

SINU VC addresses students: highlights the importance of empowerment, engagement, and excellence

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Vice Chancellor (SINU) Professor Transform Aqorau highlight the important of empowerment, engagement, and excellence when addressing SINU student.

Speaking to SINU students at the Kukum Lecture Theatre on Wednesday 14-02-2024 Prof.Aqorau emphasized the importance of empowerment, engagement, and excellence in shaping the future of the Solomon Islands through education at SINU.

In his address, the VC reaffirmed his commitment to enhancing the education-

dialogue within SINU university community.

The VC on Tuesday 13 -02-2024 held a successful forum with SINU all-staff followed by the discussion with SINU students a day later.



Students listening to VC's address at the KLT.



VC Prof. Transform Aqorau addressing students at the KLT.

al journey of SINU students and acknowledged the challenges they face.

Furthermore, he highlighted SINU's initiatives to enhance academic and social engagement, including the expansion of sporting and social clubs and the development of future-readiness programs.

Moreover, the VC also addressed the current challenges in academic facilities, student accommodation, and campus life, and outlined SINU's strategic initiatives for improvement and engagement.

The VC ended his speech by emphasizing the importance of preparing SINU students for future challenges, fostering collaboration, and maintaining open

According to VC Aqorau, "The discussions with both staff and students have been enlightening and valuable."

"I am confident that these dialogues will lead to tangible improvements and reforms at SINU."

"I appreciate the opportunity to engage with our university community and look forward to working together to achieve our shared vision."

The VC then thanked the students and staff for their continued support and dedication to SINU where he said he is looking forward to discussing these matters further and welcome any insights or feedback from both students and staff.

Dr. Humpress Harrington starts a new role as the new Dean for FNMHS

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Faculty of Nursing, Medicine and Health Science (FNMHS) new Dean Dr. Humpress Harrington has started his new role at SINU.

Speaking to Univois early this month Dr. Harrington confirmed that he has now started his new role at SINU as the new Dean of FNMHS.

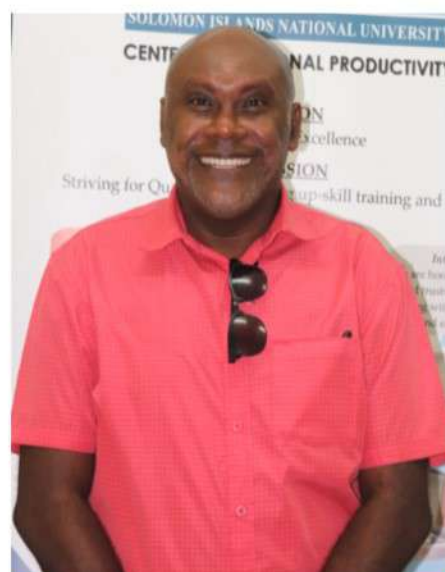
The new FNMHS Dean who signed a contract with SINU in early January this year has taken up his new role and is looking forward to working together with students and staff of the faculty.

Dr. Harrington who served as the Head of School for Atoifi Adventist College of Nursing handed in his resignation in early February before joining SINU taking up his new role as the Dean of FNMHS.

Dr. Harrington has a Doctor of Philosophy (Health) from James Cook University and is the former Head of School for Atoifi Adventist College of Nursing.

He has work experience in the field of nursing as a registered nurse and then as lecturer for nursing students for more than 20 years.

With his wealth of knowledge and experiences Dr. Harrington is looking forward to making some positive contributions and impacts to the overall development of the University as the Dean of FNMHS.



FNMHS new Dean Dr. Humpress Harrington

SINU commemorates 2024 mother language day

On Wednesday, February 21, 2024, The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) and its stakeholders came together to collectively commemorate the International Mother Language Day.

The event took place at Pavilion SINU Panatina campus, running from 9 am to 2 pm. The theme of the event was "Multilingual education is a pillar of intergenerational learning".

Speaking during the event Dean of Faculty of Education and Humanities, Dr. Patricia Rodie said Language is the soul of a nation, a repository of its history, traditions, and collective memory.

She further stated that in the Solomon Islands, our diverse vernacular languages are the heartbeat of our communities, connecting us to our ancestors and to each other.

