



The Campus

This Week

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Centre for Self Education to go to Yangoru-Saussia, ESP

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THE people of Yangoru-Saussia will soon be able to take up matriculation studies offered by PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment in their own district.

Initial discussions were held between Yangoru-Saussia MP Richard Maru and UNRE Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue on Tuesday this week when Mr Maru visited the University's Vudal Campus.

Mr Maru said the district's two-storey University centre which will house different universities and their programs is now in the final stages of construction and should be fully operational by August.

"Our plan is to run matriculation courses from various universities in the one place so students will have a choice. Those who want to come to your university will do your matriculation. Those who want to go to Divine Word will do their matriculation. UPNG and others, the same," Mr Maru said.

He added Yangoru-Saussia district has seven high schools with the eighth one being built.

"By the time we open the eighth school, we would have over 1,000 Grade 12 students throughout the district in a year. 300 will get offers but what about the 700 that are left behind?



▲ Yangoru-Saussia MP Hon. Richard Maru (left) and UNRE Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue.

They will need to go to this Uni Centre, so I want to know if we can do business with this University," he said.

Professor Pue said PNG UNRE will be glad to partner with the Yangoru-Saussia district because its role is also to equip the rural population of Papua New Guinea with skills and knowledge to become entrepreneurs of their resources.

"The idea is to identify smart farmers, smart fishers, foresters and livestock producers, and train them further so that they can improve their livelihoods and the livelihoods of others in the community," the VC said.

Stephanie Tringin, Director of the Centre for Self-Education (CfSE) which coordinates the University's matriculation studies program, said CfSE is ready to take the program

to East Sepik.

"We'd like to first see what you can offer us, so we plan according to the infrastructure that you have," she said, adding that it is important to do so, so that achievable targets can be set.

Ms Tringin said apart from Grade 12 matriculation, CfSE can also run an externalised version of the University's degree upgrade program.

"We have a common year 1 program for the School of Natural Resources. Arrangements can also be made to offer that in the district and depending on the students results, they can stream to the departments in the School of Natural Resources. That's how flexible the University is. We can develop as per industry requirement," she told Mr Maru.

Mr Maru said as an

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OUR VISION

Advancing Knowledge for Sustainable Development

OUR MISSION

To develop into a sustainable University through delivery of innovative research, quality teaching and learning, developing staff and students as alumni agents for positive change.

THE CAMPUS THIS WEEK

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Executive Editor:
Vice Chancellor

Head (PR Office):
Lythia Suitawa

Journalist:
Veronica Manuk

Graphic Artist:
Irai Del

Office Administration:
Vacant

CONTRIBUTIONS OR QUERIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO:

► Mailing Address
Public Relations Office,
PNG UNRE,
Private Mail Bag.
KOKOPO.
East New Britain
Province.
Papua New Guinea

► **Telephone Numbers:**
(+675) 987 1213/214/215

► **Facsimile:**
(+675) 983 9738

► **Email:**
public.relations@unre.
ac.pg

UNRE signs MOU with NTOU

PNG University of Natural Resources and Environment has partnered with the National Taiwan Ocean University for the purpose of education and academic research.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to foster this association was signed between the two institutions early last month.

The MOU covers but is not limited to the:

- Development of mutually beneficial academic and training programs;
- Exchange of students for the purpose of studying;
- Exchange of faculty and staff for the purposes of teaching, research and extension;
- Reciprocal assistance for visiting academic faculty, staff and students;
- Coordination of joint research and technology transfer activities; and
- Exchange of documentation and research materials in fields of mutual interest.

It states that details of the implementation of any particular exchanges within the agreement will be negotiated between the two institutions and their appropriate faculties or schools. Exchanges are subject to the availability of funds.

PNG UNRE's School of Natural Resources (SNR) through the Department of Fisheries and Marine Resources will manage the MOU on behalf of the University.

Welcoming the partnership, SNR Acting Dean Peter Navus said this is the perfect opportunity to build the capacity of young



▲ Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue (centre) signs the MOU while senior officers of the University look on.

academics at the University.

He said it could also be used to develop a graduate assistance program for the University where top scoring graduates are recruited and mentored as academics.

UNRE Vice Chancellor Professor Aisak Pue reiterated Mr Navus's comments.

