

ANNUAL REPORT

2024



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1. PRO CHANCELLOR'S FOREWORD

As Pro-Chancellor and Chair of Council, I am honoured to present the 2024 Annual Report. This report not only chronicles a year of remarkable achievement but also reflects the collective determination of SINU to fulfil its pivotal role in advancing education, learning, research, and innovation for the enduring development of the Solomon Islands and the wider Pacific region.



The SINU Council is entrusted with the governance and strategic oversight of the University, and as chairman of the council, I am heartened by the substantial strides made during 2024. The progress detailed herein affirms SINU's unwavering commitment to nurturing human capital, fostering knowledge creation, and addressing the unique challenges and opportunities facing our islands. In a context marked by rapid social, economic and technological change, coupled with the persistent impacts of global disruptions, SINU's achievements underscore the resilience and adaptive capacity of our institution.

The strive for good governance, expansion of academic programs, commitment to attain accreditation and the strengthening of research capabilities are not merely institutional milestones; they represent a purposeful alignment with national priorities and the aspirations of our people. The Council's endorsement of autonomy for the TVET division exemplifies a strategic shift towards delivering practical, industry-relevant skills that will empower our youth to contribute meaningfully to the Solomon Islands' socio-economic advancement.

The University's commitment to our students and access to quality education remains a cornerstone of its mission. Efforts to deepen flexible learning modalities and to support the holistic well-being of students reflect an understanding that education must be accessible, relevant, and responsive to the diverse needs of our communities, including those in remote and underserved provinces.

I commend the Vice-Chancellor, the senior management team, and all staff members for their dedication and professionalism. Their leadership in research excellence, evidenced by growing external funding and applied scholarship in areas critical to our national interests such as public health, national security, climate resilience, and water management, positions SINU as a vital contributor to policy and community development.

The University Council remains steadfast in its role to provide robust governance, ensuring that SINU operates with transparency, accountability, and foresight. As custodians of the University's mandate, we are committed to fostering an environment where academic freedom, innovation, and sustainability thrive. We recognise that challenges persist- whether in resource mobilization, gender equity, or adapting to shifting enrolment patterns and these will be met with strategic interventions and collaborative partnerships. Looking forward, SINU is poised to consolidate its gains, deepen its impact, and continue evolving as a beacon of knowledge and progress. The vision to produce graduates who are not only work-ready but also nation-ready is central to this endeavour, underpinning our commitment to build a brighter future for the Solomon Islands.

I extend my sincere gratitude to the Government of Solomon Islands, our development partners, the University community, and the families who place their trust in SINU. Together, we are forging a university that embodies our national identity and serves as a catalyst for transformation.

2. VICE CHANCELLOR'S OVERVIEW

It is my privilege to present the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) Annual Report for 2024. This report captures a year of purposeful progress—marked by academic expansion, renewed emphasis on student success, stronger research activity, and important upgrades to our infrastructure and digital backbone—while also acknowledging areas where we must do better and go further.



SINU exists to raise standards of education, training, and research for the Solomon Islands and the wider Pacific. In 2024 we broadened academic pathways to meet national skills needs. Program offerings grew to their highest level in five years, including new postgraduate routes and the continuation of University Preparatory College pathways. A milestone was the Senate's approval of autonomy for SINU TVET (TAFE), reflecting our determination to deliver work-ready skills aligned to labour-market demand in trades, construction, engineering, and hospitality. We also deepened flexible access through Distance and Flexible Learning, while strengthening student support—health and wellness, counselling, financial assistance, and inclusive initiatives—to create a safer, more supportive environment in which students can thrive.

We celebrated our 11th graduation at Maranatha Hall and conferred 1,200 qualifications—among them the University's first PhD—an historic moment for our nation's higher education. These achievements belong to our students, their families, our staff, and our partners who invest their trust in SINU's mission.

Research and innovation advanced in meaningful ways. With a revitalised Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies and Associate Deans Research in place, our staff secured competitive external funding and produced an increased volume of peer-reviewed outputs across public health, water and WASH, education, and climate-related fields. External research income reached new heights, signalling confidence from development partners and the growing relevance of SINU-led, applied scholarship to national priorities. We also increased our public dissemination through conferences, workshops, and policy dialogues, connecting evidence to practice in communities across our islands.

Our partnerships matured and multiplied. New and renewed Memoranda of Understanding with government, regional organisations, and leading universities—across the Pacific and beyond—are expanding opportunities for student mobility, joint research, technical collaboration, and community outreach. These relationships anchor SINU in a broader ecosystem of learning and problem solving, and help our graduates step confidently into employment and leadership.

We invested substantially in our physical and digital campuses. Work progressed on the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine and Health Sciences Classroom & Laboratory Complex, supported through the national development budget, alongside significant rehabilitation at Poitete Campus in Western Province. We continued essential maintenance and upgrades at Kukum and advanced designs for future builds. On the digital front, fibre expansion, VSAT connectivity to DFL sites, a modernised Moodle ecosystem, and procurement of a new Student Management System lay the groundwork for data-informed decisions, improved student experience, and resilient operations. Planning for a dedicated Data Centre solution also moved forward, reflecting our commitment to reliability and cybersecurity.

Financially, we strengthened our core operating position through disciplined management of revenues and expenditures, while transparently reporting an accounting revaluation loss on property, plant and equipment in line with standards. Government grants combined with student-related income and other earnings underpinned our teaching, research, student services, and capital works. We are grateful to the Solomon Islands Government for its support and to families, sponsors, and partners whose contributions make the University's work possible.



Good governance remained central. The Council and its Committees, Senate, and the Senior Management Committee provided direction and scrutiny, with terms of reference refreshed to align with best practice. We grew our academic and corporate workforce and expanded staff development—yet we recognise that gender imbalances persist at senior academic levels. In the year ahead we will prioritise targeted mentoring, long-term training, and recruitment strategies to support women’s progression into doctoral and professorial ranks.

We also recognise challenges. Enrolments were uneven across faculties as the sector adjusts to post-pandemic pressures and changing household economics. Our response is to focus on quality and relevance: strengthening academic advising and retention, deepening school and provincial outreach, improving timetables and service processes, and building labour-market pathways through apprenticeships and employer co-design. We will continue to modernise our systems, simplify the student journey, and uphold a culture of care and accountability.

Looking ahead, our priorities are clear: complete and commission critical infrastructure; deliver the new Student Management System and Data Centre; consolidate TVET (TAFE) autonomy and apprenticeships; lift research quality and postgraduate supervision capacity; intensify student support and retention; and embed financial discipline with timely audits and robust risk management. Above all, we will stay true to SINU’s values—excellence, relevance, inclusivity, collegiality, sustainability, leadership, and technology—so that our graduates are work-ready, future-ready, and nation-ready.

I thank the Pro-Chancellor and Council, our Chancellor, the Government of Solomon Islands, donors and partners, alumni, our devoted staff, and the communities we serve. Most of all, I congratulate our students for their resilience and achievement. Together, we are building a university worthy of our nation’s aspirations.

Professor Transform Aqorau

Vice-Chancellor

Solomon Islands National University

3. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2024, the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) continued to advance its mission of meeting the nation's human resource needs through growth in academic programs, strengthened vocational training, improved access to learning, and major investments in infrastructure, ICT, and research. Academic program offerings reached 104, the highest in five years and a 19.5% increase from 2023, reflecting strong growth across faculties, particularly in Education and Humanities, Science and Technology, and Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries. The introduction of postgraduate and PhD programs further broadened academic pathways, while the University Preparatory College maintained its essential role in preparing students for tertiary studies.

TVET (TAFE) marked a milestone achievement in 2024 with Senate approval of its autonomy, following programme reviews and developments aligned with labour market demands, including construction management, mechanical engineering, and culinary arts. Partnerships with the Apprenticeship Board advanced the revival of the National Apprenticeship Training programme, reinforcing workforce readiness in line with national priorities.

SINU expanded access by increasing enrolment across certificate, diploma, degree, and postgraduate levels, including through Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) to reach students in remote communities. Student support services were strengthened, encompassing health and wellness, counselling, financial assistance, and inclusive initiatives, ensuring a safe and supportive environment that fosters academic success.

Research and innovation also grew significantly, with the Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies revitalising research governance and capacity, supporting staff development, and promoting postgraduate research. SINU attracted substantial external research funding, produced 22 publications over 2023–2024, and actively engaged in knowledge dissemination through conferences, workshops, and collaborations with regional and international institutions, reinforcing its role as a hub of applied and impactful research.

Governance, leadership, and human resource capacity were strengthened, with the Council and Senior Management Committee ensuring effective oversight, and strategic recruitment and staff development expanding academic and corporate capacity. While gender imbalances remain at the highest academic levels, ongoing professional development and long-term training programs aim to enhance equity and capability across the University.

SINU continued major infrastructure and ICT development, including the \$67 million FNMHS Classroom & Laboratory Complex, Poitete Campus rehabilitation supported by a \$3.3 million Indian Government grant, and improvements to Kukum Flats and other facilities. ICT initiatives included fibre network expansion, VSAT installation at DFL sites, Moodle LMS enhancements, a new Student Management System, and progress toward a Data Centre, strengthening both learning and operational systems.

Financially, SINU demonstrated robust performance in 2024. Total income reached \$189.3 million, driven by government grants of \$57.03 million, student tuition and fees totaling \$125.32 million, and other income of \$6.94 million, including research grants. While total assets decreased slightly to \$1.414 billion due to lower valuations of property, plant, and equipment, liabilities reduced to \$25.79 million, and retained earnings rose substantially to \$597.55 million, reflecting strong internal financial management. Operational, administrative, and personnel expenditures were carefully managed to support infrastructure, academic programs, student services, and staff development.

Together, these achievements in program expansion, research, student support, governance, infrastructure, ICT, and financial management demonstrate SINU's commitment to providing quality education, fostering innovation, and contributing meaningfully to national and regional development priorities in the Solomon Islands and the Pacific region.