"It is with great honour that I stand before you today, on behalf of the Vice Chancellor Solomon Islands National University, to commemorate International Mother Language Day."

"This day holds profound significance as we celebrate the rich

"As such, we are committed to integrating language and vernacular training into our teacher education programs, ensuring that future generations are equipped to nurture and pass on this invaluable legacy."

In honouring the commitment to the preservation and development of vernacular languages at SINU, the FEH Dean also announced a new partnership with Kulu Language Institute.



SINU students looking at books written in various Solomon Islands languages.



SINU staff looking at bibles on display during the event.

tapestry of languages that form the cornerstone of our cultural heritage and national identity in the Solomon Islands."

"Language is the soul of a nation, a repository of its history, traditions, and collective memory." "As the late Nelson Mandela once said, "If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart."

"In the Solomon Islands, our diverse vernacular languages are the heartbeat of our communities, connecting us to our ancestors and to each other."

"Recognising the pivotal role of language in early childhood development and education, the new Education Act 2023 has taken a landmark step by mandating the teaching of vernacular languages in early childhood education."

"This is a testament to our nation's commitment to preserving our linguistic heritage and ensuring that our children are rooted in their cultural identity from a tender age."

"At the Solomon Islands National University, we are dedicated to advancing this mission."

"We understand that language is not just a means of communication but a vessel for carrying our values, wisdom, and the essence of who we are as a people."

"In line with our commitment to the preservation and development of our vernacular languages, I am thrilled to announce that SINU is exploring a partnership with the Kulu Language Institute."

"This collaboration, spearheaded by Dr. Alpheus Zobule, will significantly enhance our vernacular language training, and contribute to the cultural richness of our educational landscape."

"We are honoured to welcome Dr. Zobule who will be joining our University community as an Adjunct staff member."

The event started with an interactive session from 9am to 12 pm where SINU students and members of the public viewed items mainly books written in indigenous Solomon Islands languages displayed by participating organisations.

Tok stori event began at 12pm with a language poem, sharing of brief history of the origin of International Mother Language Day, a presentation from Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD) Permanent Secretary (PS) Dr. Franco Rodie, followed by a presentation from the Dean of Faculty of Education and Humanities (FEH) Dr. Patricia Rodie, and a presentation by Timothy Matzke from Solomon Islands Translation Association Group (SITAG) who did a presentation on Language vitality and the languages of Solomon Islands. The event ended with a question and answer session.



MEHRD PS Dr. Franco Rodie presents his speech during the event.



Dean of Faculty of Education and Humanities, Dr. Patricia Rodie presents her speech.

SINU centre of TVET delivers solar training for young women

Seventeen young women who underwent four weeks of training at the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Centre for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) graduated with certificates on Friday, February 9th, 2024.

This is after they successfully completed a four-week solar training program hosted by the SINU Centre of TVET, which started in January of this year.

The training, known as the Green Construction Training Program was funded by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through the Solomon Islands Infrastructure Programme.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony, SINU Vice-Chancellor Professor Transform Aqorau congratulated those young women for their commitment and the successful completion of the training.

VC Prof. Aqorau said the women have shown dedication, resilience, and desire to contribute meaningfully to our society.

"To our graduates, let me say this: your journey does not end here. It is merely the beginning of a lifelong pursuit of learning, innovation, and leadership."

"You are pioneers, setting a precedent for young women across the Solomon Islands and beyond, proving that with determination and access to education, there are no limits to what can be achieved."

Remember the words of Marie Curie, "We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves. We must believe that we are gifted with something and that this thing, at whatever cost, must be attained."

"I extend my heartfelt thanks to our instructors, whose dedication and expertise have been instrumental in the success of this program."

"Your commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders and innovators is truly commendable."

"To the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and all our partners, your support has been invaluable."

"Your belief in the power of education and sustainable development has made this program possible, and for that, we are eternally grateful."

"In closing, let us remember that today's graduation is not just a celebration of individual achievements but a collective step forward towards a brighter, more sustainable future for the Solomon Islands."

"To our graduands, as you embark on this new chapter, carry forward the torch of knowledge, equality, and innovation."

"You are the architects of our future, the beacon of hope for many young girls who dream of making a difference in a world that often tells them they can't."