"That's the crux of the matter. We need to train the young ones to take over from the older academics," he said.

Dr Caleb Breria, who has been instrumental in connecting the University to universities in Taiwan, commended Professor Pue for his leadership in allowing such arrangements to materialize.

He said it is impressive for a Vice Chancellor in PNG to deliver five working MOU's for staff and student training in one semester.

"Professor Pue has done the yards in creating postgraduate pathways for staff and students in a very short time period," Dr Breria said.

Every year, UNRE will be expected to send at least six staff and/or students for postgraduate studies in Taiwan.

Nine staff, including a student are expected to pioneer the arrangement by

early September, this year.

The MOU was signed by Professor Pue and NTOU President, Professor Tai-Wen Hsu.

According to information sourced from the University's website, NTOU was established in 1953 as Provincial Taiwan Maritime Technology College. It now has seven colleges - Maritime Science and Management, Life Sciences, Ocean Science and Resource, Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Ocean Law and policy, as well as Humanities and Social Sciences.

These Colleges house a total of 22 undergraduate departments, 12 graduate institutes, 28 master programs and 20 doctoral program.

NTOU is regarded as one of Taiwan's most important centers of high learning and study, particularly in the fields of marine sciences, maritime studies, and fisheries.

It is developing into a comprehensive university with a distinct maritime focus, in response to changing societal needs and the widening interests of its students.

NTOU aspires to be a globally recognized institution of higher learning.

Fellows carry out One Health Concept Survey at Vudal

TWO Fellows under the Fleming Fund Fellowship Program were at the University's Vudal Campus this week to conduct a survey on the One Health Concept.

Elaine Hevoho, from the National Agriculture and Quarantine Inspection Authority (NAQIA), and Majorie Elijah from the National Department of Health (NDoH) interviewed staff and students to assess what they know or understand about One Health.

According to Ms Elijah, One Health is a concept which recognizes that the health of people, animals and the environment are linked to one another, so it is important to take collaborative, multisectoral and crosscutting approaches to solve pressing health issues.

"Combining and maximising resources to address public health concerns is beneficial," she said.

Ms Hevoho, who graduated from PNG UNRE in 2010, said the concept is important for a collective approach because most emerging infectious diseases of public health importance are zoonotic. This means infectious diseases can be transmitted to humans from animals.

She said the One Health Concept also aims to address food safety challenges.

In 2019, the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) PNG Office launched the One Health Country Program (OHCP) in collaboration with the National Department of Agriculture and Livestock (NDAL), NDoH, Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA) and



▲ (l-r) Dorothy Pagru, Majorie Elijah, Peter Navus and Elaine Hevoho. Photo courtesy of Ms Hevoho.

NAQIA under the FAO Asia-Pacific Regional One Health initiative.

This program addresses food safety challenges caused by residues of veterinary medicines in meat, milk or eggs, as well as agrochemical pesticides in crops. Also important is the type of feeds given to animals that will be consumed by humans.

It was noted at the launch that the irrational and imprudent use of veterinary antimicrobials can give rise to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), a global public health concern.

This concern is addressed under the Fleming Fund's Professional Fellowship Program, which supports the professional development of fellows who can collaborate to address AMD related problems.

The scheme provides training, coaching and mentoring to improve fellows' skills and leadership capacity in gathering quality AMR diagnostic data, antimicrobial use and antimicrobial consumption data collection and management, analysis and use of surveillance results.

Ms Elijah and Ms Hevoho are two of eight Fellows who are currently

conducting the One Health Survey in five locations throughout the country – Morobe, Western Highlands, Eastern Highlands, East New Britain and the National Capital District.

Five of the Fellows are in human health, while three are in animal health.

After their surveys, the eight will collate their data, analyse the information and produce a report that they hope to publish. It will be the first for PNG.

Ms Hevoho said PNG UNRE is keen to receive the report to see what the need is for One Health so that it can be incorporated into the curriculum.

Acting Dean of the School of Natural Resources, Peter Navus, said the School looks forward to continued partnership with the industry.

"This is important to consolidate the quality assurance of our programs," he said.

"We cannot rely on the internet or theoretical knowledge. Practise which comes from interacting with the industry is where the quality is. Second to that of course is capacity building for staff and students."