4. INSTITUTIONAL OVERVIEW

Our Vision

A quality National University, raising standards of education, training and research in the Solomon Islands and the Pacific region, towards achieving better living standards; foster nation-building, creation of an inclusive society and empowerment of people, and enhancement of the core universally accepted values of humanity.

Our Mission

Championing the pursuit of advanced knowledge and skills, through skills development, academic inquiry and research, to transform lives through higher education and training, and to become a dual-sector University of acceptable quality and standards in its programme offerings, research and innovation, publications and community outreach, distance flexible learning with respectable quality of staffing and University governance.

Our Values and Principles

Excellence and Quality: SINU is committed to providing excellent and high-quality teaching, learning, skills training and research.

Innovativeness: SINU encourages and promotes creative ideas and solutions to existing and new challenges.

Relevance: SINU is committed to providing relevant teaching, learning, skills, training and research that meet diverse community needs at present and in the future.

Inclusivity: SINU is inclusive regardless of physical, political, gender, ethnic, religious or other differences.

Collegiality: SINU values mutual respect that encourages a sense of community.

Leadership: SINU is committed to creating and empowering aspiring future leaders.

Sustainability: SINU uses resources with respect for the environment and human well-being.

Technology: SINU encourages and promotes technology literacy in a modern learning environment.

Governance

Council

The SINU Council was established under the Solomon Islands National University Act 2012 to oversee the governance and administration of the university. It comprises a diverse membership structure, including the Pro Chancellor (who serves as Chairperson), six official members, five appointed members, eight elected members, and three co-opted members. The official members include key figures such as the Vice Chancellor, the two Pro-Vice Chancellors (Academic and Corporate), and the Permanent Secretaries for the Ministries of Education and Finance. Appointed members represent various fields of study and are selected by the Minister of Education in consultation with official members.

Elected members represent different parts of the university community, including faculty deans, professorial and non-professorial academic staff, students, alumni, and general staff. Additionally, three co-opted members are chosen based on their commercial, academic, or professional expertise. The Vice Chancellor serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the university and is accountable to the Council for the overall management, order, and performance of the institution. The Pro-Vice Chancellors are appointed by the Council to support in leading academic and corporate functions.

Council Sub Committees

There are five Council Subcommittee that are established under the Act. They are as follows;

1. Executive Governance Committee:

The Executive Governance Committee is established under Chapter 2 of the SINU Statutes and operates in line with the University's Corporate Governance Policy. It is empowered to act on behalf of the Council in urgent matters and to provide strategic oversight when the full Council cannot convene. The Committee makes timely decisions, advises on strategic direction, and addresses key governance issues. It is appointed in accordance with Section 7 of SINU's Corporate Governance Policy and plays a crucial role in ensuring continuity and strategic focus at the governance level.

2. Finance and Investments Committee:

The Finance and Investments Committee is tasked with overseeing SINU's financial health and investment strategies. It provides strategic advice on the effective management of the University's financial resources to ensure long-term sustainability. The Committee plays a vital role in guiding financial decision-making, supporting fiscal responsibility, and aligning investments with the institution's development goals, ensuring that the University maintains financial stability and prudent investment practices.

3. Physical Resources Committee:

The Physical Resources Committee provides governance and strategic oversight over all of SINU's tangible assets, including land, buildings, infrastructure, ICT systems, and heritage sites. It ensures that physical resources are effectively maintained, aligned with the University's strategic objectives, and support teaching, research, and community engagement. The Committee advises the Council on relevant policies and addresses asset management and infrastructure matters referred by the Council or Vice-Chancellor.

4. Audit and Risk Committee:

The Audit and Risk Committee ensures effective oversight of SINU's financial reporting, auditing practices, and risk management systems. It is accountable to the Council and supports compliance with regulatory requirements, integrity in financial practices, and robust internal controls. The Committee assesses institutional risks and coordinates with external auditors, offering expert recommendations on accounting, risk mitigation strategies, and responses to audit findings, thereby safeguarding the University's operations.

5. Human Resources Committee:

The Human Resources Committee is responsible for providing strategic guidance on all human resource matters within SINU. It advises the Council on HR policies, planning, and workforce development to ensure alignment with the University's strategic goals. The Committee ensures that HR policies are up to date, comprehensive, and supportive of staff management and growth. It is appointed by the Council according to the Corporate Governance Policy and contributes to building a capable and motivated workforce.

SINU Senate

The SINU Senate is the principal academic body of the University, responsible for overseeing teaching, research, academic policies, and student discipline. It regulates all academic programs and ensures educational quality and integrity. Chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, the Senate includes senior academic officers, heads of faculties and institutes, and professors. Initially, all professors are members, but after six years, a designated number are elected by their peers. The Senate ensures academic excellence and plays a key role in shaping the scholarly direction of SINU.

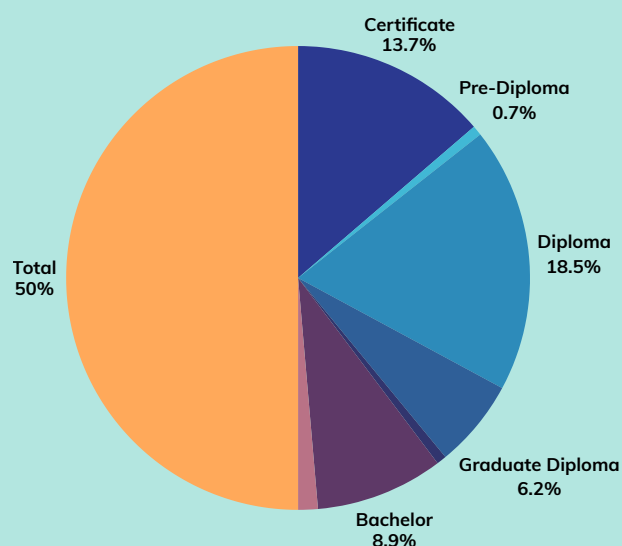
5. GOAL 1: MEETING SOLOMON ISLANDS HR NEEDS

Programme Development

The total number of academic programs offered by the university increased considerably in 2024, reaching 104 programs, the highest over the five-year period (2020–2024). This reflects a notable 19.5% growth compared to 2023 (87 programs) and a 33.3% increase from the lowest point in 2022 (77 programs).

In view of the trend by specific faculty and Centres, the Faculty of Education and Humanities (FEH) saw the highest in 2024, increasing from 16 programs in 2023 to 28 programs, though slightly below its 2020 level (31). The Faculty of Science and Technology (FST) maintained a leading position in program expansion, growing steadily from 13 in 2020 to a peak of 29 in 2023 before a slight decline to 27 in 2024. The Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (FAFF) demonstrated continuous growth over the period, nearly doubling its programs from 8 in 2020 to 14 in 2024. Similarly, the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine and Health Sciences (FNMHS) increased its offerings from 12 in 2020 to 14 in 2024, reflecting ongoing programmatic development. Meanwhile, the Faculty of Business and Tourism (FBT) remained stable, offering 12 programs in 2024—up slightly from the consistent 11 recorded in earlier years.

In contrast to the programme development seen in faculties, the Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) division experienced a decline after reaching its peak of 11 programs in 2021. The number of programs offered through DFL dropped to 7 in both 2023 and 2024. The University Preparatory College (UPC) maintained a consistent program structure, offering 2 programs each year throughout the five-year period from 2020 to 2024. This consistency indicates the firm role of UPC in preparing students for tertiary education.



The total number of programs across all levels increased significantly from 73 in 2020 to 104 in 2024, marking a strong rising trend in program development. The Certificate and Diploma levels remained the most prominent, with Certificates rising steadily to 40 in 2024, and Diplomas showing consistency with 31 programs. Important developments include the introduction of Postgraduate Certificates and diplomas and especially PhD programs in 2023. The growth across diverse levels shows the institution's strategic focus on broadening access and strengthening academic development pathways.

Program by level 2020-2024

Program Level	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Certificate	20	37	28	34	38
Pre-Diploma	1			1	1
Diploma	27	40	32	30	30
Graduate Diploma	9				1
Pre-Degree	1			1	1
Bachelor	13	14	14	20	24
Postgraduate	-				2
Postgraduate	2	2	1	1	2
Master	-	2	2	2	2
PhD	-			1	0
Total	73	95	77	87	100

Program by Faculty & Institutes 2020-2024

Faculty	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
FEH	31	30	25	16	22
FBT	11	11	11	12	13
FST	13	20	21	29	29
FAFF	8	10	9	9	12
FNMHS	12	13	11	12	13
IGDD	0	0	0	1	1
DFL	1	11	9	7	8
UPC	2	2	2	2	2
TOTAL	78	95	77	87	100

TVET(TAFE)

In 2024, SINU TVET(TAFE) initiated reviews and developments of multiple programmes including the Diploma in Construction Management, Certificate IV in Mechanical Engineering, and Certificate IV in Culinary Arts, ensuring relevance to labour market demands.

TVET also took steps toward autonomy with the submission of a formal proposal to the Senate and engagement with the Apprenticeship Board to revive the National Apprenticeship Training programme. These collaborative efforts emphasized the importance of aligning TAFE programs with industry needs and national workforce priorities. As a result of these initiatives and following careful review and deliberation by the Senate, TAFE was officially approved as an autonomous body within SINU in 2024.

Access,

Solomon Islands National University (SINU) continued to strengthen access to its academic and vocational programmes in 2024. The University ensure that there is inclusivity and opportunity for learners across the country. The university expanded enrolment in various programmes across certificate, diploma, degree, and postgraduate levels, including through the Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) mode to reach students in remote and underserved areas. These efforts show SINU's constant commitment to equitable access to quality higher education and skills training for all Solomon Islanders.

Digital Delivery

To support teaching and learning across the University campuses and remote sites, SINU continued to strengthen its use of Moodle as the primary Learning Management System (LMS) and Library online books. Moodle provided a digital platform where lecturers uploaded course materials, assignments, quizzes, and facilitated discussions, enabling students to access learning resources.

