

Navigating Change: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Development in the Solomon Islands

The inaugural Panatina Research Seminar will be hosted by the Solomon Islands National University, in collaboration with the Australian National University, Monday November 3, 2025. This activity is supported by the Australian Government through the [Pacific Research Program Phase II](#), the Australian Government under the [Australian Awards Program](#) and the Solomon Islands-Australia Education Partnership.

The Panatina Research Seminar is an annual seminar series to provide a nexus for interdisciplinary dialogue, research and debate about Solomon Islands' pressing issues and development. The Panatina Research Seminar aims to:

- gather global experts, local stakeholders, policy architects and students
- promote the sharing of research outcomes, insights and best practices
- spur collaborative research endeavours
- offer a platform for local voices and viewpoints
- guide policy and stimulate actionable sustainability strategies.

Modelled after the groundbreaking Waigani Seminar in Papua New Guinea in the 1960s and the well-attended PNG Updates organised in collaboration with Australian National University, the Panatina Research Seminar convenes leaders, scholars, activists and intellectuals from Solomon Islands and the wider region.

From climate change to societal shifts, the Solomon Islands presents a complex study landscape, with its national university uniquely placed to facilitate local and global solutions to pressing development challenges. The Panatina Research Seminar promotes SINU's latest research and its role in intellectual and societal advancement which, through events such as the Panatina Seminar, can help shape the nation's destiny.

Seminar Sessions

All attendees are invited to attend the plenary sessions and then choose which concurrent session suits their expertise and interests. Please register using the QR code below to ensure there is space for your attendance.

<https://events.humanitix.com/panatina-research-seminar-2025>

*Please note, space at the event is limited so your registration is appreciated.



Monday November 3, 2025

Time				
8.30	<i>Opening Session</i>	Prime Minister, Jeremiah Manele (Invited) Leader of Opposition, Matthew Wale SINU Vice Chancellor, Dr Transform Aqorau <i>Chaired by: Vice Chancellor's Office</i> (Main Lecture Theatre)		
10.00	Morning Tea (Boardroom)			
10.30	<i>Charting the Solomon Islands' Future: The Role of Knowledge and Innovation</i>	Professor David Gegeo Dr Lincy Pendeverana Dr. Franco Rodie (Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development) <i>Chaired by: Dr Patricia Rodie Faculty of Education and Humanities</i> (Main Lecture Theatre)		
11.30 *Concurrent sessions	<i>1A: Climate change innovations</i> Dr. Merry Faluaburu Michael Kuali John Rofeta John Waihuru <i>Chaired by: Dr Timothy Kale Faculty of Science and Technology</i> (Main Lecture Theatre)	<i>1B: Leveraging technology for health solutions</i> Dr Humpress Harrington Dr Relmah Harrington Urijah Liligeto <i>Chaired by: Nixon Panda Faculty of Nursing and Medical Services</i> (G2)	<i>1C: Strengthening university-collaborations</i> Dr Hugo Bugoro, Director ORPS Alex Makini, ORPS Dr Anouk Ride, ANU Associate Professor Sonia Palmieri, ANU <i>Chaired by: Dr Eric Katovai Pro Vice-Chancellor, Academic</i> (T5)	<i>1D: Environmental challenges & responses</i> Dr Edgar Pollard Lovelyn Otoiasi Ministry of Environment Conservation Disaster Management SINU students <i>Chaired by: Dr Mary Tahu Paia Faculty of Forestry, Fisheries and Agriculture</i> (T7)

1.00	Lunch (Boardroom)			
2.00	<i>Guest Keynote</i>	Professor Helen Sullivan Dean, College of Asia and the Pacific College of Asia and the Pacific Australian National University (Main Lecture Theatre)		
2.30	<i>Aid, migration and inclusive development</i>	Professor Stephen Howes Development Policy Centre Australian National University Amelia Fa'otusia PhD Student, Department of Pacific Affairs Australian National University (Main Lecture Theatre)		
3.30 *Concurrent sessions	2A: Fisheries innovations Dr Gregory Bennett (WorldFish) Ms. Anna Kera (Prime Fish) Dr Kofi Apreku Luke Maxwell Jino Madeline Kili Solo Chaired by: Dr Lindon Havimana Faculty of Forestry, Fisheries and Agriculture (T5)	2B: Strategies for transparency and effectiveness of governance Dr Luke Forau (Central Bank of Solomon Islands) Dr Jerry Siota Ministry of Public Service Chaired by: Dr Eliot Mugamu Faculty of Business and Tourism (Main Lecture Theatre)	2C: Dialogues for peace, social cohesion and identity for nation building Associate Professor Billy Fito'o Reverend Dr Ben Wate Dr. Patricia Rodie Chaired by: Dr. John Sisiolo Faculty of Education and Humanities (G2)	2D: Agricultural innovations Simon Iro (Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock) Tomohito Zukoshi & Simon Mannie (Agriculture Industry) Elison Toramo Patterson Giza Lawrence Atu Chaired by: Dr Vaeno Wayne Vigulu Faculty Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (T7)
5.00	Closing ceremony (Main Lecture Theatre)			