes at the University.
- 3.3 The University has decided to commence offering a number of programmes in computing, including in computer applications, computer sciences, and computer engineering. The expert shall advise the University on the proposal to house the Department of Computing within the proposed School of Sciences.
- 3.4 A major problem that SINU currently faces is the lack of adequately prepared students from the high school system who “qualify” to enter the University. While the Ministry of Education is addressing this issue, SINU has decided to take action by advancing into all post Form 5 education, more specifically, through providing units at the year 12 and year 13 levels to prepare

competent students for SINU and other Universities. The expert shall help the School develop the core programmes at years 12 and year 13 in Maths, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Computing.

3.5 The expert shall do the necessary work to create a School of Sciences and chart out the academic activities of the School. The paperwork needed include:

- 3.5.1 The recommendations on addressing the shortcomings in the present Science offerings at the University.
- 3.5.2 The necessary organizational structure of the proposed School of Sciences.
- 3.5.3 The structure of recommended new programmes in the Sciences for consultation with industry and stakeholders.
- 3.5.4 The technical requirements for a quality School of Sciences, including developing a detailed inventory of lab equipment and chemicals needed for the proposed programmes.
- 3.5.5 recommendations on the HR needs for a quality School of Sciences for the Solomon Islands environment.
- 3.5.6 The financial implications of the recommendations she/he is making.

#### **4. QUALIFICATIONS/EXPERTISE**

The expert should have at least Masters degree in any of the major science areas (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Maths, Computing), credible publications, and extensive experience in administration of Sciences at the Bachelors level at a University. Applicants with a PhD degree in any of the science areas would be preferred.

#### **5. TIMELINE**

The listed work is expected to be completed before end of August 2019.

#### **6. EOI**

Those who meet the requirements should apply through sending their CVs, and their all-inclusive price offer, to: [tenderboard@sinu.edu.sb](mailto:tenderboard@sinu.edu.sb) by 4pm, Friday 10 May, 2019. For enquires please contact: Faith Palapu at [faith.palapu@sinu.edu.sb](mailto:faith.palapu@sinu.edu.sb)

\*\*\*\*\*