SINU also made available to students and staff the Library Digital Space accessible through the University website, providing a centralized hub that includes the Library Database, E-Journals, E-Books, Digital Libraries, and a range of Research Tools. This digital space is designed to support teaching and enhance student learning by offering convenient access to quality academic resources. It enables students and staff to engage in research, complete assignments, and access up-to-date scholarly content from anywhere, reinforcing SINU's commitment to modern, flexible, and technology-enabled education.



6. GOAL 2: STUDENT LIFE

Admissions

The 2024 admission cycle at SINU opened on 2nd October 2023 and closed on 5th January 2024, later extended to the end of Lecture Week 4 to accommodate delays in SITESA and NESU results. Application forms and programme listings were distributed physically at the SAS Office and online via the SINU website and Facebook page, with additional drop-off points due to Pacific Games campus restrictions. Peak submissions occurred in the final two weeks before closure, during which SAS staff managed application assessment, unit enrolment, and transcript processing concurrently.

All applications, whether hand-delivered or emailed, were logged into the Student Management System (SMS) for tracking and assessment. While an online portal was introduced, fewer than 100 online applications reached SAS for final processing. Data entry was a collaborative effort across SAS units, supported by part-time staff for issuing forms and SMS input. The process included Finance verification of application fee payment before assessment by permanent SAS staff.

Assessment outcomes were categorized as qualified, qualified with condition, or not qualified, with document verification to prevent falsification. Unqualified applicants were often offered placement in UPCIII or UPCIV to retain them within SINU. Results were communicated through in-person inquiries, email responses, and five batch publications listing qualified candidates. Incomplete applications were flagged, and applicants were contacted to supply missing requirements.

Entry exams were introduced for certain teaching programmes and the Diploma of Nursing, with special consideration for Ni-Vanuatu international applicants who were admitted based on meeting academic requirements without sitting exams. Qualified applicants received an enrolment package, including an offer letter, manual enrolment form, fee schedule, and enrolment guide, to prepare for the next stage of the academic process.

Enrolment

The enrolment process for 2024 at SINU was a coordinated effort involving the SAS, Finance, and ICT departments. Preparations began with the Enrolment Committee meeting a week before pre-enrolment to decide on venues, staffing, and logistical arrangements. Pre-enrolment in 2024, targeted continuing students familiar with the process. Faculty-level activities included unit counselling, orientation guidance, and provision of manual enrolment forms, though students still had to visit the Finance Office for proformas and invoices, which caused some delays. Daily enrolment data, averaging 160 students per day, was tracked and sent to senior administrators, though not always extracted on time. Enrolment hours started at 9am with expectations of punctuality for all staff, which was generally met, aided by transport arrangements for ICT and Finance staff. Overall, the process highlighted improvements in venue management but also revealed areas for efficiency gains in documentation, ID processing, and decentralization

The table shows that the 2024 enrolment experienced a significant overall decline compared to 2023, with total student numbers dropping from 10,991 to 8,233 (–25%). All faculties and centres recorded decreases, with the largest proportional decline in the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine & Health Science (–60%) and notable drops in the Faculty of Education & Humanities (–47%) and the University Preparatory College (–46%). The Faculty of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries remained stable with minimal change (–0.3%). These figures highlight a broad reduction in student intake across the university.

Enrolment by Faculty, 2020-2024							
	Faculty	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total Enrolment
	FEH	3,621	2,322	2,587	3,460	1,841	13,831
	FBT	2,006	1,251	1,570	1,943	1,513	8,283
	FST	569	1,653	817	1,074	962	5,075.00
	FAFF	850	640	721	800	911	3,922
	FNMHS	1,223	1,098	1,705	2,121	2,119	8,266
	DFL		725		1,167	465	2,357
	UPC	0		51	426	422	899
	Total	8,269	7,689	7,451	10,991	8,233	42,633

Graduation

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) successfully hosted its 11th graduation ceremony on 22nd of August 2024 at Maranatha Hall, where 1,200 students were awarded qualifications ranging from certificates to the University's first-ever PhD across its six faculties. The occasion was marked by inspirational addresses from Vice-Chancellor Professor Transform Aqorau, who celebrated the achievements of graduates and highlighted milestone successes, including the graduation of a Ni-Vanuatu student in the Bachelor of Nursing Acute Care program. The ceremony was attended by distinguished guests, including the Governor General, His Excellency Rev. David Tiva Kapu, who congratulated graduates and encouraged them to apply their knowledge for national development, and Chancellor Sir Dr. Nathan Kumamusa Kere, who reminded graduates that they remain an integral part of the SINU community.



Support Services

In 2024, SINU's support services significantly enhanced the overall student experience by ensuring efficient processes and responsive assistance throughout the academic year. Particularly, the following support service departments has played key as;

- Student Academic Services (SAS) provides academic advising, course enrolment support and assistance with examinations to help students succeed in their studies.
- The Finance Office manages student tuition payments, scholarships, financial aid, and other financial services to ensure students can access and maintain their education.
- Information and Communication Technology (ICT) maintains IT infrastructure, digital learning platforms, and technical support to enable effective teaching, learning, and research.
- Properties, Facilities and Project department ensures classrooms, laboratories, lecture halls, and other campus facilities are well-maintained, safe, and conducive for learning.
- Public Relations Office (PRO) communicates university news, events, and opportunities, and promotes engagement between students, staff, and the wider community.
- Library Services provides access to books, journals, online resources, research assistance, and study spaces to support academic learning and research.
- Security ensures a safe and secure campus environment, protecting students, staff, and university property.



SINUSA Officer Bearers 2024

L-R: Ericson Rurai (Treasurer), Ben Besa Jatobatu (Vice President), Patricia Leah Suiau (Secretary) & Ray William Ereoli (President).

In terms of students' overall well-being, engagement, and development outside the classroom, the University ensures that students have a holistic university experience. In this regard the University successfully facilitated in May 2024 the election of the new leaders to key executive positions of the Solomon Islands National University Student Association (SINUSA). SINUSA exists to be the voice of students, safeguard their interests, and create opportunities for holistic development during their time at SINU. SINUSA organizes student activities, social and cultural events, and supports initiatives that enhance the student experience on campus. The association also collaborates with university management, faculties, and external partners to address student concerns and foster a vibrant, inclusive, and engaging campus life.

7. Goal 3: KNOWLEDGE AND INNOVATION

SINU Research Capacity Development

SINU has made strategic progress in strengthening its research governance, leadership, and staffing. The Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies (ORPS) has been revitalised with a team of qualified staff and the appointment of Associate Deans Research across faculties to drive research activities. The RAMP-up strategy has been reintroduced to build staff research capability, and the research methodology course has been revived to equip academic staff with essential research skills. Additionally, efforts to differentiate academic staff into teaching-only and teaching-and-research streams are underway to ensure focused development of both education and research excellence.

SINU through the Office of Research and Postgraduate Studies are developing policies and procedures to support postgraduate research, research ethics, and funding management. Plans are also advancing to recruit and retain professorial-ranked staff with supervisory experience and to establish postgraduate programmes in priority areas. Infrastructure development, including access to shared facilities, and a proposed incentive scheme for high-quality publications are key steps toward a more research-enabling environment. The University has also begun attracting external research funds and is working toward establishing specialised centres, reaffirming its commitment to becoming a hub for innovative and impactful research in the Solomon Islands

Research Projects

In 2024, SINU's research portfolio demonstrated significant growth. The GU-IWC Water Management project (SBD 18,037.56) was successfully completed over 2023–2024, while two RERIPA components (C1 and C3), valued at a combined SBD 94,532.13, were closed in 2024. The UNDP SAFE Project GEF7, valued at SBD 1,181,565.00, is currently active and represents a significant milestone in SINU's engagement with global development partners. Additionally, the CARP USAID project, with a prospective funding of SBD 1,614,612.12, is under review and, if approved, will become SINU's largest research grant to date

Research Projects

Year	Project Name	Amount (SBD)	Status
2023-2024	GU-IWC Water Management	18,037.56	Complete
2024	UNDP SAFE Project GEF7	1,181,565.00	Active/On-going
2024-2028	CARP USAID	1,614,612.12	Pending Review
2024	RERIPA C1	14,766.50	Closed
2024	RERIPA C3	79,765.63	Closed
		3,508,746.81	

External Research Income (2020-2024)

Year	External Research Income (SBD)
2024	3,508,746.81
Total	3,508,746.81

SINU recorded a total of SBD3,508,746.81 in external research income, marking a significant achievement in strengthening the University's research profile and partnerships. This reflects growing confidence from development partners and funding agencies in SINU's research capacity and the relevance of its research initiatives. The income supports ongoing efforts to enhance applied research, address national development priorities, and promote evidence-based solutions for the Solomon Islands

Between 2020 and 2024, SINU demonstrated steady growth in research outputs across various categories, with slight increase in peer-reviewed publications from 2021 onwards. The University produced 20 refereed journal articles, showing stable academic engagement, mainly with a highest of nine publications in 2023. Conference papers emerged in 2023, with nine peer-reviewed papers, reflecting increased researcher participation in academic forums, followed by two papers in 2024. Books and book chapters remained limited but increased to three outputs in 2024, indicating progress in scholarly contributions beyond journal publications. Reports and other publications showed sporadic but consistent output, with contributions in all five years. Overall, the data highlights positive trends in research productivity, especially in refereed outputs, signalling improved academic quality and SINU's growing contribution to scholarly knowledge at national and regional levels. Continued focus on peer-reviewed research will be essential to strengthening the University's research profile and academic impact.

Research Publications 2023–2024

Research publication output at SINU significantly increased during 2023 and 2024, highlighting a positive trail in scholarly contributions across diverse disciplines. A total of 22 publications were recorded during this period, including peer-reviewed journal articles, international policy commentaries, conference presentations, and technical reports. These publications reflect collaborative efforts between SINU researchers and regional and international institutions such as the University of Auckland, Griffith University, and the International Water Centre. Prominent themes covered include climate change, water and sanitation (WASH), child health, public health, education, and political development in the Solomon Islands.