Ms Elijah thanked the University for its support in the survey.

Other places that they visited were Nonga General Hospital, Napapar Health Centre, Paparatava Health Centre, Butuwin Health Centre, Tropicana Pharmacy, City Pharmacy, WR Carpentars Poultry, National Agricultural Research Institute and others.

The pair were accompanied by Dorothy Pagru of NAQIA Kokopo who is a pioneer graduate of the University's Paravet Program.

Yangoru-Saussia aims to be number one in agriculture in Papua New Guinea

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agricultural district, Yangoru-Saussia, is keen to send more people to UNRE.

"We are an agricultural district. We want to be number one in the country

in agriculture, so I want to send more people here. To do this, they need to upgrade themselves, so come to Yangoru-Saussia, offer your programs there, do your research and help

my people."

He said after the elections, a Memorandum of Agreement will be signed to pave the way for the collaboration.

Also at the meeting was

University Bursar Edward Laki, lecturer Dr Caleb Breria and Linda Ningo from the University's farmer training centre, Kairak Centre for Sustainable Rural Development.



"What qualities are you looking for in a leader?"

Henry Lebuk, 22, ENB. Human Resources.

"Someone who is honest, has integrity and always puts the people first."



Jason Paliau, 34, Morobe. School of Environment and Climate Change.

"The three main qualities I'd like to see in a leader are honesty, transparency and a strong work ethic."



must create avenues that will give people income generating opportunities so that they improve their livelihoods."

Dr Caleb Breria, 40, ESP. Department of Agriculture.

"I want to vote a leader who is a risk taker."



Jason, Kuuk, 24, ESP. BSFMR 3.

"My ideal leader is an action man, not a talker. He doesn't necessarily have to be a church goer but he must be honest; and he must be with his people so that he sees first hand their needs and works to address those needs."



Joelyne Murke, 23, ENB. BSIT 2.

"I'd like a leader who is wise in decision making and honest and fair in distributing District Development funds to all parts of the electorate."



Shanthiel Rodney, 20, SHP. BSTA 4.

"A leader should be honest. I also believe that because PNG is a Christian nation, the person who leads the country should be a Christian. He should prioritise Education and Agriculture; and be serious about addressing Gender Based Violence."

Emma Oliver, 32, ENB. SSRMBS.

"Someone who's laid his foundation over the years and who has a plan and a vision that can be felt. He or she must be transparent."



Stanley Laknga, 55, NIP. Security Services.

"I want a leader who is honest and is keen to serve. He or she must be able to bring development right to the door step of the people so that people receive what they deserve."



Paskalis Mitra, 46, ENB. Guard Dog Security Services.

"I would like a leader who can deliver basic services to the people. Not someone who will fill his pockets and forget the people who voted him to represent them."



Elliot Gene, 20, Simbu. DSTA 2.

"A good leader is someone who puts the development needs of the people first."



Joseph Dama Bare, 21, Simbu. BSTA 3.

"Accountability is a quality a good leader should have. I believe continuity is also something that a good selfless leader should have. If he is taking over from another leader, instead of starting all over again to promote himself, he must complete outstanding projects so that the people benefit."



Jane Wungen-Sani, 35, ESP. Department of Fisheries.

"To me, a good leader is someone who is firm in decision making and who is honest and has integrity."

Henry Kala, 40, ENB. Centre for Self Education.

"Transparency. The people must know his policies and projects he is implementing in the district. He must award contracts openly and not in secret and all projects must be achieved. My ideal leader is also someone who is with the people. He must be in the district when there are no parliament sessions so that he personally ensures that the district is being run the way it should. I don't want someone who will delegate this responsibility to another person and remain in Port Moresby."



Joe Aitsi, 60+, Central. Department of Fisheries.

"Quality leadership to me is someone whose focus is on the people. He doesn't have to have a Masters or Doctorate. A University degree is okay because he has to talk to people at his level up there but he



Nicola Aiambu, 17, Sandaun. BSFMR 1.

"Someone who can 'Walk the Talk' and prove that his plans are not just empty words; and who is honest and trustworthy especially with public funds. A good leader to me is also someone who is always with his people, attending to their needs."