"Congratulations once again, and may your paths be illuminated with success, wisdom, and the courage to pursue your dreams, no matter the obstacles."

The Australian Government Infrastructure Counsellor Craig Gillies during the event handed over construction tool kits to each of the graduands where he encouraged them to use the tool kits in the course of their work.

Speaking on behalf of the graduates, student representative Tamara Wanetofea thanked Australia and SINU for the great collaboration which saw the Green Construction Training Program end successfully.



SINU VC Prof. Transform Aqorau (Centre) receives solar training materials from Australia representatives.

"The significance of this training extends beyond individual achievement; it is a step towards realising the vision of SINU to be a catalyst for sustainable development and innovation in the Pacific region."

"It is in this spirit that we are working towards the establishment of a Center for Clean Energy, in partnership with the Pacific Clean Energy Partners, Solomon Power Energy Efficiency Initiative, and the Ministry of Mines."

"This Centre will not only serve as a hub for research and innovation in renewable energy sources but also as a testament to our commitment to environmental stewardship, economic development, and the empowerment of our communities through education."

"Investing in clean energy is paramount for a developing country like the Solomon Islands."

"Our reliance on imported fuel not only drains our resources but also stifles the potential for rural economic growth."

"The cost of electricity remains a prohibitive factor, hindering both individual livelihoods and broader economic development."

"By embracing clean energy, we can reduce our dependency on imported fuel, lower electricity costs, and unlock the immense potential of our rural economies. It is a pathway to self-sufficiency, sustainability, and resilience against the impacts of climate change."



Participants of the Green Construction Training Program proudly displaying their certificates.

SINU staff profile

Name: Dexter Tanakesa

Province: Choiseul

Age: 29

Work station: Kukum Campus **Department:** Finance

Job title: Assistant Fixed Asset Movement and Disposal Officer

Qualification: Bachelor Accounting

How long have you been working here? Two years

Tell us about your job? I work as a fixed asset officer-Movement and Disposal under the Finance Department.

Basically, my role involves liaising with all SINU Departments/Faculties to identify assets for disposals/movements. Ensuring that the Fixed Asset Forms are correctly filled, approved and signed-off, also, perform other duties assigned by supervisors from time to time.

Why SINU? I choose to work at SINU because I believe I can make a positive contribution to its success. I have the skills and experience necessary to help the organization reach its goals and I am passionate about the SINU mission and values.

What do you like about SINU and your job? What I like about SINU is the experience of working in a challenging job that helps me to grow both professionally and personally



SINU VC returns after attending VC's leadership seminar in Fiji

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Vice Chancellor (VC) Professor Transform Aqorau has returned to the country after successfully attended the Vice Chancellor's Leadership Seminar Series in Fiji last week.

The Vice Chancellor's Leadership Seminar Series was hosted by the Fiji National University (FNU) on Thursday, 22 February 2024 from 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

The SINU VC Prof. Aqorau who delivered the keynote address on the occasion speaking on the theme, "Navigating the Future: Strengthening Ocean Governance and Seizing Opportunities in Tuna Management and Deep Seabed Regulation for the Prosperity of the Pacific Islands."

According to the SINU VC, "This seminar series is a prestigious event that fosters dialogue on critical public policy issues, particularly those pertinent to Fiji and the broader Pacific Islands region."

"It serves as a platform for sharing insights and engaging in meaningful discussions that can shape the future of our communities and nations."

"The program includes a variety of performances and presentations, culminating in a discussion moderated by Professor Nii-K-Plange."

In his visit VC Aqorau also shared thoughts and engaged with the FNU community on the vital topic.

VC Aqorau returned on Sunday, 25 February 2024 to resume his duty at SINU.

U n i V o i s

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Solomon Islands National University (SINU) is the Prime and ONLY National University of Solomon Islands.

Founded in 2013, SINU is striving to be one of the Best Education and Research Institute in the Region.

Our VISION: "A quality National University, raising Standards of education and applied research in the

Pacific Region."

Our Mission: "Championing the pursuit of knowledge, skills, academic inquiry and applied research to transform lives through higher education and training, inclusive of diverse communities, while providing relevant solutions for the Solomon Islands.