Research Outputs by Category and Refereed Status (2020-2024)

Year	Research Output Category	Refereed (Peer-Reviewed)	Non-Refereed	Total Outputs
2020	Journal Articles			
	Conference Papers			
	Books/Book Chapters			
	Reports/Other Publications	1		1
2021	Journal Articles	1		1
	Conference Papers			
	Books/Book Chapters			
	Reports/Other Publications	9		9
2022	Journal Articles	1		1
	Conference Papers			
	Books/Book Chapters	1		1
	Reports/Other Publications	9		9
2023	Journal Articles	9		9
	Conference Papers	9		9
	Books/Book Chapters	1		1
	Reports/Other Publications	1		1
2024	Journal Articles	6		6
	Conference Papers	2		2
	Books/Book Chapters	3		3
	Reports/Other Publications	2		2

Particularly, several publications appeared in ranked international journals, including The Lancet Regional Health – Western Pacific, Journal of Water and Health, Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, and International Nursing Review. These high-quality outputs, authored or co-authored by SINU staff such as Dr. Hugo Bugoro, Mr. Nixon Panda, and others, demonstrate growing research credibility and global engagement. Conference participation and technical reports also contributed to visibility, with presentations made at events such as the Water & WASH Futures Conference and the World Water Week Conference. This rise in research publications signals the effectiveness of institutional efforts—such as the RAMP-up strategy, enhanced support from ORPS, and collaborations with Adjunct Fellows—in fostering a productive research culture at SINU.

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Research Result Dissemination

In alignment with the Strategic Plan Objective 3.2, SINU has taken considerable steps to improve the dissemination of research results both locally and internationally. Throughout the reporting period, several conferences and workshops were hosted or attended by staff, contributing to broader sharing of research findings and policy engagement.

Efforts are ongoing to institutionalise a minimum of six annual research dissemination events, providing structured platforms for presenting and debating scholarly work. In parallel, mechanisms are being put in place to support the conversion of conference papers into peer-reviewed journal articles, further strengthening the visibility and impact of SINU-led research.



Participants of Coconut Pest conference group photo.



SINUs' Dr Eric Katovvai leading a discussion during the RERIPA Call 1 conference

8. Goal 4: Governance, Management, and Human Resource

Governance

In 2024, four appointed members formally withdrew from their positions on the Council. In accordance with the governing Act, the Council is mandated to convene at least three times per calendar year. As of the reporting period, two Council meetings have been conducted, in addition to meetings held by the respective Council Sub-committees.

As part of the efforts to maintain effective governance amid these changes, the Terms of Reference for Council Sub-committee members were comprehensively reviewed and updated to ensure greater clarity, specificity, and alignment with best governance practices. This initiative indicates the Council's continued commitment to strengthening institutional governance and enhancing its oversight functions.

Management

The Senior Management Committee (SMC) of the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) serves as the university's senior executive body, responsible for overseeing institutional operations and steering strategic direction. Comprising the Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellors, and other senior executives, the SMC plays a vital role in high-level decision-making, policy implementation, and ensuring operational efficiency across the university. As the core leadership team, the SMC is instrumental in driving institutional performance and ensuring alignment with SINU's strategic priorities and long-term vision. A total of six formal meetings were held during the year: two SMC meetings, two Senate meetings, and two joint SMC/Senate meetings. The above table shows the number of meetings, motions and dates of each meetings in 2024.

Council and Sub-Committee Meetings		
Meetings	Dates	No. of Motions
1 st Council Meeting	14 th Oct 2024	12 motions
2 nd Council Meeting	13 th Dec 2024	12 motions
1 st Finance & Investment Committee	6 th Nov 2024	2 motions
2 nd Human Resource Committee	1 st Oct 2024	3 motions
1 st Physical Resources Committee	11 th Oct 2024	6 motions
2 nd Physical Resources Committee	21 st Nov 2024	1 motion
1 st Executive Governance Committee	29 th Nov 2024	3 motions



Senate & SMC Meetings	Meeting dates	No. of Motions
1st SMC Meeting	29th Feb 2024	4 matters
2nd SMC Meeting	25th Nov 2024	6 matters
1st Senate Meeting	1st Feb 2024	4 matters
2nd Senate Meeting	15th July	2 matters
Joint SMC/Senate Meeting	31st July 2024	8 matters
Joint SMC/Senate Meeting	17th Oct 2024	5 motions

Human Resources

Staff Composition

Between 2020 and 2024, SINU's staff composition experienced notable fluctuations, with a general decline from 747 staff in 2020 to a low of 576 in 2022, followed by a recovery to 622 in 2024. Academic and Corporate staff numbers steadily increased, with significant growth in 2024—Academic staff rose by 43% and Corporate staff by 30% compared to 2023—indicating a strategic focus on expanding institutional capacity. The most dramatic change was in the 'Other Staff' category, which dropped consistently from 2020 to 2023 but surged in 2024, likely reflecting increased operational demands or project-based hiring. Overall, the data suggests a shift from contraction to strategic expansion, aligned with SINU's evolving priorities.

Academic Staff

Across the SINU five faculties, higher-level qualifications remain relatively scarce and gender imbalances persist, particularly at the doctoral level. While both Education & Humanities and Nursing exhibit near parity among Master's holders (9M/10F and 6M/6F respectively) and balanced Postgraduate representation, PhD holders skew heavily male (e.g., 5M/1F in Education & Humanities and 1M/1F in Nursing). In Business & Tourism, female representation falls at every level, with no female PhD and just three Bachelor's and two Postgraduate qualifications. Science & Technology shows strong male dominance in Bachelor's (11M/6F) and all Master's (7M) qualifications, though its lone Postgraduate and PhD positions include one female each. Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry likewise features more male Bachelor's (8M/1F) and Master's (11M/4F) staff, with only one female PhD. Overall, while some faculties (Education and Nursing) have achieved gender balance in mid-level qualifications, women remain underrepresented at the highest academic tiers, indicating a need for targeted support and development pathways to bolster female progression into Doctoral and specialized Postgraduate roles.

STAFF COMPOSITION 2020-2024

Staff Classification	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Academic	176	191	?	195	278
Corporate Staff	354	307	?	314	407
Other Staff (<i>Part Time/Casual/Corporate support Staff</i>)	217	165	?	107	461
Total	747	663	576	616	622

Faculty	Qualification	Male	Female
Faculty of Education and Humanities	Bachelor	4	1
	Post Graduate	4	4
	Master	9	10
	PHD	5	1
Faculty of Business and Tourism	Bachelor	4	3
	Post Graduate	1	2
	Master	4	6
	PHD	2	
Faculty of Science and Technology	Bachelor	11	6
	Post Graduate	Nil	1
	Master	7	Nil
	PHD	6	1
Faculty of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	Bachelor	8	1
	Post Graduate	6	
	Master	11	4
	PHD	4	1
Faculty of Nursing, Medicine and Health Science	Bachelor	6	6
	Post Graduate	1	3
	Master	6	6
	PHD	1	1

Staff Training and Development (Long Term & Short term Training)

The Solomon Islands National University is committed to ongoing capacity building through long-term, short-term, and professional training to ensure it delivers the highest quality education and training to its students. As such, it is crucial to support continuous staff learning to enhance their skills with the latest technologies and knowledge advancements in their respective areas of responsibility.

In line with this policy, HRD creates a training and development plan. This plan is developed in collaboration with relevant authorities to assess the training needs of each department. In 2024, 18 staff members were enrolled in long-term training, with FAFF representing the highest proportion at 33%, followed by FST at 28%. All 18 staff members signed study bond agreements with SINU, as outlined in the training policy and plan.

A total of 54 academic staff members attended conferences and short-term training events, in accordance with university policies. Our data indicates that most academic staff have engaged in training and short courses, with the highest participation rate coming from FAFF. These staff members attended short-term training related to various projects within their departments and faculties. The majority of academic staff completed short-term training at the University of Technology Sydney, as well as other specialized courses, to improve their teaching skills and better prepare themselves for their roles.

9. Goal 5: ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS

National, Regional & International Engagement

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) continued to strengthen its presence and influence through active national, regional, and international engagement. These collaborations reflect SINU's commitment to building strategic partnerships that enhance academic excellence, research capacity, and community impact. By working closely with government agencies, regional bodies, development partners, and leading universities worldwide, SINU has expanded opportunities for students and staff, contributed to national development priorities, and positioned itself as a key player in addressing national, regional and global challenges.

In 2024, SINU extended its partnerships and collaborations through the signing of fourteen Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with a range of institutions, governments, and development partners. These agreements strengthen SINU's role as a national and regional institution for education, research, and innovation. Key MoUs were signed with leading universities such as Kyoto University, the University of Otago, Fiji National University (FNU), RMIT, and the Island Knowledge Institute, fostering academic exchange, joint research, and capacity building. Strategic relationships were also formalized with regional and international organizations, including SPREP, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), World Vision, and the Solomon Islands National Institute of Sport (SINIS), supporting initiatives in sustainability, environment, community development, and sports excellence.

In addition, MoUs with the Australian Government, the Ministry of Education and Human Resources Development (MEHRD), the Malaita Provincial Government, the East Central Guadalcanal Constituency, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock (MAL) and Kaprikonia indicates SINU's commitment to national development priorities and community engagement. Collectively, these MoUs reflect SINU's vision to strengthen partnerships that enhance learning opportunities, promote research and innovation, and contribute to the socio-economic and environmental development of the Solomon Islands and the wider Pacific region.

MoUs Signed in 2024

- 1) Kyoto University & SINU MOU
- 2) Australian Gov't & SINU MOU
- 3) East Central Guadalcanal Constituency & SINU MOU
- 4) FNU & SINU MOU
- 5) SPREP and SINU MOU
- 6) World Wide Fund for Nature & SINU MOU
- 7) MEHRD & SINU MOU
- 8) RMIT & SINU MOU
- 9) SINIS & SINU MOU
- 10) SINU, Kaprikonia & MAL MOU
- 11) SINU & Island Knowledge Institute MOU
- 12) SINU & Otago University MOU
- 13) SINU & Malaita Provincial Gov't MOU
- 14) SINU & World Vision MOU



Australia Govt & SINU MOU signing, March 2024



SPREP & SINU MOU Signing 2024

Community Outreach

Community outreach remains a vital part of SINU's mission, ensuring that the information about the university and the knowledge and skills developed within the University are shared to benefit the wider society. In 2024, SINU continued to actively engage with communities across the Solomon Islands through programs and initiatives that supported education, health, livelihoods, environment, and cultural development. The followings are the key Community Outreach in 2024;

1. Educational Outreach

SINU actively engaged with the public and secondary schools to promote its programs and services throughout 2024. A key initiative was the SINU SIBC Radio Program, which aired weekly in the first quarter and later fortnightly, providing nationwide coverage on university admissions, events, and faculty achievements. Complementing this, a roadshow held on 17 January at the HCC Car-Park in partnership with the University Preparatory College (UPC) and Centre for Distance and Flexible Learning (DFL) successfully attracted parents and prospective students, resulting in the distribution of over 300 application forms and brochures that boosted enrolments.



Further extending its outreach beyond Honiara, the Solomon Islands National University (SINU) team was part of the mini trade show hosted in Auki from 12–16 August 2024. The team consist of officers from Institutional Planning & Development, Student Academic Services, DFL Centre and the Vice Chancellor's Office. The mini trade show was organized to commemorate the Malaita 41st second appointed day and SINU was invited to set up information booth at the event. Members of the public, including students and parents, visited the SINU information booth to gather first-hand information about the university's five faculties and to collect application forms for the 2025 academic year. The SINU team on the ground also organized quizzes, which served as a catalyst in attracting a large crowd to the information booth. Winners were awarded SINU-branded shirts, cups, and caps." Key highlight the program is the signing of the SINU Alligegeo Campus MOU between the University and Malaita Provincial government. The MOU was signed by the Vice Chancellor (VC) Professor Transform Aqorau and Malaita Province Premier Asilaua. SINU also conducted a courtesy visit to Aligegeo Provincial Secondary School in Malaita on 14 August, a site visite of propose campus location and strengthening links with the school and communities



SINU through the Standard and Quality Office maintained active engagement with the broader educational community. The SQO Manager attended the IOE/USP–PCEPP Fono on education policy and planning on 8th April and conducted a practicum assessment under the GCSL programme in the Western Province from 12th–14th June. Additionally, the SQO Standards and Quality Assurance Officer participated in the AVI workshop on policy development for preventing sexual exploitation and abuse. Its staff also contributed to the international education conference held on 19th–20th June 2024, presenting a paper on using staff and student feedback data to strengthen teaching quality at SINU.

2. Health & Well-being

The SINU clinic is open to students who need medical attention during the year. It offers medical services to SINU students and staff from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, including general outpatient care, basic emergency services, and counselling on reproductive health, STIs, HIV, and AIDS. The clinic is staffed by two nurses who handle urgent medical cases after normal hours.

3. Cultural & Social Engagement

The Solomon Islands National University played a vital role in supporting major community and regional events in 2024, demonstrating its commitment to cultural enrichment and sports development. The University provided vital facilities and services for the 2024 Oceania Rugby 7s (7–8 December) and the MSG Prime Minister's Cup (9–21 December), contributing to regional cooperation and fostering sportsmanship across the Pacific. Earlier in the year, the Shell Coconut Tournament (14 October), organized by SINU's Sport and Creative Arts Department, engaged local primary school students in a unique sporting event aimed at introducing and integrating the game into school curricula. To close the year, SINU hosted the inaugural Twinkle Town Lights Festival (23 December 2024 – 1 January 2025) at SINU Village, featuring light displays, live performances, and family activities that created a festive atmosphere and strengthened cultural engagement within the community. These initiatives reflect SINU's broader role in promoting unity, culture, and community spirit through diverse social and sporting platforms.

4. Technical & Skills Training

Re-engagement with MCILI & TAFE Apprenticeship Program (15–16 July 2024): SINU re-established its collaboration with the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour & Immigration (MCILI) and the TAFE Apprenticeship Program to further strengthen technical and vocational education. The two-day engagement brought together apprentices, trainers, and industry partners to review progress, share experiences, and enhance practical skills development.

This initiative also focused on creating stronger pathways from training to employment, ensuring that graduates are equipped with industry-relevant competencies. By aligning apprenticeship training with national workforce needs, the program contributes directly to workforce development, employment opportunities, and broader community capacity-building in line with national development priorities.



Hon. Harry Kumar with Officers from MCILI and SINU Vice Chancellor Pro Transform Aqorau during the Re-engagement of Ministry of Commerce, Industry, Labour & Immigration (MCILI) & TAFE Apprenticeship Program, 16th July 2024.

5. Partnerships with Communities

Community project on fisheries studies at West Guadalcanal executed by the SINU Department of Fisheries Studies. staff from the Department of Fisheries Studies traveled to Verahue, West Guadalcanal, as part of the follow-up visit. The purpose of the visit was to observe how five communities (Verahue Anglican, Verahue Catholic, Hulavu, Kotsatsai, and Kobiloko) are applying the knowledge they received through a series of bottled tuna training sessions provided by the department. It was amazing to see that the communities have not only mastered the Tuna Bottling production process, but are eager to share the knowledge with other communities in West Guadalcanal. The demonstration session was hands-on and practical by the community members themselves, with little instruction from the SINU/ DFS team. The members demonstrated every step of the process meticulously; show-casing their newly acquired skills in every step of the process, from preparation of the raw tuna to the final product, while ensuring product safety.



Training at the Department of Fisheries Studies



Members from the 5 West Guadalcanal Communities with their bottled tuna products

10. Goal 6: INFRASTRUCTURE AND ICT DEVELOPMENT

The Solomon Islands National University (SINU) continued to make progress in strengthening its physical infrastructure and ICT development as part of its commitment to provide quality education in a modern and supportive learning environment. Recognising that world-class education requires facilities that meet both academic and community needs, the University invested in a range of infrastructure projects across its campuses. These developments are designed not only to expand teaching and research capacity but also to create a safe, inclusive, and innovative environment where students and staff can thrive.

Capital Works

The University continue to make ongoing progresses in advancing its infrastructure development. Key infrastructure projects included the Rehabilitation of Poitete Campus, FNMHS Classroom & Laboratory Complex, Kukum Flat Rehabilitation, Kukum Girl's Hostel Upgrade to Guest House, which focused on upgrading classrooms, lecture halls, and essential facilities to enhance accessibility, functionality, and safety.

i. FNMHS Classroom & Laboratory Complex – Kukum

The FNMHS Classroom & Laboratory Complex progressing by SSS contractor. Currently, soon to complete exterior work. The Contractor and SINU PFP team is continually meeting fortnightly to update on progress of project. This project cost SINU with a total of \$67million. It was supported by the Solomon Islands Government with an allocation of \$50million allocation in 2024. This project is expected to complete by end 2025 and student to use it for learning by 2026.



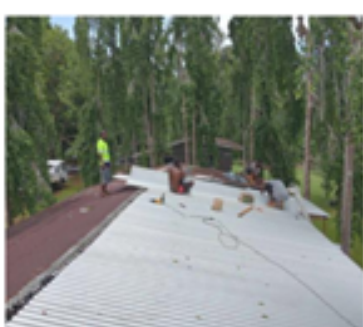
ii. Poitete Campus rehabilitation – Western Province

The Poitete Campus Rehabilitation Project, supported by a \$3.3 million grant from the Indian Government, is focused on restoring and upgrading SINU's Poitete Campus on Kolombangara Island. The first tranche of SBD1.2 million has already been utilized for the purchase of building materials. The project aims to refurbish existing facilities, construct new staff housing and administrative office, and strengthen infrastructure with durable concrete structures, ensuring the sustainable return of the Certificate in Tropical Forestry program and supporting long-term forestry education in the Solomon Islands.



Poitete Girls dormitory

The rehabilitation work is being carried out by SINU's Properties, Facilities and Projects (PFP) Team. Progress to date includes the refurbishment of the Poitete Girls' Dormitory, which involved demolishing and replacing fibre internal linings and external claddings, installing new electrical wiring, lights, switches, general power outlets (GPOs), switchboards, and a meter box. The PFP team also renovated the Poitete Library and classroom building, which included reconstructing wooden posts with galvanized posts, painting and finishing works, installing new electrical systems, replacing roofing iron, repainting interiors, refurbishing wall claddings, windows, and doors, and extending the stairs. Work has also advanced on the Poitete Boys' Dormitory, where tasks included repainting, replacing screen nets and roofing iron, extending the stairs, and installing updated electrical fittings. Additionally, the Dining Hall is undergoing major upgrades, with new interior cladding, repainting, and finishing completed, while roof cladding replacement is pending due to revisions in the kitchen plan.



Poitete Library and classroom building



Poitete Boys' Dormitory building

Poitete Dining Hall Building

iii. Kukum Campus Flat Repair

In 2024, repair works on the Kukum Flats began with the successful completion of several key maintenance tasks aimed at improving the safety and condition of the buildings. The work carried out included sling knocking to strengthen the structure, minor wall repairs to address cracks and damages, and initial repair works on the downstairs section of the flats. These improvements have helped restore parts of the facility and ensure that it continues to provide safe accommodation for staff and students.



Kukum Campus Flat under repair 2024

While significant progress has been made, further repair works are ongoing and will continue as materials become available. Planned works include additional structural strengthening, further wall repairs, and the upgrading of other sections of the building that require attention. SINU remains committed to maintaining and upgrading its residential facilities to ensure a safe, secure, and comfortable living environment for its community.



SINU Main Administration Concept Design

iv. Other Building Infrastructures

In addition to the rehabilitation works already underway, SINU has also made progress on other building infrastructure projects in 2024. Several key projects remain at the design and planning stage, with architectural and engineering works progressing steadily. These designs are critical to ensuring that the upcoming facilities are well-structured, sustainable, and meet the future needs of the University.

Once the design phase is finalized, these projects will move into the construction implementation stage in 2025 or 2026. While awaiting commencement, SINU continues to prioritize careful planning to guarantee high-quality outcomes and long-term durability of its infrastructure. These upcoming developments reflect the University's constant commitment to improving teaching, learning, and living environments for students and staff across all campuses.

ICT DEVELOPMENT

SINU through the ICT Department contributed significantly to the University's operation needs through digital infrastructure support and program delivery. The implementation of the IS-CEIT program was successfully supported, leading to course delivery and the graduation of its first cohort. To enhance access and connectivity, VSAT systems were installed and maintained across all DFL sites, while Moodle LMS training and standby Genset servicing were consistently delivered. Fibre network expansion reached 90% completion, cybersecurity was strengthened across campuses, and obsolete hardware was replaced.

SINU ICT also improve its digital learning and administrative systems. A major milestone was the completion of the open tender process for the new Student Management System (SMS), with 12 bidders participating and the selection process completed by June. The department also maintained an updated inventory of ICT equipment to support workshops and practical learning environments. Additionally, ICT labs were replenished and operating hours extended, ensuring students had greater access to technology and learning spaces, thereby strengthening the overall educational experience.

Significant progress was made toward improving ICT infrastructure, with the development of a procurement plan and financing for a new Data Centre solution, backed by a \$1 million allocation. New computers and printers were also procured and deployed across the university to replace outdated equipment, ensuring improved ICT access and functionality. However, the planned relocation of the ICT office and datacenter was postponed to the first quarter of 2025 due to changes in building allocation, with preparatory work underway to resume the project once conditions allow.

11. FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (UNAUDIT)

“Disclaimer: The financial information in this section has been prepared by management for the year ended 31 December 2024. It has not been audited. The University’s audited financial statements will be issued upon completion of the external audit. Adjustments arising from the audit may be necessary and could be material.”

Income

The SINU’s income comes from three main sources: government grants, tuition fees paid by students, and other earnings from services, projects, and partnerships.

i. Government grant

Government grants represent financial support provided by the Solomon Islands Government to the University for both capital and recurrent purposes. These grants are critical for funding the University’s infrastructure development, operational activities, and strategic initiatives.

The total government grants in 2024 increased to \$57.03Million from \$32.31Million in 2023. This increase is primarily from a slim rise in capital grants from \$13.61Million to \$38.33Million. This rise however falls short of its SIG approved \$50million allocation in the government Development Budget in 2024. Recurrent grants remained stable at \$18.7M, providing consistent support for operational expenses.

TABLE: CAPITAL GRANT & RECURRENT GRANT

	2024	2023
Capital grant	\$38,332,820	\$13,608,373
Recurrent grant	\$18,700,000	\$18,700,000
	\$57,032,820	\$32,308,373

TABLE: INCOME FROM TUITION FEE & OTHER FEES

	2024	2023
Student tuition fees	\$75,390,665	\$69,608,095
Student other fees	\$49, 929, 256	\$13,594,232
Total	\$125, 319, 911	\$83, 202,327

ii. Revenue

Revenue represents the income earned from University’s core activities, such as student tuition fees and other fees associated with academic programs and services. Student tuition fees are the primary source of revenue for the University, reflecting the cost of delivering academic programs and services.

As shown in the table, the University generated a total of \$125.32 million in student-related income, up from \$83.20 million in 2023, representing a substantial increase of over 50%. The growth was driven by both tuition fees, which rose from \$69.61 million to \$75.39 million, reflecting higher student enrolment and continued demand for SINU programs, and other student fees, which surged from \$13.59 million to \$49.93 million, likely due to additional charges for services, activities, or specialized programs.

TABLE: SHOWS OTHER INCOME IN 2024

	2024	2023
Research grants	2,201,711	1,080,568
Recoveries	18,429	52,973
Hiring of facilities	912,776	11,452,446
Green house café	309,453	85,693
SINU Canteen	283,353	338,678
Lokol Fusion	1,681,264	1,412,596.41
Others	1,535,103	3,260,459
Total	6,942,089	17,683,413

iii. Other income

Other income represents revenue generated by SINU from activities beyond its core academic operations, supporting the University's financial sustainability and strategic initiatives. Key sources include research grants, Recoveries, hiring University facilities, Green House Café, the SINU Canteen, and Lokol Fusion.

The table indicated that the University generated from other income a total \$6.94 million in 2024, which decreased from \$17.68 million in 2023. The decrease was largely due to a significant reduction in income from the hiring of facilities, which fell from \$11.45 million in 2023 to \$0.91 million in 2024, likely reflecting lower external events or rentals during the period.

In contrast, research grants nearly doubled to \$2.20 million, demonstrating strong growth in funding for academic and innovative projects. Revenue from campus services, including the Green House Café (\$0.31 million), SINU Canteen (\$0.28 million), and Lokol Fusion (\$1.68 million), continued to provide steady income, while miscellaneous income sources contributed \$1.54 million. Overall, while total other income declined compared to the previous year, growth in research grants and sustained revenue from campus services highlight the University's diversified approach to generating non-academic income.

Expenses

i. Operational expenses

Operational expenses represent the costs incurred by the University in supporting its academic, administrative, and infrastructure functions on a daily basis. These expenses are vital for sustaining quality education, ensuring smooth operations of facilities, and meeting the needs of students and staff.

The notable decrease in depreciation expenses reflects the disposal or full depreciation of certain assets and adjustments in asset valuations, easing the burden on recurrent costs.

Meanwhile, the rise in student-related expenses demonstrates the University's strategic investment in enhancing student services and overall learning experiences. A moderate increase in utility costs is in line with inflationary pressures and increased consumption. The sharp growth in repair and maintenance expenditures highlights the University's proactive approach to preserving and upgrading infrastructure to create a safe and conducive learning environment. Conversely, the decline in other costs indicates deliberate efficiency measures and cost-optimization efforts.

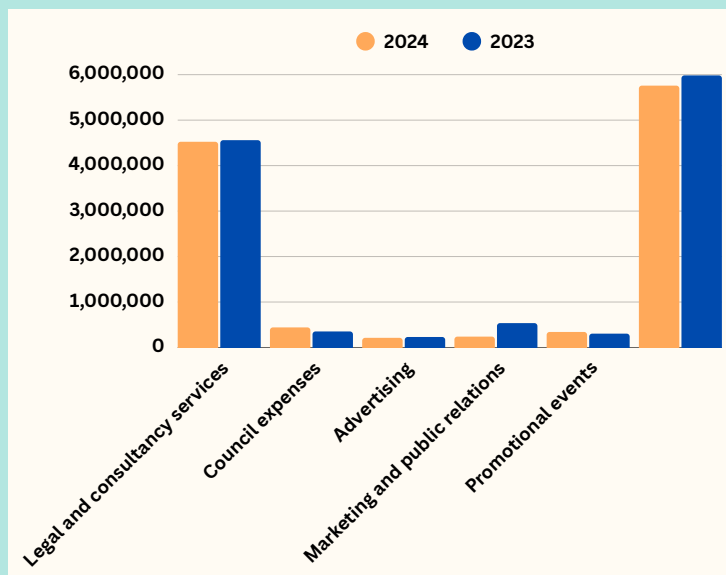
TABLE: SHOWS OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

	2024	2023
Depreciation	43,278,815	18,136,975
Student related costs	13,042,980	11,487,239
Utilities	20,870,644	14,299,002
Repair and maintenance	3,343,054	5,149,860
Other costs	10,677,313	12,784,726
	91,212,806	61,857,802

ii. Administrative and other operating expenses

Administrative and other operating expenses reflect the University's governance, compliance, and promotional activities. Higher legal and consultancy costs were driven by major projects and regulatory requirements, while Council expenses declined through cost-optimization measures. Advertising and marketing were streamlined with more targeted and in-house approaches, ensuring effective stakeholder engagement at reduced cost.

	2024	2023
Legal and consultancy	4,524,283	4,559,516
Council expenses	441,477	352,704
Advertising	212,464	230,960
Marketing and public relations	239,217	535,968
Promotional events	341,470	304,493
	5,758,912	5,983,641

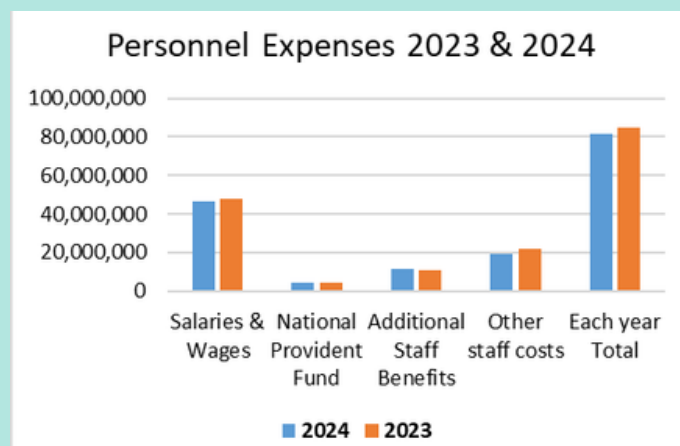


iii. Personnel expenses

Personnel expenses constitute a major component of the University's operational costs. Salaries and wages remain the largest share, driven by periodic adjustments to align with market standards, inflation, and the expansion of staff to meet growing academic and operational demands. Mandatory contributions to the NPF ensure employees' long-term financial security, while additional staff benefits enhance satisfaction and well-being. Other staff-related costs cover training, recruitment, and welfare programs, with increased investment in professional development and higher recruitment expenses highlighting the University's focus on building capacity and sustaining a motivated workforce.

Table: Shows Personnel Expenses

	2024	2023
Salaries and wages	46,405,056	48,095,272
National Provident Fund	4,424,458	4,306,061
Additional Staff Benefits	11,390,840	10,751,339
Other staff costs	19,472,106	21,843,340
	81,692,461	84,996,012



Financial Position

As at 31 December 2024, the University's total assets stood at \$1.414 billion, reflecting a decrease from the previous year primarily due to lower valuations of property, plant, and equipment, partially offset by increases in cash, receivables, and inventories. Total liabilities reduced significantly to \$25.79 million, driven by lower trade payables and the elimination of deferred income, strengthening the University's short-term financial position. Net assets and total equity amounted to \$1.389 billion, down from \$1.548 billion, largely as a result of decreased asset revaluation reserves; however, retained earnings rose substantially to \$597.55 million, highlighting the University's ability to generate internal surplus and maintain a strong and sustainable financial foundation.

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2024		
	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Government grant	57,032,820	32,308,373
Revenue	125,319,911	83,202,327
Other income	6,942,089	17,683,413
Personnel expenses	(81,692,461)	(84,996,012)
Operational expenses	(91,212,806)	(61,857,802)
Administrative and other operating expenses	(5,758,912)	(5,983,641)
Surplus/ (loss) from operations	10,630,641	(19,643,342)
Finance income	5,079	17,078
Finance cost	(215,136)	(184,340)
Net finance cost	(210,058)	(167,262)
Net surplus/(loss) before tax	10,420,584	(19,810,603)
Income tax	-	-
Net surplus/(loss) for the year	10,420,584	(19,810,603)
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss		
Loss on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	(567,356,130)	-
Total other comprehensive income	(567,356,130)	-
Total comprehensive income	(556,935,546)	(19,810,603)

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2024			
	Note	2024	2023
		\$	\$
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	14	23,261,830	10,865,827
Trade and other receivables	15	97,372,485	84,330,607
Inventories	16	3,831,819	459,468
Investments	17	736,889	735,003
Total current assets		125,203,023	96,390,904
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	18	1,289,150,668	1,518,412,125
Total non-current assets		1,289,150,668	1,518,412,125
Total assets		1,414,353,691	1,614,803,029
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	19	25,793,702	62,266,190
Total current liabilities		25,793,702	62,266,190
Deferred income	20	-	4,071,627
Total liabilities		25,793,702	66,337,817
Net assets		1,388,559,989	1,548,465,212
EQUITY	21		
SIG equity contribution		-	-
Retained earnings		597,547,230	200,516,907
Asset revaluation reserves		791,012,759	1,347,948,305
Total equity		1,388,559,989	1,548,465,212

12. APPENDICES

MOU REGISTER

MoUs Signed in 2024

- 1) Kyoto University & SINU MOU
- 2) Australian Gov't & SINU MOU
- 3) East Central Guadalcanal Constituency & SINU MOU
- 4) FNU & SINU MOU
- 5) SPREP and SINU MOU
- 6) World Wide Fund for Nature & SINU MOU
- 7) MEHRD & SINU MOU
- 8) RMIT & SINU MOU
- 9) SINIS & SINU MOU
- 10) SINU, Kaprikonia & MAL MOU
- 11) SINU & Island Knowledge Institute MOU
- 12) SINU & Otago University MOU
- 13) SINU & Malaita Provincial Gov't MOU
- 14) SINU & World Vision MOU

MOUS SIGNED IN 2023

Name	Date signed	Expiry date	Duration	Purpose
1) MOU between the Snyder Rini Education Authority and SINU	19th June 2023	19th June 2026	3 years	To use SR Academy facilities for virtual sessions and as a contact point for SINU CDFL students in Marovo Lagoon, with a coordinator managing learner support tasks and absorbing dropouts from SR Academy and other local schools into the University Preparatory Certificate programs.
2) Adjunct Agreement between SINU and Dr David Maclaren	26th May 2023	26th May 2026	3 years	To support building the research capacity at the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine, and Health Science at Solomon Islands National University.
3) Adjunct Agreement between SINU and Dr Michelle Redman Maclaren	22nd May 2023	22nd May 2026	3 years	To support building the research capacity at the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine, and Health Science at Solomon Islands National University.
4) Adjunct Agreement between SINU and Dr Humpress Harrington	9th May 2023	9th May 2026	3 years	To support building research capacity at the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine, and Health Science at Solomon Islands National University.
5) Adjunct Agreement between SINU and Relmah Harrington	9th May 2023	9th May 2026	3 years	To support building research capacity at the Faculty of Nursing, Medicine, and Health Science at Solomon Islands National University.
6) Subcontract Agreement between Griffith University and SINU (subcontractor)	14th April 2023	14th April 2026	3 years	Dr. Hugo Bugoro of SINU will lead a team including Mr. Collin Benjamin and Ms. Sheilla Funubo to conduct research across several provinces, engage in regional events, and ensure the provision of narrative and financial reports as per the proposal.

7) Variation Contract between SINU and Alex Makini	5th April 2023	18th April 2023	13 days	Drafting a project proposal on climate and environmental change and security in the Solomon Islands.
8) MOU with SINU and Ghaziabad Institute of Technology and Science	4th April 2023	4th April 2028	5 years	To establish a collaborative non-financial relationship for research and student and faculty exchange programs.
9) Indian Council for Cultural Relations and SINU MoU	9th March 2023	9th March 2029	6 years	To cooperate in establishing and operating the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies and to deploy a Visiting Professor in Economics at Solomon Islands National University.
10) Letter of Understanding Academic Cooperation	21st Feb 2023	21st Feb 2025	2 years	The LoU aims to establish a partnership focusing on research and education related to population mobility, including climate mobility in Solomon Islands, collaborate with SINU staff on climate immobility research, secure funding for SINU's research opportunities, and ensure recognition of SINU's contributions in research outputs.
11) Letter of Understanding between SINU and University of Auckland	8th February 2023	8th February 2025	2 years	This Letter of Understanding outlines collaboration to advance research and awareness on population and climate mobility in the Solomon Islands, support SINU staff and students through joint projects and funding, and ensure proper recognition of SINU and its people in all research efforts.
12) MOU between SINU and Institute of Technology and Science	24th March 2023	24th March 2028	5 years	To establish a collaborative non relationship for research Collaboration and Student & Faculty Exchange Program.
13) MOU between SINU and Central Bank of Solomon Islands (CBSI)	31st May 2023	31st May 2026	3 Years	The purpose of this MOU is to strengthen collaboration between CBSI and SINU in developing human capital for the finance, banking, public, and business sectors, while supporting research that advances financial inclusion and economic development in the Solomon Islands.

14) Contract for Service between Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP) and Solomon Islands National University	1st February 2023	1st February 2025	2 Years	The contract appoints the supplier to deliver specified services and outlines the rights and obligations of both parties, with SPREP as the executing agency under the BIEM initiative. Through this initiative, SPREP supports Pacific Island countries in managing coastal and marine biodiversity, with Activity 5.6 dedicated to capacity building via the Lui Bell Scholarship. Under this activity, SINU will administer funding for a priority research project on the science and cultural aspects of dolphins in the Solomon Islands, to be undertaken by Mr. Kabin Fa'ari Afia.
15) MOA between Ocean University of China and SINU	11th May 2023	May 11, 20...	5 Years	In order to extend the effective and mutually beneficial cooperation and development of academic exchange in education, research and other scientific areas, hereafter called the "Parties", agree to cooperate towards the internationalization of higher education.
16) Contractor Agreement between SINU and the Ocean Foundation	8th June 2023	8th June 2025	2 years	The contractor, as a "GOA-ON in a Box Kit Recipient," will support Dr. Lindon Havimana in collecting carbonate chemistry data, ensure its quality, and upload it to appropriate data centers. The contractor must also make the data publicly accessible in line with SDG 14.3.1 methodology. Additionally, the contractor will share the data with the Pacific Islands & Territories Ocean Acidification network (PI-TOA).

List of Research Publication

1. Below are publications for 2023 and 2024. I have made this available because 2023 publications were not featured in the 2023 SINU annual report.

2. Lincy Penderverana (2024). Geopolitical shifts and local priorities: Unpacking Solomon Islands 2024 Elections. <https://asiasociety.org/policy-institute/geopolitical-shifts-and-local-priorities-unpacking-solomon-islands-2024-elections>

3. Ng Shiu, R., Underhill-Sem, Y., & Newport, C. (2024). Perspectives from communities across the Pacific: Navigating vulnerability, continuing resilience. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. <https://www.pacific-climate-research.auckland.ac.nz>

4. Newport, C., Underhill-Sem, Y., & Ng Shiu, R. (2024). Relationships: Shifting climate (im)mobility. Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. <https://pacific-climate-research.blogs.auckland.ac.nz/product-catalogue>

5. Bedford, R., Friesen, W., Underhill-Sem, Y., Newport, C., & Ng Shiu, R. (2023). Pacific population dynamics in the context of climate change. Bedford Consulting & Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland. <https://pacificclimate-research.blogs.auckland.ac.nz/>

6. Love, M., Benjamin, C., Funubo, S., Bugoro, H., Panda, N., Shrestha, S., and Souter, R.T., 2024 "A long way to go": Decentralized rural water supply in the Pacific Islands. Country Technical – Solomon Islands. International WaterCentre; Griffith University, Nathan, Australia; Solomon Islands National University, Solomon Islands. March 2024.

7. Dylan Bush; Mark Love; Hugo Bugoro; Nixon Panda, Solomon Islands Oncology Unit: Sustainability in Terms of Outcomes. JCO Global Oncology Journal, 2024: 10; DOI: 10.1200/GO.23.00325

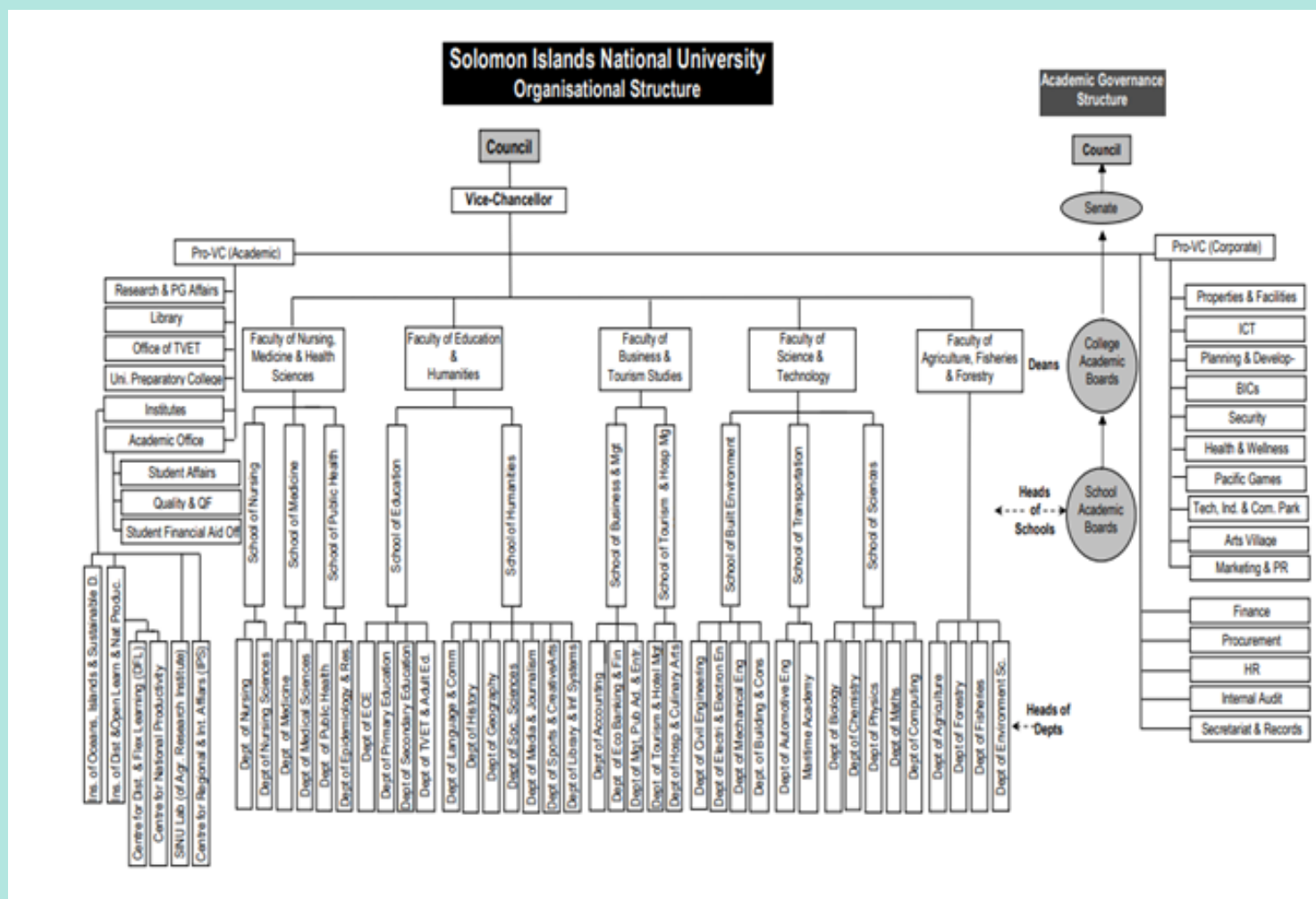
8. Regina T. Souter; Doug Ruuska; Sarah Pene; Collin Benjamin; Sheila Funubo; Cara D. Beal; Rosanna Sanderson; Suliasi Batikawai; Ana Ravai; Tema Antoinette-Wickham; Tom Rankin; Linda Peter; Heather Molitambe; Gaston Theophile; Sachita Shrestha; Krishna K. Kotra; Hugo Bugoro; Nixon Panda; Vimal Deo; Mark Love. Strengthening rural community water safety planning in Pacific Island countries: evidence and lessons from Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, and Fiji. Journal of Water and Health, 2024: 22 (2): 467 – 486; DOI: 10.2166/wh.2024.144.

9. Adam Craig; Nixon Panda; Rudgard Palapu; Geoffrey Oku; Clement Lifoia; Joanna Tatalu; Nigel Beebe; Gerard Kelly; Nathan Kama Jr; Charlie Iro'ofa; Hugo Bugoro. Citizen Science for Enhanced

10. Dengue Vector Surveillance in Solomon Islands: A Methods Paper. Citizen Science: Theory and Practice, 2024: 9 (1), Page/Article: 3; DOI: 10.5334/cstp.679

11. Lai, Yuhua and Liang, Di and Bobogare, Albino and Yadamsuren, Buyanjargal and Yam, Esabelle and Yi, Siyan and Bugoro, Hugo and Huang, Jiayan, Fragmentations between Universal Health Coverage and Global Health Security: A Quantitative Study in the Western Pacific Region. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=4609999> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4609999>
12. Mereia Fong-Lomavatu, Kaliova Ravuiwasa, Lilly Sar, Robert Geno, Alois Ndrewou, Lawrence Atu, Ricardo Matapaza, Michael J. Furlong, Grahame Jackson & Caroline Smith (13 Nov 2023): Plant health clinics in the Pacific region and the role of regional universities, *New Zealand Journal of Crop and Horticultural Science*, DOI: 10.1080/01140671.2023.2278789
13. Lydia S Kaforau Gizachew A. Tessema, Jonine Jancey, Hugo Bugoro, Gavin Pereira, Prevalence and risk factors associated with under-five mortality in the Solomon Islands low birth weight in Solomon islands: an investigation from the 2015 Solomon Islands demographic and health survey, *Lancet Regional Health of Western pacific*, 2023:33:100691. DOI:10.1016/J.Janwpc.2023.100691.
14. Mikael Burhin, Verzilyn Isom, Divinal Ogaoga, Sue Devine, Trevor Duke, Hugo Bugoro, Mathias Tamou, Caleb Mark, Nixon Panda. Child Health Nurses in Solomon Islands, piloting the 'Bachelor of Nursing: Child Health'. *International Nursing Review*, 2023: 1-10. DOI: 10.1111/inr.12836.
15. Lydia S. Kaforau, Gizachew A. Tessema, Jancey. J, Bugoro. H, Pereira. G. Prevalence and Factors Associated with Low Birth Weight in the Solomon Islands: Evidence From the 2015 Solomon Islands Demographic and Health Survey data, *Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health* 2023: 1-9, DOI: 10.1177/10105395231158868
16. Burhin. M, Isom. V, Ogaoga, D, Devine. S, Duke. T, Bugoro. H, Tamou. M, Mark, C and Panda. N. Child health nursing in the Solomon Islands: A qualitative evaluation of the impact of the 'Bachelor of nursing – Child health', *International Nursing Review*, 2023: 1-9, DOI: 10.1111/inr.12832, wileyonlinelibrary.com/journal/inr
17. Ridwan M. Thaha, Ani Asram, Muh. Arsyad Rahman, Clement Lifoia. The correlation of knowledge level on stress management with mental health in Hasanuddin University students. *Kesehatan Masyarakat Indonesia*, 2023: 19 (1), DOI: 10.30597/mkmi.v19i1.25435.
18. Benjamin, C., Bugoro, H., Love, M., & Souter, R.T. (2023). Factors Affecting the Lifespan of Water System in the Solomon Islands through the Experience and Perspectives of Provincial RWA Officers [Abstract]. Pacific Islands University Research Network Conference, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.
19. Benjamin, C., Wickham, T., Funubo, S., Love, M., Shrestha, S., Ryan, S.K., Rankin, T., & Souter, R.T. (2023, February 13 – 17). Planning for uncertain climate risks to community water: Water Security Improvement Planning in Solomon Islands [Conference Presentation]. Water & WASH Futures Conference, Brisbane, Australia.
20. Benjamin, C., Wickham, T., & Souter, R.T. (2023). Going Beyond Community-based WASH Planning [Abstract]. World water Week Conference, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), Stockholm, Sweden.
21. Souter, R., Love, M., Benjamin, C., Wickham, T., Funubo, S., Shrestha, S., and Rankin, T. (2023). Community-based Water Security Planning (CWSIP) II: Planning for climate change & future risks. Implementation Guide, Vol. 4. Honiara, Solomon Islands.

ORGANISATIONAL CHARTS



SINU ESTABLISHMENT 2024

FACULTIES/DEPARTMENTS	Filled	Staff on Study	Vacant Positions	Total
Office of Vice Chancellor	4	1	1	6
Office of Pro Vice Chancellor Academics	2	0	0	2
Office of Pro Vice Chancellor Corporate	2	0	0	2
Council Secretariat	6	0	2	8
Audit, Compliance, Risk Management	3	0	0	3
Marketing and Promotion	2	0	1	3
Institutional Planning and Development Depart	2	0	2	4
Procurement Office	5	0	3	8
Human Resource Department	14	0	2	16
Finance Department	23	0	5	28
Faculty of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	36	6	9	51
Faculty of Business and Tourism Studies	33	2	17	52
Faculty of Medicine, Nursing & Health Service	35	1	15	51
Faculty of Education & Humanities	37	0	24	61

SINU ESTABLISHMENT 2024

FACULTIES/DEPARTMENTS	Filled	Staff on Study	Vacant Positions	Total
Faculty of Science &	29	5	10	44
SINU TAFE	33	0	5	38
SI Maritime Academy	16	0	2	18
Student Academic	10	1	6	17
Standards and Quality Office	5	0	0	5
University Preparatory	9	1	5	15
Distance and Flexible Learning	10	0	4	14
Centre for Island Future	1	0	1	2
Institute of Governance	0	0	1	1
Office of Research and	4	0	1	5
University Library	22	0	5	27
Information Communication	21	1	13	35
India-Solomon Islands Centre for	5	0	0	5
Campus Life and Wellness	5	0		12
Property and Campus	119	0	18	137
Security Department	48	0	1	49
Business Investment and	63	0	3	66
Grand Total	604	18	156	776



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